

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNA, NE 68028



## 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." - Mt 4:3

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

**FEBRUARY 22, 2026**



**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

### 1st Sunday of Lent

#### FIRST READING (GN 2:7-9; 3:1-7)

Genesis reveals that from the beginning the serpent (the devil) desires to lure and trap us into disobeying God. Can you think of some lies the serpent is telling people today?

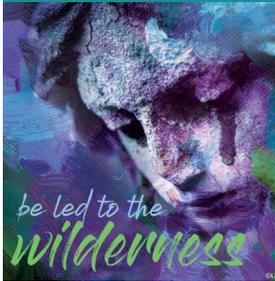
#### SECOND READING (ROM 5:12-19 OR 5:12, 17-19)

Paul argues that Jesus' obedience to God brought us the gift of freedom and life. How do you see yourself obeying God?

#### GOSPEL (MT 4:1-11)

The season of Lent begins each year with the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the desert. As we begin the 40 days of Lent, what temptations are you willing to confront?

## GOSPEL MEDITATION



In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send Himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst His great trial and temptation.

**Lenten Challenge:** This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

## CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

### QUESTION:

What does Jesus mean when He talks about taking up our cross?

### ANSWER:

Our journey of faith begins in baptism. When we are faithful to it, we find God's plan for us, His way of allowing us to participate in His saving work, which in turn becomes for us our own salvation. Stated simply, we share in the mission of Jesus each day. We live our life with all of its ups, downs, joys, and sorrows in union with the mission of Jesus. Our work then is holy. It is joined to the cross, God's will for Jesus—the way in which He destroys sin and death and makes eternal life possible. His sacrifice accomplishes what we ourselves cannot do.

To take up the cross, then, means that we share in the mission of Jesus and so embrace the sufferings of the cross. It is our daily life made holy, given a redemptive mission. It is our purpose and goal to unite our life to that of Christ. St. Paul says it best, "If we have grown into union with Him through a death like His, we shall also be united with Him in the resurrection" (Rom 6:5).

Holy Baptism  
is the basis  
of the whole  
Christian life,  
the gateway  
to life in  
the Spirit.



CCC 1213

**"Jesus Himself came to live at the heart of the tragic reality of human sinfulness. It is enough to read His genealogy cited in the Gospels of Saint Matthew and Saint Luke to be convinced of this, since we can see it in the names of persons whose lives involve problematic and immoral situations. Christ thus comes to take humanity in the midst of its sin for the salvation of all. This is what is at stake in the Divine Mercy that must pour out on our families, in which jealousy, discord, and profound rifts sometimes prevail." —Robert Cardinal Sarah, *Couples, Awaken Your Love*, p. 31**

## SAINT MARGARET OF CORTONA

*Religious*



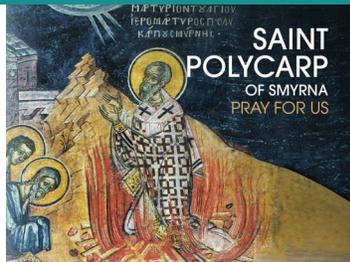
SAINT MARGARET OF CORTONA  
PRAY FOR US

St. Margaret of Cortona (1247-1297) was born in Tuscany, Italy, the only child of a working-class family. She lost her mother at age seven, and had a poor relationship with her stepmother. Margaret was spoiled, willful, reckless, and beautiful, and at the age of seventeen she left her father's house in the night and became the mistress of a young nobleman. She lived with him in his family castle for nine years and bore him a son, but he did not marry her due to her lower social class. One day he did not return home from a journey, and his hound came back to the castle alone. The dog led Margaret into the nearby wood where she discovered her lover brutally murdered. This shook her to her core. Her eyes were opened to the sinfulness of her way of life, and she became deeply repentant. She left his family castle with her son and sought out the Franciscan friars for spiritual direction. She then reformed her life through intense prayer, penance, and self-discipline, eventually joining the Third Order of St. Francis, and living in strict poverty and great charity towards the poor. St. Margaret of Cortona is the patron saint of the homeless, reformed prostitutes, midwives, single laywomen, the mentally ill, and the falsely accused. Her feast day is February 22.

## SAINT POLYCARP OF SMYRNA

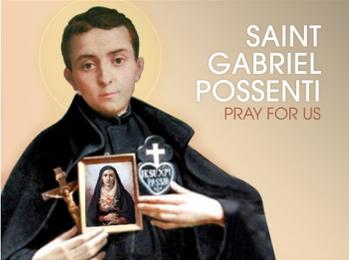
*Bishop and Martyr*

St. Polycarp of Smyrna (c. 69-155 A.D.) became a Christian in his youth, a disciple of St. John the Evangelist. St. John ordained him Bishop of Smyrna (in modern day Turkey) and from this position Polycarp became one of the most illustrious of the Apostolic Fathers. His closeness with the Apostles, and the long life that he lived, enabled him to protect the Church against heresy. The account of his martyrdom is well-preserved and is one of the earliest in the Church. Knowing the government was seeking his life, he received a vision while praying that he would be burned alive. After his capture he was encouraged to submit to Caesar in order to be released, but he refused. He was then taken to a public arena to be killed. He gave an outstanding testimony, declaring that he had served Christ for 86 years. Witnesses of his execution saw the flames surround his body without burning it, and that Polycarp began to glow and emit a sweet aroma. This amazed the crowds, and his executioners were then ordered to stab him to death. St. Polycarp is the patron saint against dysentery and earache. His feast day is February 23.



## SAINT GABRIEL POSSENTI

*Religious*



St. Gabriel Possenti (1838-1862), also known as St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, was one of thirteen children born to a well-to-do Italian family in Assisi. As a young man he enjoyed the society and the worldly life of a typical teenager. He was known as a fancy dresser and a good dancer, he possessed good horsemanship and marksmanship, he frequented parties, and twice was engaged to be married. After his graduation from school he shocked everyone by announcing that he was going to be a Passionist priest, having been inspired to his vocation by the Blessed Virgin Mary, to whom his family had a great devotion. His life was then marked with prayer, sacrifice, and devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows, taking the religious name Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother. He was stricken with tuberculosis about a year before he was to be ordained, and died at the age of 24. Many miracles were attributed to him after his death, including the healing of St. Gemma Galgani. St. Gabriel Possenti is the patron saint of Catholic youth, seminarians, clerics, students, and Catholic Action. His feast day is February 27.

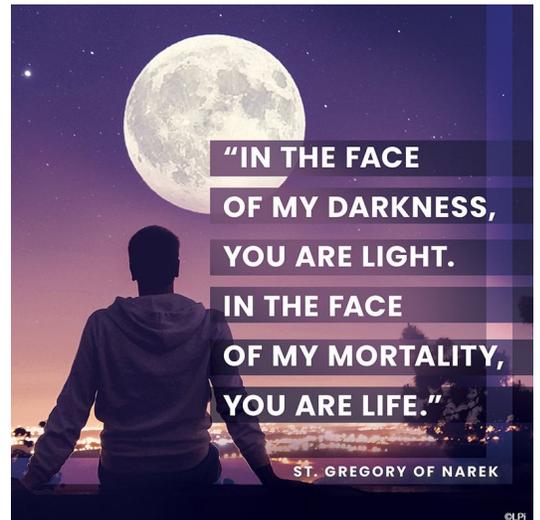
**"Miracles are God's way of gently reminding us that Heaven is closer than we think. They break into our ordinary lives like beams of unexpected light, illuminating truths we so often overlook: God is with us, He sees us, and He still intervenes in human history." —Matthew Kelly, 33 Days of Miracles, Wonders, and Grace**



## ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

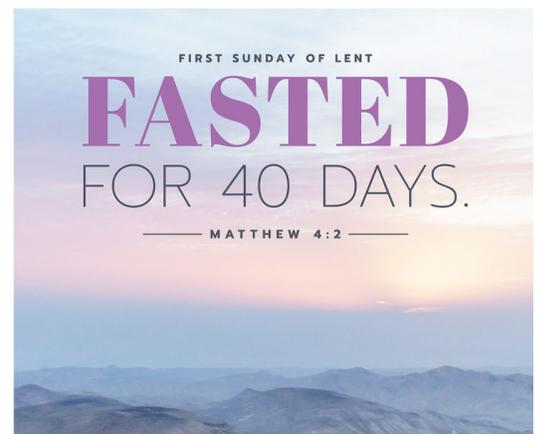
### READINGS THIS WEEK

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 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



### OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr  
FRIDAY: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
NEXT SUNDAY: 2nd Sunday of Lent

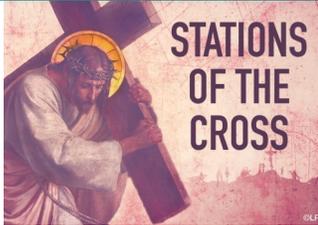




## ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

### 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.



### SOUND SYSTEM AT ST. PATRICK Updates are In Progress



In the coming weeks, we will be updating the sound system in the Church. Please bare with us as these updates are being made. We

look forward to being able to eliminate the dead-zones of sound throughout the Church and increase the quality of sound for everyone. Please be aware that work will be done throughout the coming weeks during the day. Thank you for your patience as we complete this project.

### SEMINARIAN PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the Seminarians of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

This week let us pray for **Sam Wiegand** (Propaedeutic Year) from St. Wenceslaus in Omaha.



“Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4) Lent invites us to rely on God’s Word. In holy matrimony, couples live by this Word, nourishing their love with faith. Spend some time this week in Scripture and pray together. If you’re single, pray for your vocation and the one God may be preparing for you. Discerning the call to priesthood or religious life, talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.

 Pray for our Seminarians

### 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*

*Martin Ostransky Jr.....2/12/2026.....Holy Sepulchre Cemetery*

### BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION Second Collection This Weekend



This weekend, our parish will take up the 142nd annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska 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. To find out more, visit [www.blackandindianmission.org](http://www.blackandindianmission.org).

### HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES Return by Noon on Monday, February 23

Graduating Seniors who are members of St. Patrick Church are eligible to apply for the Church Scholarship (1 @ \$1,000 managed by the Parish Council) and the St. Patrick Century Club Scholarships (3 @ \$500). All High School Seniors who are registered parishioners of our parish, regardless of which High School you attend, are eligible to apply for these scholarships. A person needs to complete only one application for both scholarship considerations. Hard-copy applications must be completed and returned to the Parish Office by Monday, February 23, no later than Noon. Gretna High School and Gretna East High School Seniors, if you filled out an application through the High School portal, you need not complete it again. (Note that the GHS/GEHS portal closes on January 31.) Application forms are available at the Parish Office. You can also find the forms in the parish kiosk in the narthex or on the parish website, [stpatricksgretna.org](http://stpatricksgretna.org).



### VOCATION NIGHT FOR 6TH—12TH GRADERS Perhaps You were Made for Such a Time as This



Perhaps you were made for such a time as this. All 6th-12th grade youth are invited to attend a Vocation Night on Wednesday, March 4 from 7 PM to 8:30 PM sponsored by St. Patrick and St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Churches. Come and learn about religious life through witness talks and the sharing of vocation stories! There will be a question and answer time and plenty of snacks and drinks to enjoy with priests and nuns. The ladies will meet in the youth space at St. Charles Borromeo (7790 S 192nd St, Gretna) and the gentlemen will meet in the Parish Center at St.

Patrick (508 W Angus St, Gretna). Question, contact Fr. Vince Sunguti at [vasunguti@archomaha.org](mailto:vasunguti@archomaha.org), Jonathan Wotipka at [jjwotipka@archomaha.org](mailto:jjwotipka@archomaha.org), or Adam Stephenson at [astephenon@scbccomaha.org](mailto:astephenon@scbccomaha.org).

# A VERY SHORT WAY OF THE CROSS

## Five Minute Prayer for Lent

One of the most powerful prayers during Lent is the Way of the Cross, which invites us to retrace the events that led up to Jesus' crucifixion on Mount Calvary. However, it's not always easy to find the time to pray the pious devotion, as we all lead very busy lives with very little margin. The good news is that there is no single way to pray the Way of the Cross, and while some versions may take longer, there are other options that take considerably less time. One option is a method reportedly used by Franciscan friars when they went out on missions. Franciscans have always had a close link to the Way of the Cross as they have had a constant presence in the Holy Land since the 14th century. Here is their short Way of the Cross that can be prayed in about five minutes, depending on how long you meditate on each station.



### SHORT WAY OF THE CROSS

#### First Station—Jesus Condemned to Death

O Jesus! So meek and uncomplaining, teach me resignation in trials.

#### Second Station—Jesus Carries His Cross

My Jesus, this Cross should be mine, not Thine; my sins crucified Thee.

#### Third Station—Our Lord Falls the First Time

O Jesus! By this first fall, never let me fall into mortal sin.

#### Fourth Station—Jesus Meets His Mother

O Jesus! May no human tie, however dear, keep me from following the road of the Cross.

#### Fifth Station—Simon the Cyrenean Helps Jesus Carry His Cross

Simon unwillingly assisted Thee; may I with patience suffer all for Thee.

#### Sixth Station—Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

O Jesus! Thou didst imprint Thy sacred features upon Veronica's veil; stamp them also indelibly upon my heart.

#### Seventh Station—The Second Fall of Jesus

By Thy second fall, preserve me, dear Lord, from relapse into sin.

#### Eighth Station—Jesus Consoles the Women of Jerusalem

My greatest consolation would be to hear Thee say: "Many sins are forgiven thee, because thou hast loved much."

#### Ninth Station—Third Fall of Jesus

O Jesus! when weary upon life's long journey, be Thou my strength and my perseverance.

#### Tenth Station—Jesus Stripped of His Garments

My soul has been robbed of its robe of innocence; clothe me, dear Jesus, with the garb of penance and contrition.

#### Eleventh Station—Jesus Nailed to the Cross

Thou didst forgive Thy enemies; my God, teach me to forgive injuries and forget them.

#### Twelfth Station—Jesus Dies on the Cross

Thou art dying, my Jesus, but Thy Sacred Heart still throbs with love for Thy sinful children.

#### Thirteenth Station—Jesus Taken Down from the Cross

Receive me into thy arms, O Sorrowful Mother; and obtain for me perfect contrition for my sins.

#### Fourteenth Station—Jesus Laid in the Sepulcher

When I receive Thee into my heart in Holy Communion, O Jesus, make it a fit abiding place for Thy adorable Body. Amen. "Jesus, Mary, I love you, save souls."

—Article by Aleteia

### Stewardship Report

Feb 11- Feb 17, 2026

Current Fiscal Year - July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

General Contributions	Feb 11-Feb 17, 2026	Fiscal YTD thru Feb 17
Sunday Offering	\$16,361.90	\$880,569.84
Other Contributions	\$858.00	\$92,830.58
Total General Contributions	\$17,219.90	\$973,400.42 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$10,280.10)	\$65,900.42

\* Our budget requires an average weekly income of \$27,500.

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



**ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Gretna, Nebraska

**THE  
KNIGHT'S  
CORNER**



JOIN THE COR MEN'S GROUP DURING LENT



For Lent this year our Cor Men's Group will be meeting weekly on Sunday nights here at St. Patrick to strengthen our faith and build a strong men's community here within our parish. All

men of the parish are invited to join us for prayer, formation, and fraternity. We'll see you in the Father Hitch Room every Sunday night at 7 PM from February 15 through March 29. Are you ready to go deeper? For more information, please reach out to Matthew Henry at [mattnhenry@gmail.com](mailto:mattnhenry@gmail.com), Andy Pearson at [apearson709@gmail.com](mailto:apearson709@gmail.com), Eric Devlin at [devlineric62@gmail.com](mailto:devlineric62@gmail.com) or Seth Boardman at [sethd99@hotmail.com](mailto:sethd99@hotmail.com).

### 6TH ANNUAL WILD GAME FEED

The Knights of Columbus are hosting their 6th annual Wild Game Feed on Saturday, April 18. They are asking for meat and silent auction donations to help with the game feed. For more information on meat and silent auction items, please contact Larry Sibley at 402-957-8770 or [LCSIB@centurylink.net](mailto:LCSIB@centurylink.net). For table tickets, please contact Ken Dukat at 402-690-5919 or [ken.gatewayelectric@gmail.com](mailto:ken.gatewayelectric@gmail.com).

### LENTEN FISH FRYS

Join us every Friday during Lent, February 20 through March 27 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, John Schaffert III.....402-672-7903  
Deputy Grand Knight, Tim Hall.....307-214-3714  
Financial Secretary, Steve Otto.....402-212-1267  
Chancellor/Membership, Larry Sibley.402-957-8770  
Century Club Admin, Jim Hottovy.....402-651-8564



**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, FEBRUARY 23RD**

7:30 AM † William Zeleny

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH**

6:00 PM † Carol J. Tramp

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**

7:30 AM † Ginny Smith

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH**

7:30 AM † Eileen Sutton

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH**

7:30 AM † Nancy Sis

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH**

5:00 PM † Elisa Russano

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST**

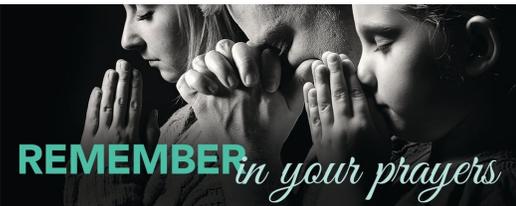
8:00 AM † Nancy Sis

10:00 AM For Our Parishioners

12:00 PM † Mike and Delores Valasek and  
† Joe and Arlene Reinig

**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 Amber Janda, Meredith Haney, Norma Hintz, Diane Ostdiek, Rita Kalkowski, Kathy, Steve N, Joe Carney, Ian McGovern, Ronald Baxter (Fr. Baxter's dad), Paul Polt, and Leanne Robb. Pray for John and Wanda Jonas, Ed, 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](mailto:clovstad@gmail.com).

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND—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  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Lenten Meeting—Father Hitch Room

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD**

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary  
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Revelation Bible Study—Parish Center AB and Kitchen

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH**

1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Bible Study Group—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

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**

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  
8:30 AM to 11:00 AM Faith Connection—Father Hitch Room  
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Women's Small Group—Father Hitch Room  
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Religious Education Classes—RE Classrooms, Basement Commons  
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Lenten Small Group—Father Hitch Room  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH**

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 OCIA Class—Parish Center C

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH**

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, FEBRUARY 28TH**

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Knights of Columbus Officer Meeting—Father Hitch Room  
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 10:00 PM Private Event—Parish Center and Kitchen

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST—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—RE Classrooms, Basement Commons  
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM First Communion Family Meeting—Parish Center  
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Lenten Meeting—Father Hitch Room

**GET EQUIPPED TO GO ON MISSION**

*Archdiocese Mentorship Program*

The Mentorship Program of the Archdiocese of Omaha equips lay people to confidently and fruitfully share their faith through friendship and deep investment in others. Applicants commonly say one or all of the following things: "I really want to grow in prayer and a deeper relationship with the Lord." "I really want to grow my ability to evangelize and/or minister to others." "I really want to grow my ability to know where God is calling me." If any of these struck a chord, I challenge you to apply, or at least learn more at <https://archomaha.org/mentorship>. Application deadline for the 2026-2027 program year is May 1.



**COME LEARN ABOUT THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

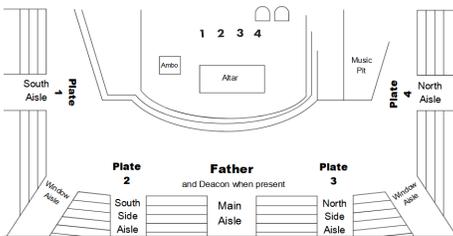
Is the Mentorship Program right for you? Come and see on Thursday, March 26 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Chancery (2222 N 111 St, Omaha), please RSVP by March 23. Or on Sunday, March 29 from 5 PM to 7 PM at Sacred Heart Parish Center (2301 Madison Ave, Norfolk), please RSVP by March 25. Discover how this program equips Catholics across the Archdiocese to share their faith through friendship and deep investment in others. Meet graduates, hear testimonies of the impact, and share a meal. Dinner will be followed by a short talk (similar content to what is covered in program sessions).

# LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

## 2nd Sunday of Lent

FEBRUARY 28TH 5:00 PM	MARCH 1ST 8:00 AM	MARCH 1ST 10:00 AM	MARCH 1ST NOON
<b>Sacristan</b> Linda Schriener	<b>Sacristan</b> Joan Ingram	<b>Sacristan</b> Jim Hottovy	<b>Sacristan</b> Ginny Giebelhaus
<b>Lectors</b> Tammi Hall (Read the 1st Reading)	<b>Lectors</b> Claudia Perchal (Read the 1st Reading)	<b>Lectors</b> David Burke (Read the 1st Reading)	<b>Lectors</b> Karen Meyerott (Read the 1st Reading)
Carol Zeleny (Read the 2nd Reading)	Cari Kaup (Read the 2nd Reading)	Judy Weier (Read the 2nd Reading)	Need Sub (Read the 2nd Reading)
<b>EMHCs</b> Karen Wiehl Diane Sherwood Steve Otto Leann Otto Deacon Ken Broz	<b>EMHCs</b> Barb Applegate Duane Benes Deb Benes Joan Ingram	<b>EMHCs</b> Phyllis Cannon Dennis Cannon Bob Huber Bridget Chatterson	<b>EMHCs</b> Carol Zeleny Kathy Broz Need Sub Deacon Ken Broz
<b>Ushers</b> Tim Hall Andy Pearson Linda Schriener Paul Staley	<b>Ushers</b> Greg Jones Kevin Kaup Bob Sis Need Sub	<b>Ushers</b> Jim Hain Chris Reinig John Schaffert Norm Svoboda	<b>Ushers</b> Linda Gardner Ginny Giebelhaus Doris Williams Need Sub
<b>Rosary Reciter</b> Ellie Clines	<b>Rosary Reciter</b> Carol Zeleny	<b>Rosary Reciter</b> Tam Hottovy	<b>Rosary Reciter</b> Norm Svoboda
<b>Altar Servers</b> Lydia Hall Need Sub Need Sub	<b>Altar Servers</b> Carson Kaup Ethan Kaup Will Kaup	<b>Altar Servers</b> Harper Dickes Nev Dickes Gavin McGregor	<b>Altar Servers</b> James Janda Thomas Janda Need Sub
<b>Greeters</b> Nancy Kirkpatrick Tim Kirkpatrick	<b>Greeters</b> Steve Ingram Mary Maw	<b>Greeters</b> Andrew Urban Carol Zeleny	<b>Greeters</b> Joann Dalley Doris Williams

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!*

**Vocations Crucifix**  
Mark Hazard

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



## 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  
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**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

**EVANGELIZATION COORDINATOR**

Jean Hlavacek.....402-504-4222  
jihlavacek@archomaha.org

**PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Clint Bollock.....402-206-1757

**FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

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

**HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY**

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

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

John Schaffert III.....402-672-7903  
schaff333@gmail.com

1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT





**ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Gretna, Nebraska

**PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**  
*Registration is Now Open*



Registration for the 2026-2027 Preschool year is now open! Go to [preschool.stpatricksgretna.org](http://preschool.stpatricksgretna.org) to register for your preferred class. Morning and afternoon classes are available. Call the Preschool Office at 402-332-3050 with any questions you may have. We can't wait to see you in the Fall!

**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.



**LEAST OF MY BRETHREN**  
*Volunteer Opportunities*

Volunteer for Least of my Brethren!



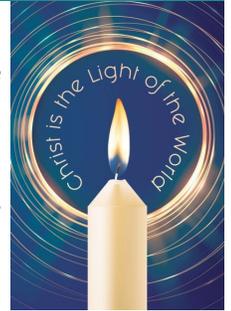
Least of my Brethren is looking for groups or individuals willing to volunteer one hour or one day to help the homeless in Omaha. For one hour, your group can pack blessing bags that include essential toiletries handed out

to the homeless. Your group could volunteer for one evening to help sort donations that come into the LoMB storage unit. Or, your group could volunteer one Saturday to help set up apartments for recently homeless people who have found a job and secured an apartment. Or, your group could volunteer one Saturday to prepare and serve breakfast for the homeless. Or, individuals could just donate some gently used household items or canned food. Every little bit helps! The Least of My Brethren ministry thanks you for your support! Find out more by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://www.leastofmybrethren.org/>.

**CANDLES REMIND US OF LIGHT AND SACRIFICE**

*Renew Your Baptismal Offering*

The little girl and her father stepped inside the cavernous church. As the girl knelt to pray, "her eyes began adjusting to the dark. Gold and silver gleamed from altars between the pillars, but on the altar before them, candles were glowing in gilded candlesticks." This is a scene from Sigrid Undset's novel *Kristin Lavransdatter*, set in medieval Norway. But many aspects of this scene—the dark church, the candles, the glinting of metal ornaments—are quite familiar to me, and I imagine to many of you, too. When you enter Catholic churches, you're very often met by such dim, muted lighting, punctuated only by a few candles. And I don't know about you, but wherever I may be in the world, that is an environment in which I feel very much at home. Of the many features of the interior of Catholic churches, candles may be one of the most distinctive. Candles and Catholicism seem to go hand in hand. Yes, gone are the days when we needed candles to see in the church, when priests strained their eyes to read the ornate calligraphy of a hand-copied missal, or monks chanted midnight prayers out of psalters illumined by a single wavering flame. Yet to this day, by the Church's own law, candles flank or adorn the altar at every Mass, and a single candle burns by every tabernacle all year long. As far as I can tell, no one seems upset by this Catholic insistence upon an antiquated form of illumination. On the contrary! We seek out quiet candlelit chapels for prayer. Pilgrims line up to light votive candles at shrines around the world. And who isn't moved at the beginning of the Easter Vigil, when the Paschal Candle enters a dark church and the whole space begins to fill with candlelight? We love candles—the play of light and darkness, the faint, warm smell of burning wax. But there is a deeper reason candles belong in our worship: like Christ, candles are sacrificed in order to give light to the world.



**LIGHT AND SACRIFICE**

Christ's light and Christ's sacrifice are the two central themes of one of the great feasts of February. Each year on February 2, the Church celebrates the Presentation, also known as Candlemas. Mary and Joseph present Jesus in the Temple, and the righteous man Simeon declares Him to be a light for revelation to the Gentiles. Mass this day begins with the blessing of candles, with the option for a candlelit procession. I've even ben at parishes that opt for a candlelit Mass on this feast—a beautiful way to emphasize that Christ's light overcomes all darkness. But the candles we bless on Candlemas are more than a mere symbol of light. They also recall the Lord's ultimate sacrifice. As long as a candle is giving light, it is also burning down—until there is nothing left. Christ's human life will indeed appear to burn out as He gives His life on the cross. After all, Simeon had not only prophesied that Jesus will bring light, but also that He is a sign that will be contradicted. Yet, Christ shone brightest when his life seemed to be burning lowest. As St. Hilary expressed it, the cross is the candlestick which held Christ as He burned "to give light for ever to those that dwell in the Church." The cross is the Lord's hour of glory, at which the darkness of the world is scattered.

**A TOTAL OFFERING**

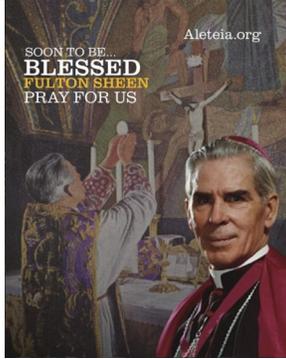
While we no longer present children in the Temple, we do bring them to church for their baptisms. And there again we find candles. After the baptism itself, the parents receive the child's baptismal candle, lit from the Paschal Candle, with an instruction: "This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ... When the Lord comes, may He go out to meet Him with all the saints in the Heavenly Kingdom." When the ceremony is over, the parents blow out the candle, put it back in its box, and keep it as a memento. I was struck not long ago by a small feature of the baptismal liturgy: at the end of the baptism, the candle is no longer full. The top of the candle has melted away and the wick is burnt. Even though the baby has just begun his or her life, even though so much lies ahead, already the candle of that child's life has begun to burn with the same fire of divine love that impelled Jesus to offer His life on the cross. Baptism sets a person on a clear trajectory: to follow Jesus in a life that gives light by being a life of sacrifice. Sometimes we flinch from the sacrifices God asks us to make. We wonder if there's a way to be children of the light without knowing the cross. But the divine logic is clear: no sacrifice, no light. And the Lord promises that every sacrifice offered to Him will in the end be repaid: "Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25). The offering of our lives needs constant renewal. The Church gives us seasons like Lent to invite us to a deeper generosity. But the lives of the saints make something abundantly clear: God's joy and freedom fill us most when we offer Him not only this or that sacrifice, but say to Him each morning, "Lord, it's all yours. Do with my day, with my life, as you please." Jesus unites such a total offering to His, and it rises as a pleasing sacrifice al the way to Heaven. So, next time you visit a church and see the sanctuary candle burning before the tabernacle or see the candles alight around the altar, renew the offering of your life that began on the day of your baptism. Life is given to be spent, and the Lord fills with the greatest light and joy those whose lives burn with love for Him.

—Article by Father Philip Nolan, OP

# FULTON SHEEN'S WARNING IS UNCANNILY PROPHEPIC

## *We Can't Remain Indifferent*

When you hear the words of Venerable Fulton Sheen and other holy men and women from the past, there's a common reaction: surprise at how accurately they describe our present-day problems. The truth is that human nature doesn't change. Sin doesn't change. Temptation doesn't change. No matter how much technology changes, we humans are the same. We keep needing the same advice and warnings... and invitations to hope. So when we listen to the saints and holy people of the past, their words seem to speak directly to us today.



A wise voice from the fairly recent past is Venerable Fulton Sheen, the archbishop and theologian who reached millions with his influential radio and Emmy-winning television show *Life is Worth Living*. His wisdom is still so relevant today. In fact, one of his quotations seems to describe our current 24-hour news cycle with uncanny foresight! Social media didn't even exist back when he said these words, but it sounds as if he is describing it—especially the worrying effect it has on our ability to see things with right judgment.

What happens when we're exposed to a relentless stream of highly emotional content? Some content brings bad news, and some brings good news, but all of it is designed to play on our emotions. And the effects are pretty scary.

### **"PULLED AND PULLED LIKE THE SPRING ON A SCREEN DOOR"**

Here's what Venerable Fulton Sheen said: "Why can't you see that after a while, our emotions are like the spring on a screen door, pulled and pulled so often? And after a while, it loses all of its resiliency. And then later on in life, there come real objects and problems toward which the emotions of love and hate and anger and justice and so forth, should be aroused, but they become so exhausted, so emasculated, by being pulled at artificially, that they're no longer aroused. And that is why, in the face of social injustices, dishonesties, affecting one industry after another, and politics, we remain cold."

### **GLOBALIZATION OF INDIFFERENCE**

When our emotions are constantly whipped back and forth, we actually lose our instinct to react the way we should to serious problems. We become numb.

Decades after Sheen said these words, plenty of research confirms what he said. Stanford psychiatrist Anna Lembke, MD, author of *Dopamine Nation*, explains how social media and compulsive overconsumption can affect our brain chemistry: "Feel-good substances and behaviors increase dopamine release in the brain's reward pathways. The brain responds to this increase by decreasing dopamine transmission—not just back down to its natural baseline rate, but below that baseline. Repeated exposure to the same or similar stimuli ultimately creates a chronic dopamine-deficit state, wherein we're less able to experience pleasure."

We see the truth of what Sheen observed. A constant stream of emotional stimuli makes us less able to respond appropriately to things that matter.

### **WE CAN'T BE INDIFFERENT**

Pope Francis gave a similar warning, calling for an end to the "culture of indifference." He urged the faithful to follow God's example of love, "without ever turning away" from people's needs, especially those of the poor.

What's the solution to chronic overconsumption? We can't let these things take over our lives. Breaks from consuming news and social media are so important. We can't let ourselves stop caring about other people. And we need to be in contact with actual people. As much as technology helps us to stay in touch, we can't overestimate the importance of physical togetherness.

Instead, prayer, time with our families, reading, social events with friends, hobbies, and many more valuable things can and should fill our lives. And when real problems arise—social injustices and sorrows—we won't be indifferent. We will be ready to respond appropriately, caring for others' needs and using our voices to call for justice and truth.

—Article by Aleteia

As of February 9, the Vatican has officially approved the beatification process of Venerable Fulton Sheen. This means that he will soon gain the title of "Blessed" and is one step closer to sainthood. Venerable Fulton Sheen, pray for us, especially as we navigate our time on social media and watching the news.



## 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.

### NEW CATHOLIC APP *Eucharistic Miracles of the World*



An app that presents Eucharistic miracles from around the world was launched February 14 by a Pennsylvania shrine devoted to St. Carlo Acutis. In a promotional video, the Saint Carlo Acutis Shrine and Center For Eucharistic Encounter at Malvern Retreat

House stated, "The Eucharist is the living heart of Jesus, and the proof is in the miracles." The app, *Saint Carlo Acutis: Eucharistic Miracles of the World*, provides photos of Eucharistic miracles as well as telling the stories and historical context behind them. It includes a map and resources to help plan pilgrimages to the sites where the miracles occurred. St. Carlo Acutis, who was canonized last year by Pope Leo XIV, had a profound devotion to the Eucharist. He created a website documenting Eucharistic miracles. The new app draws on St. Carlo's work, and it also provides information about the saint's life and quotations from St. Carlo. As Zeale News previously reported, the Carlo Acutis Shrine was the first shrine dedicated to the saint in the U.S. when it opened in September 2025. It features an exhibit cataloging Eucharistic miracles inspired by St. Carlo's website, an adoration chapel dedicated to praying for the salvation of young people, and relics of St. Carlo. It also has a traveling exhibit about Eucharistic miracles that parishes and schools can host. *Saint Carlo Acutis: Eucharistic Miracles of the World* is available in both the Apple App Store and on Google Play. —Article by Zeale News



**ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Gretna, Nebraska

**HELPFUL RESOURCES**

- AL-ANON (ALCOHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT—OMAHA)**  
Phone.....402-553-5033  
Website.....al-anon.org
- BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE**  
Phone.....1-800-448-3000  
Website.....www.boystown.org
- CATHOLIC ANSWERS**  
Phone.....1-888-318-7884  
Website.....www.catholic.com
- CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711  
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**  
Phone.....402-554-0520  
Website.....ccomaha.org
- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**  
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com
- COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION)**  
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.....heartstorestorednebraska.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)**  
Phone.....402-390-6600  
Website.....www.popepaulvi.com
- SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO—FM 102.7**  
Phone.....402-571-0200  
Website.....www.spiritcatholicradio.com
- ST. BENEDICT CENTER (RETREATS IN SCHUYLER)**  
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**

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE—MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, FEBRUARY 18-MARCH 29**



Help save lives by praying for the end to abortion from February 18 through March 29 for the annual 40 Days for Life campaign. Contact Liz Sambol at Elizabeth.sambol@gmail.com or 402-651-4789 to sign up for praying outside the

Omaha Planned Parenthood (3105 N 93rd St, Omaha). Or contact Nebraskans Embracing Life at 402-399-0299 or engage@nebraskanembracinglife.org to sign up to pray outside the Bellevue Health Center (1002 W Mission Ave, Bellevue). Find out more about this campaign at 40daysforlife.com.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS—CATHOLIC CEMETERIES, FEBRUARY 25**

Beginning Wednesday, February 25 at 6 PM and each subsequent Wednesday of Lent, Catholic Cemeteries invites you to pray the Stations of the Cross in Holy Angels Mausoleum in Resurrection Cemetery (7800 West Center Rd, Omaha). This prayer and walk are a remembrance for those who have traveled this journey before us and are still very much a part of who we are today. This reflection of our respective journeys leads us to the joy of resurrection that awaits each of us. We will have Good Friday Stations of the Cross, April 3, and they will be at 3 PM in Calvary Cemetery (7710 West Center Rd, Omaha).



**ANOINTING OF THE SICK—ST. LEO THE GREAT, MARCH 1**



On Sunday, March 1, following the Noon Mass at St. Leo the Great (1920 N 102nd St, Omaha), we will have the celebration of the Anointing of the Sick for all who are suffering from infirmities of mind, body or spirit, or addictions. Be present for healing of

bodily ailments, memories, deep-seated anger, addictions and so much more that our Lord desires to give. A plenary indulgence can be obtained with the usual conditions. All are invited. For questions, contact Carl Soby at 402-672-7929 or Jackie Novotny at 402-651-2329.

**ST. ELENA PRAYER ROOMS LENTEN RETREAT—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINI, MARCH 7**

Join us for an uplifting retreat with Maria Vadia, a remarkable speaker whose life story exemplifies resilience and faith. Maria’s inspiring journey—from fleeing the Communist regime in Cuba to becoming a powerful speaker and prolific author—serves as a testament to God’s transformative work in a person’s life. This Lenten women’s retreat will be held on Saturday, March 7 from 9 AM to 1 PM at St. Robert Bellarmine Church (11802 Pacific St, Omaha). Find out more and RSVP by March 3 at https://stelenaprayerrooms.org/reservations.



**SIDWALK ADVOCACY VOLUNTEER TRAINING—CATHOLIC CHARITIES, MARCH 7**



Volunteer training for Sidewalk Advocacy in Omaha and Bellevue will be held on Saturday, March 7 from 10 AM to 4 PM at the Catholic Charities Building (9223 Bedford Ave, Omaha). This peaceful, prayerful, law-abiding approach seeks to meet a woman entering an abortion clinic with the help and resources she needs to choose life! Come join us! Registration fee of \$15 covers training materials and lunch.

Students (high school and above), clergy, and military are free. Call Sarah Peterson at 402-819-1662 to answer any questions and/or to register.

**“ALL IN CHRIST FOR PRO-LIFE” BANQUET—LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE BALLROOM, OMAHA, MARCH 27**

Join the LifeRunners on Friday, March 27 at the Livestock Exchange Ballroom (4920 S 30th St, Omaha) for their 8th Annual “All in Christ for Pro-Life” Banquet. This year’s speaker is EWTN’s TV show host, Jim Pinto. LifeRunners chaplain, Bishop Paprocki, will be this year’s special guest. The social begins at 6 PM with the dinner and speaker to follow at 6:30 PM. Seats are limited. Register early and use the code LIFE25 for a 25% discount until March 1 at https://www.liferunners.org/banquet.





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