



# ONE CHURCH: ENCOUNTERING JESUS, EQUIPPING DISCIPLES, LIVING MERCY.

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b>St. Francis</b> Humphrey   | <b>Holy Family</b> Lindsay   | <b>St. Michael</b> Tarnov  | <b>St. Mary</b> Leigh   |
| PO Box 116,<br>Humphrey, NE 68642<br>402-923-0913<br><a href="http://www.humphreystfrancis.com">www.humphreystfrancis.com</a> | 103 E 3rd St.<br>Lindsay, NE 68644<br>402-428-2455<br><a href="http://lhparish.wordpress.com">lhparish.wordpress.com</a> | 309 3rd St.<br>Tarnov, NE 68642<br>402-923-0913<br>Mailing Address: PO Box 162 | 319 N Oak St.<br>Leigh, NE 68643<br>402-487-2666<br><a href="http://bit.ly/stmaryleigh">http://bit.ly/stmaryleigh</a> |

Friends,

Even a cursory glance at a calendar reveals that Jesus Christ is not the only birthday our society celebrates as a holiday. Yet, there is a difference between the other birthdays we celebrate and the birth of Jesus Christ. Not only is Jesus' birthday never transferred to a more convenient day of the week or combined with another like Him, but also the intensity of the celebration is significantly greater. Why?

To answer this question, we must fast-forward thirty-three years after Jesus' birth. It is then that the baby lying in the manger will be hanging in agony on the cross. His face will be bloodied, not only from the crown of thorns fastened to His head, but also from the beatings it endured. His body, previously battered by whips and falls, now suffers from total exhaustion from carrying His cross. After three hours of agony hanging on that cross, the baby whose birth we celebrate at Christmas will die.

If that were the end of the story, however, Christmas would be no different than President's day, Martin Luther King Jr. day or any day honoring a great individual. But the best is yet to come. On the third day after His death, the baby whose birth we celebrate at Christmas, Jesus the Christ, rose from the dead. In rising from the dead, Jesus proved that baby on Christmas morning is not simply a great man. All men, regardless of how great or wise they may truly be, eventually fall under the power of death. But, not so with Jesus! In fact, when Jesus Christ rose from the dead, He demonstrated a power reserved to God alone; the power over death. In doing so, the child born to Mary proves that He is not merely a man. Jesus is also God.

Basking in the light provided by Jesus resurrection, we see how cataclysmic the birth of Jesus Christ really is. It is the birth of God into our world. Think about it this way. Suppose that Bill Gates, the richest man in the world, decided to forfeit his wealth and become, say, a cockroach; and not some prestigious cockroach, mind you, not a cockroach destined to achieve fame and fortune (whatever that means for a cockroach). Rather, suppose Bill Gates became some ordinary, insignificant cockroach; a cockroach consigned to live in anonymity for most of his life in some irrelevant part of the world. Of course, when Bill the cockroach finally did achieve some fame through incredibly insightful teaching and miraculous good works, he is crucified as a notorious criminal by the very cockroaches he came to save. Then, even when you think of it that way, we still have no idea, ABSOLUTELY NONE, of the humiliation God endures when He assumes a human nature.

What does this prove but the greatness of God's love for us? Is it really any wonder why George Fredrick Handel when composing a work describing this act of love by God has his singers exclaim "Hallelujah!" over and over and over again? The only human response fitting to such an act of love by his creator is one of ecstatic exuberance.

Yet I wonder how many of us would describe our experience of Christ's birth as ecstatic exuberance. Or rather, how many of us would describe the Christmas season as an arduous chore that, although it relieves us from a day of work, really only serves to burden us with a thousand other obligations, family or otherwise, that make us wish for it all to end?

Well, if you want to restore that ecstatic exuberance that really defines the season of Christmas to your life, there is a surefire solution – practice. For just as practice makes perfect in other endeavors, so, too, practice makes perfect in celebrating Christmas. Of course, the way we practice celebrating Christmas is by celebrating, hopefully every week, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. For notice what happens in the mass. At mass, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity takes on an appearance that is even more demeaning to Him than our humanity was; the appearance of bread and wine. Thus, each mass is like a microcosm of Christmas. For at each mass, Jesus once again shows His love by taking on the aspects of one of His creatures.

Blessings, Fr. EJA

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## SACRAMENT PREP

### CONFESSIONS:

DAILY: 7:30 AM-7:50 AM (Before All Daily Masses)

SATURDAYS: **Lindsay:** 4:00 PM-4:45 PM

**Humphrey:** 4:30 PM-5:15 PM

SUNDAYS: **Lindsay:** 7:00 AM-7:45 AM

**Leigh:** 8:00 AM-8:20 AM

**Tarnov:** After 10:30 AM Mass

**BAPTISMS:** To schedule, please contact Rev. Eric Olsen at (402) 923-0913.

**MARRIAGE:** Please contact the priest six months before wedding in order to fulfill required wedding prep classes.

## CONTACTS

### Pastor:

Rev. Eric Olsen ..... 402-923-0913

.....esolsen@archomaha.org

Rev. Wayne Pavela ..... 402-923-0913

### To Submit Bulletin Information:

St. Francis Parishioners ..... kmorfeld@hsfschool.org

Holy Family Parishioners ..... lhfp@lhf.esu7.org

St. Mary Parishioners ..... dbrabec@frontiernet.net

St. Michael Parishioners ..... stmichaelstarnov@gmail.com

*(For other parish contacts, please see the following pages.)*

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Julie (Werner) Frauendorfer

### KEEP IN PRAYER AS THEY SERVE OUR COUNTRY:

Steve Bender, Jacob Williams, SFC Van Dyke, Joshua Sprunk,

Codi Rose Fehringer, Fr. Curt Dwyer, Bryce Bartholomew,

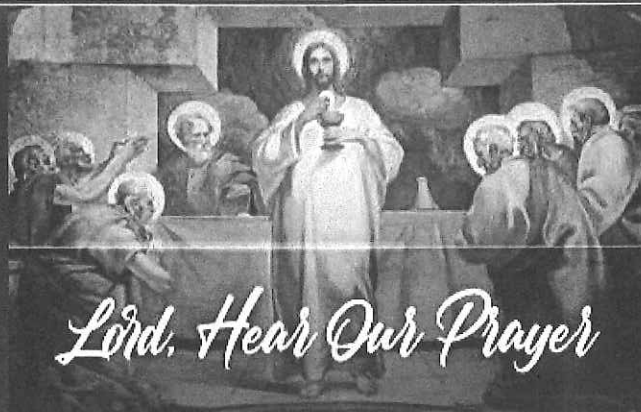
Calvin Wiese, Doc Schumacher, Dylan Preister, John Babl,

Patrick Washburn, Craig Prather, Mitchell Preister,

Cody Ramaekers, Eric and Michelle Oberhauser, Ben Borer,

Nicole Thompson, Aaron Wallin

*(Please call your parish office to add a name.)*



*Lord, Hear Our Prayer*

# MASS SCHEDULES & INTENTIONS

## ST. FRANCIS CHURCH, HUMPHREY:

### Sat, 12/14:

5:30 PM-Eric & Kate Ternus (1<sup>st</sup> WA)

### Sun, 12/15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent:

10:00 AM--Mary Kuchar

### Mon, 12/16:

8:00 AM--Dale Schumacher

### Tues, 12/17:

8:00 AM--Eileen Brandl

### Wed, 12/18:

8:00 AM--Dick (A) & +Eunice Olmer

### Thurs, 12/19:

8:00 AM-Betty Brockhaus-CDA, & +Francis Sand

### Fri, 12/20:

NO MASS

### Sat, 12/21:

5:30 PM-Lugene Torczon-CDA

### Sun, 12/22 - 4th Sunday of Advent:

10:00 AM-L/D +Art & +LaRose Preister Family

**(WA):** Wedding  
Anniversary

**(A):** Anniversary  
of Death

**(B):** Birthday

## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, LINDSAY:

### Sat, 12/14:

5:00 PM-Nancy Albracht

### Sun, 12/15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent:

8:00 AM-L/D Duane & Roberta Delp Family

### Mon, 12/16:

8:00 AM-Connie Beller

### Tues, 12/17:

8:00 AM-L/D Novotny Family

### Wed, 12/18: 6:30 AM-L/D Bud & Lori Bender Family

8:00 AM-L/D Mary Ann Kraft

### Thurs, 12/19:

8:00 AM-Jeff Jarecki

### Fri, 12/20:

8:00 AM-Jamie & Greg Weidner

### Sat, 12/21:

5:00 PM-L/D Jim & Viola Formanek Family

### Sun, 12/22 - 4th Sunday of Advent:

8:00 AM-L/D Adam Jarecki Family, Don & Germaine Wiese

## ST. MARY, LEIGH:

### Sun, 12/22 - 4th Sunday of Advent:

8:30 AM-Gary Brabec

## ST. MICHAEL, TARNOV:

### Sun, 12/22 - 4th Sunday of Advent:

10:30 AM-Lucille Ciecior

# ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Office Hours:** Tuesday-Friday - 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

## CONTACTS

### PARISH MINISTERS:

Deacon Dennis Anderson ..... (402) 920-1380  
 Deacon Kent Sachau..... (402) 369-1750  
 Deacon Tim Howard..... (402) 841-3434  
**Parish Council:** Dave Krings ..... (402) 992-1376  
 Ken Classen ..... (402) 923-0313  
**Finance Board:** Bryan Reichmuth ..... (402) 340-6429  
**School Board:** Todd Preister ..... (402) 454-1302  
 Lindsey Kosch ..... (402) 910-3303  
**Home & School Association:** Suzanne Beltz ..... (402) 640-7360  
 Sarah Classen ..... (402) 923-0131  
**Religious Ed Director:** Lori Classen ..... (402) 923-0987  
**Daycare Director:** Brandi Eisenmenger ..... (402) 923-0585  
**Server Coordinator:** Georgia Hunsley ..... (402) 920-0108  
**Bulletin Submissions:** Katie Morfeld ..... (402) 923-0913  
 ....kmorfeld@hsfschool.org  
**Finance Office:** Lisa Krings ..... (402) 923-0913  
**Parish Office Secretary:** Karen Wieser..... (402) 923-0913  
**Alumni Relations Coordinator:** Missy Braun ..... (402) 923-0818  
**Prayer Line:** During Office Hours - Parish Office .. (402) 923-0913  
 After Office Hours - Connie Foltz ..... (402) 920-3222  
**Pastoral Minister:** Diane Zach..... (402) 920-0617  
**Gift Shop:** Julie Krings ..... (402) 992-4151

### ST. FRANCIS SCHOOLS:

**Principal:** Jennifer Dunn.....jdunn@hsfschool.org  
**Jr./Sr. High School:** ..... 402-923-0818  
**Elementary School:** ..... 402-923-0611

## PARISH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sun, 12/15: \*3rd Sunday of Advent  
 \*7 PM-"Rosary for Peace" in Church  
 Mon, 12/16: \*7 PM-8 PM-Reconciliation  
 \*7:45 PM-8:45 PM-Living Nativity  
 Wed, 12/18: \*Deadline for December 29 Bulletin  
 \*6:30 PM-PRE  
 \*7:45 PM-8:45 PM-Living Nativity  
 Fri, 12/20: \*12 PM-Parish Office Closes  
 Sun, 12/22: \*4th Sunday of Advent  
 \*3 PM-Reconciliation  
 \*7 PM-"Rosary for Peace" in Church

## ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO MAKE A HOLY HOUR?

*...but you just don't know where to start?*

We are in the process of setting up a schedule for Eucharistic Adoration at our church. If you are interested in regularly spending an hour with Jesus in the Real Presence of the Eucharist, call Diane at the parish office (402-923-0913). This is open to all parishes!

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS DEC. 21-22

### Sat, 5:30 PM

Lector-Rita Keller  
 Servers-Ava Hastreiter, Makenna Wietfeld  
 EMHCs-Haley Schrage, Bob Haiar  
 Greeters-Tim & Connie Foltz  
 Gift Bearers-Russ & Patti Korth

### Sun, 10:00 AM

Lector-Dave Krings  
 Servers-Jaiden Anderson, Isaac Classen  
 EMHCs-Deacon Dennis Anderson, Jordan Bender  
 Greeters-Jim & Lisa Classen  
 Gift Bearers-Duane & Lindsey Kosch

## LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION REPORT

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| Church/S   | ,168.63 |
| Fiscal YTI | ,135.45 |
| Fiscal YTI | ,619.99 |
| Surplus/I  | ,515.46 |

### LAST WE

### RESTORA



**2nd COLLECTION:** Next weekend (12/22) the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection will go toward the Souper Bowl—Platte County Food Pantry.

## CHURCH CLEANING

### WEEKLY CHURCH CLEANING CHAIRMEN:

**Jason & Julie Fittje - 402-276-6949**  
 Kevin & Dana Brandl - 402-920-1233  
 Pat & Mary Preister - 402-923-0807  
 Nathan & Taylor Bender - 402-710-0416  
 Steve & Sandy Albracht - 402-270-7045  
 Brad & Sarah Keller - 402-923-0261  
 Bob & Shari Haiar - 402-270-3732

### SACRISTY & FLOWERS CHAIRMEN:

**Sharon Theilen - 402-285-0170**  
 Zackery & Susan Lindsley - 402-419-4036  
 Jim & Marcia Schrant - 402-923-1064  
 Greg & Andrea Hassenstab - 402-741-1492  
 Alan & Jayne Ternus - 402-923-1058  
 Bruce & RaeJean Pfeifer - 402-923-0144

**VACUUMERS:** Tim & Jill Werner, Leon & Barb Bender

## SERVING QUILTERS

**It's Your Turn To Bring A Dessert:** 3:30 PM in parish hall.

**Friday, December 20:** Melanie Brandl

**Monday, December 23:** Carl & Anonda Schneider