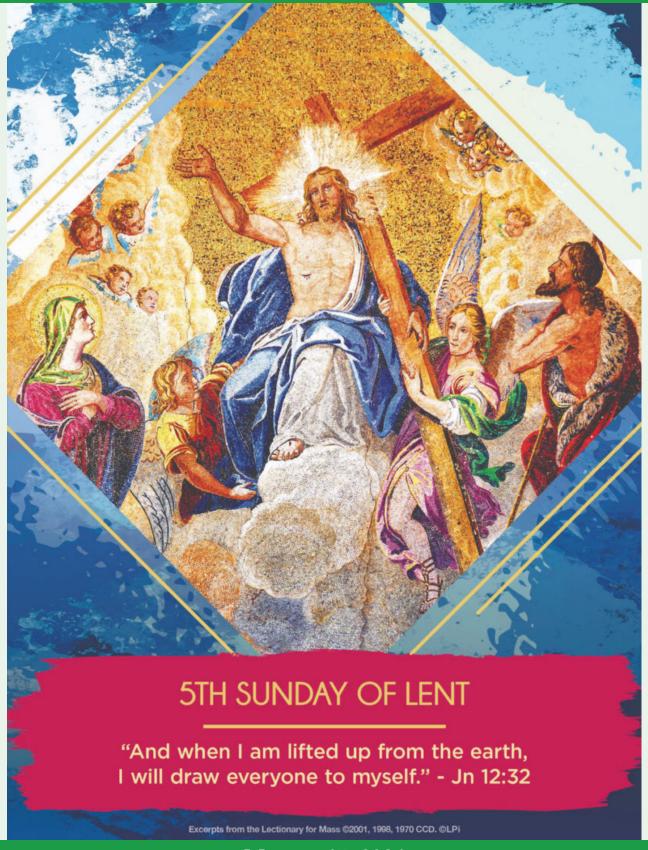
ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028



MARCH 17, 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
Phone	402-332-4444
Fax	402-332-5107
Website	stpatricksgretna.org
Facebook & Inst	agram@stpatgretnane
YouTube	@StPatrickCatholicChurchNE
E-mail	stpatrick.gre@archomaha.org
Flocknote	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, Thi	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 5th Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING (JER 31:31-34)

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God promised Israel "a new covenant": the Lord's law will be written in our hearts and known by all who believe. Do you know people who seem to have a heart-felt faith?

SECOND READING (HEB 5:7-9)

Hebrews teaches us that Jesus struggled with His own impending suffering and death. During this Lenten season, what has been a struggle for you?

GOSPEL QUESTION (JN 12:20-33)

Jesus taught that through His own suffering and death, He would drive out the "ruler of this world" (Satan) and draw everyone to Himself. In what ways are you drawn to Christ?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. "Please forgive me," I asked, "but you seem to be smiling as you share this." She said, "Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I'm smiling because I just can't wait to see what good things God does with this mess." She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from Heaven for the third and final time in Jesus' earthly ministry. It's at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces His terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, "Father, glorify your name!" John then writes: Then a voice came from Heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to Himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers His turning to the Father with an unshakeable expectation of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: "Father, glorify your name in all these things!" Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

Why do parishes have the Blessed Sacrament in a separate room?

ANSWER:

While many Catholics of a certain age have memories of the Blessed Sacrament being housed in the tabernacle on the high altar of the church, many parishes in the decades since the



Second Vatican Council have chosen to build a separate space—a reservation chapel—where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. Although this practice is not universal, it is in keeping with the guidance offered by the US Bishops in their document *Built of Living Stones* (see nos 77-78). The goal is to create a space that is separated from the nave and sanctuary, but which is "integrally connected with the church" which can foster "reverence and can provide the quiet and focus needed for personal prayer." This can be especially important for communities that have continuous eucharistic adoration, allowing people to come and pray in a space separate from the normal activities of parish life.

The practice of reserving the Eucharist in a separate space—or in a dignified location away from the altar where Mass is celebrated—is that it emphasizes the importance of the liturgy itself, which is the "source and summit" of the life of the Church.

As with many things in the Church, the practice of placing the tabernacle in the sanctuary or in a separate chapel is not universal (as can be seen in visits to historic churches in Rome and other places). The important thing is that as communities question where to place the tabernacle, they listen to the voice of the Church, explore the ancient and varied liturgical tradition of the Church, consider the needs and life of the community, and also take into account the architecture and limits of the spaces they might already have.

SAINT NICHOLAS OWEN Martyr

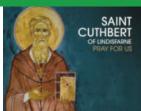


St. Nicholas Owen (d.1606) was born in England, the son of an Oxford carpenter. He became a carpenter himself, and joined the Jesuits as a lay brother during the era when Catholicism was outlawed in England. After serving jail time for defending the martyred St. Edmund Campion, Nicholas began working for and traveling with the Jesuits, staying in Catholic houses where he made repairs during the day and secretly constructed well-disguised 'priest-holes', or hiding places for hunted priests,

during the night. He was so skilled at his craft that his priest holes saved hundreds of lives over his 20 years of work. While on a trip to London with a Jesuit priest they were betrayed by a household servant, captured, and tortured. After Nicholas' release he masterminded the priest's escape from the Tower of London. Years later, after the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, Nicholas was again a wanted man. He hid along with a priest in one of his priest holes, and although 100 men searched for them diligently, they were not discovered. After eight days of hiding without food, Nicholas left the hole disguised as a priest in order to protect the real priest who was still concealed. He was captured and tortured on the rack in the Tower of London. Day after day he refused to give up any information about the underground Catholic Church in England. He died a martyr after his entrails burst open. St. Nicholas Owen is one of the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales. His feast day is March 22.

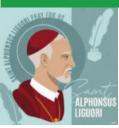
SAINT CUTHBERT OF LINDISFARNE Bishop

St. Cuthbert of Lindisfarne (634-687 A.D.) was born in present-day Scotland to a lowly family, and worked as a shepherd near the Melrose Abbey monastery. A child playmate prophesied that he would one day become a bishop. And one day, while tending to his sheep, St. Cuthbert saw in a vision the soul of St. Aidan, the Bishop of Lindisfarne, carried to Heaven by angels. This mystical experience inspired in him a desire to become a monk. After spending time as a soldier defending his home



region of Northumbria against attack, he arrived on horseback, armed with a spear, seeking entrance at the monastery. He was received and became a monk in the Celtic Christian tradition. He grew in holiness and learning, and after serving as prior he withdrew from the community into the lifestyle of a solitary hermit. After several years of a quiet life of prayer and penance, he was persuaded to return to active life as the Bishop of Lindisfarne. A year later he became sick and died. Miracles were reported at his grave; in fact, so numerous were the reported miracles that Cuthbert was called the "Wonder-worker of England." Throughout the Middle Ages the shrine of Cuthbert remained one of the most popular places of pilgrimage in northern England. His feast day is March 20.

SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI Priest and Doctor of the Church



St. Alphonsus Liguori, (1696-1787) was born in Marianella, near Naples, in Italy. When he was young, he displayed exceptional intelligence and piety, earning a doctorate in civil and canon law by the age of 16. Feeling a calling to dedicate his life to God and the service of others, however, he abandoned his legal career and pursued ordination to the priesthood. He was ordained at the age of 30 in 1726. Throughout his priestly ministry, Liguori focused on preaching missions and retreats, seeking to renew people's faith and draw them closer to the Eucharist. He frequently preached on

the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion as a source of spiritual nourishment and grace. In 1732, Liguori founded the Redemptorists, a religious congregation dedicated to promoting devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Redemptorists' charism also revolved around reaching out to the most abandoned, including the poor and marginalized, and offering them hope through God's love and mercy. As a prolific writer, Liguori authored numerous works on moral theology, spirituality, and Eucharistic devotion. His most famous work, *The Glories of Mary*, remains a classic in Marian theology and devotion. He is remembered for his practical and merciful counsel, always seeking to lead souls to reconciliation, and union with God. St. Alphonsus was canonized as a saint in 1839 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1871. His spiritual writings, particularly on the Eucharist, continue to inspire and guide the faithful worldwide. As the patron saint of moral theologians, his example reminds believers of the profound love and presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the enduring mercy of God.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c

-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

TUESDAY: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

or Lk 2:41-51a

WEDNESDAY: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53,

54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

THURSDAY: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51

-59

FRIDAY: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn

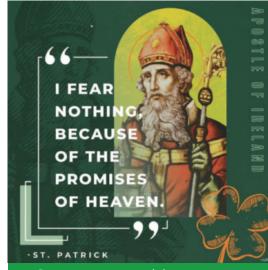
10:31-42

SATURDAY: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/

Jn 11:45-56

NEXT SUNDAY: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/

Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

TUESDAY: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

viary

SATURDAY: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop NEXT SUNDAY: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the

Lord, Holy Week begins



5th Sunday of Lent March 17, 2024 | 3

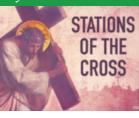


ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 **Thomas LaSala** (College II at St. John Vianney Seminary) from St. Gerald in Ralston.



"The Father will honor whoever serves me."

Are you called to belong to serve Christ alone as a priest or through consecrated life? 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 March 10, 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!

TEE IT UP FOR VOCATIONS! MONDAY, JUNE 3 Golf with Priests, Seminarians, and Consecrated Religious

The Serra Clubs of Omaha and West Omaha will host their Annual Golf, Tennis, and Pickleball Outing, followed by a cocktail hour, dinner, and awards at The Pines Country Club in Valley on Monday, June 3 (best ball format) with registration beginning at 11 AM.

Tennis and Pickleball will both be at Genesis Westroads at 3 PM. All proceeds received support the vocations programs of the Archdiocese of Omaha. Early registrations are welcome!

- Golf \$125 (Includes box lunch and dinner)
- Foursome \$500 (Includes box lunch and dinner)
 - Tennis \$75 (Includes dinner at The Pines)
 - Dinner Only \$40 (No golf or tennis)
- Sponsor a Priest, Seminarian, or Religious \$125 - Hole Sponsor \$250



To register as a player and/or a sponsor and to pay online, go to: https://serrawestomaha.org/golf/. If you wish to pay by check, go to the website to download the PDF Registration Form and mail your completed form and check per the instructions at the bottom of the form. For questions, contact Joe Grier at 402-680-6654. Make this event one of your priorities this summer!

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE Walk from The Cloisters on the Platte to the Holy Family Shrine

Join faithful pilgrims for a 5-mile Eucharistic Procession as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage passes from the Diocese of Lincoln into the Archdiocese of Omaha. This is a joint event between the Archdiocese of Omaha and the Diocese of Lincoln. Both Archbishop Lucas and Bishop Conley will be present to mark this formal transition of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage from the Diocese of Lincoln into the Archdiocese of Omaha. After the 5-mile walk from The Cloisters on the Platte to the Holy Family Shrine,



spend time in Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at the Holy Family Shrine. Register to attend this or any event on the Pilgrimage by visiting https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION Tuesday, April 2

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration for Religious Ed 2024-2025 will begin on Tuesday, April 2. Current

families will receive emails or register online at the parish website, stpatricksgretna.org/education/religious-education.

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!

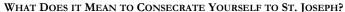
WHO: All St. Patrick parishioners, children, and families

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 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.

KNIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP



Applications are available and can be picked up at the church office or by contacting Randy Meerian at 402-981-6471. This is a separate scholarship application process from the Church Scholarship. The Gretna Knights of Columbus Council #10047 has established multiple scholarships. To be eligible for a Knights Scholarship, the candidate must be the son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandchild, or legal guardian of an active member in

good standing of the Gretna Knights of Columbus Council #10047. Members in good standing are members who are current with their member dues, have been a member for at least two years, and are not in the process of transferring to another council.

Stewardship Report

Mar 5 - Mar 11, 2024

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

General Contributions	Mar 5 -Mar 11	Fiscal YTD thru Mar 11
Sunday Offering-Mar 5-Mar 11	\$14,436.00	\$879,656.62
Other Contributions	\$1,554.27	\$94,705.16
Total General Contributions	\$15,990.27	\$974,361.78 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$8,759.73)	\$58,611.78

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income\$1,280,081.39Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses\$1,181,984.09Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income\$98,097.30

* 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



CAMPAIGN FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

The Knights of Columbus Council #10047 participated in the Campaign For People With Intellectual Disabilities in September



2023 raising \$3,054.74. Money raised helps the 13 organizations serving people with Intellectual Disabilities. Our Council gets back 50% to give back to an organization. Financial Secretary, Marty Stednitz presented a check for \$1,527.37 to Sister Jennette and Sister Paula from Villa Marie Home and School for Exceptional Children.

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.

WILD GAME FEED AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

The Knights of Columbus are hosting their 4th annual Wild Game Feed Saturday April 13. There are only 10 tables left. Please contact Larry Sibley for more information for tickets or for donating items for the silent auction, 402-957-8770 or LCSIB@centurylink.net.

Knights of Columbus

5th Sunday of Lent March 17, 2024 | 5



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 18TH

No Communion Service or Mass

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH

6:00 PM † Deacon Joe Krajicek

Wednesday, March 20th 📵

7:30 AM The Living and Deceased Members of

the Tighe and Hiller Families **THURSDAY, MARCH 21ST**

7:30 AM † Henry Sudbeck

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND

7:30 AM † Flora LoSurdo and † Nina Sacco

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

5:00 PM The Veleba Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
10:00 AM † Mark Penney
12:00 PM † Marc Demarco

12.00 TW Whate Belliares

- 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 Pauline Kwapnioski family, Dottie Engler, Geri Donahue, Michelle Fast, 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, MARCH 17TH—5TH 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

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

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

MONDAY, MARCH 18TH

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 19TH

8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Project Linus—Basement Commons

3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

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 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Hospitality Team Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH

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

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM 55+ Club Outing-Offsite

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

2:30 PM to 4:00 PM Funeral Planning Meeting—Father Hitch Room

3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

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

4:00 PM to 8:00 PM RE Stations of the Cross—Sanctuary

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

6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

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 21ST

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

 $3\!:\!00$ PM to $4\!:\!00$ PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

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

6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND

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

3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lenten Confessions—Confessional

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 23RD

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM Private Event—Parish Center A 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 24TH—PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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

8:55 AM to 9:55 AM RE Stations of the Cross—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

"The fast of Lent has no advantage to us unless it brings about our spiritual renewal. It is necessary while fasting to change our whole life and practice virtue. Turning away from all wickedness means keeping our tongue in check, restraining our anger, avoiding all gossip, lying, and swearing. To abstain from these things—herein lies the true value of the fast."

—St. John Chrysostom

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

MARCH 23RD 5:00 PM

Sacristan Pat Gilmore

Lectors

Penny Kreikemeier (Read the 1st Reading)

Karen Meyerott (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Adam Kreikemeier Julene Crockett Diane Sherwood Nancy Arp

Ushers

Russ Eusterwiemann Lisa Willert Jeff Wollenburg **Need Sub**

Rosary Reciter Jayne Schram

Altar Servers

Shailynn Gatewood Aslyn Ronk Kenley Ronk

Greeters

Tim Kirkpatrick Nancy Kirkpatrick

MARCH 24TH 8:00 AM

Sacristan Lori Frederick

Lectors

Crystal Schroeder (Read the 1st Reading)

Claudia Perchal (Read the 2nd Reading)

FMHCs

Laura Fischer Carol Zelenv Kvlie Karnish **Greg Jones** Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers

Larry Scheef **Tony Schultz Bob Sis Need Sub**

Rosary Reciter Need Sub

Altar Servers

Kaylee Frederick Drew Garcia **Emersyn Pichler**

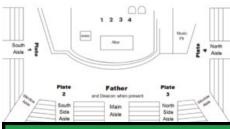
Greeters

Mary Maw Gordon Yager

Hilcrest SR

Mike Siegel Paula Siegel

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

MARCH 24TH 10:00 AM

Sacristan

Mitch Wendlandt

Lectors

Phil Lenz (Read the 1st Reading)

Kelly Eby (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Dan Dauner Kari Lenz Kathy Wendlandt Diana Alderson Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers

Clint Bollock lim Hain Chris Reinig John Schaffert

Rosary Reciter Judy Weier

Altar Servers Kalla Kassmeier

Kameron Kassmeier Klayton Kassmeier

Greeters

Andrew Brei **Need Sub**

MARCH 24TH Noon

Sacristan

Larry Neppl

Lectors

Rebecca Campbell (Read Both 1st and 2nd Readings)

Lori Wewel (Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

FMHCs

Steve Otto Leann Otto Wendy Neppl Larry Neppl

Ushers

Larry Neppl **Doris Williams** Mary Zeigler Need Sub

Rosary Reciter

Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers

James Janda Thomas Janda Need Sub

Greeters

Jeanette Roy Mary Zeigler

Vocations Crucifix Duane Benes

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.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT







ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH STAFF

I MRISH OTH I
PASTOR
Fr. Gregory P. Baxter402-332-4444
gpbaxter@archomaha.org
Residence402-332-4428
Emergencies (if facing danger or death), call:
402-332-4428
Dragova
DEACONS Deacon Ken Broz. 402 676 1025
Deacon Ken Broz
Deacon Larry Heck402-572-1319
Parish Office
Jolene Jefferies, Parish Mgr402-332-4444, x203
jmjefferies@archomaha.org
Megan Seamann, Communications Associate
meseamann@archomaha.org402-332-4444, x202
Judy Weier, Secretary402-332-4444, x201
jaweier@archomaha.org
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Shane Fagan402-332-3454
smfagan@archomaha.org
DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION
Amanda Scardina402-332-3050
acscardina@archomaha.org
acscarama@archomana.org
PASTORAL MINISTRY (LITURGY, YOUTH GROUP & FAITH FORM)
Jonathan Wotipka402-332-4444, x212
jjwotipka@archomaha.org
PASTORAL MINISTRY (ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND & FUNERALS)
Francesca Dammermann402-332-4444, x204
fdammermann@archomaha.org
Director of Charte Milaia
DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC
Laura Rau402-332-4444, x216 Irau@archomaha.org
nauwarchomana.org
PARISH CENTER COORDINATOR
Lezlie Thomas402-525-3098
lathomas@archomaha.org
FACILITY MANAGER
Judy Knight402-332-4444, x206
jaknight@archomaha.org
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·
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Jerry Thoendel402-332-3475
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bruce Jefferies......402-521-4262

bjefferies16117@gmail.com

5th Sunday of Lent March 17, 2024 | 7



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

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

CONFESSION TIMES Additional Lenten Confession Times

TIMES

As we prepare to receive Jesus into our hearts this Easter, let us prepare spiritually by cleaning our souls through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will offer additional times to receive this great sacrament of healing during the following days:

• Tuesday, March 19: 3-4 PM

• Tuesday, March 19: 6:30-7:30 PM

• Wednesday, March 20: 3-4 PM

• Wednesday, March 20: 6:30-7:30 PM

• Thursday, March 21: 3-4 PM

Thursday, March 21: 6:30-7:30 PM

• Friday, March 22: 3-4 PM

• Tuesday, March 26: 3-4 PM

• Tuesday, March 26: 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, March 27: 3-4 PM

• Wednesday, March 27: 6:30-7:30 PM



SAVE THE DATES: SUMMER RE PROGRAMS Totus Tuus and Vacation Bible School



TOTUS TUUS AT ST. PATRICK:

Totus Tuus (Totally Yours) is a fun and energetic parish based summer catechetical program for both grade school age children and junior and senior high school youth.

- June 17-21 for 1st-6th graders, 9 AM to 2:30 PM each day. Cost is \$35 per child.
- June 16-20 for 7th-12th graders, 6:30 PM to 8:45 PM each night. No cost! Registration begins in April—watch the parish website or call the RE office, 402-332-3454.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) AT ST. CHARLES:

A week of faith discoveries, memorable music, and new friends! (Volunteer opportunities for 7th grade and above.)

• June 3-7 for 4 year-olds-5th grade, 9 AM to Noon each day. Cost is \$45 per child. Register at www.stcharlesomaha.org/vbs.

CENTURY CLUB MARCH CASH PRIZE WINNERS What is Century Club?

Hello Century Club fans! I have some good news, and some sad news, to report. The good news... 2 new members joined at our last Knights meeting! Also, new members can now join Century Club for the low price of \$45! Dues are prorated at \$5 per drawing, with 9 drawings remaining in 2024. The sad news, besides the fact Tam, my better half, still hasn't won, I have to pull 18 numbers of members that have not paid their 2024 dues of \$60. Sorry to see you go, but wish you the best! It's not fair to our paid members to keep unpaid member numbers in the drawing. There was another unpaid member that won this month, leaving 2 CASH prizes to be claimed, should they decide to pay.

I am always asked "What is Century Club?" Century Club is a monthly CASH prize drawing of \$25 to \$150! Each member is assigned a number, written on a poker chip. All chips are the same (except for the number). A different person, usually a Knight, draws the CASH prize winners. Yes, it does seem the same people sometimes win. It baffles me, but it is a fair drawing. Half the dues collected are returned to members via the CASH prize drawings. The other half is distributed to St. Patrick Parish needs and people in need. No Century Club funds are used outside of our Parish. This includes the high school and preschool scholarships awarded. My goal is still 200 paid memberships. I am 21 people short of that goal. Please help spread the word on CASH prize winnings. I feel I've rambled long enough, so without further delay, here are our March Century Club CASH prize winners, drawn by Nick Jarzynka (hear trumpet fanfare in your head here:-)

\$150—Corliss Lovstad

\$100—Marilyn Krajicek

\$75—Tim and Mary Gilligan

\$50—Membership not paid

\$25—Cleo Neinaber

\$25—Jim Kotera

\$25—Jimmy Hagge

\$25—Barbara Veleba

\$25—Chuck Perchal



Congratulations to all! Did you know the Blessed Mother Mary, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, has been a patroness of the United States since 1846. Please ask her to pray for the USA. Thank you!

Jim Hottovy, Century Club Administrator

PLENARY INDULGENCE FRIDAYS DURING LENT Prayer Before a Crucifix



On each of the Fridays of Lent, a plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who, after Communion, recite the "Prayer Before a Crucifix":

"Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus while before Thy face I humbly kneel and, with burning soul, pray, and beseech Thee to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity; true contrition for my sins; and a firm purpose of amendment; while I contemplate with great love and tender pity Thy five most precious wounds, pondering over them within me while I call to mind the words which David Thy prophet said of Thee, my Jesus: "They have pierced My hands and My feet, they have numbered all My bones." Amen.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY! St. Patrick's Day Prayers



The Prayer of St. Patrick is also known as the Breastplate Prayer or "Lorica" Prayer—Latin for "a Roman cuirass of leather or metal." It is a beautiful prayer to say in the morning and remind yourself of the strength of Christ that works through you, and of course, an excellent prayer for St. Patrick's Day. Many variations shorten the bolded portion of the full prayer below into a shorter prayer.

SHORTER PRAYER OF ST. PATRICK:

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right,

Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks of me, Christ in the eye that sees me, Christ in the ear that hears me.

FULL PRAYER OF ST. PATRICK:

I arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through a belief in the Threeness, through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation. I arise today through the strength of Christ's birth and His baptism, through the strength of His crucifixion and His burial, through the strength of His resurrection and His ascension, through the strength of His descent for the judgment of doom. I arise today through the strength of the love of cherubim, in obedience of angels, in service of archangels, in the hope of resurrection to meet with reward, in the prayers of patriarchs, in preachings of the apostles, in faiths of confessors, in innocence of virgins, in deeds of righteous men. I arise today through the strength of Heaven; light of the sun, splendor of fire, speed of lightning, swiftness of the wind, depth of the sea, stability of the earth, firmness of the rock. I arise today through God's strength to pilot me: God's might to uphold me. God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's way to lie before me, God's shield to protect me, God's hosts to save me from snares of the devil, from temptations of vices, from every one who desires me ill, afar and anear, alone or in a multitude. I summon today all these powers between me and evil, against every cruel merciless power that opposes my body and soul, against incantations of false prophets, against black laws of pagandom, against false laws of heretics, against craft of idolatry, against spells of women and smiths and wizards, against every knowledge that corrupts man's body and soul. Christ shield me today against poison, against burning, against drowning, against wounding, so that reward may come to me in abundance. Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks of me, Christ in the eye that sees me, Christ in the ear that hears me. I arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through a belief in the Threeness, through a confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation. Amen.

THE IRISH BLESSING:

Both famous and anonymous, the Irish Blessing is common around departures or new beginnings, such as weddings, funerals, or goodbyes to friends and family moving away to a new place. It is a prayer of strength, protection, and best wishes. The Irish Blessing has a handful of Scriptural references as well, James Wilson for Irish Central writes, "The reference to the wind is thought to be a reference to the Holy Spirit, who came as a 'mighty wind' at Pentecost. The sun's warmth alludes to God's Mercy which the New Testament (Luke 1:78, NIV) tells us 'by which the rising sun will come to us from Heaven.' The mention of rain is thought to be symbolic of God's provision—nothing will grow without rain," James Wilson.

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

IRISH BLESSINGS FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND EVERY DAY:

Many of these Irish blessings remain anonymous, passed down among generations. Most center around blessing friends and family to live a life of growing joy and abundance.

- "May the best day of your past be the worst day of your future."
- "May green be the grass you walk on, may blue be the skies above you, may pure be the joys that surround you, may true be the hearts that love you."
- "May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you're going, and the insight to know when you're going too far."
- "May peace and plenty be the first to lift the latch to your door and Happiness be your guest today and evermore."

-Article by Hallow



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

LAY LITURGICAL MINISTRY Jonathan Wotipka......402-332-4444, x212 ijwotipka@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.

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEUDULE Holy Week



Join us during these special and sacred services leading up to Easter Sunday.

Holy Thursday, March 28: 7 PM Stations of the Cross, March 29: 3 PM Good Friday, March 29: 7 PM Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, March 30: 7 PM Easter Sunday, March 31: 8 AM, 10 AM, Noon

MASS INTENTIONS Masses Still Available in 2024



One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the

greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. You can schedule 3 Mass Intentions (one weekend and two weekdays) per calendar year for a minimum stipend of \$10 each. Contact the parish office, 402-332-4444, for more information and to offer such an incredible pray for a loved one—living or deceased.

5th Sunday of Lent March 17, 2024 | 9



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

HELPFUL RESOURCES

TIELFFUL RESOURCES
AL-ANON (ALCOHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT—OMAHA) Phone402-553-5033
Websiteal-anon.org
BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE Phone1-800-448-3000 Websitewww.boystown.org
CATHOLIC ANSWERS
Phone1-888-318-7884 Websitewww.catholic.com
CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
Grief & Healing Counselor402-391-3711 Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna402-332-3475
CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA Phone
CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE
Websitecatholicvoiceomaha.com
COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION) Phone
EWTN (GLOBAL CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK)
Phone
HEARTS RESTORED (HEALING AFTER ABORTION)
Phone402-783-4673 Websiteheartsrestorednebraska.org
HOLY FAMILY SHRINE
Phone
LEAST OF MY BRETHREN (SUPPORT HOMELESS)
Phone
MARRIAGE RESOURCES For Your Marriagewww.foryourmarriage.org
Retrouvaillewww.ioryourmarriage.org Retrouvaillewww.helpourmarriage.org
MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE
Phone1-858-207-6277 Websitewww.masstimes.org
NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK Websitenebraskahomeschool.org
POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE (FERTILITY HELP)
Phone402-390-6600 Websitewww.popepaulvi.com
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AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM COME AND SEE—CHANCERY, MARCH 21



Discover how this program equips Catholics across the archdiocese to share their faith through friendship and deep investment in others. Meet graduates, hear testimonies of the impact, and share a meal. We will meet on Thursday, March 21 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Chancery (2222 111th St, Omaha). RSVP by Monday, March 18. For more information, visit archomaha.org/mentorship.

CHOSEN, HEALED, SENT PARISH MISSION—St. PATRICK, ELKHORN, MARCH 23-25

Chosen, Healed, Sent is a parish mission that can gently pry open the effects caused by broken hearts, broken lives, broken relationships, and broken dreams and allow the light of Christ to be brought into a moment of darkness so healing can begin. Join Dr. Mary Healy and Deacon Tim McNeil to hear how God wants you to experience His friendship, the joy of life and human wholeness. Moreover, you'll leave equipped to share Christ's healing love with others. Join us on Saturday, March 23—Chosen—for a healing conference with Dr. Mary Healy from 12 PM to 4 PM with 5 PM Mass and dinner to follow and a healing service from 6:45 PM to 9 PM; Sunday, March 24—Healed—5 PM Mass with dinner to follow and a talk from 6:30 PM to 8 PM by Deacon Tim McNeil; Monday, March 25—Sent—6 PM dinner and



mission from 6:30 PM to 8 PM. RSVP for the meals at https://www.stpatselkhorn.org/parish-mission.html.



PARISH LENTEN MISSION—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE, MARCH 25-26

Fr. Tom Donaldson will be presenting our Parish Mission, "Return—Renew—Rejoice" on Monday, March 25 and Tuesday, March 26 at 6:30 PM. "If you have abandoned your faith, this mission is for you. If you have been on again, off again in the living of your Catholic religion, this mission is for you. If you feel a need for spiritual growth, this mission is for you. This mission is for everyone!" Fr. Tom

SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST PRESENTATION—HOLY FAMILY SHRINE, MARCH 29

We welcome Deacon Terry Ficenec from St. Joseph Catholic Church in Springfield, NE to the Holy Family Shrine to present Jesus' Last Seven Words. This event will be in the Chapel starting at Noon on Good Friday, March 29. It will last about 1.5 hours. Over the centuries, many have pondered the rich meaning of Jesus' last words spoken while dying on the Cross. These "words" are the seven brief sayings Jesus uttered while He hung on the



Cross in utmost pain and loneliness. Enter into the Easter Triduum with a deep reflection on the pious words given by our Savior as He offered Himself up for the sins of mankind.

WALK FOR JUSTICE—ST. MARY MAGDALENE, MARCH 29



This year marks the 45th Annual Good Friday Walk for Justice Stations of the Cross. We will begin at St. Mary Magdalene Church (109. S 19th St, Omaha) on Friday, March 29 at 1 PM. Inclement weather plan: join us inside at St. Mary Magdalene. Sponsored by Sacred Heart, St. Benedict the Moor, St. Leo the Great, St. Mary Magdalene, St. John's, and St. Pius X Catholic Churches; Creighton Prep, Duchesne, Gross, Marian, Mercy, Mount Michael, Roncalli, and Skutt Catholic High Schools; Catholic Charities; Schlegel Center for Service and Justice, and Society of St. Vincent de Paul. For more information, contact Cathy at 402-451-5755 or cajenkinswalsh@archomaha.org.

KNOW YOUR FAITH: PRAYER AND THE SPIRITUAL LIFE—ST. LEO, THURSDAYS IN APRIL

Join the Evangelium Institute for a weekly course on prayer and the spiritual life! Those that register will also have the opportunity to meet with a trained and credentialed spiritual director. Classes will be held on Thursdays in April, from 7 PM to 8:30 PM, at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church (1920 N 102nd St, Omaha). Please register by March 31 at www.eicatholic.org/upcoming-events.





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