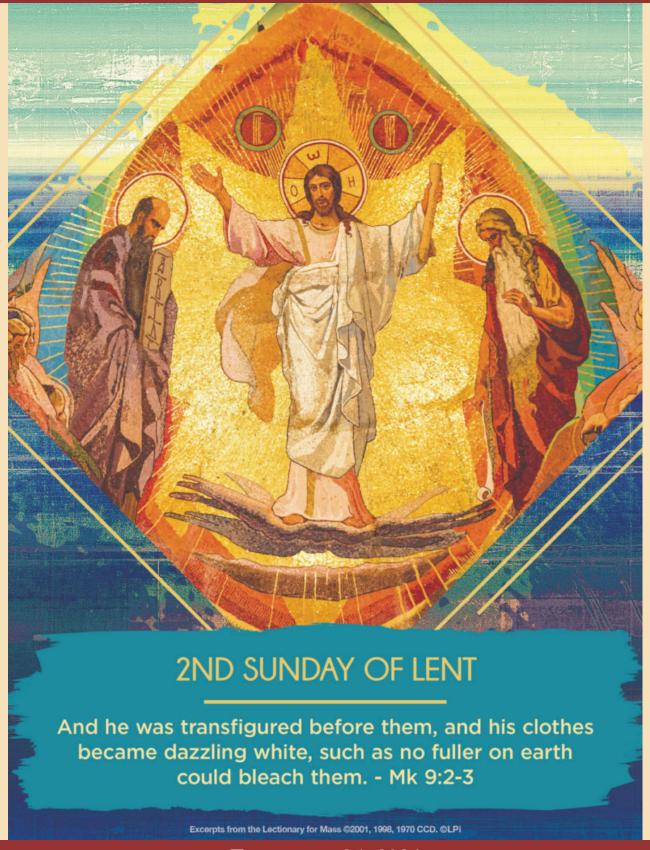
ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028



FEBRUARY 25, 2024



Welcome

We invite you to become involved in our parish community!

There are many opportunities for experiencing the peace and joy of our loving God in liturgy, education, prayer and service.

If you would like to join our parish family, please visit our website or the Parish Office for a registration form.

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours	M-F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
	402-332-4444
	402-332-5107
	stpatricksgretna.org
	agram@stpatgretnane
	@StPatrickCatholicChurchNE
	.stpatrick.gre@archomaha.org
	text STPATGRETNA to 84576

MASS AND HOLY EUCHARIST

Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, & Noon
Monday	No Mass or Communion Service
Tuesday	6:00 PM
Wednesday, Th	ursday and Friday7:30 AM
Holy Days	7:30 AM & 6:00 PM
Holidays (on we	ekdays)9:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday.......4:00 PM - 4:40 PM Or call the parish office for an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Parishioners registered for a minimum of one year are eligible to marry here. Six months of marriage preparation prior to your wedding is required by the Archdiocese. Contact the Parish Office to schedule a wedding date and marriage preparation instruction.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the first and third Sundays of each month after the Noon Mass. A baptismal date will not be set until you become a registered parishioner and both the parents and Godparents attend the baptismal class for their first child. Classes are held at 7 PM on the second Monday of each month in the Fr. Hitch Room. Please call the Parish Office if you will be attending the class.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

If you, a relative or friend are hospitalized or shut in, short or long term, and would like a visit from the Pastor, Deacon or Pastoral Minister, please call the Parish Office. For emergencies or if facing danger or death, call 402-332-4428.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Access the Adoration Chapel through the Church from 6 AM to 7 PM or contact the office for an access card to the back door. To sign up for an hour, contact Jean Hlavacek at 402-504-4222.

REFLECT AND RESPOND

2nd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING (GN 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18)

Abraham passed God's test to offer his beloved son, Isaac, as a sacrifice. Have you ever felt tested by God?

SECOND READING (ROM 8:31B-34)

Paul speaks of God's generous love and affection for us, ever willing to defend and protect us. As we continue the Lenten journey, to whom might you offer some comfort and care this week?

GOSPEL (MK 9:2-10)

After witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration, hearing God's voice, and commanded to silence, Peter, James, and John must have been spiritually and emotionally drained. What helps energize you spiritually?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



As a college student, my prized possession was an aftermarket car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it. It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, "Pray for God to tell you what He wants you to sacrifice for Lent." I did. In my heart, the answer came: "Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days." I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can't do it. I made other plans. The next morning, I was stunned to find

that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped out and stolen.

God's command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chaffs us that God sets the terms of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good. Do we trust this enough to do what Father Tom asked me to do?

Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: "What do you want me to give up?" He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus—but that doesn't make it easy.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

Why do we hold hands during the Our Father?

ANSWER

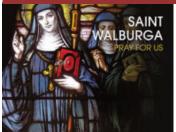
The practice of members of the assembly holding hands while praying the Lord's Prayer during the Mass is a custom that developed organically in the 1970s and 1980s. While some commentators acknowledge that the practice varies from place to place, it is a fairly universal reality in parishes across the United States.



For some, this action symbolizes the communion of Christians praying together as one family of believers honoring the Father of all. Critics of the practice sometimes express concern that holding hands can be a distraction from the more significant unity that is experienced when we process to the altar to receive sacramental communion.

And so, we're left to ask, what is the answer? *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (the document that offers specific instructions for the celebration of the Mass) is silent on the practice, saying only that "all the faithful say the prayer" with the priest. The website of the US Bishops simply observes that "No position is prescribed in the Roman Missal for an assembly gesture during the Lord's Prayer." And so, we're left to discern within ourselves and within our parish and religious communities what is an authentic gesture of praise during this important point of the Mass. For some, this means continuing to hold hands, while for others, this may mean adopting another posture of prayer.

SAINT WALBURGA Religious

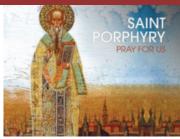


St. Walburga (710-777 A.D.) was born near Devonshire, England, the daughter of St. Richard the Pilgrim (a Saxon king) and the sister of Sts. Willibald and Winebald. When she was eleven her father and brothers went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land, while her father placed her in a convent famous for its holiness. She was well educated according to her rank, became a nun, and lived there for twenty-six years. Her uncle, St. Boniface, then brought her to what is now Germany to help him evangelize that country and establish the Church there.

In this missionary activity she joined her brothers who were also laboring for the faith in that country, one as an abbot, the other as a bishop. Because of her education she was able to document the travels of her brother in the Holy Land, and for this work she became the first female author of England and Germany. She was known as a miracle worker and healer both in her life and after her death. St. Walburga's relics have the miraculous property of exuding oil to which many cures have been ascribed through the centuries. St. Walburga is the patron saint of sailors, mariners, and farmers, and against hydrophobia, famine, coughs, rabies, plague, and storms. St. Walburga's feast day is February 25.

SAINT PORPHYRY (PORPHYRIUS) OF GAZA Bishop

St. Porphyry (Porphyrius) of Gaza (c. 347-420 A.D.) was born in Thessalonica in present-day Greece. Although a wealthy man, at the age of 25 he went to live in Egypt as a desert hermit. He later moved to Palestine near the Jordan River, then to Jerusalem itself. He did great penances and would often visit the holy places where Jesus lived and walked, despite his poor health. He then renounced all material goods and his inheritance and became a priest in Jerusalem at the age of 40. The relics of the True Cross in Jerusalem were entrusted to



his care. Despite his protests he was ordained Bishop of Gaza, a pagan stronghold with an insignificant Christian community. Gaza's pagans were hostile, and St. Porphyry appealed to the emperor for protection and for the destruction of pagan temples, which he obtained. St. Porphyry built a Christian church on the site of the most important pagan temple dedicated to the chief god, so that he could say Mass in the place where the devil was previously most honored. St. Porphyry labored for his flock and won many converts through his miracles, though pagan opposition continued throughout his life. He was successful in spreading the Christian faith across his diocese. His feast day is February 26.

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS



Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991 –2006) was born in London, England and raised in Milan, Italy. From an early age, he displayed a remarkable talent for computer programming and a deep love for the Christ in the Eucharist. He loved sports, particularly soccer, playing video games, graphic novels, and volunteering with those in need outside of his school hours. Carlo's particular devotion to the Eucharist was inspired by St. Francis of Assisi and evident in that he always spent time in prayer before his parish's tabernacle either before or after every Mass he attended. He tried to go to Mass daily and he saw the Eucharist as a tangible

manifestation of God's love. With his tech-savvy skills, young Carlo spent four years creating a website that catalogued Eucharistic miracles from around the world. The purpose of his site was to increase awareness and appreciation for the Eucharist while also celebrating the worldwide Church. His hope for this project was to inspire those who visited the site to deepen their faith and develop a stronger relationship with Jesus. Tragically, in 2006 when Carlo was just 15, his life was cut short when he succumbed to leukemia. Despite this, his story, and website, live on as a shining example of youthful holiness. Recognizing his extraordinary sanctity, the Church beatified Carlo on October 10, 2020, making him the first millennial to be beatified. Carlo's beatification has gone on to spark a renewed interest in the Eucharist among some young people today. His story also serves as a reminder that holiness is attainable even amid modern challenges and that today's tools, like computers and the internet, can also be an avenue through which someone can serve the Kingdom of God. Blessed Carlo, pray for us!



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk

6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21

and 23/Mt 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/

Mt 20:17-28

THURSDAY: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk

16:19-31

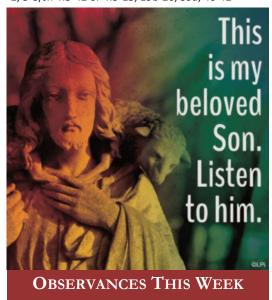
FRIDAY: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17,

18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

SATURDAY: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-

10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

NEXT SUNDAY: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 *Scrutiny:* Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



TUESDAY: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

NEXT SUNDAY: 3rd Sunday of Lent

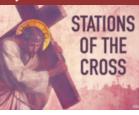


2nd Sunday of Lent February 25, 2024 | 3



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Every Friday at 6 PM

Join us every Friday during Lent at 6 PM in the Church for the Stations of the Cross. The only exception will be on Good Friday, March 29, when Stations will be at 3 PM instead of 6 PM.



LENTEN ALMSGIVING Least of My Brethren



Least of My Brethren food pantry is having a Costco gift card drive throughout Lent. The cards will

be used to purchase frozen chicken, hamburger, and hotdogs. You can help us by giving one dollar a day for the 40 days of Lent towards a gift card. If you would like to participate in this project, please drop off the Costco gift card to the parish office during regular office hours. Not a Costco member? No problem, gift cards from places like HyVee, Fareway, Walmart, and Dollar General, allow us to purchase other food items in need. God bless.

"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

SEMINARIAN PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for our Seminarians as they prepare for God's holy priesthood.

This week let us pray for **Brian Johnson** (College IV at St. John Vianney Seminary) from St. Ludger in Creighton.

"This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!"



Could the Lord be calling you to proclaim His name as a priest or in consecrated life? Listen to Him and talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.

"Pray always and do not lose heart."





Since our last update on January 28, two children have been baptized into the Body of Christ. We congratulate the parents and family members, and we welcome your little ones into the Family of Faith! We are praying our Lord Jesus will bless, guide and inspire

each of you in His love as you travel along your faith journey. Congratulations!

Name	Date
Ellianna Marie Barbaretta	2/18/2024
Iackson Iay Hesse.	2/18/2024

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES Return by Noon on Friday, March 15



Graduating Seniors who are members of St. Patrick Church are eligible to apply for the Church Scholarship (1 @ \$1,000 managed by the Parish Council) and the St. Patrick Century Club Scholarships (3 @ \$500). A person needs to complete only one application for both scholarship considerations. Hard-copy applications must be completed and returned to the Parish Office by Friday, March 15, no later than Noon. Gretna High

Seniors, if you filled out an application through the High School portal, you need not complete it again. (Note that the GHS portal closes on Friday, March 8.) Application forms are available at the Gretna High School or the Parish Office. You can also find the forms in the parish kiosk in the narthex or on the parish website, stpatricksgretna.org.

ROSARY GUILD BUSY AT WORK

440 Rosaries Made in a Year

The Mary Queen of Peace Rosary Guild was started in the Spring of 2023 and has been very active. The guild is an enormous blessing to St. Patrick as they work together to share their incredible talent, commitment, and love of promoting the benefits of praying the Rosary! Last year, they coordinated and managed three events to include the Rosary Congress in October and two Patriotic Rosaries that were held prior to the 10 AM Sunday Mass. This year, they plan to do some additional Patriotic Rosaries, so stay-tuned for further details in the coming months.

Did you know that over the past year, the Mary Queen of Peace Rosary Guild made a total of 440 Rosaries, and of these, they distributed 228 to various people for various reasons. This is amazing! Here is the breakdown:

Rosaries Made	Rosaries Given Out	Rosaries On-Hand
50 Christmas	50 to Outreach	0
73 Baptism	0	73
83 Celtic	20 to Nursing Home	63
91 Patriotic	52 at Rosary Events	39
100 Confirmation	100 to Confirmands	0
16 Job's Tears	5 to RCIA	10
20 KC	0	20
7 Other Beautiful Creations	0	7
TOTAL: 440	228	212

If you have any questions or are interested in joining the Mary Queen of Peace Rosary Guild, contact Kathleen Dauner at kathydauner@gmail.com or Colleen Karmazin at colleen.karmazin956@gmail.com.

"It would hardly be possible for me to put into words how much Our Lady thinks of the Holy Rosary and of how she vastly prefers it to all other devotions. Neither can I sufficiently express how highly she rewards those who work to preach the devotion, to establish it and spread it, nor on the other hand how firmly she punishes those who work against it." —St. Louis de Montfort

ST. JOSEPH CONSECRATION Consecrate Yourself, Your Children, and Your Family!

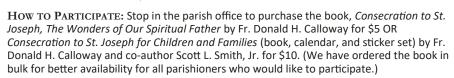
WHY: God entrusted the Holy Family to St. Joseph to keep them safe, and so should you!

WHO: All St. Patrick parishioners, children, and families

WHAT: To participate in a 33-day preparation and consecration to St. Joseph OR to renew your consecration to St. Joseph if you have participated in the past

WHEN: Preparation begins on Saturday, March 30 and ends with our consecration on the feast of St. Joseph the Worker, Wednesday, May 1.

WHERE: In the comfort of your own home



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CONSECRATE YOURSELF TO ST. JOSEPH?

What does it mean for a person to be consecrated to St. Joseph? Well, it basically means that you acknowledge that he is your spiritual father, and you want to be like him. To show it, you entrust yourself entirely into his paternal care so that he can help you acquire his virtues and become holy. Total consecration to St. Joseph means you make a formal act of filial entrustment to your spiritual father so that he can take care of your spiritual wellbeing and lead you to God. The person who consecrates himself to St. Joseph wants to be as close to their spiritual father as possible, to the point of resembling him in virtue and holiness. St. Joseph, in turn, will give those consecrated to him his undivided attention, protection, and guidance.

Father Baxter will lead all parishioners, children, and families to make their consecration to St. Joseph after the 7:30 AM Mass on Wednesday, May 1.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Paul and Carrie Hubert at forlife9@icloud.com or call 402-671-8123 to join this prayer community in preparing to make a consecration to St. Joseph and receive weekly emails with additional resources about St. Joseph.

TESTIMONY: "We've always had a special devotion to the Blessed Mother, but didn't know much about St. Joseph. The Consecration to St. Joseph changed all of that for us. Not only do we know our spiritual father, but we can honestly say that we love him! He has been instrumental in our spiritual lives and has answered many of our prayers through his powerful intercession. St. Joseph, pray for us!" —Paul and Carrie Hubert and family

Dear Lord, your ways confuse me sometimes. Often, I don't fully understand what you are doing. But I believe that you are working in a way that will one day make sense. Until then, keep me close to you, trusting blindly in the ways you lead me. Amen.

Stewardship Report

Feb 13 - Feb 19, 2024

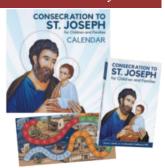
Current Fiscal Year - July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

General Contributions	Feb 13-Feb 19	Fiscal YTD thru Feb 19
Sunday Offering-Feb 13-19	\$15,754.50	\$801,161.17
Other Contributions	\$2,773.71	\$89,375.59
Total General Contributions	\$18,528.21	\$890,536.76 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$6,221,79)	\$49.036.76

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income\$1,159,160.55Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses\$1,071,112.86Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income\$88,047.69

* Our budget requires an average weekly income of \$24,750.

'Other Contributions' include Holy Days, Maintenance & Repairs, and other Special Collections.





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

THE KNIGHT'S CORNER



BLOOD DRIVE GRATITUDE

We would like to thank St Patrick, all donors, and volunteers who made the February 12 Gretna Community Blood drive a success. The American Red Cross collects 80% of all its blood through these mobile blood drives and supplies about 40% of the nation's blood supply. Thanks to your efforts, we collected 82 donations, which translates into 246 lives saved. Be proud and keep giving.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST

This year we had 40 Free Throw participants. Thank you to everyone who came out to participate and help with the event. Congratulations to the contest winners below that made the most free throws in their age group!



9 Girls—Sami Berg

10 Girls—McKenna Blair

11 Girls—Nev Dickes

12 Girls—Grace Kreikemeier

13 Girls—Adelaide Brozek

9 Boys—Evander Doggett

10 Boys—Mitchell Armstrong

11 Boys—Jamison Eickhoff 12 Boys—Laine Dicken

13 Boys—Leo Dowd

14 Boys—Brett Johnson

WILD GAME FEED

The Knights of Columbus are hosting their 4th annual Wild Game Feed Saturday, April 13. They are now accepting donations of gift cards, gift baskets (can be for ladies or men), and items that



can be auctioned off. Please contact Larry Sibley for more information 402-957-8770 or LCSIB@centurylink.net.

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies	402-521-4262
Deputy Grand Knight, John Schaffert	402-672-7903
Financial Secretary, Marty Stednitz	402-332-3840
Chancellor & Membership Director,	Randy Meerian
	402-981-6471

2nd Sunday of Lent February 25, 2024 | 5



MASS INTENTIONS

An individual may ask a Priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday or if they are ill), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of one who has died (†). To request a Mass intention, stop by the Parish Office to schedule. A minimum of \$10 per Mass is requested.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH



No Communion Service or Mass

Tuesday, February 27th



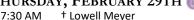
Living and Deceased Members of the 6:00 PM Ken and Liz Beckman Family

Wednesday, February 28th 📵

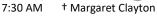


† William Zeleny 7:30 AM

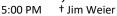
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH



FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST







SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD

8:00 AM For Our Parishioners 10:00 AM † Roger and Jean Mann

12:00 PM † Mike and Delores Valasek and

† Joe and Arlene Reinig

LITURGICAL VESTMENT COLORS

- White—JOY—Christmas, Easter, Mary, Saints Red—LOVE—The Passion, Holy Spirit, Martyrs
- **Green**—HOPE—Ordinary Time
- Violet—HUMILITY—Advent, Lent
 - Rose—JOY—Gaudete, Laetare Sundays



Let us pray for Geri Donahue, Michelle Rebensdorf, Laikyn Rose (newborn great-

granddaughter of Barb Merkel), Norma B, Catherine Berlage, Dennis Mattes, Joe Carney, Deacon Steve Grandinetti, Nicole (daughter of Chris Christensen), Ronald Baxter (Fr. Baxter's dad), Paul Polt, and Leanne Robb. Pray for John and Wanda Jonas, Chris Wheeler, Norm Wiemers, Ed, Barb McMahon, Ian McGovern (son of Mark and Pam), and Jo Anne Lyons (mom of Theresa Gulizia). Pray for Marolyn, Lil Herbstritt, Deacon David Medeiros, and Reece Bittner (grandson of Bruce Jefferies). Pray also for all our parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, and in nursing homes, and for all our parishioners and loved ones who have recently passed away.

To add a loved one to the prayer line, please call Corliss Lovstad at 402-968-5877 or email her at clovstad@gmail.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH—2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass-Sanctuary

8:55 AM to 9:55 AM Religious Education Classes—RE classrooms, Basement Commons

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Men's Lent Bible Study—Father Hitch Room

4:30 PM to 5:30 PM Lenten Study—Father Hitch Room

Monday, February 26TH

8:30 AM to 10:00 AM Amazing Athletes with Preschool—Basement Commons

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal—Basement Rehearsal Room

6:00 PM to 7:30 PM CRHP Team 13 Lenten Study—Father Hitch Room

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal—Basement Rehearsal Room

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Ascension Adult Bible Study—Parish Center A and Kitchen

Tuesday, February 27th

8:30 AM to 10:00 AM Amazing Athletes with Preschool—Basement Commons 5:30 PM to 5:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 6:00 PM)—Sanctuary 6:30 PM to 6:40 PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion (after Mass)—Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary

8:00 AM to 8:15 AM Liturgy of the Hours—Behind the Tabernacle

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Faith Connection—Father Hitch Room

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM Religious Education Class—Father Hitch Room

4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Religious Education Classes—RE classrooms, Basement Commons

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Meeting—Father Hitch Room

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

7:30 PM to 8:30 PM Lenten Mass Study—Father Hitch Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM Fish Fry Prep—Parish Center A and Kitchen

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM RCIA—Parish Center C

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST

6:30 AM to 7:30 AM Men's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Women's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM Fish Fry—Parish Center and Kitchen

6:00 PM to 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross—Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM Knights of Columbus Officer Meeting—Father Hitch Room

8:00 AM to 11:30 AM Funeral Mass—Sanctuary and Narthex

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Funeral Luncheon—Parish Center AB and Kitchen

4:00 PM to 4:40 PM Confession—Confessional

4:30 PM to 4:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 5:00 PM)—Sanctuary

SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD—3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass-Sanctuary

8:55 AM to 9:55 AM Religious Education Classes—RE classrooms, Basement Commons

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Men's Lent Bible Study—Father Hitch Room

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM First Communion Family Meeting—Parish Center

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex

4:30 PM to 5:30 PM Lenten Study—Father Hitch Room

KNIGHTS LENTEN FISH FRYS

Join us every Friday during Lent, February 16 through March 22 from 5 PM to 7:30 PM for our Lenten Fish Frys. Dine-in, Drive Thru, and Carry-out options available. Menu includes: fried or baked Alaskan pollock*, scalloped potatoes*, or French fries*, green beans*, mac & cheese, coleslaw*, bread, and coffee, tea, or lemonade. Beer, wine, and mixed drinks will be available for purchase. (*Gluten Free) Adult plates are \$15 and children (ages 6-10) are \$8. There will be kids activities provided by the St. Patrick Youth Group. Volunteers are needed, see the parish website for details.



MARCH 8, 15, 22

6 | February 25, 2024

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE 3rd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 2ND 5:00 PM

Sacristan

Pat Gilmore

Lectors

Rebecca Campbell (Read the 1st Reading)

Lori Wewel (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Kevin Riley Nancy Arp Sharleen Marik Kylie Karnish Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers

Ken Beckman Chris Lingbloom **Chad Soupir Need Sub**

Rosary Reciter Jayne Schram

Altar Servers Colin Lingbloom Aslyn Ronk Kenley Ronk

Greeters

Tim Kirkpatrick Nancy Kirkpatrick

MARCH 3RD 8:00 AM

Sacristan Tony Schultz

Lectors

Cari Kaup (Read the 1st Reading)

Claudia Perchal (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Laura Fischer **Barb Applegate** Marilvn Havel **Greg Jones**

Ushers

Kevin Kaup Larry Scheef **Tony Schultz Bob Sis**

Rosary Reciter Carol Zeleny

Altar Servers Ethan Kaup Carson Kaup Will Kaup

Greeters Mary Maw Gordon Yager

Hilcrest SR Marty Stednitz Sally Stednitz

MARCH 3RD 10:00 AM

Sacristan

Andi Towey

Lectors

Kelly Eby (Read the 1st Reading)

Tony Tiefenthaler (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Phyllis Cannon **Dennis Cannon** Diana Alderson Cleo Nienaber

Ushers

Clint Bollock Norris Hoover Tom Nienaber Chris Reinig

Rosary Reciter Jim Hottovy

Altar Servers Anderson Brei **Nev Dickes Harper Dickes**

Greeters Andrew Brei **Need Sub**

MARCH 3RD Noon

Sacristan

Ginny Giebelhaus

Lectors

Stephanie Lampe (Read Both 1st and 2nd Readings)

Need Sub (Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs

Ginny Giebelhaus Delma Stoner Jennifer Loosvelt Norma Hintz Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers

Ginny Giebelhaus Delma Stoner **Doris Williams** Mary Zeigler

Rosary Reciter Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers James Janda Thomas Janda Need Sub

Greeters

Marty White Mary Zeigler

assigned time, please find a substitute. The Parish Office greatly appreciates your help, support and patience as we work together in

providing Mass

to our parish

family!

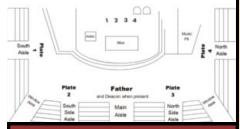
If you are unable

to serve at your

Vocations Crucifix Duane Benes

The Vocations Crucifix can be picked up after anv of the weekend Masses from the Sacristy, and should be returned before the following weekend.

EMHC STATION MAP



EMHC Positions (see diagram above):

- 1) South Aisle
- 2) South Side Aisle 3) North Side Aisle
- 4) North Aisle
- 5) Main Aisle—Father and Deacon when present

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT





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1 mail on i
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Deacon Larry Heck402-572-1319
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DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION Amanda Scardina402-332-3050
acscardina@archomaha.org
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bjefferies16117@gmail.com

2nd Sunday of Lent February 25, 2024 | 7



PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION 2024-2025 School Year

Registration for the 2024-2025 Preschool year is open! Please go to stpatricksgretna.org/education/preschool/or contact Amanda Scardina at 402-332-3050 for more information and to register! Spots are filling fast, so sign up now to get your preferred spot.



CLASS OPTIONS FOR 2024-2025

Threes AM (M W or TTH	Threes PM (T W TH)
(3 by October 15, 2024)	(3 by July 31, 2024)
2-days	3- days
Fours AM (MWF or T TH F)	Fours PM (M T W TH)
(3 by October 15, 2024)	(4 by July 31, 2024)
3 days	4 days
Fives AM (M T W TH F) (5 by December 31, 2024) 5 days	

PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP Registration Coming Soon



This year we will offer three different summer camp sessions for children 3-5 years old. All students must be toilet trained. Camps are \$50 each or \$125 for all three camps. Registration opens on Monday, February 26. For more information, contact our Preschool Director, Amanda

Scardiana at 402-332-3050 or email acscardina@archomaha.org.

SUMMER CAMPS INCLUDE:

June 10-14: The ABCs of Summer

June 24-28: The Colors and Shapes of Summer

July 15-19: Soaking Up God's Love

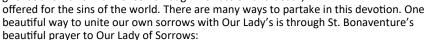


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WALK WITH MARY ON THE ROAD TO CALVARY Accompany our Lady in her Grief for her Crucified Son this Lent

The beautiful woman watched with incomprehensible pain as her Son's flesh was torn, His hands pierced, and His Body offered as a living sacrifice. The man upon the cross was once the young boy she nurtured and raised, His wounded body the same one that grew within her womb, and His anguished face that of her beloved only son. On the road to Calvary, she is Our Lady of Sorrows, bearing an unbearable pain. This Lent, we are called to mourn with her.

Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows is heightened during the season of Lent. In this devotion, we accompany the Blessed Virgin Mary in her grief as she walks with her son through His Passion and death,



O most holy Virgin, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, by the overwhelming grief you experienced when you witnessed the martyrdom, the crucifixion, and the death of your divine son, look upon me with eyes of compassion, and awaken in my heart a tender commiseration for those sufferings, as well as a sincere detestation of my sins, in order that, being disengaged from all undue affection for the passing joys of this earth, I may sigh after the eternal Jerusalem, and that henceforward all my thoughts and all my actions may be directed towards this one most desirable object: honor, glory, and love to our divine Lord Jesus, and to the holy and immaculate Mother of God. Amen.

Another way to honor Our Lady of Sorrows is by praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, traditionally prayed on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays during Lent. Enter more prayerfully into these powerful mysteries as you walk with Our Lady through the pain and sorrow of her Son's Passion.

—Article by The Catholic Company

INSIDE PLANNED PARENTHOOD The Truth Planned Parenthood Doesn't Want You to Know



LIES TO STAFF For most, abortion is not a lived experience. You know it's terrible, of course, but for me, when I think about abortion, all my senses are engaged. I've been in the room. I saw, heard, smelled... everything. Let me pull back the curtain for you. At Planned Parenthood, did you know that a baby's body parts are taken to a lab called "products of conception" or POC? My co-workers and I joked it was the

"pieces of children" lab. We called the freezer where parts were stored the "nursery" and the code to get into my clinic was 2229 because it spelled "baby".

With modern technology, it's hard to argue that abortion does not end life. But until it's right in front of you, you don't have to face it. Before I witnessed an abortion, I felt it was something that helped women. But afterward, I knew the gruesome reality of it all. While pro-choicers promised that abortion would be rare, I can assure you it was never rare because we had quotas. They also promised it would be safe, but it's never safe, because at least one person always dies.

The abortion industry declared war on life a long time ago, and specifically on minority life. It sustains itself by targeting the vulnerable; those without support structures, education, or resources. Did you know that black women are more than 3 times more likely to have an abortion than white women? Or that unmarried women account for 86% of all abortions, and more than 70% of women cite economic reasons for having an abortion. And what about the staff? The industry lures the same vulnerable community in with lucrative positions. Take it from me, most apply not because they're pro-choice, but because this work more than pays the bills.

For patients and staff, the procedure and the child inside, are still very much conceptual. But eventually, staff are called on to participate, just as I was. That's when the concept is torn apart. The industry LIES to patients AND staff. It calls abortion healthcare and a right. The abortion industry preys on fear. So many patients ask, "what will happen if I can't take care of this child?" Likewise, many staffers ask themselves, "can I get another job that pays this much? Can I talk about what I've seen? Am I doing the right thing?"

But hundreds of staff have courageously walked away. Despite every one of them needing counseling, and many struggling with PTSD, substance abuse, and depression, they know the truth now. We realized that the industry valued its own profits over the health and protection of women. We saw through the lies. Abortion is not normal. It's a catastrophe, every time, and for everyone involved. Abortion is not a right. And it definitely isn't healthcare. I'm Abby Johnson, founder of *And Then There Were None*, for EDIFY.

LIVING "MEMENTO MORI" Without Falling into Anxiety

Regardless of whether we have had to experience great loss in our lives, death is a reality that none of us, no matter how little we think about it, will be able to avoid entirely. Thankfully, our rich Catholic tradition provides us with deep hope and purpose when it comes to memento mori, or remembering our death.

In my early-20s. I have already experienced the death of most of my grandparents, an uncle and even several cousins, as well as received news in recent years of unexpected deaths of classmates, fellow parishioners, and family friends from suicide, murder, drug overdose, illness,



and car and hiking accidents. Even on the news, it seems that there are always new and tragic deaths to report.

Combine the above with my natural tendency toward anxiety, and you will often find me pacing the floor on a late weeknight if I haven't yet heard from my husband that he is headed home. While we shouldn't live without ever considering death, it is also just as unhealthy to overly concern ourselves with, or become distraught over, the thought of death.

Instead, our Church teaches the importance of remembering, but not obsessing over, the reality of death. Below, I list three practical ways to embrace life to the fullest while at the same time remaining aware of the preciousness of life and that time on this earth is temporary.

- 1. Live Intentionally—Do what you love as often as you can with those whom you love. Don't put off what can be done today. Pursue your dreams as deeply as you are able to, and consciously take stock of your blessings and express gratitude for them. While we cannot always control how many days we will have on this earth, we can control the intentionally with which we approach the days we do have. We can live each day with purpose and gratitude, using our gifts and talents to bless others and enjoy the opportunities we have been given to grow in holiness.
- 2. Love Large—It is never too much to tell people that you love them, lavishly and abundantly. Creating a culture of love within our homes values each moment of each day and the people you share those days with. Remembering the fragility and blessings of life from time to time helps us to appreciate more deeply what we have in this moment. When you get in a fight with someone, do your best to seek forgiveness and make amends. Go above and beyond in your care for others, letting them know that they are important and valued. Thank God every single day for the opportunity to be in the presence of your family, for every encounter is an undeserved gift that we might not always have.
- 3. Pray for the Dead—Our Catholic tradition teaches about purgatory, a process of purification for those who have passed on in friendship with Christ but who are still in need of cleansing of their attachments to sin before entering into Heaven. The Church teaches that our prayers help aid these souls in their purification process for Heaven. I currently serve as a Faith Formation minister at a local parish in my community, and one prayer experience I recently implemented at the church is a monthly cemetery prayer service where parishioners meet, rain or shine, to remember loved ones through guided prayers and reflections. Most recently, we went on a Rosary walk through the cemetery grounds, praying and lifting up those who have gone before us.

These are just three ways to live life well in light of memento mori, looking to consciously appreciate the gift of our lives, while remaining aware of the life to come by seeking to love as fully as we can and to draw closer to God in virtue.

As a new year's resolution, my husband and I began praying Night Prayer (from Liturgy of the Hours) before bed using an app called iBreviary. Some of the prayers, Psalms, and reflections change each night while others are always the same. One prayer that is everconstant is the final blessing of Night Prayer. The prayer always concludes with these final words: "May the all-powerful Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death." Amen. We pray not only for safety and restfulness through the night to arise and live well for another day, but we ask also for a peaceful death, each and every day, reminding ourselves that life is a gift, and that this life is preparing us for the Heaven that awaits us.

—Article by Radiant Magazine





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Sign Up Genius link to volunteer.....https:// www.signupgenius.com/ tabs/13576de05a0c8eccfa81-church Megan Seamann......meseamann@archomaha.org

ADVERTISE FOR YOUR MINISTRY GROUP

Does your parish ministry group have opportunities for others to get involved? Contact Megan Seamann, meseamann@archomaha.org, about getting your parish ministry group opportunities advertised.

GROWTH IN GRETNA Take the Online Survey

Join the City of Gretna and the Comprehensive Planning team and take the online survey!. You will have the opportunity to envision what growth could look like in Gretna over the next 10 to 20 years, helping to set high-level



goals and guide Gretna toward a vibrant future. The survey will remain open until Friday, March 1, so please visit the project website,

www.gretnacompplan.com, to learn more. We look forward to hearing your input—it matters!

GLOBAL OUTREACH Seeking Host Families



Global Outreach is seeking host families for students attending Archdiocese of schools for the 2024-25 school year. Global

Outreach welcomes high school students from Eastern Europe to the United States to refine their English language and servant leadership skills while experiencing life with an active Catholic family. For more information, please see the website, www.GlobalOutreachProgram.com.

2nd Sunday of Lent February 25, 2024 | 9



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AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

RESTORING CATHOLIC CULTURE—CHESTERTON ACADEMY, MARCH 2

Join us for our series of Restoring Catholic Culture: Leading our Families, Homes, Communities, and Churches back to their Catholic Roots. Our next speaker, Mrs. Teresa Kenney, APRN-NP, will speak on What is a Healthy Body on Saturday, March 2 at Chesterton Academy of Omaha (5301 S 36th St, Omaha). The evening begins with a social hour at 6 PM followed by the talk at 7 PM. The event is free and open to the public, sponsored by Chesterton Academy of Omaha.



UNFAILING GRACE LENTEN MISSION—ST. THOMAS MORE, MARCH 4-5



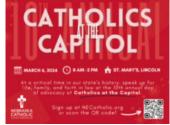
Midtown Catholic would like to invite everyone to their 2 -Day Lenten Mission—Unfailing Grace. Julie Carrick is a Catholic speaker, author, and musician who has offered Parish Missions in the past at Midtown Catholic. She has had such an impact on their community, that they are bringing her back this Lent! This family-friendly event can offer you a special way to deepen your love of Jesus in the Eucharist! Join us at St. Thomas More (4804 Grover St, Omaha) on Monday and Tuesday, March 4-5, at 7 PM each night.

GOD'S HEALING LOVE LENTEN MISSION—ST. GERALD, MARCH 4-6

All are invited to join us for our Lenten Mission—God's Healing Love with Fr. Greg Bramlage on Monday through Wednesday, March 4-6, beginning at 6 PM with praise and worship, and the Mission at 6:30 PM at St. Gerald Catholic Church (9602 Q St, Ralston). Monday's theme is "Blessed Are the Merciful" Matthew 5:7; Tuesday's theme is "Be Filled With the Holy Spirit" Acts 9:17; and Wednesday's theme is "Pray That You May Be Healed" James 5:16. Fr. Greg Bramlage of Missionaries of the New Evangelization will introduce us to a deeper understanding of God's mercy and share with us the incredible healings that result when we repent of our sins, forgive those who've hurt us, and pray with expectant faith.



CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL—St. Mary's, LINCOLN, MARCH 6



At Catholics at the Capitol, attendees can hear from prestigious panels, meet with their Senators, hear policy updates from staff and Senators, observe live legislative debates, and encounter our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. It's a packed program that we ensure will be worth the day off. This event is \$15, which includes breakfast, lunch, and refreshments. Please wear red to signify the beating heart of life and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sign up at NECatholic.org.

CEC WEEKENDS-St. COLUMBAN RETREAT CENTER, MARCH 8-10, MARCH 15-17

Join a life-changing faith experience—sacraments, praise and worship, talks, reflection, conversation, and a faith-filled community of belonging. From Friday evening to Sunday evening, CEC is held at Columban Fathers (1902 S. Calhoun St, Bellevue). All-inclusive cost of \$150 for food and lodging. Financial scholarships are available. Pre-registration is necessary. The upcoming men's weekend is March 8-10 and the women's weekend is March 15-17. For more information call or text Carol Hoover at 402-290-3619 or visit the website, cecomaha.org.



GRIEVING WITH HOPE—ST. PATRICK, ELKHORN, MARCH 9



Join us for a Grief Retreat called Grieving with Hope on Saturday, March 9 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, with Mass at 5 PM. This retreat is a faith-based

retreat for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. The day will include talks from Deacon Jim Tardy of Catholic Cemeteries, testimonies from those who are journeying through grief, Stations of the Cross for healing, creative activities, and small group discussions. RSVP at www.tinyurl.com/grievingwithhope24.



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