

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNA, NE 68028



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

“Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day.” - Lk 24:46

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

APRIL 14, 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 Easter

FIRST READING (ACTS 3:13-15, 17-19)

Peter challenges the religious leaders of Jerusalem who put Jesus to death to repent of their sins and be converted. Have you ever seen someone have a conversion to the Faith?

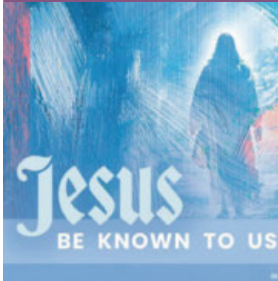
SECOND READING (1 JN 2:1-5A)

John tells us that we should turn to Jesus, our Advocate, when we sin and fail to keep His commandments. Can you think of a time when you sought Jesus in a time of need?

GOSPEL (LK 24:35-48)

The resurrected Jesus taught the disciples how they were witnesses to the Scriptures being fulfilled in His suffering, death, and resurrection and that forgiveness of sins was to be preached in His name. How might you share your faith this week at home or at work?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



When I was a kid, a friend at my home parish told me, “If you get to Mass by the Gospel reading, it counts!” As a lifelong late-arriver, it’s something I have told myself many times, especially in my earlier years as a Catholic. If the “it counts” is justifiable on a pathetically minimal scale of liturgical legalism, then the Gospel reading today shows how insanely wrong-headed it is, and how helpful it is to re-think the Mass in its light.

The famous “Road to Emmaus” story recounts, on that first Sunday of the Resurrection, the basic two-fold structure of the Mass: Word, followed by Eucharist. Jesus spends a significant period of time with two dismayed disciples, as He connects a wide swath of the Hebrew scriptures with His own suffering, death, and resurrection. They would later report that this Liturgy of the Word touched their hearts with an inexplicable fire. This Word-induced flame alone is what leads the two disciples to discover Jesus’ presence in the “breaking of the bread.”

With this in mind, how can we possibly think that the Liturgy of the Word is unnecessary or incidental? The two disciples needed the Scriptures explained to them in order to experience Jesus alive in the Eucharistic breaking of bread. Sure, we say, but they had the Risen Jesus. But that’s precisely the point: Jesus is risen and accompanies us in both parts of the Mass. Imagine how much our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist would deepen if we (preachers and listeners) took even more seriously that Jesus Himself sets our hearts ablaze with His Word so that we know Him in the Eucharist. That Word-induced fire counts, too!

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

I’ve heard that we become angels when we die. Is this what the Church teaches?

ANSWER:

As human beings, we are both spiritual and corporeal. We are body and soul. This makes us unique in all creation. No other physical creature—plant or animal—possesses an immortal soul made in God’s image and likeness. Like the distinction with plants and animals, angels have an entirely different sort of existence.

Angels are pure immortal spirit, and they have been so since the moment of their creation. While they may take on an appearance of a body in Biblical history, they are not a body like we are. Angels are neither male nor female, despite the art we often see.

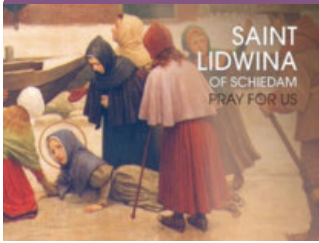
As the result of the Fall, human beings experience death. Our souls are temporarily separated from our bodies. However, we do not become something other than human. Every Sunday in the Creed we profess “I believe in the resurrection of the body.” As Jesus was united with His body on the third day, so too will we be united with our bodies at the end of time.



Dear Jesus, when I feel troubled, alone, frightened, be with me. Be a flicker of flame in this darkness. Help me to know you in the stark seasons as I do in times of elation. You are the light I seek. Amen.

SAINT LIDWINA OF SCHIEDAM

Religious



St. Lidwina of Schiedam (1380-1433) was born to a poor family in Holland. She had a devotion to the Blessed Mother and would often pray before the miraculous image of Our Lady of Schiedam. One winter, when she was 15 years old, she fell while ice skating and broke a rib, which she never recovered from. Gangrene spread throughout her body, which became as one big sore, and she was bed-ridden for the rest of her life. No medicine was able to help her. Her gradual physical deterioration

was so grotesque that many suspected her of being possessed by the devil. However, when a priest brought her an unconsecrated Host, she was able to discern that it was not the Body and Blood of Christ. She experienced great suffering in this way until she was 53, but God rewarded her with the gift of heightened prayer, mystical visions, and spiritual consolations. Although she was not cured, many miraculous healings were attributed to her intercession. She fasted continuously, eventually surviving on only the Eucharist, and after her death on Easter Sunday the sweet odor of sanctity filled her room. Her grave became a pilgrimage site over which a chapel was erected. St. Lidwina of Schiedam is the patron of the chronically ill and ice skaters. Her feast day is April 14.

SAINT HUNNA

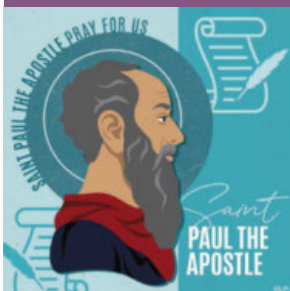
Religious

St. Hunna (d. 679 A.D.) was born in Alsace, France. She was the virtuous daughter of a duke, and she married a similarly virtuous nobleman. Hunna and her husband did not indulge in unnecessary luxuries according to their high state in life, and instead detached themselves from their riches by opening their home to the poor and assisting them in their need. St. Deodatus, a bishop who resigned from his See, came to live with the holy couple for a time. St. Hunna and her husband greatly profited from his religious instruction and grew in sanctity as a result. When Hunna bore a son, she named him after St. Deodatus. This child, raised by such holy parents, later joined a monastery and also became a saint. After her husband's death Hunna continued to spend her life serving the poor, especially women. No task was too menial for her. She tended to the poor and the sick and regularly, including their laundry and mending, even to the point of exhaustion. For this she was nicknamed the "Holy Washerwoman." She also gave away her wealth and property to build churches and monasteries. So many miracles were attributed to her that Pope Leo X canonized her in 1520. St. Hunna is the patron saint of laundresses and her feast day is April 15.



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

Apostle



St. Paul the Apostle (c.4-c.64) was named Saul of Tarsus before his conversion. He was born to a devout Jewish family who followed strict Pharisaic traditions for generations. He spoke Greek and was formally educated in Jewish culture, scripture, and traditions. As an adult he worked as a tentmaker as well as an enforcer for the Jewish leadership in their efforts against new Christian converts. He is known to have taken an active part in the stoning of St. Stephen, the first martyr, and considered himself to be a shining example of Judaism. Saul's conversation to Christianity took place while he was traveling to Damascus to persecute Christians

there. According to Scripture, "a light from Heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'" (Acts 9:3-4). Stricken blind by the vision, Saul continued to Damascus where he was healed and immediately began meeting with other disciples in the area and preaching that Jesus is Lord. He changed his name to the Roman version of Saul, Paul, after his conversation because it was more common among the Gentiles. For years he traveled all over the region starting churches and preaching the Gospel to the Gentiles. Paul's letters to the communities he served make up thirteen of the books of the New Testament today. His writings encourage new believers to learn about Jesus through Scripture and prayer, partaking in the Eucharist, and serving those in need. He was eventually beheaded as part of systematic executions of Christian leaders in Rome. St. Paul is known as the Apostle to the Gentiles, and the most prolific Christian missionary of all time. St. Paul, pray for us!



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/
Jn 6:22-29

TUESDAY: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b
and 8a, 17 and 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

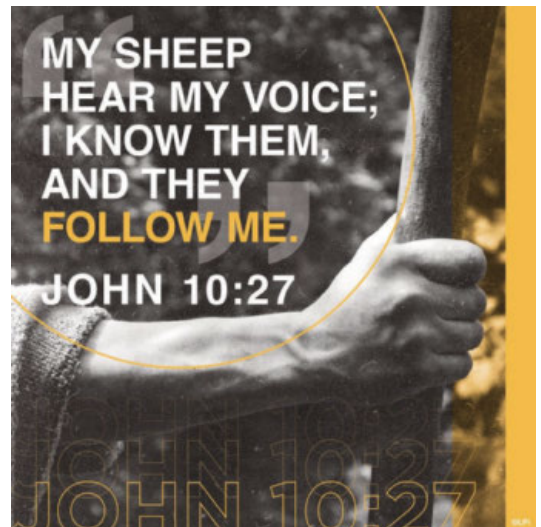
WEDNESDAY: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn
6:35-40

THURSDAY: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn
6:44-51

FRIDAY: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

SATURDAY: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-
17/Jn 6:60-69

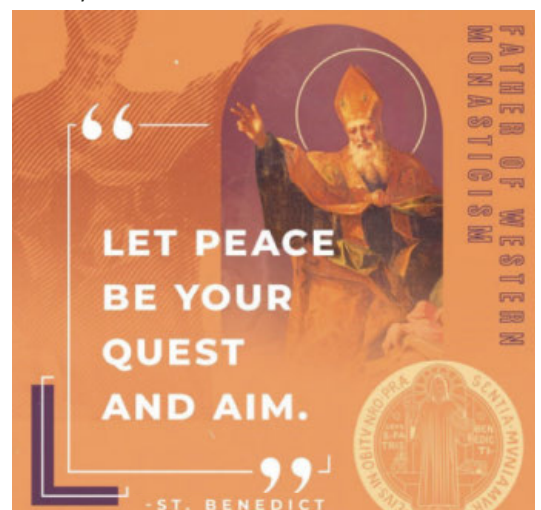
NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23,
26, 28, 29 (22)/Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Tax Day

NEXT SUNDAY: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day
of Prayer for Vocations





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

UPLIFT YOUR PRIEST
Support Priests April 8—19



The annual Uplift Your Priest Campaign is dedicated to supporting our priests. Training youth to show appreciation for a priest's role in their spiritual lives is an impactful way to affirm them. We

need to recognize their daily sacrifices. Students should identify priests who inspire them and plan to celebrate them. Every act of kindness can make a difference.

Daily Deed Ideas: Call/text/email your priest, send spiritual bouquets to him, send him drawings or paintings by children or a note of gratitude, pray, fast, and offer sacrifices for him, send him a gift card to Amazon or a restaurant, make a family video message/song of affirmation for him, create a sidewalk message in front of the church/rectory, post a picture of your family with your priest, send financial support to the parish, or challenge and tag 3 families/individuals to pray a Rosary for him on social media.

**"He who carries God in his heart bears Heaven with him wherever he goes."
—St. Ignatius of Loyola**

SEMINARIAN PRAYER CORNER

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

This week let us pray for **Casey LaMotte** (Propaedeutic Year at St. John Vianney Seminary) from St. Robert Bellarmine in Omaha.



"Peace be with you." His peace will be fully felt when you are living the vocation that He has called you to. If you think you may have a vocation to follow the Risen Lord as a priest or in 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."



Baptisms

Since our last update on March 24, five children have been baptized into the Body of Christ. We congratulate the parents and family members, and we welcome your little ones into the Family of Faith! We are praying our Lord Jesus will bless, guide and inspire each of you in His love as you travel along your faith journey. Congratulations!



Name.....Date

- Blake William Hansen.....4/7/2024*
- James Alan Hennings.....4/7/2024*
- Charlotte Jane Wallace.....4/7/2024*
- Patrick Michael Wallace.....4/7/2024*
- Theodore William Wallace.....4/7/2024*

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS



Thank you to all who donated to our Easter Flower Offering this year. We greatly appreciate your donation to help decorate our beloved Church during the Easter season and to remember/honor our loved ones. Blessed Easter Season to you and your loved ones.

In Memory Of.....Donor

- Arya Manzitto, Janet Woster, Jerry Gray, Jim Sindelar, and Coach Pat Murphy.....Rick and Sue Hollendieck*
- Don Frederick, Dan and Elsie Conant, and Rose Frederick.....Caroline Frederick*
- Joseph Ostdiek.....Theresa Liebenritt*
- Andy Jarosz, Mike and Della Jarosz, John and Maurine Lehan, and Robert Lehan.....Eileen Jarosz*
- Marolyn Hoffmann Family.....Marolyn Hoffmann*

In Honor Of.....Donor

- Eugenia Vogel.....Albert Spier*

We greatly apologize if we missed your In Memory Of/In Honor Of request this year. Please understand, especially with Online Giving, there is not an easy way for us to track this. We are already making plans to better streamline this process next year so that anyone who wishes to be recognized with their loved ones listed can easily do so. Thank you again for your donation, support, and understanding.

"At times, you may become discouraged when you pray because your sins seem to jump out at you. You may actually feel worse than ever. But don't let that get you down. It's actually a sign of progress because the closer you draw to the perfect holiness of God, the more your own imperfections will stand out against the pure light of His holiness...This explains why really holy people are often the last ones to admit it, because the holier they get, the less holy they feel." —J. Augustine Wetta, OSB

NEBRASKA CATHOLIC DAY OF GIVING—MAY 1

Advanced Giving Days Begin Monday, April 15

The Archdiocese of Omaha, the Diocese of Lincoln, and the Diocese of Grand Island are joining together to offer the first ever Nebraska Catholic Day of Giving on Wednesday, May 1.



St. Patrick parish will use the money raised during this event to fund the building projects around the Church including updating the lights in the Sanctuary, the restoration of the rose stained glass windows, and replacing the carpet in various places. Any donation amount is helpful to cover the costs of repairs and preventative maintenance of our beloved church building. We thank you for generosity, support, and stewardship!

BREAK DOWN OF COST

Updating the Sanctuary Lights—Our dimming system for the lights in the Church is outdated and needs to be replaced along with the light fixtures. In total an estimated cost of: \$83,500.

Restoring the Rose Stained Glass Windows—Overtime time, the window frames of the north and south rose windows have degraded and need to be restored. The south rose window in the old part of the church has been estimated to cost \$29,000 to restore, and the north rose window is estimated to cost \$23,900. In total an estimated cost of: \$52,900.

Replacing the Carpet—There are several areas in the building that could use new carpet as it is worn and aged. Areas include the narthex, the stairway, the Basement Commons area, the Youth Group Room, the Basement Rehearsal Room, and three of the classrooms in the basement. In total an estimated cost of: \$51,388.

Donate online, you can find the link to our giving page on the homepage of our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. We will also welcome checks payable to St. Patrick with "Giving Day" in the memo line. While the Giving Day is officially May 1, Advance Giving Days begin Monday, April 15 and the last day to give is Wednesday, May 8. Thank you again for your support!

MASS FOR VOCATIONS

St. John Paul II Newman Center—April 17



Join the Serra Club of West Omaha as we offer a Mass for Vocations on Wednesday, April 17 at 5:30 PM at the St. John Paul II Newman Center (1221 S. 71st, Omaha), celebrated by Father Frank Baumert, to pray together for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life in the Archdiocese of Omaha. After Mass, hear from Father Brett Jamrog, who was ordained a Catholic priest on June 4, 2022, for the Archdiocese of Omaha. Learn about his vocation story, his religious formation experience, and his service as a new priest at his current family of parishes. Light refreshments, pizza, and sweet treats will be provided. Serrans are asked to bring a dessert. You must RSVP no later than Noon on Monday, April 15 to ensure enough food for all attendees. Use the QR code to do so. Follow the Serra Club of West Omaha on Facebook at facebook.com/serrawestomaha.

Stewardship Report

Apr 2-Apr 8, 2024

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

General Contributions	Apr 2 -Apr 8	Fiscal YTD thru Apr 8
Sunday Offering-Apr 2-Apr 8	\$24,971.33	\$965,369.92
Other Contributions	\$2,510.41	\$115,351.52
Total General Contributions	\$27,481.74	\$1,080,721.44 *
Surplus/Deficit	\$2,731.74	\$65,971.44
Fiscal Year-to-Date Income		\$1,422,600.33
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses		\$1,286,233.53
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income		\$136,366.80

* 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



HIGHWAY CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Knights of Columbus are coordinating the Highway 370 cleanup for Saturday, April 20. We will meet in the St. Patrick Church parking lot at 8 AM for instructions and a safety brief. We will provide the safety vests and trash bags. We look forward to seeing you at this event show support for our parish and community. Many hands make light work! For anyone interested in helping: text or call Tony Schultz at 303-917-3040.

FISH FRY THANK YOU



Thank you to all those who attended our Knights of Columbus Fish Fry's. Your support throughout the Lenten season has made for another successful year for our Fish Fry's. Special thanks to all our Knights, families, parishioners, and friends who spent countless hours helping work our Fish Fry's. Thank you also to all those who donated desserts.

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, APRIL 15TH

No Communion Service or Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH

6:00 PM The Fibich Family

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH

7:30 AM † Jerry and Philamae Towey

THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH

7:30 AM Diane Weier

FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH

7:30 AM † Seth Feyerherm

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

5:00 PM Special Intention for the Stec Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST

8:00 AM For Our Parishioners

10:00 AM Living and Deceased Family of Pete and Rosie Stec

12:00 PM † Joan and Jim Packett

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 Donna, Calli Jo Backer (granddaughter of Kathy Hinderks Phillips), Arlene (sister of Maxine Burke), 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, APRIL 14TH—3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen

MONDAY, APRIL 15TH

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

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH

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

7:30 PM to 8:30 PM Knights Scholarship Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH

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

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Knights of Columbus CPR Class—Parish Center A

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, APRIL 21ST—4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM 7th Grade Confirmation Meeting—Parish Center

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

INSPIRATIONAL HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

Gratitude From a Parishioner

Words seem inadequate to express sincere gratitude (along with many parishioners, I'm sure) to all the ministries which led or assisted in the Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday evening liturgies. Individuals (too many to name) stepped forward with dedication; spending hours in practice, planning, and preparation, in so many self-giving ways, to assure that these beautiful and inspiring ceremonies were lifted to amazing new heights. Especially on these nights, which I attended, the ministries flowed together with such harmony, drawing us deeply into a sacred space, with special prayers and holy celebration.

We are so blessed to have a parish team, each so dedicated, talented, and eager to elevate our experience of the sacred liturgy, and it certainly happened for so many of us in each of these Triduum ceremonies. We, as Easter people, have great opportunity to add to inspiring liturgies, even in the pew! The Risen Christ is among us, right here and right now. Let us rejoice and be (especially) glad!



LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

4th Sunday of Easter

APRIL 20TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Carol Zeleny

Lectors
Crystal Schroeder
(Read the 1st Reading)

Rebecca Campbell
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Nancy Arp
Diane Sherwood
Julene Crockett
Christine Walstrom

Ushers
Chad Soupir
Lisa Willert
Jeff Wollenburg
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers
Aslyn Ronk
Kenley Ronk
Need Sub

Greeters
Eileen Jarosz
Need Sub

APRIL 21ST
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Lori Frederick

Lectors
Sandy Scheef
(Read the 1st Reading)

Duane Benes
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Lori Frederick
Barb Applegate
Paul Hubert
Deb Benes
Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers
Kevin Kaup
Tony Schultz
Bob Sis
Marty Stednitz

Rosary Reciter
Carol Zeleny

Altar Servers
Kaylee Frederick
Drew Garcia
Emersyn Pichler

Greeters
Sally Stednitz
Tony Schultz

Hilcrest SR
Gene Schwarting
Kathy Schwarting

APRIL 21ST
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Mitch Wendlandt

Lectors
Jolene Jefferies
(Read the 1st Reading)

Judy Weier
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Jim Hain
Jim Hottovy
Abby Kenner
Rosie Stec

Ushers
Clint Bollock
Andy Pearson
John Schaffert
Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter
Tam Hottovy

Altar Servers
Anderson Brei
Scarlet McCord
Need Sub

Greeters
Andrew Brei
Need Sub

APRIL 21ST
NOON

Sacristan
Larry Neppi

Lectors
Kelly Eby
(Read Both 1st and 2nd Readings)

Kathy Broz
(Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs
Wendy Neppi
Steve Otto
Leann Otto
Larry Neppi
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Carole Lisiecki
Larry Neppi
Delma Stoner
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Carole Lisiecki
Jeanette Roy

Vocations Crucifix
Charlie Canfield



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

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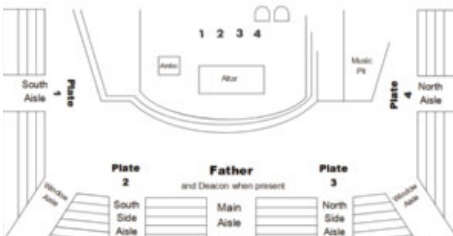
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Bruce Jefferies.....402-521-4262
bjefferies16117@gmail.com

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

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.

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

FREE PAPER SHREDDING
Saturday, April 26

The Gretna Lions Club is hosting a free community paper shredding day on Saturday, April 26



Gretna Lions Club
Saturday, **April 27TH 2024**
Good Shepherd Lutheran
NORTH PARKING LOT
10:00 AM - NOON

FREE
COMMUNITY Paper
SHREDDING

from 10 AM to Noon in the Good Shepherd Lutheran North Parking Lot (11204 S 204th St, Gretna). Help guard against identity theft with free and confidential shredding. Your cancelled checks, bills, bank statements, etc. will be destroyed on the spot while you watch—safely and securely. No need to remove staples, paper clips, or spirals. Limit of two containers per household. In addition, we will be collecting used eyeglasses, hearing aids, and mobile phones. We will also be collecting food for Gretna Neighbors. Paid for by Gretna Lions Club. For more information, call 402-216-6532.

THE CHOSEN SEASON FOUR
Viewing at St. Charles Borromeo



St. Charles Borromeo (7790 192nd St, Gretna) was able to acquire the rights to show


Come and See
Fridays at 7pm
Episodes 1&2 • April 12th
Episodes 3&4 • April 19th
Episodes 5&6 • April 26th
Episodes 7&8 • May 3rd

The Chosen Season 4! Join us on Fridays at 7 PM or Thursdays at 12:30 PM in our gym to watch. Please RSVP at: <https://www.stcharlesomaha.org/thechosen> so we know how many people to expect.

*There will be no food or drink provided, however, you are welcome to bring your own!

- Episodes 3&4 • April 18, 19
- Episodes 5&6 • April 25, 26
- Episodes 7&8 • May 2, 3

COMMON EFFECTS OF ABORTION:



- Depression
- Anxiety
- Guilt
- Shame
- Panic Attacks
- Excessive Anger
- Feelings of Helplessness
- Feelings of Powerlessness
- Emotional Numbness
- Alcohol Abuse
- Drug Abuse

If you are experiencing these or other symptoms, visit rachelvineyard.org or call 1-866-482-5433

EASTER, SACRAMENTAL MERCY, EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL
Connection Between Eucharist and Reconciliation



Catholics can easily recall when Jesus instituted the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist: during the first Mass, which began during the Last Supper with the words of consecration and finished the following afternoon when Jesus gave His body and poured out His blood for us on Calvary. Far fewer Catholics, however, know when Jesus instituted the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, which may be one of the reasons some today take it for granted. He did it on the evening He rose from the dead, which shows just how crucial Jesus considered it in His salvific mission and manifested what the sacrament of reconciliation is meant to bring about. Just as in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, whenever we return to the Father's house through this sacrament, the Father rejoices because his "son who was dead has come to life again" (Luke 15:24). Jesus wanted explicitly to link our resurrection through this sacrament to His resurrection from the dead. Every reconciliation is meant to be a resurrection.

So He walked through the closed doors of the room where the 10 apostles were huddled together. His first words were "Peace be with you." He had become incarnate to establish the definitive peace treaty between God and the human race through the forgiveness of our sins, and He was about to commission the apostles to continue this very mission. "Just as the Father sent me," He said, "so I send you!" Jesus was sent by God the Father as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world, and Jesus was sending the apostles out to forgive sinners of their sins one by one. Since "no one can forgive sins but God alone" (Mark 2:7), however, Jesus had to give them God's power to fulfill this mission. So He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Then He gave them instructions and power that point to the structure of the sacrament of confession as we know it: "Those whose sins you forgive are forgiven; those whose sins you retain are retained." Jesus didn't give them the ability to read minds or hearts; therefore, the only way that they would know which sins to absolve or hold would be if individual sinners told them their sins.

Just as three days before Jesus had made them His instruments to give us His Body and Blood, so He was making them His ambassadors through whom He would forgive our sins. These two sacraments of reconciliation and the Eucharist are intrinsically related. Just as a loving mother cleans and feeds a child, so God through these sacraments wipes us clean of our sins and fills us with supernatural nourishment. We see that connection in the way Jesus celebrated the Last Supper, washing the apostles' feet before He gave them His Body and Blood. As Pope Benedict emphasized in his Holy Thursday homily 15 years ago and in the second volume of his acclaimed *Jesus of Nazareth*, Jesus was washing not merely their soles but their souls, symbolically cleansing them of their sins for the reception of the Eucharist as well as their future exercise of the priesthood and celebration of the Eucharist.

"Jesus' gesture," Pope Benedict wrote, "was a 'sacrament' (a visible sign) of the entire mystery of Christ—His life and death—in which He draws close to us... [and] truly 'cleanses' us, renewing us from within." In commenting on the meaning of Jesus' words to Peter that He had to wash his feet otherwise he would have no part in Him—but not his head and hands because he had been "already bathed"—Pope Benedict stated, "The complete bath ...can only mean Baptism, by which man is immersed into Christ once and for all." In Christian life, the sacramental gift of Baptism "constantly requires completion: 'washing of feet.' ...We've been bathed in Baptism but we need to be cleansed from the contact we have with the various 'filth' we encounter in the world, so that we may be ready to enter into divine worship." That's what Jesus does in the sacrament of His mercy, where Jesus is "continually on His knees at our feet and...carries out the service of...purification, making us capable of God," said the recently deceased pontiff. The basin in which he washes us is "His love, ready to face death. Only love has that purifying power that washes the grime from us and elevates us to God's heights." This is the means by which Jesus, "having loved His own who were in the world, loved them to the extreme" (John 13:1).

The Eucharist Jesus instituted immediately afterward is a continuation of that extreme mercy. Jesus made the connection explicit in commanding the apostles to receive and drink the chalice of His Blood, poured out for the remission of sins, and to do it in His memory. On Calvary the following day, He culminated His priestly sacrifice, begging the Father to forgive those for whose sins He was dying, "for they know not what they do." And then He made the apostles capable of washing others' feet in this same sacramental way the first time He encountered them after the Resurrection. As we enter more deeply into the Eucharistic Revival, it's important to grow in our awareness of the connection between the Eucharist and reconciliation, between devotion to Jesus' sacramental self-giving and His sacramental mercy. Both devotions were explicitly requested by the Lord.

Continued on next page—>

EASTER, SACRAMENTAL MERCY, EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Continued From Page 8

It wasn't enough in the 12th and 13th centuries, for example, that the truth about the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist be grasped intellectually. Jesus desired that this reality pass from our heads to our hearts to our knees, and through St. Juliana of Liège, the miracle of Orvieto and Bolsena, St. Thomas Aquinas and other instruments, asked for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, to bring about true Eucharistic piety and appreciation for Christ in what He would later call the "sacrament of love." He did a similar thing with His mercy through His apparitions to St. Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, asking her to remind us of what He emphasized in the Gospel: that we're sinners who need His mercy—and therefore need to trust in it, ask for it, and receive it, and share it with others. Through her He called us to live five new devotions by which we could more deeply assimilate all of these realities. He asked that a feast of his Divine Mercy be established on the Second Sunday of Easter, prepared for by a novena beginning Good Friday. He showed her an image of Divine Mercy, with water and blood flowing from His pierced side—as signs of the connection between baptism and the Eucharist to His mercy—and asked her to spread its veneration. He called on all of us to unite ourselves in prayer to Him on the cross at 3 PM each day. And He taught us to pray the beautiful Chaplet of Divine Mercy, which explicitly links our prayers for God's mercy to Jesus in the Eucharist, as we offer to the Eternal Father His dearly beloved Son's Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, in atonement for our sins and those of the world.

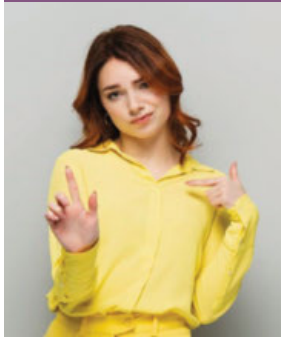
His request for the establishment of the feast of Divine Mercy was fulfilled and decreed by St. John Paul II during the canonization Mass of St. Faustina in 2000 and celebrated the first time the following year. On this day, Jesus promised that "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow" will be open and then specified two: "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."

As we live the novena and Divine Mercy Sunday during the Eucharistic Revival, it is a great time for us to recognize the intrinsic connection between the two sacramental floodgates of confession and the Holy Eucharist and grow in gratitude and love for Jesus in both.

—Article by National Catholic Register

A TEST FOR PRIDEFULNESS

Ask the Lord for Greater Docility



None of us likes to think we are prideful. It's always someone else; that guy over there is the arrogant one. One way of gauging is to ponder how well we accept being corrected. Consider the following verses from Proverbs: "He who corrects an arrogant man earns insult; and he who reproves a wicked man incurs opprobrium. Reprove not an arrogant man, lest he hate you; But, reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Instruct a wise man, and he becomes still wiser; teach a just man, and he advances in learning (Proverbs 9:7-12)."

Which one are you? Do you bristle when someone corrects you or do you grow wiser from the input you receive? It's not easy to accept criticism or correction without feeling some

degree of humiliation, particularly when it is public in some manner. Of course, there are different kinds of correction. There is the sort that involves facts about which we are mistaken. At other times need to be set straight on the proper procedures to be followed in some situation. Finally, there are times when we have failed in a moral sense and need to be summoned back to what is right. Whatever the case, being corrected can be difficult, and how we handle it is a good indicator of pride or humility in our soul.

There are, to be sure, times when people do not correct us in the best way possible. Perhaps they are smug or seek to embarrass us. Even in those cases, though, if we are wrong, we should view correction as beneficial, regardless of how poorly it is delivered. Note also that the passage from Proverbs above links humility to wisdom and learning. Thus, something we call docility is related to humility. The word docility comes from the Latin word for being teachable. Too often, we can be stubbornly opinionated and resist being taught. It is important to ask the Lord for greater docility.

Take this short self-test for pridefulness: How do you take correction? How teachable are you?

—Article by SpiritualDirection.com



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gretna, Nebraska

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PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

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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.

ST. PATRICK PRESCHOOL

Registration for 2024-2025

St Patrick Catholic Preschool is currently registering for the 2024-2025 preschool year. There are many developmentally appropriate class options to choose



from. Go to www.stpatricksgretna.org to find a class that meets the needs of your child and your family. All students must be 3 by October 15 and potty-trained by fall 2024.

We are very blessed to have many strong partners in the community that can provide transportation for families that desire a faith-based preschool, yet they are employed full time. Kids Round Up and Little Feet Big Steps daycares are two of the daycares that will transport here to St Patrick. Any questions please contact, Amanda Scardina at 402-332-3050.



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ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

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- 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**
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- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com
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Website.....couragerc.org
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Website.....leastofmybrethren.org
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Retrouvaille.....1-800-470-2230
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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

FREE ULTRASOUNDS—ESSENTIAL PREGNANCY SERVICES, APRIL 13, 20

Would you like a free ultrasound of your baby? To help Essential Pregnancy Services' new staff complete their onboarding training quickly, you can get a free first-trimester ultrasound, including pictures, during model scan days in April: April 13 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM; April 20 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Participants already should have established prenatal care with a physician and have a due date between October 25 and November 30. If you or someone you know is interested in getting a free first-trimester ultrasound, call or text 402-554-1000 to schedule your appointment.



GALA DINNER WITH DR. RALPH MARTIN—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINI, APRIL 19

You are invited to the Annual Gala of the Chesterton Academy of Omaha on Friday, April 19 at St. Robert Bellarmine (11802 Pacific St, Omaha). Our keynote speaker is Dr. Ralph Martin speaking on the topic "Living as Catholics in Challenging Times". RSVP at chestertonomaha.org/gala or call 402-205-5341.

GENERATIONAL HEALING MASS—ST. GERALD, APRIL 26

God is not bound by time and space. Through the sacrifice of the Mass, God can reach back into the past into the lives of our ancestors who have already died, the lives of all our family members now living, and the lives of those yet to be born. We will pray to God asking Him to enter into the lives of our families; past, present, and future for healing. His Global Love Prayer Communities invite you to a Generational Healing Mass on Friday, April 26 at St. Gerald Catholic Church (9602 Q St, Ralston). Rosary will begin at 6:15 PM and praise and worship will follow. Mass will begin at 7 PM. Fr. Kevin Joyce from His Global Love Ministry will be presiding. All are welcome. Questions contact Frances at 402-515-8000.



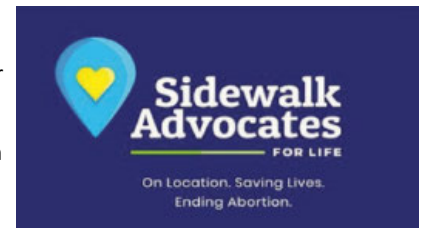
EWTN/CATHOLIC ANSWERS CONFERENCE—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINI, APRIL 26-27



Come to St. Robert Bellarmine (11802 Pacific St, Omaha) on April 26 and 27 to hear friends from EWTN and Catholic Answers speak on *THE EUCHARIST: The Source and Summit of Our Faith*. This 2-day symposium will feature: Fr. Wade Menezes, Tim Staples, Coleen Kelly Mast, Joe Heschmeyer, and Stacy Trasancos. Jack Williams, General Manager of EWTN Radio, will serve as our emcee as we explore the Eucharist. A bookstore will be open before, during, and after the symposium with a Saturday box lunch available for pre-purchase. The symposium will be held from 7 PM to 9:30 PM Friday, April 26, and 9 AM to 4:30 PM Saturday, April 27. Tickets are \$25 each. For more info and to purchase tickets, go to spiritcatholicradio.com/april.

SIDEWALK ADVOCATES TRAINING—CATHOLIC CHARITIES BUILDING, APRIL 27

We need you in this important mission! Training will be offered for men and women desiring to help women through sidewalk advocacy or prayer support at local abortion facilities. This peaceful, prayerful, law abiding approach has saved over 20,000 babies in 239 cities. Attend our training on Saturday, April, 27 at the Catholic Charities Building (9223 Bedford Ave, Omaha) from 10 AM to 4 PM and see how you can be a part of our team. A \$10 registration fee covers workbook, materials, and lunch. For information or to register email lifesidewalk@gmail.com.



Dear Lord, pour your blessings upon us today, we who trust in your name and call upon you. Send us your Spirit, enlighten our hearts, fill our lives with your abundance. Amen.

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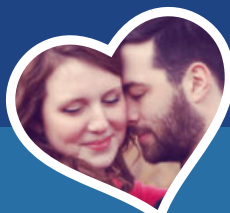
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