

**December 24th & 25th, 2017
4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas**



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	24	Sun	6:00 pm	St. Martin	+Helen Royal
Dec	25	Mon	Midnight	St. Leo	+Shirley Malone
Dec	25	Mon	9:30 am	St. Leo	People of our Parishes
Dec	26	Tue	No	Mass	+Larry McAuliffe offered by Fr. S
Dec	27	Wed	No	Mass	LaDonna Seamann offered by Fr. S
Dec	28	Thur	8:00 am	St. Leo	Richard Tetherow (Bday)
Dec	29	Fri	8:00 am	St. Leo	+Mary Campos
Dec	30	Sat	4:00 pm	St. Martin	+Audrey Carpenter
Dec	31	Sun	8:30am	St. Leo	Jean Rosenberg
Dec	31	Sun	11:00 am	St. Leo	People of our Parishes
Jan	1	Mon	10:00 am	St. Leo	+Barbara Barak

OUR TITHE TO THE LORD

December 17, 2017

	Adult	Youth	Plate
St. Leo	\$1448	\$ 0	\$7
St. Martin	\$435	\$ 28.20	\$8

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 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.

➤ All are invited to St. Leo's Hall for an Epiphany Brunch on **January 7th from 9:30 to 10:30**. Please bring a "brunch" food to share.

➤ **Annual Pro-Life Mass and Nebraska Walk for Life Saturday January 27** - Join pro-life advocates from across the state on January 27 for the Pro-Life Mass at St Mary church, across from the Capitol, celebrated by Most Rev. James Conley, Bishop of Lincoln. Mass at 9:00 am. The Walk for Life will follow with a rally starting at the State Capitol at 10:00 am. The Mass will be streamed live at fb.me/necatholic. For more information, call the Nebraska Catholic Conference at 402-477-7517. Watch the Southeast Nebraska Register for more details.

➤ **For Men & Women seeking healing from Divorce:** The **Catholic Divorced Survival Guide** was created to bring hope and healing to divorced and separated Catholics. This 12 week program will be leader facilitated & features 30-minute DVD segments that cover topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, kids, annulment, and much more. The next session will begin **February 5, 2018** and is held at John XXIII Diocesan Center, Lincoln, NE from 7-9pm. Classes are kept small. Register by calling the Family Life Office at, 402-473-0620, or catholicflo@cdolinc.net

Mass Schedule for Christmas

- Sunday, December 24th, 6:00 p.m. at St. Martin
- Monday, December 25th, Midnight 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 – Mary, Mother of God - 10:00 a.m.
Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year

- 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 Connelly's providing music for 6pm, Susan Steward @ Midnight and Julie Warrington from St. Joe's parish for 9:30am (she called and volunteered). Thank you so much for generously responding to all!!
- Please join me in praying a prayer of thanksgiving for those who volunteer already.

➤ **Thank you so much to all who volunteered cleaning and decorating our parishes for the celebration of Christmas. Your work doesn't go unnoticed and we are all very grateful for all that you have done and continue to do!!!**

➤ 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.

- As some of you know, last weekend the refrigerator went out in the rectory which added to the oven which had already been sparsely working for over a year and needed to be replaced. It has been a rough month for things to stop working. The water softener in the rectory, which was about 20 years old, quit working and was replaced for \$699. This price being the discounted price saving us \$400 by Quality Water Services and included installation. One of the furnaces in the social hall at St. Leo's had a part die and needed replaced which cost a little over \$200. This past week I went ahead and purchased new appliances at Schafer's in Lincoln who gave the parishes a great discount. We received a whole new set of 4 appliances for only just about \$3,500 (I included a 5 year extended warranty which if unused will be returned to us as in store credit). Richard and Laura Hays donated the purchase of a microwave oven and Bernie Masek donated about half the cost of the new refrigerator. God bless their generosity! If anyone else would like to donate to any of these needed repairs and replacements please contact Fr. Sparling or put it in an envelope marked Appliance/repair donation.
- Thank you to those who have contributed to items on our Parish Needs Wish List!! We even had a large donation from a Catherine Wilds who lives in Arkansas and visited our parish and saw our needs list in the bulletin. I will continue to run that list in case anyone else wishes to donate towards it.
- **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 colored 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)
- Although 2018 Calendars were ordered on June 15th and were to be delivered in November the company tells me there was a production issue and they would be delivered this past week. Unfortunately, that did not happen. I will be contacting the company again this week and getting them here ASAP. I do apologize for the inconvenience and hope to have there here very soon!



Christmas Poinsettias



The Christmas poinsettias beautifying our sanctuaries are provided through donations made in honor of the following.

St. Leo Church

John & Betty Hogar
The Bennier Family
Donal & Mildred Hall
Peterson-Smith Family
Lawrence Bachman
The Frey Family
The Malone Family
The Donovan Family

St. Martin Church

Keith Brennan
Roland & Mary Hauptman
Audrey Carpenter
Kenny & Johnny Moller
Joe & Helen Royal
Rolan Hauptman Jr.
Jim & Lorraine O'Grady
Art & Catherine Zech
Larry Hall
The Reynoldson Family
Mr. & Mrs. Jake Harms
Charlotte Seamann
Jim Horstman
Larry McAuliffe

Thank you to those who donated in honor or memory of their loved ones.



Merry Christmas! It is hard to believe that Christmas is already here! May the prince of peace reign in your hearts and homes! Be assured of my continued prayers.
Have a blessed week and blessed Christmas! God love you! ~Fr. Sparling