

**March 15, 2020
3rd Sunday of Lent**

St. Leo Catholic Church
330 W. 8th Street
Palmyra, NE 68418
(402) 780-5535
Emergency Calls: (402) 202-7685

St. Martin Catholic Church
125 W. 3rd Street
Douglas, NE
(Please send mail to St. Leo Church)
www.stleoandstmartin.com

Pastor Email: leomartinpastor@gmail.com
Megan Carman (Secretary) Email: leomartinsecretary@gmail.com

Fr. Adam Sparling, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Mar	16	Mon	8:00am	St. Leo	+Jeremy Nielsen (Blankley)
Mar	17	Tues	No	Mass	
Mar	18	Wed	8:00am	St. Martin	Noah Lempka (Ragon)
Mar	19	Thur	8:00 am	St. Leo	+Brian Fischer (Blankley)
Mar	20	Fri	8:00am	St. Leo	Poor Souls Intention (Wheatley)
Mar	21	Sat	4:00 pm	St. Leo	Jan & Dick Tetheron Anniv. (Ragon)
Mar	22	Sun	8:30 am	St. Martin	The people of our parishes
Mar	22	Sun	11:00 am	St. Leo	+Jeff Vachel (Blankley)

Your Response to the Lords Generosity:

March 8, 2020

	Adult	Youth	Plate
St. Leo	\$1,106.50	\$ 0	\$69
St. Martin	\$515	\$ 14	\$50

“God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:8

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Sundays prior to 11:00 am Mass

CALENDAR ITEMS

- **Stations of the Cross:** Wednesday’s following the morning Mass at St. Martin; Friday’s at St. Leo beginning at 6pm.
 - Reminder that stations are a devotional that you do not need a priest to lead you in, a lay person can pray them by themselves or lay person may lead a group in the absence of a priest.
- **Knights of Columbus Fish Fry** – Please come enjoy at St. Paulinas in Syracuse from 5-8pm on March 27th.
- **Adult Faith Formation** – “Oremus: A Catholic Guide to prayer” Wednesday evenings beginning at 7pm in Divine Mercy hall. If you have any questions please contact Chad Hartwick.
- **CANCELLED THIS WEEK - 2020 Lenten Series** – *A Lenten Encounter with Christ-Forgiveness, Healing, Intimacy, Mission.* John XXIII Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, Mondays of Lent, **March 2-March 30.** Matt Simmons will be giving the talks with Adoration to follow. Jonathan Little will be playing music during adoration while attendees can go to confession, receive prayer ministry, and have silence for prayer.
- **Parish Lenten Evening of Recollection** – Led by Fr. Mike Ventre **Thursday, March 26th** beginning at 7pm at St. Leo’s. This is an opportunity for confession and adoration. Please mark your calendars and join!!
- **Join Jesus and His Mother in Praying for the End of Abortion** at Planned Parenthood (5631 S 48th ST) in Lincoln. On an Abortion **Tuesday, March 31** Father Leo Seiker will lead the 3rd Annual Eucharistic Procession surrounding Planned Parenthood with prayer! The procession starts at 2 PM and prayer warriors should be in place on the public lawn around Planned Parenthood by 2 PM.
- **Eucharistic Procession** surrounding Planned Parenthood in Lincoln (48th & Old Cheney) on **March 31** at 2:00 p.m. Park at the Cornerstone Christian Church at 4849 Old Cheney Road. Join hundreds at this peaceful & prayerful witness to the sanctity of all human lives.
- **5th Sunday Brunch** – March 29th in the Divine Mercy Hall following the 8:30 am Mass.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Attention Amazon users!** If you do please consider using AmazonSmile for your purchases!  If you do and *select St. Leo Catholic Church of Palmyra* as your charitable organization a portion of your purchases will be given back to the parish Religious Education Program. Or go to: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0537439>
- **E-Tithe!** 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.
- **Have you checked out the new FORMED.org?** — Programs, eBooks, movies, and talks that will entertain, engage, and inspire them with the beauty and wonder of their faith. FORMED is an on-line Catholic resource treasure trove. The parish pays for an annual subscription for you to use to grow in our beautiful faith. If you have not signed up for it yet, go to www.formed.org -- enter the parish code **KN4A9J** -- enter information required -- create a password -- search through and enjoy the material.

Mass Intentions NEEDED! - The tradition of offering Masses for others originates in the early Church. A priest offers Mass with three intentions: 1) to offer the Mass reverently and validly in accord with norms of the Church, 2) to offer the Mass in union with the whole Church and for its good, and 3) to offer the Mass for a particular intention. The suggested donation is \$10 per Mass. Checks should be made payable to: St. Leo Stipend Account.

➤ **CHARITY AND STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2020**

This weekend begins our early bird call for the Diocesan Charity and Stewardship Appeal (CSA). The theme for this year is “God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor. 9:7. As a Diocese, we are called to cast the net of evangelization, of outreach to the suffering, and of Catholic education. The Charity and Stewardship Appeal is an important way of participating in this work, since it aids a wide number of ministries such as the Evangelization office, Family Life Office, Youth Ministry, Hospital Ministry, Prison Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, Newman Center, Hispanic Ministry, the Tribunal, Catholic Social Services and especially, our Catholic Schools. Last year, more than 75% of Charity and Stewardship funds went directly to support our schools and parishes including our own!

St. John Chrysostom once wrote, “God appointed almsgiving not only for the nourishment of the needy but also for the

benefit of the providers, and much more so for the latter than for the former.” As Christians, we have a need to give before we have a cause to give. For nearly fifty years, the Charity and Stewardship Appeal has allowed each parishioner to continue the mission of Christ in southern Nebraska. I am in gratitude for your enduring support. This year, I ask everyone to join me by cheerfully supporting the Charity and Stewardship Appeal. All of us are called, in one way or another, to be generous stewards of our gifts.

The 2020 Charity and Stewardship diocesan goal is \$2,131,220. This year the diocesan goal for these ministries and the appeal expenses remains the same at \$695,000 (Which has not increased the past six years). Our parish goals are as follows:

St. Leo: \$4,660 – projected *minimum* rebate coming back to parish when reaching this goal is \$3,730

St. Martin: \$2,580 – projected *minimum* rebate coming back to parish when reaching this goal is \$2,060

The goals are based on an average of the last three years of Sundays and Holy Days offertory plus CSA rebates. Just a reminder that we must hit our assessment of the goal or it will have to come out of our general operating budget. We have never had a year we were even close to that ever happening but in full transparency I give you that information. We have always gone above and beyond our goal! Let us joyfully cast our nets with trust that like all stewardship what we give back to the Lord He rewards! If you have any questions please feel free to ask Fr. Sparling or our parish CSA coordinators Duane Bremer (St. Leo) and Dan Smith (St. Martin).

➤ To donate online or for more information please visit: <https://www.lincolndiocese.org/diocese/charity-and-stewardship-appeal>

Note from Father:

As you know there has been a lot of conversation throughout the country and world about the spreading epidemic of the Coronavirus. I sent an email out earlier this week to all registered parishioners to make them aware of the Diocesan recommendations. We are currently in a Level One Heightened awareness. The Diocese of Lincoln Coronavirus Task Force which is composed of: Steve Rademaker, M.D.; Tim Fischer, M.D.; Tom Safranek (State Epidemiologist at the Nebraska Department of Health), M.D.; Bob Sullivan, J.D.; Carmen Sullivan, R.N. are issuing the following recommendations for a “Level One Heightened Awareness” which Sts. Leo and Martin Parishes will observe in the following ways:

- 1) People who have flu-like symptoms or who are otherwise feeling sick should not go to Mass or other Church gatherings; the Church encourages us to make an act of “spiritual communion,” where we unite ourselves to God through prayer.
- 2) Only the priest celebrant or concelebrants should receive the Precious Blood from the Chalice until otherwise notified.
- 3) It will be up to pastors to recommend whether the faithful should receive Holy Communion in the hand or on the tongue.
 - At this current time I will continue to allow persons to choose whether they would like to take communion in either their hand or on the tongue.
- 4) The practice of exchanging the sign of peace is suspended.
- 5) Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should wash hands with soap and water or anti-bacterial hand sanitizer, before and after distributing Holy Communion.
 - All Ministers and servers will be required to wash their hands with soap and water prior to Mass for a minimum of 30 seconds including cleaning under their nails. As per CDC hygiene recommendations.
- 6) Omit the spontaneous gesture of hand-holding during the Our Father.
- 7) Do not hold Eucharistic and other liturgies in a daily mass chapel if there is a larger church at the parish.
- 8) Refrain from using Holy Water fonts.
 - Holy Water fonts have been removed until further notice.
- 9) Encourage ushers to open the doors to welcome the faithful at Mass.
- 10) The door handles should be sanitized after each Mass.
 - Volunteers will be needed to sanitize door handles, pews, tables, etc. After each Mass including Social Hall’s.

Prayers for the World during the Outbreak of the Coronavirus

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation. Through that charity which bound you to the immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be propitious to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness; and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God’s children from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection.

Amen.

(Excerpted from the *Enchiridion of Indulgences*, 1969)

For a full review of the Diocesan protocol please visit: <https://www.lincolndiocese.org/bishops/bishop-james-conley/statements/13602-diocese-of-lincoln-guidelines-for-coronavirus-covid-19>

A blessed and sacrificial lent to you all!! God Love You!

~ Fr. Sparling