

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.” - Jn 10:17

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

APRIL 21, 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

4th Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING (ACTS 4:8-12)

Peter bore witness to the Sanhedrin that it was the crucified and risen Jesus who healed the crippled man and through whom we are saved. Have you ever told someone else about your faith in Jesus?

SECOND READING (JN 3:1-2)

John tells us that as believers we are destined one day to be like the resurrected and glorified Jesus. How do you think we can best prepare for such a future?

GOSPEL (JN 10:11-18)

As the "Good Shepherd," Jesus speaks of the power given to Him by the Father to lay down His life for His sheep. What could you do this week for the benefit of another?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know Him and His willingness to die for us! This week He says, "I know my own and my own know me," and "I lay down my life for the sheep." Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down His life for you and me—and He has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby—blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and His saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about His love. He never ceases to lay down His life for us.

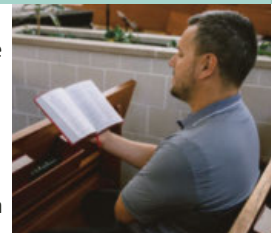
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

What is unique or different about the way Catholics read and are exposed to the Bible?

ANSWER:

Catholics are exposed to Scripture primarily through the Sunday readings from a book known as the Lectionary. The Lectionary is a book of selected passages from the Bible set in the context of a liturgical season, such as Advent, Lent, or Ordinary Time. There are four readings assigned to any Sunday: the first reading (usually from the Old Testament), the responsorial psalm, the second reading (usually from a New Testament letter), and the Gospel reading.



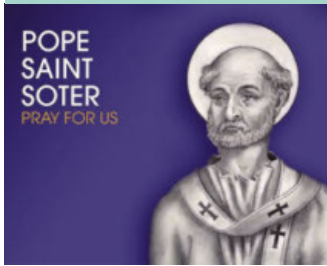
These readings together give them a new context. The selected readings relate to one another in a unique manner that is not present in the Bible text itself. In close proximity to each other, these readings now have the opportunity to converse with each other in a way that would have not been possible before. A homilist pays attention to all four readings, preparing a reflection that speaks of this conversation among the readings, enabling us to zero in on what this unique combination of God's Word has to say to us this particular Sunday.

Next time you attend Sunday Mass, try reading the Scripture ahead of time and see how this new relationship among the readings addresses and challenges you to be a better Christian here and now.

Dear Lord, you are my shepherd, the Good Shepherd, who leads in ways beyond my understanding. Guide me in the paths you would have me go. Amen.

SAINT SOTER

Pope



Pope St. Soter (c. 174-175 A.D.) was born in Fondi, Italy. Nothing is known of his early life. He served as the 12th bishop of Rome from c.167 to 175 A.D. He was praised for his fatherly tenderness in comforting, both with words and generous alms, those who suffered for their Catholic faith, especially remote Christian churches living in poverty. He is said to have written an encyclical against Montanism—a heresy which maintained that a Christian who sinned gravely could never be redeemed. Pope St. Soter also declared that marriage was only a valid

sacrament when blessed by a priest. The manner of Pope St. Soter's death is uncertain; one tradition holds that he was martyred on April 22, 175 A.D., under the Christian persecution of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. He was buried in Rome on the Appian Way in the catacombs of St. Callixtus. His feast day is April 22.

SAINT ZITA

Religious

St. Zita (d. 1271) was born into poverty in Tuscany, Italy. Her mother taught her to develop a strong prayer life, which, combined with her happy disposition, enabled her to seek God's will in all her life circumstances. At the age of twelve she became a servant for a noble Italian family. The family she served lived near a church, and Zita would rise early to attend daily Mass before beginning her duties. She saw her work as being in the service of God, which she executed with care and diligence. Because of her goodness she suffered harsh treatment and even physical abuse at the hands of both her employers and the other servants. From her patient endurance of such mistreatment, Zita's humility and virtue became evident to all. She was eventually respected and promoted to a leadership role of managing the entire household and its servants. Throughout her life she exemplified hard work, gentleness, and a life of prayer, despite being overworked. She died at the age of 60 serving the same family, and after her death many miracles occurred through her intercession. The family contributed to the cause for her canonization. St. Zita is an incorruptible, and her relics are kept in the Basilica of St. Frediano where she attended Mass. She is the patron saint of maids, domestic servants, butlers, waiters, rape victims, lost keys, and people ridiculed for their piety. St. Zita's feast day is April 27.



SAINT PASCHAL BAYLÓN

Religious



St. Paschal Baylón (1540-1592) was born in Spain to impoverished Catholic parents. He worked alongside his father as a shepherd from his childhood until his 20's. He often prayed while working in the fields, listening daily for the church bells that would ring at the point of Elevation of the Eucharist during Mass to remind him to spend time with the Lord. He was known for his work ethic and honesty among his neighbors and desired a religious life from a young age. Baylón taught himself to read so he could pray the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin, a prayer popular in his time. He would give parts of his dinner away to

those in need when it was brought to him as he was shepherding in the field. He also had great compassion for the sick. At age 24, Baylón joined the Friars Minor and although invited to study to be a priest, he chose to be a brother. In this vocation he served his brothers in many ways, including as a chef, door man, gardener, and official beggar. As a Franciscan lay brother, he took a vow of poverty but remained generous to those poor who came begging at the monastery—to the point that the other friars sometimes tried to limit his giving. St. Paschal found particular solace while praying before the Blessed Sacrament. His devotion to Christ in the Eucharist was tangible as he was known to spend most of his free time in adoration and would occasionally experience visions after all-night prayer. Because of this devotion, he is the Patron Saint of Eucharistic Congresses and Societies. He was also known widely for his spiritual council. People all over the region would visit him to talk about faith and life. St. Paschal Baylón, pray for us!



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

- MONDAY: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10
- TUESDAY: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30
- WEDNESDAY: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50
- THURSDAY: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20
- FRIDAY: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
- SATURDAY: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14
- NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

- MONDAY: Earth Day
- TUESDAY: St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr
- WEDNESDAY: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr; Administrative Professionals' Day
- THURSDAY: St. Mark, Evangelist
- FRIDAY: Arbor Day
- NEXT SUNDAY: 5th Sunday of Easter

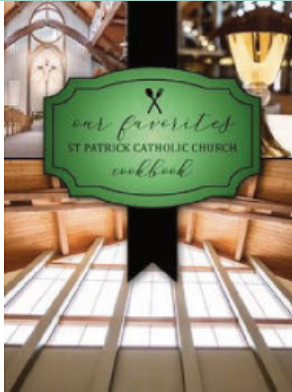




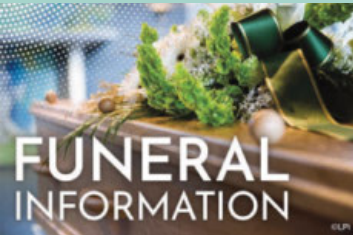
ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH COOKBOOKS FOR SALE
A Great Gift for Many Occasions

Purchase your copy of the parish cookbook during regular parish office hours for \$25 (cash or check—checks can be made payable to St. Patrick Church). These cookbooks make great gifts for all occasions—Mother’s Day, Graduations, Baby Showers, Wedding Showers, etc. All proceeds benefit St. Patrick Preschool. Trust me, you won’t want to miss the 700+ family favorite recipes!



FUNERAL NOTIFICATIONS
Receive Text Messages



Would you like to receive a text message/email to pray for the recently deceased at our parish? These messages

include a link to their obituary. Sign up to receive these messages at stpatgretna.flocknote.com/Funerals or contact Megan Seamann at 402-332-4444 ext. 202 or meseamann@archomaha.org.

VOCATIONS PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the men and women of the Archdiocese in Consecrated Life.

This week let us pray for **Sr. Mary James** (Missionary Benedictines).

“There is no salvation through anyone else.” Let us pray for those who are called to follow the Lord as a priest or religious brother or sister that they may generously say YES. Talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.



“PRAY ALWAYS AND DO NOT LOSE HEART.”

PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

We, the community of St. Patrick, continue to pray for all our parishioners and their deceased family members and loved ones.



Name.....Date of Death.....Place of Burial

Shirley Krejci.....4/4/2024.....Floral Lawn, North Platte

Deacon Steve Grandinetti.....4/5/2024.....Holy Sepulchre, Omaha

NEBRASKA CATHOLIC DAY OF GIVING—MAY 1
Donate Now!



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!

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 is now open at stpatricksgretna.org!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) AT ST. CHARLES:

A week of faith discoveries, memorable music, and new friends! (Volunteer opportunities for 7th grade and above.) Register at www.stcharlesomaha.org/vbs.

- June 3-7 for 4 year-olds-5th grade, 9 AM to Noon each day. Cost is \$45 per child.



AMAZING ATHLETES

Register Today for the Sportstastic Summer Camp



We are happy to announce that Amazing Athletes will be offering a sports camp option for youth of Gretna again! We will teach your kids the fundamentals of eight different sports (two each day) in a non-competitive atmosphere, where the focus is on building skills and confidence. Each class will be action packed with sports, obstacle courses, motor development, and games and activities for your kiddos to enjoy! Sports include: football, soccer, volleyball, tennis, hockey, golf, lacrosse, and baseball.

CAMP LOCATION: St. Patrick Catholic Church, Gretna
DATES: Monday, July 22—Thursday, July 25
TIMES: 9:00 AM—11:00 AM
FOR AGES 3-8 (Will break down into smaller groups based on age)
COSTS: \$105 per child

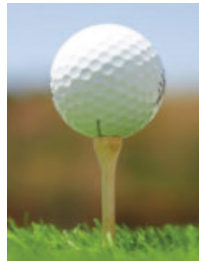
TO REGISTER FOR CAMP: Visit, <https://registration.amazingathletes.com/event/st-patricks-gretna-summer-camp> First time users will need to create an account and can add multiple children. Returning users just need to login and choose location. If you have more than one child you are signing up, please use code SIBLINGDISCOUNT at checkout to receive 10% off.

If you have any questions, please contact Christina at ctrindle@amazingathletes.com or 402-660-7886.

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!

Stewardship Report

Apr 9-Apr 15, 2024

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

General Contributions	Apr 9 -Apr 15	Fiscal YTD thru Apr 15
Sunday Offering-Apr 9-Apr 15	\$14,193.00	\$982,208.92
Other Contributions	\$495.05	\$116,056.57
Total General Contributions	\$14,688.05	\$1,098,265.49 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$10,061.95)	\$58,765.49
Fiscal Year-to-Date Income		\$1,443,714.85
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses		\$1,301,031.67
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income		\$142,683.18

** 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



APRIL KNIGHT FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our Family of the Month for April, the Jeff and Shari Harpenau family. Thank you to the Harpenau family for your service and contributions to our Knights of Columbus Council, our parish, and our community. Pictured from left to right is Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies presenting the Family of the Month Award to Jeff Harpenau.



APRIL KNIGHTS OF THE MONTH



Two Knights were awarded Knight of the Month for April. Congratulations to one of our Knights of the Month for April, Ken Beckman. Thank you Ken for your service and contributions to our Knights of Columbus Council, our parish, and our community. Pictured from the left from left to right is Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies presenting the Knight of the Month certificate to Ken Beckman. Congratulations to our other Knight of the Month for April, Steve Otto. Thank you Steve for your service and contributions to our Knights of Columbus Council, our parish, and our community. Pictured to the right from left to right is Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies presenting the Knight of the Month certificate to Steve Otto.

Two Knights were awarded Knight of the Month for April. Congratulations to one of our Knights of the Month for April, Ken Beckman. Thank you Ken for your service and contributions to our Knights of Columbus Council, our parish, and our community. Pictured from the left from left to right is Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies presenting the Knight of the Month certificate to Ken Beckman. Congratulations to our other Knight of the Month for April, Steve Otto. Thank you Steve for your service and contributions to our Knights of Columbus Council, our parish, and our community. Pictured to the right from left to right is Grand Knight, Bruce Jefferies presenting the Knight of the Month certificate to Steve Otto.



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 22ND

No Communion Service or Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD

6:00 PM † Lawrence Mero

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH

7:30 AM Kylie Dauner

THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH

7:30 AM † Holy Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH

7:30 AM † Fred Krejci

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH

5:00 PM † Gregory Polt

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH

8:00 AM † Pat Stock and † Mike Goodman

10:00 AM For Our Parishioners

12:00 PM † Michael Hansen

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



Please pray for the soul of Deacon Steve Grandinetti. Let us pray for Donna, Calli Jo Backer (granddaughter of Kathy Hinderks Phillips), Arlene (sister of Maxine Burke), Joe Carney, 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, 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 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

MONDAY, APRIL 22ND

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 23RD

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

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM Carpet Cleaning—Parish Center

5:30 PM to 5:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 6:00 PM)—Sanctuary

6:30 PM to 6:40 PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion (after Mass)—Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH

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

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM Private Event—Parish Center A

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM Newcomer's Dinner—Parish Center AB and Kitchen

FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH

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 27TH—FIRST COMMUNION

9:30 AM to 11:00 AM First Communion Practice and Pictures—Sanctuary and Narthex

12:00 PM to 5:30 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, APRIL 28TH—5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER—FIRST COMMUNION

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

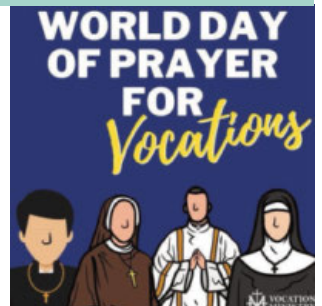
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday, April 21

As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and others to religious life or to live as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations—and teaching young people how to discern God's call—is a serious duty, but also a joyful one.

Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and deceased. This week, please encourage the young people in your life—children, grandchildren, students, friends, or other young people in your life—to be open if God calls them to priesthood or religious life. Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our archdiocese to respond to God's call.

"Jesus has a specific task in life for each and every one of us. Each one of us is hand-picked, called by name by Jesus! There is no one among us who does not have a divine vocation! Some are called audibly by God, but the usual kind of call is internal, through the inner working of the Spirit." —Homily by Pope St. John Paul II



LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

5th Sunday of Easter

APRIL 27TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Larry Nepl

Lectors
Donna Bruck
(Read the 1st Reading)

Eric Hittner
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Tracy Wollenburg
Larry Nepl
Sharleen Marik
Kevin Riley

Ushers
Ken Beckman
Chris Lingbloom
Lisa Willert
Jeff Wollenburg

Rosary Reciter
Ellie Clines

Altar Servers
Colin Lingbloom
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Tim Kirkpatrick
Nancy Kirkpatrick

APRIL 28TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Tony Schultz

Lectors
Cari Kaup
(Read the 1st Reading)

Carrie Hubert
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Jamey Kennel
Greg Jones
Barb Applegate
Marilyn Havel

Ushers
Kevin Kaup
Tony Schultz
Pat Shurtliff
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Carol Zeleny

Altar Servers
Ethan Kaup
Carson Kaup
Will Kaup

Greeters
Mary Brown
Gordon Yager

Hilcrest SR
Nancy Kruse
Tim Kruse

APRIL 28TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Andi Towey

Lectors
Tony Tiefenthaler
(Read the 1st Reading)

Theresa Gulizia
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Mitch Wendlandt
Kathy Wendlandt
Tom Nienaber
Cleo Nienaber
Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers
Dan Dauner
Kathy Dauner
Chris Reinig
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Tam Hottovy

Altar Servers
Ihrey Reiman
Skylar Reiman
Rianna Reiman
Riley Reiman

Greeters
Andrew Urban
Need Sub

APRIL 28TH
NOON

Sacristan
Ginny Giebelhaus

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

Need Sub
(Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs
Ginny Giebelhaus
Delma Stoner
Darcy Skrdla
Norma Hintz

Ushers
Linda Gardner
Delma Stoner
Marty White
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
James Janda
Thomas Janda
Need Sub

Greeters
Joann Dalley
Marty White

Vocations Crucifix
Janice Wear



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

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DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

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PASTORAL MINISTRY (ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND & FUNERALS)

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Laura Rau.....402-332-4444, x216
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Lezlie Thomas.....402-525-3098
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Judy Knight.....402-332-4444, x206
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PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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

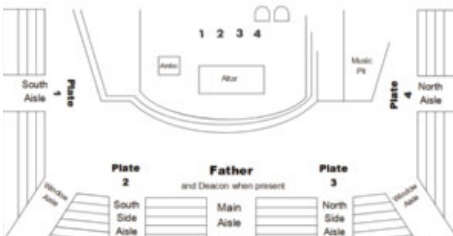
HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

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.

4TH 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 from



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

FREE
COMMUNITY Paper
SHREDDING

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



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 FOUR

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
7790 South 192nd St • Gretna, NE 68029

St. Charles Borromeo (7790 192nd St, Gretna) was able to acquire the rights to show *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 5&6 • April 25, 26
Episodes 7&8 • May 2, 3

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Register Now

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration for the Religious Education 2024-2025 school year is open. You can find more information on class time options and the registration link online on our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org/education/religious-education.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS COLLECTION

Next Weekend—April 27-28

Next weekend we will have a second collection for Home and Foreign Missions. The proceeds will be divided between four different missions, Latin America, the Holy Land, Catholic University, and Home Missions. Please be generous to support these missions.



For almost forty years the Church in the US has been actively assisting the Church in Latin America. Grants are made to support the vast needs of the local churches especially in the areas of evangelization, pastoral programs and formation of laity, religious and seminarians. The funds raised for the Holy Land will go toward the care and maintenance of the Holy Sites. The Catholic University in Washington D.C. was founded in 1887 by American Bishops and is the only US university with Pontifical faculties. Funds will provide academic scholarships to Catholic University of America. Finally, funds from this collection will support basic pastoral services in areas that struggle to provide such necessities on their own, local communities where Catholics are few, the church is fragile, and pastors struggle to keep mission parishes afloat.

HOW LONG IS THE EASTER SEASON

Much like Christmas, Easter is no “one-day” Feast



The Easter Octave concluded on Sunday April 7. But does our Easter celebration end there? Is it all over once the octave concludes? The resounding answer is: No! The season of Easter continues on for a full fifty days, up through the feast of Pentecost (which is May 19 this year). Easter is the most important feast in the liturgical calendar, and it only makes sense that the Church should celebrate not just a feast, not just an octave, but a whole season in honor of Our Lord's Resurrection. Within these

fifty days we celebrate some important feasts: Divine Mercy Sunday, the Feast of the Ascension (in most places, the Sunday before Pentecost, but in our diocese we celebrate it on Thursday, May 9 this year—a Holy Day of Obligation), and finally, Pentecost itself, the birthday of the Church! So don't wind down your celebrations yet. We've got four weeks of joy ahead of us.

—Article by *The Catholic Company*

WHAT IS A HERMIT?

Weren't They Just a Medieval Phenomenon Long Ago?

A hermit is a person who lives alone, devoting himself to prayer and meditation. Old Testament figures such as Elijah and John the Baptist were hermits—they withdrew to the desert to fast, pray, and be alone with God. The word “hermit” comes from the Greek eremites, literally “a dweller in the desert,” because those living alone in this way invariably went to the desert. While this withdrawal from the world might seem like a misanthropic renunciation of normal life, the motive of Catholic hermits is quite the reverse. Hermits love mankind so much, and are so repentant for the sins of our nature, that they desire to devote their whole lives to praying for God's mercy and grace upon themselves and their fellow-men. The first known hermits in the Catholic Church were St. Paul of Thebes and St. Anthony the Great, both of whom lived in the 3rd century A.D. They fled persecution on the one hand and worldliness on the other, living undistracted in the desert. Despite the privacy afforded by their wild surroundings, they became famous among Christians and were sought out by followers, whose numbers grew steadily. These followers adhered to and passed on the ascetic lifestyle of these holy hermits.



From the Eastern deserts, this way of life spread to the West. Hermits gradually joined together and formed monastic communities such as we are familiar with today. Now, many hermits live in community, coming together for Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours, but living in separate houses and working in solitude. Carthusians and some Carmelites, for example, live according to this eremitical rule. Hermits such as Paul and Anthony are not common, but on occasion some great and unique soul is called to this total abandonment of the world. St. Charles de Foucauld was one of these souls—and he lived quite near to our own time! Accurately detailed and irresistibly gripping, Jean-Jacques Antier's biography of St. Charles reveals the life and holiness of this hermit with an Augustine-like beginning. Order your book today from *The Catholic Company!*

—Article by *The Catholic Company*

BRING 'EM BACK! PART 1

Series in Conversations to Bring Lapsed Catholics Back

Do you have a Catholic loved one or friend who is no longer a 'practicing' Catholic? This is the first in a series of 15 articles aimed at helping you to get your lapsed Catholic loved going to Church again and once again practicing his or her Catholic Faith.



In 2017, according to various surveys, some 56 million out of 70 million Catholics in the U.S. were not going to Mass every week. And this was prior to the COVID-19 outbreak. Flip those numbers. Just 14 million out of 70 million U.S. Catholics were regularly attending Mass on Saturday/Sunday prior to COVID. Thanks to the outbreak, however, our churches were pretty much closed and our Bishops dispensed Catholics from attending Mass altogether. The more devout Catholics took to watching live streamed Masses online during the outbreak. But for the millions of 'lapsed Catholics,' the other activities they had already chosen over keeping the Lord's Day holy just continued as usual. So what happened post-COVID? Villanova University's Center for Church Management, projected that post-Covid regular attendance at Saturday/Sunday Mass could fall to just 12 percent of U.S. Catholics. So instead of 14 million U.S. Catholics regularly going to Mass each week, just 8.4 million U.S. Catholics would be going to Mass every week.

MORE LAPSED CATHOLICS

The Archdiocese of Detroit lifted Mass dispensations on March 13, 2021. Yet from what I've seen in my parish, a sizeable number of Catholics still have not returned to Mass. I estimate that Mass attendance at the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses in my parish is easily off by at least one-third, post-Covid. If the Villanova projections are correct, and it looks like they may be, this would mean 61.6 million out of 70 million Catholics in the U.S. are no longer going to Mass on Saturday/Sunday. (So instead of 14 million Catholics regularly attending Mass on Saturday/Sunday, only 8.4 million may now be regularly attending Mass.) And if 61.6 million Catholics are voluntarily breaking the third Commandment every week, it's a pretty safe bet that that are no longer practicing other tenets of their Faith. The devil must be doing handsprings and jumping for joy.

We need to get our lapsed Catholic friends and loved ones going to Mass again as the first step in bringing them back into the Church. Their immortal souls are in jeopardy. We need to help all the lapsed Catholics out there to realize that going to Mass every week is not just a suggestion. It is how we keep the third Commandment. It is how we keep the Lord's day Holy. But what these lapsed Catholics may not realize is that by not going to Mass they may also be breaking the first Commandment. When someone chooses to sleep in, go golfing, go shopping, etc., instead of going to Mass they may be creating a false god. They are making that activity (or their own desires) more important than worshipping God.

BRING 'EM BACK

The chances are pretty good that you have a Catholic friend or family member (probably more than one) who has stopped going to Mass on Sunday. Perhaps you have a son or daughter who has stopped going to Mass. You may even have aunts, uncles, cousins, daughters-in-law, or sons-in-law who no longer go to Mass. You may be praying for them, but you may also be wondering if there is anything you can do to get them to go to Mass again. There is. Prayer and setting a good example are always good practices. But a talk, or even a series of talks with your lapsed Catholic loved one may be just the ticket to getting them turned around. An old truism is 'never discuss religion or politics at family gatherings.' And there's a good reason for this. Such discussions at family gatherings can easily turn into heated disagreements. People take sides, feelings get hurt, and family members sometimes end up not talking to one another. But this does not mean 'never discuss religion or politics one-on-one.' Some people, however, may stress over the thought of having a one-on-one talk with a lapsed Catholic loved one or friend. But it does not have to be a stressful experience. All it takes is preparation. Preparation enables charitable responses to the different excuses offered up as 'reasons' why your friend or loved one has stopped going to Mass.

A PLAN

This article is the first in a series of 15 articles. The goal of the articles is to help you have a discussion, or a series of discussions with your lapsed Catholic loved one(s) and friends. The articles will offer a strategy—a plan for making the conversations non-stressful, non-threatening conversations. Hopefully the conversations will result in your friend or loved one deciding to start going to Mass regularly and living his or her faith once more. This series of articles will run every Monday for the next 14 weeks. Copying and pasting the articles will give you a free eBook that just may be the roadmap for helping your lapsed-Catholic friends and loved ones find their way back to practicing their faith.

—Article by Catholic Stand



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

LAY LITURGICAL MINISTRY

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jjwotipka@archomaha.org

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

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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.

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.



Follow St. Patrick on
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CatholicChurchNE



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

HELPFUL RESOURCES

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

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

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.



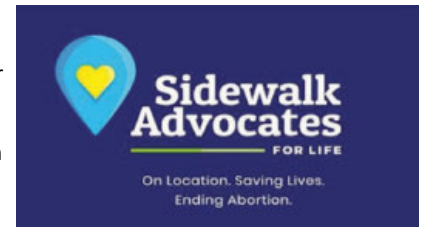
EWTN/CATHOLIC ANSWERS CONFERENCE—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINI, APRIL 26-27



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.



SANCTITY IN AN ERA OF UNBELIEF—CHRIST THE KING, MAY 2



Dr. Larry Chapp—Sanctity in an Era of Unbelief: Nationally known speaker, writer, and theologian—and Lincoln native—Dr. Larry Chapp is coming to Omaha to address the importance of how today's saint will need to conquer this culture of deepening disbelief from within, and how God raises up saints in every era in a manner appropriate to the needs of the time. Tickets are only \$5! Join us on Thursday, May 2, at Christ the King Parish (654 S 86th St, Omaha) from 7 to 8 PM. For more information and to register, visit www.eicatholic.org/upcoming-events.

OACCW SPRING MEETING—ST. JOSEPH CHURCH HALL, PONCA, MAY 7

All Catholic women in the Archdiocese of Omaha are invited to come to the Omaha Archdiocese Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) Spring Meeting on Tuesday, May 7 at St. Joseph's Church Hall (420 W 2nd St, Ponca, NE). Registration of \$10 with coffee and rolls begins at 9:30 AM. The day will conclude with Mass at 2 PM. All Catholic women are invited and encouraged to attend, sharing in the activities of the day with your fellow OACCW members. Plan to join us to hear the latest from our Commissions and committees. Updates include Spirituality Day, Diocesan and National Conventions, dates of next meeting and upcoming events. Please come with your open hearts to grow our Council among our parishes and diocese, planting seeds and watering them in fellowship with our sisters in Christ. Bring a friend or bring a car full! Looking forward to seeing you all! RSVP encouraged by May 1 for lunch count to Kim Estes via email at kimberley_estes@hotmail.com or text to 402-340-2866.



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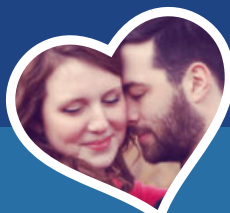
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