

December 17, 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	18	Mon	7:00 am	St. Leo	+Helen Royal
Dec	19	Tues	7:00 am	St. Leo	+Shirley Malone
Dec	20	Wed	8:00 am	St. Martin	+Barbara Barak
Dec	21	Thur	8:00 am	St. Leo	+Audrey Carpenter
Dec	22	Fri	8:00 am	St. Leo	+Larry McAuliffe
Dec	23	Sat	4:00 pm	St. Leo	Liv & Dec St. Leo Parishioners
Dec	24	Sun	8:30 am	St. Martin	Gilligan Family
Dec	24	Sun	11:00 am	St. Leo	People of our Parishes

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, 12:00 p.m. at St. Leo
- Monday, December 25th, 9:30 a.m. at St. Leo
 - Must attend Sunday Mass for Sunday obligation and one Mass for Christmas obligation.

January 1 – Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year

Extra Advent Confession Times

- 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.
- Wednesday, December 20th, 7-8 p.m. at St Leo
- For other parishes' confession/mass times you can access the Diocesan Website: lincolndiocese.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **We are greatly in need of cantors and musicians for our Masses! This is such an important role to assist with the beauty of the mass and to praise God all the more. This is a great opportunity to tithe your time and talent to the parish. Please consider serving our parish in this way. Contact Fr. Sparling if you would be so willing. As St. Augustine is famous for saying: “He who sings, prays twice!”**
 - **We currently have no volunteers schedule to lead music at the Midnight and 9:30am Christmas Masses!! PLEASE HELP!**
 - **Please join me in praying a prayer of thanksgiving for those who volunteer already.**
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- **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.
 - **St. Leo’s Parishioners are invited by the Altar Society to help decorate the Church for Christmas on Wednesday, December 20th at 7:00 PM. This year we have a new nativity set that was donated by Shirley Malone’s family in her memory.**
 - **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.**

The 3rd Sunday of Advent is known as “Gaudete Sunday.” In the readings, we hear about miracles associated with the Messianic age, its coming, and what we need to do to prepare. We also learn about the doubts of John the Baptist, how he dealt with them, and the blessing that makes us even more fortunate than John was. Its name is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” Advent is the season of preparing for the arrival of the Lord Jesus (both his first coming and his second coming), and by the third Sunday of Advent, we are most of the way through the season. Thus it is appropriate to rejoice as we see the goal of the season approaching: “The Lord is near.” For this week let us consider these:

REFLECT: What brings you joy? How can you bring the joy of Christ to a world in need?

ACT: Visit a nursing home or hospital and spend some time with patients who don’t receive many visitors – you can even bring cards, drawings, or flowers to brighten up their day!

GIVE: Give joy to those you love and those you encounter.

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