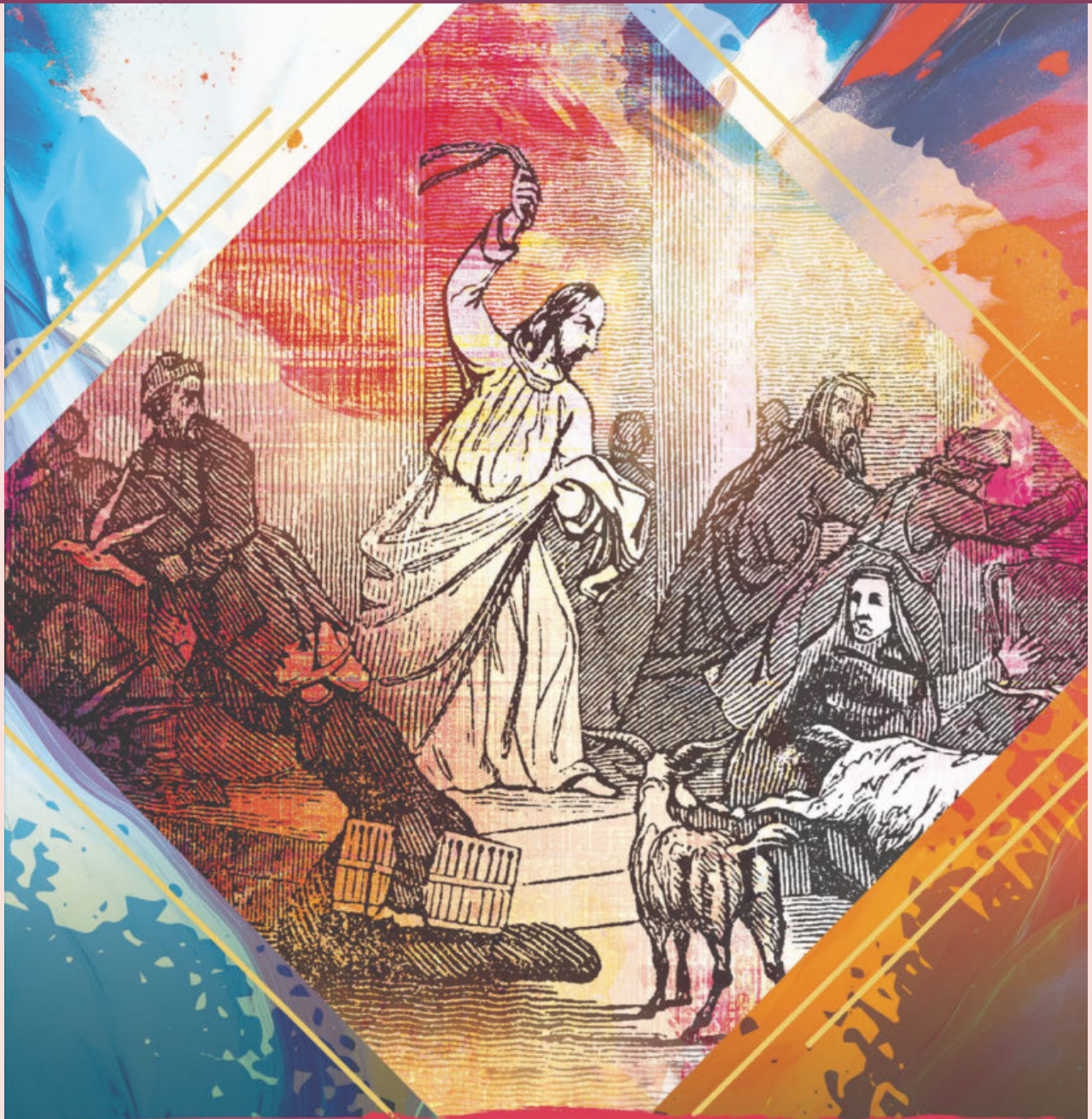


ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNNA, NE 68028



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

His disciples recalled the words of Scripture,
Zeal for your house will consume me. - Jn 2:17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

MARCH 3, 2024



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

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
Phone.....402-332-4444
Fax.....402-332-5107
Website.....stpatricksgretna.org
Facebook & Instagram.....@stpatgretnane
YouTube.....@StPatrickCatholicChurchNE
E-mail.....stpatrick.gre@archomaha.org
Flocknote.....text STPATGRETN 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, Thursday and Friday.....7:30 AM
Holy Days.....7:30 AM & 6:00 PM
Holidays (on weekdays)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

3rd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING (EX 20:1-17 OR 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17)

The "10 Commandments" given to Moses at Mount Sinai reveal God's moral and ethical expectations for Israel. Which of these Commandments do you personally find most challenging to follow?

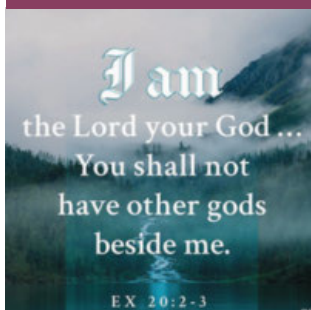
SECOND READING (1 COR 1:22-25)

Early in his letter to the Corinthians, Paul speaks of his firm conviction in the power and wisdom of his proclamation, "Christ crucified." What are you confident about in your faith life?

GOSPEL (JN 2:13-25)

Jesus' deep passion ("zeal") for the Jerusalem Temple led to His strong (and violent) reaction to what He witnessed in the Temple. What is something you feel passionate about as it relates to your faith?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



One of the greatest golfers of all time—if not the greatest—was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to "have no other gods besides me." This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

Is it ever ok to leave Mass before it ends?

ANSWER:

This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it's okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is "no," but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.



First, when we think about questions like this, we must consider this in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. However, if it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. First, while we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. This is summarized in the *Prayer After Communion* offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to "Go forth" during the *Dismissal of the Mass*, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift—the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament—and that we are to share that gift with others.

Continued on next page—>

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Continued From Page 2

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship—and communion in the fullest sense—and, second, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. This time of thanksgiving, reflection, and, ultimately, missioning, are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass.

SAINT JOHN OF GOD

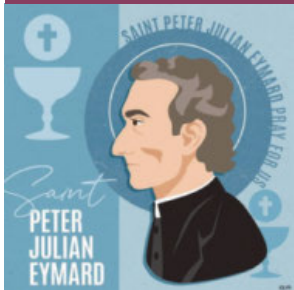
Religious

St. John of God (1495-1550) was born in Portugal to poor and devout Christian parents. How he came to be separated from them and homeless at the age of 8 is uncertain, but he eventually found work as a shepherd until the age of 22. At that time he enlisted as a soldier in the Roman Emperor's army to escape an offer of marriage to the shepherd's daughter. There he led a wild and dissolute life; fond memories of his parents is all that kept the spark of faith alive in his heart. At the age of 40 he left the army and reformed himself, beginning with a penitential pilgrimage to St. James of Compostella (The Way of St. James) in Spain. Appalled at his sinful and wasted life, he was determined to spend his remaining days in good works. He was affirmed in this direction by a vision of the Infant Jesus and a sermon of St. John of Avila, who was to become his spiritual director. He later dedicated his life in service to the poor, homeless, and sick, especially the mentally ill, by starting a hospital and homeless shelter. Many people were attracted to him and his work, and he organized his followers into the Order of Hospitalers. They were approved by the Holy See as the Brothers Hospitalers of St. John of God, which still exists to this day. St. John of God is the patron saint of many causes, especially of hospitals, hospital workers, nurses, the sick, and the dying. His feast day is March 8.



SAINT PETER JULIAN EYMARD

Priest



St. Peter Julian Eymard, (1811-1868) was born in La Mure d'Isère, France. When he was a child, he felt a strong calling to the priesthood and a devotion to Mary. He attempted to enter the Oblates of Mary Immaculate at age 18 but had to leave due to health problems. Eymard frequently had lung issues and migraines that disrupted his life. He tried to enter the priesthood again through the Diocese of Grenoble and was ordained a diocesan priest at the age of 23. After a few assignments he chose to join the Marists and entered the Society of Mary seminary in Lyon, France. By 1844 he had risen to the position of Provincial of the congregation. While visiting neighboring Marist communities, Eymard experienced the perpetual adoration of the Eucharist for the first time. His devotion to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament grew and he decided to start a Marist community specifically devoted to perpetual adoration. His vision wasn't supported by his Marist superiors, though, so he eventually chose to leave the Society of Mary in order to start his new religious congregation. In the late 1850's he founded The Society of the Blessed Sacrament for men and, along with Marguerite Guillot, the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament for women. The congregation's ministries were different from other Eucharist-centered groups at the time because, beside perpetual public adoration of the Eucharist, their goal was to nurture and to inspire those estranged from the Church to return and to educate those outside of the Church about the love of Christ. St. Peter Julian Eymard's contributions to Eucharistic spirituality earned him the title "Apostle of the Eucharist." His writings on the Eucharist, including the book, *The Real Presence*, continue to inspire and guide believers in their understanding of the Sacrament. St. Peter Julian Eymard, pray for us!

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

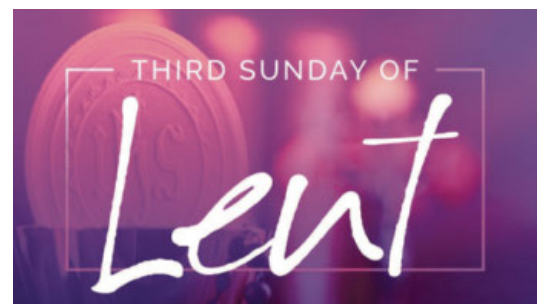
READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3,4/Lk 4:24-30
TUESDAY: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
WEDNESDAY: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
THURSDAY: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
FRIDAY: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
SATURDAY: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
NEXT SUNDAY: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 *Scrutiny:* 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Casimir
THURSDAY: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
FRIDAY: St. John of God, Religious
SATURDAY: St. Frances of Rome, Religious; St. Catherine of Bologna
NEXT SUNDAY: 4th Sunday of Lent, Daylight Saving Time begins





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

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 **Kyle Wozniak** (College IV at St. John Vianney Seminary) from St. Columbkille in Papillion.



"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Does a life dedicated to furthering the grace of reconciliation in Christ for others appeal to you? Consider answering the call to the priesthood and serve God and His people. 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."

Pray for our Seminarians



Since our last update on February 25, one child has been baptized into the Body of Christ. We congratulate the parents and family members, and we welcome your little one 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

Gia Lynn Goff.....2/25/2024

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

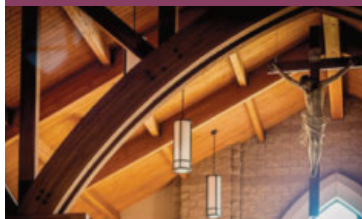
Seniors, if you filled out an application through the High School portal, you need not complete it again. (Note that the GHS portal closes on Friday, March 8.) Application forms are available at the Gretna High School or the Parish Office. You can also find the forms in the parish kiosk in the narthex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

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION Second Collection—March 9-10

Next weekend our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support to struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and brings Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at <https://www.usccb.org/national-collection/catholic-relief-services-collection>.



HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR FAMILIES March 18, 6 PM at St. Charles Borromeo



Join the Serra Club of West Omaha for a
Holy Hour to Pray for Families
Monday, March 18, 2024 | 6 PM
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 7790 192nd Street, Gretna
Fr. Frank Baumert, Chaplain of the Serra Club of West Omaha

Join the Serra Club of West Omaha on Monday, March 18, for a beautiful and unique Holy Hour to pray for families at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church (7790 192nd St, Gretna). At 6 PM we will gather in the Sanctuary for the Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The presider will be Father Frank Baumert, Chaplain of the Serra Club. Together we will pray a Rosary for the healing and protection of families, reflect on a Gospel reading and homily, and will also recite the Litany of the Holy Family. We will spend time in silent adoration and sing hymns as we pray for families in the Archdiocese of Omaha. Please invite your family and friends to join

us! All are welcome! If you are interested in helping to build the Church locally through vocations support, contact Lori Hamilton, Serra VP, at bobxlori@aol.com or 402-699-5027. Learn more at serrawestomaha.org and follow us on Facebook @serrawestomaha.

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

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Stop in the parish office to purchase the book, *Consecration to St. Joseph, The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father* by Fr. Donald H. Calloway for \$5 OR *Consecration to St. Joseph for Children and Families* (book, calendar, and sticker set) by Fr. Donald H. Calloway and co-author Scott L. Smith, Jr. for \$10. (We have ordered the book in bulk for better availability for all parishioners who would like to participate.)

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 well-being 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: "I attended the consecration to St. Joseph and was consecrated All Saints Day, November 1, 2020. The read each day was easy for me because there was so much to learn about this wonderful man. Following the daily read, I enjoyed the YouTube video from Fr. Don Calloway. Fr. Calloway's approximately 30 minute commentary to each daily read and wonder was not only insightful but with humor. The consecration taught me so much about this man of incredible faith. I thank God and St. Patrick parish for this opportunity and pray for the intercession of St. Joseph ALL the time now." —Joan Ingram

Dear Jesus, I want to commit myself more deeply to you during this Lenten season. Inspire me with the Lenten penances you most desire, the ones that help me to grow ever nearer to you, and help me remain vigilant in practicing these penances. Amen.

Stewardship Report

Feb 20 - Feb 26, 2024

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

General Contributions	Feb 20-Feb 26	Fiscal YTD thru Feb 26
Sunday Offering-Feb 20-26	\$25,665.36	\$826,826.53
Other Contributions	\$1,511.94	\$90,887.53
Total General Contributions	\$27,177.30	\$917,714.06 *
Surplus/Deficit	\$2,427.30	\$51,464.06

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income	\$1,194,033.97
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses	\$1,082,000.99
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income	\$112,032.98

* 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



FEBRUARY KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our Knight of the Month for February, Tyler Harpenau. Thank you Tyler for your service and contributions to our Knights of Columbus Council, our parish, and our community. Pictured from left to right is Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies presenting the Knight of the Month certificate to Tyler Harpenau.



WILD GAME FEED AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED



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.

FISH FRY FRIDAY—VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

We all know that our fundraising dinners are not complete without DESSERT!

Therefore, please sign up if you are able to donate a dessert for the Knights of Columbus Fish Frys. Volunteers are also needed, see the Knights website, <https://kofc-gretna.org/knights-events>, for details. Thank you for helping us make our Fish Frys such great events!



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 Meerian402-981-6471



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

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, MARCH 4TH

No Communion Service or Mass

TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH

6:00 PM Living and Deceased Members of the Charles and Mary Jo Gabel Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH

7:30 AM Bob Huber

THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH

7:30 AM † Edna Sempeck

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH

7:30 AM † Dick and Scotty Beran

SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH

5:00 PM † Sarah Sand and † Daniel Benes

SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH

8:00 AM † Fred Krejci
10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM † Joseph Ostiedik

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 Fast, Laikyn Rose (newborn great-granddaughter of Barb

Merkel), Norma B, Catherine Berlage, 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 cllovstad@gmail.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

MONDAY, MARCH 4TH

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, MARCH 5TH

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
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Holy Hour of Prayer—Sanctuary
6:30 PM to 6:40 PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion (after Mass)—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting—Parish Center AB

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH

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
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, MARCH 7TH

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH

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 9TH

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 10TH—4TH SUNDAY OF LENT—NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Men's Lent Bible Study—Father Hitch Room
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen
4:30 PM to 5:30 PM Lenten Study—Father Hitch Room

KNIGHTS LENTEN FISH FRYS

Every Friday During Lent from 5 PM to 7:30 PM

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.



LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

4th Sunday of Lent

MARCH 9TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Linda Schriener

Lectors
Gabe Ronk
(Read the 1st Reading)

Donna Bruck
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Karen Wiehl
Christine Walstrom
Janie Vipond
JoAnn Koch
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Chris Lingbloom
Chad Soupir
Lisa Willert
Jeff Wollenburg

Rosary Reciter
Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers
Shailynn Gatewood
Aslyn Ronk
Kenley Ronk

Greeters
Chris Gatewood
Therese Nisbet

MARCH 10TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Carol Zeleny

Lectors
Joan Ingram
(Read the 1st Reading)

Carrie Hubert
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Jason Kassmeier
Ashley Kassmeier
Jamey Kennel
Sandy Scheef
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Ron Kotrous
Larry Scheef
Pat Shurtliff
Bob Sis

Rosary Reciter
Theresa Huttman

Altar Servers
Jacob Kula
Sarah Kula
Nick Kula
Andrew Kula

Greeters
Mary Maw
Gordon Yager

Hilcrest SR
Mike and Paula Siegel

MARCH 10TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Mitch Wendlandt

Lectors
Michael Chatterson
(Read the 1st Reading)

Jim Hain
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Bridget Chatterson
Mitch Wendlandt
Carol Hoover
Abby Kenner
Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers
Norris Hoover
John Schaffert
Norm Svoboda
Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter
Tam Hottovy

Altar Servers
Nev Dicks
Harper Dicks
Scarlet McCord

Greeters
Andrew Brei
Andrew Urban

MARCH 10TH
NOON

Sacristan
Gabe Ronk

Lectors
Kathy Broz
(Read Both 1st and 2nd Readings)

Need Sub
(Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs
Steve Otto
Leann Otto
Darcy Skrdla
Gabe Ronk
Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers
Gabe Ronk
Doris Williams
Mary Zeigler
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

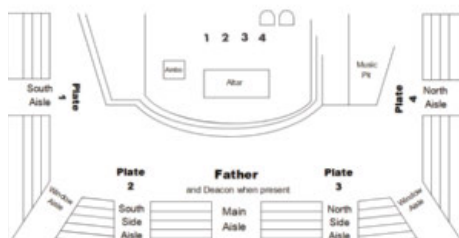
Greeters
Joan Dalley
Jeanette Roy

Vocations Crucifix
Brandon Burns

If you are unable to serve at your 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!

The Vocations Crucifix can be picked up after any 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

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Fr. Gregory P. Baxter.....402-332-4444
gpbaxter@archomaha.org
Residence.....402-332-4428
Emergencies (if facing danger or death), call:
402-332-4428

DEACONS

Deacon Ken Broz.....402-676-1025
Deacon Larry Heck.....402-572-1319

PARISH OFFICE

Jolene Jefferies, Parish Mgr.....402-332-4444, x203
jmjefferies@archomaha.org

Megan Seamann, Communications Associate

meseamann@archomaha.org..402-332-4444, x202

Judy Weier, Secretary.....402-332-4444, x201
jaweier@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Shane Fagan.....402-332-3454
smfagan@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Amanda Scardina.....402-332-3050
acscardina@archomaha.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY (LITURGY, YOUTH GROUP & FAITH FORM)

Jonathan Wotipka.....402-332-4444, x212
jjwotipka@archomaha.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY (ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND & FUNERALS)

Francesca Dammermann.....402-332-4444, x204
fdammermann@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC

Laura Rau.....402-332-4444, x216
lrau@archomaha.org

PARISH CENTER COORDINATOR

Lezlie Thomas.....402-525-3098
lathomas@archomaha.org

FACILITY MANAGER

Judy Knight.....402-332-4444, x206
jaknight@archomaha.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Matt Ramm.....402-416-0596

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Kevin Kaup.....402-525-1469

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

Jerry Thoendel.....402-332-3475

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bruce Jefferies.....402-521-4262
bjefferies16117@gmail.com



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH BREAKFASTS *Delicious Meal*



You are invited to join us in the Parish Center every second Sunday of the month, this month March 10, from 9 AM to 12 PM for a delicious breakfast. It's a perfect way to gather after Sunday Mass and get to know other parishioners here at St. Patrick.

VENI HOLY HOUR *Archomaha Young Adults*

All young adults in the archdiocese (ages 21-39) are invited to Veni, an evening of



Adoration and fellowship at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St, Omaha) on Friday, March 8. Adoration begins at 7:30 PM in the Cathedral with a brief reflection from a priest and is followed by an after party in the parish center! Veni is held every second Friday of the month at the Cathedral. More information about getting involved in the Archdiocese Young Adult activities can be found at <https://www.archyoungadults.org>.

PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP *Register Today*



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. Register on our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. For more information, contact our Preschool

Director, Amanda Scardina 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

WHY CAN'T CATHOLICS EAT MEAT ON FRIDAYS? *When Did this Tradition Start?*

Have you ever accidentally eaten a piece of meat on a Friday in Lent and thought, "Darn! I forgot it's Friday!" It's not easy to avoid meat on Fridays in Lent. Not to mention, it is also inconvenient. Have you ever wondered why we have this rule in place? Well, the rule used to be that Catholics couldn't eat meat on any Friday of the year. However, through the 1983 revised *Code of Canon Law*, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops were given authority to require American Catholics to abstain from meat on only Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Fridays during Lent.



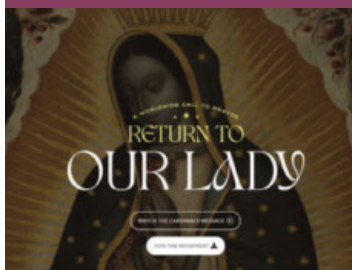
It is important to note that Catholics are still urged to offer a sacrifice on all Fridays, but it does not need to be abstaining from meat. Jesus suffered and died on a Friday, so Christians have always honored Jesus' sacrifice on Fridays in some form or capacity.

During Lent, we especially remember how Christ sacrificed His flesh for us. To offer penance for our sins on the day that Jesus died to save us from sin, we abstain from "flesh meat" which is meat from mammals and poultry, what the USCCB considers "land animals." The Latin word for meat is *carnis*, which has only applied to meat derived from land animal flesh.

So, how come we ARE allowed to eat fish on Fridays? The USCCB explains how fish are cold-blooded animals and do not come from the land, so fish is not the same as *carnis* meat. Also, historically, meat was more expensive and eaten mainly at celebrations and festivities, while people ate fish on a daily basis. So, the Early Church was asking people to sacrifice something celebratory during Lent. Whenever we have to say no to meat on Fridays, as hard as that can be, it is a great opportunity to reflect on the sacrifice Christ made for us and remember the purpose of Lent. Some people choose to abstain from meat on Fridays all year round. While this practice is not required in the Church, it is a good opportunity to remember how Christ suffered and died for us on a weekly basis throughout the year.

—Article by The Catholic Company

JOIN CARDINAL BURKE PRAYING A NOVENA *Novena to the Patroness of the Americas*



America is suffering. Economically. Morally. Culturally. Spiritually. Yet despite the persecution we're now facing, confusion in the Church, and the temptation to despair—maybe even because of those difficulties—Catholics are still filled with supernatural hope. We know that we are not alone in the battle for America's soul.

In times of great crisis, the Church calls upon the faithful to turn to Our Lady in prayer to intercede on our behalf. History is replete with evidence that she

has never failed to come to the aid of those who ask. To that end, I'm pleased to be one of the first to publicly announce the start of a nine-month novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe initiated by His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke.

The novena to the Patroness of the Americas will begin on March 12 and culminate with an act of consecration on her feast day, December 12. Every month of the novena, participants will receive emails directly from Cardinal Burke with encouragement and spiritual direction. So let's respond with fervor to the Cardinal's urgent worldwide call to prayer and a return to Our Lady for the spiritual health of our country.

The Cardinal said in a recent homily: "We live in most troubled times, throughout the world and even within the Church. The pervasive confusion and error about the most fundamental truths, about the law which God has written upon every human heart, tempt us to discouragement and even to abandon hope. But Our Lady draws us to herself, in order that she, in turn, may lead us to our only source of hope, her Divine Son, above all, to His Real Presence in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist."

CatholicVote has been on the front lines building up faith, family, and freedom in our nation, but we know that our good works must begin in prayer—especially to Our Lady. Join us and Cardinal Burke on the spiritual offensive... and let's cover America in prayer as never before! Are you with me? Register at <https://novena.cardinalburke.com>.

Brian Burch, President of CatholicVote

CENTURY CLUB FEBRUARY CASH PRIZE WINNERS

How Much Does \$500 in Pennies Cost?

Hello everyone! First, apologies for this taking so long to get to Megan, for the bulletin. I could give you dozens of reasons for it, but the main thing to remember is this: Smoking is bad for people and computers! I was fortunate in that God gave me signs to quickly back important documents up! That said, I've been hearing a commercial asking if you know how much \$1000 dollars in coins weigh? Well, that got me wondering. How much does \$500 of pennies weigh? Why \$500?, Well, that's how much CASH (not pennies) is won via Century Club every month, \$500 CASH! That's a chunk of pennies! What's the point? I don't know. I was just curious. :)

Sad news. Late notices have been mailed to 26 unpaid members. Five payments, including one of our January winners, have been received. There is still one more winner from January that has not paid dues. Once dues are received, I will send a check. If you are unsure if you paid your membership or not, please text or call me (Jim Hottovy). Text is preferred. Thank you. If you would like more information on Century Club, what it does, where funds are spent, why is it called Century Club...please text or call me (again, text is preferred). Payment from past or new members can be mailed to Century Club, PO BOX 177, Gretna, NE 68028. Dues are pro-rated, so new members can join for \$50 to be in the final ten drawings of 2024. \$45 if payment is not received before our Knights of Columbus meeting held March 5. Late members still owe \$60. All right, what you've been reading for, February Century Club CASH winners! Yes, checks were mailed early February. Special thanks to Ken Beckman for drawing our February CASH prize winners!

\$150—Steve and Lisa Johnson
\$100—Jane Werner
\$75—Jim Hain
\$75—Denny Cannon (January winner)
\$50—Jim DeMeulmeester
\$25—Lee Dostal
\$25—John Eisenbah
\$25—Mary Brown
\$25—Carson Horst
\$25—Michael Engenberger

Congratulations everyone! One last thing—a penny weighs 2.5 grams (0.888 ounces). 50,000 pennies (\$500) multiply 2.5 grams is 125,000 grams, or 275.58 pounds. Now you understand why I mail checks, not pennies! Have a blessed day and remember Jesus Christ died on the Cross for everyone, even that person that cut you off in traffic. Please pray for everyone! Especially someone you do not like. Thank you!

Jim Hottovy (402-651-8564)
Century Club Administrator



ST. PATRICK'S DAY FAMILY HOOLEY

Wednesday, March 13



Our St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley (Irish for party) is Wednesday, March 13 from 5 PM to 7 PM in the Parish Center. Join us for a family friendly way to celebrate our parish patron saint. We will have corned beef and cabbage, hot dogs, and dessert for a free will donation. We will have free games with prizes for the kids including: coin toss, putt-putt, lucky duck, pin the pot o' gold, snake race, and get the gold. The Craoi Na Tire Irish Dancers will be our entertainment for the evening after the Irish Person of the Year is awarded at 5:30 PM. Support for the event is provided by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Sarpy Co. Div.

Your help is needed to make this event a success. We are looking for individuals or groups (guilds or families) to help in the following ways:

- Game room supervisor (oversee games and game volunteers)
- Dining room supervisor (see that tables are bused and clean and oversee dining room volunteers)
- Cooks and Food prep (help at church the Monday and Tuesday before or the day of)
- Dishwasher and Kitchen help (help during the event and some after)
- Desserts (just make at home and drop off that day)
- Clean up (cleaning the kitchen, taking down decorations, vacuuming)

If you, your guild, your family, or other group would like to help in any of the above ways, please sign up at stpatricksgretna.org or contact the Religious Education office at 402-332-3454 or smfagan@archomaha.org.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

LAY LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Jonathan Wotipka.....402-332-4444, x212
jjwotipka@archomaha.org

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Sue Orosco.....402-332-3692

LEAST OF MY BRETHREN

Link to volunteer.....<https://www.leastofmybrethren.org/linktree>

CHURCH CLEANING

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.

BLESSED PALMS TO BE BURNED

Return Your Old Palms



During this season of Lent, we ask that you bring in any old blessed palms you no longer desire to keep. A basket labeled "old palms" will be made available in the narthex for collection throughout the Lenten season. As a reminder

any blessed objects you no longer wish to keep can be brought to the parish office for proper disposal during regular office hours.

DON'T RESPOND TO SPAM

Double Check the Email

If you have received a message from Father Baxter from any email



other than gpbaxter@archomaha.org or via text message that looks suspicious, DON'T RESPOND. It is spam! Father Baxter would never email or text a parishioner for a "special request" or "need a favor". Unfortunately, spammers have been masking themselves as Father Baxter, and using fake emails or phone numbers. If it seems out of the ordinary, chances are it isn't genuine.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- AL-ANON (ALCOHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT—OMAHA)**
Phone.....402-553-5033
Website.....al-anon.org
- BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE**
Phone.....1-800-448-3000
Website.....www.boystown.org
- CATHOLIC ANSWERS**
Phone.....1-888-318-7884
Website.....www.catholic.com
- CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna.....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**
Phone.....402-554-0520
Website.....ccomaha.org
- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com
- COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION)**
Phone.....402-557-5692
Website.....couragerc.org
- EWTV (GLOBAL CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK)**
Phone.....1-800-447-3986
Website.....www.ewtv.com
- HEARTS RESTORED (HEALING AFTER ABORTION)**
Phone.....402-783-4673
Website.....heartstorestorednebraska.org
- HOLY FAMILY SHRINE**
Phone.....402-332-4565
Website.....holyfamilyshrine.com
- LEAST OF MY BRETHREN (SUPPORT HOMELESS)**
Phone.....402-681-5424
Website.....leastofmybrethren.org
- MARRIAGE RESOURCES**
For Your Marriage.....www.foryourmarriage.org
Retrouvaille.....1-800-470-2230
Retrouvaille.....www.helpourmarriage.org
- MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE**
Phone.....1-858-207-6277
Website.....www.masstimes.org
- NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK**
Website.....nebraskahomeschool.org
- POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE (FERTILITY HELP)**
Phone.....402-390-6600
Website.....www.popepaulvi.com
- SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO—FM 102.7**
Phone.....402-571-0200
Website.....www.spiritcatholicradio.com
- ST. BENEDICT CENTER (RETREATS IN SCHUYLER)**
Phone.....402-352-2177
Website.....christthekingpriory.com/sbcabout
- ST. JOHN PAUL II NEWMAN CENTER**
Phone.....402-557-5575
Website.....jpilomaha.org
- STRIVE (BREAK FREE FROM PORNOGRAPHY)**
Phone.....989-720-8000
Website.....strive21.com
- WOMEN'S CENTER FOR ADVANCEMENT
(DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, ETC.)**
24/7 Hotline.....402-345-7273
Website.....wcaomaha.org

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

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

Midtown Catholic
2 Day Lenten Mission

Unfailing Grace

March 4th & 5th

Monday & Tuesday 7:00 pm

Held at **St. Thomas More**

4804 Grover St / Omaha

Julie Carrick



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.



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.

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.



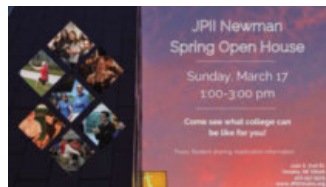
CATHOLIC CHARITIES IRISH FEST—MARRIOTT HOTEL CAPITOL DISTRICT, MARCH 16



Catholic Charities of Omaha is celebrating the 32nd Annual Irish Fest. Irish Fest is an evening brimming with Celtic cheer, all while raising crucial funds for Catholic Charities of Omaha. Grab your lads and lasses for a night of fun and fellowship for a great cause! This year is sure to be the best yet, as we welcome back award-winning Broadway star Quentin Darrington, Finest Hour, and honor the recipient of the 2024 Fr. Mel Merwald Award. Join us for cocktails, dinner, live auction, and dancing on Saturday, March 16 at the Marriott Hotel Capitol District (222 N 10th St, Omaha). Register to attend at <https://ccomaha.org/irish-fest>.

SPRING OPEN HOUSE—JPPII NEWMAN CENTER, MARCH 17

Come see what college can be like for you! Open to all Omaha area high school and college students, or anyone who wants to find out more about JPPII Newman! There will be tours, student sharing, and application information available. Join us from 1 PM to 3 PM at the JPPII Newman Center (1221 S 71st St, Omaha) on Sunday, March 17. Visit our website, JPPIIomaha.org for more information.



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BETH SOULLIERE, DVM
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Dani Schram
Realtor / Catholic Parishioner
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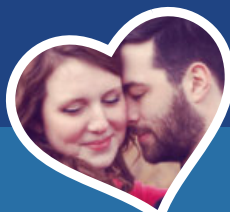


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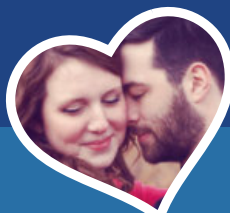
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