



# CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2017

Pastor: Rev. Michael Houlihan  
 Associate Pastor: Rev. David Azambawu  
 520 South 18<sup>th</sup> Street Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
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 Website: [www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com](http://www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com)  
 School website: [www.stjbcatholic.com](http://www.stjbcatholic.com)  
 Parish Facebook page: [facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/CHSPlattsmouth)

## PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

**ENTER THE MASS! We worship the Lord!**

### Monday, July 24

8:00 a.m. +Jean Swistak  
 +Eloise Classen

### Tuesday, July 25

8:00 a.m. +Grace Azambawu  
 +Ken & Theresa Lockhart

### Wednesday, July 26

8:00 a.m. +Veronica Gunia  
 9:30 a.m. (at Woodbridge) Special Intention of D.G.

### Thursday, July 27

8:00 a.m. +Doug Townsend  
 +Alexis Heaslip

### Friday, July 28

8:00 a.m. +Rosemary Miller  
 10:00 a.m. (at PCR) +Leona Helms

### Saturday, July 29

8:00 a.m. Special Intention of donor  
 5:00 p.m. +Robert G. Kiser

### Sunday, July 30

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish  
 10:30 a.m. +All Souls Day Intentions  
 5:00 p.m. Special Intention for the Pfeiffer family

## CONFESSIONS:

Weekdays: 7:30 – 8:00AM  
 Saturdays, 4 - 4:45PM  
 Sundays, 45 - 15 min. before Mass

## Contributions for July 16, 2017

General Collection at Mass	\$	6,682.60
General Online Giving	\$	1,977.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> collection (for teachers)	\$	401.58
Debt Reduction	\$	87.00
Debt Reduction Online Giving	\$	125.00
Peter's Pence	\$	121.00
Utilities	\$	126.00

## Some upcoming dates:

July 29 – CDA invites all to meet at Holy Family Shrine, Gretna for Mass  
 August 6 – Pre-School potluck, gym  
 August 14 – Open House for St. John the Baptist School, 7pm  
 August 15 – Feast of the Assumption – Holy Day of Obligation  
 August 17 – First day of school for St. John's students  
 August 20 – Free-will donation breakfast in the gym, provided by the Knights  
 August 21 – First day of Pre-School at St. John's

**An outdoor education garden** is being constructed. Check out the progress: between the school entrance and the church! Memorial bricks are still being sold to edge the concrete path through the garden. Engraved bricks include three lines with 14 characters per line (spaces and punctuation count as characters). The cost for each engraved brick is \$50. Please make checks payable to St. John School. If you have any questions, contact Sandy Rhoades, 298-7125, or email [sandy-rhoades@cdolinc.net](mailto:sandy-rhoades@cdolinc.net)

**Stewardship forms** The information gathered from the stewardship forms a few months ago is compiled! If you are the current chair person for one of the services or organizations that were on the stewardship form, please email Sue at [sue-stevens@cdolinc.net](mailto:sue-stevens@cdolinc.net) She will send you the names of who indicated that they would like to help or be in that service/organization.

**Holy Family Shrine** Join with the CDA, Our Lady of Loretto Court 709, as they go to Holy Family Shrine, Gretna for the 10am Mass on Sat., July 29. They will leave from church at 9am. Following Mass, they'll go to Louisville and eat at the Main Street Café. Call Cheryl Todd, 298-8932, or Barb Toman, 296-3890. If no answer, please leave a message.

**Lodging and Viewing for Total Solar Eclipse 2017:** Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly is offering lodging and full service for the August 21 Total Solar Eclipse; the Retreat House rooms are available, together with airport transfers, box lunches, and transport to Beatrice for eclipse viewing. See [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com) under Retreats.

**Back-to-School SCRIP bonuses!** Through August 4, we/you can order certain SCRIP gift cards with increased %'s of rebates to the parish! Please check with the people at the SCRIP table after Mass. If a store where you shop is on the list, you can order SCRIP at this increased % of CHS rebate! Or...if you already have a family account, the list is on [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com).



**Are you ready for Football?** CDA can help you get ready with an extra-large Nebraska blanket to use for all those crisp, cold football games. They will be selling chances after all weekend Masses July 29 – Sept. 10. See their table in the Commons.

## We welcome through the waters of Baptism

Talia Lyn Vulgamott, daughter of Ryan & Michelle Vulgamott. She was baptized last Sunday. May she always live for the Lord!

**The parish family extends** prayerful support to the family of Maureen Prusha, who died July 15<sup>th</sup>; and to the family of Arvilla Scanlan, who died last Monday. Their funerals were at CHS this past week. May the Lord grant them eternal life!

**Baptismal Preparation:** Please call the rectory office, 296-3139, preferably before your child is born, to schedule baptism prep with Father Houlihan. If you have waited beyond new baby time, still please call and arrange preparation for this important sacrament for your child!

**Marriages outside the Church:** If your marriage vows were not through the Catholic Church, and you would like to be married canonically, please call Father Houlihan, 296-3139.

**Church cleaning reminder:** For July 29 (at 9:00am): Heger, Heim, Hendershot, Henne, Hensch, Hensley / Sieben, Herek, Hickman, Hill, Holstein

**Upcoming Retreats** at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly: Women's Retreat with Fr. Scott Courtney Aug. 25-27, "Are you fueled by the Word?"; Ignatian Retreat with Fr. Gary Coulter Sept. 1-4; Work of the Holy Angels Sept. 7-10; and Fr. Thomas Dunavan Sept. 15-17, "Saints for Today". Register at [goodcounselretreat.com](http://goodcounselretreat.com).

**Knights of Columbus** – Council 1966 / Pat Carroll GK (402) 296-4706

**Knights Summer Picnic** – A pot luck picnic tentatively scheduled for a Sunday in the latter weeks of August. Dates are being discussed. The location would be a Beaver Lake pavilion.

**KC Annual Football Fundraiser** is starting up! Please see a Knight after Mass to get in on this!

**Parish Council** Next meeting is Wednesday, July 26 at 7:00pm in SJR. All are welcome.

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## **PASTOR'S NOTES:**

Having grown up in this area, I am thrilled to see stands of trees and forest around. Fontenelle Forest, Hummel Park (where we used to have "day camp" as kids) and Neale Woods and Indian Caves are all favorite places from my past. I do not know of any parish in our diocese that has such lovely grounds as we do, and the many windows in our parish complex give all a chance to proclaim, with our Blessed Mother, "the greatness of our God."

There is a simple change that I am hoping to implement by the end of next month or so. There will be new envelopes in your monthly packets with some title like "Teacher/Staff Appreciation." This way (beginning in September) you will be able to contribute to the Christmas and year-end bonuses of our wonderful people, but there will not be the "second collection" that now happens after Holy Communion is finished at Masses on the weekends. It was certainly a nice touch to have the boys and girls (who benefit primarily from our good people) bring the money up (and there has been at least one occasion so far when no children were available for this), but the liturgy only provides for the one collection at the time of the Offertory. Giving to this or any other traditional need that we have is better done when planned, and not when done on the spur of the moment with loose bills or change. When we give back to God for all the good things He has given us, it is a form of worship. That is the spirit for any charity that we show, not only with our financial resources, but with our time and our talent. God wants us more than any "thing" we can give Him, but giving Him the first and the best is the way we show our gratitude for all that He does for us. One thing that I noticed as a new person in this community was this "second collection," but unless it is explained every time that we take it up, no newcomer or stranger would know for what reason it was being taken up. It is a lovely gesture for our teachers and staff, but now they can receive your gift in a more planned and, I hope, easier way.

Speaking of giving, I again want to comment on the outstanding commitment of so many in our parish to many good works—to helping with dinners, funerals, rummage sales, thrift shops, etc. Our thrift shop and jail ministry are examples of charity to the larger community that speak well of our commitment to Jesus Christ and His love for the poor. That should

always be a mark of any Christian community worth its salt. The outreach to those in need is quite laudable. I do hope that people realize that commitment to the works of Christian charity involves us at many levels. It involves our time, our talent, and our treasure, not just one or two of these things, but all three. If we are really "in" on our commitment to the Lord, we do not hold back or give what is left over after we have met our own personal wishes, but we give the first and we give the best. If we do this, there will always be an abundance, and others will marvel at the greatness of our God and praise Him for the works that we do in His Holy Name. If we enjoy the friendship and companionship of others, especially our fellow parishioners, in any of these things, that is a good thing. Many of these things are wonderful for getting people to work together and to encourage one another along the path of our journey toward the Kingdom, but we should always remember that we do it primarily for the Lord and for His Kingdom, not just to meet our own personal or social needs. The mission of our parish to the larger world has involved many things, but the most important one, the one that we have had for 133 years, since 1884, going back nearly to the time that the Catholic community here was first organized (1863 is the traditional date that we use, after the first church was built, but the first Mass in the community was celebrated in 1859), is our dear Catholic grade school, named after the man that the Lord Himself said that there was no man born of woman greater than he, namely, his cousin, St. John the Baptist. The latest estimate is that 71% of our financial income goes for the support of the school. This benefits not only the families who attend the school, but all aspects of parish life—CCD, youth programs, and adult organizations. It "floats all boats" so to speak, and enables us to do many things. The school does not "take" from other projects—I think that would be a mistaken way to analyze things—but it brings our whole community to life. Please know that even though we face financial challenges at the present time, I think we have the human and financial "capital" to enable our school and parish to continue to survive and even thrive. God bless you for your generosity!

**Father Houlihan**