

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have supported the Archbishop's Annual Appeal! We are currently at 98.1% of our parish goal. We only need to give \$588.24 to meet our goal! If you have not already given to this year's appeal, I encourage you to prayerfully consider doing so. You may pick up a pledge card at the doors of church, in the parish office or I will be happy to bring one to you. You may also donate on-line by going to www.archomaha.org and clicking on Support/Gifts, then click on Learn More/Make a Gift Now.

Our Christmas and New Year's Mass schedule will be as follows this year:

Christmas Eve: 4 pm – Children's Mass, 7 pm, Midnight

Christmas Day: 7:30 am, 10:30 am

There will be the regular Mass schedule for the weekend of December 26th and 27th.

New Years Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

New Years Day Mass: 9:00 am

There will be the regular Mass schedule for the weekend of January 2nd and 3rd.

We are already planning for Mardi Gras. Please mark your calendar for February 6, 2016. I hope everyone will attend. The information about our Mardi Gras, the dinner reservation card, and the raffle should be in your mailbox very soon.

Fr. Gama and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our parish and school families a very Merry Christmas! We are very grateful for your Christmas cards and gifts of food that you have shared with us and we are grateful for the gift of your support of our priestly vocations. May God bless you in these final days of Advent and in the coming New Year!

Blessings,

Fr. John

Question of the Week – How will Jesus be part of your Christmas visits?

Reading 1 Micah 5:1-4a

Reading 2 Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Luke 1:39-45

Reflection: Many artists have painted this moving scene described by Luke in today's gospel. Mary has made a difficult journey through the hill country to be with her relative Elizabeth, who is several months pregnant. The young woman, bearing in her body the Savior, and the older woman, carrying John the Baptist, embrace each other with tears and laughter. Elizabeth recognizes Mary's true identity as "the mother of my Lord." She calls Mary "blessed" three times. Mary is blessed because she trusted that the Lord's words to her would come true.

PARISH SUPPORT WEEK	DECEMBER 6 - 12	DID YOU KNOW... WE WITNESSED A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE?
WEEKLY REVENUE	\$16,371.56	Our Family Giving Tree has been helping the less fortunate of our Parish for 28 years? This year we helped 13 families totaling 36 children – have a merrier Christmas! Special thanks to Marsha and her merry elves, Peg, Mary, Kathy, Jim and Jacquie and most of all – a huge thank you to each who shopped, wrapped & returned the gifts. <i>The Christmas Miracle is that ALL the ornaments (gifts) were returned!</i> The money collected for shopping for unreturned ornaments (gifts) will go to our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society. ~ Thank you for your continued support!
WEEKLY EXPENSES	\$10,783.89	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$5,587.67	
YEAR TO DATE REVENUE	\$552,944.66	
YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES	\$564,916.85	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(\$11,972.19)	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

DECEMBER 24/25

ALTAR SERVERS: 4:00 PM: Dominic Martello, Kaycie Negus
7:00 PM: Jackson Cramer, Dillon Dierks
Midnight: Bode Bench
7:30 AM: Jayden Mulcahy, Kobe Mulcahy
10:30 AM: Jarrad Borosko, James Borosko
CANDLE BEARERS: 4:00 PM: Robert Schonberner, Keegan Sullivan
7:00 PM: Clint Dierks, Steven Hensel

LECTORS:

4:00 PM: Peg Ricketts
7:00 PM: Jan Sammons
Midnight: Rob Barrett
7:30 AM: Ilene Sedlacek
10:30 AM: Larry Ziska
10:30 AM: Deacon Fred Hendricks
4:00 PM: DeLynne Clausen, Jacquie Dahlin, Kathy Rossitto, Bonnie Shea,

DEACON:

EMHC'S:

Diane Sullivan

7:00 PM: Bob and Betty Jones, George and Marsha Moon, Dave Parks

Midnight: Bill Cheese, Mary Fink, Bruno Kozimor, Rich McShane, Michelle Zuber

7:30 AM: Cathy Fluckey, Maria Hackenberg, Fannie Parker, Dorothy Polan,
Need 2 volunteers

10:30 AM: Bev Baer, Kelli Brock, Roy Edwards, Nancy Ryckman, **Need 2 volunteers**

GIFT BEARERS: 4:00 PM: Schonberner Family

7:00 PM: Sammons Family

Midnight: Need a volunteer

7:30 AM: Wolodkewitsch Family

10:30 AM: Doran Family

MUSICIANS: 4:00 PM: Fr. John and the Children's Choir

7:00 PM: Colleen Monti and the High School Choir

Midnight: Joan & Todd von Kampen & Kevin Throne

7:30 AM: Drew Neneman

10:30 AM: Colleen Monti, Bryan Kinghorn, Tom Locher, and the Church Ladies

COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS: Liz Maycock, Patty Wiederholt

IMMANUEL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Nancy Core, Theresa O'Neill

DECEMBER 26/27

ALTAR SERVERS: 5:00 PM: Amir Ring, Craig Taylor

10:30 AM: Mia Dolan, Nick Meier

CANDLE BEARERS: 5:00 PM: Cheyanne Jones, Ryan Greenwood

10:30 AM: Wyatt Brungardt, Zach Cypress

LECTORS: 5:00 PM: Jerry Bexten

7:30 AM: Richard Henkenius

10:30 AM: Dave Parks

DEACON: 10:30 AM: Deacon Fred Hendricks

EMHCs: 5:00 PM: Angie Bahle-Lampe, Juli Bohnenkamp, Kim Hill, Jim Shepherd, Matt Swoboda,
Need 1 volunteer

7:30 AM: Madelaine Adler, Merl Core, Regina Cronkhite, Bev Demkowski, Norine Hoffman, Need 1 volunteer

10:30 AM: Trudie Ahlstrom, Tamatha Buell, Bob and Marj Ryckman,
Need 2 volunteers

GIFTBEARERS: 5:00 PM: Lampe Family

7:30 AM: McDonald Family

10:30 AM: Ryckman Family

MUSICIANS: 5:00 PM: Drew Neneman

10:30 AM: Kim Becker

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: Mary Breitkrutz, Ellen and Wayne Russell

COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS: Charlie Buell, Jacquie Dahlin

USHERS: 5:00 PM: Fred Bonacci, Dave Sedlacek, Jim Coe, Ron Allbright, Rock Cramer

7:30 AM: Bill Wilber, Carl Sedlacek, Chuck Holderness, Chuck Livengood

10:30 AM: Rick Krebs, Fred Maycock, Tim Kiuntke, Carl Cramer

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES OF CHARLES GREENFIELD AND CHUCK KING. Charles is the brother, brother-in-law of Charlene and

Dan O'Brien. Funeral services for Charles were last week. Chuck is the brother of Marjie Murphy. Private services were held in Arizona for Chuck.

BLESSINGS AND MANY THANKS to St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament friends who wished me well, and even brought food, as I recovered from a nasty home accident. It is heartwarming to know others care. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
~ Joann Feller

THANK YOU TO EACH OF YOU WHO DONATED MONEY FOR POINSETTIAS AND DECORATIONS. The poinsettias that will be on the altar for Christmas are in honor of or in memory of these loved ones: Dale Taylor, Sharon Lemkau, Katie Bieker, Schyima Raines, Lorraine Vandevender, Pleiss and Schaffart Families, Dwight Kreps and Deceased Family Members, Richard d'Autremont, Cheryl Standish, Beatrice Gama, Leonard and Eleanor Lamp, Jay and Cecile Appleby, Harold and Margaret d'Autremont, SPN-BS Catechists, SPN-BS Clergy and Staff, SPN School Staff, Bill Sammons, Jerry and Katie Zenk, Todd Fehrman, Bob Schartz, Jim and Phil Williams, Marshall and Mausbach Families Living and Deceased, Ray Mensen, Gary Mensen, Larry Mensen, Mark Mensen Jr., Bob and Lula Todd, Laura Mills Hemphill, Gene and Celeste Larkin,

IT IS NOT TOO LATE... If you would like to donate money to help defray some of the costs of decorating Church and the Poinsettia's for the altar this Christmas, please put your donation in an envelope & mark it "Christmas Flowers" & place it in the collection basket. If you would like to donate "in honor of..." or "in memory of..." a special loved one, please note that also.

BE SURE TO PICK UP YOUR LAST MINUTE STOCKING STUFFERS TODAY! Neri Dollars/gift cards to are great gifts for your neighbors, friends and to use as stocking stuffers.

MEN'S FAITH FORMATION That Man is You! – will return on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 12TH** from 6- 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Center. Please plan on joining us!

CHRISTIAN HUMOR A woman on the phone to her friend; I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising... I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.

ANNUAL ADVENT BABY SHOWER Please bring your new or gently used baby items to Church, on or before Christmas Eve & place them in the baby crib on the floor near the statue of Mary. All items will be donated to the Bethlehem House.

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE! If the weather is bad and school has been canceled, we will not have Mass or Communion Service that day.

QUILTERS ALERT! The Altar Society will be hosting a Quilt Show & Salad Luncheon on April 30, 2016. Please contact Kathy Rossitto at 402-571-8161 for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 21 – 27

Monday	8:15 AM	Communion Service
Tuesday	8:15 AM	Gary and Jackie Peck +
Wednesday	8:15 AM	Don Pulte + Hailey McGill
Thursday	4:00 PM	Mary Ann Doran + Geri Yanes +
	7:00 PM	Barbara Wayson + Lucille Holmes +
	MIDNIGHT	Del Murphy + Joe Rossitto +
Friday	7:30 AM	Bev Rawley + Deceased Members of the Leonard Jensen Family
	10:30 AM	Our Parish Family Int.
Saturday	5:00 PM	Iona Dempsey + John Gubbels +
Sunday	7:30 AM	Kermit and Joan Durr +
	10:30 AM	John Cronin Int. Donna Sobotka +

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD – During

10:30 Mass

3:00 P.M. **SCOUTS - Parish Center**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

4:00 P.M. **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS - Church**

7:00 P.M. **CHRISTMAS MASS - Church**

MIDNIGHT **CHRISTMAS MASS - Church**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

7:30 A.M. **CHRISTMAS MASS - Church**

10:30 A.M. **CHRISTMAS MASS - Church**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS

NO FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD – During

10:30 Mass

3:00 P.M. **SCOUTS - Parish Center**

CLIP AND SAVE!

THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE IS:

CHRISTMAS EVE: 4 PM – CHILDREN'S MASS, 7 PM, MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY: 7:30 AM, 10:30 AM

There will be the regular Mass schedule for the weekend of December 26th and 27th.

NEW YEARS VIGIL MASS: 5:00 PM

NEW YEARS DAY MASS: 9:00 AM

There will be the regular Mass schedule for the weekend of January 2nd and 3rd.

The Parish Office will be closed December 24th and 25th and January 1st.



ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL

“Show me the path where I should walk, O Lord; point out the right road for me to follow.” Psalm 25:4

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT DATES:

Dec. 21st – Jan. 3rd - Christmas break

Jan. 4, 2016 - Classes resume

HY-VEE RECEIPTS – THIS YEAR'S CASH FOR STUDENTS PROGRAM continues through Thursday, Dec. 31st, & includes all 14 Omaha/Council Bluffs Hy-Vee stores. Here's how it works: ANYONE who shops at any of the Hy-Vee stores can turn in receipts to the school. Hy-Vee records & totals the receipts collected & agrees to donate \$1 for every \$200 spent.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER ALL MASSES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE

BREAKFAST – Parish Center

NO FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

ADVENT WREATHS, CHRISTMAS CENTERPIECES, & MEMORIAL WREATHS

designed with locally grown evergreens & decorated in your choice of color scheme are available starting at \$35. Call Parishioner, Jeanne O'Connor at 402-637-8181. Guaranteed to last 3 weeks with daily watering. The Altar Society receives a 10% donation of all purchases.

THIS ADVENT THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES WISH TO INVITE YOU

to an Advent Prayer Service in community with others who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Those of us who have lost a loved one know how challenging the holidays can be. Please join us on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd at 5:30 pm at the Holy Angels Mausoleum in Resurrection Cemetery. Pray for healing & peace as we await the coming of the Christ Child. Please come & leave your petitions at the Christmas Remembrance Tree so that they may be offered in prayer during Advent & be presented Silently during the January Memorial Mass.

