

Sunday, August 1, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. Mark Seiker frmseiker@gmail.com Rector: (402) 694-3427 Bookkeeper: Melissa Bennett Cell: (308) 390-1662 Secretary: Navy Milligan Cell: (402) 369-3009 CCD Coordinator: Annie De La Cruz Cell: (314) 629-2315	St. Mary’s 1420 9 th Street P.O. Box 291, Aurora, NE 68818 Rector: (402)694-3427 Office/Hall (402)694-2455 Office Hrs: Mon. & Fri. 8:30-3:30 Secretary: stmarysaurora@gmail.com Bookkeeper: stmarysaurorabookkeeper@gmail.com www.stmarysaurora.org	St. Joseph’s 209 N Derby Giltner, NE 68841
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Mass Times & Intentions

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Mass will be offered for:</i>	<i>Mass is offered by:</i>
Mon., Aug. 2	7:30 a.m.	SM	†Margaret Cadieux	Carol Schuster/ Cadieus Family
Tues., Aug. 3	7:30 a.m.	SM	†Carl Arent	Carol Arent
Wed., Aug. 4	9:00 a.m.	SJ	†Clyde Obermeier	Jim & Marilynn Happold
Thurs., Aug. 5	7:30 a.m.	SM	†Tom & Deanie Wanek	Widhalm Family
Fri., Aug. 6	7:30 a.m.	SM	†Tom Newlun	Van & Betty Van Luchene
Sat., Aug. 7	8:00 a.m.	SM	Intention of the Celebrant	
Sat., Aug. 7	5:00 p.m.	SM	†LouAnn Umbenhower	Pat Leth
Sun., Aug. 8	8:15 a.m.	SM	†Lucille Meier	Wisharts
Sun., Aug. 8	10:45 a.m.	SJ	For the People of St. Mary’s & St. Joseph’s Parishes	

Confessions: 45 minutes before Saturday night and Sunday morning Masses; 35 minutes before daily Mass; and by appointment with Father

The Holy Rosary: 20 minutes before Sunday Masses at both parishes; volunteers needed for every Saturday evening Mass at St. Mary’s.

Prayer Chain- Call Diann Clay (402) 694-3832 or Jan Messman at (402) 694-2360 (janmessman@gmail.com)

Names of your loved ones will be removed from the prayer chain and the departed souls after one month. If you would like your loved one to remain on the list for an extended time, please contact Diann or Jan to have your loved one re-entered in the list. Thank you.

Please pray for the following: Rollie Carter; Sharon Ousey; Ron Cyboron; Harv Bish; Larry Masur; Bob Clay; Joni Oswald; and world peace.

Please pray for the following departed souls : †Jerry Bartley, †Lucille Meier, †Tom Newlun, †Deanna Athey.

Aurora Backpack Program

Please remember if you took a tag for the Backpack Program please remember to have your bag placed back on the table that you took the apple from or in the secretary’s office by today, August 1st!
And huge THANK YOU to everyone that felt it in their hearts to help the families/children of our community!

Volunteer Ministers

If in the past you were not comfortable returning to a monthly schedule as a lector/acolyte/or altar server and now you would like to be added back onto the August schedule, or if you haven’t been on the schedule before but feel called to do so please contact Navy the Parish Secretary at 308-289-3009 or by email at stmarysaurora@gmail.com Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Fr. Seiker and New Parish Members Celebration

On Sunday, August 22nd there will be an event celebrating Father Seiker and all new members of the Parish!
Homemade ice cream, games, and food starting at 4:00 p.m.! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**
More details to come!!!

CCD and a new school year is right around the corner. We have some wonderful volunteer teachers signed up for all grades! Yay! What a blessing. We are in need of some classroom helpers. Let Annie, CCD Coordinator, know if you are able to help. Especially in our First Communion/2nd grade classroom. All parents, please sign your children up for a new year on the parish website (stmarysaurora.org) so that we have updated, correct information. More details to come!

Stress in Your Marriage? – *There is less than a week left to sign up for Retrouvaille.* Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness and simply shut down. Others experience conflict and arguments in their relationship. Most don’t know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the August program beginning with a weekend on August 13-15, 2021, call 1-888-317-5654 or 308-986-2351 or www.HelpOurMarriage.org on the web.

St. Mary’s Calendar of Events:

Sun., Aug. 8	Coffee & Rolls
Wed., Aug., 18	CCD Teacher Meeting 6:30p
Sun., Aug. 22	Welcome Celebration 4:00 p.m.
Wed., Aug., 25	1st Day of CCD/Parent Meeting 6:30p

Collection	St. Mary’s	St. Joseph’s
Adult	\$1,037.00	\$505.00
Plate	\$142.01	\$27.00
Building	\$105.00	
Total Collected on 24th & 25th	\$1,284.00	\$532.00

St. Mary’s Ministry Schedule:

<u>Sat., August 7</u>	Acolyte: Greg Bonifas, Reader: Ken Thiele, Greeters/Gift Bearers: Tim & Lee Ann Widhalm, Altar Servers: Isaac Huls & Will Hoegh
<u>Sun., August 8</u>	Acolyte: Don Schmit, Reader: Volunteer, Greeters/ Gift Bearers: Greg & Jill Myers, Altar Servers: Jake Cattau & Jackson Hanna

Sisters Vocation Prayer Calendar 2021

Please pray for Sister Philomena of Our Lady of Sorrows from Auburn, KS, and Sister Maria Theresa Vi Nguyen from Vietnam. They are new entrants in the Diocese of Lincoln Motherhouses. Sr. Philomena of Our Lady of Sorrows is a Novice at the Sisters of the Carmel of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph and Sister Maria Theresa Vi Nguyen took her First Vows at the Sisters of Mary, Queen of Mercy

Spirit Catholic Radio is bringing to Cathedral of the Risen Christ and St. Joseph’s in Lincoln an up-close experience of the most studied artifact of all time – The Shroud of Turin, what many believe to be the authentic burial cloth of Christ. Their newest traveling exhibit, **The Man of the Shroud**, will include 42 beautifully-designed panels on display in the Cathedral from **August 6 – 13** and in St. Joseph’s Parish Hall from **August 23 - 29**. This exhibit will raise the questions, “*Could the Shroud be the most important archaeological artifact ever found? Does it provide clues to what happened during the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus?*” On **August 9th** (Cathedral) and **August 23rd** (St. Joseph School Gym), at 7:00 p.m. Shroud expert, **Jim Bertrand**, M.Ed. of the American Confraternity of the Holy Shroud, will give special presentations and rare viewings of a Shroud replica, as well as replicas of the Crown of Thorns, whip, nails and Holy Sponge used in the Passion of Our Lord. For more information on this exhibit and each location’s viewing times, visit spiritcatholicradio.com/shroud.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER ... August 1, 2021

A few words of introduction: I grew up on a farm, a mile north of the little town of Elmwood, which is East of Lincoln. My parents (Vincent and Theresa Seiker) lived on the farm all their lives until they retired and moved to Lincoln in 2000. They are members of St. Peter Parish (45th & Old Cheney) in Lincoln. I am the 2nd oldest of 5 children. My older brother Steve and his wife Roma have three children and live in Omaha. My sister, Susan and her husband Mike Foley (the Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska) have 6 adult children and live in Lincoln, in St. Peter Parish. My brother, Msgr. Dan, (was the Judicial Vicar [Priest in charge of the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal] working on Declarations of Nullity, & later Assistant Spiritual Director at St. Gregory the Great Seminary), and now he is the Chaplain for Wyoming Catholic College in Lander, WY. My youngest brother, Fr. Leo, is the Administrator of St. Joseph Parish in Friend. Both Msgr. Dan and Fr. Leo are Lincoln Diocesan priests.

I was ordained a Priest for the Lincoln Diocese in 1984, and I have served in parishes in Hastings, Nebraska City, Bellwood, McCook, Beatrice, Imperial, North Platte, and now in Aurora and Giltner. I thank you for the warm, friendly welcome that I have already received. May the Lord bless the work that each of us is called to do to build His Kingdom here in Aurora and Giltner. None of us can do everything, but each one can do the part that we are called by God to do. Working together and being obedient to God's will, we can shape a beautiful picture, because we will be letting the Lord work in and through us and it will truly be His picture ... His work!

One of my other duties is that about twenty-seven years ago, I was assigned by Bishop Bruskewitz to be the Diocesan Spiritual Advisor for the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese. I am also the Spiritual Advisor for the National Cursillo Movement. Thus, there are some meetings that I will need to attend and some retreat weekends that will take me away from the parishes for a few weekends and other days. I will keep you informed of those dates.

Fr. Mark Seiker Gone from the Parishes ... The Virtual Cursillo National Encounter via ZOOM on Friday (07/23) & Saturday (07/24) was a very good opportunity to pray, talk and interact with Cursillistas from across the country, even though it was virtual. The **Patris Corde Clergy Conference for Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians** (July 25–27), was a very good time to meet other Priests & Deacons from the Omaha Archdiocese, & listen to some good speakers. **Monthly Jesus Caritas**

Meeting (Monday, August 3) ... For almost 20 years, I have been meeting once a month with 5 other Priests in a **Jesus Caritas Group** (*that means, the love, the heart, the charity of Jesus*) to pray, share our lives, and enjoy each other's company. I will be leaving around 1:00pm, and return Monday evening. **Storage Shed Roof Replaced ...** a Parish Council member observed that the shingles on the West roof of the Storage Shed were in great need of repair. Paschke Bros. Construction, Inc replaced the shingles on Wed., July 28 at a cost of \$1,500.00. **RCIA**

Classes ... Fr. Mark Seiker will be leading an RCIA process (Inquiry class in the Faith) **beginning in Sept. 2021** until a few weeks after Easter (mid May 2022). The day of the week that the classes will be held has not been confirmed. Perhaps on **Mondays or Tuesdays or Thursdays in the Parish Hall from 7:00pm – 9:00pm**. These classes are open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. **For Catholics, it is a good opportunity to learn more about your faith.** If you are interested call the Rectory or see Fr. Mark Seiker. Begin praying and thinking about persons that you want to invite to study our faith with you. Our faith is to be treasured, preserved, and lived, but it is also to be shared ... share your faith with a friend by coming with your friend to these RCIA classes. **It would be great to have a Full Hall!**

Parish Potluck Welcome Meal ... will be **Sunday, August 22, 2021**. This is for All Parishioners (*from both Parishes*). It is also an opportunity to invite and **welcome New Parishioners to our Parishes!** I encourage you to visit (*after Mass in the Hall or outside*) with people who come to participate in Saturday or Sunday Mass who you do not recognize.

Ask God for His grace to gently and lovingly introduce yourself to them, perhaps saying something like: “HI, I am *[insert your first & last name]*, I don't remember if we have met before.” You might volunteer information about yourself *[this is my husband / my wife; or these are our children; or I am recently widowed; or I work at ??business??]*. When **WE take the initiative** and **offer some information about ourselves to others**, they often will respond by sharing information about themselves, and we can get to know each other and find that we have a number of things in common with them.

Contact info for Father Mark Seiker ... If you want to contact me at any time, you may call the Rectory “land line” 402-694-3427. This phone line will probably about 99% of the time be forwarded to my cell phone (*my “flip phone”*). When I am praying the Mass, hearing Confessions, or meeting with persons, my phone is on vibrate and I give my attention to the persons in front of me. I encourage you to leave a message for me on my cell phone. When I return your phone call, I will most often be calling from my cell phone and you will notice that the call will show up on your phone as “private” or “restricted” or “caller id not known”, or something like that (*because I have my cell phone number “blocked”*). It used to be that telemarketers used blocked numbers ... now they “steal” someone else's number and call you from that number. (Sometimes people call me when they receive a call from a “private” or “restricted” or “caller id not known” phone number thinking it was me that called them. My response is always: “*If it is important enough for me to call you and you are not able to answer the phone when I call, I will leave a message. If you did not received a message, it was not me ... unless your voice mailbox is FULL and I could NOT leave a message.*”) I want people to have a connection with the Lord and His Church and not with me. *[Yes, God has called me to be His instrument, one of His channels or grace, however, I want to direct people to Jesus.]* Over the past 15 years, I have found this a very helpful way to be very available to anyone who calls the Rectory phone ... wherever I happened to be ... in town, at my parents, etc. However, because the phone number you call is a “land line”, **you can NOT text me!** You may also contact me by email frmseiker@gmail.com.

Group/Bulk Subscriptions to MAGNIFICAT! ... MAGNIFICAT is a monthly publication containing a short morning, evening, & night prayer, & a short daily meditation; as well as the Scripture readings for the Daily & Sunday Masses, essays on the lives of the saints, and spiritual insight into masterpieces of sacred art. Magnificat is a good way to learn more about your faith & deepen your prayer life and your relationship with God. The **annual group subscription rate is \$23.00/each**. That is a savings of \$24.00 off regular (individual price of \$47.00). If you would like to be a part of the group / bulk subscription, please turn in your payment (checks to St. Mary Church) to Fr. Seiker. The **group subscription** runs from **Aug. 2021–Jul. 2022**. Those in our Group may also read Magnificat either **online** or on **iphone** or **ipod**.

For the month of August 2021, Magnificat has provided some extra copies of the August issue. IF you want to “try it out” to see what Magnificat has to offer, please pick up a Free copy on the table outside Classroom D (Navy's Office).

Please give Magnificat a try for a month! If you like it and want to be a regular subscriber at this low cost, we have some copies available. Contact me if you have any questions.