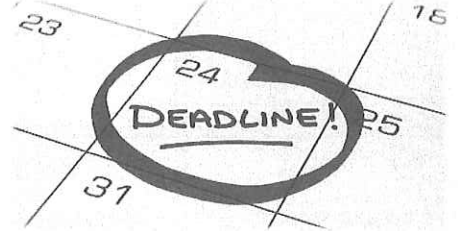


# SHARED PARISH INFORMATION

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THIS PAGE EVERY WEEK TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISHES, THE SURROUNDING PARISHES, SNIPITS FROM FR. OLSEN, FR. WAYNE & MORE!

**BULLETIN DEADLINES DURING THE HOLIDAYS:** It's getting to that time of year when the bulletin deadlines are going to be moved forward because of the holiday printing schedule at LPi. The following are the deadlines for December:

- \*Monday, December 2: Deadline for Sunday, December 8, bulletin,
- \*Monday, December 9: Deadline for Sunday, December 15, bulletin,
- \*Friday, December 13: Deadline for Sunday, December 22, bulletin,
- \*Thursday, December 19: Deadline for Sunday, December 29, bulletin,
- \*Friday, December 27: Deadline for Sunday, January 5, bulletin.



\***DISCOVERING CHRIST:** A 7-week experience that invites you to hear the Good News and personally encounter Jesus Christ. Please sign up for this special event as soon as possible so the committee can finalize plans. Dates are Mondays from January 7, 2020, through February 18, 2020, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM in the St. Francis parish hall. A special invitation goes out to our cluster parishes! The evening includes welcome/introductions, prayer & song, meal, teaching video and small group discussions. To register call the St. Francis parish office at 402-923-0913. For more information contact Ginny Fehringer (402-920-3366) or Jayne Ternus (402-920-2820).

\***SOUP SUPPER & POULTRY BINGO PARTY!** On Saturday, December 7, everyone is invited to the Christian Mothers Soup Supper at 5:30 PM, followed by the Knights of Columbus Bingo Party at 7:00 PM in the St. Francis parish hall. Come try your luck at winning your family's holiday poultry!

\***ST. NICK AT NITE:** Holy Family Youth Group will be hosting "St. Nick at Nite" on December 1 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Lindsay Town Hall. Santa will arrive at 4:30 PM. Free will lunch will be served at 6:00 PM, sponsored by the March for Life. Come join in this fun holiday tradition!

\***HOLY FAMILY FUN NIGHT:** The Holy Family Fun Night committee cordially invites you to our 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Fun Night on January 18, 2020. This year's theme is "Saturday Night Fever". 70's disco attire would be groovy! The evening will begin with a social hour, then a prime rib dinner followed by comedian Kris Covi. A public auction will conclude the evening. Tickets are now on sale for \$70 and can be purchased at the bank, rectory, COOP or from any of the following committee members: Duane & Shanda Beller, Joe & Tara Korus, Allyn Nissen & Anthony Klassen, Andrew & Courtney Kurtenbach, Austin Engel & Kaidi Wolff and Kyle & Gabby Lindhorst

## A Gratitude Examen

Gratitude is one of the greatest spiritual practices. It opens our minds, calms our hearts, and rids bitterness of it's power. The "examen" is a spiritual practice to reflect on how we have responded to God's work in our lives.

This Thanksgiving, consider your own reasons for thankfulness!

What **G**ifts have You given me?

How have I **R**eceived love from others?

How is grace at work in **A**spects of my life story?

Do I **T**rust You to continue to bless me?

Where have I missed Your movements?

Have I used my **T**alents at the service of others?

Do I see a purpose for my life **U**nderway?

How can I have the **D**iscipline to thank You daily?

Help me give **E**verything back to You!

## Holy Family Parish Nov 24

### Plant Project

Teams 2, 3, 4, and 5 are again asked to work Wednesday morning, afternoon or evening. There is a lot of work to be done. Please help with this worthy fundraising project.

### One Act

LHF will be performing their play, "The Descendants of Genesis 3", for the public on the evening of Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. The performance will be located at the Holy Family Gym and will consist of an optional dinner beginning at 5:45 PM, with the play starting at 6:30 PM. Bring along your friends and family, and come enjoy as the students put on a fantastic show!

### Collection Report 11/17

Loose	\$ 298.75
Sunday	\$ 2857.50
School Support	\$1720.28
All Saints	\$ 100.00
World Mission	\$ 20.00
Bldg & Improve	\$ 20.00
Fall Supper	\$ 20.00
	\$ 5036.53

### St Nick at Nite

Holy Family Youth Group will be putting on St Nick at Night on December 1 at the Lindsay Town Hall from 4pm to 6pm. Santa arrives at 4:30. Lunch will be served by the March for Life students for a free will offering. All kids and parents are welcome to share in this annual holiday celebration.

### Pints with a Priest

Holy Family and St. Francis parishes will be holding the next young adult Pints with a Priest session on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The evening will begin at 7 PM and will be located at the Parish Center in Lindsay (building next to the rectory). Bring your own drinks and come enjoy some fascinating conversations about the faith!

### EMHC's Needed

Please consider volunteering to be an EMHC to MNLH on Wednesdays. As some of our volunteers have retired or moved, our list is dwindling. If we have enough people sign up your turn may only come around every 6-8 weeks. Please consider this ministry as our elderly and infirmed so look forward to receiving the Eucharist! Contact the rectory if you are interested.

**\*\*Mass for Thanksgiving will only be Thanksgiving Day at 8am.**

**\*\*Reminder Sunday Morning Mass time at Holy Family changes to 8:00AM starting December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

### Support Our Seminarians

Please support our Seminarians in prayer and maybe even a birthday card. November birthday is Brent Podliska, Nov 22. His address: Conception Seminary College  
PO Box 502, Conception, MO 63119

### Holy Family Fun Night

**41st annual Fun Night on January 18, 2020.**

**This year's theme is "Saturday Night Fever". 70's disco attire would be groovy!**

The evening will begin with a social hour, then a Prime Rib Dinner followed by comedian, Kris Covi. A public auction will conclude the evening. If you would like to donate to the auction, please contact a Fun Night Committee member. Tickets are now on sale for \$70.00. They make great birthday, anniversary or Christmas gifts. You can purchase a ticket from the Bank, Rectory, COOP or any of the committee members listed below. If you are interested in donating items, contact a committee member. Thank you for your continued support!

*Duane & Shanda Beller      Austin Engel & Kaidi Wolff  
Andrew & Courtney Kurtenbach      Joe & Tara Korus  
Allyn Nissen & Anthony Klassen      Kyle & Gabby Lindhorst*

### Gift Cards for Children in Need

The Family Service Behavioral Health Program provides therapeutic services to youth and families in 23 Lincoln Public Schools and 7 Saunders County Schools. Many of the middle and high school students we serve have unhealthy parents and home life. They live in homes where there is drug and alcohol abuse, additions, domestic violence, poverty, and/or emotional and mental neglect. We work with students who strive to better their education and mental health so they can graduate and go on to live a better life than their parents. During this Christmas season, many of these students go with little to no Christmas gifts. Some of the cultures we serve don't celebrate Christmas so while these students' peers are receiving gifts, they receive nothing. Many students' parents can't afford gifts for these youth or use their money on drugs/alcohol. Children in the elementary grades have many opportunities for toys but the middle and high school students we serve don't have these same opportunities. They appreciate anything and often cry when we present them even with a \$10 gift card. Your generosity is so much appreciated!

*Tammy (Pfeifer) Sassaman, LCSW*

**\*\*\*Gift Cards can be dropped off at the rectory office\*\*\***

### A Message from Fr Olsen

One of my first impressions of our church here in Lindsay is its noble simplicity. It's neither gaudy nor ostentatious and yet it still retains a sense of dignity that draws one to the supernatural. My second impression was that the crucifix as well as the banners that sit on both sides of it are inspiring. I have benefited abundantly from inspirations drawn from them in my prayer.

One other thing I noticed almost instantly when walking into the church for the first time was the position of the tabernacle. It seemed very odd to me that the tabernacle was set off the East side while the presider's chair was in the center of the sanctuary, and I'd like to explain why I rearranged it.

As I'm sure you've noticed, the interior of the church in Lindsay is shaped like a cross. There is a long, main section that runs from the back of the sanctuary to the entrance of the Church. Then, about two thirds of the way up this main section, there runs a transept that extends the main section on each side about as wide as a "t" in a cross.

Of course, this is done intentionally. The architecture of Holy Family Church is meant as both a witness and a catechetical tool to parishioners, the community and the world. The priest, who stands in the person of Christ the head, stays in the sanctuary during mass, and the people, who constitute the Body of Christ, sit in the pews where the body of Christ would rest. This is probably why the presider's chair was placed where the tabernacle is now. Since the priest stands in the person of Jesus the head, it makes some sense that the priest would sit at the head of the cross, where the presider's chair used to be.

However, there is even more symbolism present in the sanctuary than this. You have undoubtedly noticed that the sanctuary is elevated. The primary reason for this is not so people can see better. No. The sanctuary is elevated because there are two realities being re-presented during the mass. These two are the crucifixion of Jesus and the Last Supper. Notice both realities require Jesus to climb. At the Last Supper, Jesus climbs to the upper room to eat the Passover, the Last Supper, with apostles. At the crucifixion, Jesus climbs Mount Calvary to be crucified. Both events are being made present in Lindsay (or anywhere else) whenever mass is celebrated. Thus, the priest, who stands in the person of Jesus Christ, climbs into the sanctuary as a way of living these realities.

Given this architectural symbolism embedded in our church, it made way more sense to me that Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to be at the head. This is why I moved the tabernacle to the center of the sanctuary. Not only does this emphasize Jesus as the head of the Church and not the priest, but it also is only fitting that where Jesus is re-presenting the Last Supper and the Crucifixion, His sacramental presence is as well.

Of course, our current setup is fitting for the dignity of so great a gift, which is where we begin to see the importance of the high altar. The high altar serves a purpose. First, it is the bedroom of Jesus in His house of the Church. As such it demands a certain dignity fitting to the King of the Universe. Second, as the center of the Church, the high altar is designed to capture the attention of anyone entering the church to help them recognize that the church building is a building different than any other building we are ever. Thus, our high altar must be captivating, both in size and in ornamentation. It is designed to capture the dignity of its occupant as well as the attention of everyone entering the Church immediately so that they can focus on Jesus Christ.

Nevertheless, we would never want to anything that would disrupt either the integrity of the church or obscure the beauty of what is already there. Thus, the High Altar would be large enough to testify to the dignity of its Occupant, but not so large as to interfere with the crucifix or the banners that are next to it. We are exploring options with different carpenters and have received one bid. Once the finance committee has evaluated the various options, more information will be forthcoming.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fr Olsen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.