

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNA, NE 68028



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

*Say to daughter Zion,
"Behold, your king comes to you,
meek and riding on an ass."*

- Mt 21:5

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

MARCH 29, 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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

FIRST READING (Is 50:4-7)

Isaiah speaks of his obedient response to God's call despite his suffering. Have you ever suffered for your faith?

SECOND READING (PHIL 2:6-11)

Paul recounts how Jesus' life was characterized by humility and obedience. In what ways do you live by these virtues?

GOSPEL (MT 26:14-27:66 OR 27:11-54)

There are numerous unique features to Matthew's account of the Passion of the Lord, including the details of Judas' suicide. What parts of the passion narrative do you find most engaging?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



Just prior to this week's Passion narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a small, striking story describing a woman's scandalous action toward Jesus: "A woman came up to Him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on His head" (Matthew 26:7). The ointment was pure nard, worth more than 300 denarii. A year's wages. Maybe a dowry, maybe a family inheritance. In any case, she breaks it. She does not measure or ration. She pours it all out, irreversibly, over Jesus. Why does this image begin Holy Week?

Because what she does with the jar, Jesus will soon do with His life. The jar must be broken so the fragrance can be released. Jesus' body will be broken so His priceless divine and human love can be poured out. She gives everything, just as He is about to give everything. And He sees it: "She has done a good thing for me" (Matthew 26:10). Her act is lavish, impractical, scandalous in its apparent wastefulness. And He loves it. It is what Holy Week is all about.

What jar are you still holding onto? Your time? Your comfort? Your plan for how life should go? Don't just wave palms today. Let yourself be broken open so your love, too, can be poured out.

Lenten Challenge: Offer something costly to Jesus this Holy Week—not out of guilt, but love. Your attention. Your forgiveness. Your time. Break the jar. Trust that nothing poured out for Him is ever wasted.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

What is the difference between a chastisement and a punishment?

ANSWER:

The distinction between chastisement and punishment is, in many ways, a subtle one, but which is still relevant in our Catholic tradition. First, chastisement is a concept that is grounded in Sacred Scripture. Here, we see chastisement as a response by God to people's actions that is intended to teach a lesson. As St. John Paul II observed, "chastisement appears to be... a kind of divine pedagogy, in which the last word is reserved to mercy: He scourges and then shows mercy, casts down to the depths of the nether world, and he brings up from the great abyss" (Tobit 13:2). The idea here is that in order to capture our attention or to highlight how we have not lived out our covenant-relationship with God as we should, there are times when God uses events in life to draw us back to the quality of relationship or faith that we should have.



The concept of punishment, however, has a different sense. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* observes that punishment is the consequence of a damaging action that "has the primary aim of redressing the disorder" and to protect the community and the common good from further damage or harm (CCC 2266). Although we always hope that someone who is being punished for a crime or some other harmful action will learn from their actions, punishment isn't necessarily intended to teach a lesson in the same way that a chastisement is.

Ultimately, how we make the distinction between chastisement and punishment is a matter of discernment. As with almost everything in life, our experiences can be an opportunity for grace—or for something less—depending on how open we are to recognizing the movement of God's Spirit within them.

SAINT FERGUS OF SCOTLAND

Bishop

SAINT
FERGUS
OF SCOTLAND
PRAY FOR US



St. Fergus of Scotland (d. 730 A.D.), also known as St. Fergustian or Fergus the Pict, Bishop of the Gaels, was a bishop serving in the north of Scotland. Little is known of his life. He is believed to have been trained as a bishop in Ireland, ministering there for many years before traveling as a missionary to Scotland. He went throughout the Scottish countryside preaching the Gospel, setting up churches dedicated to St. Patrick of Ireland, and working to convert the pagan people to Christianity. He also

traveled to St. Peter's Basilica to participate in the Council of Rome in 721 A.D. He died around the year 730 A.D. and is buried in Glamis, Angus, in Scotland. Nearby is St. Fergus' Well. The site is believed to be where St. Fergus presided over religious services before the first church of Glamis was built. His feast day is March 30.

SAINT BENJAMIN

Deacon and Martyr

St. Benjamin (d. 424 A.D.) was a deacon martyred in Persia during a forty-year-long Christian persecution under two tyrannical Persian kings. He was imprisoned for a year due to his Christian faith and then released with the help of the Eastern Roman Emperor Theodosius II. As a condition of his release he was ordered to no longer publicly proclaim his faith. Benjamin declared that it was his duty to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and he refused to be silenced. He continued preaching Christ crucified, and, when word reached the king, he was arrested again. In response, Benjamin asked the king what opinion he would have of any of his subjects if they were to renounce their allegiance to the king and join in war against him; in the same way Benjamin could not renounce his allegiance to Christ. This comment enraged the king, and he ordered Benjamin to endure cruel tortures. Sharpened reeds were repeatedly jammed underneath his fingernails, toenails, and other tender parts of the body. He died when a knotted stake was jammed into his bowels. St. Benjamin's feast day is celebrated on March 31.

SAINT
BENJAMIN
PRAY FOR US



BLESSED ANACLETO GONZALEZ FLORES

Martyr



BLESSED
ANACLETO
GONZALEZ
FLORES
PRAY FOR US

Bl. Anacleto Gonzalez Flores (1888–1927) was the second of twelve children born to a poor family in Jalisco, Mexico. He was baptized the day after his birth. As he grew, a priest recognized his intelligence and recommended that he enter the seminary. Anacleto studied there for a time before discerning that he was not called to the priesthood. Instead he became an attorney, husband, and father, as well as an activist for his Catholic faith. He was a prolific writer and dedicated catechism teacher, and attended

daily Mass. He joined the Catholic Association of Young Mexicans (ACJM) in addition to starting another Catholic lay organization committed to resisting the fierce persecution of the Catholic Church under the infamous Mexican dictator, Calles. Initially he participated only in the non-violent resistance against Calles, until four members of the ACJM were murdered in 1926. Their deaths spurred Anacleto to lend support to the armed resistance movement. Anacleto did not take up arms but instead gave speeches to encourage Catholics to support the Cristeros, the Catholic army fighting against Calles. Anacleto was captured during the Cristero War on April 1, 1927, and was brutally tortured before being martyred by firing squad. His feast day is April 1.

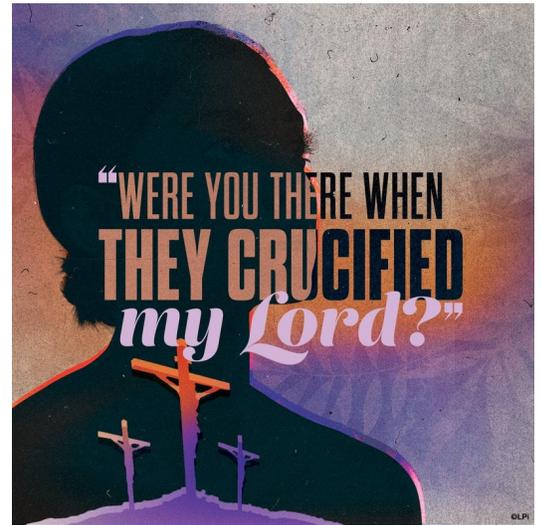
“What does Jesus Christ do in the Eucharist? It is God who, as our Savior, offers Himself each day for us to His Father's justice. If you are in difficulties and sorrows, He will comfort and relieve you. If you are sick, He will either cure you or give you strength to suffer so as to merit Heaven. If the devil, the world, and the flesh are making war upon you, He will give you the weapons with which to fight, to resist, and to win victory. If you are poor, He will enrich you with all sorts of riches for time and eternity. Let us open the door of His sacred and adorable Heart, and be wrapped about for an instant by the flames of His love, and we shall see what a God who loves us can do. O my God, who shall be able to comprehend?” —St. John Vianney



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
TUESDAY: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
WEDNESDAY: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
THURSDAY: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
FRIDAY: Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2 and 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17 and 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42
SATURDAY: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15-15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10
NEXT SUNDAY: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 Or Lk 24:13-35



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY: April Fools' Day
THURSDAY: Holy Thursday
FRIDAY: Good Friday
SATURDAY: Holy Saturday
NEXT SUNDAY: Easter Sunday





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
Join us for the Triduum

**Holy Week
Schedule**



Join us during these special and sacred services leading up to Easter Sunday.

- Holy Thursday, April 2: 7 PM
- Stations of the Cross, April 3: 3 PM
- Good Friday, April 3: 7 PM
- Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, April 4: 7 PM
- Easter Sunday, April 5: 8 AM, 10 AM, Noon

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.

VOCATION PRAYER CORNER

Father, while our children are young, hold them close to Your heart. In this world confused by error and sin, guard their innocence and fill them with unshakable faith.



As they grow older, keep them true to your teachings, faithful to Sunday Mass, and active within Your Church. May they sincerely seek Your will in all important life decisions, and when the time comes, open their hearts to Your call, whether to Christian marriage, priesthood, or consecrated life. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen. Discerning the call, 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."



LANDSCAPING TEAM FIRST MEETING OF THE SEASON
Join the Team



The St. Patrick Landscaping Team is looking forward to another Spring and the many opportunities to bring the parish grounds to a fresh season. If you love working with landscape and would like to see our church surrounded in fresh greenery and color, this is a ministry for you. We invite you to join us in making our parish grounds the first door of hospitality to all who come to worship here. Our volunteer efforts join those of Judy Stephens, our Facility Manager, and BCS Lawn and Landscape Company in maintaining our vast property.

How can you help? Our projects connect year around. We are looking for members to grow our team, helpers to do various projects, and supporters who want to financially help our projects come alive! Many of you love seeing the grounds develop new ideas... we welcome your ideas as well.

Our first team meeting of the season will be on Monday, March 30 at 7 PM in the Father Hitch Room. Please mark your calendar now and plan to come join us. For more information or questions to pass on to our Landscaping Team members, contact the Parish Office.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR EASTER
Easter Blessings to You and Your Family

In reverence for the most Holy Triduum, the Parish Office will be closing at Noon on Holy Thursday, April 2, and all day on Good Friday, April 3. May you and your family find time in the hustle and bustle of the season to be still and sit with Jesus in the tomb—slowing down and remaining silent for a time in gratitude for Jesus' great sacrifice.

Jesus I thank you and praise you for shedding your Blood for the salvation of my soul. Help me to slow down to the speed of your grace this Holy Week. May I never forget the finished work of the cross. I ask for renewal of my mind this Easter to keep you ever at the forefront of my mind. Amen.



EASTER FLOWER OFFERING
Make a Gift In Memory/Honor Of...



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

returning it to the Parish Office with your donation by April 1. If you are donating online please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office. We greatly appreciate your donation to help decorate our beloved Church during the Easter season and to remember/honor our loved ones.

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING
In Memory/Honor Of...

- _____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)
- _____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)
- _____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)
- _____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)
- _____ In Memory / Honor of (please circle)

Your Name _____

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

Amount included: \$ _____

LENTEN CONFESSION TIMES

St. Patrick and St. Charles

Don't miss your opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter! Between St. Patrick and St. Charles Borromeo we have several Confession opportunities left this week. Haven't been to Confession in a while? Don't worry! We have Examination of Consciences and How to go to Confession guides available in the narthex and in the Confessional. Our priests are more than happy to help walk you through it as needed. You can pick up a larger print of this calendar of Confession times in the narthex at St. Patrick.



Gretna Parishes' Lenten Confessions

GREEN = St. Patrick (SP) BLUE = St. Charles Borromeo (SCB)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 PALM SUNDAY	30	31	April 1	2 HOLY THURSDAY	3 GOOD FRIDAY	4 HOLY SATURDAY
		SCB 8:30 a.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SP 3:00-4:00 p.m. SCB 5:30-6:30 p.m. SP 6:30-7:30 p.m.	SCB 8:30 a.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SP 3:00-4:00 p.m. SCB 5:30-6:30 p.m. SP 6:30-7:30 p.m.	SCB 12:00-1:00 p.m.		

WEDDING COORDINATOR POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Excellent Pay and Flexible Scheduling

The wedding season is fast-approaching, and St. Patrick is in need of a few good people to serve as a Wedding Coordinator. Our goal is to hire three coordinators so we can have flexibility in scheduling each coordinator, based on their availability throughout the wedding season. Having more than one coordinator trained and on hand is a 'win-win' for all of us.

One Wedding Coordinator is assigned to each wedding at St. Patrick. The Wedding Coordinator assists the priest, the bride and groom, and the wedding party in the logistics of the rehearsal and wedding day to ensure a smooth ceremony. There are a few basic responsibilities to complete prior to the rehearsal and wedding, during the rehearsal, and during the wedding day. For a detailed job description, go to our parish website at stpatricksgretna.org.

Interested candidates are encouraged to apply for the position by April 17. Simply send an email to our Parish Manager, Jolene Jefferies, at jmjefferies@archomaha.org, expressing your interest in the opportunity and why you'd like to be considered for the position. Please provide your full mailing address, including your email and phone number.

The Wedding Coordinator position is classified as an independent contractor. All couples getting married at St. Patrick are required to hire one of our Wedding Coordinators for a flat fee of \$300. The couple will pay the assigned Wedding Coordinator directly (full payment must be made two weeks prior to the wedding day).

If you have any questions, contact Jolene Jefferies at 402-332-4444, ext. 203 or stop by the parish office for more information.



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, Andy Pearson at apearson709@gmail.com, Eric Devlin at devlineric62@gmail.com or Seth Boardman at sethd99@hotmail.com.

6TH ANNUAL WILD GAME FEED

The Knights of Columbus are hosting their 6th annual Wild Game Feed on Saturday, April 18, and you could win a side-by-side! Get your raffle tickets today for a chance to win a side-by-side and support our annual Knights of Columbus Game Feed. Only 300 tickets sold. Drawing will be held at the Game Feed on April 18, need not be present to win. Scan the QR code to buy tickets instantly!

WIN A SIDE-BY-SIDE
SUPPORT THE KOFC GAME FEED

WIN THIS SIDE-BY-SIDE



GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A SIDE-BY-SIDE AND SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GAME FEED. ONLY 300 TICKETS SOLD.



SCAN TO BUY TICKETS INSTANTLY!
SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA
DRAWING HELD AT THE GAME FEED ON APRIL 18TH, 2026.
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!

The Knights are also asking for silent auction donations to help with the game feed. For more information on the silent auction items, please contact Larry Sibley at 402-957-8770 or LCSIB@centurylink.net. For table tickets, please contact Ken Dukat at 402-690-5919 or ken.gatewayelectric@gmail.com.

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

Stewardship Report

Mar 18-Mar 24, 2026

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

General Contributions	Mar 18-Mar 24, 2026	Fiscal YTD thru Mar 24
Sunday Offering	\$12,304.99	\$1,012,307.31
Other Contributions	\$1,829.87	\$113,415.27
Total General Contributions	\$14,134.86	\$1,125,722.58 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$13,365.14)	\$80,722.58

* 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

MASS INTENTIONS

An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person—such as on a birthday or if they are ill (INT), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of one who has died (†). To request a Mass intention, stop by the parish office to schedule. A minimum of \$10 per Mass is requested.

MONDAY, MARCH 30TH

7:30 AM † John Sedlacek

TUESDAY, MARCH 31ST

6:00 PM † The Deceased Members of the Sempeck Family

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST

7:30 AM † Bev Deming

THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND

7:00 PM For Our Parishioners

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD

7:00 PM For Our Parishioners

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

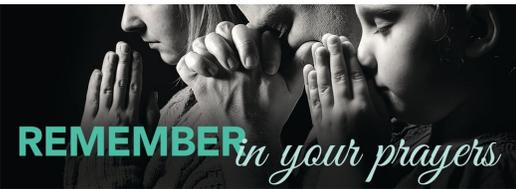
7:00 PM OCIA Candidates

SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH

8:00 AM For Our Parishioners
10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM For Our Parishioners

LITURGICAL VESTMENT COLORS

- White**—JOY—Christmas, Easter, Mary, Saints
- Red**—LOVE—The Passion, Holy Spirit, Martyrs
- Green**—HOPE—Ordinary Time
- Violet**—HUMILITY—Advent, Lent
- Rose**—JOY—Gaudete, Laetare Sundays



Let us pray for Shaw McDonnell, Mary, Nicole, Suzanne Orosco, Ted Swanson, Amber Janda, Meredith Haney, Norma Hintz, Rita Kalkowski, 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.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH—PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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—RE Classrooms, Basement Commons
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Religious Education Stations of the Cross—Basement Commons
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Lenten Meeting—Father Hitch Room

MONDAY, MARCH 30TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lenten Confession Times—Sanctuary and Confessional
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Lenten Confession Times—Sanctuary and Confessional
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Landscaping Team Meeting—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Revelation Bible Study—Parish Center AB and Kitchen

TUESDAY, MARCH 31ST

1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Bible Study Group—Father Hitch Room
3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lenten Confession Times—Sanctuary and Confessional
4:30 PM to 8:00 PM Medjugorje Travel Prep Meeting—Parish Center AB
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
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Lenten Confession Times—Sanctuary and Confessional
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Clear Path Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST—NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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
3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Lenten Confession Times—Sanctuary and Confessional
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Lenten Confession Times—Sanctuary and Confessional
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Lenten Small Group—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM 7th Grade Confirmation Intro Meeting—Parish Center
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND—HOLY THURSDAY—OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Project Linus—Basement Commons
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Holy Thursday Mass—Sanctuary

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD—GOOD FRIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 AM to 7:30 AM Men's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room
8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Women's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room
3:00 PM to 3:30 PM Stations of the Cross—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Good Friday Service—Sanctuary

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH—HOLY SATURDAY

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass—Sanctuary

SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH—EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD—NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

LENTEN ALMSGIVING—\$40 GIFT CARDS

Least of My Brethren Lunch Ministry

The Least of My Brethren Lunch Ministry is having a Fareway gift card drive throughout Lent. The cards will be used to purchase food for our monthly lunches. You can help us by giving one dollar a day for the 40 days of Lent towards a gift card. If you would like to participate in this project, please drop off the \$40 Fareway gift card to the parish office during regular office hours. If Fareway is not convenient for you, gift cards from places like Hy-Vee, Walmart, and Costco are also appreciated.



*"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."
—Matthew 25:40*

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

<p>APRIL 4TH 7:00 PM</p> <p>Sacristan Carol Zeleny</p> <p>Lectors Stephanie Lampe <small>(Read the 1st Reading)</small></p> <p>Barb Applegate <small>(Read the 2nd Reading)</small></p> <p>Joan Ingram <small>(Read the 3rd Reading)</small></p> <p>EMHCs Carrie Hubert Paul Hubert Diane Sherwood Jim Hain</p> <p>Ushers Jim Hain Need Sub Need Sub Need Sub</p> <p>Altar Servers Luke Hubert Mitchell Hubert Paul Joseph Hubert</p> <p>Greeters Need Sub Need Sub</p> <p>Hilcrest SR Mike Siegel Paula Siegel</p>	<p>APRIL 5TH 8:00 AM</p> <p>Sacristan Lori Frederick</p> <p>Lectors Cari Kaup <small>(Read the 1st Reading)</small></p> <p>Need Sub <small>(Read the 2nd Reading)</small></p> <p>EMHCs Barb Applegate Christa Pichler Rosie Stec Rob Polak Need Sub Need Sub Deacon Ken Broz</p> <p>Ushers Kevin Kaup Ron Kotrous Tony Schultz Bob Sis Need Sub Need Sub</p> <p>Rosary Reciter Need Sub</p> <p>Altar Servers Owen Deming Matthew Farwell Drew Garcia</p> <p>Greeters Mary Maw Gordon Yager</p>	<p>APRIL 5TH 10:00 AM</p> <p>Sacristan Andi Towey</p> <p>Lectors David Burke <small>(Read the 1st Reading)</small></p> <p>Michael Chatterson <small>(Read the 2nd Reading)</small></p> <p>EMHCs Andi Towey Bridget Chatterson Bruce Jefferies Nell Votruba Jim Hottovy Carol Zeleny</p> <p>Ushers Kathy Dauner Norris Hoover Bruce Jefferies Tom Nienaber Norm Svoboda Need Sub</p> <p>Rosary Reciter Jolene Jefferies</p> <p>Altar Servers Anderson Brei Ellie Brei Vinnie Nelson</p> <p>Greeters Andrew Brei Tony Tiefenthaler</p>	<p>APRIL 5TH NOON</p> <p>Sacristan Larry Neppel</p> <p>Lectors Karen Meyerott <small>(Read the 1st Reading)</small></p> <p>Need Sub <small>(Read the 2nd Reading)</small></p> <p>EMHCs Doris Williams Delma Stoner Larry Neppel Wendy Neppel</p> <p>Ushers Lary Neppel Delma Stoner Marty White Doris Williams</p> <p>Rosary Reciter Need Sub</p> <p>Altar Servers Need Sub Need Sub Need Sub</p> <p>Greeters Marty White Mary Zeigler</p> <p>Vocations Crucifix Charlie Canfield</p>
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LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday and Good Friday

<p>APRIL 2ND 7:00 PM</p> <p>Sacristan Jim Hottovy</p> <p>Lectors Barb Applegate <small>(Read the 1st Reading)</small></p> <p>Jolene Jefferies <small>(Read the 2nd Reading)</small></p> <p>EMHCs Jim Hottovy Diane Sherwood Nancy Arp</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY</p>	<p>Jim Hain</p> <p>Ushers Jim Hain Need Sub Need Sub Need Sub</p> <p>Altar Servers Luke Hubert Mitchell Hubert Paul Joseph Hubert</p> <p>Greeters Need Sub Need Sub</p>	<p>APRIL 3RD 7:00 PM</p> <p>Sacristan Joan Ingram</p> <p>Lectors Eric Hittner <small>(Read the 1st Reading)</small></p> <p>Barb Applegate <small>(Read 2nd Reading and Passion)</small></p> <p>EMHCs Diane Sherwood Nancy Arp Joan Ingram</p>	<p>Jim Hain Deacon Ken Broz</p> <p>Ushers Need Sub Need Sub Need Sub Need Sub</p> <p>Altar Servers Luke Hubert Mitchell Hubert Paul Joseph Hubert</p> <p>Greeters Steve Ingram Need Sub</p>
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Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR
Fr. Gregory P. Baxter.....402-332-4444, x205
gpbaxter@archomaha.org
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FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
Kevin Kaup.....402-525-1469

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

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



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ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH GRETNA, NE
2026 Parish Directory



Thank you to everyone who got their photo taken or submitted a digital photo to be printed in our new parish directory! We are in the process of getting the directories designed and printed, which will take a couple months. If you got a photo taken or submitted a digital photo, you already

have a directory being reserved for you at no additional cost. If you are a registered parishioner and will not have a photo in the directory but would still like a copy, we are now accepting pre-orders for \$25. These are being sold to registered parishioners only and each family is allowed one directory. To make your pre-order, submit the short form on the parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. Payments can be made via cash or check made payable to St. Patrick Church and dropped off in the Parish Office, or by credit card. Please submit pre-orders no later than Friday, May 1.

THE TABERNACLE IS BACK *Fully Restored*

The tabernacle is back! After almost a year of restoration, it is finally back in all it's glory to house our Lord here at St. Patrick!

The closing mechanism gave out last April and was unusable to keep the consecrated hosts safe while also accessible for Mass. The broken part has now been replaced and the rest of the tabernacle was cleaned and restored.

We are so grateful to have it back just in time for the Easter season!

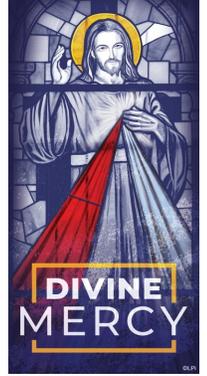


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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—APRIL 12 *Pray the Novena of Chaplets beginning Good Friday, April 3*

THE PROMISE:

Our Lord Jesus said, "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates throughout which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy." (*Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul*, 699) Why is this promise from Jesus so wonderful and merciful?



TEMPORAL PUNISHMENT AND SUFFERING:

The Catholic Church teaches that sin has two consequences, or punishments. (CCC 1472). The first is eternal punishment in which the soul loses Heaven and is confined to an eternity in Hell. This punishment is remitted through the forgiveness of sins. The second is temporal punishment, in which a person must expiate, or make reparation for his sins. This temporal punishment remains even after sin is forgiven. This temporal punishment is known as Purgatory. So, Jesus's amazing promise to St. Faustina amounts to offering all mankind the graces of a complete pardon; an opportunity to have all temporal punishment—time in Purgatory—that which would be necessary before entrance into Heaven, completely removed!

THE DIVINE MERCY FEAST DAY

"I desire that there be a feast of mercy. I want this image, which you will paint with a brush to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be known as the Feast of Mercy."

THE IMAGE

"I desire that this image be venerated throughout the world. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I promise victory over its enemies, already here on earth, and especially at the hour of death... I Myself will defend it as My own glory."

THE CHAPLET

"Pray unceasingly the Chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation."

THE CONVERSION PRAYER

"If you say this prayer, with a contrite heart and with faith, on behalf of some sinner, I will give that soul the grace of conversion: 'O Blood and Water that gushed forth from the heart of Jesus, as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You.' (*Diary*, 186-7) Know, My daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered." (*Diary*, 1397)

SPREAD THE DEVOTION

"Do whatever is within your power to spread devotion to My mercy. I will make up for what you lack."

OUR LORD'S PROMISES ATTACHED TO THE PRAYING OF THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY AS REVEALED TO ST. FAUSTINA KOWALSKA:

1. "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image (of Divine Mercy) will not perish. I also promise victory over (its) enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory."
2. "The two rays denote Blood and Water... These two rays issued from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father... I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy... whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy."
3. "I desire that the Feast of Mercy... be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter... The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion [in a state of grace on this day] shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."
4. "Whoever will recite it [the Chaplet of Divine Mercy] will receive great mercy at the hour of death."
5. "Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this Chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy... I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy."
6. "The souls that say this Chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death."
7. "Souls who spread the honor of My mercy... at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Savior."
8. The prayer most pleasing to Me is *Prayer for the Conversion* *Continued on next page—>*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—APRIL 12

Continued From Page 8



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.

CLOISTERS ON THE PLATTE

Stations of the Cross

As we journey through this sacred season, we invite you to



spend time reflecting on Christ's path to the cross. Located at The Cloisters on the Platte (23332 Fisher Rd, Gretna), the Stations of the Cross is a 2,500 foot long walking tour with audio meditations, comprised of 14 sculpture stations that represent Christ's trial through his burial. Find comfort and strength by meditating on the Passion and suffering of Jesus Christ this Lent. Visitors may remain at the Stations for up to an hour after closing time. Visitors are encouraged to donate \$10 or more per person. For more information, please visit cloistersontheplatte.com.

REGULAR HOURS:

Monday—Wednesday: 9 AM to 4 PM
Thursday: 9 AM to 1 PM
Sunday: 2 PM to 5 PM

SPECIAL HOLY WEEK HOURS:

Palm Sunday: 2 PM to 5 PM
Monday—Holy Thursday: 9 AM to 4 PM
Good Friday: 9 AM to 6 PM
Holy Saturday: 9 AM to 2 PM
Easter Sunday: CLOSED

for Sinners. Know, my daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered.”

9. “My mercy is greater than your sins and those of the entire world.”
10. “To priests who proclaim and extol My mercy, I will give wondrous power; I will anoint their words and touch the hearts of those to whom they will speak.”
11. “Through this Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will.”
12. “When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one.”
13. “When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as a merciful Savior.”
14. “At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony... I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion.”

HOW TO PRAY THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET USING THE ROSARY:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and The Apostles' Creed.
2. Then, on the Our Father beads, say the following: “Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.”
3. On the 10 Hail Mary beads say the following: “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”
4. (Repeat Steps 2 and 3 for all five decades).
5. Conclude with (three times): “Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”

—Article by DivineMercySunday.net

NOVENA TO DIVINE MERCY

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on Good Friday. He gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena, saving for the last day the most difficult intention of all, the lukewarm and indifferent of whom He said: “These souls cause me more suffering than any others; it was from such souls that My soul felt the most revulsion in the Garden of Olives. It was on their account that I said: ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by.’ The last hope of salvation for them is to flee to my mercy.”

In her diary, St. Faustina wrote that Jesus told her: “On each day of the novena you will bring to my heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of my mercy... On each day you will beg my Father, on the strength of my passion, for the graces for these souls.”

—Article by EWTN

Pick up a copy of the Divine Mercy Novena in the narthex, and begin praying this Friday, April 3. We also have Divine Mercy prayer cards and brochures available.

CENTURY CLUB MARCH CASH PRIZE WINNERS

Jesus is the Ultimate Sacrificial Lamb

Easter season is upon us, and I find myself returning to one of my favorite hymns: “Were You There.” The opening line asks, “Were you there when they crucified my Lord?” The honest answer, of course, is no, none of us were there. But our sins were. Think about that for a moment. Jesus died knowing every sin of every soul who ever lived or ever will live, from Iran to the USA, from the UK to Russia, and every corner of the world in between. He knew, and yet He chose to go to that cross anyway. He became the ultimate Sacrificial Lamb for all of us, without exception. Now that is Love. Thank you, sweet Jesus, for dying on the cross for me, knowing my sins when they nailed you to that tree. Transitioning from matters of the soul to matters of good fortune, on to our Century Club winners! Thank you to Richard Ramirez for drawing our nine CASH prize winners for March.

- \$150—John Eisenach
- \$100—Lee Dostal
- \$75—Matt Henry
- \$50—John E Krance
- \$25—Tammy Fibich
- \$25—Pat Calvert
- \$25—William Kirchner
- \$25—Patricia Gilmore
- \$25—Larry Byrnes, Jr

Jesus died for all, the least we can do is pray for everyone, as everyone needs prayer! Thank you and may God's blessings be with you and your family this Easter season. Jim Hottovy, Century Club Administrator.





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)**
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- HEARTS RESTORED (HEALING AFTER ABORTION)**
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Website.....heartsrestorednebraska.org
- HOLY FAMILY SHRINE**
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- LEAST OF MY BRETHREN (SUPPORT HOMELESS)**
Phone.....402-681-5424
Website.....leastofmybrethren.org
- MARRIAGE RESOURCES**
For Your Marriage.....www.foryourmarriage.org
Retrouville.....1-800-470-2230
Retrouville.....www.helpourmarriage.org
- MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE**
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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**
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Website.....strive21.com
- WOMEN’S CENTER FOR ADVANCEMENT (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, ETC.)**
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Website.....wcaomaha.org

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

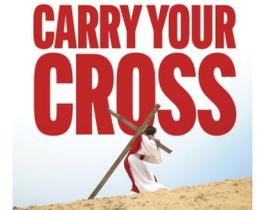
WAY OF THE CROSS—ST. MARGARET MARY, APRIL 3



Join Archbishop Michael McGovern at the annual outdoor Way of the Cross led by the ecclesial movement Communion and Liberation on Good Friday, April 3. The Way of the Cross will begin at 9 AM inside St. Margaret Mary Church (6116 Dodge St, Omaha) and proceed through Memorial Park, ending by 11 AM. All ages are welcome. We will be walking on a stroller-friendly walking path. With any questions, please email omahawayofthecross@gmail.com.

WALK FOR JUSTICE—ST. MARY MAGDALENE, APRIL 3

The 47th Annual Good Friday Walk for Justice will be held on Friday, April 3 from 1 PM to 2:30 PM, beginning at St. Mary Magdalene Parish (109 S 19th St, Omaha). Participants will pray the Stations of the Cross as they walk through downtown Omaha past civic buildings and churches. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held at St. Mary Magdalene Church.



IDEALL RELATIONSHIPS—SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO, APRIL 6



New on the Spirit Catholic Radio Network – *iDeall Relationships*. *iDeall Relationships*, hosted by Deacon Tom Deall and Jeb Eischeid, explores dating, marriage, and all kinds of relationships from a faithful Catholic perspective. Tune in for practical advice, real-life stories, and guidance for building Christ-centered relationships. The first episode airs Monday, April 6 at 8 PM on 102.7 FM and will be available as a podcast afterward. Learn more on the Spirit Catholic Radio website, spiritcatholicradio.com/relationships.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: DAY OF GRACE PROGRAM—CHRIST THE KING, APRIL 12

Divine Mercy Sunday: Day of Grace Program will be held on Sunday, April 12 from 2 PM to 6 PM at Christ the King Parish (654 S 86th St, Omaha). The day includes guest speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary, and more. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Emeritus George Lucas at 5 PM. All are welcome. Live streaming is available at www.cktomaha.org/divinemercy. For more information, call 402-498-9871 or email jmkukula@gmail.com.



Divine Mercy Sunday
Day of Grace Program
April 12, 2026
Christ the King Church
654 S. 86th St, Omaha, NE
2:00 - 6:00 PM CDT
Live Streaming at www.cktomaha.org/divinemercy

HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON—NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS, LINCOLN, APRIL 16-18



Led by renowned speakers and authors Dr. Bob Schuchts, Sr. Miriam James Heidland SOLT, and Bart Schuchts, this 3-day retreat will help you see and experience God’s healing love through teaching, prayer, personal reflection, adoration, worship, and the sacraments. Come experience the depth of the

Father’s love for you on Thursday, April 16 through Saturday, April 18 at North American Martyrs (1101 Isaac Dr, Lincoln). Find out more and register today at <https://jpiihealingcenter.org/event/healing-the-whole-person-weekend-2026-lincoln-ne>. There is also an option to register for the Day of Equipping companion event during the day on Friday, April 17 at the same location. Livestreaming is also an option.

NEWMAN NIGHT—JPII NEWMAN CENTER, APRIL 22

On April 22, the St. John Paul II Newman Center (1221 S 71st St, Omaha) will host its semesterly Newman Night. High school students are invited to hang out at the Newman Center, hear from college students, join in Eucharistic Adoration with over 100 other high schoolers and get a sneak peek into college life. Check-in is from 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM, and the event goes until 9:00 PM. Check with your youth group leader to register, or get in touch with meg.gatete@jpiiomaha.org for more information.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS!
PLEASE JOIN US FOR NEWMAN NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, 6:30-9 PM
22 | APRIL | 2026
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INTO THE DEEP
LUKE 5:4-11

“The past is no longer yours; the future is not yet in your power. You have only the present wherein to do good.” —St. Alphonsus Liguori

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