

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Merry Christmas everyone! I thank you for the graces I have received through you during this wonderful season. You make me grow in holiness and help me become a better priest. Thank you for allowing me to serve you in celebrating the Eucharist and hearing of confessions. I am very grateful to those who received this wonderful sacrament and for the trust you place in the priest to reflect to you the unconditional love of God expressed in the person of Jesus. I have received many cards and gifts. Thank you for remembering me with your thoughtfulness and good wishes! I am especially grateful for the opportunity to share the Sacraments with you. May this Christmas bring each of you the peace and joy of Christ our Savior. Each of you and your loved ones, living and deceased, will be remembered at the Christmas Masses I am privileged to celebrate. I wish each of you a very happy and holy Christmas. God Bless You! ~ Fr. Mario



God speaks to us in many ways, including through this Sunday's Scripture readings.

God's Spirit comes to us in ways we least expect.

Reading 1 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Reading 2 Romans 16:25-27

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

Question of the Week –

Adults: Name one area of your life where God has surprised you with love, abilities, or even a pregnancy. How is God's Spirit upon you in this dimension of life?

Children: Gabriel's greeting to Mary was, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." This is God's greeting to each of us – he loves us just as we are. What are some of your personal strengths that God rejoices in?

PARISH SUPPORT WEEK OF DECEMBER 10 - 16		DID YOU KNOW... OUR CHRISTMAS COLLECTION BUDGET IS \$52,000? So far this year, we have received \$1,000. Last year our Christmas collection totaled \$52,474. As you think about your Christmas donation, please keep in mind that we borrow from savings each fiscal year & anything you contribute offsets what we have to take from savings. We are grateful for every contribution as it supports our Parish throughout the year. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!
WEEKLY BUDGETED AMOUNT	\$9,051.00	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$10,477.20	
YEAR TO DATE BUDGETED AMOUNT	\$221,107.00	
YEAR TO DATE COLLECTION	\$222,222.42	
VARIANCE – OVER (UNDER)		
WEEKLY	\$1,426.20	
YEAR TO DATE	\$1,115.42	

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 – CHRISTMAS MASS:

4:00 PM:
ALTAR SERVERS: Thomas Bohnenkamp, Kiara Buller
CANDLE BEARERS: Sophia Minturn, Abe Parys
LECTOR: Jan Sammons
EMHCs: Bill Cheese, Jacquie Dahlin, Norine Hoffman, Nancy Ryckman, Bonnie Shea
GIFTBEARERS: Breitkreutz Family
MUSICIANS: Children's Choir
USHERS:

MIDNIGHT:
ALTAR SERVERS: CJ Buell, Anthony Rivera
CANDLE BEARERS:
LECTOR: Larry Ziska
EMHCs: Bev Demkowski, Dorothy Polan, Rita Ziska, Ellen and Wayne Russell
GIFTBEARERS:
MUSICIANS: Church Ladies
USHERS:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 – CHRISTMAS MASS:

7:30 AM:
ALTAR SERVERS: Reagan Muhleck, Alex Negus
CANDLE BEARERS: Analise Plewa, Liz Troia
LECTOR: Bruno Kozimor
EMHCs: Bob and Betty Jones, Jim Shepherd,
 Diane Sullivan, Mary Ann Taylor
GIFTBEARERS: Huber Family
MUSICIANS:
USHERS:

10:30 AM:
ALTAR SERVERS: Johnny Blankenship, Clayton Bohnenkamp
CANDLE BEARERS: Nate Collins, Frances Holmstedt
LECTOR: Hank Henkenius
EMHCs: Bev Baer, Roy Edwards, Maria Hackenberg,
 Rich McShane, Matt Swoboda
GIFTBEARERS: Schonberner Family
MUSICIANS: Kim Becker
USHERS:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

5:00 PM:
ALTAR SERVERS: Sean Philbin,
 Abigail Russell
CANDLE BEARERS: Marianna Stevenson,
 Lydia Treves
LECTOR: Jerry Bexten
EMHCs: Ellen and Wayne Russell,
 Jim Shepherd, Diane Sullivan,
 Mary Ann Taylor
GIFTBEARERS: Treves Family
MUSICIANS: Jean Herold
NERI DOLLAR SELLER:
USHERS: Vern Andersen, Ron Allbright,
 Jim Coe, Rock Cramer,
 Jim Schlotfeld

7:30 AM:
LECTOR: Peg Ricketts
EMHCs: Bev Demkowski,
 Bob and Betty Jones,
 Dorothy Polan,
 Larry Ziska
GIFTBEARERS: Polan Family
NERI DOLLAR SELLER:
USHERS: Chuck Holderness,
 Bill Wilber, Carl Sedlacek,
 Chuck Livengood

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

10:30 AM:
ALTAR SERVERS: Lily Bauer,
 Tiana Earlywine
CANDLE BEARERS: Lucius Moreno,
 David Taylor
LECTOR: Dave Parks
EMHCs: Tamatha Buell,
 DeLynne Clausen, Roy Edwards,
 Rich McShane, Nancy Ryckman
GIFTBEARERS: Taborsky Family
MUSICIANS: Colleen, Deanna, Deb, Tom
NERI DOLLAR SELLER:
USHERS: Rick Krebs, Fred Maycock,
 Tim Kiuntke, Carl Cramer,
 Mark Lampe

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: Bill Cheese, Norine Hoffman, Mary Todd
COLLECTION MONEY COUNTERS: Nancy Bohnenkamp, Joann Feller
IMMANUEL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28: Nancy Core, Theresa O'Neill
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CALL COORDINATOR: Jean Tosoni

Mass Intentions December 25 - 31


Monday	7:30 AM	Pat and Peg Ricketts Int. Sheila Castles +
	10:30 AM	Fr. Craig Int. Allison Marie Henkenius +
Tuesday	8:15 AM	Dot Luers +
Wednesday	8:15 AM	Del Potmesil Int.
Thursday	8:15 AM	Joan Durr Int. Kermit Durr +
Friday	8:15 AM	Walter Int. Vincent & Maxine McMahon +
Saturday	5:00 PM	John Gubbels + John and Joanne Schaffart Int.
Sunday	7:30 AM	Our Parish Family Int.
	10:30 AM	Vera Enesey + Ed and Mary Fink Family Int.

HAPPY 49TH BIRTHDAY TO FR. MARIO!

Fr. Mario celebrated his 49th birthday on December 20th.

Please join us in wishing him a very Happy Birthday!





Happy Anniversary


Congratulations and Best Wishes to Donald and Ruth McGonigal!

Don and Ruth are celebrating their 72nd wedding anniversary. Please help us shower them with best wishes by sending cards to 5207 Raven Oaks Dr.; Omaha, NE 68152-1748.

~ NERI DOLLAR NEWS ~

Special thanks to each of you who purchased Neri Dollars! As of the end of November our school families have earned \$165 towards Tuition. Please check the flyers by the doors of Church for more information about the Tuition Credit program!

All preorders are due by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF JO ANN WAGNER.



Jo Ann is the mother, mother-in-law of Jim and Mary Wagner. She was buried from here this past Wednesday.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR A man calls a refrigerator repair service. "My refrigerator isn't working." "What kind is it?" "It's a small one." Electric, gas, or propane?" "Propane." "Ah! Then the problem is most likely vapor lock. You don't need a service call, just turn the refrigerator upside down for a few minutes to allow the lock to clear. Then put it back and all should be well." Second call a few minutes later. "The least you could have done is to tell me to empty the fridge first!"

ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL
"Unity"

ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK. Classes resume January 4, 2018!

ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL HAS ROOM AVAILABLE FOR YOUR STUDENT. Please call 402-315-3500 or email spndev@schools.archomaha.org and join us for a tour. Learn how your family can become a part of the private, Catholic education our Parish supports.

Hy-Vee Receipts – This year's **CASH FOR STUDENTS** program continues **through Sunday, Dec. 31, 2017** & includes the Omaha & Plattsmouth **Hy-Vee stores.** Please drop them in the Collection Basket or mail them to the SPN School.

THE WEEK AHEAD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 24

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION – Trailer in Parking Lot

NO NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS

NO FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD -
During 10:30 Mass

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

MIDNIGHT **CHRISTMAS MASS** – Church

MERRY CHRISTMAS - MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:30 A.M. **CHRISTMAS MASS** – Church

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION –in Parking Lot

NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS

NEW YEARS EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION – Trailer in Parking Lot

NERI DOLLARS SOLD AFTER MASS

NO FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD –


During 10:30 Mass

PLEASE JOIN FR. MARIO FOR HIS FIRST MASS AS OUR PASTOR on January 1st. Mass for the Solemnity of Mary will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PAT ADAMS! Pat is the winner of the Knights \$100 Grocery Gift card raffle which was drawn at the Dec. 17th KC Pancake Breakfast. She will choose a grocery gift card from our Neri Dollars-Parish Scrip.

SAVE THE DATE! January Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast will kick off Catholic Schools Week! Please plan to join us on Sunday, January 28th for breakfast in the Parish Center. The Knights are donating 50% of the proceeds to St. Philip Neri School and 50% of the proceeds to St. Philip Neri Home and School.

**Mardi Gras
Murder Mystery**



**Mark your Calendar!
February 10, 2018**
Dinner & Raffle
tickets will be
on sale soon!

Think the Roaring 20's, the Great Gatsby, the Charleston! Our Mardi Gras will be complete with victims, suspects, clues, and a mysterious murder...Who dunnit?
Please plan to attend and help solve the mystery.

REMEMBERING OUR LITTLE ONES MISCARRIAGE AND INFANT LOSS PRAYER AND SUPPORT GROUP: If you have experienced a pregnancy or infant loss recently or years ago, please join us in the Social Hall every third Sunday of the month from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. This prayer & support group will be a safe confidential place to ask for prayers, remember your loss, share your feelings, fears, memories, pictures, anything you wish with those that truly understand. For more information, please contact Kristin Heilman at 402-250-7758 or kristin_heilman2811@yahoo.com or Marci Petta at 402-502-4416 or marcipetta@yahoo.com. We look forward to praying with you & supporting you through your loss journey.

JOIN OTHER PRO-LIFERS IN PEACEFUL PRAYER ON MONDAYS from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood at 3105 N. 93rd St. A priest or other volunteer leads prayers during the 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. prayer hour on Mondays. You are also invited to pray on Fridays (7:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.) & Saturdays (7:30 – 10 a.m.) at the Abortion and Contraception Clinic of Nebraska at 1002 W. Mission Ave. in Bellevue. Priests lead group prayer from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Fridays in Bellevue. Prayer volunteers are especially needed on Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 3 – 5 p.m. & on Fridays from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. in Bellevue. Prayers are offered at the Omaha Planned Parenthood on Saturday mornings from 10 – 11 a.m. as well. For more info, contact Whitney Bradley at

402-551-9003 x1306 or wabradley@archomaha.org or visit www.RespectLifeOmaha.com

CITIZEN JOURNALIST SANDRA MERRITT OF CALIFORNIA WILL HEADLINE NEBRASKANS UNITED FOR LIFE'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE DINNER Friday, Jan. 12 at the DC Centre, 11830 Stonegate Dr. Merritt participated in an undercover video sting that exposed Planned Parenthood's sale of aborted baby body parts. Come hear Merritt tell of the historic legal battle it has become & the remarkable undertaking that remains. Tickets are \$45 each & may be purchased by clicking "Donate" at nufl.org, or by mailing a check to NUFL, 143 S. 38th St., Omaha, NE 68131.

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT will be held on Sat., January 13 beginning at 6:00pm. Register your team of eight players & pay online by December 22 at www.mercyhigh.org/events

All are welcome to participate in this fun event.