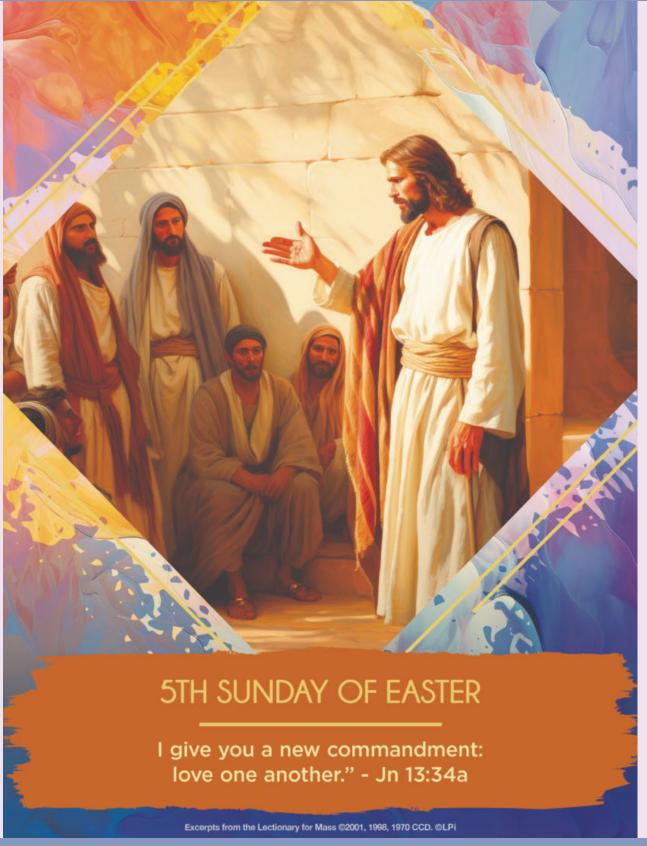
ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028





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 & Inst	tagram@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, Thur	s, and Fri	7:30 AM
Holy Days	7	:30 AM & 6:00 PM
Holidays (on wee	kdays)	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 5th Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING (ACTS 14:21-27)

Despite facing many hardships, Paul and Barnabas succeeded in preaching the good news of Jesus crucified and risen from the dead. How do you work through personal setbacks?

SECOND READING (RV 21:1-5A)

At the start of his final vision, John sees the age to come in which God comes to dwell with His people on earth and all tears, pain, and even death itself is gone. Who in your life needs to hear this incredible message of hope?

GOSPEL (JN 13:31-33A, 34-35)

Jesus modeled for His disciples how to love one another. Do you have friends or co-workers who show you how to love others?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



I've always found it amazing that Jesus never says to His disciples the straightforward and bumper stickery words "I love you" or "I will always love you" (a la Dolly Parton's song). Why doesn't Jesus say, "I love you"?

Well, actually He does, but in particular ways. He says, "As the Father loves me, so I love you" (John 15:9) thereby rooting His love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week He commands, "Love another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). He presents His love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How has He loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and

finally giving His life for us in His suffering on the cross. We weren't there when He did that, but neither were His Apostles (except one). Still, that action is His great "I love you" to us.

His love is also hedged in a command: "Love one another." So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: "Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it." The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII's practical method of following Jesus' great commandment of love. It's a splendid way to say, "I love you."

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

If God is good, why is there evil in the world?

ANSWER

The problem of evil is perplexing. If God is all-powerful and all-good, why doesn't He stop bad things from happening? He must either not be all-powerful, or perhaps He's not very good after all. Human beings have faced the possibility of evil since the very beginning of our existence. In granting us free will, God gives us the ability to make free choices. God does not force us into moral perfection. We are not forced to love Him or to love our neighbor. We must make the decision



ourselves. This means, of course, that we have the ability to choose against love.

One small decision of selfishness, jealously, or pride may not seem so bad. But every decision—good or bad—is like a stone dropped into a still pond. The ripples extend much farther than the original stone. When decisions against love begin to compound, they affect families, neighborhoods, and nations. This is all the more reason for Christians to be faithful to our baptismal call to love one another as Christ has loved us!

"My daughter, try your best to make the Stations of the Cross in this hour [3 PM], provided that your duties permit it; and if you are not able to make the Stations of the Cross, then at least step into the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Blessed Sacrament, my heart, which is full of mercy; and should you be unable to step into the chapel, immerse yourself in prayer there where you happen to be, if only for a very brief instant. I claim veneration for my mercy from every creature, but above all from you, since it is to you that I have given the most profound understanding of this mystery." —Jesus to St. Faustina, Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 1572

SAINT FELIX OF CANTALICE Religious



St. Felix of Cantalice (d. 1587) was born to a pious peasant family in Italy. He grew up tending sheep and was hired out to work for a farmer at the age of nine, which he did for twenty years. He evidenced signs of holiness and spent his free time in prayer. He had a friend read him the lives of the saints from which he drew much inspiration. Felix eventually joined the Capuchin Franciscans and served in Rome as the Order's official beggar. Although he could not read, and received no formal study, he had great influence

over the Roman people because of his piety and the labors he undertook to convert even the most hardened sinners. Felix also encouraged those he met to lead greater lives of virtue, regardless if they were dignitaries or peasants. Men who lived scandalous lives retreated from his presence, lest he convict them of their sins. St. Felix's special apostolate was among the children of the city to whom he gave religious instruction with childlike humility and simplicity. He was a contemporary and friend of St. Philip Neri, who declared Felix to be the Church's greatest living saint. St. Felix served in this way for 42 years. He was beatified immediately after his death, becoming the first Capuchin Franciscan ever canonized. His body rests under an altar dedicated to him in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Rome. His feast day is May 18.

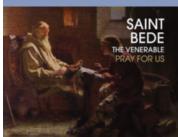
SAINT RITA OF CASCIA Religious

St. Rita of Cascia (1381-1457) was born in Italy during an era of violent strife between cities and warring family tribes. As a child she repeatedly requested to enter the convent, but instead her parents arranged her marriage to a rich, ill-tempered, and violent man. He became physically abusive, yet she met his cruelty with kindness and patience. During her eighteen years of marriage she bore two sons whom she loved deeply. After many years of persistent prayer she eventually won her husband over to greater civility and kindness.



When he was murdered, her sons plotted a bloody vendetta against the culprits. St. Rita labored to guide her children into forgiveness, without success. She earnestly prayed that God would change her son's murderous intentions, or allow them to die rather than commit a mortal sin. God heard St. Rita's prayers, and soon both of her sons became ill and died. St. Rita was then free to join the convent, however, she was rejected due to her family's connection with the local violence. She finally obtained entry only after much prayer, humility, patience, and perseverance. St. Rita's life in the convent was marked by heroic charity and penance as she closely united herself and her life of deep suffering to Christ. While praying before a crucifix, St. Rita mystically received a thorn in her forehead (stigmata) from Jesus' Crown of Thorns. St. Rita is the patron saint of impossible causes, difficult marriages, and abuse victims. Her feast day is May 22.

SAINT BEDE THE VENERABLE Priest and Doctor of the Church



St. Bede (672–735 A.D.), also known as the Venerable Bede, was born to a wealthy family in England. At the age of seven he was sent to the Benedictine monastery to be educated by the monks. He discerned a vocation to the monastic life, and devoted himself to prayer and to the study of Sacred Scripture and Church history. After being ordained at the age of thirty, he went on to become a prolific writer and teacher. He was considered to be a genius and was widely famous for his theological works and knowledge of ecclesiastical

history. He was also well-versed in all the natural sciences known in his day, making him an extraordinary scholar whose influence spread throughout Europe for centuries. During his life he was also considered to be a saint, and his writings were so filled with Heavenly wisdom that a Church council ordered them to be read publicly in the churches. Bede was given the name Venerable not long after his death, and centuries later was named a Doctor of the Church. St. Bede's feast day is celebrated on May 25.

Lord, help me to see you and to recognize what I see. Help me to hear your invitation and to respond. Help me to join you where and when you call. Amen.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

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

14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab,

21/Jn 14:27-31a

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

5/Jn 15:1-8

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

15:9-11

FRIDAY: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn

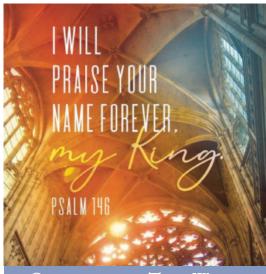
15:12-17

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

-21

NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6,

8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

TUESDAY: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest WEDNESDAY: St. Christopher Magallanes. Priest.

and Companions, Martyrs

THURSDAY: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious NEXT SUNDAY: 6th Sunday of Easter

Did you know that Catholics celebrate Easter for 50 days?

5th Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025 | 3



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

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TEMPORARY TABERNACLE Original Will Be Returned

You may have noticed that there is a different tabernacle in the Church, this is a temporary tabernacle. Our tabernacle needs to be serviced as the door has been getting stuck. It may be a few months before we will get it



back. Thank you for understanding.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP Holy Sepulchre Cemetery



We will be having two clean up days at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (23131 Schram Rd, Gretna). The second date will be on Saturday, June 14 at 8 AM (or for a rain date on Saturday, June 21). If you are available, please join us. Garden clean

up tools and gloves are helpful to bring along with them if you have them. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Kathy at 402-740-1889. Thank you!

VOCATION PRAYER CORNER

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

This week let us pray for **Br. Philip John** (Franciscan Friars of the Renewal) from Mary Our Queen in Omaha.



"I give you a new commandment: love one another." (John 13:34) Love is at the heart of every vocation. Take time to reflect on how God may be inviting you to live out His new commandment of love in a way that serves others. What does that call look like for you? 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."



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT NEWLYWEDS!



Last weekend, we were excited to host a wedding!
Congratulations to the newlyweds as you share your life together! We will keep you in our prayers and wish you both the very best!

Collin Staley and Madison Mathews......5/10/2025

PRAY FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES Congratulations Confirmandi

We pray today for all of our Confirmation Candidates receiving this final Sacrament of Initiation this weekend. May the Holy Spirit fall like fire to stir up the many gifts and charisms He has already given you to be an on fire Catholic witnessing to the message of the Gospel. Congratulation Confirmandi!

Anderson Joan of Arc Brei Brix John Bosco Bresette Lilly Brigid Campbell Keegan Dymphna Cannon Kinsley Sebastian Casey Owen Joseph Cerone Easton Vincent de Paul Church Eva Jerome Corley Ellison Elizabeth Cox Ainsley Cecilia Cushing Dalton Sebastian DeHart Harper Melangell Dickes Haley Bernadette Dorram Beau Raphael Fangmeyer Levi Jude Fangmeyer Teagan Agatha French Elayne Monica Graver Chelsea Bernadette Hansen Ella Sebastian Hansen Nick Nicholas Hansen Malachi John Harrington Paxton Padre Pio Havlovic Callan Hubert Heavican Dakotah Kateri Hedrick Devin Francis Heinrich Nevaeh Therese Hilderbrand Sienna Joan of Arc Hilderbrand Meg Genevieve Hoellen **Hudson Sebastian Husen** Tanner Moses Hytrek Nolan Michael Iverson Quinn Teresa Iverson Thomas Pier Giorgio Janda **Everett Christopher Jefferies** Ryler Michael Jollensten



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray. O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kameron Francis Kassmeier Emily Cecilia Kersten Henry Francis Kester Grace Gemma Kreikemeier Nicholas Padre Pio Kula Madison Monica LeGree Ella Catherine Lethcoe **Brody James Lydick** Claire Roseline Makovicka George George Manning Tyler Padre Pio McCampbell Gavin Joseph McGregor Paisley Rose Moore Enzo Zacharias Palumbo Claire Claire Patnaude **Griffin Sebastian Phillips** Brynlie Anne Reicks Marlie Martha Reiman Connor Christopher Reteneller Aslyn Catherine Ronk Karson Christopher Ronspies Gage Isidore Rupiper Kara Cecilia Schroeder Jack Isidore Seier Jacob Stephen Sherry **Brynley Therese Spath** Kinsley Veronica Spath Ellie Faustina Staab **Grant Peter Stangl** Nathan Joseph Thiellen Holden Christopher Townsley Elin Joan of Arc Vice Cole Sebastian Waters Aubree Dwynwen Werner Danielle Margaret Wieczorek Ashlyn Peregrine Zitek

NEW MEMORIAL GARDEN AT THE CHURCH Collecting Geraniums This Weekend

The Landscape Team will be creating a "Memory Garden" to be planted where the Knights place the Nativity for Christmas. We will be collecting geraniums to be planted in memory of a loved one. There won't be any signage, but you will all be able to see the flowers throughout the spring, summer, and fall. We will collect any geraniums, of any color, the weekend of May 17-18. Volunteers from the Landscaping Team will be collecting geraniums before each Mass that weekend. We will then plant them later that week, just in time for Memorial Day. We look forward to having our parish enjoy the beautiful flowers in memory of our loved ones.



DIAPER DRIVE FOR MOTHERS IN NEED Supplying Organizations Supporting Mothers Choosing Life

The St. Patrick Outreach is organizing a Diaper Drive. The items received will help mothers and children in need. We would be helping to supply diapers and supplies to three different organizations: Bethlehem House, Essential Pregnancy Services, and Assure Women's Center. We will have a playpen in the narthex to place these items. We're asking for the following items:



- Diapers: sizes 3, 4, 5, 6, and pull-ups (We are asking for larger diapers, for we all know they do not stay little very long.)
- Unscented baby wipes
- Gift cards to Walmart or Amazon

Items can be brought to Church any time between May 3 thru May 18. If you have questions, please contact one of the following Outreach members: Colleen Karmazin, 402-984-3003, Lauri Charvat, 402-250-1798, or Joan Ingram, 402-203-3604.

HOLY HOUR FOR ORDINANDI AND SEMINARIANS Join us in Praying for those Preparing for Ordination



The Serra Club of West Omaha invites all the faithful to join us for a special Holy Hour to Pray for Ordinandi and Seminarians on Monday, May 19 at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St, Omaha). Join us in the narthex at 6:30 PM for greetings and at 7 PM in the Sanctuary for the Holy Hour. The presider will be Father Tom Weisbecker, Chaplain of the Serra Club of West Omaha.

This special Holy Hour on May 19 is to pray for the Priesthood Ordination of three men—Transitional Deacons Logan Hepp, Brian Hula, and Will Targy—on Saturday, June 7. We will also pray for the Transitional Diaconate Ordination of one seminarian—Michael Figura—in the Fall in Rome. Be sure to join us as we pray together for these ordinandi and all our seminarians before the Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Please show your support and invite your family, friends, and guests to join us! All are welcome! For questions, contact Lori Hamilton, Serra VP, at bobxlori@aol.com or 402-699-5027. For more information visit serrawestomaha.org.

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

Stewardship Report

Apr 30-May 6, 2025

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

General Contributions	Apr 30-May 6, 2025	Fiscal YTD thru May 6	
Sunday Offering	\$20,035.83	\$1,108,104.43	
Other Contributions	\$2,749.81	\$114,907.45	
Total General Contributions	\$22,785.64	\$1,223,011.88 *	
Surplus/Deficit	(\$3,464.36)	\$68,011.88	

May 7-May 13, 2025

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

ieneral Contributions	May 7-May 13, 2025	Fiscal YTD thru May 13
Sunday Offering	\$12,556.30	\$1,120,660.73
Other Contributions	\$2,041.79	\$116,949.24
Total General Contributions	\$14,598.09	\$1,237,609.97 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$11,651.91)	\$56,359.97

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

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



THE KNIGHT'S CORNER



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FINANCIAL SEMINARS



Please mark your calendars for the following Knights of Columbus Financial Seminar. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about investing in your future in ways that affirm our Catholic values.

Estate Planning Seminar—Wednesday, May 21 with a 7 PM presentation and a dessert social to follow at St. Patrick Parish Center, Gretna. Please contact Tim Hall, timothyhall360@gmail.com, with any questions. A Flocknote reminder will go out before each event.

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, May 25 at 7 PM). Come join your brother parishioners for prayer and fraternity! If you have additional questions, please reach out to Matthew Henry at matthhenry@gmail.com, Andy Pearson at apearson709@gmail.com, Eric Devlin at delineric62@gmail.com or Seth Boardman at sethd99@hotmail.com.

Now is the Time to Become a Knight!



For Catholic men that are 18 years of age you can join the Fr. John V. Wallace Knights Council #10047 at St. Patrick here in Gretna and your dues will be taken care of while you are in school up to 4 years by the Council. This

includes trade schools, community colleges, and universities. If interested please contact our Chancellor and Membership Director, Randy Meerian at rmeerian@gmail.com or 402-981-6471.

Knights of Columbus

Century Club Administrator, Jim Hottovy......402-651-8564

5th Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025 | 5



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, MAY 19TH

7:30 AM + Debra and Robert Capps

TUESDAY, MAY 20TH

6:00 PM INT Bruce and Jolene Jefferies

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST

THURSDAY, MAY 22ND

7:30 AM † Tom Selzle

FRIDAY, MAY 23RD

7:30 AM † Keith, Arlisse, and Dee Barkley

SATURDAY, MAY 24TH

5:00 PM INT Jean Hlavacek

SUNDAY, MAY 25TH

8:00 AM † Deacon Steve Grandinetti

10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM † Kevin Weber

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 Meredith Haney, Cheryl Schram, Steve N, Lucy Winter, 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, MAY 18TH—5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary

8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Confirmation Set Up and Pictures—Parish Center

2:00 PM to 3:30 PM Confirmation Mass—Sanctuary

MONDAY, MAY 19TH

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

TUESDAY, MAY 20TH

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM Rosary Guild Meeting—Father Hitch Room 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Funeral Mass—Sanctuary and Narthex 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Funeral Luncheon—Parish Center and Kitchen 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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST

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 9:30 AM 55+ Club Outing-Offsite

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Faith Connection—Parish Center C

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Knights of Columbus Estate Planning Seminar—Parish Center AB

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

THURSDAY, MAY 22ND

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

FRIDAY, MAY 23RD

6:30 AM to 7:30 AM Men's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room 7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Women's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room

SATURDAY, MAY 24TH

4:00 PM to 4:40 PM Confession—Confessional 4:30 PM to 4:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 5:00 PM)—Sanctuary

SUNDAY, MAY 25TH—6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Men's Group Meeting

CONGRATULATIONS, SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS Drumroll please....



Reese Heavican

Mitchell Hubert

Melissa VanOeveren

Charles Meis

St. Patrick Church community congratulates the following scholarship winners:

- ♦ \$1,000 St. Patrick Church scholarship winner is Reese Heavican
- ♦ \$500 St. Patrick Century Club scholarship winner is Mitchell Hubert
- ♦ \$500 St. Patrick Century Club scholarship winner is Melissa VanOeveren
- ♦ \$500 *St. Patrick Century Club* scholarship winner is Charles Meis

Congratulations to all graduating seniors! We pray all will keep Christ as your guiding light as you venture onward to meet tomorrow's challenges.

"Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown. Give me the faith to leave old ways and break fresh ground with you." —St. Brendan

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE 6th Sunday of Easter

MAY 24TH 5:00 PM

Sacristan Pat Gilmore

Lectors

Need Sub (Read the 1st Reading)

Carol Zelenv (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Tracy Wollenburg Sheri French Sue Korth **Barb Applegate**

Ushers

Chris Lingbloom Andy Pearson Jeff Wollenburg Need Sub

Rosary Reciter Jayne Schram

Altar Servers

Shailynn Gatewood **Need Sub Need Sub**

Greeters

Chris Gatewood Need Sub

MAY 25TH 8:00 AM

Sacristan **Tony Schultz**

Lectors

Kathy Broz (Read the 1st Reading)

Joan Ingram (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Nancy Kruse Tim Kruse Jamev Kennel Tim Gilligan Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers

Ron Kotrous Tony Schultz **Need Sub Need Sub**

Rosary Reciter Carol Zeleny

Altar Servers

Jacob Kula Nick Kula Sarah Kula

Greeters

Ushers

Need Sub

Steve Ingram Need Sub

Hilcrest SR/HL

Tim and Nancy Kruse

MAY 25TH 10:00 AM

Sacristan

Andi Towey

Lectors

Jolene Jefferies (Read the 1st Reading)

Jim Hain (Read the 2nd Reading)

FMHCs

Bruce Jefferies Judy Huber **Bob Huber Rosie Stec**

Ushers

Norris Hoover Bruce Jefferies Chris Reinig Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers

Rianna Reiman Riley Reiman Marlie Reiman Skylar Reiman

Greeters

Andrew Urban Carol Zeleny

MAY 25TH Noon

Sacristan Ginny Giebelhaus

Lectors

Stephanie Lampe (Read the 1st Reading)

Need Sub (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Ginny Giebelhaus Andi Towey Delma Stoner Carol Zeleny

Ushers

Linda Gardner Ginny Giebelhaus Delma Stoner **Need Sub**

Rosary Reciter

Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers

Need Sub Need Sub Need Sub

Greeters

Joann Dalley Jeanette Roy

Vocations Crucifix Steve Ference

If you are unable to serve at your assigned time, please find a

substitute. The Norm Svoboda **Parish Office** greatly EMHC Positions: 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.

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE Memorial Day

MARCH 26TH 9:00 AM

Sacristan

Jim Hottovy Lectors

Jolene Jefferies (Read the 1st Reading)

Carol Zeleny (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs

Norm Svoboda Jim Hottovy

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

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER







ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH STAFF

2 1111011 0 1111
PASTOR Fr. Gregory P. Baxter402-332-4444, x205 gpbaxter@archomaha.org Residence402-332-4428
Emergencies (if facing danger or death), call: 402-332-4428 or 531-466-2453
Associate Pastor Fr. Vincent A. Sunguti402-332-4444, x204 vasunguti@archomaha.org Residence531-466-2453
DEACONS Deacon Ken Broz402-676-1025 Deacon Larry Heck (<i>Retired</i>)402-689-9676
PARISH OFFICE Jolene Jefferies, Parish Mgr402-332-4444, x203 jmjefferies@archomaha.org
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5th Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025 | 7



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

LOST AND FOUND Table in the Narthex This Week



Have you lost anything at the Church,
Preschool, or during
Religious Education in the last year? Stop by the table in the narthex near the Parish Center entrance. Anything that is not claimed by Friday, May 30 will be donated. Thank you!

CALLING ALL MILITARY Recite the Patriotic Rosary With Us

The Rosary Guild has received wonderful feedback about the participation of our military men and women in our Patriotic Rosary events. We are



excited to continue this tradition and would love to invite more voices to join us in this special devotion.

If you are an active or retired member of the military and would be interested in leading a decade of the Rosary at one of our events, we would love to hear from you! Since military service is not recorded in parish registration, we rely on word of mouth to reach those who may be interested. If you would like to participate or learn more, please contact Kathy Dauner by phone, text or email—kathydauner@gmail.com, 402-707-7393. If you text, please let us know your name. Thank you for your service and for helping us honor our nation in prayer!

SPIRITUAL MOMS PROGRAM Institute of Priestly Formation



Registration is now open to become a "Spiritual Mom" for an Institute for Priestly Formation summer seminarian. We need 117 women to offer one

Hail Mary for a specific seminarian, by name, every day while he participates in the spirituality program with IPF this summer. We also need women from around the country to pray for all the summer seminarians with one Hail Mary a day. If you feel called to pray for a seminarian, visit https://priestlyformation.org/support-ipf/get-involved/spmoms.html or call Lisa at 402-980-3283.

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE ROSARY GUILD UPDATE New Members are Always Welcome

We the St. Patrick Mary Queen of Peace Rosary Guild would like to share with you, our parish family, what a successful 2024 we have had. It is our goal to get the rosary into as many hands of the faithful as we possibly can and not be limited to those in our own parish. This year we extended our reach by donating hundreds of mission rosaries to Hope of the Poor in Mexico City and Fr. Ssonko for the school and students at St. Mary's in Busaabala, Uganda. Such good work is being done in these ministries serving the needs of the impoverished and underserved people. It's been our privilege to support these ministries.

THE GREATEST

METHOD OF

Throughout the year we have distributed:

- Mission rosaries—approximately 600
- Rosaries to the homebound—10
- Rosaries to pregnancy centers—10
- Assorted styles and color rosaries—115
- Patriotic rosaries and bracelets—46
- Christmas rosaries 38
- Confirmation rosaries—66
- Chaplets-14
- Rosary bracelets for adults and children—112
- Rear-view mirror hanging rosaries—37

In 2025, we will continue our mission of spreading devotion through the rosary by:

- Continuing the work of making rosaries
- Displaying our rosaries after Masses and during the parish breakfasts on April 13 and December 14
- Hosting a Patriotic Rosary on June 1 and November 9
- Participating in the Trunk or Treat event hosted by the Hospitality Committee in October
- Hosting the Eucharistic Rosary Congress October 4-11, which will include 24/7
 Adoration throughout the week, a Rosary procession, and a prayer and Adoration night
 for families on October 8

We thank all members of our Rosary Guild for their dedication and hard work in achieving our goals. Their faith in God and our Blessed Mother Mary, has inspired all to create beautiful rosaries and devotional accessories. With deep appreciation, we thank you! Additionally, we extend our deepest gratitude to all parishioners who have generously donated to our Rosary Guild. Your support is truly a blessing, and without your kindness, we would not be able to continue our meaningful work of making and distributing rosaries. May God bless you abundantly for your continued generosity and dedication to this ministry. And finally, as always, new members are always welcome! Whether you're a seasoned rosary maker or just beginning, we invite you to join us in this beautiful ministry. For more information, contact Kathy Dauner at 402-707-7393 or kathydauner@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

TEE IT UP FOR VOCATIONS ON MONDAY, JUNE 9 Join Priests, Seminarians, and Consecrated Religious



The Serra Clubs of Omaha and West Omaha will host their Annual Golf, Tennis, and Pickleball Outing, followed by a cocktail hour, dinner, and awards at The Pines Country Club in Valley on Monday, June 9 (best ball format) with registration beginning at 11 AM. Tennis and Pickleball will both be at Genesis Health Club at 2 PM. All proceeds received support the vocations programs of the Archdiocese of Omaha. Early registrations are welcome!

- Golf \$125 (includes box lunch and dinner)
- Foursome \$500 (includes box lunch and dinner)
- Tennis \$75 (includes dinner at The Pines)
 Pickleball \$75 (includes dinner at The Pines)
- Dinner Only \$40 (no golf or tennis)
- Priest, Seminarian, or Religious Golf Sponsor \$125
- Priest, Seminarian, or Religious Tennis/Pickleball Sponsor \$75
- Hole Sponsor \$250

To register as a player and/or a sponsor and to pay online, go to: https://serrawestomaha.org/golf/. If you wish to pay by check, go to the website to download the PDF Registration Form and mail your completed form and check per the instructions at the bottom of the form. For questions,

contact Joe Grier at 402-680-6654. Make this event one of your priorities this summer!

MAKING UP THE ALLELUIAS Making Up for the Lack of Alleluias During Lent

Every Alleluia that we omit during Lent we make up for during the Easter season. By my count, on an ordinary weekday, we friars typically employ the word Alleluia about 13 times in our common prayers. When Lent comes, we omit all of these Alleluias. Then, in what may seem like a dramatic overcorrection, on any given Easter weekday, we pray over 75 Alleluias! (One wonders if our caloric intake tracks with comparable proportions.) The profuse return of the Alleluias points to an important spiritual principle: Every good thing we lose or give up for God is always eventually returned to us—blessed, increased, and purified.

When God calls someone, He tends to start giving orders—or at least to offer advice. "Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father's house," He instructs the aged Abram (Gen 12:1). "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor," Jesus counsels the rich young man (Matt 19:21). These are tall orders, but they come with lavish promises. God assures Abram that He will lead him to a new homeland and make him the father of a great nation. Jesus, likewise, tells the rich young man that if he heeds His advice, he "will have treasure in Heaven" (Matt 19:21).

But why the rigamarole? Why does God demand things and then return them? It is because God wants us to learn that He Himself is infinitely greater than any of His gifts. By handing over what we hold most dear, by parting with what we think we cannot live without, we come to see that all the created things we cherish, even if they are good, are themselves insufficient. Thus, we lay aside even the joyful cry of Alleluia in Lent for the sake of learning its real meaning and singing it with new vigor at Easter. Loss and renunciation teach us deep in our bones the simple truth that God alone suffices.

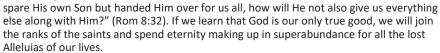
Paradoxically, then, fasting fills us up. Giving to the poor makes us richer. Entering the cloister confers new freedom. Renouncing marriage produces a beautiful fecundity. As C.S. Lewis puts it, God always gives back "with His right hand what He has taken away with His left." Francis Thompson captures this dynamic in his poem *The Hound of Heaven*:

"All which I took from thee I did but take, Not for thy harms,

But just that thou might'st seek it in My arms. All which thy child's mistake

Fancies as lost, I have stored for thee at home:
Rise, clasp My hand, and come!"

God will never ask too much of us or deprive us of anything we need. After all, "He who did not



—Article by Dominican Journal



ASERACARE HOSPICE Seeking Volunteers



AseraCare Hospice needs volunteers in your area to provide support to our terminally ill patients and their families. Volunteers can visit, read to the patient, participate in a favorite activity, or simply sit alongside them in their journey. We also have several virtual and behind-the-scenes opportunities available. Volunteers are a vital part of our hospice care mission. They are provided with extensive training and continued support throughout their tenure. To sign up or find out more

about this or other opportunities please contact Jen Vogt, Regional Volunteer Coordinator, at 402-943-6871 or jen.vogt@amedisys.com. Apply online at http://bttr.im/sjmww.

"Mary knows the power of the Redemption, the power of merciful love, better than anyone. In fact, Pope St. John Paul II says she knows it "more than any other heart in the whole universe, visible and invisible." Therefore, she calls us not only to conversion but "to accept her motherly help to return to the source of Redemption." For again, Mary's task is to bring us to the Fountain of Mercy, to the pierced side of Christ, to His Merciful Heart. Essentially, then, consecrating ourselves to Mary "means accepting her help to offer ourselves and the whole of mankind" to the infinitely Holy God."—Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, 33 Days to Morning Glory, p.103



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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5th Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025 | 9



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AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

THE WAY RETREAT—OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, MAY 30-JUNE 1, JULY 18-20



The Way is a healing retreat for survivors of abuse, a three-day guided meditation and prayer experience for those whose abuse by another has deeply affected their heart, mind, body, and soul. These are yearly retreats, one for women and one for men. This year's men's retreat will be held May 30-June 1. The women's retreat will be held July 18-20. Both retreats are held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat Center (7303 N 112th St, Waverly). For more information, contact MaryBeth Hanus, Director of the Victim Outreach and Prevention Office

at the Archdiocese of Omaha, at 402-558-3100 or mbhanus@archomaha.org.

HIS GLOBAL LOVE HEALING MASS—MARY OUR QUEEN, OMAHA, MAY 30

His Global Love Prayer Communities invite you to a Healing Mass on Friday, May 30 at Mary Our Queen Catholic Church (3535 S 119th St, Omaha). The Rosary will begin at 6:15 PM with praise and worship to follow and Mass will begin at 7 PM. Fr. Kevin Joyce from His Global Love Ministry will be presiding. All are welcome. Questions, contact Frances Mignon at 402-515-8000.





ST. PIUS X ANNUAL PARISH FESTIVAL—ST. PIUS X, OMAHA, JUNE 1

Join us for a day of family fun at St. Pius X Parish Festival on Sunday, June 1 from 11 AM to 5 PM at St. Pius X (6905 Blondo St, . There will games, food, drinks, plus raffles, a silent auction, and more. And a soccer tournament for added entertainment. Hope you can join us.

SACRED MUSIC SYMPOSIUM—MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY, YANKTON, SD, JUNE 4

Mount Marty University is pleased to invite you to the upcoming Sacred Music Symposium on Wednesday, June 4 in the South Dining Room in the Roncalli Center at Mount Marty University (1105 W 8th St, Yankton, SD)! Whether you are a choir member, clergy, or simply passionate about sacred music, this evening is a chance to explore, reflect, and renew the role of sacred music in our parish liturgies. A social with refreshments will begin at 5:30 PM, the Symposium beginning at 6 PM, and the evening will conclude with compline in the Bishop Marty Chapel at 7 PM. The cost is \$10 (payable to Mount Marty University). You can RSVP at mountmarty.edu/sacred-music-symposium. For more information, please contact Dr. Tyler Thress at tyler.thress@mountmarty.edu.



THE DR. (RAY) IS IN-ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL, LINCOLN, JUNE 5



A familiar name to Spirit Catholic Radio listeners is coming to Nebraska this June. Catholic speaker, host of "The Dr. Is In" radio show, author, and family therapist, Dr. Ray Guarendi, will give different talks at four stops across the state. Dr. Ray will sell his books at each location. Tickets are on sale now for \$5 each, or 5 for \$20. Dr. Ray will be in Lincoln on Thursday, June 5 at 7 PM at St. Pius X Catholic High School (6000 A St, Lincoln). Get your tickets at https://spiritcatholicradio.com/drray.

BUILT OF LIVING STONES—ST. BENEDICT CENTER, SCHUYLER, JUNE 14

As the Universal Church celebrates the 2025 Jubilee Year, here is a great opportunity for anyone planning to go on pilgrimage! Join Nick Manhart as he offers an all-day retreat focused on the distinctive nature of Catholic art and architecture. Built of Living Stones: Understanding Catholic Art and Architecture (Nick Manhart) will be on Saturday, June 14 from 10 AM to 4 PM at the St. Benedict Center (1126 Co Rd I, Schuyler). Learn how the early church responded to Christ's mandate to "go... and make disciples of all nations" through the patronage of beautiful and lasting worship spaces. A special session will be a tribute to the life and work of Brother William



Woeger, FSC, who, among other things, helped convert the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, into Christ Cathedral of the Diocese of Orange. Cost is \$59.03 which includes program fee, lunch, and tax. Register at https://christthekingpriory.com/retreats-schedule.



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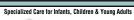


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