

**July 22, 2018**  
**16<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**

**Mass Intentions**

July	23	Mon	No Mass	St. Leo	
July	24	Tues	No Mass	St. Leo	
July	25	Wed	8:00 am	St. Martin	Richard Tetherow ( Ragon)
July	26	Thur	8:00 am	St. Leo	Avery Wheatley
July	27	Fri	8:00 am	St. Leo	Karen Bremmer
July	28	Sat	4:00 pm	St. Martin	+Roland Hauptman Sr (Carpenter)
July	29	Sun	8:30 am	St. Leo	For the People of our Parishes
July	29	Sun	11:00 am	St. Leo	Liv. & Dec. St. Leo Parishioners

**OUR GRATITUDE FOR WHAT THE LORD HAS GIVEN US**

July 15, 2018

	Adult	Youth	Plate
St. Leo	\$ 1391	\$ 0	\$ 70
St. Martin	\$ 475	\$ 63	\$ 26

**Amount needed to balance 2018/2019 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!

**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.

➤ **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!**

➤ **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Brunch** next Sunday (29<sup>th</sup>) following the 8:30am Mass at St. Leo's. Please stop by and enjoy some good food and fellowship. Free will offering accepted.

➤ **Server parents:** Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring an Alter Server Appreciation outing on the afternoon of August 12<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm. Servers interested in going please contact Dan Smith at [dbcesmith@aol.com](mailto:dbcesmith@aol.com) to RSVP.

➤ **FYI - I will be gone 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.**

➤ **2-Day UNBOUND Conference:** Participants will learn about Unbound through live presentations & videos and how it teaches 5 simple "keys" to break the chains of emotional, spiritual and mental bondage and unlock the doors to freedom. Join us at John XXIII Diocesan Center- Lincoln, NE, **Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> - 6-9pm & Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> - 8-5pm.** The event is free but registration is required. Please register by going to: [lincolndiocese.org/unbound](http://lincolndiocese.org/unbound)

➤ Natural Family Planning Creighton Model Introductory Sessions for July & August 2018 are scheduled for Tuesday July 31, Thursday Aug. 9 & Tuesday Aug. 21. All sessions are held at John XXIII Diocesan Center. Go online to register at [www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp](http://www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp)

**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.

➤ **The Lincoln MOMs group is in need of babysitters.** If you know someone interested please contact Karla Frese at: [KarlaLFrese@gmail.com](mailto:KarlaLFrese@gmail.com) Mothers on a Mission (MOMs) is designed to serve Catholic Mothers within a community that understands the many roles of a mother's life. MOMS works to serve as a source of spiritual and emotional nourishment, foster supportive friendships, and instill joy as we strive to live our vocations to the fullest. Most importantly, we seek to build upon a mothers personal relationship with our all loving and merciful God. The group meets every 1st Saturday 8:30-10:30 a.m. The Guadalupe Center at Gianna's Java & Gelato. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LincolnMOMs/about/>

➤ Recently, our daughter completed an internship at the Lancaster County Youth Services Center (LCYSC). While doing her internship at LCYSC, she learned of the significant need around the holiday season for donations towards gifts for youth that are housed at LCYSC. LCYSC is equipped to house as many as 40 at risk youth that can often be forgotten about during the holiday season. So, in the spirit of giving and with the belief that these youth are cared for and loved by God, we have launched the **DON BOSCO PROJECT**. A tub will be located at the back of St. Martin church to drop items. For further information, please contact Rosanna Connelly 402-788-2598 or [francisdesales@windstream.net](mailto:francisdesales@windstream.net).

- All the missionary priests who speak in our parishes have great needs for which they give the appeal. Some may ask for additional support, such as sponsoring a seminarian or religious for several months, in addition to their appeal at Mass. Our diocesan regulations do not allow this so that people will be able to support the needs of other missionaries who will give appeals in our parish in the future. There are so many needs to be met from so many different dioceses and religious orders, and we must give each different group a fair chance to receive our support each year. 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:**

**First, I want to thank Gabe Tramp, Chris, Melissa and Callie Beeck, and Chad Hartwick for their help working on painting classrooms last week. Even despite several hours of work the project is still not complete and another time will be scheduled to finish before CCD starts. It is so very important that we all continue to work together to support our parish and help maintain them. All were invited through the bulletin to help with this project which benefits both parishes as our young boys and girls use these classrooms for religious education. These parish projects are one way to tithe your time and talent in support of our parish.**

**Have you ever thought about what it means to tithe 10% of your time and talent? Like most things when it comes to tithing it didn't hit me until I was educated. Think of this: there are 168 hours in a week, say we get 8 hours of sleep each night and work 40 hours a week that leaves us with 72 hours to do other things from which 7.2 hours, at minimum, we should be tithing each week or just a little over 1 hour each day. Or, if we are retired or don't work we have 112 hours after sleeping 8 hours each night which then gives us 11.2 hours each week to tithe or just over 1.5 hours each day. Obviously depending on how much/less you sleep or if you work full-time or part-time things vary but these are a few examples of how to do the simple math.**

**So what does it mean to tithe our time and talent practically speaking? We tithe our time and talent through prayer, going to Mass, work around the parish, helping with other diocesan activities, charities, etc. Often times we have ourselves so busy with things that we priests commonly hear responses such as; "I can't do this or I can't do that around the parish or spend time in prayer at the Church because of..." or "I've done my time it's time for someone else to..." insinuating that our tithing has an expiration date at a certain age or level. Rather than "I can't..." could you imagine if all 80 families between the two parishes, which breaks down to a total of 82 people at St. Martins and 132 people at St. Leo's, were to fully tithe their time and talent what we could do??? Say, for example, we just took the 7.2 hours from the example above and multiply that by the 214 people in our parishes that would be 1,540.8 hours that our parishes should be tithing EACH WEEK! Even if we round down to say 1,000 or 1,200 hours each week it would be true to say our parishes would be 100% transformed in so many ways but most especially how much more spiritually vibrant we would become!**

**In today's society it doesn't take the devil much work at all to pull us away from being true disciples who are generous of our time and talent. We have gotten ourselves and our families busy with so many things that the first thing to go is taking the time to spend in prayer and community within our parishes. It's no wonder why our society is struggling with an increase in violence, depression, suicide, fear, anxiety, etc. We have fallen out of proper balance! Perhaps it's time we, the people of St. Leo's and St. Martins, truly examine our lives and decide to say 'NO' to the devil pulling us away from putting God #1 and 'YES' to our Lord being scheduled accordingly. God and His Church should be the first thing marked on our schedule each day not the last or anything less than first. Your parishes need your support in every aspect of time, talent and treasure and the Lord has so richly blessed ALL of us. Like all stewardship, take this to prayer and reflect on your call to be generous and then be courageous and make the changes necessary to accept the Lord's call. Our Lord tells us that any excuse or withholding generosity is a temptation from the devil and not from God. Let's not settle for mediocrity rather let's be a faithful, trusting, generous and hope filled community of disciples that says "We Will and We Can!" and guarding ourselves against the fallen persuasion and say "we can't or we won't". We have a rich history of generosity at St. Leo's and St. Martin's. Let us continue to challenge one another and ourselves to grow stronger in our love and service to Christ and His Church!**

**Lastly, next weekend Fr. Daniel Saaka a priest from the diocese of Damongo in Ghana will be at our parish for our annual missions appeal. Fr. Saaka completed his studies at the Pontifical College of St. Bede (The Beda College) Rome in 2003 with an STB from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (The Angelicum). He returned to Ghana and was ordained a priest on July 9, 2003. He was then appointed to the St. Anne's Cathedral in Damongo as a curate in September 2003. In 2005, he was sent to the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium for studies. He obtained an STL in Dogmatic Theology (Christology) in 2007. After which he returned to Ghana and was appointed to the St. Michael's Propaedeutic Major Seminary for one year. In September 2008 he was appointed pastor in the second oldest Church in the diocese. Then in July 2011, he was sent to the Salesian University in Rome for doctoral studies. In September 2015 he completed his doctoral studies in Dogmatic theology specializing in Christology. In October of the same year he returned to Ghana and was appointed in November as a formator and lecturer at the Provincial seminary (St. Victor's Major Seminary) where he teaches Christology, Sacraments and Homiletics. In May 2017, he was appointed the Vice Rector. Let us give him a big Nebraska welcome and warmly embrace him for his brief stay with us here at St. Leo and St. Martin's! Who knows, with that extensive education and background he could be Pope someday! ☺**

I pray that you might be as generous as possible to assist in this year's Missionary Appeal.

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