

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET

GRETNA, NE 68028



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you." - Jn 4:24-26

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

MARCH 8, 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

3rd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING (EX 17:3-7)

God answers Moses' prayer of petition to give the Israelites water to drink before they die of thirst in the desert. What would you like to ask from the Lord in the upcoming week?

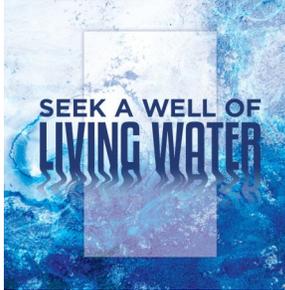
SECOND READING (ROM 5:1-2, 5-8)

Paul tells the Romans to have hope because the Holy Spirit pours the love of God into our hearts. What are you hoping for this Lent?

GOSPEL (JN 4:5-42 OR 4:5-15, 19B-26, 39A, 40-42)

The Samaritan woman eventually comes to believe in Jesus as the Messiah and savior of the world. What convinces you that Jesus is your Lord and Savior?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



Recently I received a note from a teenager I met years ago. He wrote, "Dear Father Muir, you probably do not remember me, but I wanted to thank you for your inspiring and humorous homilies at the parish. They helped me appreciate the beauty of Catholicism, which I have now embraced in a personal way." That small note moved me more than he probably imagined. I had no idea my words had taken root in him. I was simply sowing seeds—week by week, Mass by Mass. Someone else—his parents, a youth minister, or God Himself—was doing the deeper work. Now this young man is joyfully reaping a harvest of faith.

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers living water to a Samaritan woman whose life had been full of searching and disappointment. By the end of their encounter, she becomes a bold and joyful evangelist. Then Jesus turns to His disciples and says something easily overlooked: "One sows and another reaps" (John 4:37). He is helping them—and us—understand how evangelization works. Often, the one who sows the seeds of faith is not the one who sees the fruit.

This Lent, ask yourself: Are you in a sowing phase or a reaping phase? If you are sowing—raising children, praying for someone, mentoring—be patient. Your work matters. If you are reaping—seeing someone come alive in faith—be grateful. You are standing on sacred ground, tilled and watered by others.

Lenten challenge: Thank someone who once sowed faith into your life. And keep sowing, even when the harvest is unseen.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

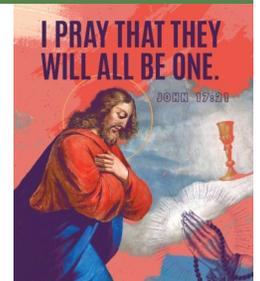
If we are all meant to be united in Christ, why is there so much division in the Church?

ANSWER:

Each Sunday, we profess that we believe in "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church." The Church is indeed one because her source is the Trinity, and she is founded by Christ. The Church also exists in the fallen world and is made up of fallen people. Sometimes, there are tensions over what we believe as Catholics. Who is Jesus really? Are we affected by original sin? How do our traditional sexual ethics play out amidst medical and technological developments? Doctrinal disagreements are rarely just about ideas... they occur within a context.

Tensions are influenced by various social and political factors of the time period. For example, Martin Luther's attempts at reform gained followers, in part, as a reaction against poor moral practices within the Catholic Church. When the schism between the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Catholic Church occurred in 1028, tensions between the two culturally different regions had been brewing for centuries.

Division still occurs within the bounds of the Church today. Oftentimes, this is about pastoral or practical matters. These questions can vary. Should we incorporate Latin back into the liturgy? What is the best way to reach the youth in our parish? These may not be articles of faith, but people have strong opinions about what ought to be done. We can remember the prayer of Christ—"that all might be one"—and do what we can to grow in understanding and respectful dialogue.



SAINT JOHN OF GOD

Religious



St. John of God (1495-1550) was born in Portugal to poor and devout Christian parents. How he came to be separated from them and homeless at the age of 8 is uncertain, but he eventually found work as a shepherd until the age of 22. At that time he enlisted as a soldier in the Roman Emperor's army to escape an offer of marriage to the shepherd's daughter. There he led a wild and dissolute life; fond memories of his parents is all that kept the spark of faith alive in his heart. At the age of 40 he left the army and reformed himself, beginning with a penitential pilgrimage to St. James of Compostella (The Way of St. James) in Spain. Appalled at his sinful and wasted life, he was determined to spend his remaining days in good works. He was affirmed in this direction by a vision of the Infant Jesus and a sermon of St. John of Avila, who was to become his spiritual director. He later dedicated his life in service to the poor, homeless, and sick, especially the mentally ill, by starting a hospital and homeless shelter. Many people were attracted to him and his work, and he organized his followers into the Order of Hospitallers. They were approved by the Holy See as the Brothers Hospitallers of St. John of God, which still exists to this day. St. John of God is the patron saint of many causes, especially of hospitals, hospital workers, nurses, the sick, and the dying. His feast day is March 8.

SAINT FRANCES OF ROME

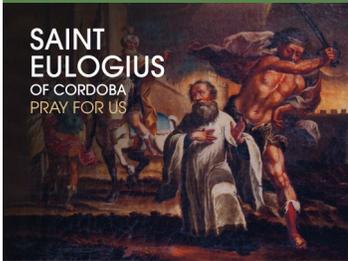
Religious

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



SAINT EULOGIUS OF CORDOBA

Priest and Martyr



St. Eulogius of Cordoba (9th c.) was a priest from a prominent Christian family in Cordoba (Cordova), Spain. He was well-educated, humble, gentle, friendly, and a gifted leader with the charism of encouragement, especially towards Christians facing martyrdom. In his time Cordoba was the capital of the Muslim conquerors of Catholic Spain. The Muslim leaders allowed Christians to live in relative peace until a persecution arose when some of the Muslim population began converting to Christianity. They imprisoned the clergy, including Eulogius. While in prison Eulogius read the Bible to his companions and exhorted them to faithfulness in the face of martyrdom. He also wrote to two other young female converts who were facing threats, instructing them that no matter how terribly they were physically abused, it could not harm their souls, and that they must fight for their faith till death and leave God to defend His Church. St. Eulogius was released and later jailed again for hiding a young female convert who fled from her family in fear of her life. St. Eulogius' judge offered him escape if he would weaken the practice of his religion, but instead he preached the Gospel to the presiding court. He was immediately beheaded. St. Eulogius' feast day is March 11.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
TUESDAY: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
WEDNESDAY: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
THURSDAY: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
FRIDAY: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
SATURDAY: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
NEXT SUNDAY: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Frances of Rome, Religious
NEXT SUNDAY: 4th Sunday of Lent

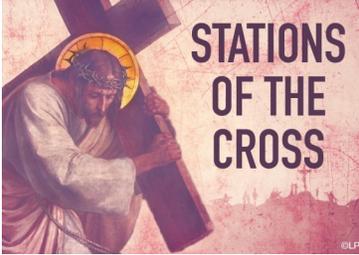




ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

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.



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, increase our family's love for one another. May we honor each other in times of happiness or hardship, bearing with one another in love, just as You love us. In a special way, help us strive for holiness in our current states of life. Should you call some of us to the priesthood or religious life, help us to respond with courage and joy. Together, we make Heaven our goal, and pledge, with your grace, to help each other on life's journey to you. Through the intercession of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Amen. Could God be inviting you to share His living water with others? Talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.



Baptisms

Since our last update on February 22, four children have been baptized into the Body of Christ. We congratulate the parents and family members, and we welcome your little ones into the Family of Faith! We are praying our Lord Jesus will bless, guide and inspire each of you in His love as you travel along your faith journey. Congratulations!



Name.....Date

- Drew Monroe Drelcharz.....2/28/2026
- Josie Mae Arendt.....3/1/2026
- Aila Mavonne Oltmanns.....3/1/2026
- Elowyn Helen Oltmanns.....3/1/2026

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

- Geraldine "Gerri" Donohue.....3/1/2026.....Calvary Catholic Cemetery

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION
Second Collection Next Weekend

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION



Next weekend we will have a second collection for the Catholic Relief Services Collection. The Catholic Relief Services Collection funds six agencies working to reveal Christ's love to those in need overseas and here in the United States. The collection shares its name with the flagship international relief and development agency of the Catholic bishops of the United States, but it also supports other initiatives: the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Migration and Refugee Services department for resettlement; the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), which helps immigrants with work permits, residency, family reunifications, and citizenship; the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace for advocacy of human rights and education on Catholic social teaching; and the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, whose ministries address the unique pastoral needs of Catholics from a range of cultures as well as itinerant peoples. Finally, this collection supports the Holy Father's Relief Fund, through which the Holy Father aids people in distress worldwide. Reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in faith and support this collection. For more information about the Catholic Relief Services, visit <https://www.usccb.org/national-collection/catholic-relief-services-collection>.

"Many of the people who look forward to a long life put off doing good works, since they think that they will have plenty of time before they die. As for me, I prefer to be among those who consider that they have no time to lose if they wish to give God all the glory that they can before they die." —St. Margaret of Hungary

LENTEN FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

Dine-in and Drive Thru Options Available

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.



LENTEN CONFESSION TIMES

St. Patrick and St. Charles

Between St. Patrick and St. Charles Borromeo we have several Confession opportunities from now until Holy Week. 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
March 15	16	17 SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB 5:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i>	18 SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB 5:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i>	19 SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB 5:30-6:30 p.m.	20 SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB After 6pm Stations <i>ending when no one in line</i>	21 SP 4:00-4:40 p.m.
22 SCB After 9am Mass <i>ending when no one in line</i> SCB After 11am Mass <i>ending when no one in line</i>	23 SP 3:00-4:00 p.m. SCB 5:30-6:30 p.m. SP 6:30-7:30 p.m.	24 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.	25 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.	26 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.	27 SCB 12:30 p.m. <i>ending when no one in line</i> SP 3:00-4:00 p.m. SCB After 6pm Stations <i>ending when no one in line</i>	28 SP 4:00-4:40 p.m.
29 PALM SUNDAY	30 SP 3:00-4:00 p.m. SCB 5:30-6:30 p.m. SP 6:30-7:30 p.m.	31 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.	April 1 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.	2 HOLY THURSDAY SCB 12:00-1:00 p.m.	3 GOOD FRIDAY	4 HOLY SATURDAY

"Growing in love requires self-denial, self-forgetfulness, self-giving. And in this fallen world, self-giving is often painful (in Heaven it won't be). It involves taking up the cross, just as Jesus took up His own cross in order to show the extent of His love for the Father and for us. The cross symbolizes the painful self-sacrifice that growing in love requires in this fallen world. If we truly desire to grow in loving God, to learn to love Him with all our all, we will have to carry crosses."

—Fr. John Bartunek, 60 Days To Becoming A Missionary Disciple

Stewardship Report

Feb 25- Mar 3, 2026

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

General Contributions	Feb 25-Mar 3, 2026	Fiscal YTD thru Mar 3
Sunday Offering	\$28,984.60	\$936,917.49
Other Contributions	\$2,646.94	\$99,511.64
Total General Contributions	<u>\$31,631.54</u>	<u>\$1,036,429.13</u> *
Surplus/Deficit	\$4,131.54	\$73,929.13

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

WHY AM I A KNIGHT?

Simply, it makes me a better Catholic, husband, and father. The Knights of Columbus are centered on four pillars: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. In a



busy secular world that desensitizes us to those virtues, the Knights are a dedicated group of men, humbly focused on rejecting our tendency, as men, to selfishly retract from life. Instead, they provide an avenue for selfless giving of our time and ourselves to better serve our God, our church, our families, and our community. If you desire greater fulfillment as a man of faith, I encourage you to consider knighthood. Feel free to join us at our next monthly meeting—we meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 7 PM in the Parish Center (dinner served immediately following). To become a Knight, contact Larry Sibley or Tim Hall, see below for contact information.

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, MARCH 9TH

7:30 AM † Ron Vencil

TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH

6:00 PM † Kevin Weber

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH

7:30 AM † Dean Schwaninger

THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH

7:30 AM INT Sheila Isaacson

FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH

7:30 AM INT Don Nienaber Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

5:00 PM † Jozef Rzepka

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH

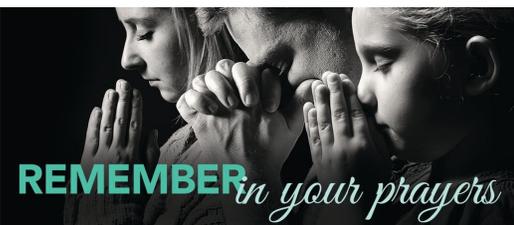
8:00 AM † Jeanette Townsend

10:00 AM For Our Parishioners

12:00 PM Living and Deceased Members of the Hert and Citta Families

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, 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 8TH—3RD 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

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Lenten Meeting—Father Hitch Room

MONDAY, MARCH 9TH

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

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Hooley Cooking and Prep—Kitchen

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Baptism Class—Father Hitch Room

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Revelation Bible Study—Parish Center AB and Kitchen

TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Hooley Cooking and Prep—Kitchen

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

6:30 PM to 8:00 PM Hospitality Team Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH

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

8:00 AM to 8:15 AM Liturgy of the Hours—Behind the Tabernacle

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Hooley Prep and Decoration—Parish Center and Kitchen

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

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley—Parish Center and Kitchen

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM St. Rose of Lima Guild Meeting—Father Hitch Room

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, MARCH 12TH

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

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Private Meeting—Father Hitch Room

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, MARCH 13TH

6:30 AM to 7:30 AM Men's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room

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

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Women's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room

5:00 PM to 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus Fish Fry—Parish Center and Kitchen

6:00 PM to 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross—Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

4:00 PM to 4:40 PM Confession—Confessional

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH—4TH 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

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Lenten Meeting—Father Hitch Room

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

4th Sunday of Lent

MARCH 14TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
Linda Schriener

Lectors
Eric Hittner
(Read the 1st Reading)

Barb Applegate
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Janie Vipond
Bridget Blum
Therese Nisbet
Kevin Riley

Ushers
Chris Lingbloom
Linda Schriener
Paul Staley
Jeff Wollenburg

Rosary Reciter
Carol Zeleny

Altar Servers
Aslyn Ronk
Kenley Ronk
Need Sub

Greeters
Nancy Kirkpatrick
Tim Kirkpatrick

MARCH 15TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
Tony Schultz

Lectors
Carrie Hubert
(Read the 1st Reading)

Sandy Scheef
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Paul Hubert
Mitchell Hubert
Gene Schwarting
Kathy Schwarting

Ushers
Greg Jones
Tony Schultz
Christopher Wilson
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Duane Benes

Altar Servers
Matthew Farwell
Luke Hubert
Paul Joseph Hubert

Greeters
Mary Maw
Sally Stednitz

Hilcrest SR/HL
Gene Schwarting
Kathy Schwarting

MARCH 15TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
Andi Towey

Lectors
Phil Lenz
(Read the 1st Reading)

Judy Weier
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Tom Nienaber
Cleo Nienaber
Nell Votruba
Kari Lenz
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Clint Bollock
Jim Hain
Chris Reinig
John Schaffert

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Vinnie Nelson
Austin Votruba
Need Sub

Greeters
Andrew Urban
Carol Zeleny

MARCH 15TH
NOON

Sacristan
Larry Neppel

Lectors
Kathy Broz
(Read the 1st Reading)

Need Sub
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Steve Otto
Larry Neppel
Leann Otto
Need Sub
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Linda Gardner
Larry Neppel
Need Sub
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Carol Zeleny
Need Sub

Vocations Crucifix
Need Sub



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

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Deacon Larry Heck (*Retired*).....402-689-9676

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DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Amanda Scardina.....402-332-3050
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Laura Rau.....402-332-4444, x216
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EVANGELIZATION COORDINATOR

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

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

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

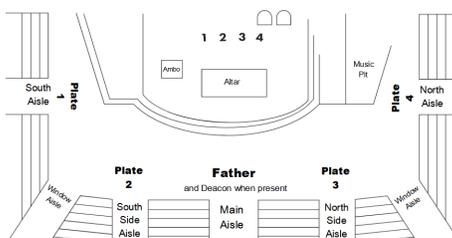
HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

EMHC STATION MAP



EMHC Positions (see diagram above):

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

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

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

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH BREAKFASTS Monthly Breakfast



You are invited to join us in the Parish Center every second Sunday of the month, this month March 8, from 9 AM to 12 PM for a delicious breakfast. It's a perfect way to gather after Sunday Mass and get to know other parishioners here at St. Patrick.

VENI HOLY HOUR Archomaha Young Adults

All young adults in the archdiocese (ages 21-39) are invited to Veni, an evening of



Adoration and fellowship at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St, Omaha) on Friday, March 13. Adoration begins at 7:30 PM in the Cathedral with a brief reflection from a priest and is followed by an after party in the parish center! Veni is held every second Friday of the month at the Cathedral. More information about getting involved in the Archdiocese Young Adult activities can be found at <https://www.archyoungadults.org>.

ST. JOSEPH ADOPTION NOVENA March 10-18

St. Joseph Adoption Novena

March 10-18

Praying For All Who Travel Upon the Path of Adoption



usccb.org/adoption-novena



Leading up to the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19, join the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) in praying the St. Joseph Adoption Novena. Invoking the intercession of

St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, we will pray the Lord blesses all whose life stories include adoption. Each day includes short Scriptural passages and prayers and focuses on a different group of people who are involved in the adoption process. Sign up to receive daily emails or text messages for this St. Joseph Adoption Novena at <https://www.respectlife.org/adoption-novena>.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FAMILY HOOLEY Wednesday, March 11

St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley



Hooley is Irish for party, so join us for a family friendly way to celebrate our Patron Saint.
March 11th
5:00pm-7:00pm
(for some food miss out)
Parish Center



Our St. Patrick's Day Family Hooley (Irish for party) is Wednesday, March 11 from 5 PM to 7 PM in the Parish Center. Join us for a family friendly way to celebrate our parish patron saint. We will have corned beef and cabbage, hot dogs, and dessert for a free will donation. We will have free games with prizes for the kids including: coin toss, putt-putt, lucky duck, pin the pot o'gold, snake race, and get the gold. The Craoi Na Tire Irish Dancers will be our entertainment for the evening after the Irish Person of the Year is awarded. Support for the event is provided by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Sarpy Co. Div.

There are many ways for middle schoolers, high schoolers, and adults to help at the event. Contact the Religious Education office at 402-332-3454 or smfagan@archomaha.org or visit the parish website to volunteer.

CATHOLIC DEVOTIONS EXPLAINED Daily Examen

The daily examen is a spiritual practice derived from the writings of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus. A Basque nobleman, Ignatius underwent a series of religious conversions as a young man following a wound sustained in the Battle of Pamplona in 1521. His Spiritual Exercises were first published in 1548 and form the basis of what is known today as "Ignatian spirituality."

Many different versions of the examen have been developed over the centuries, but all are centered on the same five elements which themselves reflect Ignatius' process of self-review and spiritual discernment.

In completing the daily examen, an individual places himself in the presence of God, prayerfully reflecting on the blessings of the day, the actions he took, and the invitation God has for his future decisions. For more information on the examen and to find different variations of it, visit ignatianspirituality.com.



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)

Your Name _____

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

Amount included: \$ _____

FREEDOM 250 LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE ART CONTEST

Students Celebrate America 250

A nationwide student art contest is inviting children and teens to celebrate America's 250th birthday by creating original artwork inspired by historical figures selected for the proposed National Garden of American Heroes. The "American Heroes Student Art Contest," sponsored by the nonpartisan organization Freedom 250 and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is open to students in grades 3 through 12 in all 50 states and six U.S. territories. Submissions opened February 14 and will close May 1, according to the contest's press release. The contest encourages students to "celebrate America's 250th Birthday by creating original two-dimensional artworks, inspired by their favorite historical American hero," chosen from a list of 250 notable Americans who are to be honored in statues in the garden.



The list spans statesmen, civil rights leaders, athletes, scientists, artists, military figures, and faith leaders. Among them are George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, Sitting Bull, Clara Barton, Kobe Bryant, and Neil Armstrong, according to the contest's published biographies. In addition to selecting a historical figure, students must create their artwork in the style of one of several American art movements from the past 250 years. Contest materials include a slide deck outlining movements such as Colonial Art, Neoclassicism, the Hudson River School, American Impressionism, and American Modernism, among others.

Students must select one hero and create a handmade two-dimensional work—such as a painting, drawing, mixed media piece or film-based photograph—depicting either a portrait, a significant place, key historical event, symbolic object, or cultural practice associated with that figure. Participants must also submit a 200-word artist statement explaining their artistic approach and the historical figure they selected. Organizers say submissions may not exceed 24 inches in height or width and may not use artificial intelligence (AI) tools. A panel of artists and educators will judge the entries based on artistic excellence, creativity, relevance to contest themes, and clarity of the written statement, according to contest materials.

The competition includes three grade-level categories: upper elementary (grades 3–5), middle school (6–8), and high school (9–12). Organizers said 168 first-place winners—one student from each category representing all participating states and territories—will receive travel and lodging allowances to attend an exhibition and award ceremony in Washington, D.C., during the Great American State Fair. Winners will be notified in May.

Joshua Mercer, vice president of advocacy for CatholicVote, said the organization is encouraging Catholic students to take part. "CatholicVote is happy to partner with Freedom 250 to promote this Student Art Contest celebrating American Heroes who helped shape our nation over the last 250 years," Mercer said. "We hope to see many Catholic students participate in this art contest during America's special anniversary year—and get a chance to earn a trip to Washington, DC, and have their artwork included at the Great American State Fair!"

—Article by Zeale

GET EQUIPPED TO GO ON MISSION

Archdiocese Mentorship Program



COME LEARN ABOUT THE 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.

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).



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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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 THRU MARCH 15:

Wednesday: 10 AM to 4 PM
Sunday: 2 PM to 4 PM

STARTING MARCH 16 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



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
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Website.....couragerc.org
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Website.....www.ewtn.com
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Website.....heartsrestorednebraska.org
- HOLY FAMILY SHRINE**
Phone.....402-332-4565
Website.....holyfamilyshrine.com
- LEAST OF MY BRETHREN (SUPPORT HOMELESS)**
Phone.....402-681-5424
Website.....leastofmybrethren.org
- MARRIAGE RESOURCES**
For Your Marriage.....www.foryourmarriage.org
Retrouvaille.....1-800-470-2230
Retrouvaille.....www.helpourmarriage.org
- MASS TIMES NATIONWIDE**
Phone.....1-858-207-6277
Website.....www.masstimes.org
- NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK**
Website.....nebraskahomeschool.org
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- ST. BENEDICT CENTER (RETREATS IN SCHUYLER)**
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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

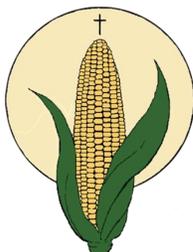
AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

BETHLEHEM HOUSE GALA—UNO SCOTT CONFERENCE CENTER, MARCH 12

Join the Bethlehem House at its 2026 Gala on Thursday, March 12, at the UNO Scott Conference Center (6450 Pine St, Omaha). This event is a celebration of hope, resilience, and the transformative impact of community support. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Registration and details are available at <https://one.bidpal.net/bh gala2026/welcome>.



IXIM CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING—ST. FRANCES CABRINI PARISH CENTER, MARCH 12



In a time of uncertainty and change in immigration, how are we—as people of faith—called to respond? What guidance does Catholic Social Teaching offer us now? Join Ixim, our archdiocesan mission to Guatemala, for a welcoming evening of listening, reflection, and conversation with Dr. Jennifer Reed-Bouley of the College of Saint Mary, as we discern together how to respond with compassion, justice, and hope. The event will be held in the St. Frances Cabrini Parish Center (1248 S 10th St, Omaha) on Thursday, March 12. A social time will begin at 6 PM with the presentation to start at 6:30 PM.

IPF LENTEN MORNING OF REFLECTION—CHRIST THE KING, MARCH 14

IPF will also be offering a Lenten Morning of Reflection on Saturday, March 14. Located at Christ the King parish (654 S 86th St, Omaha), it will begin with Mass at 8:15 AM, followed by a light breakfast and a reflection from Fr. Jim Rafferty entitled, “See How Much He Loved Him.” There will be time for prayer and contemplation, ending at 10:30 AM. There is no fee to attend. Please register at <https://priestlyformation.org/resources/events-news/calendar-of-events/lenten-morning-of-reflection-4.html>.



TRUMPHEM OF THE HEART MOVIE SHOWING—ST. GERALD, RALSTON, MARCH 15

St. Gerald Parish (9602 Q St, Ralston) will hold a special screening and reflection of *Triumph of the Heart*, the inspiring true story of St. Maximilian Kolbe, on Sunday, March 15, at 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. RSVP at stgerald.org/triumphmovie. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person or \$20 per family. Donations accepted at check-in.

LENTEN SING ALONG—ST. CECILIA CATHEDRALST , MARCH 15

Come and sing along to the classic Lenten work, Theodore Dubois’ *The Seven Last Words of Christ*, on Sunday, March 15 at 3 PM at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St, Omaha). After the 45-minute sing-along, participants are invited to gather for fellowship with other participants. To participate, RSVP to merubisbauer@archomaha.org with “DUBOIS SING” in the subject line. Those who RSVP will receive a score and access to past recordings to rehearse on their own. Participants will also be asked to attend one rehearsal.



THEOLOGY DAY—MOUNT MICHAEL BENEDICTINE SCHOOL, MARCH 22



The Saint John’s School of Theology and Seminary presents a Theology Day at Mount Michael Benedictine School on Sunday March 22 from 11 AM to 3 PM. Dr. Michael Rubbelke will explore the monastic understanding of stability in this extremely mobile culture and how the experience of conscious commitment to one’s communities can be a gift for contemporary American Christians. This will be in the in the David Sokol Learning for Life Building (22520 Mount Michael Rd, Elkhorn). Registration is required and can be done at www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday or by calling 320-363-3560. There is no cost for attending Theology Day. There is a 9:30 AM Mass available for those interested followed by a continental breakfast. In-person check-in is 30 minutes prior to the speaker. Lunch will be provided.

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