

Welcome to *St. James Catholic Parish!*  
 We are very glad you have joined us for the  
 public work of the People of God—  
 to worship God.  
 Ask if you need anything.

## Saint James Catholic Church of Cortland

Church Street Address: 500 W 1<sup>st</sup> St.  
 Mailing/Rectory: 155 N Lincoln Ave.,  
 Cortland, NE 68331.  
 Rectory Phone: 402-798-7335.  
 Church Office Phone: 402-798-0255.  
 Office e-mail: [stjamescortland@gmail.com](mailto:stjamescortland@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.stjamescortland.com](http://www.stjamescortland.com)  
 Facebook: [St James Catholic Church of Cortland](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesCatholicChurchofCortland)

Fr. Thomas Lux, Pastor -  
 Urgency: 308-991-4991

Deadline for bulletin announcements/  
 schedule requests: **Wednesday 12 pm (N)**  
[to bulletinstjames@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinstjames@gmail.com).

**Eucharistic Exposition Adoration**  
**Thursday evenings**, 7:00pm to 8:00pm.  
 Please **Sign up** in the Church entryway.

**7:00 pm-** Exposition.  
**7:15 to 7:45 pm-** Adoration.  
**7:50 pm-** Simple Reposition.



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT — + — DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
 All flesh shall see the salvation of God. — Luke 3:4, 6**

**Sunday Obligation Masses-**  
 Saturday 5:00 pm  
 Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am

**Weekday Masses-** Check the current bulletin for changes.  
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday @ 7:00 am.  
 Wednesday @ 6:30 pm. Saturday @ 8:00 am  
**Holy Day of Obligation Masses:** See the bulletin.

**Confessions** 30 min. before Sunday & Holy Days Masses  
 20 minutes before Daily Masses & by Appointment Call to schedule 308.991.4991.

**CCD- (Religious Education)- Sundays 9:00 to 10:15am** during school year  
 Kindergarten thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grades Classes in the Parish Hall. High School Class in North Building.

**ST. JAMES EMERGENCY SUPPLIES:** A **duffle bag** on top of the coat rack shelf,  
 by the women's restroom, contains **basic medical supplies** for use in case of  
 an emergency. Equipment & supplies checked monthly. Questions: Lori John-  
 son. The **AED** is in a cabinet near the *Holy Family & St. Joseph* statues.



MASS INTENTIONS					MASS READINGS— Follow the Church's liturgical life. <u>Read the scriptures before Mass. Try to join 1 or more weekday Masses.</u>	
SJ= St. James Church. GCRC= Gold Crest Retirement Community-Adams						
<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>						
Sat.	Dec 9	5:00 pm	SJ	People of the Americas	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
Sun.	Dec 10	8:00 am	SJ	For the People of St. James Parish	Is 40: 1-5. 9-11/ Ps 85: 9-10. 11-12. 13-14 (8)/ 2 Pt 3: 8-14/ Mk 1: 1-8	
		10:30am	SJ	LaVerne Kozisek+		
Mon.	Dec 11	7:00 am	SJ	All Souls Day Intentions+	<b>Advent Weekday/ Damasus I, pp:</b> Is 35: 1-10/ Ps 85: 9ab and 10. 11-12. 13-14/ Lk 5: 17-26	
Tue.	Dec 12	7:00 am	SJ	LaVerne Kozisek+	<b>Our Lady of Guadalupe F:</b> Zec 2: 14-17 or Rv 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13: 18bcde, 19/ Lk 1: 26-38 or Lk 1: 39-47 (these are the proper readings given in the Lectionary for Mass at 690A), or any readings from the Lectionary for Mass, the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at 707-712	
Wed.	Dec 13	4:00 pm	GCRC	Persons with Eye Disease	Lucy, v, mt M: Is 40: 25-31/ Ps 103: 1-2. 3-4. 8 and 10/ Mt 11: 28-30	
		6:00 pm	SJ	Kreifels Family Members+	John of the Cross, p, dr M: Is 41: 13-20/ Ps 145: 1 and 9. 10-11. 12-13ab/ Mt 11: 11-15	
Thu.	Dec 14	7:00 am	SJ	Norm Hilger+	<b>Advent Weekday:</b> Is 48: 17-19/ Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6/ Mt 11: 16-19	
Fri.	Dec 15	7:00 am	SJ	LaVerne Kozisek+	<b>Advent Weekday:</b> Sir 48: 1-4. 9-11/ Ps 80: 2ac&3b. 15-16. 18-19/ Mt 17: 9a. 10-13	
Sat.	Dec 16	8:00 am	SJ	Persons Who are Disabled		
<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>						
Sat.	Dec 16	5:00 pm	SJ	Gary Wagner+	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O Sapientia)</b>	
Sun.	Dec 17	8:00 am	SJ	For the People of St. James Parish	Is 61: 1-2a. 10-11/ Lk 1: 46-48. 49-50. 53-54/ 1 Thes 5: 16-24/ Jn 1: 6-8. 19-28	
		10:30am	SJ	December Birthdays in the Parish		

**“YOU SHALL INDEED LOOK, BUT NEVER SEE..... (Is 6:9)**

These foreboding words of God to Isaiah's people might be addressed to us. We go to Mass where we know and believe that the Holy Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Christ: and yet, as we sit in the pew, we become unmindful about that gift from God. Somehow, from Sunday to Sunday, it becomes more 'ordinary', and only a part of our Mass.

God gave us eyes to see in this material world, but He also gave us our 'minds eye', the ability to experience things we don't physically see. We look at Father raising the Host and saying, **“Behold the Lamb of God. Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world.”** Look at the Host with your eyes, but see with the 'eye of your Soul'. Raise your eyes, and your heart, and 'Behold' Jesus.

*Love in the Spirit. Diana*

## AROUND THE LINCOLN DIOCESE (See [www.lincolndiocese.org](http://www.lincolndiocese.org)) & BEYOND:

### Religious Sisters Vocation Prayer Calendar 2023 - Dec 10 - 16

**Sr. Maria Christine Loan** Jr. Professed *Sisters of Mary, Queen of Mercy*  
**Tran** from Vietnam Sister

Please pray for young women discerning a call to the Sisterhood in Motherhouses in the *Diocese of Lincoln*.

### Pray for the Seminarian of the Week - Dec 10 - 16

**Rev. Mr. Augustine Reimers -** *St. Charles* Theology 4  
 Parish: *St. Vincent de Paul, Seward Borromeo Seminary*

Please pray for young men discerning a call to the priesthood in the *Diocese of Lincoln*.

**ADVENT WITH SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO:** How are you celebrating Advent this year? The four weeks of Advent are **meant to give us hope & reassurance** that the Lord is coming, & **also the opportunity to give hope to those around us.** This year, Spirit Catholic Radio is **focusing on a theme for every week of Advent: Hope, Joyful Expectation, Prayer, & Peace.** Follow us on social media, **subscribe** to our e-newsletter, *The Halo*, & visit <https://spiritcatholicradio.com/advent/> as we share with you ideas for bringing these themes to life in your own special way either with your family, coworkers, or community. You can also tune in to *Spirit Catholic Radio* on **weekday mornings 7-9AM**, during our *Spirit Mornings* show, to hear inspirational guests discuss what Advent can mean in our lives. Tune in on **Sundays** for special Advent programming from EWTN.



More info at <https://spiritcatholicradio.com/>

- ✦ **GET A BOOK TO READ FOR ADVENT:** "Jesus & the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist" by Brant Pitre. A gift from our parish to you.
- ✦ **A 3 NIGHT ADULT FAITH EDUCATION CLASS** will be offered on Monday evenings, @ 7pm, **Dec. 4, 11, & 18** with this book as a guide. Registration forms may be found in the vestibule of the Church, along with the books. Please pick up your copy whether you attend the class or not.
- ✦ **Also— The Word Among Us with Daily Mass Readings , commentaries & other articles for Advent. Pick up your copy.**



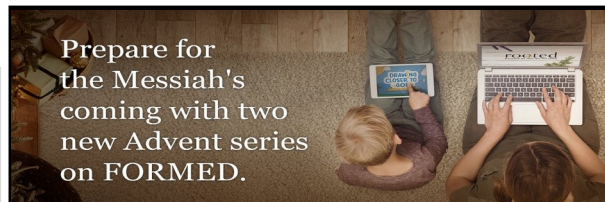
The *Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies* is accepting registrations for a 5-week course **Hearing the Word: Understanding the Bible**, offered in person on Monday or Tuesday evenings (6:30-8:30pm) beginning January 8, & available online (typically posted the following day, with class notes). Taught by Emmaus president Dr. Vern Steiner, *Hearing the Word* is a **practical course** designed to equip students with the tools to read the Bible with understanding. Learn more & register at [www.EmmausInstitute.net](http://www.EmmausInstitute.net).

**With the unrest in the Holy Land** Fr. Rand now invites all to consider a **spiritual pilgrimage to Italy** for **April 9, 2024 for 11 days** with roundtrip flights from Omaha. Visit sites of Eucharistic miracles, Rome & the Vatican, Assisi (St Francis & St Clare), Orvieto, Cascia (St Rita), Lanciano, San Giovanni Rotunda (Padre Pio), Grotto of St Michael the Archangel, Holy Veil of Manoppello & much more. Check out [tektionministries.org](http://tektionministries.org) website.

The **Diocesan Pilgrimages to Mexico City** have worked with the people served by *Hope for the Poor*. Bishop Conley has suggested that we take up an **optional collection** for the *Hope of the Poor* organization during the **4 Sundays of Advent**. There are **carboard boxes for Hope for the Poor** you can take home to collect money thru the week. **Check out :** <https://hopeofthepoor.org/>. If you would like to join one of the Diocese of Lincoln pilgrimages, please email: [olgeucharisticpilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:olgeucharisticpilgrimage@gmail.com).



1000 people live or work at the dump in Mexico City. They work 6 days a week and receive less than \$14 a week in exchange for their collected recyclables. Hope of the Poor gives a monthly box of food to each family. They are filled with dry goods and cooking supplies to help sustain them for a month.



### **Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree this Advent:**

Hosted by Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, each **seven-minute reflection** helps Catholics apply Scripture to daily life using the *Jesse Tree* model traditionally practiced by families.

### **Drawing Closer to God: A Catholic Art Show for Kids:**

Join art teacher Ms. Kim as she **teaches children to draw** different scenes from the Nativity story. As kids learn new art skills, they also begin to see the connections between the big picture of God's story & their place within it.

### *Prayer for Rain*

**Almighty God,** / we are in need of rain.  
 We realize now, / looking up into the clear, blue sky, / **what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is.** To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, / which now is empty & clear!

**We place our trust in You. /**

We are sure that You know our needs. /  
 But You want us to ask You anyway, / to show You that **we know we are dependent on You.**  
 Look on our dry hills & fields, dear God, / & bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, / & the rivers will sing Your praises, / & the hearts of men will be made glad.  
 Amen.

**THANK YOU** to all who requested that Mass be offered for your intention. **REQUEST THE OFFERING** of a Mass for your intention. The **Mass is the greatest prayer that can be offered.** Jesus offered the Mass **once for all** at the Last Supper & on the Cross. He worships His Father in heaven for all eternity & is the celebrant of each Mass offered everywhere. **Mass may be offered for a variety of intentions** i.e. the repose of the soul of a deceased person, a living person, in thanksgiving, or for a special intention (eg. World Peace or greater glory of God). **Mass Intention stipends are \$10.** This is part of the **support of a priest.** A priest can offer Mass for free. The **2024 Mass Intentions** Calendar is here. We can take requests for specific '24 dates.

**Priests assigned w/out a parish, retired or in impoverished areas** would welcome your Mass intentions & stipends. Contact Fr. Lux if you wish to provide Mass intentions for them. **Thank you.**





**Knights of Columbus** THE **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES-CORTLAND** will **pay for part of your Retreat** Registration for any member of **St. James Parish - adults & youths**. Thank you to the **Knights** for supporting Retreats.

Looking for a retreat that works for you? Check out some upcoming retreats at **Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat House in Waverly**.  
 ☩ "Masses & Tears" on **Dec 15-17** with Fr. Jay Buhman  
 Read more/register at [www.goodcounselretreat.org](http://www.goodcounselretreat.org), QR Code, email [office@goodcounselretreat.org](mailto:office@goodcounselretreat.org) or call 402-786-2705.



**Please pray for the Pope's Intention for DECEMBER 2023: For persons with disabilities-** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, & that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

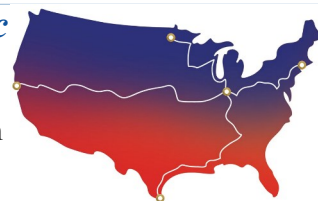
**EYES OPENED, Hearts on Fire!** Hotel rooms are sold out for a 20 mile radius. The *Diocese of Lincoln* has rooms reserved. You could have a room if go on this pilgrimage. **Sign up now.** NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS in



NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

**Indianapolis: July 17-21, 2024-** be part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Nat'l. Eucharistic Congress in the *United States* in nearly 50 years (1976- Philadelphia). Draw into a deeper intimacy with our Eucharistic Lord.  
 Register today: <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/register>.  
 Nat'l. Eucharistic Cong. Official Schedule: [www.eucharisticcongress.org/schedule](http://www.eucharisticcongress.org/schedule)

## National Eucharistic Pilgrimage



heading to the *National Eucharistic Congress*. Join a **National Eucharistic Pilgrimage** in the summer of 2024. The pilgrimage will consist of **4 cross-country eucharistic processions**, collectively traversing the entire continental United States over a 2-month period. Named the "**Serra Route**," after *St. Junipero Serra*, the patron saint of *California*, the western route is the longest of the planned pilgrimages & will begin in *San Francisco*. The pilgrimage will then pass through *Utah*, *Colorado*, **Nebraska**, & *Missouri* before **ending in Indianapolis**. Make plans to join the **weekend stops or the procession in route:**  
**June 14-16, '24- North Platte, NE & June 21-23, '24- Omaha, NE.**

*Jesus, I trust in You!*



**Mary Queen of peace. Pray for us!**

**St. Joseph-Patron of a Happy Death. Pray for us!**



worldwide marriage encounter

Christ gave us a great gift of Himself on Christmas. He calls us to give of ourselves to everyone, especially our spouse. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and learn how to be the best gift you can be for your spouse. Sign up for an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on: **February 9-11, 2024 in Lincoln, NE**. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org)

**Fr. Lux is available to talk to anyone interested in the Catholic Faith** – to know more about it or to start learning about it. We have studies we could do on different topics. Perhaps the *Bible Timeline* would be a good study.  
**If interested talk to Fr. Lux**

**ONLINE GIVING TO OUR PARISH** is easy to get started. **Ways to sign up:** Go to parish website [www.stjamecortland.com](http://www.stjamecortland.com) & click on *Online giving*.  
**OR Visit** [faithdirect.net/ne1020](http://faithdirect.net/ne1020).  
**OR Call** Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757.



## HOLY INNOCENTS MASS

A memorial Mass for those who have lost a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion  
 All are invited

**Thurs. December 28, 2023**  
**6:45 p.m. Reading of Names**  
**7:00p.m. Mass**

New names may be submitted by calling the Family Life Office at 402-473-0620 **before 5pm** on **Dec. 21st** or in the vestibule prior to 6:45.

All names will be permanently placed on a banner. However, due to time constraints, only names submitted since 2015 will be read aloud.

John XXIII  
 Diocesan Center Chapel  
 3700 Sheridan Blvd.  
 Lincoln, NE

PARISH WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:						
Sunday	Dec	10	2:00 pm	ULTREYA of Cursillistas	Parish Hall	
Wed	Dec	13	6:30 pm	Christmas Program Practice - EVERYONE INVOLVED	Church	
Wed	Dec	13	6:30 pm	PCCW Meeting - Christmas meeting	Parish Hall	
Friday	Dec	15	8:00 pm	AA - Hall Reserved	Parish Hall	
Saturday	Dec	16	6:30 am	That Man Is You	Parish Hall	
Sunday	Dec	17	12-5 pm	Parish Hall RESERVED	Parish Hall	
Sunday	Dec	17	7:00 pm	St. James Youth Christmas Program	Church	
Each week, we choose what will be done with the 168 hours we have available to us. Good stewardship of time means we will share some of that time with God in prayer, praise & thanksgiving, & some time caring for the needs of others.						

### AROUND OUR PARISH

**THAT MAN IS YOU (TMIY)** session is entitled "Worthy of the Call" on Sat. at 6:30 AM in the parish hall. Men & women welcome.

#### ST. JAMES PCCW EVENTS

**GIVING TREE tags** are on the tree for everyone to take & shop for a Christmas item for a child. All gifts are to be UNWRAPPED & NO BATTERIES. Place tag on the gift for the appropriate age level. The final date for collection is Sun., Dec. 17...so get your shopping done early! The gifts will be delivered to Santa Cop for distribution to the young children. Wrapping Paper is also appreciated – as the gift will be wrapped by the organization

**POINSETTIA DONATION- Envelopes** are on the table in church entry for a \$10.00 donation towards poinsettia's in honor or in memory of loved ones. Just drop it in the collection basket.

**CHURCH CLEANING FOR CHRISTMAS-** Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> All are asked to help with the overall cleaning of the church in preparation for Christmas

**PCCW CHRISTMAS MEETING,** for all women of the parish, on Wednesday, December 13, at 7:00 pm. Come to the 6:30 pm Mass. Evening meal will be served in the Parish Hall. There will be an ornament exchange. If you would like to participate in the exchange, bring a 5.00-\$10.00 ornament/gift.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING OF CHURCH-** will be Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> after 2<sup>nd</sup> mass. Could use many volunteers to help decorate our church for the Christmas Season.

Stewardship of Treasure	
As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. (1 Pt 4:10)	
Parish Offering 12/3/23	
Adult Envelopes	\$778.00
Plate	\$252.00
Youth	\$1.00
Cloistered Sisters	\$345.00
November Mass Stipends	\$720.00
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$2,096.00</b>

#### OFFICE MANAGER NEEDED - ST. JAMES CATHOLIC PARISH, CORTLAND:

Interested in helping out our Parish by taking care of day-to-day needs in the office? Responsible for general administrative duties, QuickBooks knowledge a plus but can train. This is a paid position. Approximately 10-15 hours/week, could be more depending on availability. Contact Father Lux.

**ALUMINUM RECYCLING:** Drop cans at the S.E. corner of Vinton Automotive. K of C.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL  
"My flesh for the life of the world"  
John 6:51



**CCD Christmas Program- Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7 PM in PRACTICES:** 12/10 - during CCD time for **SCRIPT & SOLO PARTS**  
St. James Catholic Church- Cortland. All are welcome!  
12/13 - Wed, 6:30 pm for **EVERYONE INVOLVED**  
12/17 - during CCD time for **EVERYONE INVOLVED**

#### Liturgical Ministers for Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation

		Immaculate Concept. Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> - 7 PM	Dec 9-10	Dec 16-17	Dec 23 - 5 PM Mass	Christmas Vigil 12/24 - 4:30 PM
Sat. 5:00 pm	Reader	Diana McCown	Amy Larkins	Ron Eisenbarth	Diana McCown	Amy Larkins
	Acolyte	Randy Eickmeier	Kurt Larkins	(volunteer)	(volunteer)	Kurt Larkins
	Server 1	(volunteers)	(volunteers)	Braxton Skillett	(volunteer)	(volunteer)
	Server 2	(volunteers)	(volunteers)	Easton Schilbitzki	(volunteer)	(volunteer)
Sun. 8:00 am		Dec 8 <sup>th</sup> - 7 AM			Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM ONLY	Christmas Night 12/24 - 9 PM
	Reader	Chris Hytrek	Jerry Lentfer	Joe Vinton	Michelle Milke	Chris Hytrek
	Acolyte	Scott Osterhaus	Chris Hytrek	Tony Sullivan	Scott Osterhaus	Tony Sullivan
	Server 1	Cooper Mason	Brayden Kuhlman	Liam Dush	Jax Peterson	Spencer Robinson
	Server 2	Parker Eickmeier	Hudson Kuhlman	Kyler Beck	Drake Peterson	Asher Stieb
	Server 3	Mason Eickmeier	Carter Stieb	Rylan Hochstein	Andrew Oelke	Carter Stieb
Sun. 10:30 am		Dec 8 <sup>th</sup> - 7 PM				Christmas Day 12/25 - 9 AM
	Reader	Larry Etmund	Ginger Jelinek	Shirley Yates		Karl Gramann
	Acolyte	Ron Eisenbarth	Myron Heusinkvelt	Ron Boden		Ron Eisenbarth
	Server 1	Brady Troxel	Max Jacobson	Collin Dummer		Hayden Nielson
	Server 2	Ty Troxel	Finn Jacobson	Crew Dummer		Nolan Nielson
	Server 3			Sam Troxel		
	Server 4			Mason Henn		
	Greeter		Paige Anderson	Lydia Dominy		
	Collection Counters		Jeanne Egger / Grace Benes	Jim Fuhrman / Theron Troxel	Kassie Ebbers/ Amy Argo	Julie Pffingsten / Laureen Ehmen