

# Catholic Parishes in Partnership

St. Bonaventure, Raeville | St. Boniface, Elgin | St. John the Baptist, Deloit  
St. John the Baptist, Petersburg | St. Peter de Alcántara, Ewing | St. Theresa, Clearwater

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 15, 2019**



## **GAUDETE SUNDAY MEANS REJOICE!!**

The internet sensation 'grumpy cat' shown above clearly does not understand the meaning of Gaudete! Rejoice! This Sunday we celebrate being more than halfway through the Advent season of preparation. Advent is both about the journey and the destination.

## **GAUDETE IS ABOUT THE JOURNEY**

Sometimes big changes happen in bits and pieces. Sometime big changes happen in steps. Each step forward has times to celebrate the 'win' accomplished. We want to celebrate what has happened. Last week, we heard the preaching of John the Baptist. This week, we hear the question asked to Jesus... *Are you the one we've been looking for? Are you the one for whom we've been preparing the way?* ...

Jesus points something out to us in his response. He doesn't just name himself as the answer, as the one being sought. Jesus invites those asking to bring the evidence and testimony to John the Baptist and let him discover the answer for himself. Jesus is not reducing himself to an academic answer to an intellectual question. Jesus doesn't put himself as an answer on a multiple choice test. It does not become enough for us to *know* the answer to the question. We have to *own* the answer in our hearts.

When Jesus is the source of our joy, we do rejoice! Faith becomes the most important gift that we can give and share. We can't force someone else to have faith, but we can lead and invite someone to share the experience of a faith-filled

life. Our own faith is deepened and is strengthened when we seek to learn, to know, and to understand what we believe more clearly... but the learning, the knowledge, and the understanding cannot replace the need for the gift of faith.

## **THE DESTINATION OF ADVENT**

We are in the middle of two different destinations. The first destination is about getting ready for the coming of Christ at Christmas. The second destination is about being ready for the second coming of Christ... the coming of Christ in glory. Christmas is about getting ready for Christ to come. The second coming is about us being ready to go to heaven. One of the traditional beliefs in the church was that the second coming of Christ would happen in the Advent season. We want to be ready for eternity... for forever... for going to meet our God. This is one of the reasons why we have a tradition and strongly encourage use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Advent-time.



## **RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS**

One way to do some "spiritual cleaning" is to take part in the parish penance services this Advent. We have one last big time of availability coming up. **This Sunday Dec 15**, we will offer a 4:00 PM at St. Peter's in Ewing, a 5:30

PM at Rural St. John's, and a 7:00 PM at St. Theresa's in Clearwater (before the 8:00 at L Bar B!!).

## **CHRISTMAS IS COMING SOON!!**

I think that we're going to make it to Advent's finish line of Christmas just fine. Looking ahead, here are our Mass times:

Christmas Eve, December 24: 4:00 pm (SBR- Raeville)  
Christmas Eve, December 24, 4:00 pm (SPE- Ewing)  
Christmas Eve, December 24, 6:00 pm (STC- Clearwater)  
Midnight Mass, December 25, 12:00 am (SJD- Deloit)  
Christmas Day, December 25, 8:00 am (SJP- Petersburg)  
Christmas Day, December 25, 10 am (STC-Clearwater)  
Christmas Day, December 25: 10:00 am (SBE- Elgin)

Peace,



## Weekend Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 5:30 pm**

St. Peter de Alcantra, Ewing

**Saturday: 7:00 pm**

St. John the Baptist, Petersburg

**Sunday: 8:00 am** St. Bonaventure, Raeville

**Sunday: 10:00 am** St. Boniface, Elgin

**Sunday: 10:00 am** St. Theresa of Avila, Clearwater

**Sunday: 11:30 am** St. John the Baptist, Deloit

### RELIGIOUS

Fr. John Norman, Pastor PO Box 37- Ewing, NE 402-626-7605

Email: [jmnorman@archomaha.org](mailto:jmnorman@archomaha.org)

Fr. Kevin Vogel, Assoc. Pastor PO Box B- Elgin 402-843-2345

Email: [kwvogel@archomaha.org](mailto:kwvogel@archomaha.org)

Deacon Dennis Wiehn 402-843-0182

Deacon John Starman 402-386-5570

Deacon William Camp (retired) 402-843-5464

Sister Patricia Hoffman PO Box 219 402-843-5461

**Emergencies Needing a Priest: call office numbers and system will re-direct your call.**

**Elgin Office** (office entrance is east side of rectory)

Mailing Address: PO Box B, Elgin NE 68636

Parish Office Phone 402-843-2345

Fax 402-843-2253

St. Boniface Gym Phone 402-843-2249

**Website:** [www.stbonparishes.com](http://www.stbonparishes.com)

Monday 1pm-4pm

Tuesday-Thursday (Closed 12-1 pm) 9am-4pm

Friday 9am-12pm

Michele Reicks [mreicks@stbonparishes.com](mailto:mreicks@stbonparishes.com)

Linda Moser [lmoser@stbonparishes.com](mailto:lmoser@stbonparishes.com)

**Petersburg Office** (office entrance is north entr. Werner Hall)

Mailing Address: PO Box 608, Petersburg NE 68652

Parish Office Phone 402-386-5580

Hours: Wednesday 10:00 am-3:00pm

Jaci Hoefer [jhoefer@archomaha.org](mailto:jhoefer@archomaha.org)

**Ewing Office** (office entrance is front door of Rectory)

Mailing Address: PO Box 37, Ewing, NE 68735

Helen Larson 402-626-7605

Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:00am – Noon

### **RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE (watch weekly calendar for changes)**

Wednesday: 5-5:30pm- Elgin

Saturday: 4:45-5:15 pm- Ewing

Saturday: 6:15- 6:45 pm- Petersburg

Sunday: 7:30-7:50 am- Raeville

**Reconciliation will be offered** before and after each Mass, as available, and other times as shown here in the bulletin.

### **ADORATION SCHEDULE**

**St. Peter's:** Thursday- 9- Noon

First Saturday- 6:00 pm-Midnight

**Elgin:** Day before First Friday, Each Month

**St. John's-Deloit-** Devotions on Mondays at 7pm (summer)

### **SCHEDULE MASS INTENTIONS**

**St. Boniface/St. Boniface Parish:** Linda Moser 402-843-2345

**St. John's Parish- Petersburg:** Kelly Starman 402-386-5570 or email [kelly\\_starman@yahoo.com](mailto:kelly_starman@yahoo.com).

**St. Peter, St. John Deloit, St. Theresa's:** Helen Larson 402-626-7605

## **BULLETIN DEADLINE: TUESDAY NOON**

Send to [lmoser@stbonparishes.com](mailto:lmoser@stbonparishes.com)

(AND) [mreicks@stbonparishes.com](mailto:mreicks@stbonparishes.com)

**COMBINED Monthly Calendar: 3<sup>rd</sup> TUES / Mo.**

**All parishes have one website:** <https://stbonparishes.com/>  
If parishes want event flyers, calendars, minutes etc. posted please email [mreicks@stbonparishes.com](mailto:mreicks@stbonparishes.com).  
**Each parish maintains their own Facebook Page**

### **Catholic Schools**

**St. Boniface School (K-6) / Pope John Central (7-12)**

Betty Getzfred, Principal 402-843-5325

Website: [www.pjcrusaders.org](http://www.pjcrusaders.org)

**St. Michael School- Albion (Preschool-8)**

Lisa Schumacher, Principal Website: [www.stmichael.esu7.org](http://www.stmichael.esu7.org)

**Elgin Religious Education**

**Family Formation (Gr. K-6)**

Cheryl Veik, Coordinator 402-843-8023

**Elgin Sunday Youth Group (Gr. 7-12)**

Louise Schindler, Sunday Youth Group 402-843-5375

**Petersburg Religious Education (in Albion)**

Lisa Wagner, Director (to register) 308-750-0423

**(Gr. K-8)** Wednesday during School Year **6:00-7:00 pm**

**(Gr. 9-12)** Wednesday during School Year **7:15-8:15 pm**

### **St. Peter, St. Theresa, St. John Deloit Religious Ed Classes**

**Elementary:** Wed. 3:45-5:15 pm at St. Theresa's Hall in Clearwater,

Wed. 4-5:00 pm at St. Dominic's Hall, and Wed. 3:45- 5:15pm at the Orchard Methodist Church. Angela Tagel, Director 308-367-7249.

**Jr. Hi/HS** Wed. 7-8:15 pm at St. Theresa's Hall, Clearwater.

(Contact: Sandy Moser 402-851-0116), or 7-8:30pm at St.

Dominic's Hall, Ewing. (Contact: Ann Kurpgeweit 402-336-7749.)

### **PRAYER LINE REQUESTS**

**St. Boniface:** Call Betty Mackel 402-843-2394 or Mary Jane Boes 402-843-2379

**St. Bonaventure:** Call Mary Ann Fangman 402-386-5350 or Diane Scholl 402-386-5256.

**St. John-Petersburg:** Call Kathy Koch 402-386-5481 or Kelly Starman 402-386-5570

**St. Peter-Ewing:** Lavonne Sisson 402-626-7755

**St. Theresa-Clearwater:** Teresa Kester, 402-750-0262

**St. John the Baptist-Deloit:** Jeannie Knievel 402-929-0847

### **RENTAL REQUESTS**

**St. Bonaventure, Raeville Rectory or Hall:** Call Mary Ann Fangman 402-386-5350.

**St. John's Rectory, Petersburg:** Call Mary Lu Larson 402-843-8420 or Jacque Luettel 402-843-8974.

**St. John's Werner Hall, Petersburg events** all need to be scheduled through Jaci Hoefer – including all funerals, events, receptions, and showers by calling 402-386-5580 or email [jhoefer@archomaha.org](mailto:jhoefer@archomaha.org).

**St. John's Rural Clearwater:** Sue Mlnarik 402-485-2428

**St. Theresa's Clearwater:** Koryn Koinzan 402-929-0520

**St. Peter's Ewing (St. Dominic's) Hall:** Helen Larson 402-626-7605

**Knights of Columbus Hall, (Elgin):** Dave Hoefer 402-843-8921. Website: [KofC.org/JoinUs](http://KofC.org/JoinUs)

**Tintern Retreat Center (Oakdale)** Cheryl Veik 402-776-2188 [tinternretreatcenter.com](http://tinternretreatcenter.com)

**Together, We Make Disciples**

## This Week in Our Parishes.....

Day	Date	Time	Events
Sunday	December 15	9:00 am	St. Bonaventure Raeville Sets Up Nativity/Decorations (Help Needed)
Sunday	December 15	-----	<b>Christmas Appeal Gifts Due</b> at Elgin/Raeville Church (Immed. after Mass)
Sunday	December 15	11:00 am	Elgin Circle 6 & 1 Assist Nativity Committee (hauling totes, trees to Church)
Sunday	December 15	12:30 pm	Advent Brunch at St. John's Deloit Hall (following 11:30 am Mass)
Sunday	December 15	4:00 pm	Penance Service at St. Peter's Ewing
Sunday	December 15	5:30 pm	Penance Service at St. John's Deloit
Sunday	December 15	7:00 pm	Penance Service at St. Theresa's Clearwater
Monday	December 16	Noon	<b>Early Calendar deadline</b> for January meetings, fundraisers, etc.
Monday	December 16	Noon	<b>Early Bulletin Deadline</b> for the December 22 Bulletin
Monday	December 16	7:00 pm	St. Boniface Elgin Alar Society Meeting in Convent
Monday	December 16	7:00 pm	St. Boniface Choir Practice
Monday	December 16	-----	St. Boniface/ Pope John School Board Meetings
Tuesday	December 17	7:00 pm	St. Boniface Finance Committee Meeting at Convent
Wednesday	December 18	-----	No Bible Study at St. Dominic's Hall
Wednesday	December 18	7:00 pm	Baptism Class at Elgin Convent Ministry Room
Wednesday	December 18	3:45- 5:15 pm	Clearwater Elementary CCD
Wednesday	December 18	3:45-5:15 pm	Orchard CCD at Orchard Methodist Church
Wednesday	December 18	4-5:00 pm	Elementary Religious Ed. Christmas Party at St. Dominic's Hall, Ewing
Wednesday	December 18	5-6:00 pm	Confessions at St. Boniface Church ( <b>includes Family Formation</b> )
Wednesday	December 18	5-6 pm	Elgin Family Formation Confession and Christmas Party
Wednesday	December 18	6:30-7:30 pm	Family Advent Eucharistic Adoration at St. Boniface Church
Wednesday	December 18	7-8:15 pm	Youth Group Christmas Party at St. Theresa's Hall, Clearwater
Wednesday	December 18	7-8:15 pm	Jr High/High School Religious Ed Christmas Party at Ewing
Wednesday	December 18	6:00-7:00pm	Religious Ed (PRE) at Albion- Grades K-8 ( <b>Caroling at Wolf Home</b> )
Wednesday	December 18	7:15-8:15am	Religious Ed (PRE) at Albion for Grades 9-12 ( <b>Caroling at Wolf Home</b> )
Thursday	December 19	-----	St. Boniface Elgin Circle 4 Cleans Church
Friday	December 20	Noon	St. Boniface/Pope John Dismiss for Christmas Vacation
Friday	December 20	1:00 pm	Elgin Public Schools Dismiss for Christmas Vacation
Friday	December 20	Noon	<b>Early Bulletin Deadline</b> for December 29 <sup>th</sup> Bulletin items
Friday	December 20	5:00 pm	Little Kids Wrestling at St. Boniface Gym- Elgin
Saturday	December 21	9:30 am	Wolfpack Wrestling Invite at St. Boniface Elgin Gym

### St. John's Petersburg

#### Financial Stewardship- December 7

##### St. John's - Petersburg:

Adult: \$1,878.00  
 Loose: \$17.00 Children: \$3.00  
 Religious Retirement- \$303.00  
 Campaign for Human Development- \$20.00  
 Christmas Flowers- \$125.00  
 Immaculate Conception Holy Day- \$265.00

#### Can you Volunteer?

St. John the Baptist Petersburg Altar Society is in need of Circle Leaders and a Vice President. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Bobbi Kennedy at 402-741-1751.

#### St. John's Petersburg Snow Removal

**December: Families with Last Names S-Z**  
 (January: Families with Last Names A-R)



### St. John's Petersburg Once a Month Club Tickets

**Purchase yours today** by contacting any Parish Council Member, Finance Committee Member, or by contacting Keith Schumacher at 843-0407 or sending your check for \$50/each made out to: **"St. John's Once a Month Club"**  
 Mail to: Keith & Diane Schumacher 2038 110<sup>th</sup> St., Petersburg, NE 68652.

### St. Bonaventure Raeville

#### Financial Stewardship- December 8

##### St. Bonaventure- Raeville

Sunday Collection (16 Env.) \$952.00  
 Children's Collection \$14.00  
 Immaculate Conception Holy Day \$140.00  
 Religious Retirement \$162.00  
 God's Portion \$2,200.00  
 Christmas Flowers \$210.00

Sunday Collection as of Fiscal Week 23  
 Budgeted Total \$23,000.00  
 Actual Total \$23,925.52  
 Amount Ahead \$925.52

#### God's Portion & God's Acre

##### St. Bonaventure

Budgeted: \$13,000.00  
 Total to Date: **\$11,203.90**



**St. Bonaventure: Let us continue to 'feed the hungry'** A basket is in the back of St. Bonaventure Church for the Food Pantries. Non-food items are also needed and these are listed on the poster in the back of church. Please share generously.

**EWTN WINTER HIGHLIGHTS for December 2019-February 2020** are now in the back of St. Boniface/St. Bonaventure Churches, at the Parish Office, or at [ewtn.com](http://ewtn.com). Special programming for Christmas!



# Mass Intentions for the Week.....

Location	Day	Date	Time	Cele.	Intentions
(SBE) Elgin	Monday	Dec. 16	7:20 am		Communion Service
(SJD) Deloit	Monday	Dec. 16	-----		No Mass
(SPE) Ewing	Tuesday	Dec. 17	8:30 am		+Bert Noffke & Frances Spangler
(SBR) Raeville	Tuesday	Dec. 17	8:30 am		+Frank & Rose Stuhr Family
(SBE) Elgin	Wednesday	Dec. 18	8:15 am		+Kalin Henn (not a School Mass)
(SJP) Peters.	Wednesday	Dec. 18	10:30 am		+Rita Wright
(STC) Clearw.	Wednesday	Dec. 18	8:30 am		+Goscha Family
(SBE) Elgin	Thursday	Dec. 19	7:20 am		+Red Arehart
(SPE) Ewing	Thursday	Dec. 19	8:30 am		+Stanley, Liz & Jack Bartak
(SBE) Elgin	Friday	Dec. 20	8:15 am		+Linus Spieker <b>All School Mass by Faculty</b>
(SJD) Deloit	Friday	Dec. 20	8:30 am		+Cel Mlnarik
(SPE) Ewing	Saturday	Dec. 21	5:30 pm	JN	+Lucille Ruther
(SJP) Peters.	Saturday	Dec. 21	7:00 pm	KV	+Bud Ketteler
(SBR) Raeville	Sunday	Dec. 22	8:00 am	KV	+Jerome & Elvira Grundmayer
(SBE) Elgin	Sunday	Dec. 22	10:00 am	KV	+Ursilla, Phil & Kathy Stoltz
(STC) Clearw.	Sunday	Dec. 22	10:00 am	JN	Living Members of Our Parishes
(SJD) Deloit	Sunday	Dec. 22	11:30 am	JN	+Vince & Marie Thiele



## Abbreviations:

SPE – St. Peter de Alcantara in Ewing  
 SBE – St. Boniface in Elgin  
 SJD – St. John the Baptist Church of Deloit

SJP – St. John the Baptist in Petersburg  
 STC – St. Theresa of Avila in Clearwater  
 SBR – St. Bonaventure in Raeville

## Liturgical Schedule for December 21-22, 2019

Weekend	Servers	Ushers	Greeters - SBE Rosary Ldrs- SBR \$\$ Counters-SJP	Gift Bearers	Lectors	Music	E.M.H.C. * to the sick (Elgin)
<b>Saturday</b> DECEMBER 21 5:30 pm St. Peter's - EWING	Mason Hoke Preston Hoke	Kevin Schrunk Kevin Koenig	-----	Jim & Kristi Schutt	Tammy Summers	Follow Schedule	Mike Summers
<b>Saturday</b> DECEMBER 21 7:00 pm St. John's PETERSBURG	Kaitlyn Pelster Natalie Pelster	Gene & Devin Knust	<u>Money</u> <u>Counters</u> Carol Luettel Helen Preusser	-----	Jayne Prince	Guitar Group	Matthew Starman Jordan Temme  <u>Homebound-</u> Jan Temme
<b>Sunday</b> DECEMBER 22 8:00 am St. Bonaventure RAEVILLE	Reese Stuhr Samantha Stuhr	Bryan Bode 1 Volunteer	Mark & Carole Tharnish	Anthony & Sarah Hemenway Family	Fred Fangman	Paul Kuhlman	<u>No Precious</u> <u>Blood</u> Clarissa Stuhr
<b>Sunday</b> DECEMBER 22 10:00 am St. Boniface - ELGIN	Michael Selting Carter Beckman	Dave Hoefer Duane Hoefer Gary Hoefer Macaib Hoefer	Gary Hoefer- W Ron & Linda Eischeid- N & S	Keith & Lynne Heithoff	Louise Schindler	Deb Baum Becky Kerkman	<u>NO Precious</u> <u>Blood-</u> Pastor, Deacon, *Phil & Kris Starman, *Marin Schindler
<b>Sunday</b> DECEMBER 22 10:00 am St. Theresa's CLEARWATER	Dillon Moser Logan Mueller	Joe Thiele Steve Thiele	-----	Gary & Mary Thiele	Ed Moser	Follow Schedule	Jennifer Kester
<b>Sunday</b> DECEMBER 22 11:30 a.m. St. John's - DELOIT	Charley Mlnarik Cecelia Mlnarik	Curtis Lemburg Paul Bartak	-----	Brent & Jami Schmidt Family	Cathy Palmer	Follow Schedule	John Knievel

See the Christmas Liturgical Ministry (December) Schedule on [stbonparishes.com](http://stbonparishes.com) or [cppnebraska.org](http://cppnebraska.org)  
 and please plan to find a replacement if you are not able to fulfil your ministry. Thanks!

## St. Boniface Elgin

### Financial Stewardship- December 8

#### St. Boniface- Elgin

Sunday Collection (36 Env.)	\$4,428.20
Children's Collection:	\$10.25
Holy Day	\$170.00
Religious Retirement	\$248.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$100.00
Christmas Flowers	\$200.00
God's Portion	\$6,091.18
Sunday Collection as of Fiscal Week 23	
Budgeted Total	\$101,470.71
Actual Total	\$96,877.22
Amount Behind	(\$4,593.49)

**St. Boniface, St. Bonaventure: Please Remember In Your Prayers:** Jolene Lichty, Diane Flenniken, Larry Braband, Roger & Jan Sorenson, Terry Dinslage, Cheri (Schindler) Cavanagh, Laurie Horn, Dave Shrader, Bob Redler, Garrett Scholz, Alfreda Pelster, Neil Childers, Eve Kallhoff, Sally Beckman, Marie Cheatum, Leonard Beckman, Charlotte Hoefer, Joe Buelt, Helen Borer, Karlene Moser, Shelby Iburg, Loretta Zegers, Cliff Burger, Margaret Dozler, Ruth Kerkman, Brittany Waldrop, Brenda Papstein, Jacquelyn Brugman, Larry Shavlik, Lynn Schueller, Betty Jean Vaisvilas, Mary Ann Starman, Julie Preusser Bombeck, Denise Jamieson, Chris Stargel, Dezirae Wilkinson, Brian Loy, George Borer. **Please let us know if name can be removed.**

**When someone is placed on our Prayerline** (phone and text lines) we automatically place them on our list in the bulletin. Only parishioners are placed in the petitions at Masses if they are placed on prayerline that week, in the hospital or on hospice (unless we are told otherwise). Lately we have not been notified of parishioners in the hospital. Please let us know also if your loved one is well enough to come off the list in the bulletin.

#### Elgin & Raeville Parishioners

If you wish to donate a Poinsettia, or memorial to be used for other Christmas decorations, in memory of a loved one at Christmas time, please use your Flower Envelope and drop it in the collection next weekend. Please mark on the envelope who the donation is given in memory of. The price for a poinsettia is **\$15.00.**



**St. Boniface Altar Society Meeting: Monday, December 16 at 7 pm.** All ladies of the parish are invited. Head Circle Leaders are asked to please bring the names of their replacements to the meeting.

### \*\*\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS\*\*\*

#### St. Boniface Men's Circle Schedule for SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

Mondays	CIRCLE 1	(Arehart-Buelt)
Tuesdays	CIRCLE 2	(Busteed-Getzfred)
Wednesdays	CIRCLE 3	(Gossman-Kinney)
Thursdays	CIRCLE 4	(Kluthe-Payne)
Fridays	CIRCLE 5	(Pelster-Schrage)
Saturdays	CIRCLE 6	(Schueths-Zwingman)
<b>Sundays</b>	<b>ALL CIRCLES</b>	



*We need to keep walkways and parking lots clear, for safety reasons especially for our elderly who rely on us!*

### St. Boniface Choir Practice

**\*\*Monday, December 16 - 7:00 pm**

(Possible practice on the 23rd if necessary.)

**Thanksgiving Raffle Winners are printed on yellow sheets at all three entrances of St. Boniface Church.**

Take one if you wish!



**Get Your Tickets!**

## Gun Raffle

### 10 Days Left!

Tickets are \$5.00 each for a chance to win a Remington Model 700 SPS Tactical Coyote Tan Bolt Action Rifle. All Federal and State Laws apply. 1000 tickets will be sold. Questions? Contact Chris Baum, 402-649-9875 or Brian Selting, 402-843-8458. Tickets are available through Chris, Brian, various men of the St. Boniface Parish, Fr. John, at the Parish Office in Elgin only until December 26. **Drawing will be held Friday, December 27, 2019.** Need not be present to win. All proceeds go to continued profits of the St. Boniface 95<sup>th</sup> Bazaar. You can put your sold ticket stubs and money in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket Dec. 22 (please do not drop in Christmas Collection).

Bazaar Committee Members and Chairpersons of work stations are asked to please fill out the questionnaire you received and return it to the Elgin Parish Office by Wednesday, December 18. Thanks.

### GIVING TREE

The items purchased need to be brought back to church (unwrapped) and **placed under the tree on December 15, by immediately following the 8:00 SBR or 10:00 SBE Mass.**



### St. Boniface God's Portion / God's Acre

Budgeted: \$44,000.00 To Date: \$35,320.59

**Can you help us meet our budgeted goal by December 31<sup>st</sup>?**



**St. Boniface Circle 4 households will clean church** on Thursday, December 19 at a time that is convenient for you. Just be sure to mark off what you have done on the sheet. Families welcome! It's a great way to teach stewardship and care of God's house, especially as we prepare for Christmas. **(Please note that Church will be occupied Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm-7:30 pm so please do not plan to clean then.)**

**St. John's Deloit**  
**St. Theresa's      St. Peter's**

**St. John the Baptist Parish, Deloit**

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**



**12:30pm**

**Financial Stewardship**

**St. Peter's- Ewing**

Dec. 8 (Sunday)- \$1,265.00  
Holy Day- \$40.00  
Building Fund- \$20.00  
Religious Retirement- \$159.00

**St. Theresa's- Clearwater**

December 8 (Sunday)- \$1,216.00  
Religious Retirement- \$369.00

**St. John's- Deloit**

Dec. 1 (Sunday)- \$1,222.00  
God's Acre- \$550.00

**PRAY FOR ALL HAVING SPECIAL NEEDS**

**St. Peter's:** Steve Koenig, Butch Sojka, Sister Joseph, Mary Edwards, Jessica Hobbs, Jeanette Tomjack, Sharon Ward, Leo Hawk, Duaine Bollwitt, Yvonne Duggan, Marie Vandersnick, Myra (Rotherham) Schwebel.

**St. Theresa's:** Mary Ann Thiele, Leo Starman, Nate Thiele, Regina Krebs.

**St. John's:** Keith Palmer, Jackie Bartak, Darlene Schueth, Carl Ernesti, Georgine Funk.

**Poinsettia Orders**

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of St. Theresa's Church for donations for poinsettias in memory of a loved one. Poinsettias are \$15.00/ea.

Many thanks to those who contributed to the St. John's, Deloit food collection for The Antelope Co. Food Pantry. Your gifts of food and cash will help us meet the needs of our people. Bless you for your generosity!



**St. Theresa's Parish will be collecting Baby Jesus gifts at our Christmas Masses to be donated to Birthright in Norfolk.**

Items most needed this year are diapers (sizes 4 and 5), baby wipes, shampoo, baby wash and lotion, and size 18 mo. winter clothes for boys. They also appreciate cash donations so that they can purchase diapers as needed. Thank you for your generosity!

**General News**



**Weather and Mass:**

If roads are impassable, we will notify through Flocknote that Mass is canceled. If Mass is canceled, your obligation is satisfied. If you do not feel safe driving on the roads, **STAY HOME!!** If you can't get to Mass safely, then you are exempted from your obligation. In both of these circumstances, there is not a need to go to Confession.

**COMMUNICATING WITH OUR FLOCK-NOTE**

We are seeking to improve our ability to communicate and send out news and notifications. We are using a program called Flocknote to send ministry related email and text messages. If we had to make a last-minute 'emergency' adjustments for weather, we can send a text message. Flocknote also offers us the ability to send out the bulletin each week by email. We also have an optional email list for Lenten and Advent daily reflections. **SIGN UP TODAY:** From your cell phone, you can send a text message to 84576 and enter one of the keywords (which are case sensitive... and without the 'quotation marks')

'ewing' for St. Peter de Alcantara

'clearwater' for St. Theresa of Avila

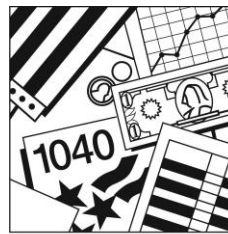
'deloit' for St. John's, Rural Clearwater

'elgin' for St. Boniface

'raeville' for St. Bonaventure

'68652' for St. John the Baptist, Petersburg

At that time it will also ask for your email. **If you only have email**, you can just let us know your name and email address by emailing to [parish@cppnebraska.org](mailto:parish@cppnebraska.org) and we will sign you up.



**TAX TIME**

**Besides giving a general donation to your parish, or a Grain Donation there is another way to save taxes this time of year!**

**Why not save income tax on that *minimum distribution* from your IRA, SIMPLE IRA, SEP IRA, or retirement plan account (when you reach age 70½) by donating some to your church?? Visit with your tax consultant or retirement representative before the end of the year and get in on this great tax savings.**



**Our Goal.... To meet these goals by December 31.**

## Archbishop's Annual Appeal

**\*\*\*If you cannot remember if you donated, the office staff can look up if you did, so please contact them at 402-843-2345 \*\*\***

### St. Theresa's Clearwater

Goal: \$7,357.00  
Pledged to date: \$5,712.00  
**77.6% of goal**

### St. John's Deloit

Goal: \$6,045.00  
Pledged to date: \$6,033.00  
**99.8% of goal**

### St. Peter's Ewing

Goal: \$5,570.00  
Pledged to date: \$2,754.00  
**49.4% of goal**

### St. Boniface Elgin

Goal: \$23,283.00  
Pledged to date: \$19,283.00  
**82.8% of goal**

### St. Bonaventure Raeville

Goal: \$4,249.00  
Pledged to date: \$3,355.00  
**79% of goal**

### St. John's Petersburg

Goal: \$5,740.00  
Pledged to date: \$3,230.00  
**56.3% of goal**

**We are getting closer!!**



There are 2020 Catholic Calendars available in the back of your church for you to take. These are a very nice addition to every Catholic household. We once again THANK our sponsors of this calendar: **Lordemann Insurance, The Knights of Columbus Council No. 2411, Elgin and Council 7550, Neligh and Dean's Market.** Make sure you thank them! We appreciate Deacon Dennis for your work in making these calendars happen.

**During this season of Advent, we encourage you to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In addition to our regular times, check out the schedule below:**

### AREA PENANCE SERVICE SCHEDULE

**Sunday, December 15:** St. Peter's Ewing, 4:00 pm  
**Sunday, December 15:** St. John's Deloit, 5:30 pm  
**Sunday, December 15:** St. Theresa's Clearwater, 7 pm

### Mass Schedule Change

**(December-February)**

**Saturday:** 5:00 pm at St. Francis- Neligh  
**Saturday:** 7:00 pm at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel- Tilden  
**Sunday:** 8:00 am at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel- Tilden  
**Sunday:** 10:00 am at St. Francis- Neligh

### Winter Mass Schedule Change

**(Dec. 1, 2019-March 29, 2020)**

**Saturday:** 5:30 pm at St. Michael's in Albion  
**Sunday:** 8:30 am at St. Michael's in Albion



**JANUARY** Calendar Items are due Monday, December 16

Please call Michele or Linda at 402-843-2345 or email

[parish@cppnebraska.org](mailto:parish@cppnebraska.org).

**Help your parish stay informed.**



Anyone from our 6 parishes can drop their weekly envelope in any of the church collection baskets in any of our churches. They will be forwarded.



### Corrected Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Vigil, December 24: 4:00 pm (SBR- Raeville)

Christmas Vigil, December 24, 4:00 pm (SPE- **Ewing**)

**(Note Correction)**

Christmas Vigil, December 24, 6:00 pm (STC- Clearwater)

Midnight Mass, December 25, 12:00 am (SJD- Deloit)

Christmas Day, December 25, 8:00 am (SJP- Petersburg)

Christmas Day, December 25, 10 am (STC-Clearwater)

Christmas Day, December 25: 10:00 am (SBE- Elgin)



## General News



Toward the end of December, please watch your mailbox for a packet of contribution envelopes for January-February, from OSV (Our Sunday Visitor). This will replace the 'box of envelopes' version most of our parishes have used prior.



"Keep Christ in Christmas" is easy to promote when you send religious Christmas cards! The Knights of Columbus have a nice display of Religious Christmas Cards and "Pray for our Priest" magnetic ribbons at Lordemann Insurance, so take time to check them out when you are downtown Elgin. Proceeds go towards supporting the good works of the Knights.

## Formation of our Youth



### St. Boniface School Calendar Lottery Winners:

12-09-19	Mel & Pat Selting	Immac. Concept.	\$75.00
12-10-19	Doug Dilly Family		\$60.00
12-11-19	Ava Furtenau		\$60.00
12-12-19	Mark Dinslage		\$60.00
12-13-19	LaVern & Dianne Scholl		\$60.00
12-14-19	Burenheide Kids		\$60.00
12-15-19	Cecilia Batenhorst		\$75.00



Confessions at St. Boniface Church on Wednesday, December 18 will be extended time, 5:00 - 6:00 pm but parishioners should note that during the 5:00-5:30 time the

Family Formation students will also be going to confession.

## How can I donate to St. Boniface School ??

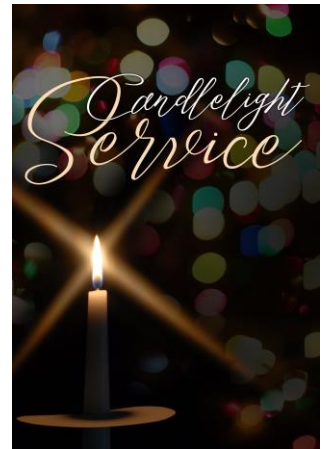
**Annual Fund** Donations to the Annual Fund go directly toward the instructional and operational expenses to run St. Boniface School.

**P.I.E. (Partners in Education)** helps supplement tuition that some families are unable to provide. All donations and recipients are strictly anonymous.

(Donations for either can be mailed to St. Boniface School, PO Box B, Elgin NE 68636)

## PREPARE YOUR HEART!

You are invited to attend an hour of Family Advent Eucharistic Adoration 6:30-7:30 pm on December 18 at St. Boniface Church, Elgin.



This candlelight service will be led by the students of Pope John and St. Boniface schools and include music led by the choir and times of silent prayer. With the joy of Christmas approaching, this hour of adoration will give you time to reflect and grow as you prepare your heart for the coming of the infant Jesus. **Everyone is invited to attend!**



St. Boniface School is now saving UPC's from any and all **"Best Choice" products and Box Tops for Education labels** They can be given to any St. Boniface student or drop them in the box in the west entrance of St. Boniface Church. **Also, the new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.** Go to <https://www.boxtops4education.com>.

## Scholarships for High School Senior Girls!

The Rural Central Deanery is again offering a \$200 scholarship to a Senior Catholic girl. The winner of the deanery scholarship will be eligible to compete for the \$500 scholarship offered by the OACCW. Application forms have been sent to the guidance counselors of the high schools, Elgin Parish Office, the president of the local Catholic women organizations within the RC Deanery. Please encourage your senior girls to apply for this scholarship. The applications must be postmarked by January 15, 2020 and need to be sent to: Barb Wurdinger, 84542 564th Ave., Stanton, NE 68779. Applications received with a postmark after January 15<sup>th</sup> will not be considered.

**Rejoice Always for the Lord is Near**



# BONA-FIDE Cat's



<https://archomaha.org/vocations/seminary-life/>

## Getting to know a Seminarian!!!

Seminarian: Nick Seier

Parish/Town: Sacred Heart Parish, Norfolk

Seminary: Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

Favorite homemade food or meal: My mom's

peach dessert (consisting of a Ritz cracker crust, cream cheese middle layer, and a top layer of jello and peaches).

The least favorite thing your parents make/made you do:

Organize my room

Favorite cartoon when growing up: Tom & Jerry

Your favorite Marvel hero: Iron Man

(Spider-Man comes in at a close second)

The worst thing you have ever tasted: There was a certain cherry flavored cough syrup which I thought was awful that I remember taking as a kid.

Three events that made the biggest impact on who you are today: SEEK 2019, the 2011 March for Life in Washington D.C. (my first one), JC (Jesus Christ) Camp 2010 (entering my freshman year of high school) at Tintern Retreat Center outside Oakdale, NE.

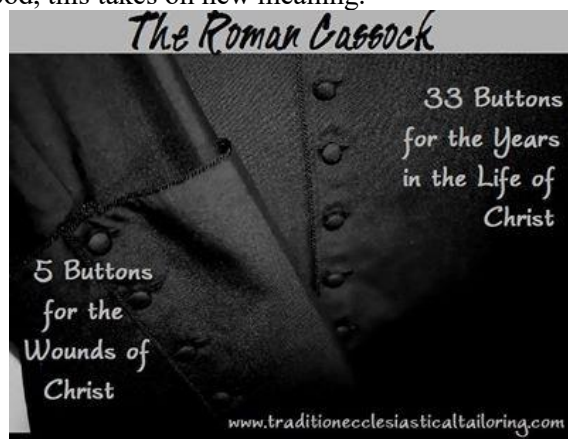
What childish thing do you still enjoy doing: Talking in-depth about Star Wars

Fun/Funny event or memory at the seminary: Every year there is a Halloween party at the seminary. Most seminarians dress up in some kind of costume. Every class (including our administrators) prepares a funny skit or a homemade video for everyone to watch. It's an evening of joy and hilarity.



*There is nothing easy about being in the seminary; it is supposed to be difficult. It is supposed to be challenging.* Being in formation for the Priesthood of Jesus Christ is all about conforming our lives and our will to Christ's.

This is true for every Christian, for every person who longs for holiness. We are all called to follow and to conform to the promptings and teachings of Christ. But for the seminarian who will one day stand *in persona Christi* at the altar and offer His Body and Blood, this takes on new meaning.



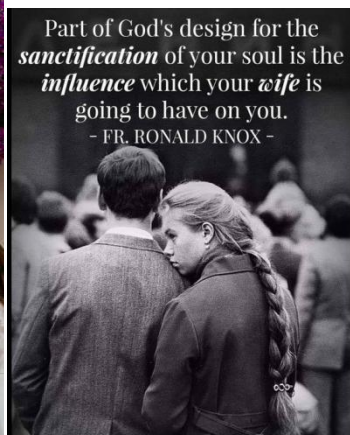
In a special way, priests are called to unite ourselves with the suffering of Jesus. It is only in this way that we can then stand in His Person. The Seminary is a time that helps us to inculcate this reality.



Formation is broken down into four areas, known as the "four pillars" of formation, which are **human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral**. In each area, every individual seminarian is challenged to grow. No part of us can remain unchallenged. We put our whole lives into this process. Because we do this while living with others who are equally striving toward this common goal of service, our time in seminary cannot be half-hearted; rather it takes the investment of our entire selves.

We submit to God, which requires a great deal of prayer, and a willingness to be humbled—to see our strengths and weaknesses with clear eyes, so we can encourage the one or forgive the other, both in ourselves and in those around us. With Our Lady, who submitted her entire being to that of her Son, we seminarians have a model upon which to build our vocations. -Fr. Michael Duffy, Patheo

*The vocation of marriage sets an ideal setting for overcoming any tendency to be selfish or self-centered!*



*War and Peas*

**Vocation Contact; Fr. Andrew Roza**  
**1-402-558-3100**

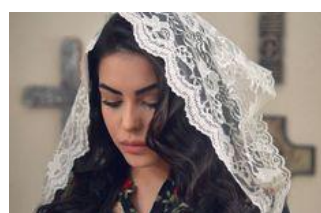
*Or for an application form visit;*

<https://archomaha.org/vocations/seminary-life/#seminarians-class1>

*The Archdiocese of Omaha is currently blessed with twenty-three men studying for the Priesthood. A second collection will be held in our parishes for our seminarians the weekend of January 12, 2020. We humbly ask for your continued prayers, sacrifices and generous financial support.*

*The seminary bill for our 23 seminarians during this academic year will be \$1,123,401.00. A successful seminary collection is critical to our efforts to form future priests of our Archdiocese.*

*Please continue to pray for our seminarians.*



***Reasons Some Women Are Wearing Veils in Church Again...but it takes courage in today's world!!***

**-The Church veils things that are sacred.** The tabernacle is veiled. The chalice is veiled. Altars are veiled. Moses veiled his face after he had seen God. A veiled woman shows reverence for God, symbolizing the veiled bride of the Church, but also honors herself as a woman before God.

**-It makes the woman feel beautiful.** The beauty of the veil is something that honors God in the same way beautiful architecture or beautiful vestments do. They contribute to giving God the worship that is due to Him.

**-Women show reverence by covering their heads, and men show reverence by not covering their heads.**

**-Bonus Fact;** Women still cover their heads when they have an audience with the pope. **-churchpop.com**



Sponsored by the Vocation Committee; December 2019, 13<sup>th</sup> Issue