

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNA, NE 68028



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.” - Mk 7:15

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

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

Welcome

We invite you to become involved in our parish community! There are many opportunities for experiencing the peace and joy of our loving God in liturgy, education, prayer and service.

If you would like to join our parish family, please visit our website or the Parish Office for a registration form.

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours.....M-F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Phone.....402-332-4444
Fax.....402-332-5107
Website.....stpatricksgretna.org
Facebook & Instagram.....@stpatgretnane
YouTube.....@StPatrickCatholicChurchNE
E-mail.....stpatrick.gre@archomaha.org
Flocknote.....text STPATGRETN to 84576

MASS AND HOLY EUCHARIST

Saturday.....5:00 PM
Sunday.....8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, & Noon
Tuesday.....6:00 PM
Mon, Wed, Thurs, and Fri.....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 or 531-466-2453.

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING (DT 4:1-2, 6-8)

Moses urged Israel to follow God's commandments, in order to become a "great nation," filled with "wise and intelligent people." Where do you see our nation following God's commandments?

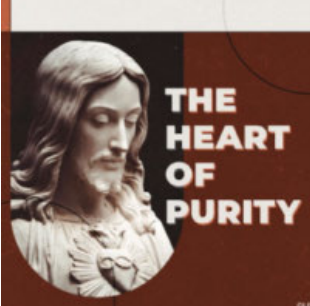
SECOND READING (JAS 1:17-18, 21B-22, 27)

James sees religion at its best when it cares for those on the margins of society and resists the false trappings of the world. How might you help someone less fortunate than you this week?

GOSPEL (MK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

Jesus challenged the Pharisees and scribes of Jerusalem on how they interpreted traditional Jewish purity laws. What do you think helps someone have a "clean heart?"

GOSPEL MEDITATION



Purity isn't popular at the moment. Or is it? Look at a rack of health magazines or at popular podcasts. You'll see an infinite ocean of regulations and rituals of diets, intermittent fasting, morning sun rituals, intense juice detox practices, lists of dangerous foods, mental practices, as well as long lists of dos and don'ts for the proper cleaning of clothes, dishes, cars, houses, pets, and children. Like it or not, we long to be pure, clean, and without blemish.

This question of purity haunted people in Jesus' day, too. The Pharisees and scribes (the leading purity authorities of the day) criticize Jesus, asking, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" (Mark 7:5). Jesus responds by saying, "There is nothing outside the person that can defile him if it goes into him; but the things that come out of the person are what defile the person" (Mark 7:15). What does He mean, and how can it help us be pure?

We've probably all heard the somewhat shopworn interpretation that Jesus replaces the ritual, exterior notion of purity with a moral, interior one. Christianity is thus seen as a kind of moral re-tooling, as if religion doesn't make us pure. Good moral intentions do. But this doesn't take the rest of Jesus' ministry seriously enough, nor our obsession with purity. The better reading is that Jesus audaciously offers Himself as the ultimate source of human purity—from within each human heart. Both our religious ritual practices and our moral actions are meant to flow from this encounter with Jesus the Lord. When we are in friendship with Him, everything becomes pure for us.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

ANSWER:

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: *Rerum Novarum* (1891) by Leo XIII, *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931) by Pius XI, *Laborem Exercens* (1981), and *Centesimus Annus* (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline.



Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in *Laborem Exercens* #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person." Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

SAINT GILES

Religious



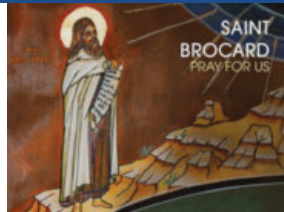
St. Giles (7th c.) was born to a wealthy and noble Greek family. He devoted his life to the things of God and grew in sanctity, but found that his material and spiritual riches drew unwanted praise and attention. To escape prestige, he sold all of his possessions, gave his wealth to the poor, and moved away to Gaul (present day France) to live in solitude in the wilderness as a cave-dwelling hermit. He lived in this way without companionship for many years while practicing

severe penances. He became so impoverished that God sent a deer to be his companion and to nourish him with its milk. One day a royal hunting party in pursuit of the deer chased it into the saint's cave. A hunter shot an arrow into the cave, and instead of hitting the deer, he injured the saint. St. Giles was discovered and soon became known throughout the countryside as a holy hermit, the king himself often coming to visit him. St. Giles consented to receive disciples who desired to imitate his way of life. The king built a monastery for these followers, who lived as monks under the Rule of St. Benedict with St. Giles as abbot. St. Giles was known as a miracle worker during his life, and his monastery and the town that grew around it became a shrine and place of pilgrimage, especially for crippled beggars. St. Giles became one of the most popular saints in the Middle Ages, and is the patron of many causes including lepers, hermits, cripples, epileptics, cancer patients, the mentally ill, the disabled, and the poor. St. Giles' feast day is September 1.

SAINT BROCARD

Religious

St. Brocard (d. 1231 A.D.) was a Frenchman who traveled to the Holy Land to enter into religious life there. He was among the first group of hermits to establish a community of monks on Mount Carmel. Details of his life are scarce, but it is believed that St. Brocard was the prior of the community after the death of St. Berthold, who is considered to be the founder of the Carmelites. Brocard, as the new leader of the community, desired to formalize the monks' way of life on Mt. Carmel. He requested that St. Albert, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, write and establish a rule of life for the community, which he then imposed on the group as their discipline. The Rule of St. Albert established the Carmelites as a new religious order. St. Brocard was considered an expert on Islam and Eastern affairs and was to accompany St. Albert to the Fourth Lateran Council, were it not for St. Albert's murder before the Council convened. The Council suppressed the creation of new religious orders, which put the Carmelites in a tenuous position as they were not approved by the Holy See prior to this new decree. St. Brocard led the community through an uncertain period until they achieved special approval from the Holy Father. St. Brocard's feast day is September 2.



SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

Bishop and Doctor of the Church



St. Basil the Great (329 – January 1, 379) shares his feast day with his lifelong friend St. Gregory of Nazianzen. These accomplished men fought against heresies that threatened the foundations of the early Church, shaping doctrines around Christ's divinity and the nature of the Holy Trinity. St. Basil was born at Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family already deeply rooted in Christianity, going back to the time of widespread persecution in the 1st and 2nd centuries. Following in the footsteps of his father, Basil studied in Caesarea as well as Constantinople and Athens, training in the law and rhetoric. He became a popular teacher. However, his sister persuaded him to give up academia for monastic life. Before inviting St. Gregory to start an order with him, St. Basil traveled through Egypt, Palestine, and Syria visiting monasteries, learning everything he could and formulating his own ideas about monastic rule. His rule is still followed today, and he is known as the Father of Eastern Monasticism. His time in the monastery was relatively short, it was only five years before he was called to play a greater role in the Church. Ordained as a priest, by around 370 he was made bishop of Caesaria. It was in this role that he fought against the heresy of Arianism which denied the divinity of Christ, even defying an emperor! He also fought against other early Trinitarian heresies. But these important doctrinal stands were not what defined Basil. He was passionate about caring for the poor and sick, pastoral care, and fighting against institutionalized prostitution. He would preach twice a day to large crowds, and opened a complex with a hospital, orphanage, and shelter for the poor. In addition to influential monastic rules, sermons, and doctrinal treatises, more than 300 of his letters still exist.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

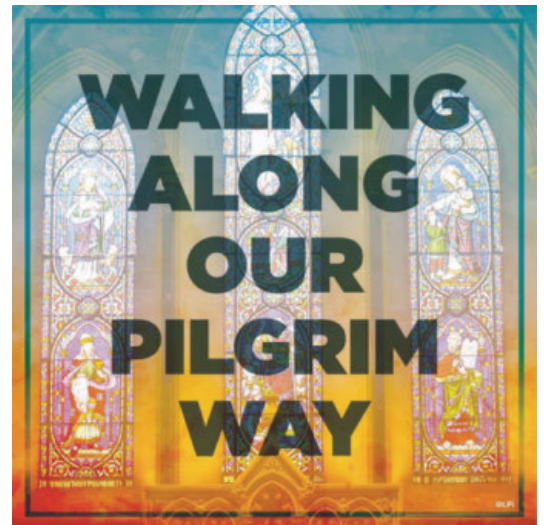


ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gretna, Nebraska

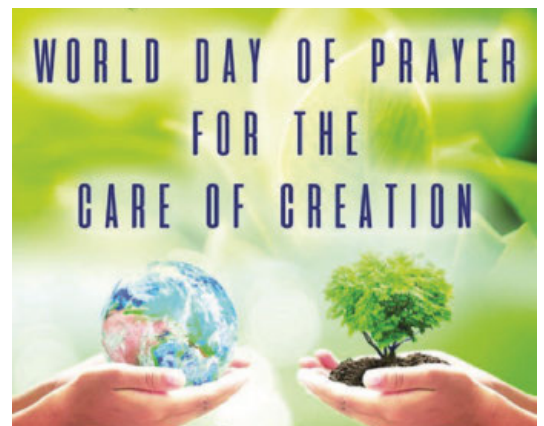
READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
TUESDAY: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
WEDNESDAY: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
THURSDAY: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
FRIDAY: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
SATURDAY: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
NEXT SUNDAY: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1B)/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Labor Day
TUESDAY: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
NEXT SUNDAY: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

DESIRE TO BECOME CATHOLIC
Order of Christian Initiation Adults

OCIA

If anyone is interested in going through our OCIA program (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) here at our parish, you can register online or contact the parish office to learn more information. This is for anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church or anyone who would like to know more about the Catholic faith. Classes will begin in September.

PARISH BREAKFASTS
Every Second Sunday



You are invited to join us in the Parish Center every second Sunday of the month, this month September 8, 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.

VOCATIONS PRAYER CORNER

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

This week let us pray for **Nancy Valdovinos** (Leaven of the Immaculate Heart of Mary) from St. Michael in South Sioux City.



"Keep the commandments of the Lord." Seek a life deeply aligned with His divine will and purpose. If you feel He is calling you to become a priest or religious brother or sister, talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.

"PRAY ALWAYS AND DO NOT LOSE HEART."



Baptisms

Since our last update on August 25, one child has been baptized into the Body of Christ. We congratulate the parents and family members, and we welcome your little one into the Family of Faith! We are praying our Lord Jesus will bless, guide and inspire each of you in His love as you travel along your faith journey. Congratulations!



Name.....Date

Ridley Lake Spurgeon..... 8/24/2024

ANNUAL VILLA MARIE PAPER DRIVE
August 30—September 22



The Knights of Columbus Annual Villa Marie Paper Drive will be held from August 30 through September 22 at St. Patrick. Villa Marie is a Catholic school serving students challenged with Down Syndrome, Autism, developmental delays, and other health impaired struggle located near Waverly, NE. Paper products of all kinds are needed by the school—copy paper, construction paper, paper towels, napkins, toilet paper, etc. Leave your donation in the narthex any time during these

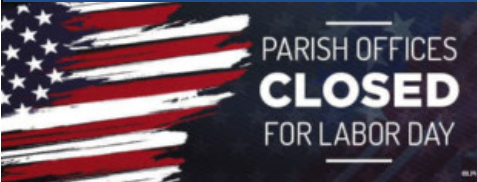
dates under the Villa Marie posters. The Knights will collect the donated items each day and deliver them to Villa Marie on September 22. Your support is much appreciated!

FIRST FRIDAY AFTERNOON MASS AND ANNOINTING
Gretna - Springfield Family of Parishes

On First Fridays, St. Joseph (100 9th St, Springfield) has a 2 PM Mass with Anointing of the Sick available and confessions beforehand. This Mass is specially scheduled to accommodate older and limited mobility persons who may have difficulty attending an early morning Mass or sitting through an entire Sunday Mass. The church and parking are easily accessible. All are welcome.



LABOR DAY—PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
Join Us for Mass at 9 AM



The parish office will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 2. We will still offer a Mass that day, however it will be at 9 AM instead of 7:30 AM. Enjoy a well deserved day of rest from the work that you have been doing. "On the seventh day God

completed the work He had been doing; He rested on the seventh day from all the work He had undertaken." (Genesis 2:2)

OKTOBERFEST—SEPTEMBER 14
Live Polka, German Food, Beer, Husker Game

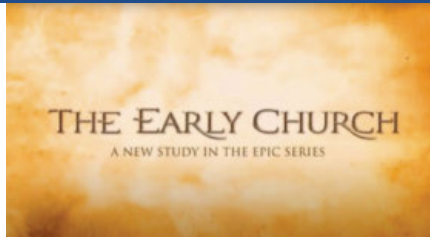
Come join us for the Second Annual Knights of Columbus Oktoberfest. Dance the night away under the big tent to live Polka music while enjoying great German food and beer. Worried about missing the game? Don't be! We will have the evening's football games streaming in the Parish Center. Oktoberfest is Saturday, September 14 from 6 PM to 10 PM in the Church parking lot. Contact Tim Hall for more information at tshallnj10@gmail.com.



ASCENSION ADULT BIBLE STUDY—EARLY CHURCH

Discover the Epic Story of The Early Church

Discover the extraordinary story of the Church's beginnings—a time of courageous saints, brilliant philosophers, eloquent theologians, ruthless emperors, and heroic martyrs. St. John Paul II said, "Christ is the foundation and center of history; He is its meaning and ultimate goal." *Epic: The Early Church* encourages you to grow closer to Christ through a deeper understanding of His Church.



Here you will get to know the people and events that shaped its first five hundred years. You will see how the Church Fathers boldly confronted early challenges to the Faith—challenges similar to the ones we face today. You will learn the stories behind the first ecumenical councils and the Roman persecutions and meet many of the men and women who gave their lives to defend the Faith. The heroic stories of the early leaders and martyrs of the Church will strengthen and affirm your own walk of faith. This 10-part study features dynamic DVD presentations with Church history professor Steve Weidenkopf, and student materials including a full color workbook, timeline chart, and bookmark.

St. Patrick of Gretna will begin this 10-week Bible study *Epic: The Early Church* on Monday, September 16 at 7 PM. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

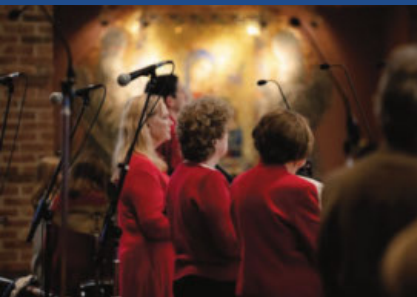
Register at <https://stpatricksgretna.org/education/faith-formation/bible-study>. You will also need to order study materials (workbook and/or online access) at <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/epic-the-early-church#study-materials>.

If you need help with registration or ordering, contact Ginny Giebelhaus at ginnyg651@aol.com or 402-319-5806. If you have general questions about the study or would like to volunteer as a small group facilitator, contact Jean Hlavacek at jean.jeweler@gmail.com or 402-504-4222.

Don't miss this opportunity to take part in a compelling and inspiring learning experience that is sure to draw you closer to Christ through a deeper understanding of His Church!

PARISH CHOIRS BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

Join the Children or Adult Choir Today



Children's Choir for grades 4-8 and Parish Choir for high school youth and adults both start rehearsals at the beginning of September. Choirs rehearse once each week and sing at the Sunday 10 AM Mass. Choirs are made up of people who love to learn, who want to have a smaller community within the larger parish, and who desire to help the congregation worship God in song. To express interest or learn more, please contact Laura Rau at 402-332-4444 or lrau@archomaha.org.

Stewardship Report

Aug 21, 2024-Aug 27, 2024

Current Fiscal Year - July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025

General Contributions	Aug 21-Aug 27	Fiscal YTD thru Aug 27
Sunday Offering	\$11,346.07	\$166,978.75
Other Contributions	\$351.16	\$9,326.26
Total General Contributions	\$11,697.23	\$176,305.01 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$14,552.77)	(\$33,694.99)
Fiscal Year-to-Date Income		\$470,955.67
Fiscal Year-to-Date Expenses		\$218,233.04
Fiscal Year-to-Date Net Income		\$252,722.63

* Our budget requires an average weekly income of \$26,250.

'Other Contributions' include Holy Days, Maintenance & Repairs, and other Special Collections.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

THE KNIGHT'S CORNER



SAVE THE DATE—BLOOD DRIVE



BLOOD DONATION
BE A HERO GIVE BLOOD

The Knights of Columbus #10047 and St. Patrick Church will host a Gretna Community Blood Drive Monday, September 9 from 12:30 PM until 6:30 PM. To make your appointment go to www.redcrossblood.org.

Sign up today and you can make a difference!

KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Thanks to all of the Knights and their family members who helped at our recent Parish Breakfast. It was another wonderful breakfast!



MONTHLY MEETING

All Knights are invited to join us for our monthly Knights of Columbus meeting that occurs every first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM in the St. Patrick Parish Center.

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 and Membership Director, Tim Hall.....
.....307-214-3714



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 (INT), 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, SEPTEMBER 2ND

9:00 AM † Juanita Wozak

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

6:00 PM † Karen Pierce

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

7:30 AM † Patrick O'Brien

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

7:30 AM † Michael Wuerfele

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

7:30 AM † Karen Pierce

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

5:00 PM † Nancy Vanbecelaere

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

8:00 AM † Gertrude Wilde
10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM † Arya Manzitto

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 Joan Carraher, Ella Staiert, Michael (nephew of Norris and Carol Hoover), Don Maher, 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, SEPTEMBER 1ST—22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary, Narthex
7:00 PM to 7:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary—Sanctuary

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND—LABOR DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

8:30 AM to 8:50 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 9:00 AM)—Sanctuary

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

5:30 PM to 5:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 6:00 PM)—Sanctuary
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Holy Hour of Prayer—Sanctuary
6:30 PM to 6:40 PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion (after Mass)—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting—Parish Center AB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
8:00 AM to 8:15 AM Liturgy of the Hours—Behind the Tabernacle
9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Faith Connection—Father Hitch Room
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Religious Education Classes—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Project Linus—Basement Commons

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

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, SEPTEMBER 7TH

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, SEPTEMBER 8TH—23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

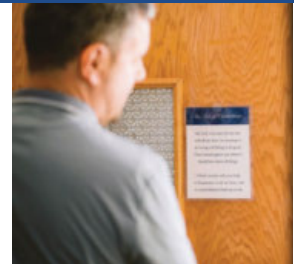
7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
8:55 AM to 9:55 AM Religious Education—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus COR Leadership Meeting—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 7:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary—Sanctuary

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE OF CONFESSION

It is Healing—like Health Care

"There are many ways of looking at confession, and all of them are valid. You can look at it as a courtroom with a divine judge. You can look at it as an accounting of debts. I think it's most helpful to look at it as healing—as health care. Confession does for our souls what doctors, dieticians, physical therapists, and pharmacists do for our bodies. Think about all we do to keep our bodies in working order. We go for regular checkups with a primary-care physician, a dentist, an eye doctor. And no one has to remind us to brush our teeth, take a shower, and pop the pills for whatever ails us. All this is good for us, and it's good for everyone around us, too. No one wants to work beside us if we decide to stop showering. Well, if we spend so much effort on the care of our bodies, shouldn't we be spending more time on our souls? After all, our bodies will pass away soon enough, but our souls will live on forever."

—Scott Hahn, *Signs of Life: 40 Catholic Customs and Their Biblical Roots*, pg. 186



"What sorrow Mary especially must have felt at losing Jesus [in the Temple]! But, my Savior, Mary had not lost You through her fault. You had left her in order to devote Yourself to Your Father's business. I, on the contrary, have often lost You through my own fault because of my sins. I often forced You to abandon me, and I should have felt great sorrow at this loss and abandonment... Mary had lost only the bodily presence of Jesus; His friendship for her was untouched. But I lost the dearest thing in all the world; the grace and friendship of Jesus."

—Alexander De Rouville, *The Imitation of Mary*, p. 139-140

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 7TH 5:00 PM SEPTEMBER 8TH 8:00 AM SEPTEMBER 8TH 10:00 AM SEPTEMBER 8TH NOON

Sacristan
Larry Neppel

Lectors
Rebecca Campbell
(Read the 1st Reading)

Karen Meyerott
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Tracy Wollenburg
Nancy Arp
Larry Neppel
Wendy Neppel

Ushers
Larry Neppel
Linda Schriener
Chad Soupir
Jeff Wollenburg

Rosary Reciter
Carol Zeleny

Altar Servers
Aslyn Ronk
Kenley Ronk
Need Sub

Greeters
Tim Kirkpatrick
Nancy Kirkpatrick

Sacristan
Joan Ingram

Lectors
Carrie Hubert
(Read the 1st Reading)

Duane Benes
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Paul Hubert
Carol Zeleny
Deb Benes
Cari Kaup
Deacon Larry Heck

Ushers
Pat Calvert
Kevin Kaup
Ron Kotrous
Pat Shurtliff

Rosary Reciter
Tim Gilligan

Altar Servers
Luke Hubert
Paul Joseph Hubert
Mitchell Hubert

Greeters
Steve Ingram
Gordon Yager

Hilcrest SR
Mike and Paula Siegel

Sacristan
Jim Hottovy

Lectors
Theresa Gulizia
(Read the 1st Reading)

David Burke
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Tom Nienaber
Cleo Nienaber
Rosie Stec
Norm Svoboda
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Jim Hain
Chris Reinig
John Schaffert
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Tam Hottovy

Altar Servers
Harper Dickes
Nev Dickes
Scarlet McCord

Greeters
Andrew Brei
Need Sub

Sacristan
Linda Schriener

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

Kathy Broz
(Standby: if a Sub is Needed)

EMHCs
Linda Schriener
Darcy Skrdla
Delma Stoner
Norma Hintz

Ushers
Linda Schriener
Delma Stoner
Mary Zeigler
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

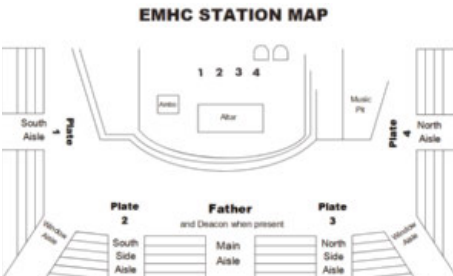
Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Jeanette Roy
Mary Zeigler

Vocations Crucifix
Merrill Neary

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.



- 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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Fr. Gregory P. Baxter.....402-332-4444, x205
gpbaxter@archomaha.org
Residence.....402-332-4428
Emergencies (if facing danger or death), call:
402-332-4428 or 531-466-2453

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Vincent A. Sunguti.....402-332-4444, x204
vasunguti@archomaha.org
Residence.....531-466-2453

DEACONS

Deacon Ken Broz.....402-676-1025
Deacon Larry Heck.....402-572-1319

PARISH OFFICE

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jmjefferies@archomaha.org

Megan Seamann, Communications Associate

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Judy Weier, Secretary.....402-332-4444, x201
jaweier@archomaha.org

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smfagan@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Amanda Scardina.....402-332-3050
acscardina@archomaha.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY (LITURGY, YOUTH GROUP & FAITH FORM)

Jonathan Wotipka.....402-332-4444, x212
jjwotipka@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC

Laura Rau.....402-332-4444, x216
lrau@archomaha.org

PARISH CENTER COORDINATOR

Lezlie Thomas.....402-525-3098
lathomas@archomaha.org

FACILITY MANAGER

Judy Knight.....402-332-4444, x206
jaknight@archomaha.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

PRO-LIFE ROSARY Every Sunday at 7 PM



Join us every Sunday evening at 7 PM here at St. Patrick in the Sanctuary to pray

a Pro-Life Rosary. The special intentions of this Rosary are for the Pro-Life ballot items in the November elections. All are welcome!

CATECHISTS NEEDED Religious Education

Religious Education is still in need of Catechists, Co-Catechists, and Office Helpers on Wednesday and Sunday. These volunteers are instrumental in helping the young people of St. Patrick grow in knowledge and love of Jesus and His Church. Many resources and lesson plans are offered. If you are interested or have questions about volunteering, please contact Shane at 402-332-3454, smfagan@archomaha.org, or fill out the online form at <https://stpatriksgretna.org/education/religious-education/re-form>.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS Volunteers Needed for All Masses



We are in need of new volunteers for ALL weekend Masses. These positions include: Greeters, Lectors, EMHCs, Ushers, Sacristans, Rosary Reciters, and volunteers to take the Vocation Box home to pray for all

Vocations throughout the week. If you feel called to help with any of these Liturgical Ministry positions, please contact Jonathan Wotipka, 402-332-4444 ext. 212 or jjwotipka@archomaha.org.

PARISH GARAGE SALE Save the Date—October 19-20

Save the Date! We will be hosting a parish-wide garage sale again this year on October 19-20. We will NOT be receiving any donations until October 9. More information to come.



ST. ROSE OF LIMA'S FEAST DAY Patron Saint of Our St. Rose of Lima Flower Guild

St. Rose of Lima, who lived from 1586-1617, was born in Lima, Peru, one of ten children belonging to a Spanish immigrant and his wife, a descendant of the Incas. Rose was beautiful and very pious. She was so sensitive to compliments on her physical appearance that, to combat vanity, she disfigured her face with pepper and lime.

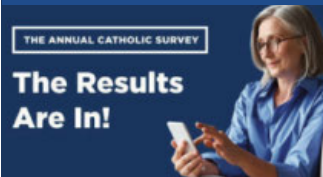


When her father's finances deteriorated, Rose used her skills at needlework to help support her family. Her parents desired that she marry, but she refused and lived as a recluse in a hut in her parent's garden. Inspired by the example of St. Catherine of Siena, Rose joined the Third Order of Dominicans, dedicated her life to chastity and assisting the sick and poor, and inflicted severe penances on herself daily. For this extreme behavior, she endured disapproval and persecution from her family, especially when she began to have visions and other mystical experiences. An evaluation by priests and physicians proved Rose's experiences to be authentically supernatural. She also spoke out against the corruption of her day, as the Spanish grew rich from Peru's natural resources while Peruvians became impoverished. She was greatly revered by the people, and at the time of her death, at the age of 31, her body could not be buried for several days due to the large crowds. After her death, many miracles were attributed to her intercession. St. Rose of Lima was the first native-born saint from the Americas to be canonized. She is the patroness of the Americas, the Philippines, India, Peru, and of gardeners, florists, needleworkers, and against vanity. Her feast day is August 23. Say a prayer that there might be more American saints! St. Rose of Lima, pray for us!

—The Saint of the Day Podcast by Good Catholic and The Catholic Company

St. Rose of Lima is the patron saint of our Flower Guild here at the parish. We would love to thank all of the current members of the St. Rose of Lima Flower Guild, who work hard to keep our beloved Church looking absolutely beautiful. Recently, they've been working hard to clean up and beautify the outside of the Church as well. Your work does not go unnoticed. If anyone is interested in joining our St. Rose of Lima Flower Guild, contact Joan Ingram at 402-203-3604.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC SURVEY God Transforms the Church One Person at a Time



Last year, the Annual Catholic Survey made history. With over 135,000 responses, it gave Catholics a voice on a scale never seen before. Keep reading for a breakdown of our top three insights...and get excited to take the 2024 Annual Catholic Survey which is open now!

Note: The Annual Catholic Survey is a popular survey. It is available for anyone to take, Catholic and non-Catholic. It is not designed to provide an accurate snapshot of the Church as a whole. The goal is to provide as many Catholics as possible an opportunity for their voice to be heard. Take the survey today at www.dynamiccatholic.com/annual-catholic-survey.html

TAKEAWAY #1: THOSE WHO BELIEVE DON'T LEAVE

97.3% of survey respondents who go to Mass regularly and pray regularly also believe in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. 99.3% of those same respondents said they would not leave the Catholic Church. Do you know what this means? Those who believe don't leave. Believe what? Believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. This is our one hopeful truth.

TAKEAWAY #2: ENGAGED CATHOLICS READ BOOKS

62.8% of the survey participants reported reading at least one Catholic book in the past year. But this is where it gets interesting: of the people who read at least one Catholic book a year, 83.2% of them also pray regularly and go to Mass once a week. What does this mean? For a long time, we've held the position that engaged Catholics read books. Even if it's just five pages a day, they take their time to increase their knowledge of the faith. And this year's survey findings confirm that. What will the results be for next year?

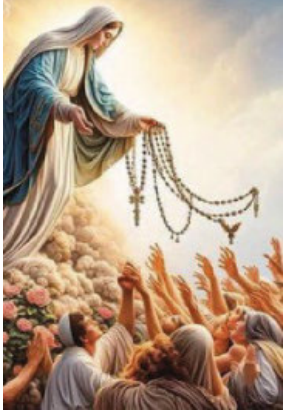
TAKEAWAY #3: WE STILL HAVE WORK TO DO

Out of 135,000+ people who took our survey, only 13.3% believed they could have a significant impact on the future of the Catholic Church in America. We've seen this concerning trend each of the three years—most Catholics don't believe they can impact the future of the Church. But here's the truth: God transforms the Church one person at a time...and that starts with each and every one of us. Do you believe you can have an impact on the future of the Catholic Church in America? We want to hear from you!

—Article and Survey by Dynamic Catholic

EXPERIENCE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic Rosary Congress—October 5-12



During this time of Eucharistic Revival, the faithful are encouraged to renew our worship of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, and to encounter His healing grace. We have the perfect opportunity to do so during the Eucharistic Rosary Congress, which is a seven-day period of Eucharistic Adoration and Hourly Rosary in response to Our Lady of Fatima's call to conversion, consecration, and prayer. It is offered in a spirit of reparation to restore the sanctity of life, to heal families, establish peace in our cities, nation, and world, and to console the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

WHAT IS THE EUCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS?

Across the nation, parishes and dioceses are encouraged to join in prayer, interceding to Our Blessed Mother Mary as she stands in the breach with her Son in the Blessed Sacrament interceding on our behalf to the Father. This year's theme is

"Do Whatever He Tells You," drawing from the Wedding Feast of Cana where Mary directed the servants to obey Jesus.

Our intentions will be offered in a spirit of reparation to restore the sanctity of life; to establish peace in our hearts, our families, our Church, and our nation; and to console the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

It is a powerful and intense week of spiritual warfare with the lightest, most joyful weapons ever, the Rosary and the Eucharist. When a person responds to Our Lady with a 'yes!', she takes it upon herself to help efficaciously in this battle. Every prayer warrior is necessary and needed!

Learn more about the incredible history of the Rosary Congress, involving Poland, Pope St. John Paul II, the fall of communism, and St. John Bosco's dream at <https://www.rosarycongressusa.org>!

SPECIAL EVENTS HERE AT ST. PATRICK

St. Patrick will host the Eucharistic Rosary Congress beginning with an outdoor procession carrying a statue of Our Blessed Mother around several city blocks. We will begin lining up at 4:15 PM on Saturday, October 5 in the Church parking lot. Following the procession, all are invited to attend the 5 PM Mass.

For seven days and seven nights the faithful can come together for Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with the Rosary prayed aloud at the start of each hour, followed by silent prayer for the remainder of the hour. The prayers with the special intentions for the decades of the Rosary are provided. This is in response to Our Lady of Fatima's call to conversion, consecration, and prayer. This will take place in our Adoration Chapel. We ask that parishioners of St. Patrick especially help us fill the over night hours. (Key card access to the Adoration Chapel can be given to parishioners as needed.) We are inviting our sister parishes, St. Charles and St. Joseph to join us in praying.

During this Eucharistic Rosary Congress, we will also host a special event on Wednesday, October 9 at 6:30 PM in the Church where we will have a Holy Hour to Pray for Families and a talk presented by Fr. Jeff Loseke. There will be a reception to follow in the Parish Center.

Blessed Carlo Acutis' "Appeals of Our Lady" exhibit will be on display in the narthex from October 5 to October 13. We will close the week of the Eucharistic Rosary Congress with the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, October 12.

Please consider participating by volunteering to cover one of the hours of Adoration during the day or the night hours. Bring your family, a friend, or if you are part of a parish group, consider inviting your group to pray a Holy Hour. If you are interested in leading the Rosary, please contact Colleen Karmazin at colleen.karmazin956@gmail.com or Kathy Dauner at kathydauner@gmail.com. Sign-up for an hour of adoration by scanning the QR code or visit stpatricksgretna.org.



"Dear children, I rejoice with you and thank God for permitting me to be with you, to lead you and love you. Little children, peace is in danger and the family is under attack. I am calling you, little children, to return to prayer in the family. Put Sacred Scripture in a visible place and read it every day."

—Message from Our Lady of Medjugorje, June 25, 2024



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

LAY LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Jonathan Wotipka.....402-332-4444, x212
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.

FOCCUS MARRIAGE MINISTRY

Work-Life Balance

Work-Life balance? Find it here! Work one day a week from home. FOCCUS Marriage Ministries is hiring for Part-Time Customer Service Representative. Apply at careers.archomaha.org.



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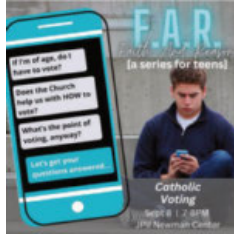
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- BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE**
Phone.....1-800-448-3000
Website.....www.boystown.org
- CATHOLIC ANSWERS**
Phone.....1-888-318-7884
Website.....www.catholic.com
- CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna.....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**
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
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Website.....holyfamilyshrine.com
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Retrouvaille.....1-800-470-2230
Retrouvaille.....www.helpourmarriage.org
- MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE**
Phone.....1-858-207-6277
Website.....www.masstimes.org
- NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK**
Website.....nebraskahomeschool.org
- POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE (FERTILITY HELP)**
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Website.....www.popepaulvi.com
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Phone.....402-352-2177
Website.....christthekingpriory.com/sbcabout
- ST. JOHN PAUL II NEWMAN CENTER**
Phone.....402-557-5575
Website.....jpiiomaha.org
- STRIVE (BREAK FREE FROM PORNOGRAPHY)**
Phone.....989-720-8000
Website.....strive21.com
- WOMEN’S CENTER FOR ADVANCEMENT (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, ETC.)**
24/7 Hotline.....402-345-7273
Website.....wcaomaha.org

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

THE BIRTH OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD—ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, SEPTEMBER 8

Come out on Sunday, September 8 from 6 PM to 8 PM at the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Hall (14330 Eagle Run Dr, Omaha) to celebrate the Feast of the Birth of Mary, Mother of God! We'll hear a testimony from Deacon Bart Zavaletta, some Eucharistic encouragement from Fr. Walter Nolte, and a period of adoration with music by Colleen Halpin. This event is being hosted by the Holy Family Ranch.



FAR SERIES FOR TEENS—JPII NEWMAN CENTER, SEPTEMBER 8

Join the Evangelium Institute for their next Faith And Reason (FAR Series) event where the topic of discussion will be Catholic Voting. Deacon Omar Gutiérrez will share what guidelines and advice the Church offers for forming consciences. Even if you can't vote, you'll want to learn what the Church has to offer! This event is for teens and is hosted at the JPII Newman Center (1221 S 71st St, Omaha) from 7 PM to 8 PM. Go to eicatholic.org for tickets.

FALL FESTIVAL—MOUNT MICHAEL, SEPTEMBER 15

We have a full day of fun planned for the whole family—food, live music, beer garden, inflatables, our famous cake tent, cornhole tournament, hayrack rides, and so much more! Join us at Mount Michael Benedictine Abbey (22520 Mount Michael Rd, Elkhorn) on Sunday, September 15 at 10 AM for Mass in the Chapel and then stay for entertainment and activities for the 69th Annual Fall Festival. Check out mmfallfestival.org



SIDEWALK ADVOCACY TRAINING—CATHOLIC CHARITIES, SEPTEMBER 28



Sidewalk Advocates
FOR LIFE

We need YOU in this important mission! Training will be offered for men and women desiring to help women through sidewalk advocacy or prayer support at local abortion facilities. This peaceful, prayerful, law abiding approach has saved over 20,000 babies in 239 cities. Attend our training on Saturday, September 28 from 10

AM to 4 PM at the Catholic Charities Building (9223 Bedford Ave, Omaha) and see how you can be a part of our team. There is a \$10 registration fee that covers workbook, materials, and lunch. For information or to register contact lifesidewalk@gmail.com.

KINGDOM MEDICINE CONFERENCE—VIRTUAL OR BRIGHTON, MI, SEPTEMBER 26-28

People often lack understanding of how to allow God to be a part of their workplace, how to hear His voice, and tap into His presence to build a Kingdom culture outside of ministry. This conference will provide refreshment, inspiration, and new vision to healthcare workers as they learn to partner more deeply with the Holy Spirit in their spheres of influence. In-person and livestream tickets are available. All healthcare workers from all fields and all levels are invited to come. Find out more and register at https://encounterministries.us/kingdommedicine.



ANNUAL FALL FEST—CHRIST THE KING, SEPTEMBER 28



Join us for the Christ the King annual Fall Fest on Saturday, September 28 from 5 PM to 8 PM in the Christ the King Church parking lot (654 S 86th St, Omaha). Join us for Mass too at 4 PM. There will be fun for the whole family with inflatables, a mechanical bull ride, face painting, games, live music by the Pat O and the Show, food trucks, beer garden, ice cream, and a silent auction. For more information visit www.ctkomaha.org/events-1.

Dear Lord, may our congregation be more deeply assured of your love each time we receive Communion. May our "Eucharist" make our lives a song of worship and thanks, sung to you. May this sacred food nourish us to be bold and brave disciples of you. Amen.

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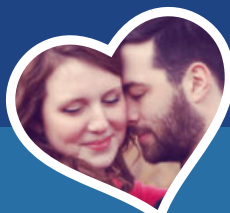
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