

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” - Jn 15:5

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

APRIL 28, 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 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

5th Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING (ACTS 9:26-31)

The disciples were unwilling to trust that Saul (Paul) was a true believer until Barnabas offered support for Saul. How easily do you trust people you don't know well?

SECOND READING (1 JN 3:18-24)

John speaks of the importance of knowing in your heart that you believe in Jesus and truly love others. How does anyone know what is in their heart?

GOSPEL (JN 15:1-8)

Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus speaks of the importance of staying connected to Him and the Father. When do you feel close to Jesus?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit He prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not His work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

How does a person become a canonized saint?

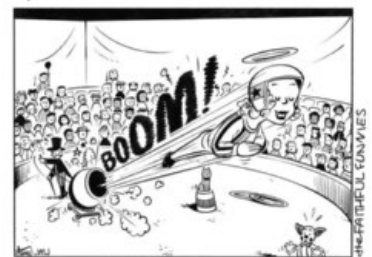
ANSWER:

It is important to remember that all the saints are people, real people who lived just as we do! The first saints of the Church were martyrs or theologians known for a holy life. Over time, the Church has established a set process to investigate the causes of saints.

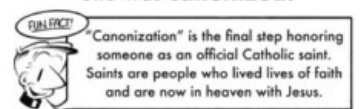
After a holy person's death, the bishop of their diocese initiates the canonization process with the Vatican. Typically, they must wait five years to ensure any false enthusiasm has lessened. With Vatican approval, the process begins and the person receives the title "Servant of God." The first phase involves collecting information about the person's life and scrutinizing it carefully. One person has the specific role of raising doubts—this is the origin of the phrase "devil's advocate!" When it is clear the person truly lived a heroically holy life according to Church teaching, they are declared "Venerable."

If the person is a martyr for the faith, they will also be declared "Blessed." If the person is not a martyr, they must be credited with a miracle. This is also closely examined for authenticity. Once the miracle is authenticated as truly a miracle performed by God through the person or through their intercession, they are beatified. An additional authenticated miracle is required before canonization, and we can call them "Saint."

"Did you hear about the holy circus performer who was launched into the air?"

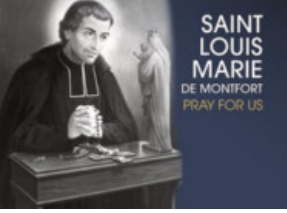


"She was canonized!"



SAINT LOUIS-MARIE GRIGNION DE MONTFORT

Priest

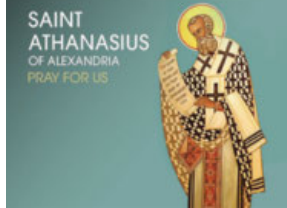


St. Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort (1673-1716) was born in Brittany, France, to a large farming family. As a child he displayed an unusual spiritual maturity and spent much time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. At the age of 19 he went on foot to Paris to study theology at a prestigious school with the support of a benefactor; along the way he gave his possessions to the poor and made a lifelong vow to live in poverty supported entirely on alms. He was ordained a priest at the age of 27, and at 32 discovered his calling to be an itinerant preacher, receiving the title of "Apostolic Missionary" from the Pope after his bishop tried to silence him. For the next 17 years he preached missions in countless towns and villages throughout France with an emphasis on renewal and reform. His fiery devotion, oratory skill, and identification with the poor led many souls to conversion. He was persecuted by the Jansenists, who, in their spiritual pride, poisoned him, banished him from preaching in their dioceses, and made an assassination attempt on his life. He had a profound devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and taught on the power of the Holy Rosary. He also wrote a number of classic works on Marian devotion, the most famous being *True Devotion to Mary*. His feast day is April 28.

SAINT ATHANASIUS

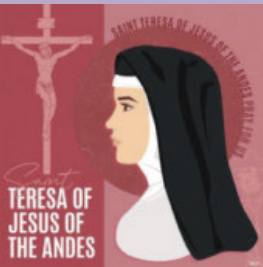
Bishop and Doctor of the Church

St. Athanasius (296-373 A.D.) was born in Alexandria, Egypt, to noble Christian parents. He received an excellent education in theology, philosophy, rhetoric, and law, which he directed to the service of God. He made great progress in both wisdom and virtue, and made a spiritual retreat in the Egyptian desert with St. Anthony the Great. St. Athanasius became the Bishop of Alexandria and served in that role for 46 years. He tirelessly and courageously devoted most of his life to defeating the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. When the majority of his fellow bishops were Arian heretics, which threatened the integrity of the whole Church, Athanasius stood firmly and almost single-handedly against their error using his philosophical knowledge, theological wisdom, rhetorical skill, and strength of spirit. Despite having the support of several popes, he suffered great trials, scandals, and persecutions at the hands of his doctrinal enemies, and spent much of his life in exile. He was a participant in the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. and did much of the theological work which supported the condemnation of the Arian heresy and the formulation of the Nicene Creed. St. Athanasius is known as one of the greatest champions of Catholic doctrine to have ever lived, earning the title, "Father of Orthodoxy." St. Athanasius was later declared a Doctor of the Church. His feast day is celebrated on May 2.



SAINT TERESA OF JESUS OF THE ANDES

Religious



St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes (1900-1920) was born Juana Enriqueta Josefina of the Sacred Hearts Fernandez Solar. Her family and friends nicknamed her Juanita. As a youth she read a biography of St. Thérèse of Lisieux that inspired her to grow in her faith and choose a path in life that led toward a religious vocation. By the age of 14 she knew she wanted to consecrate herself as a religious Carmelite nun. At the age of 19, she began her novitiate with Carmelites and took the name "Teresa of Jesus." She was particularly drawn to the religious life with the Carmelites because she enjoyed the simple life offered in the convent, the companionship of the other sisters living and serving Jesus alongside her. She also found joy in her proximity to the Blessed Sacrament where she would often be found in prayer. During her short time with the Carmelites before her death, she wrote many letters to friends, family, and other community members. She considered these letters her apostolate and shared her thoughts as well as spiritual encouragement with those with whom she corresponded. Her writings frequently focused on her experiences of and thoughts on living a fulfilling spiritual life. After a particularly violent attack of typhus, she was permitted to take her vows early because it was feared she would die. After her vows and receiving her last rites, she succumbed to the disease just three months before her twentieth birthday. St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes's short yet faith-filled life stands as a lasting testament to believers everywhere that one's life doesn't have to be long and filled with lofty accomplishments to be an amazing example of faith and Christ's love.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

TUESDAY: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

WEDNESDAY: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

THURSDAY: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

FRIDAY: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

SATURDAY: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

I AM THE VINE,
YOU ARE
THE BRANCHES.



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

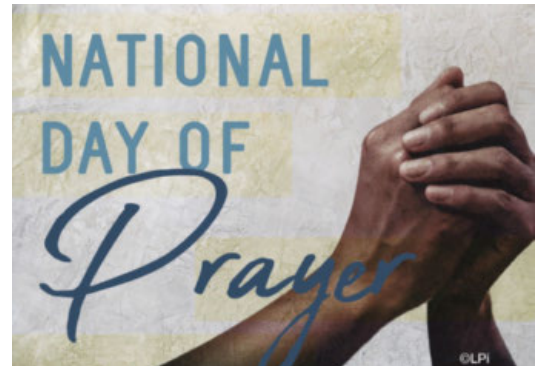
TUESDAY: St. Pius V, Pope

WEDNESDAY: St. Joseph the Worker

THURSDAY: St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; National Day of Prayer

FRIDAY: Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

NEXT SUNDAY: 6th Sunday of Easter





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

NEW PRESCHOOL WEBSITE
Check it Out



The St. Patrick Preschool now has their own website! You can still access the new Preschool website through our parish website (stpatricksgretna.org) by going to the menu, hovering over Education, and clicking on St. Patrick Catholic Preschool. Otherwise you can go directly to the new Preschool website at <https://preschool.stpatricksgretna.org/>.

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION
Register Now



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.

VOCATIONS PRAYER CORNER

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

This week let us pray for **Patrick Fenner** (Society of Jesus) from St. Wenceslaus in Omaha.



"He had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus." Pray for those who God is boldly calling forth to serve Him and His people as religious brothers. If you are considering this joy-filled vocation, talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.

"PRAY ALWAYS AND DO NOT LOSE HEART."



Since our last update on April 14, six 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
Tate Lee Schram.....	4/13/2024
Liara Felicity Bell.....	4/21/2024
Kinley Mae Codr.....	4/21/2024
Hayes Michael Houfek.....	4/21/2024
Connor Michael McMahon.....	4/21/2024
Elsie Joan Weakland.....	4/21/2024

PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

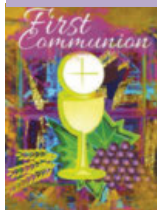
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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
Ronald "Ron" Vencil.....	4/15/2024.....	Calvery Cemetery, Omaha
Robert "Bob" Ostdiek.....	4/19/2024.....	Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

CONGRATULATIONS FIRST COMMUNIONICANTS



Congratulations to all of our youth making their First Holy Communion this weekend. May you be filled with the love the Jesus now and every time you receive His most Precious Body and Blood in the Sacrament. Let us continue to pray for these young souls united with Christ.

"The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; It signifies Love, it produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life."
—St. Thomas Aquinas

Brekyn Angell	Madelyn Hahne	Quinn Magill	Brayden Roxburgh
Pia Arlt	Blake Hansen	Anders Magnuson	Evan Schaal
Jaxon Arp	Pryor Havlovic	James McWilliams	Bennett Schaeffer
Mara Bateman	Gabriel Hecker	Noah Meyer	Meika Secora
Ellie Brei	Harlan Hoffman	Stella Moffitt	Madelyn Seier
Vale Bring	Quinn Hoge	Landry Nielsen	Jaxon Shepler
Sawyer Butler	Liam Hoskinson	Gannon Phillips	Eleanor Simons
Alessandra Calabretto	Celia Janovich	Siena Pichler	Mila Stafford
Beau Callison	Maya Johnson	Finn Pleiss	Garrett Stangl
Talia Castillo	Easton Kester	Sydney Pleiss	Ellie Stuhr
Gemma Dejka	Drue Kilgore	Gemma Precht	Michael Sullivan V
Camden Delezene	McKinli Kilgore	Caleb Pryor	Claire Szalewski
Kyla Deming	Eli Kreikemeier	Chase Pryor	Easton Vaiskunas
Matthew Farwell	Lucas Lethcoe	Genevieve Ramirez	Austin Votruba
Samantha Frederick	Faith Loterbour	Theo Ramm	Aidan Whitesides
			Isaiah Wilkins

CENTURY CLUB APRIL CASH PRIZE WINNERS

There is Always Hope in the Risen Lord

Hello all you Century Club followers! Welcome to this month's edition to who won how much CASH! I pray everyone had a Blessed Easter! Our Lord, Jesus, the Christ, IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! How awesome is that! He is my reminder that no matter how hard life seems, there is always hope in Him! Also, Spring is here! All the flowers and trees are waking up from their long winter's nap. I really enjoy listening to the birds singing and watching all the flowers come to life! It really is a special time of year!

Another special thing that happens every month (in no way comparison to our Lord), is Century Club CASH prize drawing! Remember, anyone can join Century Club, you don't have to be a member of St. Patrick parish. Funds raised are split between parish needs and our CASH prize winners. Parish needs can only go to our parish, but anyone, anywhere, can win CASH! Like the lucky people below. They won CASH! How fun is that? OK, let's get to what you are all waiting for, because I KNOW no one skipped ahead and checked if you won before reading my *delightful* ramblings. CASH prize winners for April Century Club drawings, as selected by fellow Knight Roy Cook are:

- \$150—Richard Setlak
- \$100—Kristine Kappius
- \$75—Bradley Seier
- \$50—Marilyn Krajicek
- \$25—Pat Calvert
- \$25—Pat Gilmore
- \$25—Mike Evans
- \$25—Marolyn Hoffmann
- \$25—Joan Ingram



As always, thank you all who are Century Club members, and those that just like to read my silly notes. Spread the word! I am still 17 members short of my goal of 200 members. For more information on joining Century Club, call or text Jim Hottovy at 402-651-8564.

Thank you and Happy Winning!
Jim Hottovy, Century Club Administrator

RELIGIOUS BROTHERS DAY

May 1—Feast of St. Joseph the Worker



On May 1, we celebrate Religious Brothers Day! Brothers live in religious communities. Though not ordained, they take vows and promise to use their talents to serve God wherever the community decides they are needed. Religious Brothers Day offers the opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for religious Brothers in our lives. It also gives an opportunity to consider how we all invite, walk with and encourage young people to discern God's call in their life. Join us in praying for the brothers from our archdiocese. Pick up a prayer card in the narthex that includes all of our Men and Women in Consecrated Life around the Archdiocese or visit <https://omahavocations.org/consecrated-religious-life/> to find out more information.

Stewardship Report

Apr 16-Apr 22, 2024

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

General Contributions	Apr15 -Apr 22	Fiscal YTD thru Apr 22
Sunday Offering-Apr 16-Apr 22	\$21,355.26	\$1,005,330.18
Other Contributions	\$3,335.95	\$119,427.52
Total General Contributions	\$24,691.21	\$1,124,757.70 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$58.79)	\$60,507.70

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income	\$1,478,590.72
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses	\$1,307,392.17
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income	\$171,198.55

* 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



GAME FEED

The Knights recently had their Game Feed and it was another successful event thanks to all who attended, sponsored, and supported our event. Thank you to all our sponsors, silent auction donors, committee members, Knights, and their families and friends who helped before, during, and after the event. Your support and help is greatly appreciated.



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 29TH

No Communion Service or Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH

6:00 PM † Fred Krejci

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1ST

7:30 AM † Joe and Rosie Unrein

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND

7:30 AM † Ken Dostal

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD

7:30 AM † Janice Mullen

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH

5:00 PM † Flora LoSurdo and † Nina Sacco

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Ingram and Bruck Families
10:00 AM † Kade Reiman
12:00 PM For Our Parishioners

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 Michelle Fast (sister of Jeanne Rebensdorf), Donna, Calli Jo Backer (granddaughter of Kathy Hinderks Phillips), 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 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

MONDAY, APRIL 29TH

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 30TH

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, MAY 1ST

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
7:30 AM to 8:30 AM Consecration to St. Joseph after Mass—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
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM RE Last Day May Crowning—RE classrooms, Basement, Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Confirmation Practice—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND

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

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD

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, MAY 4TH

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM Knights of Columbus Officer Meeting—Father Hitch Room
11:00 AM to 3:30 PM Private Event—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, MAY 5TH—6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER—CONFIRMATION

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Confirmation Setup and Pictures—Parish Center
8:55 AM to 9:55 AM Religious Education Classes—RE classrooms, Basement Commons
8:55 AM to 9:55 AM RE Last Day May Crowning—Basement Commons
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM Confirmation Mass—Sanctuary

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS COLLECTION

This Weekend—April 27-28

This 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.

"Lord, help me to make time today to serve you in those who are most in need of encouragement or assistance." —St. Vincent de Paul

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

6th Sunday of Easter

MAY 4TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Larry Neppel

Lectors
Rebecca Campbell
(Read the 1st Reading)

Karen Meyerott
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Karen Wiehl
Wendy Neppel
JoAnn Koch
Bridget Blum

Ushers
Ken Beckman
Larry Neppel
Paul Staley
Jeff Wollenburg

Rosary Reciter
Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers
Aslyn Ronk
Kenley Ronk
Need Sub

Greeters
Need Sub
Need Sub

MAY 5TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Lori Frederick

Lectors
Joan Ingram
(Read the 1st Reading)

Carrie Hubert
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Christa Pichler
Paul Hubert
Sandy Scheef
Kathy Broz

Ushers
Pat Calvert
Larry Scheef
Tony Schultz
Bob Sis

Rosary Reciter
Tim Gilligan

Altar Servers
Mitchell Hubert
Paul Joseph Hubert
Luke Hubert

Greeters
Mary Maw
Tony Schultz

Hilcrest SR
Sally Stednitz
Marty Stednitz

MAY 5TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Mitch Wendlandt

Lectors
Andy Pearson
(Read the 1st Reading)

Jim Hain
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Dan Dauner
Carol Hoover
Norm Svoboda
Phil Lenz

Ushers
Clint Bollock
Norris Hoover
John Schaffert
Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter
Jim Hottovy

Altar Servers
Harper Dickes
Nev Dickes
Scarlet McCord

Greeters
Need Sub
Need Sub

MAY 5TH
NOON

Sacristan
Ginny Giebelhaus

Lectors
Donna Bruck
(Read Both 1st and 2nd Readings)

Eric Hittner
(Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs
Steve Otto
Leann Otto
Delma Stoner
Norma Hintz

Ushers
Ginny Giebelhaus
Marty White
Doris Williams
Mary Zeigler

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Joann Dalley
Jeanette Roy

Vocations Crucifix
Steve Ference



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

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Deacon Larry Heck.....402-572-1319

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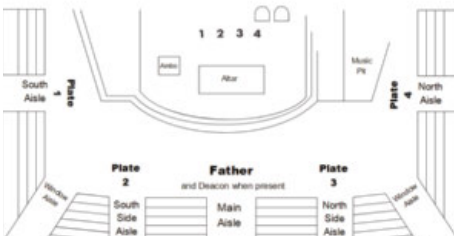
HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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.

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

NE CATHOLIC DAY OF GIVING
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.

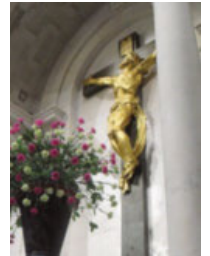
Donate online, you can find the link to our giving page on the homepage of our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. We will also welcome checks payable to St. Patrick with "Giving Day" in the memo line. While the Giving Day is officially May 1, Advance Giving Days began on Monday, April 15 and the last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

HOLY HOUR FOR ORDINANDI AND SEMINARIANS
May 20 at 6:30 PM at St. Cecilia Cathedral in Omaha



The Serra Club of West Omaha invites all the faithful to join us for a special *Holy Hour to Pray for Ordinandi and Seminarians* on Monday, May 20 at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N. 40th St, Omaha). Join us in the narthex at 6:30 PM for Greetings and at 7 PM in the Sanctuary for the Holy Hour. The Presider will be Father Frank Baumert, Chaplain of the Serra Club of West Omaha.

This special Holy Hour on May 20 is to pray for the Transitional Diaconate Ordination of three seminarians—Will Targy, Logan Hepp, and Brian Hula—on May 24, and to pray for the Priesthood Ordination of two men—Deacons Zachary Eischeid and Matthew Pohlman—on June 1. Be sure to join us as we pray together from our hearts for these ordinandi and all our seminarians before the Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Please show your support and invite your family, friends, and guests to join us! All are welcome! Questions: Contact Lori Hamilton, Serra VP, at bobxlori@aol.com or 402-699-5027. For more information visit serrawestomaha.org.



"The end for which God has instituted the priesthood has been to appoint on earth public persons to watch over the honor of His divine majesty, and to procure the salvation of souls." —St. Alphonsus Liguori

WHAT IS AN AUXILIARY BISHOP?
How is His Role Different From a Regular Bishop?



None will deny the challenges faced by today's diocesan bishops. These include the size of the dioceses they govern, the number of the faithful they must serve, the complex ethnic composition of many dioceses, etc. As a result, when a bishop feels he requires assistance in his duties, he may ask the Holy See to appoint an auxiliary to lend a hand in the

administration of certain diocesan affairs. The auxiliary does not enjoy the right to succeed the bishop as ordinary in the diocese.

However, when a bishop must serve on national or international committees, tasks requiring significant time away from his diocese, or when advanced age or poor health interfere with his efficiently exercising his office, the Holy See may appoint a coadjutor bishop. The difference between a coadjutor and an auxiliary is the coadjutor enjoys the right to assume leadership of the diocese when the presiding bishop dies or resigns his office.

In the ranking of diocesan officials, the bishop enjoys the highest status, and a coadjutor the next, followed by any auxiliary bishops. The Church's Code of Canon Law observes they "are to consult one another on matters of major importance" (Canon 407.3).

—Article by *Simply Catholic*

HEALING CHAIR PROGRAM

The Gretna Knights of Columbus have purchased two powerlift recliners that are offered to any member of St. Patrick parish or our local community on a temporary basis. These "Healing Chairs" can be used by anyone for recovery from any surgery, injury, or medical need. The Knights will provide and deliver the reclining lift chair to the home of the person in need and pick it up when the lending period expires, at no cost to the user. The Knights also have a battery powered wheelchair that was donated. This too is available for any member of St. Patrick parish or our local community on a temporary basis. Please contact a member of the Gretna Knights of Columbus Council #10047 or John Schaffert, 402-672-7903, if you or someone you know has a need for one of these devices.



MELODIOUS WAY TO CELEBRATE THE EASTER SEASON

More Resounding Way to Rejoice

Just adding back what I gave up for Lent doesn't seem like enough of an Easter celebration, so I have come up with a more resounding way to rejoice. "No, love, we can't today—it's Lent! Ask me again when it's Eastertime!" That was my response to questions like, "Mom, let's buy a chocolate chip cookie!" "Mom, let's get some ice cream!" "Mom, can we have dessert?" These pleas and many similar ones have filled the air for the last 40 days. Now that He is risen, we will enjoy some fun, "just because" treats in our house. But there are more ways to rejoice this Easter season than just enjoying dessert.



The Easter season lasts 50 days—even longer than Lent. Lent is such a good opportunity for spiritual growth, but I've always felt a little unsure of how to celebrate the Easter season. It definitely feels celebratory to add back into my day the things I had removed during Lent (hello second and third cups of tea!). Just adding back what was normal before doesn't seem like enough of a celebration, however. And eating extra sugar or special food and drink seems less than healthy or good for practicing habits of moderation and self-control.

TIME TO REJOICE AND SING

Here's my compromise. I try to pick one small practice to add to my day during the Easter season that helps me rejoice. That might be adding 10 minutes of extra time sitting in the sun, investing in a nicer coffee or tea to savor in the mornings, or enjoying a longer shower than normal. One suggestion I always come back to though is singing more. It is very hard to sing when you're angry. I know I'm grumpy when I don't want to or "can't" sing. Forcing myself to sing can pull me right out of a funk into a better place. So, what better way to cultivate a spirit of Easter joy than by singing? Resolving to "sing more" is too vague of a statement, though. I have made many resolutions that went undone because they were not specific enough. (One Lent I considered "eating more foods I dislike" as a penance, but realized that resolution, as stated, would never happen. I had to give it more parameters, such as how often during a day, or exactly what foods I would add.)

SONGFUL SUGGESTIONS

To make the resolution to sing more concrete, try resolving to sing a particular song every day, or singing at a particular time of the day. (Note: if singing out loud makes you feel self-conscious, the car or the shower are fine places to sing!) Not all songs are equally uplifting and edifying though. I want my Easter season singing to help me grow spiritually, so I have to make sure the songs I choose truly help me rejoice and pray. Growing up we always sang the "Regina Coeli" before eating lunch. The "Regina Coeli" is a traditional Marian antiphon that is sung specifically during Easter. Or you might try singing your favorite hymn, praise and worship song, or a Psalm. Check out EveryPsalm (everypsalm.com)—where every psalm or parts of each psalm have been set to music in a contemporary way. Find a natural time in your day to sing or establish a time where you need a mood lift. The afternoon slump might be the perfect time—or as part of any regular prayer time you have. Whatever you do, rejoice! He is risen! Enjoy the season.

—Article by Aletea

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE

Walk from The Cloisters on the Platte to the Holy Family Shrine



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

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

"The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; It signifies Love, It produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life." —St. Thomas Aquinas



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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jjwotipka@archomaha.org

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

LEAST OF MY BRETHREN

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

CHURCH CLEANING

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

ADVERTISE FOR YOUR MINISTRY GROUP

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

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 Instagram at [@stpatgretnane](https://www.instagram.com/stpatgretnane)



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- AL-ANON (ALCOHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT—OMAHA)**
Phone.....402-553-5033
Website.....al-anon.org
- BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE**
Phone.....1-800-448-3000
Website.....www.boystown.org
- CATHOLIC ANSWERS**
Phone.....1-888-318-7884
Website.....www.catholic.com
- CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna.....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**
Phone.....402-554-0520
Website.....ccomaha.org
- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com
- COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION)**
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Website.....couragerc.org
- EWTN (GLOBAL CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK)**
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Website.....www.ewtn.com
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Phone.....402-783-4673
Website.....heartsrestorednebraska.org
- HOLY FAMILY SHRINE**
Phone.....402-521-4715
Website.....holyfamilyshrine.com
- LEAST OF MY BRETHREN (SUPPORT HOMELESS)**
Phone.....402-681-5424
Website.....leastofmybrethren.org
- MARRIAGE RESOURCES**
For Your Marriage.....www.foryourmarriage.org
Retrouvaille.....1-800-470-2230
Retrouvaille.....www.helpourmarriage.org
- MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE**
Phone.....1-858-207-6277
Website.....www.masstimes.org
- NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK**
Website.....nebraskahomeschool.org
- POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE (FERTILITY HELP)**
Phone.....402-390-6600
Website.....www.popepaulvi.com
- SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO—FM 102.7**
Phone.....402-571-0200
Website.....www.spiritcatholicradio.com
- ST. BENEDICT CENTER (RETREATS IN SCHUYLER)**
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Website.....christthekingpriory.com/sbcabout
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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

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.



CELEBRATION OF LIFE PRESENTATION—ST. CHARLES BORROME0, MAY 11



All are invited to join us for a family-friendly “Celebration of Life” presentation and spaghetti feed hosted by the St. Charles Borromeo Knights of Columbus on May 11! Learn more about Heart of a Child Ministries and support our pro-life mission as funds raised from the spaghetti feed will go to support our ministry. Prices for dinner are adults \$12, kids \$6, ages 3 and under are free. Join us Saturday, May 11 from 6 PM to 8 PM at St. Charles Borromeo (7790 S.

192nd St, Gretna) for dinner, a Live Ultrasound 4S Presentation including Science, Scripture, Stories, and Service, as well as different age-appropriate presentations and activities! Speakers will include: St. Charles Parishioners Jonathan and Amanda Teixeira will share their beautiful story of adoption; and Sarah Howarth will share her compelling story of being in a Planned Parenthood ready to have an abortion, but then having the courage to walk out, find support, and choose life for her son, Jude.

EIGHT-DAY SILENT RETREATS—CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY RETREAT CENTER, GRISWOLD, IA, MAY 17-26 OR MAY 28-JUNE 6

Join an internationally diverse group of student directors and retreatants to relax, contemplate, and revel in God’s abundant presence in your life. Directors will be Creighton CSP graduate students comprehensively trained in the evocative contemplative approach of spiritual direction. Experience this unique opportunity at the beautiful Creighton University Retreat Center (16493 Conrail Ave, Griswold, IA). Retreat fee includes single occupancy room, ensuite bath, meals, and all costs related to direction and supervision (\$850). A \$200 deposit is required to reserve your spot. Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. Contact Liz Stevinson cspace@creighton.edu or 402-280-2501 to reserve a space, or for more information.



CAMP MOUNT MICHAEL—MOUNT MICHAEL, VARIOUS DATES



Registration for Camp Mount Michael is now open! Located northwest of Elkhorn, NE, Camp Mount Michael makes full use of the athletic and recreational facilities of Mount Michael Benedictine School as well as the surrounding 400 acres overlooking the Elkhorn River Valley. Boys, ages 7-14, from the Omaha area and beyond have enjoyed camp Mount Michael since 1967. You can sign up for one or all of the camp dates, June 23-28, July 7-12, July 14-19 or July 21-26 at this link: mountmichael.com/camp-mount-Michael.

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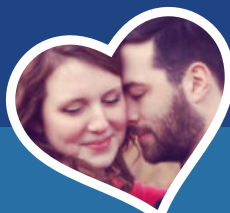
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