

Important Dates to Remember

Christmas break is December 21–January 1
School will be virtual January 4 -15, 2021



All Saints Catholic School Collections

All Saints Catholic School is collecting HyVee, Supermercado/Family Fare Receipts, Box Tops, Our Family UPCs, and Coke lids from bottles and pop tabs. Please drop these off at the School or the Cabrini Parish Center reception desk.

Come and See Class to Begin in January

We will be starting a class for those who would like to know more about the Catholic faith and/or join the Church family in January. Those desiring to join the Parish will be brought into the Church at Eastertime. Please contact Deacon Doug at dalenz@archomaha.org for more information.

Next Alpha Course

It's a busy time with the holidays upon us! But please don't put off any longer inviting friends and family to join us for Alpha, or signing up if you are planning to attend. We have plans to make for the course also. And January 19th will be upon us before we know it! The Spring Alpha at St. Frances Cabrini will begin on Tuesday, January 19th, and will gather each week via Zoom until Tuesday, March 30th. Each session begins promptly at 6 pm and concludes at 7:15 pm. The day-away will be Saturday, March 6th (from 10:30 am to 1 pm). You won't want to miss it! Since these are Zoom sessions, this is a great opportunity for you to invite family and friends who don't live in the Omaha area or don't have Alpha near them to take advantage of this great opportunity. For more information or to register, please contact Ann Lenz at amlenz@archomaha.org or Deacon Doug Lenz at dalenz@archomaha.org

Once in a Manger

Once in a manger, a long time ago,
Before there was Santa and reindeer and snow,
A star shone down on humble beginnings below
Of a baby just born who the world would soon know.

Never before had there been such a sight.
Would the Son of a King have to suffer this plight?
Are there no armies to lead? Are there no battles to fight?
Shouldn't He conquer the world and demand His birthright?

No, this frail little infant asleep in the hay
Would change the whole world with the words He would say.
Not about power or demanding His way,
But mercy and loving and forgiving God's way.

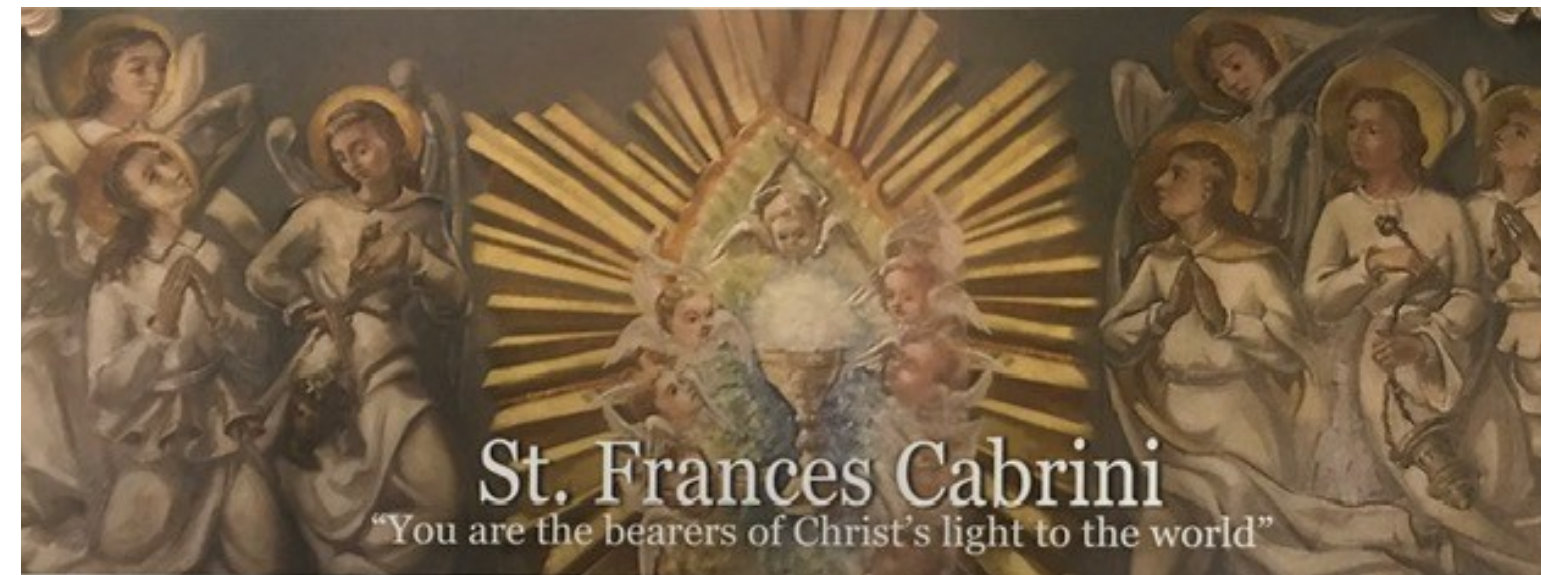
For only through humbleness would the battle be won,
As shown by the actions of God's only true son.
Who gave up His life for the sins of everyone,
Who saved the whole world when His journey was done.

Many years have now passed since that night long ago
And now we have Santa and reindeer and snow
But down in our hearts the true meaning we know,
It is the birth of that child that makes Christmas so.

--By Tom Krause

Cabrini Watercolor-Print Notecards Available

4 x 5 notecards in packages of 10 and prints remain for sale at the Cabrini Parish Center. These make great Christmas gifts and thank-you cards! You may stop by to see/purchase them between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm. Flat notecards are \$15, Folded notecards are \$20, 12 x 18 prints are \$50 and 14 x 20 prints are \$75.



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020**

Church Cleaning and Decorating

We will be putting up the creche and trees following the 11 am Mass today and cleaning the church afterwards. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated.

Book Club

Please join us as we read and discuss *Love Does: Discover a Secretly Incredible Life in an Ordinary World* by Bob Goff. This Tuesday, December 22nd – we will be discussing chapters 27 through Epilogue. Contact Ann Lenz at amlenz@archomaha.org to receive the Zoom link if interested in participating.

Christmas Mass Schedule

We will be offering two Masses on Christmas Eve, at 3 pm and 5 pm, that are anticipatory Masses for the Christmas Holy Day. This is an attempt to give more people a chance to attend Mass. Social distancing guidelines will be followed. The 3 pm Mass will be live-streamed and available for viewing from the website and Facebook. There will be a Midnight Mass which may also be live-streamed. There is only one daytime Mass on Christmas Day, at 10 am.

Additional Confession Times

In the days before Christmas, if you would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Fr. Damian will be in the Reconciliation Room in the church on Tuesday, December 22nd from 1-2 pm and from 6-7 pm. On December 23rd, he will be in the Reconciliation Room from 1-2 pm.

Parish Center Closings

The Cabrini Parish Center will be closed December 24th and 25th, and December 31st and January 1st.

Upcoming Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 21	December 22	December 23	December 24	December 25	December 26	December 27
	Book Club 7 pm (Zoom)		Christmas Eve Masses at 3 pm and 5 pm and Midnight	Christmas Day Mass at 10 am		



Saint Frances Cabrini Church

Rev. Damian Zuerlein, Pastor
E-mail: djzuerlein@archomaha.org
(402)-934-7706

Deacon Doug Lenz, Pastoral Associate
E-mail: dalenz@archomaha.org
Deacon Larry Mruz

Ann Lenz, Facilitator of Faith Formation
(402) 990-3296 or amlenz@archomaha.org

Liturgy and Mass Schedule

Daily Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 22	11:30 AM	+Patricia Emmanuel
Wednesday, Dec. 23	11:30 AM	+George Dyer
Thursday, Dec. 24	3:00 PM	+Deceased Members Semin & Kucerik Families
Thursday, Dec. 24	5:00 PM	+Joseph Venditte
Friday, Dec. 24	MIDNIGHT	+Gene & Melissa Marchello
Friday, Dec. 25	10:00 AM	+John & Mary Ann Nicolini
Saturday, Dec. 26	5:00 PM	+Butch Turco
Sunday, Dec. 27	9:00 AM	+Deceased Members Vacanti Family
Sunday, Dec. 27	11:00 AM	+Salvatore & Maria D'Agosta
Sunday, Dec. 27	5:30 PM	Pro Populo

Other Masses Schedule

There are no Masses at St. Joseph's Villa or Tower at this time.

Reconciliation Schedule

Saturdays: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
(northwest room of the Church)

Bulletin Additions

To have information published in the upcoming bulletin, please email bulletineditorcabrini@gmail.com by Wednesday evening.

Sick and Recovering

Please pray for the sick and those recovering including:
Dan Gillespie, Joseph Setlak, Lisa Reboloso, Barbara Burton, Larry & Glenda Davis, Maddy Miller, and all those in our nursing homes.

(To add or remove a name on our list, please email bulletineditorcabrini@gmail.com or call (402) 934-7706.

Stewardship

Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" – LUKE 1:28
After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

Weekly Collections December 12-13

Sunday Tithe– Collections	\$	3,257.00
All Saints Gift Fund	\$	159.00
Organ Fund	\$	41.00
Improvement Fund	\$	64.00
Furnace Debt Reduction Fund	\$	167.00
St. Vincent de Paul Fund	\$	246.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	653.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$	477.00

Happenings

Thank You from the Staff, Students and Families of ASCS for the Giving Tree Donations

"There are few words that would capture the deep gratitude All Saints Catholic Schools families have for your generosity over this holiday season. Your gift cards were perfect and much appreciated. Although it has been a year like never before, we, as a school community, have persevered and prevailed. Your thoughts and prayers have helped immensely and we are forever grateful for each one of you. May you have a Blessed Holiday and a Happy New Year!"

Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends,

It was Christmas Eve of 1997. Guadalupe's Parish Office was finishing up the last-minute details before the first of the Children's Masses would begin. When the doorbell rang, I thought it was probably someone looking for the choir loft to be opened. Instead, it was a mother and her three children. All of their belongings were crammed into the small car parked out front. They had driven from California and were looking for a place to stay. They hoped to make a new home in Omaha but they had no family here. They simply had a dream. Could the parish help them?

While homeless men regularly slept on the church basement floor at Guadalupe until they had saved enough money from working to get their own apartment, we certainly did not have women and children sleeping there. I either had to turn this little family away or find somewhere for them to stay. Everyone I called felt guilty as they said "no" to this family on Christmas Eve. Each one commented on how they felt like the innkeepers who turned away Mary and Joseph because their places were full. Everyone said they simply had too many plans and too much going on during Christmas to have a mother with three young children move in for a day or two.

The easiest thing to do would have been to take them to a cheap motel and put them up for a couple nights. But, as I put myself "in their shoes" I couldn't bear the thought of this family, especially the children, being in an unfamiliar city alone in a motel room. I kept calling around to our bigger families thinking that adding four more people would not be much of a stretch for some of them. However, most of our bigger families had left for Mexico to visit their extended family at Christmas. Sister Dulce Maria Flores, who was working for the Archdiocese at the time, finally agreed to take them in for a few days. They ended up sitting in the front pew at Midnight Mass that year and for many years to come. A little "holy family" who found a "stable" in Omaha.

I wonder where those children are today; all of them adults by now. I wonder if they remember their first Christmas in Omaha. I certainly remember as they have always served as a concrete example to me of what it truly means to invite Jesus into your life – being willing to make space and to change your schedule and to spend time and to be a bit unsettled and to have your heart broken open in compassion.

Pope Francis often speaks of the need for us to experience solidarity with those who are poor. The first step he says in loving our neighbor is to share their journey with them, to open our hearts to their experience. That first step is always a bit unsettling because it demands we change our patterns to let them in.

Parents understand this transformation as they welcome children into their lives. Once a child is born into your family, life is never again the same. This is the cost and joy of loving. Nothing is better and nothing is more demanding. Christmas reminds us of that.

Each Christmas we are invited to expand our hearts. To make space in our hearts for the one whom God sends our way. The temptation will always be to take the easy way; to offer a quick, simple response to answer their immediate need. Please, resist the temptation and make space for the child Jesus to be born again in your life. Your "yes" will bring both wonder and a mess into your life.

Peace,

Fr. Damian