

January 8, 2023

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



**St. Mary Church**  
1625 Adams Street, Ashland  
Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00PM  
Sunday Mass 8:30AM

## Saint Mary & Saint Joseph Catholic Churches

Father William Holoubek  
1625 Adams Street Ashland, NE 68003

Rectory & Fax (402) 944-3554

Emergency (402) 469-2893

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Church Office eMail: [stmaryashland@windstream.net](mailto:stmaryashland@windstream.net)

Web site: <https://stmaryashland.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmary.org/>

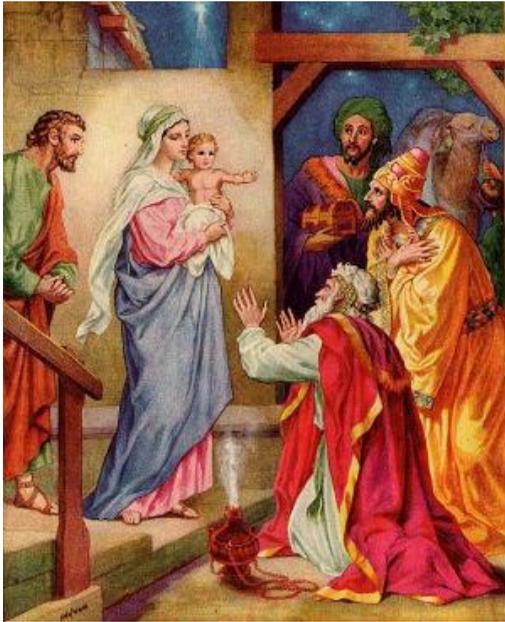
Preschool: (402) 944-7509

[ashlandstmarypreschool@windstream.net](mailto:ashlandstmarypreschool@windstream.net)

Diocese of Lincoln: [www.lincolndiocese.org](http://www.lincolndiocese.org)



**St. Joseph Church**  
7 Oak Street, Greenwood  
Sunday Mass 10:30AM



## An Epiphany Prayer

Dear Jesus,  
as You led the three kings to You  
by the light of a star,  
please draw us ever closer to You  
by the light of faith.  
Help us to desire You as ardently as they did.  
Give us the grace to overcome  
all the obstacles that keep us far from You.  
May we, like them, have something to give You  
when we appear before You.  
Mary, our mother, help us to know your Son.  
Amen.

### MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

(STM-ASHLAND, STJ-GREENWOOD, CC-CARE CENTER, OXB-OX BOW)

Sat	7	STM	5:00PM	The Schwaller Family
Sun	8	STM	8:30AM	All Souls' Day Intentions
	8	STJ	10:30AM	For the People
Mon	9	—	-----	Daily Mass Not Scheduled
Tue	10	STM	8:00AM	+Ron Bacon
Wed	11	CC	9:15AM	Mary Meehan
	11	STM	7:15PM	CCD Families and Teachers
Thu	12	STM	8:00AM	All Souls' Day Intentions
Fri	13	—	-----	Daily Mass Not Scheduled
Sat	14	—	-----	Daily Mass Not Scheduled
	14	STM	5:00PM	+Alfred Kelley
Sun	15	STM	8:30AM	For the People
	15	STJ	10:30AM	+Nancy Stander

*The Epiphany Home Blessing is on the back of this bulletin.  
Please remember to take a piece of blessed chalk home.*

### READINGS AND CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Mon	<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i> Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17
Tue	Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12 /Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28
Wed	Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39
Thu	Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45
Fri	<i>Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12
Sat	Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17 (
SUN	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Is 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION BEFORE MASS AT THESE TIMES OR CALL THE RECTORY

SAT ST MARY 4:00-4:50PM  
TUE ST MARY 7:35-7:55AM

SUN ST MARY 8:00-8:20AM  
THU ST MARY 7:35-7:55AM

SUN ST JOSEPH 10:10-10:20AM  
FRI ST MARY 7:35-7:55AM

## NEW PARISHIONERS

Please call the rectory to register, or for information on any of our parish activities/organizations. Registration forms for St. Mary & St. Joseph parishes also available for print at [stmaryashland.org](http://stmaryashland.org) or in the wall pockets in the back of St. Mary Church. Completed forms may be mailed to the church office or placed in the weekly collection basket.



### SEMINARIAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Please pray this week for Peter Foley from St. Peter Parish in Lincoln, currently Theology 1 at Mount St. Mary Seminary. Peter was here in the summer of 2020 as a member of the Totus Tuus Team who taught our kids' vacation bible school.

### PLEASE FAST & PRAY ON MONDAYS

Planned Parenthood in Lincoln now conducts abortions on Mondays. Pray for mothers, and fathers, to choose life for their babies and may they receive all the support, strength and holy guidance they need.



### MINISTRIES FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Sat	Jan 14	5:00pm
	Acolyte	James Wilsey
	Reader	Karen Stille
Sun	Jan 15	8:30am
	Acolyte	Craig Buescher
	Reader	Marge Buescher
Sun	Jan 15	10:30am
	Reader	Ginny Hummel
	Offertory	Ortiz

**OUR RETURN TO THE LORD DEC 28–JAN 3**  
*St Mary and St Joseph parishes are sustained by the generosity of our parishioners. Thank you for your continued dedication and support!*

	<u>St Mary</u>	<u>St Joseph</u>
Adult Envelopes	\$3,964.27	\$250.00
Plate	95.41	71.00
Votive Candles	40.00	
Holy Day Collection	185.00	
Utility Fund		20.00
On-Line Giving	735.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,019.68</b>	<b>\$341.00</b>
Weekly Budget	\$2,417.00	41300

St Mary and St Joseph Churches offer automated clearing house (ACH) giving as a way to automate your weekly offering. ACH giving offers convenience to parish members and provides donation consistency for our parish budgets. To enroll, please complete an ACH Authorization Form found in the wall pockets at the back of St. Mary church or call the parish office. Parishioners can also donate electronically on the parish web site: <https://stmaryashland.org>

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ST. MARY COFFEE & ROLLS THIS MORNING

Sunday, January 8 following 8:30am Mass.

All are welcome to come down! Regularly attending Coffee & Rolls would be a great, and easy, New Year's Resolution!



### Annual Men's Social for St. Mary & St. Joseph

Saturday, January 14th 6:00pm (following 5:00PM Mass) in St. Mary Church Basement. Bring a side dish or snack to share. This is a great way to get to know other guys. All men of both parishes welcome. Please bring a friend too!



### THE NEXT ST. MARY ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING

will be Thursday, January 19. Mass, with installation of 2023 officers, will be at 6:30pm, meeting will follow about 7:00pm in St. Mary church basement. All ladies are always welcome to attend either, or both, as their schedule allows.



**PLEASE HELP YOURSELF** to a 2023 calendar, full of great information, located in the back of church. Start with one per household please.

**2023 COLLECTION ENVELOPES** are in the back of church and ready for pick up. If you don't see your name, please call the rectory. And thanks to everyone who has already taken theirs.



### Looking for Something New in the New Year?

Ladies— you can always start coming to Altar Society Meetings or the Tuesday Morning Women's Group. Men— why not try the Knights of Columbus Meetings or the Thursday Morning Men's Group? Watch the bulletin or call the rectory for details.



### Thank You

*to everyone who so generously blessed me with your sincere Christmas greetings, food and gifts.*

*I am so very blessed to have been given the opportunity to serve St. Mary's and St. Joseph's parishes.*

*May the Good Lord bless you in this Christmas season for all the good that you do.*

*Yours in Christ Jesus Our Savior,  
Fr. Holoubek*



## DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ProLife Rosary & Mass Now on Mondays!



Planned Parenthood in Lincoln now conducts abortions on Mondays. The 9:30 am Rosary in front of Planned Parenthood will be on Mondays rather than Tuesdays. Also the Pro Life Masses will be at 10 am on Mondays, across the street.

### DATE NIGHT Make time for your vocation! The

Family Life Office invites you to a night out on **January 10, 6-9pm** at UNL Newman Center Rosary Hall with Josh Burkes and Chad Steiner of the Emmaus Institute speaking. The topic is "Praying with Scripture with Your Spouse & Family". \$45 for dinner/drinks for two or come for free to the talk and go out to eat on your own (will also be streamed). More info/register at <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/datenightjan>. Limited free childcare!



Villa Marie School's annual fundraising dance and auction **Shine Like His Stars 2023** is January 27th at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln. It's time to purchase your general admission tickets, reserve a table, bid on auction items, or make a donation. (Chrome & Safari are supported web browsers.) Text vmdance23 to 243725, or <https://bidpal.net/vmdance23>

**Marriage Encounter** "Becoming-One in Heart & Love through Our Couple Communication." February 10-12 in Lincoln. Call right-away to save a place. Host Couple, Gary & Brenda Granger 303--604-6202



There's something NEW with the annual **Nebraska Walk for Life!** In celebration of the reversal of Roe v Wade, the inaugural Walk for Life Gala, a fundraiser for Nebraska Right to Life, will be held the night before the Walk. Come join your fellow proliferators for either or both. This year's featured speaker, Dr. John Bruchalski, will be participating in both event. Dr. Bruchalski will describe his journey from a physician performing abortions to a leading light in pro-life medicine. Tickets for the Gala, which will be at Embassy Suites in Lincoln on Friday, January 27, 2023, are \$50, and can be purchased online at Right to Life (noting it is for Gala), PO Box 80410, Lincoln, NE 68501-0410. Registration deadline is January 6. **The Walk for Life on January 28 begins at the State Capitol at 10:00am**, followed by the walk to the UNL Student Union and Dr. Bruchalski's keynote speech at 11:30. For questions, contact Nebraska Right to Life, 402-438-4802.

### MOTHER/DAUGHTER PROGRAM "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" for girls age 9-13 and their mothers will be held Saturday, **January 28th, 2023** from 9 am to noon at John XXIII Diocesan Center. This program is designed to educate girls on growing up and becoming a woman. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$25 per mother/daughter or \$35 per family in person. To register, <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/motherdaughter> Questions, email Bekah Knobloch at [rebekahknobloch@marquettenfp.com](mailto:rebekahknobloch@marquettenfp.com)



**Join a half-day Pro-Life Retreat** by Sr. Deirdre Byrnes: religious sister, medical doctor, patriot. "Witnessing to Life No Matter the Cost" at John XXIII Center, Lincoln on Thurs. Jan. 19, 8:30am-2:00pm, sponsored by OneHeartOneMind.



Space is limited: email [prolifeinitiative@protonmail.com](mailto:prolifeinitiative@protonmail.com) or Venmo \$25 to [@goodcounselretreat](https://www.venmo.com/@goodcounselretreat) by Jan. 16; includes lunch.

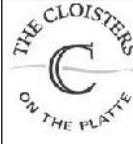
### The Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies

is now accepting registrations for a five week course titled *Opening the Word: Catholics and the Bible*. The course will meet in person on Monday evenings (6:30-8:30pm) beginning January 9, but will also be available to watch by video (typically posted the following day, with class notes). Opening the Word is designed to familiarize students with the Bible generally, preparing them to read, study, pray, love, and live the Sacred Scriptures. It is the first of two interterm courses built into our Creation to New Creation program, but everyone is welcome to register for this beneficial course. Learn more and register at [www.EmmausInstitute.net](http://www.EmmausInstitute.net).



### The Cloisters on the Platte has multiple positions to fill at our retreat facility.

We are hiring a full-time housekeeper, a full-time groundskeeper (that will also perform some security duties), and a part-time shuttle driver. Hourly pay based on experience. For more information regarding these positions, please contact Chris Egger at [cegger@cloistersontheplatte.com](mailto:cegger@cloistersontheplatte.com).



### Called to the Silence: 3 Day Ignatian Retreats

God speaks to you in the silence. Are you ready for some quiet time away after the holidays? Steep yourself in the sacred space of the Creighton University Retreat Center, just one hour east of Omaha, to be still and open yourself up to the graces God has for you. You will meet with an Ignatian-trained spiritual director daily to reflect on what's stirring in your heart. Opportunity for mass daily and confession. Retreat cost including room and meals is \$350. Choose one of the 4 opportunities to attend. January 19-22,, February 23-26, April 13-16, May 4-7, 2023 Register at [Creighton.edu/curc](http://Creighton.edu/curc) or scan here for the link:

### TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST (TEC) is a weekend retreat for Sophomores and above in High School and college Freshmen and Sophomores. The retreat is designed to draw young people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The experience of Christ on the weekend will leave you yearning for more in your daily life. The retreat usually begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning and concludes Monday afternoon around 4 p.m. on most weekends. Cost is \$120.

Feb 18-20, 2023 @ St. Patrick School, McCook  
Feb 18-20, 2023 @ Wahoo Neumann High, Wahoo  
**Apr 15-17, 2023 @ Camp Kateri, McCool Junction** (Nate & Lisa Isaacson, members of our parishes, will be helping with the April weekend. If you have any questions about T.E.C., please reach out to them: 402.314.4340)  
Jun 10-12, 2023 @ David City Aquinas High School  
Register at <https://www.lincolndiocese.org/retreats/tec>





## Epiphany Home Blessing

The feast of Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the world, and is a day to bless one's home (or apartment) for the new year. The traditional date is January 6, but in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

### BE SURE TO TAKE SOME BLESSED CHALK HOME!

**Blessing of the Threshold (Door) of the Home on the Feast of the Epiphany.** The father or head of the house may go through the various rooms of the home sprinkling holy water (if it is available), and then reads this prayer:

**"Sacred is this threshold of our home and holy is this door. This is the meeting place of friend, neighbor, and stranger. May it be a bridge for our comings and goings. Whenever we stand in this sacred space, may our eyes be granted new vision, so that we can see in friend or stranger the God of ten thousand disguises.**

**May this threshold be a sacred space where we come to celebrate the Sacrament of Hospitality. May the spirits of evil never cross this threshold, and may the Name of the All-Holy-One protect our home from harm. May God's angels stand guard at the right and the left of this opening to grace our comings and goings.**

**May we who live in this home guard the sacredness of this doorway. May our hearts be always alert to the danger of falseness and pretense as we greet those who come to our door. Let our affection be graced with honesty and reverence, and may the oil of truth burn in the lamp of our eyes. Help us to remember that our ancestors were strangers and exiles in Egypt, that Joseph and Mary came knocking at a door like this, weary and in search of kindness. May we receive all at this door as Godly guests.**

**May the blessing of God, and peace and grace of the All-Holy-One, surround this threshold and rest upon all who shall pass across it. Amen."**

### Blessing with Chalk.

Using the blessed chalk distributed to parishioners at church, mark the year and the initials of the three Magi on the lintel over the main door of the house (like this):

**20 + C + M + B + 23**

The digits, which appear at the beginning and end of the line, designate the new year. 'CMB' stands for the traditional names of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar) and also signifies the Latin prayer *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* or 'May Christ bless this dwelling!'

This tradition of blessing the doorway (with blessed chalk) is a beautiful reminder of Christ's love to all who enter and leave through the door, and symbolizes the family's commitment to welcome Christ into their home on a daily basis throughout the year.

**You may finish with an "Our Father," "Hail Mary," "Glory Be," and/or an appropriate hymn such as "O Come Let Us Adore Him" or "We Three Kings."**

**How the chalk is blessed (for your information).** The blessing of chalk is only done by a priest, but here is the prayer he uses.

*V. Our help is in the name of the Lord. R. Who made heaven and earth.  
V. The Lord be with you. K. And with thy spirit.*

*Bless, O Lord God, this creature chalk to render it helpful to men. Grant that they who use it in faith and with it inscribe upon the entrance of their homes the names of thy saints, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar may through their merits and intercession enjoy health of body and protection of soul. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(The Priest then sprinkles the chalk with holy water)

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### January Donation Requests

Please leave donations in the boxes in the back of St. Mary church  
**VFW Food Pantry** - Cleaning supplies, Salt, Sanitary Pads or Liners. Call or Text (531) 240-0186 if you or anyone you know is in need of assistance from the VFW Food Pantry.  
**Kids' Cupboard** - Saltine Crackers

**Greenwood Community Food Pantry** Contact Cindy Rex 402-789-7265, Beth Massa 402-540-8537, or Jarid Massa 402-430-0238 for confidential assistance.

**ROC Meals for Ashland Youth** St. Mary & St. Joseph Parishes provide a meal for local young people and leaders at this Ashland based youth center on the first Tuesday of each month. Sign up for as many or as few items as you like in the back of St. Mary Church. Currently 25 servings of each item are needed, to be dropped off at the ROC Center, 124 N 14th Street, by 5:00pm. The Youth Center provides its own paper products and serving utensils!

### Upcoming Events - Save the Date

Jan 8 St. Mary Coffee & Rolls  
Jan 11 CCD Resumes  
Jan 14 Annual Men's Social following 5:00pm Mass  
Jan 19 St. Mary Altar Society Meeting  
Jan 28 Walk for Life, Lincoln



### Parish Groups and Contacts

**Knights of Columbus** Open to all Catholic men, this group meets the first Thursday of the month at 7pm.

**St. Mary Altar Society** This group includes all women of the parish and meets the second Thursday of the month at 7pm (excluding the summer months Jun-Aug). On Facebook "Ashland St. Mary's Altar Society".

**St. Joseph Altar Society** This group includes all women of the parish and meets the third Thursday of the month at 7pm.

**Women's Faith-Sharing Group** This group meets after 8:00am Mass on Tuesdays in St. Mary church basement. Women of both parishes welcome.

**Thursday Morning Men's Group** This group meets every Thursday from 6-7am in the church basement, coffee & breakfast provided. Contact Anthony Weaver for more information, 402-669-0582.

**Young Women's Group** This group meets bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 8pm. Please contact Maggie Onwiler at [onwilerm@gmail.com](mailto:onwilerm@gmail.com) for more information.

**Eucharistic Adoration** Call or text Lisa Isaacson at 402-314-4340 if you are interested in a holy hour on First Friday/First Saturday.

**Hall Rental St. Mary** Call or text Lisa Isaacson at 402-314-4340. There is no cost to rent the hall, but a donation of \$25 is suggested.

**Hall Rental St. Joseph** Contact Leslie Krings at 402-480-5242.

**Suppers for the Soul** Call Jackie Fudge at 402-944-7600 if you or someone you know could use some meal assistance due to illness, recovery, new baby, hardship, etc.

**Prayer Chain** Call Winnie von Rentzell at 402-944-2706, or email her at [vw30728@windstream.net](mailto:vw30728@windstream.net), to place a prayer request or to join the prayer chain.

**Bulletin** Send bulletin announcements to Lisa Isaacson at [mrs.nate.isaacson@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.nate.isaacson@gmail.com) by midday Wednesday. All announcements will be reviewed by Father.