

December 10, 2017



St. Leo Catholic Church
 330 W. 8th Street
 Palmyra, NE 68418
 (402)780-5535
www.stleoandstmartin.com

St. Martin Catholic Church
 125 W. 3rd Street
 Douglas, NE
 (Please send mail to St. Leo Church)
 Email: stleopalmyra@gmail.com

Fr. Adam Sparling, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Dec	11	Mon	7:00 am	St. Leo	Jan Tetherow (Birthday on the 12 th)
Dec	12	Tues	7:00 am	St. Leo	Liz & Chris Hussey Anniversary
Dec	13	Wed	7:00 am	St. Martin	Liv & Dec. St. Martin Parish.
Dec	14	Thur	7:00 am	St. Leo	+Barbara Barak
Dec	15	Fri	7:00 am	St. Leo	+Larry McAuliffe
Dec	16	Sat	4:00 pm	St. Martin	Camden Ragon (birthday)
Dec	17	Sun	8:30 am	St. Leo	People of our Parishes
Dec	17	Sun	11:00 am	St. Leo	+Helen Royal

OUR TITHE TO THE LORD

December 3, 2017

	Adult	Youth	Plate
St. Leo	\$1055	\$ 0	\$96
St. Martin	\$1500	\$ 45.32	\$10

Amount needed to balance yearly budget:
St. Leo: \$1,185/week or \$5,133/month
St. Martin: \$1,002/week or \$4,342/month

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

Been longer than a month since your last confession? Perhaps it is time to come receive His forgiveness again.

Confessions:

Saturdays: 3:30-3:45 PM

Sundays: 8:00-8:15 AM

10:30-10:45 AM

***Any time by appointment**

CALENDAR ITEMS

- The Diocese of Lincoln **Natural Family Planning** (NFP) Creighton Model Introductory Sessions for December's dates are: **Thursday, December 14th** Register online or download a registration form at www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp.
- The annual Mass of the Holy Innocents will be celebrated on **Thursday, December 28th**. All are invited to attend this Memorial Mass, especially those families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names will begin at **6:30 p.m.** with Mass at **7:00 p.m.** at **John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel**. If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner for this year, please call the Family Life Office at 473-0620 **before 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 19th**. *If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.*
- Introduction to Deliverance: Have you ever wondered what exactly deliverance is or how it fits into our Catholic Faith? This free event consisting of four 20 minute talks. This is open to ALL: anyone who would like a better understanding of the meaning of deliverance, the Unbound ministry & how each person can benefit from it. Join us in **Beatrice at St. Joseph Parish Hall on Thursday, January 4th 7:00-8:30 p.m.** **No registration needed.** Contact Matt at matthew-simmons@cdolinc.net or 402-805-9668 with questions.

Mass Schedule for Christmas

- Sunday, December 24th, 6:00 p.m. at St. Martin
- Sunday, December 24th, Midnight at St. Leo
- Monday, December 25th, 9:30 a.m. at St. Leo

Christmas Confessions

- Wednesday, December 13th, 7-8 p.m. at St Leo
 - With exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Saturday, December 16th, 3-3:45 p.m. at St. Martin
- Deanery Confessions:
 - Sunday, December 17th:
 - 12:15 pm at St. Leo
 - 12:15 pm at St. Paulinus Church in Syracuse.
 - Noon at St. Joseph's in Paul
 - 2:30pm at St. Marys in Nebraska City
 - 4pm at Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth
 - At both St. Mary's & Church of the Holy Spirit there will be all the deanery priests available.
- For Lincoln Parish confession times you can access the Diocesan Website: lincolndiocese.org

- **UNBOUND** Retreat at Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House, **January 19-21, 2018** with Fr. William Holoubek. This weekend retreat is geared towards men and women who have already read the book or watched the video series, and will provide opportunities for praying the five keys with a prayer team. Please register at <http://goodcounselretreat.com/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** to honor and remember loved ones with a beautiful poinsettia on Christmas please include in the "Christmas Flowers" envelope, which is in your monthly packet. Also please note your loved ones' names on the envelope. Please include \$10 for each poinsettia you are requesting.
- Giving an asset such as corn, wheat, soybeans or cattle (instead of cash) can have great tax benefits, allowing you to be more generous to your parish. For free, confidential advice and for more information about your giving options, please contact Les Mach, a representative of the Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska, at 402-443-6180. See flyer at the parish or contact Fr. Sparling for more info!
- **Parish Needs Wish List:** Your help in donating to these things will help defray the cost of the parish purchasing the following needs:
 - **Large Bulletin boards**
 - **Reams of white or colored letter paper**
 - **General classroom supplies**
 - **Financial gifts to be put toward updating technology such as: Tv's or projectors and dvd players in classrooms, upgrading Divine Mercy Hall to larger screen or projector, wifi coverage for social hall, printer ink, laptop computers or tablets for teachers to use to communicate with tv or projector in classrooms, classroom speakers.**
 - **Financial gifts to defer the cost of the new office copy/scan/printer machine that replaced the antiquated and inefficient model acquired in 2004 and the computer printer. This 1 new unit replaced two machines and reduces our cost per page. (\$1,300)**
 - **Large capacity external hard-drive to backup parish computer. We currently have NO backup system in place now! If the computer crashes all of our parish records go with it.**
- **FYI - Please email** any items you would like mentioned in the bulletin to the parish office by Thursday's as the bulletin typically is printed Friday's.

As we enter in to the Second Week of Advent take some time to look back at your first week. Have you entered into the mystery of preparation well or do you need to make some changes? Have you spent some time as a family doing a meditation together, praying the rosary, making a holy hour, accessed FORMED for some content on the way to work, school, run errands, etc? Have you and the family gone to confession yet? This great sacrament is so very important in coming to a deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ!

Here are some things to consider for this week:

REFLECT: Is there anyone in your community who has been excluded? How can you reach out to them and make them feel included?

ACT: Go to confession with your family and reflect on the Lord's mercy and forgiveness in your life.

GIVE: Support those who are in great need of help. You can do so via Catholic Social Service, Catholic Charities that help people on a local level. Perhaps more importantly take time to spend with the lonely or isolated. Go to a nursing/assisted living center and ask the front desk to take you to someone who does not get a lot of visitors.

As a resource to help you dive into the mystery of Advent as I want to gift each parish family Scott Hahn's book: *Joy to the World: How Christ's coming changed everything (and still does)*. If you have not picked up your copy or would like an extra copy for the family or to give a friend or family member there are extra's in the back of the Church. Please feel free to take one. I propose that you might read this book together as a family. In addition to this book there are many GREAT reflections and programs available on FORMED.org that our parishes subscribe to and are ready for you to access anytime and place! These tremendous resources can help you and your family make this Advent and Christmas season a wonderful season reflecting on Jesus Christ and the mystery of the Incarnation!

Have a blessed week and blessed Advent! God love you! ~Fr. Sparling

Don't let the evil one keep you from the confession any longer! Come receive the Lord's forgiveness and love. If you have forgotten how to go to confession simply ask the priest for some help. Go through the examination of conscience before hand and bring it with you to help you remember during confession. Also, remember in confession you confess the sin by Name and Number of times you fell in that sin. If you can't remember how many times make a good guesstimate.

An Examination of Conscience for Children

Responsibilities to God:

Have I prayed every day?

Have I prayed my morning prayers and night prayers?

Have I prayed with my parents and family?

Have I been moody and rebellious about praying and going to church on Sunday?

Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me whenever I have been tempted to sin?

Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me do what is right?

Responsibilities to others:

Have I been obedient and respectful to my parents?

Have I lied or been deceitful to them or to others?

Have I been arrogant, stubborn or rebellious?

Have I talked back to parents, teachers or other adults?

Have I pouted and been moody?

Have I been selfish toward my parents, brothers, and sisters, teachers, or my friends and schoolmates?

Have I gotten angry at them? Have I hit anyone?

Have I held grudges or not forgiven others?

Have I treated other children with respect or have I made fun of them and called them names?

Have I used bad language?

Have I stolen anything? Have I returned it?

Have I performed my responsibilities, such as homework and household chores?

Have I been helpful and affectionate toward my family?

Have I been kind and generous with my friends?

An Examination of Conscience for Married Persons

Responsibilities to God:

Have I gone to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of obligation? Have I participated at Mass or have I day dreamed or been present with a blank mind?

Have I prayed every day (15-20 minutes)?

Have I read the Bible? Have I studied the truths of our faith and allowed them to become more part of the way I think and act? Have I read any spiritual books or religious literature?

Have I told God that I want to love him with my whole heart, mind and strength? Do I hold any resentments toward God?

Have I recognized my need for Jesus and his salvation? Have I asked the Holy Spirit to empower me to live the Christian life, to be a proper husband/wife and parent?

Have I been financially generous to the Church? Have I participated in parish or religious activities?

Have I held resentments toward the Church or Church authorities? Have I forgiven them?

Responsibilities to my spouse:

Have I cared for my spouse? Have I been generous with my time? Have I been affectionate and loving? Have I told my spouse that I love him or her?

Have I been concerned about the spiritual well-being of my spouse?

Have I listened to my spouse? Have I paid attention to his other concerns, worries, and problems? Have I sought these out?

Have I allowed resentments and bitterness toward my spouse to take root in my mind? Have I nurtured these? Have I forgiven my spouse for the wrongs he or she has committed against me?

Have I allowed misunderstanding, miscommunication or accidents to cause anger and mistrust? Have I nurtured critical and negative thoughts about my spouse?

Have I manipulated my spouse in order to get my own way?

Have I tried to bully or overpower my spouse?

Have I spoken sharply or sarcastically to my spouse? Have I spoken in a demeaning or negative way? Have I injured my spouse through taunting and negative teasing? Have I called my spouse harsh names or used language that is not respectful?

Have I physically abused my spouse?

Have I gossiped about my spouse?

Have I undermined the authority and dignity of my spouse through disrespect and rebelliousness?

Have I been moody and sullen?

Have I bickered with my spouse out of stubbornness and selfishness?

Have I lied or been deceitful to my spouse?

Have I misused sexuality? Have I used sexual relations solely for my own selfish pleasure? Have I been too demanding in my desire for sexual fulfillment? Have I been loving and physically affectionate in my sexual relations or have I used sexual relations in a way that would be demeaning or disrespectful to my spouse? Have I refused sexual relations out of laziness, revenge or manipulation?

Have I refused to conceive children out of selfishness or material greed? Have I used artificial means of contraception?

Have I had an abortion or encouraged others to have one?

Have I masturbated?

Have I flirted or fostered improper relationships with someone else, either in my mind or through words and actions?

Have I used pornography: books, magazines or movies?

Have I committed adultery?

Have I misused alcohol or drugs?

Have I been financially responsible?

Responsibilities to children:

Have I cared for the spiritual needs of my children? Have I been a shepherd and guardian as God has appointed me? Have I tried to foster a Christian family where Jesus is Lord? Have I taught my children the Gospel and the commandments of God?

Have I prayed with them?

Have I been persistent and courageous in my training and teaching? Have I disciplined them when necessary? Have I been lazy and apathetic?

Have I talked with them to find out their problems, concerns and fears? Have I been affectionate toward them? Have I hugged them and told them that I love them? Have I played or recreated with them?

Have I been impatient and frustrated with them? Have I corrected them out of love in order to teach them what is right and good? Have I treated them with respect? Have I spoken to them in a sarcastic or demeaning way?

Have I held resentments against them? Have I forgiven them?

Have I been of one heart and mind with my spouse in the upbringing of the children? Or have I allowed disagreements and dissension to disrupt the training, educating and disciplining of our children?

Have I undermined the role of authority in the eyes of my children by speaking negatively against God, the Church, my spouse or others who hold legitimate authority over them?

Have I been a good Christian witness to my children in what I say and do? Or do I demand one standard for them and another for myself?

Have I been properly generous with my children regarding money and physical and material well-being? Have I been miserly? Have I been extravagant, thus spoiling them?

Responsibilities to society:

Have I been a Christian witness to those with whom I work or associate? Have I spoken to anyone about the Gospel and how important it is to believe in Jesus?

Have I held resentments and anger against those with whom I work, relatives or friends? Have I forgiven them?

Have I been unethical in my business dealings? Have I stolen or lied?

Have I allowed the Gospel to influence my political and social opinions?

Have I had a proper Christian concern for the poor and needy?

Have I paid my taxes?

Have I fostered or nurtured hatred toward my "political" enemies, either local, national or international?

Have I been prejudiced toward others because of race, color, religion or social status?

An Examination of Conscience for Single Persons

Responsibilities to God:

Have I gone to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of obligation? Have I participated at Mass or have I daydreamed or been present with a blank mind?

Have I prayed every day (15-20 minutes)?

Have I read the Bible? Have I studied the truths of our faith and allowed them to become more a part of the way I think and act? Have I read any spiritual books or religious literature?

Have I told God that I want to love him with my whole heart, mind and strength? Do I hold any resentments toward God?

Have I recognized my need for Jesus and his salvation? Have I asked the Holy Spirit to empower me to live the Christian life?

Have I been financially generous to the Church? Have I participated in parish or religious activities?

Have I held resentments toward the Church or Church authorities? Have I forgiven them?

Responsibilities to others and to myself:

Have I been rebellious, disobedient or disrespectful to anyone in authority?

Have I lied to or deceived others—friends, boss, or coworkers?

Have I been arrogant and stubborn?

Have I gotten angry or nurtured and held grudges and resentments?

Have I refused to forgive others—parents, relatives, employers, former friend, a former spouse? Have I cultivated hatred?

Have I felt sorry for myself or nurtured self-pity?

Have I engaged in sexual fantasies? Have I looked at others lustfully?

Have I read pornographic literature or looked at pornographic pictures, shows or movies?

Have I masturbated?

Have I lustfully kissed or sexually touched someone? Have I had sexual intercourse?

Have I had an abortion or encouraged another to have one?

Have I gossiped about others? Have I slandered anyone? Have I told lies about others? Have I mocked or made fun of others?

Responsibilities to society:

Have I been a Christian witness to those with whom I work or associate? Have I spoken to anyone about the Gospel and how important it is to believe in Jesus?

Have I allowed the Gospel to influence my political and social opinions?

Have I had a proper Christian concern for the poor and needy?

Have I paid my taxes?

Have I fostered or nurtured hatred toward my 'political' opponents, either local, national or international?

Have I been prejudiced toward others because of race, color, religion or social status?

An Examination of Conscience for Young Adults

Responsibilities to God:

Have I gone to Mass on Sunday or have I rebelled and been stubborn about going to Mass?

Did I participate in the Mass or did I daydream?

Have I prayed every day?

Have I read the Bible?

Have I been rebellious toward God and his commands?

Have I misused the name of God by swearing and cursing?

Have I told the Father that I love him for creating me and making me his son/daughter?

Have I thanked Jesus for becoming man, dying for my sin and rising to give me eternal life?

Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me conquer sin and temptation and to be obedient to God's commands?

Responsibilities to others and myself:

Have I been rebellious, disobedient or disrespectful to my parents, teachers and those in authority over me?

Have I lied to or deceived my parents or others?

Have I been arrogant and stubborn?

Have I talked back to my parents or those in authority?

Have I gotten angry or nurtured and held grudges and resentments? Have I refused to forgive others? Have I cultivated hatred?

Have I engaged in sexual fantasies? Have I looked at others lustfully?

Have I read pornographic literature or looked at pornographic pictures, shows or movies?

Have I masturbated?

Have I lustfully kissed or sexually touched someone? Have I had sexual intercourse?

Have I had an abortion or encouraged another to have one?

Have I gossiped about others? Have I slandered anyone? Have I told lies about others? Have I mocked or made fun of others?

Have I lied or cheated? Have I stolen anything? Have I paid it back?

Have I been selfish or spiteful toward others? Have I been jealous?

Have I gotten drunk, or taken drugs?

Have I participated in anything that is of the occult: ouija boards, fortune tellers, séances, channeling, astrology?

Have I been patient, kind gentle and self-controlled?

When my conscience told me to do something good, did I do it or did I ignore it?