

ST. BONIFACE PARISH

PO Box 190 - 106 E 4th St. - Stuart, NE 68780

REV. BERNARD STARMAN, PASTOR
REV. ROSS BURKHALTER, SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

M.J. Kersenbrock, Deacon

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(M, W, TH - 10:00 am-2:00 pm)

After hours: 402.340.0277

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Websites: www.stbonifacestuart.com or www.holtboydcatholic.org

WEEKEND MASS: Saturday - 5:00 pm
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday & Tuesday - 5:30 pm

Come to me, all you
who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you *rest.*
Matthew 11:28

JULY 4-5, 2026
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Catholic Parishes of Western Holt & Boyd Counties

SATURDAY

St. Boniface - Stuart - 5:00 pm
St. Patrick - O'Neill - 5:00 pm

SHBC - SATURDAY - 7:00 pm

Week 1: St. Mary - Spencer
Week 2: St. Mary - Spencer
Week 3: St. Mary - Spencer
Week 4: Ss. Peter & Paul - Butte
Week 5: St. Mary - Spencer

Mass Schedules:



SUNDAY

St. Joseph - Atkinson - 9:00 am
St. Patrick - O'Neill - 10:30 am
St. Joseph - Amelia - 11:15 am
SHBC - SUNDAY - 8:00 am

Week 1: Ss. Peter & Paul - Butte
Week 2: Ss. Peter & Paul - Butte
Week 3: Ss. Peter & Paul - Butte
Week 4: St. Mary - Spencer
Week 5: Ss. Peter & Paul - Butte

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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|---|--|--|
|  | JULY 11 5:00 PM | JULY 18 5:00 PM |
| LECTOR: | Patty Hanzlik | Lisa Keogh |
| EMHC: | Jennifer Schmaderer | Becky Estill |
| SERVERS: | Kennedie Kohle Annabel Kohle Alexis Lange | Drew Paxton John Ludwig Mary Ludwig |
| GREETERS/ GIFTS: | Stephanie Karo Family | John & Pat Madsen |
| USHERS: | Darby Paxton Justin Estill Larry Butler Joe Hebbert | Darby Paxton Justin Estill Larry Butler Joe Hebbert |
| MONEY COUNTERS: | Joe & Makala Hebbert | Joe & Makala Hebbert |

Our time, talents, and treasure are on loan from God. Give them away with unlimited generosity.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

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| Monday - July 6 - NO MASS |
| Tuesday - July 7 - NO MASS |
| Wednesday - July 8 - NO MASS |
| Thursday - July 9 - NO MASS |
| Friday - July 10 - NO MASS |
| Saturday - July 11 - 5:00 p.m. ✠ JOHN HLADKY & ALISHA CARR |
| Sunday - July 12 - 9:00 a.m. - Atkinson |

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

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| <p><u>Monday - July 13</u> 4th Degree KC Mtg @ 7:30 p.m. O'Neill</p> <p><u>Monday - July 20</u> Eucharistic Adoration 6-8 p.m.</p> <p><u>Tuesday - July 21</u> Parish Council Mtg @ 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>Thursday - July 23</u> Ladies Guild @ 2:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>Monday - July 27</u> Eucharistic Adoration 6-8 p.m.</p> <p><u>Monday - August 3</u> KC Mtg @ 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><u>Monday - August 10</u> 4th Degree KC Mtg @ 7:30 p.m. Stuart</p>  |
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STEWARDSHIP:

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| <u>June 28, 2026</u> | |
| Regular Envelopes | \$1274.00 |
| Loose | \$120.00 |
| Children's Collection | \$5.00 |
| Electronic Donations: | |
| June 1st | |
| June 15th | |
| June End of Month | |
| Special Collections: | |
| Peter's Pence | \$398.00 |
| ----- | |
| TOTAL | \$1797.00 |

"The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace."

Psalm 29:11

NOTEWORTHY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED - We are in need of some CCD teachers for the 2026-27 school year. The only qualifications needed are a love of God and a willingness to share that with kids. There is a curriculum to follow, and we'll help get you all set up. It's a rewarding job and you'll learn right along with the kids. We need a 2nd grade teacher (1st Reconciliation), a 3rd grade teacher (1st Communion), and an 11th/12th grade teacher. If you'd like more information about one of these classes or are interested in signing up to help, please call Jan Kunz @ 402.340.2303.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - This weekend, our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Unlike most nations, the United States was not founded primarily on a shared ethnicity, language, or culture. Instead, our founders built a political community out of diverse peoples united by a shared vision of liberty. That vision echoes something deep in the Christian mystery revealed in today's Gospel.

Jesus returns to his hometown. The people see only what is familiar: the carpenter, the son of Mary, one of their own. As Mark tells us, "They took offense at him. Jesus said, 'A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.'" Their narrow vision blinds them. Jesus has come to inaugurate a new communion that transcends geography, bloodlines, and culture. He has come to unite all people in himself.

At its best, America's national unity reflects this possibility, which fully subsists only in the Catholic Church. Our unity is not based on ancestry or tribe, but on a shared commitment to higher ideals. For this reason, we can love our country with gratitude while situating patriotism within the broader horizon of faith.

Rooted in Christ, we are less vulnerable to the unholy tribalism that threatens civic life and faith. This weekend, let us thank God for our nation and pray that we also live as citizens of Heaven in Jesus Christ. — Father John Muir



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



July 20

July 27



Please keep in your prayers our Seminarian of the Month:
Luke Capoun



CHRISTIAN MOTHERS
Next Mtg: September 14
@ 6:00 p.m.
Church Basement
Next Funeral/Function:
CH 3

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
KC Mtg:
August 3 @ 7:30 p.m.
+++++
4th Degree KC Mtg:
July 13 @ 7:30 p.m.
Location: O'Neill

LADIES GUILD GATHERING
July 23
2:00 p.m.
St. Boniface
School Building

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
Emerson Batenhorst
Olivia Cannon
Kirstine Chvala
Lois Schaaf



Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties,

A mother balancing a child on her hip and a huge sack atop her head filled with items to sell in the market carefully makes her way through the crowded streets of La Paz, Bolivia. In addition to her physical load she carries other burdens: economic stress, poor education, health challenges, racial discrimination. Like her sisters the world over, her daily life is characterized by valiant struggle against unimaginable obstacles.

When Jesus promises rest and an easy yoke in this weekend's gospel (Matt 11:25-30), it's as if he knows precisely how these burdens feel. In this section of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus takes on the personification of divine wisdom speaking with words and images found in the words of the books of Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach and Baruch. In the verses preceding this weekend's gospel, the witness of both Jesus and of John the Baptist is rejected, just as was that of Lady Wisdom (Sir 15:7-8; Wis 10:3; Bar 3:12). Jesus identifying himself as Wisdom incarnate, concludes with the assertion that "wisdom is vindicated by her works" (Matt 11:19). This followed by Jesus's denunciation of those towns that have rejected him (11:20-24). This weekend's gospel is the final section of this chapter, where Jesus like Lady Wisdom, is a sage who reveals mysteries, interprets Torah, and calls disciples.

Jesus like Wisdom (see Sir 51:26), invites disciples to take up his yoke, that is, his instruction. In other places in scripture, "yoke" signifies an oppressive burden unwillingly placed on people's shoulders, like enslavement in Egypt (Lev 26:13) or exile in Babylon (Isa 47:6). God breaks such weighty bonds (Jer 2:20) and replaces them with the yoke of obedience to Torah. Similarly, to take up Jesus's is to live by his interpretation of Torah. The lightness of Jesus's yoke is not a lax interpretation of Torah – quite the contrary! He teaches his disciples that merely keeping the law is not good enough: they must go further (Matt 5:21-48). If the law allows "eye for eye, tooth for tooth" (Lev 24:20), Jesus's disciples must try to short-circuit cycles of violence by taking nonviolent action that confronts evildoers, while praying for and loving such enemies (Matt 5:38-48).

Instead of being a restrictive and burdensome way to live, this teaching is freeing; it lightens the burdens of oppression. This is the opposite of what some of the other religious leaders of Jesus's day do: "They tie up heavy burdens hard to carry and lay them on people's shoulders, but they will not lift a finger to move them" (Matt 23:4). By contrast, disciples of Jesus are yoked with him and one another, intent on lifting the weight born of injustice from the backs of the downtrodden.

The rest that is promised by Jesus echoes that bestowed on those who let themselves be yoked to Lady Wisdom's teaching (Sir 6:28). It also echoes that of the Creator (Gen 2:1-3), who rested in order to delight in the goodness of all that had been made. Lady Wisdom, also present at creation (Prov 8:23-31), shares in this unbounded joy.

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman
Pastor

Thank you to all who participated in our recent Novena for Rain and Favorable Weather. To those who organized the evenings at our five parishes, those who led the prayers and all those who made the effort to attend. We had great participation across our family of parishes! Thank you!

Pray for our July Seminarian of the month



Luke Capoun, who is in Discipleship IV at St. John Vianney seminary

I was raised in a great Catholic household with three older siblings. My family was very involved in our parish community, St. Wenceslaus, in Omaha. I followed my siblings through grade, middle, and eventually to Skutt Catholic High School, where I made some amazing and intentional friendships. I also met a seminarian who led my group of friends in Lectio Divina and other faith-sharing activities during his pastoral year. Through this experience at Skutt, I came to understand my faith. I saw how its teachings matched my personal experience, and I knew that I had to dive in headfirst. I prayed that my experience at the St. John Paul II Newman Center at the University of Nebraska-Omaha would be fertile ground for me to do so, and fertile it was. When I got to the Newman Center, I again encountered some amazing individuals who taught me how to dialogue about abortion, play Spikeball, and, most importantly, discern my vocation. I fell in love with the liturgy at the Newman Center and devoted many hours to serving Masses and simply wasting time with God in the chapel. After two profound years at the Newman Center, I discerned the call to seminary through God's grace and further discernment of a priestly vocation!

I am attending the Saint John Vianney Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. My classes are edifying and truth-filled.

I recommend everyone focus and pray on the two questions of identity St. Francis asks, "Who are You, Lord God?" and "Who am I?" These two questions have been vital to my discernment but are vital for every Catholic to know who we should be rooted in. I want to thank the Archdiocese of Omaha for being a vessel for God's work in my life through education and the opportunity to receive the sacraments daily. I also want to thank you all for your prayers and continued support of seminarians!