

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNA, NE 68028



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

“Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” - Jn 20: 27

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

APRIL 7, 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 STPATGRETNAT 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

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

FIRST READING (ACTS 4:32-35)

We hear how the early Christians lived in unity and holiness, bearing witness to Jesus, and living in community as friends. Which of these traits do you see at work in your faith community?

SECOND READING (1 JN 5:1-6)

John teaches his community that our faith in Jesus helps us “conquer the world.” What struggles are you facing that you need to confront and defeat?

GOSPEL (JN 20:19-31)

The risen Jesus meets Thomas in the midst of his doubt and encourages him to believe. Who could you encourage this week to have faith in the resurrection of Jesus?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

No Request
is too
Audacious
for God.

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope’s chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, “Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?” The group chuckled nervously at my friend’s audacious chide.

The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye,

asked, “What do you think of my chair now?” My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns—and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying His wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled—and perhaps a bit terrified—he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

After a civil divorce, is a Catholic obligated to pursue an annulment?

ANSWER:

Many Catholics are not exactly sure what an annulment does. An annulment does not deny that a marriage took place, nor does it deny that there once was love. It does not mean that people say anything untrue, such as they never loved each other or that everything in their marriage was wrong. An annulment does not negate children, nor make them illegitimate. An annulment addresses the spiritual aspect of marriage. In effect, an annulment says that at the time of the wedding, there was either something present or something absent that prevented the sacrament from taking place. It is a spiritual determination that, if granted in the affirmative, allows a person to marry in the Church.

Annulments have no legal standing and are unable to be used in a civil court. Therefore, a Catholic has no moral obligation to pursue an annulment. However, when the tragedy of divorce occurs, and there is no hope for reconciliation, annulments may help bring some spiritual closure to a person’s life. Some people have found the process to be healing and others have found it to be difficult. Speak to your priest or a member of the Diocesan Tribunal staff to decide what is best for you.



Dear Jesus, as you greeted your disciples after you rose, fill us, too, with your peace. As you breathed your spirit on them, breathe on us, too. As your presence was known to Thomas, make it known to us, too. Help us to live in your peace, power, and presence. Amen.

SAINT JULIE BILLIART

Religious



St. Julie Billiart (1751-1816) was born in Cuvilly, France, to a large and prosperous farming family. By the age of seven she knew her catechism by heart, and would gather her playmates together and teach it to them. Her spiritual progress was so remarkable that her parish priest allowed her to make an early first communion at the age of nine, at which time she took a vow of chastity. As a teenager she already had the reputation of being a living saint. When financial ruin struck her family she worked in the fields alongside the reapers. At the age of twenty-two she became paralyzed and remained a bed-ridden invalid for the next twenty-two years. However this did not prevent her from having an active life. She received Holy Communion daily, made altar laces and linens, catechized the village children from her bedside, and spent many hours in contemplative prayer. When the French Revolution erupted she gave aid to priests in her home, and soon after was smuggled to safety while hidden in a hay cart. She took refuge in the home of a countess, and due to her sanctity soon had a company of young, noble ladies gathered around her bed to whom she taught the ways of the interior life. From this St. Julie founded and led the Institute of the Sisters of Notre Dame dedicated to the Christian education of girls and the training of catechists. After making her vows in 1804, she was cured of her paralysis. For the next twelve years she made over a hundred journeys as she founded fifteen convents of her order. St. Julie Billiart's feast day is April 8.

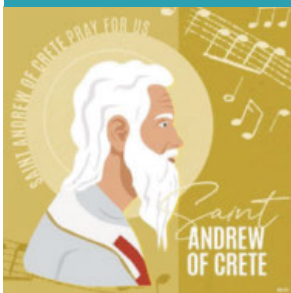
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

From ancient times the Easter octave, culminating on the 8th day, has been centered on the theme of God's mercy and forgiveness. The final day of the octave celebration of Easter is meant to be a day of thanksgiving to God for His goodness to mankind through the Paschal mystery, that is, the Passion, death, and Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. The Second Sunday of Easter was named Divine Mercy Sunday by Pope St. John Paul II following a request from Our Lord in His private revelations to St. Faustina Kowalska. On this day Jesus promised to open the floodgates of His inexhaustible mercy and shower abundant graces on those who participate in this feast day. A plenary indulgence is granted (under the usual conditions of sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father) to the faithful who, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus.



SAINT ANDREW OF CRETE

Bishop



St. Andrew of Crete (650-c.726) also known as St. Andrew of Jerusalem, was born in the Syrian city of Damascus to devout Christian parents. According to legend, he was mute until he was 7 years old and miraculously cured after he received his First Holy Communion. As a young teenager, Andrew entered a monastery near Jerusalem. His exceptional qualities quickly caught the attention of his superiors, leading to his appointment as Archdeacon by Theodore, the Patriarch of Jerusalem at the time. The Patriarch of Jerusalem is the head bishop of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Theodore also sent Andrew to represent the Church at the Sixth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople called by Emperor Constantine, playing a role in addressing the heresy of Monothelitism. This Sixth Council was pivotal in establishing that Jesus had both divine and human nature. St. Andrew of Crete would go on to become an influential theologian, bishop, and hymnographer. Around the year 700 he was appointed Archbishop of the city of Gortyn, on the island of Crete. His service to the Church included charitable work for the poor and orphaned and he is credited with introducing the canon, a new form of hymn, into the liturgy. His most renowned work, the Great Canon, is a masterpiece that guides the faithful through repentance and a return to God. To this day, the Great Canon is chanted twice a year in Eastern Orthodox liturgies during Lent. It takes around three hours to complete and includes more than 200 full-body prostrations along with its many odes, litanies, and refrains. While the exact date of Andrew's death remains uncertain, it is known that he passed away on the island of Mytilene while returning to Crete from Constantinople. St. Andrew of Crete, pray for us!

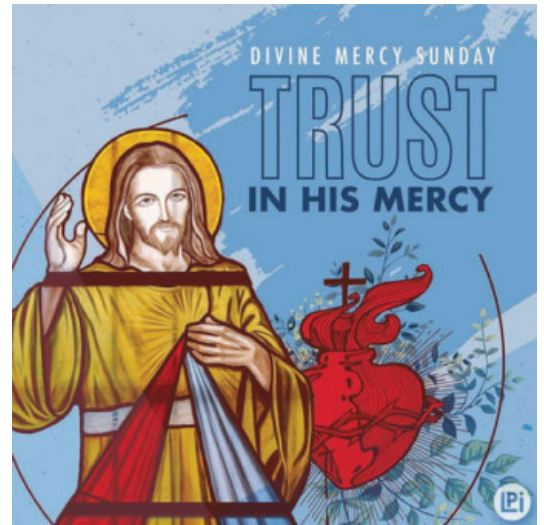


ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gretna, Nebraska

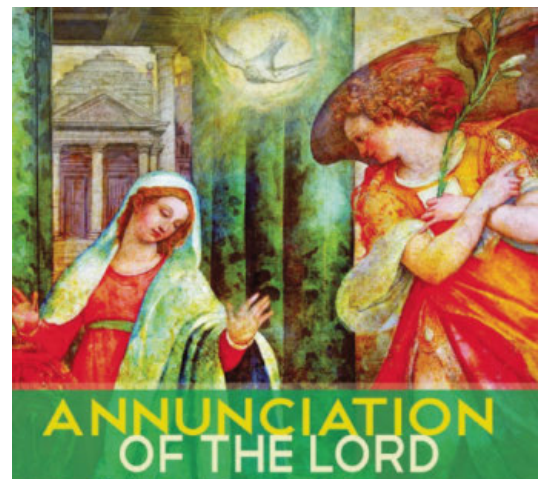
READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
TUESDAY: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
WEDNESDAY: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
THURSDAY: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36
FRIDAY: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
SATURDAY: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 (7a)/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: The Annunciation of the Lord
THURSDAY: St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr
SATURDAY: St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr
NEXT SUNDAY: 3rd Sunday of Easter





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION
Registration Now Open

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration for the Religious Education 2024-2025 school year is now open. Current families will receive emails if you haven't already, otherwise you can find the registration link online on our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org/education/religious-education.

ST. PATRICK PRESCHOOL HIRING
Teacher Assistants for 2024-2025

We're Hiring

We are hiring Preschool Teacher Assistants for the 2024-

2025 school year. St. Patrick Preschool is searching for qualified candidates who love children, love their faith, and place an importance on early childhood education. This is part-morning only position that would be for 8-20 hours a week and for the months of September through May. For more information or to apply, please call Preschool Director, Amanda Scardina at 402-332-3050 or email accardina@archomaha.org.

SEMINARIAN PRAYER CORNER

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

This week let us pray for **Luke Gunderson** (Propaedeutic Year at St. John Vianney Seminary) from Christ the King in Omaha.



"As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." Let us affirm our priests and help carry out Christ's mission of spreading love and compassion in the world. Maybe God is also calling you to share in His saving mission as a priest. Talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.

"PRAY ALWAYS AND DO NOT LOSE HEART."

Pray for our Seminarians

OUR RCIA CANDIDATES AND CATECHUMENS



This Easter Vigil we welcomed two Candidates and two Catechumens into the fullness of the Catholic Church. A Catechumen is an unbaptized person. A Candidate for full communion is a person who was baptized in another Christian church but who is uncatechized in the Catholic faith. The () below designates our Catechumens. Congratulations to all! We will keep you in our prayers and wish you the very best!*

Name.....Date

- Cheryle (Kay) Bartek.....3/30/2024
- *Madison Mathews.....3/30/2024
- Larry Sibley.....3/30/2024
- *Reginald (Reggie) Winn.....3/30/2024

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.-patricksgretna-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.

NEBRASKA CATHOLIC DAY OF GIVING—MAY 1

Formally Joy of Giving



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. Through this

initiative, we hope to inspire faithful stewards throughout the state to share their blessings willingly and lovingly. It is our desire to create a wave of generosity and provide donors with the opportunity to give back in support of the organizations that have helped to shape their lives of faith...our parishes, schools, and ministries. Through this initiative, we can create awareness and empower organizations to raise the critically important funds necessary to accomplish the outstanding work that is offered to so many throughout Nebraska. Come along and, together, we'll help others discover the joy that comes from seeing the impact of their support! More information to come on how to support St. Patrick Gretna through this program.

ORIGINAL IMAGE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Several Popular Images

You've probably seen several renditions of the image of the Divine Mercy. Which one, you may ask, is the original? Is there one in particular that we should use for personal devotion? The original painting, painted by Eugene Kazimirowski in 1934 under the direction of St. Faustina herself, is this one (see image top right).



Despite Faustina giving continued directives to the artist as he progressed with the painting, it did not meet her expectations. She wept to the Lord, saying, "Who will paint you as beautiful as you are?" Jesus' words in response to her sorrow are quite telling: "Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush is the greatness of this image, but in my grace." Our Lord therefore made it clear that her efforts were sufficient, and that the important thing was the Mercy represented by the image—not the perfection of the rendition itself.



In subsequent decades, two other artists made attempts to create an image closer to St. Faustina's particular instructions. You'll recognize them both. One was painted by Polish artist Adolf Hyla in 1943 (see image to the left).

The other was painted in 1982 by Robert Skemp (see image bottom right).



All of them, beautiful as they are, fall short of Faustina's visions, and in any case, it is impossible to do justice to God Himself with human hands. But all three are approved for display in churches and use by the faithful, so you can choose the one that is most meaningful to you. Which is your favorite?

—Article by The Catholic Company

Stewardship Report

Mar 19 - Mar 25, 2024

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

General Contributions	Mar 19 -Mar 25	Fiscal YTD thru Mar 25
Sunday Offering-Mar 19-Mar 25	\$12,138.09	\$918,415.67
Other Contributions	\$419.00	\$96,127.66
Total General Contributions	\$12,557.09	\$1,014,543.33 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$12,192.91)	\$49,293.33

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income	\$1,326,667.22
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses	\$1,208,396.02
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income	\$118,271.20

Mar 26 - Apr 1, 2024

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

General Contributions	Mar 26 -Apr 1	Fiscal YTD thru Apr 1
Sunday Offering-Mar 26-Apr 1	\$20,006.92	\$940,398.59
Other Contributions	\$16,683.45	\$112,841.11
Total General Contributions	\$36,690.37	\$1,053,239.70 *
Surplus/Deficit	\$11,940.37	\$63,239.70

Fiscal Year-to-Date Income	\$1,366,292.59
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses	\$1,276,526.46
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income	\$89,766.13

* 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**



KNIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are available and can be picked up at the church office or by contacting Randy Meerian at 402-981-6471. The scholarship deadline is Monday, April 15. This is a separate scholarship application process from the Church Scholarship. The Gretna Knights of Columbus Council #10047 has established multiple scholarships. To be eligible for a Knights Scholarship, the candidate must be the son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandchild, or legal guardian of an active member in good standing of the Gretna Knights of Columbus Council #10047. Members in good standing are members who are current with their member dues, have been a member for at least two years, and are not in the process of transferring to another council.



HIGHWAY CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



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

WILD GAME FEED—ONLY A FEW TABLES LEFT



The Knights of Columbus are hosting their 4th annual Wild Game Feed Saturday April 13. There are only 3 tables left. Please contact Larry Sibley for more information for tickets or for donating items for the silent auction, 402-957-8770 or LCSIB@centurylink.net.

Knights of Columbus

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 8TH

No Communion Service or Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH

6:00 PM † Gerald Hintz

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH

7:30 AM The Living and Deceased Memebers of the Stec Family

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH

7:30 AM Special Intention for Mary Ellen Sedlacek

FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH

7:30 AM † Margaret Clayton

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

5:00 PM † Jeannie Babcock

SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH

8:00 AM † Ken Merkel
10:00 AM † Joe Huber
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 Arlene (sister of Maxine Burke), Pauline Kwapnioski family, Joe Carney, Deacon Steve Grandinetti, Nicole (daughter of Chris Christensen), Ronald Baxter (Fr. Baxter's dad), Paul Polt, and Leanne Robb. Pray for John and Wanda Jonas, Chris Wheeler, Norm Wiemers, Ed, Barb McMahon, Ian McGovern (son of Mark and Pam), and Jo Anne Lyons (mom of Theresa

Gulizia). Pray for Marolyn, Lil Herbstritt, Deacon David Medeiros, and Reece Bittner (grandson of Bruce Jefferies). Pray also for all our parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, and in nursing homes, and for all our parishioners and loved ones who have recently passed away.

To add a loved one to the prayer line, please call Corliss Lovstad at 402-968-5877 or email her at clovstad@gmail.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH—2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

- 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
- 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
- 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed Prep—Kitchen
- 8:55 AM to 9:55 AM Religious Education Classes—RE classrooms, Basement Commons
- 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex
- 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM Medjugorje Pilgrimage Meeting—Parish Center A

MONDAY, APRIL 8TH

- 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed Prep—Kitchen
- 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM Preschool Bingo Night—Parish Center AB
- 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Baptism Class—Youth Group Room

TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH

- 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed Prep—Kitchen
- 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM Rosary Guild Meeting—Father Hitch Room
- 5:30 PM to 5:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 6:00 PM)—Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM to 6:40 PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion (after Mass)—Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Parish Council Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH

- 7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
- 8:00 AM to 8:15 AM Liturgy of the Hours—Behind the Tabernacle
- 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed Prep—Kitchen
- 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM Wildlife Encounters Preschool Field Trip—Basement Commons
- 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
- 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM St. Rose Guild Meeting—Father Hitch Room
- 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH

- 7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
- 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed Prep—Kitchen

FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH

- 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
- 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed Prep—Parish Center and Kitchen

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

- 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
- 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM Knights of Columbus Game Feed—Parish Center and Kitchen

SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH—3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
- 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
- 8:55 AM to 9:55 AM Religious Education Classes—RE classrooms, Basement Commons
- 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen

UPLIFT YOUR PRIEST CAMPAIGN

Show Your Support of Priests April 8—19

The annual Uplift Your Priest Campaign is dedicated to supporting our priests. Training youth to show appreciation for a priest's role in their spiritual lives is an impactful way to affirm them. We need to recognize their daily sacrifices. Students should identify priests who inspire them and plan to celebrate them. Every act of kindness can make a difference.

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



LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

3rd Sunday of Easter

APRIL 13TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Pat Gilmore

Lectors
Loriewel
(Read the 1st Reading)

Karen Meyerott
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Kylie Karnish
Therese Nisbet
Steve Otto
Leann Otto
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Ken Beckman
Chad Soupir
Lisa Willert
Jeff Wollenburg

Rosary Reciter
Ellie Clines

Altar Servers
Shailynn Gatewood
Colin Lingbloom
Need Sub

Greeters
Chris Gatewood
Chris Lingbloom

APRIL 14TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Carol Zeleny

Lectors
Sandy Scheef
(Read the 1st Reading)

Claudia Perchal
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Laura Fischer
Tim Kruse
Nancy Kruse
Kathy Schwarting
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Russ Eusterwiemann
Larry Scheef
Pat Shurtliff
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Tim Gilligan

Altar Servers
Jacob Kula
Sarah Kula
Andrew Kula
Nick Kula

Greeters
Mary Brown
Mary Maw

Hilcrest SR
Mike and Paula Siegel

APRIL 14TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Andi Towey

Lectors
Michael Chatterson
(Read the 1st Reading)

Theresa Gulizia
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Barb Applegate
Norm Svoboda
Jason Kassmeier
Ashley Kassmeier
Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers
Bruce Jefferies
Tom Nienaber
Chris Reinig
Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter
Jolene Jefferies

Altar Servers
Kalla Kassmeier
Klayton Kassmeier
Kameron Kassmeier

Greeters
Andrew Brei
Andrew Urban

APRIL 14TH
NOON

Sacristan
Ginny Giebelhaus

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

Need Sub
(Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs
Delma Stoner
Darcy Skrdla
Norma Hintz
Need Sub
Deacon Larry Heck

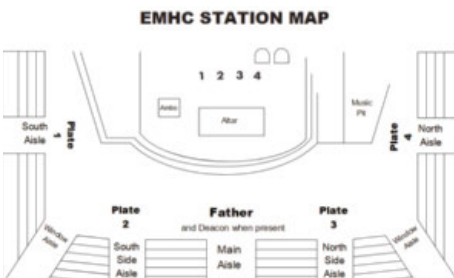
Ushers
Linda Gardner
Ginny Giebelhaus
Delma Stoner
Marty White

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Thomas Janda
James Janda
Need Sub

Greeters
Marty White
Doris Williams

Vocations Crucifix
Brandon Burns



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.

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER



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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PASTORAL MINISTRY (ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND & FUNERALS)
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Matt Ramm.....402-416-0596

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
Kevin Kaup.....402-525-1469

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY
Jerry Thoendel.....402-332-3475

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Bruce Jefferies.....402-521-4262
bjefferies16117@gmail.com



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH BREAKFASTS *Delicious Meal*



You are invited to join us in the Parish Center every second Sunday of the month, this month April 14, from 9 AM to 12 PM for a delicious breakfast. It's a perfect way to gather after Sunday Mass and get to know other parishioners here at St. Patrick.

VENI HOLY HOUR *Archomaha Young Adults*

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



Adoration and fellowship at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St, Omaha) on Friday, April 12. Adoration begins at 7:30 PM in the Cathedral with a brief reflection from a priest and is followed by an after party in the parish center! Veni is held every second Friday of the month at the Cathedral. More information about getting involved in the Archdiocese Young Adult activities can be found at <https://www.archyoungadults.org>.

THE CHOSEN SEASON FOUR *Viewing at St. Charles Borromeo*



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 in our gym to watch. Please RSVP at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A084CACA2BA5FD0-48691486-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 1&2 • April 12
Episodes 3&4 • April 19
Episodes 5&6 • April 26
Episodes 7&8 • May 3

WANT TO PRAY MORE? *There's a Devotion for Every Day of the Week*

As St. Josemaría suggested, our contact with the invisible Audience could be very well seasoned if we place a particular emphasis on each day of the week.



MONDAYS TO REMEMBER THE DEAD IN PURGATORY—On Mondays, it would be a good idea to remember the blessed souls in Purgatory. They certainly belong to the silent realm beyond the barrier that separates us from the other side. They are blessed, however, for the grace of God is with them. These souls are becoming more and more inflamed with the love of God and in union with Him. Accordingly, when we pass in front of a cemetery, when we read an obituary, or when we see a funeral procession, it would occur to us spontaneously to say a prayer for “My good friends, the souls in purgatory.” We certainly could do better than that, by saying a short prayer such as: “Lord, grant them eternal life! May they rest in peace!” Above all, it would be an excellent idea to remember these friends of ours, the souls in Purgatory, in our times of prayer and at the Holy Mass, which is always offered “for the living and the dead.”

TUESDAYS TO OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL—Tuesdays, on the other hand, could be especially devoted to fostering a close relationship with our guardian angels. Address him trustfully. St. Josemaría tells us: “Have confidence in your Guardian Angel. Treat him as a very dear friend—that’s what he is—and he will do a thousand services for you in the ordinary affairs of each day.” And he adds, “If you would remember the presence of your Guardian Angel and those of your neighbors, you would avoid many of the foolish things you let slip into your conversation.” Moreover, on this same day, you might want to remember more often that powerful angelic protector the Lord has given us, as we take the test of our earthly sojourn, in order to counteract the diabolical influence felt in our midst. It may help you to say the St. Michael Prayer.

WEDNESDAYS TO PRAY WITH ST. JOSEPH—Wednesdays could be the days on which we try to communicate more often and more intensely with St. Joseph. He is not only the faithful foster father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the virginal spouse of the Virgin Mary, and the provider of the household of Nazareth but is also the model of workers, the master of prayer and the interior life, the patron of the dying, and also the patron of the universal Church. By this last title, we are reminded that St. Joseph is linked personally and truly with each human being. He belongs to the silent and supernatural world. But this does not mean that he is like a ghost. No, he is very real, and he is interested in all of us, for Jesus—whom he helped in His redemptive work—shed His Blood for all mankind. He is truly a most loving father to everyone. This is how St. Josemaría puts it: “St. Joseph, a father to Christ, is also your father and your lord. Have recourse to him.” Also on Wednesdays, we could make it a point to invoke St. Joseph in all our needs. At prayer time, we could address him confidently, paying special attention to him. In addition, we could ask him to teach us how to communicate properly with our Lord and our Blessed Mother.

THURSDAYS ARE LINKED TO THE EUCHARIST—Thursdays are forever linked to the Holy Eucharist, for it was on a Thursday that our Lord, during the Last Supper, instituted it. It might be a good idea to devote this day to meditating and conversing with the Persons of the veiled Audience about this great mystery of faith. This is how St. Matthew, inspired by the Holy Spirit, recorded for us the institution of the Eucharist: “Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (Matt. 26:26–28)’” It was the farewell supper that linked the old and the new covenants, in order that the following day would be sealed on the Cross, with the precious blood of our Lord. It is appropriate, therefore, to do all we can to make every Thursday a Eucharistic day. We could begin by attending Holy Mass, even if we are not yet able to do so on the other weekdays. It is a great thing to be present at the representation of the sacrifice of Calvary and to receive worthily the Bread of Life on a day that is not a holy day of obligation. Under these circumstances, we enjoy the additional and personal assurance that we attend the Holy Mass not out of any fear or requirement but out of pure and free love. On Thursdays, we could make it a point to bring to our prayer this great mystery of love and not to fail in visiting our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the silent, and often lonely Guest of countless Catholic churches and chapels. In addition, we could endeavor to multiply the expression of our eagerness to receive Him sacramentally, by reciting Spiritual Communions throughout the day. Many have found it helpful to use one that St. Josemaría liked and recommended: “I wish, Lord, to receive You with the purity, humility, and devotion with which your most holy Mother received you, with the spirit and fervor of the saints.”

FRIDAYS TO REMEMBER THE PASSION OF OUR LORD—On Fridays, the memory of Mount Calvary looms high. It was on a Friday when Jesus was hung on a cross for our salvation. It would be a great pity if we were so immersed in our earthly pursuits that such remembrance would not mean anything to us. Therefore, we will do well to make an effort to recall it throughout the day. *Continued on next page—>*

WANT TO PRAY MORE? *Continued From Page 8*

Without doubt, the best moment for that will be in the Sacrifice of the Mass that we attend. There we find ourselves at Golgotha, with the same High Priest, the same Victim, and the same intention Jesus Christ had at that time. This is possible because He, the eternal Logos (the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity), always lives—as God—in eternity, that is, outside the constraints of time and space. If it is compatible with our professional and family duties, it would be an excellent thing to recite on Fridays the Way of the Cross, a practice that our Mother the Church has enriched with generous indulgences. This is how St. Josemaría puts it: “The Way of the Cross. Here indeed is a strong and fruitful devotion! May you make it a habit to go over those fourteen points of our Lord’s Passion and Death each Friday. I assure you that you’ll gain strength for the whole week.” To that, Blessed Alvaro del Portillo added, “The Way of the Cross is not a sad devotion. Msgr. Escrivá taught many times that Christian joy has its roots in the shape of a cross. If the Passion of Christ is a way of pain, it is also a path of hope leading to certain victory.”

SATURDAYS IN HONOR OF OUR LADY, MARY—Saturdays have always been linked to our Blessed Mother, Mary. Christians have not forgotten that sorrowful Saturday when the body of Jesus Christ lay in the tomb, and Mary inspired the disciples with confidence and provided them with the great support of her unshakable faith. At the darkest hour, Mary was truly the hope of the Christians. For this reason, over the centuries, Saturday has been a day devoted to our Lady. It would be an excellent idea to make every Saturday a Marian day. We could begin by paying special attention to our Lady when we make our Morning Offering and address the Triune God and His entourage. She is the Queen of Heaven—that is, the most important person in our Lord’s retinue. After God comes Mary, and she deserves our special attention. Accordingly, after offering our entire day to the Almighty, we might want to speak filially to the Virgin Mary, asking her protection during the day. There is a very well-known ancient prayer, the Memorare, that Christians have prayed countless times, and it comes to us from St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153), a Doctor of the Church, who was very much in love with Mary. It would be a good thing to say it often on Saturdays. In addition, since Saturdays are devoted to Our Lady, it would be fitting to pray with more intensity all our Marian devotions, such as the Holy Rosary. This is what Pope Pius XII said about it: “What a sweet and most pleasing spectacle to God when, at eventide, the Christian home resounds with repeated praises in honor of the august Queen of Heaven! Then the recitation of the Rosary reunites the parents and their children who return from their daily work and brings them together before the image of the Virgin in an admirable union of hearts. It unites them piously with those absent and with the dead.” Furthermore, Pope St. John XXIII called it “a very commendable form of prayer and meditation.” The popes have wholeheartedly recommended the Holy Rosary and have enriched it with indulgences. It is also very appropriate to recite or sing a Hail Holy Queen every Saturday in our Lady’s honor. It is a very beautiful ancient prayer that surely pleases our Blessed Mother. As in the Hail Mary, we remind the Virgin Mary of her splendid titles, most especially of her condition as Queen, and we end humbly, asking her help for us who are still “in this our exile.” It is a prayer that is bound to touch her Immaculate Heart. Through Sr. Lucia of Fatima, our Lady has also requested that we observe with particular devotion the first Saturday of five consecutive months: attending Holy Mass, receiving Communion worthily in reparation for sins, praying the Rosary in honor of her Immaculate Heart, and spending at least fifteen minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary. It might be a good idea to live this devotion every first Saturday of the month. In line with this request, which comes from our Lady herself, it would be a praiseworthy resolution to dedicate every first Saturday to live and propagate among our friends a love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to offer atonement for the sins that are committed all over the world.

SUNDAYS IN HONOR OF THE HOLY TRINITY—Finally, in addition to the weekly commemoration of the Resurrection of our Lord, we could devote Sundays to honoring, in a special way, the Blessed Trinity, which is at the very core and summit of the Company of Witnesses of our lives. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity “the central mystery of the Christian faith and life” (234). This great mystery should occupy first place not only at the speculative level but also at the practical level in the lives of Christians. A good contribution to this is making every Sunday a special Trinitarian day. On Sundays, whenever we make the Sign of the Cross, we could strive to do it in such a way that we really mean what we are saying: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!” Furthermore, we could bring to our mental prayer this great mystery of our Faith, taking it as the topic of meditation for a few minutes. On Sundays, while going from one occupation to another, we might find it helpful to repeat some aspiration; for instance: “Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!” or this one that St. Josemaría said and recommended a great deal: “Hail Mary, daughter of God the Father, Hail Mary, mother of God the Son, Hail Mary, spouse of God the Holy Spirit! Greater than you, none but God!”

—This article was adapted from a chapter in Fr. Portavella’s *The Little Manual for Spiritual Growth and can be found on Catholic Exchange*



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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jjwotipka@archomaha.org

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

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Megan Seamann.....meseamann@archomaha.org

ADVERTISE FOR YOUR MINISTRY GROUP

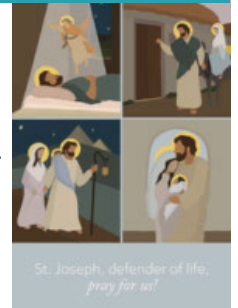
Does your parish ministry group have opportunities for others to get involved? Contact Megan Seamann, meseamann@archomaha.org, about getting your parish ministry group opportunities advertised.

ST. JOSEPH DEFENDER OF LIFE *Pray to End Abortion*

The USCCB’s president and the chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Pro-Life Activities announced a nationwide invitation to prayer. On March 26, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case that could impact the widespread accessibility of chemical abortion (abortion pills). Chemical abortions are now

the most common form of abortion in the United States. Continuing through June, when a decision is expected, offer this Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life daily for the end of abortion and for the protection of women and pre-born children:

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God’s humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God’s most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life—especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

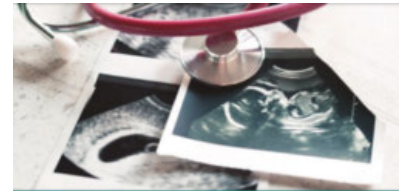
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Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**
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Website.....ccomaha.org
- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**
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AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

FREE ULTRASOUNDS—ESSENTIAL PREGNANCY SERVICES, APRIL 6, 13, 20

Would you like a free ultrasound of your baby? To help Essential Pregnancy Services’ new staff complete their onboarding training quickly, you can get a free first-trimester ultrasound, including pictures, during model scan days in April: April 6 from 12 PM to 4:30 PM; April 13 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM; April 20 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Participants already should have established prenatal care with a physician and have a due date between October 25 and November 30. If you or someone you know is interested in getting a free first-trimester ultrasound, call or text 402-554-1000 to schedule your appointment.



Free First-Trimester Ultrasounds

HEALING SERVICE AND RECEPTION—ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, APRIL 10

Have you or someone you love been affected by the trauma of abuse?

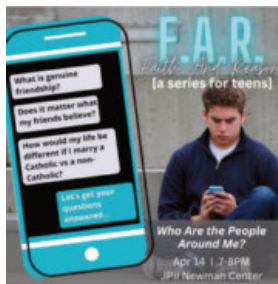
JOIN US FOR A HEALING SERVICE AND RECEPTION

backgrounds to join us. There will be an opportunity to pray silently or with another person. A reception with light refreshments will immediately follow.

Have you or someone you love been affected by the trauma of abuse? Join us for a healing service and reception on Wednesday, April 10 at 7 PM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (5419 N 114th St, Omaha). From childhood to adulthood, abuse takes many forms and occurs in families, churches, and communities. The Archdiocese of Omaha invites anyone impacted by abuse to come together and pray for the healing of wounds. Archbishop George Lucas will preside. This is not a Mass. We welcome people of all faiths, walks of life, and

NEFARIOUS MOVIE SHOWING—CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, APRIL 13

How real is the devil? Join us for a showing of the movie *Nefarious* at Creighton University (2500 California Plz, Omaha) in the auditorium on Saturday, April 13 at either 1:30 PM or 6:30 PM. We have Fr. Ben Boyd along with Fr. Damian Cook giving a talk and a Question and Answer session after the movie. Seats are limited. Scan the QR code for ticket information and event details.



FAR SERIES FOR TEENS—ST. JOHN PAUL II NEWMAN CENTER, APRIL 14

F.A.R. [a series for teens]: What is genuine friendship? Does it matter what my friends believe? What about my future spouse? Join the Evangelium Institute for their next session of Faith and Reason (F.A.R.) as Deacon Peter Kennedy addresses these questions and more on Sunday, April 14 from 7 PM to 8 PM at the St. John Paul II Newman Center (1221 S 71st St, Omaha). Ticket information can be found at www.eicatholic.org/upcoming-events.

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

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



RACHEL’S VINEYARD RETREAT—OMAHA/LINCOLN AREA, APRIL 19-21



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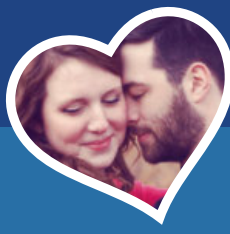
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