

The Baptism of the Lord January 12, 2025

St. Michael's Spalding—St. Theresa's, Ericson—Sacred Heart, Greeley

SUNDAY SCRIPTURES

Jan 19: Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-11

New life through Baptism!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear People of God,

This weekend, we celebrate Jesus' Baptism. This brings our Christmas season to an end. Now, some people wonder why Jesus was baptized at all, since he's the Son of God and free of sin. The answer is that he didn't have to be baptized. He chose to.

On that day, the Jordan River at Bethany was full of people. They were all sinners, who came to John seeking healing and a new beginning. But their presence symbolically defiled the water. That's why no community leaders were present. They wouldn't associate with sinners, and they personally saw no need to repent. But Jesus was different. He cared for the people and he wanted to encourage them. So, he showed his solidarity by joining them in the river. Jesus' Baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry, and it marks the beginning of our own life in Christ.

Jesus knows everything that happens to us, all that we experience. Even though he is without sin, he stands with us in our human condition. That gives us confidence and hope. Jesus always knows what we feel. Jesus always knows what we fear. Whatever happens to us, Jesus always understands.

In 2018, Pope Francis said, "Baptism isn't a magical formula, but a gift of the Holy Spirit which enables us 'to fight against the spirit of evil', to make this a better world. However, as happens with any seed full of life, this gift takes root and bears fruit only in a terrain, fed by faith". Next time, when we use holy water to make the Sign of the Cross, remember our Baptism and how we've been made into the image of Christ. Through our Baptism, we represent Jesus Christ in the world today. Do we?

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Lawrence

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	01/11	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Lynda Diessner
SUN	01/12	7:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Ray & Violet Molczyk
		9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	PEOPLE OF PARISH
		11:00 a.m.	ST. THERESA'S	† Francis & Mildred Fritz
MON	01/13	9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	Communion Service
TUE	01/14	5:30 p.m.	SACRED HEART	† Mueller Bros
WED	01/15	9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	† Fr Ted Nekoliczak
THU	01/16	5:00 p.m.	ST. CATHARINE'S	† Lawrence & Rose Rudloff
FRI	01/17	8:15 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Pat Mahony All School Mass
SAT	01/18	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Dennis (Muff) Hitchler
SUN	01/19	7:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	No Mass
		9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	† Dolores Harrahill
		11:00 a.m.	ST. THERESA'S	† Fr Jim Murphy

COMMUNION SERVICES

SM at 8:00 a.m.
SH at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention of the Month:

For the right to an education.
Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Bulletin Deadline Tuesday 12:00 noon.
Please email information to both SM and SH. Email addresses on front of bulletin.

WE WELCOME INTO THE CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN FAITH— Konner Kay Nekoliczak, daughter of Trent & Skyler Nekoliczak, baptized Sunday, January 5, at Sacred Heart.

Coming...Fr. Murphy Day, Tuesday, January 21st.

Catholic Schools Week Kick Off Mass January 25th, followed by a supper & carnival at the Parish Center.

Knights of Columbus #1312 will be hosting a men's night on Saturday, January 18th, at the Brick Palace starting around 6:30 p.m. All men are invited.

PARISH MEETINGS
ST Altar Society: Sunday, Jan 12 after Mass
School Board: Monday, Jan. 13, 7 pm,
Finance: Tuesday, Jan.14, 7 am
SM/ST KofC: 2nd Tues. of mo. Jan. 14, Legion Bldg. 7pm.
SH Pastoral Council: Wednesday, Jan. 15, 8 pm
Endowment: Wednesday, January 15, 6pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION	WEEKLY	MONTHLY
St. Michael's Church	Thursday 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	First Friday, 24 hr., 9:00 a.m. All other Fridays 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Chapel		First Tuesday, 24 hr., 9:00 a.m.
St. Theresa's		Last Sunday of month for Vocations, 10 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S	SACRED HEART	ST. THERESA'S																																										
<p>LECTOR Jan 18: Youth, TBA Jan 19: No Mass</p> <p>EMHC Jan 18: Jerry/Marlynn Scheef, Dean/Carol Seamann Jan 19: No Mass</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Jan 18: Youth, TBA Jan 19: No Mass</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS Jan 18: Adam Glaser, Camryn Carraher, Stetson McManaman Jan 19: No Mass</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Jan 18: Linda/Matt Jan 19: No Mass</p> <p style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px;">SM CDA Rosary, Thursdays, before Mass, 4:30 in the chapel. </p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table> <tr> <td>Jan 1 & 5</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 3,655</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ACH/online</td> <td>\$ 2,320</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 734</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 6,709</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td>\$163,204</td> </tr> </table>	Jan 1 & 5	Envelopes	\$ 3,655		ACH/online	\$ 2,320		Plate	\$ 734		Weekly total	\$ 6,709	Total	July 1st to date	\$163,204	<p>LECTOR Jan 19: Youth</p> <p>EMHC Jan 19: Janet Wood, Rachele Nekoliczak</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Jan 19: Youth</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS Jan 19: Youth</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Jan 19: Youth Choir</p> <p>ROSARY Jan 19: Jeanette Walsh</p> <p>SACRISTAN Jan 19: Jeanette Walsh</p> <p>COLLECTION COUNTERS Jan 19: Pat & Shelly</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table> <tr> <td>Jan 1 & 5</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 2,349</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ACH/online</td> <td>\$ 170</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 284</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 2,803</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td>\$ 75,751</td> </tr> </table>	Jan 1 & 5	Envelopes	\$ 2,349		ACH/online	\$ 170		Plate	\$ 284		Weekly total	\$ 2,803	Total	July 1st to date	\$ 75,751	<p>LECTOR Jan 19: Audrey Miller</p> <p>EMHC Jan 19: Jean Nordhues, Shelby Kasselder</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Jan 19: Youth</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Jan 19: Matt & Linda</p> <p>CHURCH CLEANING January: Judy Ita, Chelsea Hartley, Jean Keber, Ellie Ita</p> <p>PRAYER CHAIN Call: Helen Plugge, Sue Patrick</p> <p>ROSARY For Vocations—Sundays 10:00 a.m. prior to Mass</p> <p>Thursday morning Communion Service 9:00 a.m. followed by Rosary and Adoration.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table> <tr> <td>Jan 1 & 5</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 1,070</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 86</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 1,156</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td>\$ 22,590</td> </tr> </table>	Jan 1 & 5	Envelopes	\$ 1,070		Plate	\$ 86		Weekly total	\$ 1,156	Total	July 1st to date	\$ 22,590
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Matrimony: A calling to forgive! "Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope."

Retrouvaille offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who are living in the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope: hope that it is not too late, hope for a different and better marriage. Retrouvaille helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides to listen, to forgive, to be reconciled, and to move into their futures believing that God loves them and that with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems/difficulties/crises. For more information about Retrouvaille go to www.helpourmarriage.com or www.retrouvaille.org. A Retrouvaille Weekend will be held on Feb. 14-16 at the St. Benedict Center in Schuyler, NE. Registration Deadline is Jan. 31, 2025. To register call 1-800-470-2230

Nebraska Walk for Life Gala is Jan 31 at the Embassy Suites Convention Center, LaVista. It is a fundraiser Right to Life held the night before the annual Walk for Life. Registration deadline is Jan 17. Walk for Life is on Feb. 1st and begins on the North steps of the State Capital at 10:00 a.m. nebraskartl@gmail.com

	SA HAPPENINGS
Mon Jan 13	Activity Day-No Classes; Boone Central Choral Clinic for (Gr 9-12) 5:30 Concert; 9:00 JH & HS Quiz Bowl at NE Christian; 1:00 JH Charger BB at NE Christian; 5:00(JV), 6:00(V) Boys BB at Ord; 7:00 School Board Meeting
Tue Jan 14	2:00 HS Shamrock Bowling vs McCool Junction at Spalding (Kealys); 6:00 (JV), 7:00(V) HS Girls Varsity Charger BB vs Burwell at Spalding
Wed Jan 15	3:30-5:30 Lego League, 5:30-6:30 Open House
Thu Jan 16	JV TBA, 6:00 (GV) 7:30 (BV)HS Charger BB v. Arcadia-Loup City at Loup City
Fri Jan 17	8:15 All School Mass (11)
Sat Jan 18	Goldenrod Conference Basketball Tournament

Families in Faith 20th Annual Development Dinner
Illuminate 2025, Saturday, February 22, is approaching quickly.
Do you have some fun ideas to add to the evening to celebrate our 20th year? Perhaps a unique gift to donate for the silent/live auction?
Please contact Tammy or Denise at the church office 497-2662.

SM/St. Anne
January Church Cleaning: Trust Side A: Prefect: Mary Berney
Rotation: Hope, Joy, Trust
January Men's Club Team #1: Brian McManaman, LJ Roach

"John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...' " - Luke 3:16

LUCKY DAY CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNER
Our Sunday, January 12th winner of \$200 is Ed Bauer of Spalding. Congratulations!!