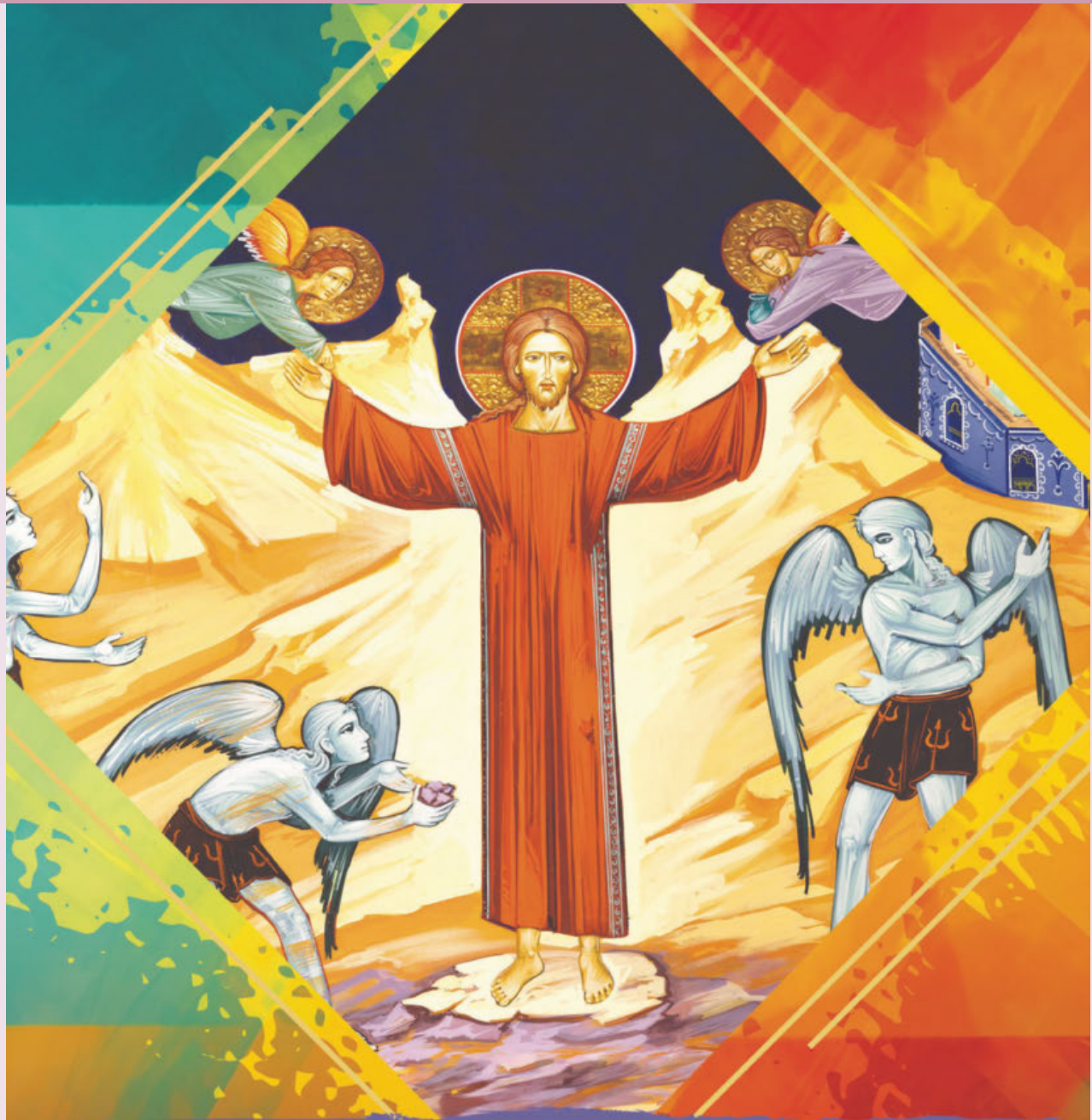


ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GREYNA, NE 68028



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

“Him alone shall you serve.”
- Lk 4:8

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

MARCH 9, 2025



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 STPATGRETNA 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

1st Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING (DT 26:4-10)

Moses taught the Israelites the importance of remembering the story of their release from Egyptian slavery. This event defined them as a people loved by God. What is a story from your family that has helped define you?

SECOND READING (ROM 10:8-13)

Paul encouraged the Christians in Rome to have a genuine faith in Jesus in both heart and mind. As the season of Lent begins, how might you show others the sincerity of your faith?

GOSPEL (LK 4:1-13)

We hear how Jesus was tempted by the devil as He was preparing to begin His public ministry. What temptation can you confront this Lent?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

DISCOVER
TRUE
GREATNESS



One of the most fascinating moments in American history is when George Washington could have become the king of the newly liberated United States and didn't. At the height of his power and fame, on December 23, 1783, he resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief, and went home. The astonished King of England remarked that in doing so, Washington was "the greatest man in the world." Greatness is often defined by what we could do but don't. Greatness is measured by the temptations we overcome.

Jesus' greatness is revealed in His victory over temptations, too. The three offered Him by the devil contain, we might say, all potential possible temptations: food, power, and fame. They correspond to the triple human needs of body, soul, and spirit. In overcoming these three, He says "no" in essence to every and even the greatest temptation. We see that every desire of His humanity—body, soul, and spirit—is perfectly united to God, to love. This is a power available to each member of His body. It is the path to true greatness. How can we, who so easily fall into even small temptations, find the power to overcome large ones? By entering into the great dynamics of Jesus' temptations.

Lenten challenge: This first week of Lent, list some concrete ways you can overcome temptations that correspond with your desires. For example, you may give up snacks between meals, choose not to participate in an activity of which you are an expert, and decide to reduce social media posting by 50%. It may not seem like much, but by saying "no" to the tyranny of food, power, and fame (in this example), you'll discover true greatness.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

After attending our parish retreat and feeling much better and stronger about my faith, I want to make this Lent worthwhile. What can I do to keep the spirit and practice of Lent?

ANSWER:

You've already taken the first step by going on the parish retreat. It is important for us to "tune up" our faith, taking some time to renew ourselves through prayer, meditation, and education. By deepening our knowledge and understanding of faith, we are often better attuned to its richness and meaning for our life.

Lent is an intense retreat, a forty-day period of reflection and penance that prepares us to celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. Our communication with God and our awareness of Him is the purpose of prayer. Setting aside extra time each day helps intensify the season. Prayer includes daily Mass, Stations of the Cross, communal penance services, and private confession. Making restitution for sin as well as disciplining our hearts and minds to focus on God is the purpose of penance. It helps us restore a sense of balance to our souls, thrown off kilter by sin. Penance includes personal sacrifice, self-denial, fasting, almsgiving, and charitable works.

Finally, spiritual practices help us sharpen our understanding and insight into the meaning and understanding of our faith. When you take your faith seriously, you do what is necessary to follow Jesus more closely, to integrate your life and your faith more carefully.



SAINT FRANCES OF ROME

Religious



St. Frances of Rome (1384-1440) was born to a noble family in Rome. As a young girl her desire to become a nun was refused by her father, who instead arranged her marriage at the age of 12. St. Frances accepted this as God's will for her life. She was married for 40 years and had children, two of whom died from the plague. In her time Rome was at war and the city was in chaos from political disarray and widespread disease. St. Frances responded by converting her home into a hospital. She drove with a wagon into the streets and collected the sick and stranded in order to care for them. She miraculously cured many people, and also began the city's first orphanage. She inspired many women to join her in this life of prayer and good works, and eventually founded a congregation of lay oblates attached to the Benedictine monastery known as the Oblates of St. Frances of Rome. After her husband's death she entered religious life as the group's superior. One of the great mystics of her time, she dictated 97 visions and was visibly guided by her guardian angel throughout her life. St. Frances of Rome is the patron saint of many causes, including motorists, pilots, women, widows, and against plague and the death of children. On her feast day many priests bless cars due to her patronage of cars and drivers. Her feast day is March 9.

SAINT MACARIUS OF JERUSALEM

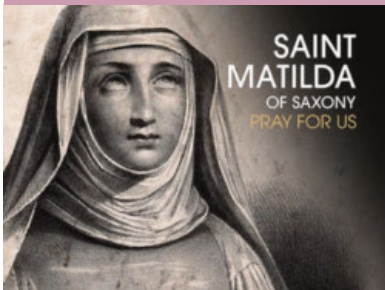
Bishop

St. Macarius of Jerusalem (4th c.) was the Bishop of Jerusalem from 312-335 A.D. Little is known of his life before this time. He took part in the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. and vigorously opposed the Arian heresy, which greatly threatened the early Church. It is believed that he was one of the bishops who helped draft the Nicene Creed. St. Athanasius, his contemporary, refers to Macarius as an example of "the honest and simple style of apostolic men." After the council, St. Macarius accompanied St. Helen, the queen mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, in her successful search for the True Cross that Jesus was crucified upon. It was he who suggested to St. Helen that she would identify the real Cross by touching all three of those she found to a seriously ill woman, and observe which one brought immediate healing. Following the discovery of the True Cross in this miraculous manner, Constantine wrote to Bishop Macarius requesting that he oversee the construction of a magnificent church in Jerusalem, the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre, to commemorate the sites of the Crucifixion and Burial of Christ, which still exists today as one of the most important Christian pilgrimage sites in the world. His feast day is March 10.



SAINT MATILDA OF SAXONY

Religious



St. Matilda (895-968 A.D.) was born in Prussia, the daughter of a Count, and was raised and educated in a monastery by her grandmother, who was the abbess. A political marriage was arranged for her to Henry I, the future king of Germany. Henry and Matilda enjoyed a happy and blessed marriage. As the Queen of Germany, Matilda became the mother of five important historical figures: Holy Roman Emperor Otto I; Henry, Duke of Bavaria; St. Bruno, Archbishop of Cologne; Gerberga, wife of King Louis IV of France; and Hedwig, mother of

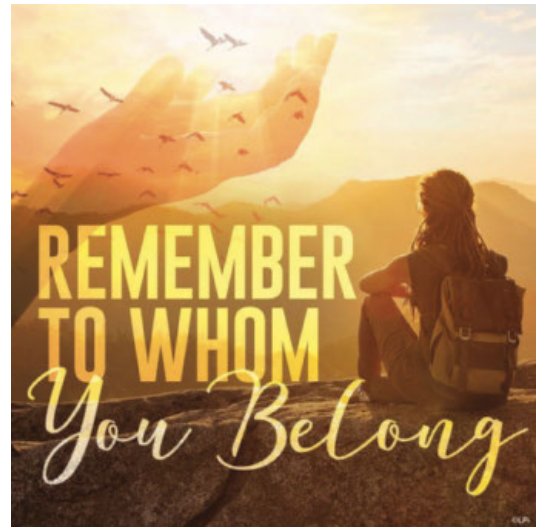
Hugh Capet. Matilda was a holy and virtuous woman known for her generosity to the poor. The king adored his queen and attributed his success in battle to her prayers. They reigned seventeen years, and their eldest son succeeded the throne and became Emperor Otto I. After her husband's death, Matilda's two eldest sons chastised her for her generous almsgiving. St. Matilda then took the possessions left to her by her husband and turned them over to her sons, and retired from court. Her sons immediately suffered misfortune, which was attributed to their poor treatment of their holy mother. In order to repair this injustice and regain God's favor, St. Matilda was begged to return to court, which she did, forgiving her sons for their ill will. She continued to help the poor, build churches, and support many monasteries. St. Matilda was a celebrated monarch and was venerated by the people immediately after her death. Her feast day is March 14.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
TUESDAY: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15
WEDNESDAY: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
THURSDAY: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12
FRIDAY: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26
SATURDAY: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48
NEXT SUNDAY: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

NEXT SUNDAY: 2nd Sunday of Lent





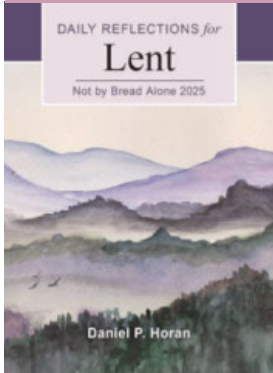
ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Every Friday at 6 PM

Join us every Friday during Lent at 6 PM in the Church for the Stations of the Cross. The only exception will be on Good Friday, April 18, when Stations will be at 3 PM instead of 6 PM.



LENTEN DEVOTIONALS
Pick Up in the Narthex



Pick up a Lenten devotional, *Daily Reflections for Lent: Not by Bread Alone*, in the narthex. Each day of this devotional includes Scripture, a reflection, a meditation, and a prayer. Make Lent more than just giving up chocolate, but spend more time in prayer with Him whom loves you the most.

VOCATION PRAYER CORNER

Father, thank You for the generosity of our seminarians. Safeguard them as they prepare for the priesthood. Keep all evil far from them, so they may become strong Christian men who are faithful to prayer, diligent in their studies, open to spiritual direction, and docile to all aspects of seminary formation. Above all, enflame their hearts with love so they will be ardent and gentle shepherds for Your Church. We make this prayer through the great High Priest, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. St. Charles Borromeo, patron of seminarians, pray for us. Amen.

Vocation:
Your divine call to serve God through your unique life.

“You shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him alone shall you serve.” (Luke 4:8) This Lenten season, reflect on your life’s direction. Are you being called to serve God with an undivided heart as 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.”



Since our last update on February 9, two children have been baptized into the Body of Christ. We congratulate the parents and family members, and we welcome your little ones into the Family of Faith! We are praying our Lord Jesus will bless, guide and inspire each of you in His love as you travel along your faith journey. Congratulations!



Name.....Date

Elsie Jennifer Ostdiek.....3/2/2025

Brecken Charles Pagel.....3/2/2025

PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

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

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



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

Carol J. Tramp.....2/24/2025.....Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING

Make a Gift In Memory/Honor Of...



If you receive giving envelopes from the parish you may have seen this envelope to donate to the Easter Flower Offering. Anyone who wishes to be recognized in a future bulletin with their loved ones listed “In Memory/Honor Of” can easily do so by filling out the offering envelope and including your donation inside or by filling out the form

below and returning it to the Parish Office with your donation by April 13. If you are donating online please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office. We greatly appreciate your donation to help decorate our beloved Church during the Easter season and to remember/honor our loved ones.

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING

In Memory/Honor Of...

_____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)

_____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)

_____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)

_____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)

_____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)

Your Name _____

(Please Circle)— Donated Online / Check Included / Cash Included

Amount included: \$ _____

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FAMILY HOOLEY

Wednesday, March 12



Hooley is Irish for party, so join us for a family friendly way to celebrate our Patron Saint.



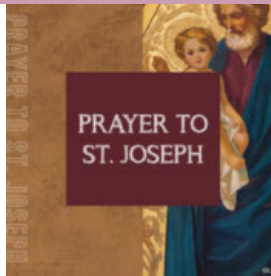
Our St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley (Irish for party) is Wednesday, March 12 from 5 PM to 7 PM in the Parish Center. Join us for a family friendly way to celebrate our parish patron saint. We will have corned beef and cabbage, hot dogs, and dessert for a free will donation. We will have free games with prizes for the kids including: coin toss, putt-putt, lucky duck, pin the pot o'gold, snake race, and get the gold. The Craoi Na Tire Irish Dancers will be our entertainment for the evening after the Irish Person of the Year is awarded. Support for the event is provided by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Sarpy Co. Div.

Volunteers are needed, contact the Religious Education office at 402-332- 3454 or smfagan@archomaha.org or visit the parish website.

MARCH IS THE MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH *The Unfailing Prayer of St. Joseph*

For centuries, Christians have relied on the intercessory prayers of Joseph, earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin and foster father of Christ, who was obedient to the will of God in all things.

One particular novena prayer to St. Joseph is often called "the unfailing prayer to St. Joseph." It is thought to have originated in the first century A.D. and was sent by the pope to Emperor Charles as he went into battle. It is said that those who recite this prayer will not suffer a sudden death and will likewise be protected from drowning, the effects of poison and fire, falling into the hands of the enemy or being overpowered in battle.



For a full text of this prayer, visit HYPERLINK: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/novena-to-st-joseph-11865>

LENTEN REFLECTIONS FOR WOMEN *The Beauty of God's Design*

Lenten Reflections for Women:
The Beauty of God's Design

Saturday, March 15 | 8 AM
8 AM - Mass
9 AM - Sharon Doran
& Continental Breakfast

Sharon Doran of Seeking Truth Catholic Bible Study will speak on Mary's role as "The Helper" and the beauty of God's design for women.
Open to all women of the parish. Free will offering requested.



All women of the parish are invited to "Lenten Reflections for Women: The Beauty of God's Design." The day—Saturday, March 15—will begin at 8 AM with Mass celebrated by Father Baxter. Following Mass we will have a continental breakfast and speaker in the Parish Center. Attendees are asked to bring a free will offering. Our speaker will be Sharon Doran from Seeking Truth Catholic Bible Study. Sharon has prepared a beautiful talk about our Blessed Mother and her role as "The Helper" in salvation history. She will also speak on the beauty of the creation of woman and how we are all called to be helpers. Please plan to join us and invite your friends to accompany you! RSVP at <https://stpatricksgretna.org>.

Stewardship Report

Feb 26-Mar 4, 2025

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

General Contributions	Feb 26-Mar 4, 2025	Fiscal YTD thru Mar 4
Sunday Offering	\$14,651.09	\$875,855.77
Other Contributions	\$1,690.93	\$86,540.17
Total General Contributions	\$16,342.02	\$962,395.94 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$9,907.98)	\$43,645.94

* 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



COR MEN'S GROUP

Cor exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. Cor will be held in the Fr. Hitch Room every two weeks with the next meeting being (Sunday, March 16 at 7 PM). Come join your brother parishioners for prayer and fraternity! If you have additional questions, please reach out to Matthew Henry at mattnhenry@gmail.com, Andy Pearson at apearson709@gmail.com, Eric Devlin at delineric62@gmail.com or Seth Boardman at sethd99@hotmail.com.



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.

LENTEN FISH FRIES



Join us every Friday during Lent, March 7 through April 11 from 5 PM to 7:30 PM for our Lenten Fish Frys. Dine-in and Drive Thru options are available. Menu includes: fried or baked Alaskan pollock*, scalloped potatoes*, or French fries*, green beans*, mac and cheese, coleslaw*, bread, and coffee, tea, or lemonade. (*Gluten Free) Beer, wine, and mixed drinks will be available for purchase. Adult plates are \$15 and children (ages 6-10) are \$8. There will be kids activities provided by the St. Patrick Youth Group. Volunteers are needed, see the parish website for details.

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, MARCH 10TH

7:30 AM † Sarah Sand and † Daniel Benes and the Benes Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 11TH

6:00 PM † Cliff and Evelyn Lisko

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12TH

7:30 AM † Shirley Hermanek

THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH

7:30 AM † James Eggerling

FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH

7:30 AM † Margaret Clayton

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH

5:00 PM † Deacon Joe Krajicek

SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH

8:00 AM For Our Parishioners
10:00 AM † Bernadette Westegaard
12:00 PM † Deceased Members of the Sempeck Family

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 Carrie Santo (daughter of Joe and Alma Santos), Bob Davis, Nancy S., Herb Rogers, Lucy Winter, Irene Harris, Celeste Baumert, Joe Carney, Ronald Baxter (Fr. Baxter's dad), Paul Polt, and Leanne Robb. Pray for John and Wanda Jonas, Ed, 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, MARCH 9TH—1ST SUNDAY OF LENT—NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen

MONDAY, MARCH 10TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Hooley Prep—Kitchen
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Ascension Adult Bible Study—Parish Center A and Kitchen
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Baptism Class—Father Hitch Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 11TH

8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Project Linus—Basement Commons
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Funeral Visitation—Sanctuary and Narthex
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Funeral Luncheon—Parish Center AB and Kitchen
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Hooley Prep—Kitchen
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM Funeral Mass—Sanctuary and Narthex
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM 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—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Parish Council Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12TH

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 5:00 PM Hooley Prep—Parish Center and Kitchen
9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Faith Connection—Parish Center C
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Women's Lenten Small Group—Father Hitch Room
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Religious Education Classes—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley—Parish Center and Kitchen
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Cemetery Committee Meeting—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Hooley Clean Up—Parish Center and Kitchen
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 13TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
6:00 PM to 8:30 PM Knights of Columbus Fish Fry Prep—Parish Center A and Kitchen
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Lenten Bible Study—Parish Center C
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM OCIA—Youth Group Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH

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
5:00 PM to 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus Fish Fry—Parish Center and Kitchen
6:00 PM to 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross—Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH

7:00 AM to 12:00 PM Lenten Reflections for Women—Parish Center AB and Kitchen
4:00 PM to 4:40 PM Confession—Confessional
4:30 PM to 4:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 5:00 PM)—Sanctuary
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM 10-Point Pitch—Basement Commons

SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH—2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

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—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Men's Group Meeting—Father Hitch Room

STUDENT INSTRUMENTALISTS

Play for Mass Occasionally



Woodwind, brass, and string players add beautiful tonal variety to Sunday Masses and Holy Days. High School players with at least three years of instrumental study are invited to play for occasional Masses. To express interest or learn more, please contact Laura Rau at 402-332-4444 or Irau@archomaha.org.

WE ARE GOD'S INSTRUMENTS

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

2nd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 15TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Larry Nepll

Lectors
Eric Hittner
(Read the 1st Reading)

Karen Meyerott
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Anita Hayes
Bridget Blum
Nancy Arp
Kylie Karnish

Ushers
Ken Beckman
Larry Nepll
Paul Staley
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Jayne Schram

Altar Servers
Colin Lingbloom
Aslyn Ronk
Kenley Ronk

Greeters
Nancy Kirkpatrick
Tim Kirkpatrick

MARCH 16TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Carol Zeleny

Lectors
Barb Applegate
(Read the 1st Reading)

Sandy Scheef
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Paul Hubert
Carrie Hubert
Ashley Kassmeier
Jason Kassmeier

Ushers
Ron Kotrous
Tony Schultz
Marty Stednitz
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Duane Benes

Altar Servers
Luke Hubert
Mitchell Hubert
Paul Joseph Hubert

Greeters
Lori Frederick
Sally Stednitz

Hilcrest SR/HL
Gene Schwarting
Kathy Schwarting

MARCH 16TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Andi Towey

Lectors
Phil Lenz
(Read the 1st Reading)

Tony Tiefenthaler
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Kari Lenz
Dan Dauner
Phyllis Cannon
Dennis Cannon

Ushers
Norris Hoover
Chris Reinig
John Schaffert
Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter
Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers
Harper Dickes
Nev Dickes
Need Sub

Greeters
Andrew Brei
Andrew Urban

MARCH 16TH
NOON

Sacristan
Ginny Giebelhaus

Lectors
Stephanie Lampe
(Read the 1st Reading)

Need Sub
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Ginny Giebelhaus
Steve Otto
Leann Otto
Norma Hintz

Ushers
Linda Gardner
Ginny Giebelhaus
Marty White
Mary Zeigler

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Jeanette Roy
Mary Zeigler

Vocations Crucifix
John Roll



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 (*Retired*).....402-689-9676

PARISH OFFICE

Jolene Jefferies, Parish Mgr.....402-332-4444, x203
jmjefferies@archomaha.org

Megan Seamann, Communications Associate
meseamann@archomaha.org..402-332-4444, x202

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

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Shane Fagan.....402-332-3454
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 Stephens.....402-332-4444, x206
jaknight@archomaha.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Janell Ronk.....402-510-9413

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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

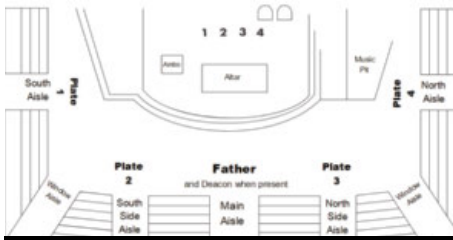
HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

EMHC STATION MAP



EMHC Positions (see diagram above):

- 1) South Aisle
- 2) South Side Aisle
- 3) North Side Aisle
- 4) North Aisle
- 5) Main Aisle—Father and Deacon when present

If you are unable to serve at your assigned time, please find a substitute. The Parish Office greatly appreciates your help, support and patience as we work together in providing Mass to our parish family!

The Vocations Crucifix can be picked up after any of the weekend Masses from the Sacristy, and should be returned before the following weekend.

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

10-POINT PITCH
Every 3rd Saturday Evening

Call Your Partner 10-Point Pitch



Please join us for Call Your Partner 10-Point Pitch! We will meet the 3rd Saturday evening of each month, March 15 in the Commons Area in

the lower level from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM here at St. Patrick. Please bring food and/or drinks if you like and enjoy meeting others while playing a few friendly games of Pitch. A prize will be given to the highest and lowest score. If you have any questions, text or call Liz Schwartz at 402-705-0434. All are welcome!

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, February 14. 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.archoyoungadults.org>.

BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS
Second Collection



This weekend our parish will take up the 141st annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this

collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaskan Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution today. Thank you for your support and generosity! For more information visit www.blackandindianmission.org.

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR FAMILIES, MARCH 17
March 17 at St. Mary's in Bellevue, 6:30 PM



Join the Serra Club of West Omaha on Monday, March 17, for a beautiful Holy Hour to Pray for Families at St. Mary's Catholic Church (2302 Crawford St, Bellevue). This special prayer event begins with greetings at 6:30 PM in the narthex. At 7 PM we will gather in the church for the Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The presider will be Father Joe Kwasau, Associate Pastor of St. Mary. Together we will pray a rosary for the healing and protection of families, reflect on a Gospel reading and homily, and will also recite the Litany of the Holy Family. We will spend time in silent adoration and sing hymns as we pray for families in the Archdiocese of Omaha. All are welcome! For questions, contact Lori Hamilton, Serra VP, at 402-699-5027 or by email at westomaha@serrainternational.org. Learn more at serrawestomaha.org and follow us on Facebook @serrawestomaha.

"As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live."
—Pope St. John Paul II

FAMILIES INVITED TO BE GIFT BEARERS AT MASS
Presenting Bread and Wine to the Altar

It is an honor to be able to present the gifts to the altar during Mass, and your family is invited to participate in this great honor. During the Mass, your family is invited to bring the gifts of bread and wine to the foot of the altar. If you and your family are interested in joining this ministry please fill out the short survey by scanning the QR code here.



SILENCE IN CHURCH

Maintain Silence Before and After Mass in the Church



The 2002 *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (GIRM) speaks very specifically about silence before and during the liturgy. We read: "Sacred silence also, as part of the celebration, is to be observed at the designated times. Its purpose, however, depends on the time it occurs in each part of the celebration. Thus within the Act of Penitence and again after the invitation to

pray, all recollect themselves; but at the conclusion of a reading or a homily, all meditate briefly on what they have heard; then after Communion, they praise and pray to God in their hearts."

There should also be silence before the liturgy: "Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence be observed in the church, in the sacristy, in the vesting room, and in adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action in a devout and fitting manner" (No. 45).

Though not mentioned in the GIRM, there is a long practice of maintaining silence within the body of the church after Mass. Some churches erupt in noise once Mass is over. This destroys the atmosphere of prayer that is conducive and appropriate to private prayer after Mass.

How does a pastor encourage an atmosphere of silence? By giving good example himself. If he is walking up and down the aisles and engaging in audible conversations, then he is giving a wrong cue to the people. Even worse is the practice of priests, deacons, and ministers chatting in the sanctuary area before Mass.

Some carefully worded admonitions during the announcements period toward the end of Mass would go a long way toward encouraging the correct atmosphere regarding silence. In my experience, people are often unaware of the distracting nature of their chatting, and they are open to correction.

One of the devices I myself use is always to respond in a whisper when people come to talk to me in the church before Mass. Mostly, they take the hint (that they should be speaking quietly) and are not offended.

—Article by Simply Catholic

WE MUST GIVE TO GOD AND TO THE POOR

The Difference Between Alms and Tithes

A common misunderstanding is that almsgiving and tithing are not distinct, that they are the same thing, or that one can substitute for the other. In reality, they are two different acts of justice which are both required by the Gospel.



Almsgiving is an act of justice which falls under the principle of the Universal Destination of Goods. This principle of Catholic Social Teaching comes from Genesis, where God gives all the goods of the earth to mankind for our use. Thus, the goods of the earth, natural resources, are meant to be used by all people who need them. Every person has the right to those goods which they need to live a decent life. Each person has a right to work to procure these goods—suitable employment with a just wage is a human right. If someone is in need or is poor, then they have a right to receive alms—and Christians have a duty to give them alms. Many Fathers of the Church assert that failing to give alms to those in need constitutes stealing from them.

Christ is clear that we must give alms; it is not optional: “Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in Heaven. Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” (Matthew 6:1-4)

Almsgiving is divided into the seven spiritual and seven corporeal works of mercy, so there are a many ways we can give alms and many different causes or organizations we could support with them (*Thomas Aquinas, ST II-II, q. 32, a. 2*). We can certainly choose to give alms to charitable organizations (non-profits) who will use the money well. We can also boycott organizations involved with various evils (those recommending contraception for example). So in almsgiving, we can take account of how the alms may be used.

Tithing is a completely different practice. These two acts are similar only in material manifestations: both are acts of giving away money. Formally, they are distinct acts. While almsgiving is a matter of justice towards others, towards the poor, tithing is a matter of justice towards God. Tithing is an act of the virtue of religion, which is concerned with giving God His due worship (*Aquinas, ST II-II, q. 81, 87*). Tithing is about giving a portion of our wealth back to God from whom it came. To do this, we give it to Christ’s Body, the Church. Further, it is a matter of justice towards the Church who feeds us spiritually. St. Paul writes, “If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more?” (1 Corinthians 9:11-12).

Traditionally, tithes were paid at a ten-percent rate. One took ten-percent of one’s income and gave it to the temple (in the Old Testament) or to the Church. While the Church no longer prescribes a set amount of tithes, Catholics are still bound on pain of mortal sin (sin of grave matter) to monetarily contribute to the Church (CCC 2043). As a precept of the Church, this is as grave a duty as attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

Unlike almsgiving, where we ought to have some concern that the money we give will be used well (that is the whole point of almsgiving, to help poor people), tithes take no such considerations into account. We are bound to give money to the Church as an act of worship towards God and justice towards the Church who spiritually nourishes us through the sacraments. This obligation remains even if the members of the Church in charge of finances are evil, even if we are certain the money we give will be squandered, even if we are sure the clerics will use our tithes to fund their lusts with prostitutes. When we tithe, we give money to God. If clerics then abuse that money, the sin is entirely theirs.

While this seems hard, it is what Christ Himself did. In Luke 21, Christ famously praises the poor widow who gave her last two coins to the temple. Christ also pays the temple tax in Mathew 17:24-27. Even though Christ, as the Messiah and Son of God, is exempt from tithing, He chooses to pay it to avoid scandal to others. Yet, the temple system was especially corrupt in Christ’s time. He drives out money changers from the temple with just anger in all four Gospels (Matthew 21, Mark 11, Luke 19, John 2). Christ denounces the many sins of the scribes and Pharisees in Matthew 23. Ultimately, the temple assembly chose to execute Christ. A Church filled with corrupt members, like the temple at Christ’s time, would not remove our obligation to tithe.

Tithing and almsgiving are distinct. Both are necessary. They cannot be substituted for each other. One cannot neglect either. One cannot choose only one option. One cannot do extra almsgiving instead of tithing, or extra tithing instead of almsgiving. We must both give to God and give to the poor.

—Article by Catholic Exchange



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.

BLESSED PALMS TO BE BURNED

Return Your Old Palms

During this season of Lent, we ask that you bring in any old blessed palms you no longer desire to keep. A basket labeled “old palms” will be made available in the narthex for collection throughout the Lenten season. As a reminder any blessed objects you no longer wish to keep can be brought to the parish office for proper disposal during regular office hours.



LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Least of My Brethren



Least of My Brethren food pantry is having a Fareway gift card drive throughout Lent. The cards will

be used to purchase frozen chicken, hamburger, and hotdogs. You can help us by giving one dollar a day for the 40 days of Lent towards a gift card. If you would like to participate in this project, please drop off the Fareway gift card to the parish office during regular office hours. If Fareway is not convenient for you, gift cards from places like Hy-Vee, Walmart, and Dollar General, allow us to purchase other food items in need. God bless.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

HELPFUL RESOURCES

AL-ANON (ALCOHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT—OMAHA)
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Website.....al-anon.org

BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE
Phone.....1-800-448-3000
Website.....www.boystown.org

CATHOLIC ANSWERS
Phone.....1-888-318-7884
Website.....www.catholic.com

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna.....402-332-3475

CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA
Phone.....402-554-0520
Website.....ccomaha.org

CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com

COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION)
Phone.....402-557-5692
Website.....couragerc.org

EWTN (GLOBAL CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK)
Phone.....1-800-447-3986
Website.....www.ewtn.com

HEARTS RESTORED (HEALING AFTER ABORTION)
Phone.....402-783-4673
Website.....heartsrestorednebraska.org

HOLY FAMILY SHRINE
Phone.....402-332-4565
Website.....holyfamilyshrine.com

LEAST OF MY BRETHREN (SUPPORT HOMELESS)
Phone.....402-681-5424
Website.....leastofmybrethren.org

MARRIAGE RESOURCES
For Your Marriage.....www.foryourmarriage.org
Retrouvaille.....1-800-470-2230
Retrouvaille.....www.helpourmarriage.org

MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE
Phone.....1-858-207-6277
Website.....www.masstimes.org

NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK
Website.....nebraskahomeschool.org

POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE (FERTILITY HELP)
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Website.....www.popepaulvi.com

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Website.....www.spiritcatholicradio.com

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Website.....christthekingpriory.com/sbcabout

ST. JOHN PAUL II NEWMAN CENTER
Phone.....402-557-5575
Website.....jpiiomaha.org

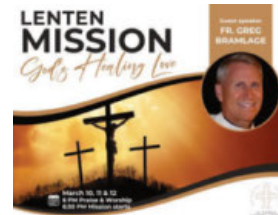
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Website.....strive21.com

WOMEN’S CENTER FOR ADVANCEMENT (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, ETC.)
24/7 Hotline.....402-345-7273
Website.....wcaomaha.org

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

LENTEN MISSION—ST. PATRICK, FREMONT, MARCH 10-12

Join St. Patrick Parish (3400 E 16th St, Fremont) for their Lenten Mission, “God’s Healing Love!” Learn about God’s mercy, power of prayer, and miraculous healings with Fr. Greg Bramlage from Missionaries of the New Evangelization. Discover forgiveness, repentance, and hopeful faith for amazing recoveries and a deeper relationship with Jesus and God. Each night begins at 6 PM with praise and worship with the talk beginning at 6:30 PM. Find out more information at stpatsfremont.org/conferences.



IPF LENTEN MORNING OF REFLECTION—CHRIST THE KING, MARCH 15



Join the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) for a Lenten Morning of Reflection, Saturday, March 15 at Christ the King (654 S 86th St, Omaha). This annual Lenten gathering offers an opportunity for the laity to experience the IPF charism used in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests who participate in our programs. Presentations will be given by IPF staff members. The morning begins with the 8:15 AM parish Mass, includes a continental breakfast, presentations, time for silent reflection, and concludes at Noon. There is no charge for the event, however a free will offering for the refreshments will be gratefully accepted. For planning purposes, please register online at www.priestlyformation.org or call Dawn at 531-272-8498.

LIFERUNNERS PRO-LIFE BANQUET—BELLEVUE BERRY FARM, MARCH 28

Join LIFE Runners for an inspiring evening at the “All In Christ for Pro-Life” Banquet on Friday, March 28! This is a unique opportunity to hear from Archbishop Broglio, USCCB president, and Military Archdiocese, and to enjoy the engaging presence of Jen Brown, co-host of the KVSS Spirit Mornings show. The evening begins with a social at 6 PM at Western Barn, Bellevue Berry Farm (11001 S 48th St, Omaha). Details and registration at liferunners.org/banquet.



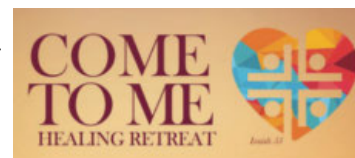
HOPE FOR LIFE—ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, MARCH 29



Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 29 to join Heart of a Child Ministries in standing for life after the 8:15 AM Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Parish (14330 Eagle Run Dr, Omaha) for a continental breakfast and an inspiring look at how our ministry is changing the heart of Nebraska—and changing the heart of the nation—one presentation at a time. Together, we can foster a wonder for life in young children and change over 50% of the minds of pro-abortion tweens and teenagers. You're invited to be the first to hear about the exciting new developments and growth at Heart of a Child Ministries! You won't want to miss it! RSVP for this event at <https://heartofachildministries.org/rsvp>. Can't attend but would love to support this mission, donate today at <https://heartofachildministries.org>.

COME TO ME HEALING RETREAT—ST. ELIZABETH ANN, MARCH 29

The Archdiocese of Omaha is holding a healing retreat for anyone wanting to heal past hurts and reclaim their identity as a son or daughter of God. The Come to Me Healing Retreat will be held Saturday, March 29 from 12:30 PM to 5 PM at the St. Elizabeth Ann Parish Center (5419 N 114th St, Omaha). Register at https://archdioceseofomaha.formstack.com/forms/healing_service_registration.



MARIAN CONFERENCE—CHAMPION SHRINE, CHAMPION, WI, MAY 16-17



Join pilgrims from around the country for The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion’s fourth-annual Marian Conference in Champion, WI! Focused on Mary as “Mother of Hope,” attendees will embrace the Marian themes of the Church’s Jubilee Year of Hope, in addition to finding time for prayer, spiritual growth, and peace on Our Lady’s grounds. Learn more about the speakers and register at <https://championshrine.org/marian-conference>. By attending this event at the Shrine, you have an opportunity to receive a special Jubilee Indulgence!

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