

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024**

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

SUNDAY SCRIPTURES
Dec. 29: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
Luke 2:41-52

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear people of God,

Mary makes a surprise visit to Elizabeth, who never ceased to thank the merciful Lord for his grace upon her and her family. The humility and the courage to consider the other one, though according to the worldly standards lower than me, is the example Elizabeth set before us. Like Mary, all those who come to us carry Jesus with them. Only those who are righteous and blameless before God could recognize the indwelling presence of God in the other.

Two women met. From deep inside one, the human recognized the divine deep inside the other and leapt for joy. It's one of the most striking, one of the most beautiful, one of the most eloquent human responses to the divine ever recorded. John the Baptist, even from his mother's womb, saw through the veil of human flesh and knew immediately he was in the presence of God. Unable to contain his excitement, he burst into applause, jumped up and down for joy. And his ovation burst through the walls of the womb into this spirit filled voice of his mother, in exuberant praise of both God and the one in whom God was hidden.

We are, all of us, in the womb of earthly existence, confined by the flesh, but waiting to burst the bars of that womb and be born to something far greater. Yet even now, we have moments, awesome moments, when like the unborn prophet, we encounter the presence of the divine and recognize it instinctively. When confronted with those powerful God moments, when we suddenly realize that God is here with us, speaking to us, walking with us, living and laughing and weeping with us. When all at once our eyes are opened, and we see that God has come to us in the form of the person next to us. When all around us, we finally recognize each human heart as the bearer of God, then we understand the somersaults of the cheering baby in the womb.

Clap your hands! Jump for joy! God is near! God is here! Applaud his birth into your world.

God bless us all,
Fr. Lawrence

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	12/21	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Kenneth Miller
SUN	12/22	7:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	PEOPLE OF PARISH
		9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	† John Smyth
		11:00 a.m.	ST. THERESA'S	† Mary Jo Moore
MON	12/23	9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	Communion Service
TUE	12/24	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Mark Reilly
		5:00 p.m.	SACRED HEART	† Keith Callahan, Mike & Sean McGuire
		7:00 p.m.	ST. THERESA'S	† Barb Anderson
		10:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Pat Mahony
WED	12/25	9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	PEOPLE OF PARISH
		11:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Larry Diessner
THU	12/26	5:00 p.m.	ST. CATHARINE'S	Francis(†) & Annette Murphy
FRI	12/27	8:15 a.m.	ST. CATHARINE'S	† Janet Klein
SAT	12/28	5:00 p.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Pat Mahony
SUN	12/29	7:00 a.m.	ST. MICHAEL'S	† Wm. & LaVon Glesinger Family
		9:00 a.m.	SACRED HEART	PEOPLE OF PARISH
		11:00 a.m.	ST. THERESA'S	Jim & Jean Keber family

COMMUNION SERVICES

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

Holy Father's Prayer Intention of the Month: FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

**Bulletin Deadline
Tuesday 12:00 noon**



Please email information to both SM and SH. Email addresses on front of bulletin.

REST IN PEACE Our condolences and prayers to the families of Agatha McManaman and Margaret (Carraher) Briggs who were buried from St. Michael's. May they rest in peace.



Sacred Heart is looking for a maintenance worker to handle a variety of small jobs around the parish. Please contact the SH office 308-428-2855, Jason McIntyre 308-390-1917, or Patty Harris for a list of duties or more information.

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 Dec 24 5pm: Robert Ballweg Dec 24 10pm: Sarah Seamann Dec 25: Ed McCarthy Dec 28: KofC Dec 29: KofC</p> <p>EMHC Dec 24 5pm: Holly Carraher, Bill Spelic, Jean Herrera, Rich Rist Dec 24 10pm: Dean & Carol Seamann, Kara & Jeremiah Seamann Dec 25: Stacey Bauer, Dan Bauer Lee & Tammy Diessner Dec 28: KofC Dec 29: KofC</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Dec 24 5pm: Jerry & Marlynn Scheef, Maureen Thome, Allan Rolf Dec 24 10pm: Maureen Seamann, Bob Koenig, Sharon Seamann, Volunteer Dec 25: PJ Diessner, Cheryl Ray, Bill Spelic, Marilyn Leslie Dec 28: KofC Dec 29: KofC</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS Dec 24 5pm: Elizabeth, Elora, and Gregory Glaser Dec 24 10pm: Alexa & Brielle Hall, Preston Glesinger Dec 25: Larry Diessner, Adam Glaser, Camryn Carraher Dec 28: Destin Keber, Autumn Murphy, Haden Bernt Dec 29: Seamann boys</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Dec 24 5pm: Joan Hooker Dec 24 10pm: Dan Dec 25: Therese, Kelly & Denise Dec 28 & 29: Dan</p> <p>SM CDA Rosary, Thursdays, before Mass, 4:30 in the chapel. </p>	<p>LECTOR Dec 24: Jerry Smyth Dec 25: Chuck Sweeney Dec 29: Shawn O'Connor</p> <p>EMHC Dec 24: Shawn O'Connor, Rachele Nekoliczak Dec 25: Patty Harris, Susie Lammers Dec 29: Tom Donovan, Jason McIntyre, Teresa Kehler</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Dec 24: Tony Wood family Dec 25: Tom & Jackie Nekoliczak Dec 29: Scott Dugan family</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS Dec 24: Wren Nekoliczak, Kain Wood, Hadlee Buettner Dec 25: Breckyn Straka, Caden Straka, Payton Kniss Dec 29: Taylor McIntyre, Crayton Wagner, Addy Ryan</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Dec 24: Youth Choir Dec 25: Adult Choir</p> <p>ROSARY Dec 24: Mary Bauer Dec 25: Chuck Sweeney Dec 29: Annette Ackman</p> <p>SACRISTAN Dec 24: Mary Ann McQuillan Dec 25: Patty Harris Dec 29: Jackie Nekoliczak</p> <p>COLLECTION COUNTERS Dec 29: Donna & Karen</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." LUKE 1:44</p> </div>	<p>LECTOR Dec 24: Audrey Miller Dec 29: Leslie Scott</p> <p>EMHC Dec 24: Jean Nordhues, Shelby Kasselder Dec 29: Helen Plugge, Judy Ita</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS Dec 24: Jake & Shelby Kasselder Dec 29: Travis & Jessica Reich</p> <p>MUSIC MINISTRY Dec 24, 7pm: Denise & Kelly Dec. 29: TBA</p> <p>CHURCH CLEANING December: All women of St. Theresa's</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> <div style="border: 2px dashed black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Registration for the 2025 diocesan summer events opens February 1, 2025. These three events offer young people a time to reflect on their spiritual journey and helps them grow their love for God. We encourage you to talk with your kids about attending these events. Take advantage of the early bird rate being offered until February 9th. For details regarding these events scan the QR code on the poster or visit the Grand Island Diocese website gidiocese.org/yya</p> </div>																																										
<p>THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dec 15</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 6,760</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ACH/online</td> <td>\$ 125</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 490</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 7,375</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td>\$120,486</td> </tr> </table>	Dec 15	Envelopes	\$ 6,760		ACH/online	\$ 125		Plate	\$ 490		Weekly total	\$ 7,375	Total	July 1st to date	\$120,486	<p>THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dec 15</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 1,446</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ACH/online</td> <td>\$ 40</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 615</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 2101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td>\$ 64,076</td> </tr> </table>	Dec 15	Envelopes	\$ 1,446		ACH/online	\$ 40		Plate	\$ 615		Weekly total	\$ 2101	Total	July 1st to date	\$ 64,076	<p>THE LORD'S PORTION</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dec 15</td> <td>Envelopes</td> <td>\$ 875</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Plate</td> <td>\$ 310</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Weekly total</td> <td>\$ 1,185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>July 1st to date</td> <td>\$19,460</td> </tr> </table>	Dec 15	Envelopes	\$ 875		Plate	\$ 310		Weekly total	\$ 1,185	Total	July 1st to date	\$19,460
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PLEASE NOTE:

SM Parish office will be closed December 24th & 25th.



The 2025 Catholic Calendars for St. Michael & St. Theresa have been delayed. Sacred Heart calendars are at the back of the church.

SM/St. Anne

December Church Cleaning: Circle of Joy
Side B: Lori Carraher, Prefect
Rotation: Faith, Hope, Joy
Dec. Men's Club Team #8: Tim Pfeifer, Bill Thome

LUCKY DAY CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNER

Our Sunday, December 22nd winner of \$200 is Nancy Carraher of Spalding. Our Christmas Day Winner of \$400 is Sharon Carraher. Congratulations!!



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024

Please pick up your Christmas book,
The Three Ordinary Voices of God, at entrances of church.
Merry Christmas! ...Fr. Lawrence

BLESSED AND GRATEFUL Diocesan Annual Appeal 2024-25

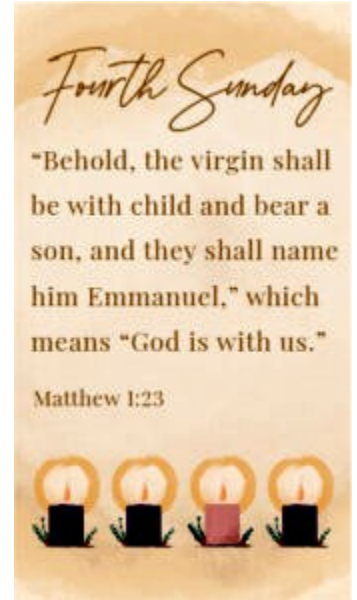


Parish	\$ Goal	\$ Received	% \$ Goal	Household Goal	Household Total	% HH Goal
SH	\$15,103	\$14,101	93%	42	32	76%
ST	\$5,228	\$5,535	106%	15	15	100%
SM	\$15,557	\$16,172	104%	55	55	100%

SM Fall Drive Total to date:
\$56,844.46
Donors: 37

SH Church Roof project:
Total Amount:
\$71,895.63
Donors: 66

Families in Faith
DEVELOPMENT
DINNER,
Saturday,
Febr. 22, 2025



Christmas Flowers 2024 Sacred Heart

Denny & Joan Goodrich
Andy & Jackie Ryan

Mickey McFadden
Mary K Birkby
Traci Nekoliczak
Annette Ackman
Tim & Sheila Goodrich
Shelly Harrahill
Mike & Janet Wood
Larry & Charlotte Murphy
Britt & Patty Harris
Gary & Cathy Hansen
Jim & Roberta Beck
Louis & Mary Bauer
Ray & Laurie Nordhues
Jerry & Mickey Smyth
Arlene & Rhonda Wrzenski
Vicki Harvey
Shawn & Coleen O'Connor

In Memory of

Marvin & Marie Goodrich; Carl, Betty & Muff Hitcher
John & Edith Nordhues, Theresa Nordhues Roggenkamp,
Bob & Jean Ryan
McFadden family
Loved Ones
Jerry Nekoliczak
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Bob & Marie Marco family; Jay & Mary Murphy family
Deceased Family Members
Family & Friends
Don & Loretta Beck, Bob & Mabel Beck, Family & Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
LaVern & Louise Wrzenski & the Wrzenski & Holtorf families
Tom Harvey
Pat & Jim O'Connor, Imogene & Harold Warner, Orren & Mary Wood, Jim & Gert O'Connor



St. Michael's

Larry & Sharon Roach
Janet Zwiener
Mary Lynn Dake
Elva Mahony
Bill & Denise Spelic
Luella Keber
Mary L Mailander
Claire Kaiser

Bob Klein
Tim & Deb Pfeifer

Loved Ones
Deceased Members of Albert & Magelene Zwiener Family
Joe & 'Bobby' Walkowiak
Pat Mahony, Frank & Maureen Rohde
Mark & David Pritchard
Joe & Mary Keber, Joe (Bud) Keber, Julius & Josephine Schmidt
Terry & Chad Mailander
Louis Kaiser, Esther Kaiser, Pauline & Jim Neis,
Anton & Liz Kaiser
Janet Klein
Loved Ones