

## SAINT PATRICK MANLEY

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## SAINT MARY ELMWOOD

*THE FORTH WEEK OF EASTER, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2020*

### **TELEVISED AND LIVE STREAMED SUNDAY MASS:**

**In the Lincoln area on Channel 8, KLKN-TV at 9:00AM.**

**In the Omaha area on Channel 6, WOWT-TV at 10:30AM.**

I encourage all our Parishioners to tune in to one of the televised Sunday Masses or a live streamed Mass offered on through Face Book or on YouTube: **Saint Mary's in Ashland website** or **Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth website**. There are other options such as (online) Mass with Pope Francis or Mass with Arch-Bishop Barrons, or Mass live streamed on Formed.org.

**Also, one can listen to the Mass on Spirit Catholic Radio at 7AM, live from EWTN.**

As it is Sunday Mass, we must treat this celebration as if we were at Church and if possible, standing and kneeling as if you were in Church. And to pray for a spiritual Communion with Christ. This will keep the Sunday obligation fresh and strong in our minds and especially in the minds of our young people.

**All can go to Saint Mary's Website  
for additional information and resources for your Family.**

***Please pray for all those affected by this virus and for an immunization from it as soon as possible!***

*My dear people,*

**WONDERFUL!!** As you may have heard, the official "proclamation" is that we are able to celebrate "public" Mass starting next Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**WE WILL HAVE OUR REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE IN BOTH PARISHES.**

It needs to be noted that the dispensation given over a month ago by Arch-Bishop Lucas of Omaha, the temporary administrator of the Lincoln Diocese, is still in place. So the obligation to attend Mass is still lifted for all Catholics in the Lincoln (and Omaha) Dioceses. The elderly and those who may be at higher risk from the coronavirus should "out of an abundance of caution" remain at home and tune in to Mass on television or live stream on the internet.

**For those who are able to come to Mass there are some guidelines we must try to follow.**

**1. Seating at Mass:** We are still asked to keep the social distancing directive. We will use only every other pew. **The pews that are not to be used will be marked.** I don't think we

will have an issue at Saint Patrick's. At Saint Mary's there will be extra seating in the basement. I will have a television monitor to watch for anyone wishing to go down there.

**2. We will not be passing the collection basket nor having the gifts be brought up.**

There will be a basket at the entrance(s) of the Church for contributions.

**3. Missalettes will be available on May 10<sup>th</sup> but I ask that you take them home with you.**

You are welcome to bring them back each Sunday. They are yours to keep and not to be left at Church.

**4. For the time being we will not be having congregational singing.** Yet, there might be some Communion meditation music.

**5. Communion will be distributed for those who wish to receive.** No one is obligated to receive Communion. I ask that you honor the social distancing of six feet between you and the person in front of you. In order to keep our distance, we will need to have only one Communion line, maybe alternating pews. For now I will be the only one distributing Communion. I will discuss this with our Acolytes. In the situation where an Acolyte is willing to distribute Communion, I would ask that, out of deference to him, that you receive Communion in the hand. We will be using slightly larger altar breads so it may be a bit easier to avoid skin to skin contact.

**6. Don't forget "social distancing" after Mass.** It is suggested that we leave the Church with this in mind by spending a few moments in prayer so others, especially older Parishioners can make their way out.

*I'm sure there are other issues that will come up that I am forgetting. Please let me know if you think of anything that will help us stay safe and keep each other safe.*

**All those who wish to wear a mask at Mass are free to do so.** At Communion time please be ever so careful in receiving the Eucharist with the added issues of a mask. Maybe one can remove or lower the mask before receiving in the hand, then repositioning the mask after receiving.

My Blessings to you all!

Father Tom

**From the book *On the Holy Spirit* by Saint Basil the Great, Bishop:**

### The Spirit gives Life

"Our Lord made a covenant with us through baptism in order to give us eternal life. There is in baptism an image both of death and of life, the water being the symbol of death and the Spirit giving the pledge of life. The association of water and the Spirit is explained by the twofold purpose for which baptism was instituted, namely, to destroy the sin in us so that in could never again give birth to death, and to enable us to live by the Spirit and so win the reward of holiness. The water into which the body enters as into a tomb symbolizes death, the Spirit instills into us His Life-Giving Power, awakening our souls from the death of sin to the life that they had in the beginning. This then is what it means to be born again of water and the Spirit: we die in the water, and we come to life again through the Spirit.

*To signify this death and to enlighten the baptized by transmitting to them knowledge of God, the great Sacrament of Baptism is administered by means of a triple immersion and the invocation of each of the Three Divine Persons. Whatever grace there is in the water comes not from its own nature but from the presence of the Spirit, since baptism is not a cleansing of the body, but a pledge made to God from a clear conscience.*

*As a preparation for our life after the Resurrection, our Lord tells us in the Gospel how we should live here and now. He teaches us to be peaceable, long-suffering, undefiled by desire for pleasure, and detached from worldly wealth. In this way we can achieve, by our own free choice, the kind of life that will be natural in the world to come.*

*Through the Holy Spirit we are restored to paradise, we ascend to the Kingdom of Heaven, and we are reinstated as adopted sons. Thanks to the Spirit we obtain the right to call God our Father, we become sharers in the grace of Christ, we are called children of light, and we share in everlasting glory. In a word, every blessing is showered upon us, both in this world and in the world to come, as we contemplate them even now, like a reflection in a mirror, it is as though we already possessed the good things our faith tells us that we shall one day enjoy. If this is the pledge, what will the perfection be? If these are the first fruits, what will the full harvest be?"*

**From a sermon by Pope, Saint Leo the Great:**

*Christ lives in His Church*

*"My dear brothers and sisters, there is no doubt that the Son of God took our human nature into so close a union with Himself that one and the same Christ is present, not only in the firstborn of all creation, but in all His saints as well. The head cannot be separated from the members, nor the members from the head. Not in this life, it is true, but only in eternity will God be all in all, yet even now He dwells, whole and undivided, in His temple the Church. Such was his promise to us when He said: 'See, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.'*

*And so all that the Son of God did and taught for the world's reconciliation is not for us simply a matter of past history. Here and now we experience His power at work among us. Born of a virgin by the action of the Holy Spirit, Christ keeps His Church spotless and makes her fruitful by the inspiration of the same Spirit. In baptismal regeneration she brings forth children for God beyond all numbering. These are the sons of whom it is written: 'They are born not of blood, nor of the desire of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.'*

*In Christ Abraham's posterity is blessed, because in Him the whole world receives the adoption of sons, and in Him the patriarch becomes the father of all nations through the birth, not from human stock but by faith, of the descendants that were promised to him. From every nation on earth, without exception Christ forms a single flock of those He has sanctified, daily fulfilling the promise He once made: 'I have other sheep, not of this fold, whom it is also ordained that I shall lead, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.'*

*Although it was primarily to Peter that Jesus said: 'Feed my sheep', yet the One Lord guides all pastors in the discharge of their office, and leads to fertile pastures all those who are nourished with His abundant love, and who are prepared to lay down their lives for the sake of the Good Shepherd who died for them.*

*But it is not only the martyrs who share in His passion by their courage; the same is true by faith, of all who are born again in baptism. That is why we are to celebrate the Lord's paschal sacrifice with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. The leaven of our former malice is thrown out, and a new creature is filled and inebriated with the Lord Himself. For the effect of our sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive. As we have died with Him, and have been buried and raised to life with Him, so we bear Him within us, both in body and in spirit, in everything we do."*

**Women's Care Center** will be located in Lincoln at 5632 S. 48th Street, directly across the street from the abortion clinic. To find out how you can help support this life-saving pregnancy resource center coming to Lincoln go to <https://supportwomenscarecenter.org/locations/lincoln/> or contact Sarah Kroner Women's Care Center Project Manager/Registered Nurse PO Box 6954, Lincoln, NE 68506-6954 email: [kroner\\_sarah@yahoo.com](mailto:kroner_sarah@yahoo.com) office: 217-741-5177. (See attachment or I will send separately.)

From Marion Miner  
Associate Director for Pro-Life and Family  
Nebraska Catholic Conference

Dear Pro-Life Advocates,

Easter blessings to you and your family! Please know of our prayers for you as we strive to keep our families safe and healthy during this pandemic.

While we hope for a swift development of a COVID-19 vaccine and can be thankful for the many efforts underway, there is also cause for concern. Among the dozens of vaccines currently in development, **some are being produced using old cell lines that were manufactured from the cells of aborted babies.** Ample alternative research avenues exist and are being utilized. There is no reason a life-saving vaccine should be connected to the evil of abortion!

The U.S Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), along with leaders of healthcare, bioethics, and pro-life organizations, is urging the Trump administration to ensure that COVID-19 vaccines are developed ethically and free from any connection to abortion. Add your voice to the many calling on the Department of Health and Human Services for an ethical development of a COVID-19 vaccine!

Go to <https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/73486/Respond>

Please take a few moments to urge the Secretary of Health and Human Services to protect the consciences of millions of Americans, who should not be forced to choose between being vaccinated and exploiting aborted babies for our gain.

Thank you for your witness in Christ!

**PRAYER TO SAINT MONICA FOR OUR CHILDREN:** *The Plattsmouth Deanery Council of Catholic Women is asking our Ladies and Parishes to pray the Saint Monica prayer for conversions and for our children, especially those who have fallen away from the Faith.*

***"O God, You are the comfort of those who mourn and the Savior of all who trust in You. Blessed Monica's loving tears move you to convert her son Augustine. Help us who pray to You, for the salvation of our sons and daughters, too. May we also grieve for our own sins and win the grace of your pardon through the intercession of this loving Saint, through Christ our Lord, Amen." Saint Monica pray for us!***

**CHARITY & STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2020, GIFTS AND PLEDGES AS OF May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020:**  
*Saint Patrick's Parishioners have made pledges or gifts to date in the amount of \$9,995.00. Saint Mary's Parishioners have made pledges or gifts thus far in the amount of \$4,397.00. We have surpassed our goal for the good of our Diocese and our Parish! THANK YOU!*

Please pray for the success of this appeal throughout our Diocese and for the good of our Diocese, our Parish and the work of Christ these funds support.

**NEBRASKA CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE:** *As the Nebraska Primary is coming up on May 12<sup>th</sup>, the Nebraska Catholic Conference has invited all federal legislative and state legislative candidates on the upcoming ballot to answer questions indicating their support or opposition on some important issues facing our state and nation. Go online to [NebraskaCatholicVoter.com](http://NebraskaCatholicVoter.com) to see their responses. After clicking on "View Your Candidates", you will be asked for your address to narrow down the races happening in your districts. It remains our duty and honor as Catholics and citizens to participate in the political life of our nation. Make your vote count on May 12<sup>th</sup>!*

**In regard to contributions to our Parish:** *Given that we may not be able to attend a Sunday Mass for a while, contributions can be mailed to **Saint Patrick Church, P.O. Box 27, Manley, NE. 68403.***

*Contributions do not need to be mailed each week, if you want to save stamps. Once a month (or two) would be fine. Contributions can also be left in the basket in back of Saint Patrick Church. I hope and pray that we are not away from Sunday Mass for very long.*

## **Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska Releases \$200,000 to Help the Poor and Vulnerable During Coronavirus Outbreak**

Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska (CSS) continues to serve the vulnerable of southern Nebraska. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, CSS announced today that \$200,000 will be released to help the poor and vulnerable in southern Nebraska, specifically to help those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic needing help with rent, utilities, food and cash assistance.

“Jesus Christ Himself was born into poverty without a home, resources, or adequate shelter,” stated CSS Executive Director Rev. Justin Fulton. “We know people need help staying in their apartments, keeping their electricity on, and keeping food on the table. We are honored to help out with this \$200,000 and hopeful the community might consider joining us to help out with more.”

Applicants near our four outreach offices may call at the below numbers to begin the application and screening process specifically for emergency cash assistance. CSS services all counties south of the Platte River in Nebraska through offices in Lincoln, Hastings, Imperial, and Auburn.

*Lincoln: Takes calls every Monday at 9AM at 402-327-6211.*

*Hastings: Call 402-463-2112 during business hours only Monday through Wednesday, 9AM to 12 Noon and from 1-5PM. Thursdays from 10:30AM to 12 Noon.*

*Auburn: Call 402-327-6242 Monday to Thursday from 10AM to 2PM.*

## **ON-LINE DAY OF REFLECTION WITH FATHER TIMOTHY GALLAGHER:**

Father Gallagher will give this Day of Reflection for Good Counsel Retreat House next Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:00pm on “Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement”. A full description is given on the link: <https://goodcounselretreat.regfox.com/gallagher>

We are asking people to register if they want Fr Gallagher’s handout of notes and reflection questions, but as a gift to the priests and religious of the diocese, the handout is attached so you don’t have to register (unless you want to make a donation :-)

Watch Livestream (and set a reminder): <https://youtu.be/ntHBua-Q7LU>

On-demand recordings: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFC8k-xTdiEIETrCj6FQy0w>

## **DAY OF REFLECTION WITH FR. JIM MORIN:** "Prayer for the Bored, Distracted, and

Anxious" at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly, **also available online** (free-will donation.) Saturday, May 16, 9am-4pm, learn to center on God through prayer:

[www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com), [goodcounsel@cdolinc.net](mailto:goodcounsel@cdolinc.net), 402-786-2705.