

**July 8, 2018**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**St. Leo Catholic Church**      **St. Martin Catholic Church**  
330 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street              125 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Palmyra, NE 68418              Douglas, NE  
(402)780-5535                      (Please send mail to St. Leo Church)

[www.stleoandstmartin.com](http://www.stleoandstmartin.com) Email: stleopalmyra@gmail.com

**Fr. Adam Sparling, Pastor**

**OUR TITHE TO THE LORD**

July 1, 2018

	Adult	Youth	Plate
St. Leo	\$ 591	\$ 0	\$ 41
St. Martin	\$ 920	\$ 52.50	\$ 13

**Amount needed to balance annual budget:**

**New Budget for this fiscal year in process of being created**

\*\*Our Lord has blessed all of us and He instructs us to tithe 10% of our time, 10 % of our talents and 10% of our income. Everyone, no matter age, is called to respond generously to the blessings He gives! Thank you to those who give!

**Mass Intentions**

July					
July	9	Mon	8:00 am	St. Leo	Mark & Linda Bennier
July	10	Tues	8:00 am	St. Leo	Rob Hyde (St. Martin A.S.)
July	11	Wed	8:00 am	St. Martin	+Helen Royal
July	12	Thur	8:00 am	St. Leo	Dave & Kara Bugos
July	13	Fri	8:00 am	St. Leo	Helen Bremer (Bremer)
July	14	Sat	4:00 pm	St. Martin	Liv & Dec. members St. Martin
July	15	Sun	8:30 am	St. Leo	For the People of our Parishes
July	15	Sun	11:00 am	St. Leo	+Patricia Garton (Odom)

**Weekend Masses:**

**1st, 3rd & 5th (Odd Sundays)**      **2nd & 4th (Even Sundays)**  
Saturday 4 PM at St. Martin      Saturday 4 PM at St. Leo  
8:30 AM at St Leo Palmyra      8:30 AM St Martin Douglas  
11:00 AM at St Leo Palmyra      11:00AM St Leo Palmyra

**Confessions:**

Saturdays 3:30 PM-3:45 PM  
Sundays 8:00 AM-8:15 AM &  
10:30 AM-10:45 AM  
Any time by appointment

**CALENDAR ITEMS**

➤ **Mass intentions needed!** If you would like a Mass offered for a particular intention, living or deceased person the suggested Mass stipend is \$10. Please put in envelope marked "Mass Intention" and place in basket. All checks can be made to "St. Leo Stipend Account." If you have a specific date or location please make notation and I will do the best I can to honor that request.3

➤ **Thursday, July 12 at 6pm – The Knights of Columbus will be working to paint classrooms in Divine Mercy Hall. If you would like to join the efforts your presence would be greatly appreciated!**

➤ **The Lord is calling you into His presence. Will you accept the invitation or choose something else? Don't settle for mediocrity. Please consider making daily Mass a part of your daily/weekly routine. Sometimes the hardest part is just setting it as a routine but I assure you it is life changing!**

➤ **Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph** – Our Blessed Mother and the Carmelite Sisters invite you to an evening pilgrimage to their chapel at 9300 W. Agnew Rd in Valparaiso, and to participate in their annual Solemn preached novena, this year conducted by Fr. James Gordon from July 8-15<sup>th</sup>. Holy Sacrifice of the Mass each evening is at 7pm, except Sundays, at 9:30am. On July 16<sup>th</sup>, feast of Our Lady of Carmel, Solemn Pontifical Mass at 5:30pm celebrated by Bishop Conley.

➤ **"Together on a Journey to Sainthood" with Steve Ray – presented by Spirit 102.7-FM** Do you know the road to sainthood? Allow expert Steve Ray, Catholic convert, author, film maker and pilgrimage expert, to be your guide as we navigate the path that ordinary people have taken to achieve the extraordinary—sainthood! **Saturday, July 21 at 10 a.m. at St. Michael Catholic Church in Lincoln.** Tickets are only \$5 and can be purchased at [spiritcatholicradio.com](http://spiritcatholicradio.com), by calling 855-571-0200 or at the door. Bring a friend! See you there!

➤ It's with great excitement to announce to you the first annual **Diocese of Lincoln Young Adult Conference – REVIVE** (Ages 22-40). It will take place **July 13-14, 2018** at the Newman Center. We are hoping to get this promoted starting this Easter weekend to reach the young adults that may only frequent Mass on major feasts. For registration and more info visit: <https://lincolndiocese.regfox.com/revivelnk>

➤ **Day of Equipping:** This training seminar, presented by Bart Schuchts, will be held **July 20-21** at Pius X High School in Lincoln, NE. During this training you will learn the foundations of abiding in Christ, hearing His voice, and becoming empowered to pray for others as Jesus did. If you desire the Holy Spirit operating in your life, this training is for you. Cost is \$70 before May 14, \$80 after. To register, go to <https://jpiihealingcenter.org>. Contact the Office of Evangelization for information on student rates or need based scholarships, 402-473-0615.

➤ **Server parents:** Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring an Alter Server Appreciation outing on the afternoon of August 12<sup>th</sup>. More info will be provided when details fully complete.

➤ FYI - I will be gone on vacation July 17-24 and on diocesan retreat the evening of July 29<sup>th</sup>-August 2nd. As always if any emergencies arise during that time please contact St. Paulinus in Syracuse or St. Mary's in Nebraska City.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

➤ **Please consider signing up for E-Tithe!** This especially helps you support the Parish even when you are gone. With this new service parishioners can now contribute to the Church via check, credit or debit card by going to our website and clicking the "Give Now" (or by going to <http://giving.parishsoft.com/stleo>). As always you can still give via cash or check in your envelope anytime. If you currently use "Bill pay" or any other method to tithe I might suggest you use this method as it is quick, easy and is automatically recorded in your giving report.

- Each year over 150 missionary diocese and religious orders request permission to come to our diocese to give an appeal for financial support. This appeal is a major source of funding for these missionaries, and the monies collected in our parish go directly to that missionary diocese or religious for the poor that they serve. These funds are used to feed, house and educate the poor and orphans, provide medical care, build churches, schools, clinics, catechetical training centers, dig wells, etc. and educate candidates for the priesthood and religious life and provide many other necessities. Please be generous!
- Check out on **FORMED**. Formed is a great free Catholic resource that includes programs to grow deeper in our faith, Bible studies, audios, movies and books. If you have not signed up for it yet, go to [www.formed.com](http://www.formed.com) -- enter the parish code **KN4A9J** -- enter information required -- create a password -- search through and enjoy the vast material.
- **STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?** – Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relation-ship. 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 difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information call 1-888-317-5654 or [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) on the web.

### Note from Father:

Have you noticed some things happening around the parish this summer?

Over the last month or so some much needed new gravel has been laid at St. Leo and St. Martin's Cemeteries. Also, two bushes at St. Leo's that were covering headstones were removed and the families of those covered markers were very grateful! I would very much like to thank the generosity of those who made all of this possible!! Caring for the deceased is a corporal work of mercy and I am proud of our ever growing and continued efforts to do so! If you have loved ones buried at either cemetery it would be appreciated if you might stop by to trim any plants that have been planted as many are getting pretty overgrown and are covering grave markers. I kindly remind you that it has been the policy for the cemeteries for the past several decades that planting plants or flower pots (not built into the headstone) is NOT permitted and if need be might have to be removed. Mowing, trimming, weed control and overall maintenance of the cemeteries is much more difficult especially if plants or fake flowers are left indefinitely as the mower can't take the extra time to pull them up to trim the weeds growing through them. This is why most cemeteries do not allow planting of plants. Again, it would be greatly appreciated if you would take the time this week to stop, visit your loved ones and remove any fake flowers or decorations so the mower can keep the cemeteries trim and neat. Keep up the good work! I do want to also mention that there will be a cemetery work day scheduled in September sponsored by the Knights of Columbus which will give us all an opportunity to help keep our cemeteries beautiful. One of the big tasks at that time will be raising the plot markers that have sunk over time at St. Leo's...many hands will make quick work! Grounds keepers from Calvary Cemetery in Lincoln will also help us with that task as well.

Thanks to our Knights of Columbus members who will be working this week on painting the classrooms. Additionally, the floor will be getting a much needed and long overdue buffing in Divine Mercy hall and basement carpets will be getting a shampoo this summer. We are also looking at some future painting and repair work on the walls upstairs too but not sure if that can be completed this summer. Furthermore, we are working on getting WIFI extended to the social hall before CCD starts for use in the classrooms so that the teachers can access materials provided by the diocese online.

St. Martin's Altar society has generously donated to have the Mary and Joseph statues refurbished and repainted. The Sacred Heart statue is currently in the process of being refurbished and repainted thanks to Helen Royal Memorial funds. Taren Hoffman has also donated \$500 towards the refurbishing of the statues. There is a "wish list" item to have our high altar repainted and refurbished as well with an estimate cost of about \$4,500. If you would like to donate to any of these projects you are welcome to do so by contacting me or Roseanna Connelly who is president of the altar society.

**BIG** thank you to Roseanna Connelly for using her green thumb around the rectory Marian flower bed. I have no green thumb and am so glad to have things look nice. Apparently what I thought was a plant was actually a giant weed! I also know Bob and Sue Kohles, the Connelly Boys, and Larry, Gerald and Glen are a few more who have done some great work too over the years. So, if you have a green thumb and would like to help do some grounds maintenance around the Churches and Rectory please let me know as we could always use some weeding, trimming, debris removal, etc. Especially when about 5 times a week I notice someone stop in front of St. Leo's to take a picture. I assure you it is not my stunningly good looks that are attracting the paparazzi like you might think! Seriously though, I kid you not, this truly does happen that much! I was even asked once recently by a young family who stopped from out of town with zero connections to St. Leo's to take family pictures outside the Church. They were attracted here because they liked the look of an old country Church and picked Palmyra to stop and look for an old Church. They weren't even Catholic so I invited them in to the Church and the mom expressed to me (while crying) that finding the Catholic Church in a random town which they decided to search through for an old Church was her final sign that the Lord was calling her to make the decision for the family to convert to Catholicism and she couldn't ignore it anymore. True story! It just proves that the way we sacrifice and the need to care for our properties is very much a visible testament to the pride of our faith and love of our parish even leading people to conversion, including each of us! We are all attracted to beauty.

It reminded me of something Archbishop Michael Jackels, a priest of the Lincoln Diocese before he called to serve as a Bishop, said when reflecting on stewardship: *"The amount of time, talent and treasure we decide to share with others, our parish and the diocese, the poor and all those who need our help usually corresponds to how well we understand and accept that all we are, have and can do is an undeserved gift from God. Living stewardship as a way of life flows like a river from hearts that have gained this wisdom. Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ leads naturally to the practice of stewardship. These linked realities; discipleship and stewardship, then make up the fabric of a Christian life in which each day is lived in an intimate, personal relationship with the Lord. Jesus not only calls people to Him but also forms them and sends them out in His service. He knows our personal histories, our strengths and weaknesses, our destinies; he has a purpose in mind for each one of us."* It is accurate to say that no one has ever gone broke from tithing. The Lord would never let that happen as He tells us in the scriptures multiple times. Getting on a program of regularly maintaining our parishes is not easy and takes sacrificial stewardship but all of these efforts are due to the generosity of all parishioners giving of their time, talent and treasure! Your parish needs every family's help and support. **THANK YOU!**

May God continue to greatly bless all of us!! God Love You! ~Fr. Sparling