

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GREYNA, NE 68028



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

“This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.” - Jn 6:57-58

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

JUNE 7, 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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

FIRST READING (DT 8:2-3, 14B-16A)

Moses instructs the Israelites to never forget their 40-year journey in the desert and the Lord's deliverance of them from slavery in Egypt. What has God done in your life that you will never forget?

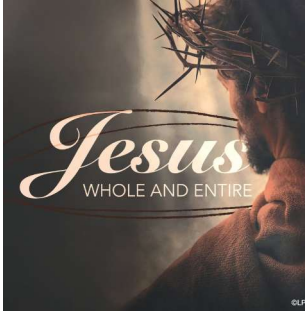
SECOND READING (1 COR 10:16-17)

Paul reminds the Corinthians that the Body and Blood of Christ unite us as one body. Do you see your faith community united by the Eucharist?

GOSPEL (JN 6:51-58)

Jesus teaches the crowds that whoever eats His Body and drinks His Blood will live forever. Who could you invite this week to attend Sunday Mass and receive the Eucharist with you?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



When I was a young altar server, I once overheard two very different comments about the Eucharist. One person asked, "Is Father distributing the bread or the wine?" Later, another asked, "Can you go get Jesus from the tabernacle?" Same parish, same Mass, but two very different ways of speaking. I pondered: So, is it bread that we pretend is Jesus? Or is Jesus a tiny white thing in a box? I was utterly confused.

This Feast of Corpus Christi is an excellent time to think about how we should speak about the Eucharist. In today's Gospel, Jesus declares: "My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink." (John 6:55) His words scandalized His listeners, who feared cannibalism, and even today puzzle many, who reduce them to metaphor. Both miss the truth.

The Church gives us better words that honor Jesus' words in the Gospel. After the consecration, we do not call it "bread" or "wine." Nor do we say, "a piece of Jesus" or even "Jesus." We say: the Eucharist. We say: the Body and Blood of Christ. We say: the Real Presence. We say: the Most Blessed Sacrament. These words safeguard the astonishing reality that Christ Himself is truly present, whole and entire, under the appearances of bread and wine.

If we speak well about the Eucharist, we will think more clearly and believe more deeply. And if we believe more deeply, we will adore more truly the One who gives Himself to us—not bread, not wine, but Jesus Christ Himself, whole and entire.

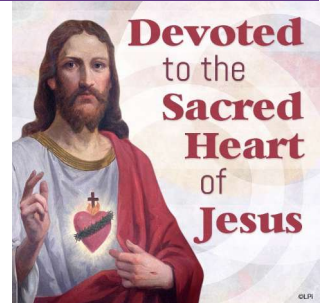
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

Why do we celebrate the Heart of Jesus in the month of June?

ANSWER:

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is an ancient practice. We can see its Scriptural origins in Jesus' own references to His Heart. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest... for I am meek and humble of heart" (c.f. Matthew 11:28, 29).



The devotion received a surge of popularity in the late 1600s. Jesus appeared several times to a French religious sister, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, pointing to His Heart. During this time, the Jansenist heresy had risen in France, which preached limited predestination for salvation. When appearing to Margaret Mary, Jesus affirmed His love for all mankind: "Behold the Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing." He asked for a special feast celebrating His Sacred Heart on the Friday following the feast of Corpus Christi. Over time, June has become known as the month of Sacred Heart.

"Walking by faith, let us do good works. In these let there be a free love of God for His own sake and an active love for our neighbor. For there is nothing we can do for God. But because we have something we can do for our neighbor, we shall by our good offices to the needy gain the favor of Him Who is the source of all abundance. Let us then do what we can for others; let us freely bestow upon the needy out of our abundance."
—St. Augustine, *Augustine Day by Day*, p. 144

BLESSED ANNE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW

Religious

BLESSED ANNE
OF SAINT
BARTHOLOMEW
PRAY FOR US



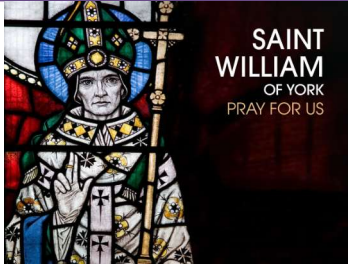
Bl. Anne of St. Bartholomew (1549–1626) was born in Spain, one of seven children. Her parents died when the plague swept through Spain, leaving her an orphan at the age of ten. She then became a shepherdess tending her brother's sheep. From a young age she had an extraordinary spiritual life, including being graced with many visions. In one of them the Blessed Virgin Mary told her she would become a nun, which was further encouraged by a vision of Jesus. When she tried to enter the monastery she was turned away for being

too young. Years later, when her family tried to arrange her marriage, she finally entered the Carmelite monastery at the age of 21, the same one in which St. Teresa of Avila lived. St. Teresa chose Anne as her personal secretary and assistant, even though she had to teach Anne how to write. For five years St. Anne was the companion of St. Teresa of Avila, traveling with her and assisting her in the establishment of new foundations. It was in Anne's arms that St. Teresa died in 1582. After Teresa's death, Anne assisted in the foundation of several other monasteries in France, becoming prioress at three of them. She went on to found a monastery in the Netherlands where she remained until her death. After her death over 150 approved miracles (and more that have not been officially approved) were attributed to her intercession. Her feast day is June 7.

SAINT WILLIAM OF YORK

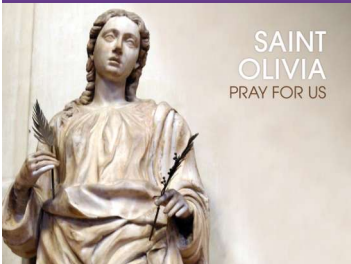
Bishop

St. William of York (d. 1154) was born to a powerful family in England, the nephew of the king. He became a priest and then treasurer of York Minster Cathedral at the time when the English crown was contested by two grandchildren of William the Conqueror. When the Archbishop of York died, William was chosen to take his place. Kind-hearted and generous to the poor, he was well-liked by the people; however, he faced political and ecclesiastical opposition from the rival to the English throne. Because he was consecrated without papal approval, William was accused of wrongdoing by those who wanted their preferred prelate in the position; even St. Bernard of Clairvaux opposed him. Although he eventually confirmed William's appointment, the Pope died before the pallium was given, and the new pope took the side of William's detractors. A new archbishop was ordained in his place while William went to live as a monk with his uncle, a bishop, in quiet prayer and penance. The people of York, upset that their favorite had been deposed, took to rioting. Six years later the Archbishop of York died, and another new pope made William the successor. The people were overjoyed at his return—so many came to greet him as he entered the city that a bridge collapsed under their weight; the fact that no one was hurt was considered a miracle. A few months later, after celebrating Mass on Trinity Sunday, William became ill and died. Poisoning was suspected but never confirmed. Miracles took place at his tomb which gave rise to his canonization in 1227. His feast day is June 8.



SAINT ELMO

Virgin Martyr



St. Olivia (448 – 463 A.D.) was the beautiful daughter of a noble family living near Palermo on the island of Sicily. She desired to serve God through her life as a consecrated virgin, and gave her wealth to the poor. When the King of the Vandals invaded Italy and came to Palermo, many Christians were martyred at his hands. The young Olivia would visit and encourage the Christians in prison. Her piety, which was greatly admired, caused the local authorities to send her to Tunis to face the governor. There she converted many

to the Christian faith, and as punishment she was banished into the wilderness to starve to death or be devoured by wild beasts. She was later found alive by hunters, and upon being brought back to civilization she continued to convert many pagans with her zeal. She was again sent to the governor for punishment and was cruelly tortured. After being dipped in a vat of hot oil and miraculously suffering no harm, she was finally beheaded. In Tunisia there was an ancient Christian basilica dedicated in her honor and built on the site of her tomb; today a mosque rests on the site, yet it retains her name and the memory of her relics. St. Olivia is a virgin martyr venerated especially in Sicily and Tunisia. Her feast day is June 10.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: 1 Kgs 17:1-6/ Ps 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 5:1-12

TUESDAY: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/ Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 5:13-16

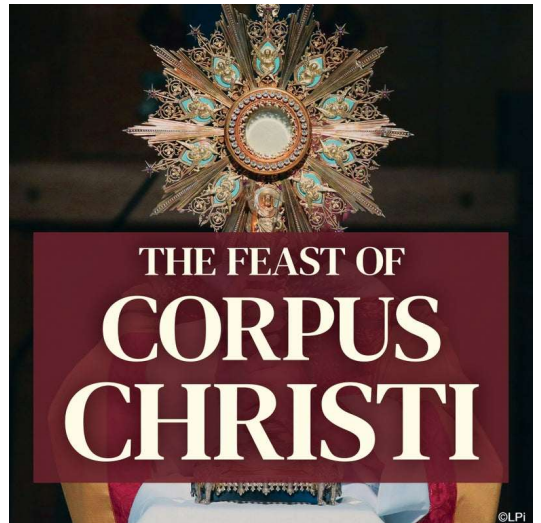
WEDNESDAY: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/ Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8, 11/Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 (580)/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13/Mt 5:20-26

FRIDAY: Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30

SATURDAY: 1 Kgs 19:19-21/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10/Mt 5:33-37

NEXT SUNDAY: Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/Rom 5:6-11/Mt 9:36-10:8



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

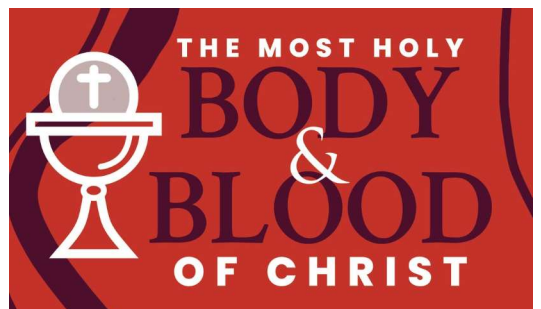
TUESDAY: St. Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church

THURSDAY: St. Barnabas, Apostle

FRIDAY: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

SATURDAY: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary; St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church

NEXT SUNDAY: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Flag Day





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

ROAD CONSTRUCTION ON ANGUS
June 8-10



The City of Gretna will be working on road construction on Angus Street tentatively from Monday, June 8 thru Wednesday, June 10. They will be redoing the road from Pontiac Drive to McKenna Avenue. You will still be able to get to St. Patrick, but you will have to go through the neighborhood and come into the parking lot on Cherokee Drive. We apologize for any inconvenience.

YOU ARE BETTER THAN PORN.
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VOCATION PRAYER CORNER

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

This week let us pray for **Gretchen Kleinschmit** (School Sisters of Christ the King) from Holy Family Parish in Cedar County.



“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.” (John 6:56) Priests spend their lives praying for us, celebrating the sacraments, and guiding us closer to Christ. On World Priest Day, take time to pray for them, asking God to bless their ministry and grow their holiness as they continue to serve the Church with love and dedication. Consider offering your prayers, sacrifices, or acts of service in gratitude for priests today. Discerning a call to the priesthood or religious life? Talk to your priest or reach out to Father Scott Schilmoeller at 402-558-3100 or email vocations@archomaha.org.

“PRAY ALWAYS AND DO NOT LOSE HEART.”



ST. PATRICK IS SEEKING A PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Be a Part of the Parish Staff



PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

After three years of serving as our Preschool Director, Amanda Scardina is leaving St. Patrick for a new career opportunity that allows her to spend more time with their new baby boy. We wish you the very best, Amanda, thank you! As Amanda opens an exciting new chapter in starting their own family, this presents an opportunity for our parish to hire a new Preschool Director.

St. Patrick Preschool is a mission outreach of St. Patrick Catholic Church to the children and families of the parish and the surrounding community of Gretna. The mission of St. Patrick Preschool is to equip and engage children and families to join God in His mission to bring all people into an authentic relationship with Jesus Christ by providing a developmentally appropriate Christ-centered program. The Preschool Director is a full-time, 12-month salaried position with benefits, serving ages 3 to 5-years-old, that requires on site presence and availability during the hours 7 AM to 3:30 PM (M-F) as well as some evening meetings and weekend events. The Preschool Director is supervised by the Parish Manager and directly accountable to the Pastor. The Director will have at least a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, or a related field with all required certifications, a successful experience as a preschool classroom teacher and/or as a preschool director, and will live a Catholic life that gives witness to the Lord Jesus Christ, be a servant leader, and support the vision and ministries of St. Patrick Catholic Church.

For a detailed job description, visit our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. To apply, send your cover letter explaining your desire and interest in the Preschool Director job opportunity, along with your resume and salary expectations to Jolene Jefferies, Parish Manager, jmjefferies@archomaha.org, by June 19. For questions, call Jolene at 402-332-4444, ext. 203.

PAY AND BENEFITS

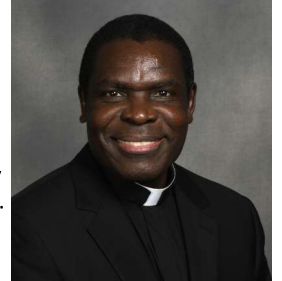
St. Patrick offers competitive pay and an excellent benefits package to full-time employees including health, dental, vision, life, accidental death, and dismemberment, long term disability, and a tax deferred 403(b) retirement plan. For health and dental coverage, St. Patrick pays 95% of the premium for the employee. Family coverage is available, but the employee pays 100% of the premium for additional dependents. We offer 10 days of vacation up to 5 years of service, and more beyond 5 years of service. We also observe 8 paid holidays including some additional paid time off for Holy Days of Obligation.

FAREWELL OPEN-HOUSE FOR FR. VINCE SUNGUTI

Meet and Greet for Fr. Matthew Pohlman

FAREWELL OPEN-HOUSE FOR FR. VINCE SUNGUTI

Join us for a farewell open-house to celebrate Fr. Vince Sunguti and to wish him well as he prepares for his move to St. Gerald's Parish as their new Pastor. St. Patrick and St. Charles Borromeo parishes will host a joint open-house event on Sunday, June 28 from 1 PM to 3 PM in the St. Patrick Parish Center. Come enjoy cake and coffee as we share our gratitude for Fr. Vince's ministry to our two parishes over the last two years. We are sad to see Fr. Vince go, but are excited for him in his new role as Pastor. May the Lord bless your ministry at St. Gerald's.



MEET AND GREET FOR FR. MATTHEW POHLMAN

We will be hosting a meet and greet event to welcome Fr. Matthew Pohlman as our new Associate Pastor on Sunday, July 5 after the 8 AM and 10 AM Masses in the St. Patrick Parish Center. Join us for coffee and donuts and an opportunity to meet Fr. Matthew. We are excited to welcome Fr. Matthew to the St. Patrick Parish staff and look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us with this new transition. We pray for a smooth transition for all parishes experiencing priest changes this summer and for smooth transitions for the priests in their moves as well.

**“The glory of God is man fully alive, and the life of man is the vision of God.”
—St. Irenaeus**

DEVOTION OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Devotion of the Month

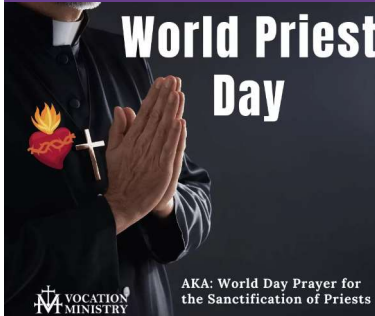
Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most popular Catholic devotions. Although it was beloved in previous centuries, Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673, showing her a vision of the now-famous image of His Sacred Heart, surrounded by flames. He said to her: "My Heart is so full of love for men that it can no longer contain the flames of Its burning love. I must discover to men the treasures of My Heart and save them from perdition." She was given the special mission to spread devotion to His Sacred Heart throughout the Church. Jesus gave St. Margaret Mary many promises associated with this devotion, and requested that a feast day in honor of His Sacred Heart be instituted on the Friday after the Octave of Corpus Christi. In 1856, the Feast of the Sacred Heart was spread to the Universal Church, and in 1899 Pope Leo XIII solemnly consecrated all mankind to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, calling it "the great act" of his pontificate.



Sacred Heart of Jesus, dying on the cross, save me. Heart of my Redeemer, answer me. Sacred Heart, retreat of afflicted souls, comfort me. Divine Heart of Jesus, inflame my heart with the divine love with which you burn. Oh Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us all. Amen.

WORLD PRIEST DAY—JUNE 12

World day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests



Friday, June 12 is the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and World Priest Day, which is a day set aside to pray for priests. So, we encourage each of you to pray in a special way today for our parish priests: Fr. Greg Baxter, Fr. Vince Sunguti, and our soon to be parish priest, Fr. Matthew Pohlman that they are strengthened and renewed each day as they serve as priests of Jesus Christ. Pray too for the priests who have made an impact on your life—the priest who baptized you, the priest who married you, all the priests who have heard your confessions over the years, every priest you have received Holy

Communion from, the priests who have been good holy fathers to you and the ones who haven't been. Priests are human too and live holy lives by the grace of God—they need those prayers of strength and grace just as much as we do. Every day our priests pray for us and our intentions as they preside over Mass, hear confessions, anoint the sick, or bury our loved ones. Don't forget to tell the priests in your life that you are praying for them. You never know what they are going through, sacrificing out of love for us.

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

Stewardship Report

May 27-Jun 2, 2026

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

General Contributions	May 27-Jun 2, 2026	Fiscal YTD thru Jun 2
Sunday Offering	\$12,190.36	\$1,236,329.89
Other Contributions	\$814.20	\$181,323.43
Total General Contributions	\$13,004.56	\$1,417,653.32 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$14,495.44)	\$97,653.32

* 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



COR MEN'S GROUP



Cor exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and

fraternity. Cor is held in the Fr. Hitch Room every two weeks with the next meeting being on Sunday, June 14 at 7 PM. Come join your brother parishioners for prayer and fraternity! If you have additional questions, please reach out to Matthew Henry at mattnhenry@gmail.com, Andy Pearson at apearson709@gmail.com, Eric Devlin at 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.



MONTHLY MEETING

All Knights are invited to join us for our monthly Knights of Columbus meeting that occurs every first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM in the St. Patrick Parish Center.

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, JUNE 8TH
7:30 AM † Scot Stoner

TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH
6:00 PM The Living and Deceased Members of the Joe Piccolo Family

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH
7:30 AM † Jack Schmit

THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH
7:30 AM † Russell Eggerling

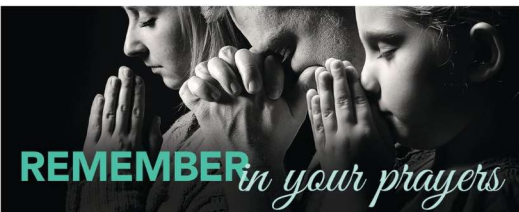
FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH
7:30 AM † Margaret Clayton

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH
5:00 PM † John Sedlacek

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH
8:00 AM † Charles E. Bishop
10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM INT Maddox Schneider

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 Nate, Todd Jarosz, Celeste Baumert, Sh-Shaw McDonnell, 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, JUNE 7TH—THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary

MONDAY, JUNE 8TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM Preschool Summer Camp: Adventure Camp—Preschool
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Baptism Class—Father Hitch Room

TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH

9:00 AM to 11:30 AM Preschool Summer Camp: Adventure Camp—Preschool
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 9:00 PM Clear Path Meeting—Father Hitch Room

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH

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
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM Preschool Summer Camp: Adventure Camp—Preschool
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Women's Small Group—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM Preschool Summer Camp: Adventure Camp—Preschool

FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH

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, JUNE 14TH—11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

FR. SSONKO FUNDRAISING DINNER—FRIDAY, JULY 10
Support Our Sister Parish in Uganda

We are once again hosting a fundraiser this summer (Friday, July 10) to support Fr. John Baptist Ssonko and our sister parish, St. Mary's in Busaabala, Uganda. Thanks to many generous donors over the last couple of years they have been able to build a kitchen for the school and now a four-story dormitory for the students of St. Mary's. Funds from this year's fundraiser will help to furnish the classrooms and dormitory, increase security around the school, and provide transportation assistance for the students.



This year's menu for the fundraising dinner includes a whole hog! Also new this year, we will have a few live and silent auction items you won't want to miss.

Unfortunately, this year Fr. Ssonko will not be able to join us due to travel restrictions. This also means he will be unable to raise funds from surrounding parishes like he usually does while in Nebraska.

Our fundraising goal this year is \$200,000. Even if you are unable to attend the dinner and auction, please consider a donation to Invest in Hope: Educate Youth for Brighter Tomorrows. Tickets are now available for purchase on our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. Get a group of your friends together—they don't even have to be parishioners—and register for a table!

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

JUNE 13TH
5:00 PM

Sacristan
 Linda Schriener

Lectors
 Lezlie Thomas
 (Read the 1st Reading)

Lori Wewel
 (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
 JoAnn Koch
 Janie Vipond
 Bridget Blum
 Kevin Riley
 Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
 Kathy Dauner
 Linda Schriener
 Need Sub
 Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
 Jayne Schram

Altar Servers
 Aslyn Ronk
 Kenley Ronk
 Need Sub

Greeters
 Nancy Kirkpatrick
 Tim Kirkpatrick

JUNE 14TH
8:00 AM

Sacristan
 Carol Zeleny

Lectors
 Carrie Hubert
 (Read the 1st Reading)

Joan Ingram
 (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
 Cari Kaup
 Marilyn Havel
 Laura Fischer
 Sandy Scheef

Ushers
 Kevin Kaup
 Marty Stednitz
 Need Sub
 Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
 Kathy Schwarting

Altar Servers
 Carson Kaup
 Ethan Kaup
 Will Kaup

Greeters
 Sally Stednitz
 Gordon Yager

Hilcrest SR/HL
 Mike Siegel
 Paula Siegel

JUNE 14TH
10:00 AM

Sacristan
 Jim Hottovy

Lectors
 Jolene Jefferies
 (Read the 1st Reading)

David Burke
 (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
 Abby Kenner
 Bob Huber
 Tom Nienaber
 Cleo Nienaber

Ushers
 Russ Eusterwiemann
 Bruce Jefferies
 John Schaffert
 Norm Svoboda

Rosary Reciter
 Tam Hottovy

Altar Servers
 Gavin McGregor
 Need Sub
 Need Sub

Greeters
 Andrew Urban
 Need Sub

JUNE 14TH
12:00 PM

Sacristan
 Larry Neppel

Lectors
 Karen Meyerott
 (Read the 1st Reading)

Eric Hittner
 (Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
 Wendy Neppel
 Larry Neppel
 Need Sub
 Need Sub

Ushers
 Linda Gardner
 Larry Neppel
 Marty White
 Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
 Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
 Need Sub
 Need Sub
 Need Sub

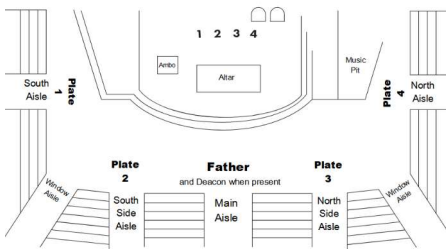
Greeters
 Marty White
 Need Sub

Vocations Crucifix
 John Roll

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.

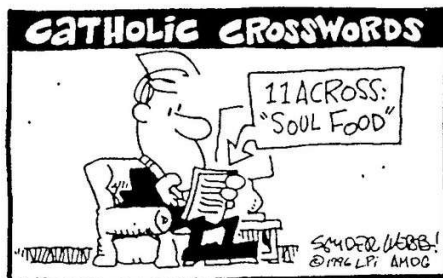
EMHC STATION MAP



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

THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Fr. Gregory P. Baxter.....402-332-4444, x205
 gpbaxter@archomaha.org
 Residence.....402-332-4428
 Emergencies (if facing danger or death), call:
 402-332-4428 or 531-466-2453

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Vincent A. Sunguti.....402-332-4444, x204
 vasunguti@archomaha.org
 Residence.....531-466-2453

DEACONS

Deacon Ken Broz.....402-676-1025
 Deacon Larry Heck (*Retired*).....402-689-9676

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 jmjefferies@archomaha.org

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DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Amanda Scardina.....402-332-3050
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PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

VENI HOLY HOUR Archomaha Young Adults

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



VENI

Adoration and fellowship at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St, Omaha) on Friday, June 12. 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>.

PARISH BREAKFASTS Special Father's Day Breakfast



You are invited to join us in the Parish Center for a special Father's Day breakfast on Sunday, June 21 from 9 AM to 12 PM for a delicious breakfast. It's a perfect way to gather after Sunday Mass, get to know other parishioners here at St. Patrick, and to celebrate all of the fathers—both physical and spiritual—of our parish. We are in need of volunteers to help serve during this breakfast. If you would like to help serve, please see the sign-up on our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org.

LEAST OF MY BRETHREN Donations Needed

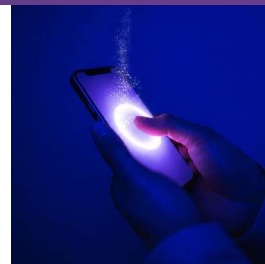


We are in need of gently-used, (small scale) furniture, kitchenware, linens, flat-screen tv's, and more. Donation

drop-offs are Wednesdays from 6 PM to 7:30 PM at 17711 Storage Rd, Gretna. Pickups are also available upon request. Follow us on our Facebook Page, @leastofmybrethren, or join our Facebook Group at www.facebook.com/groups/LeastOfMyBrethren to learn more and to stay up to date. You can also call Dave Harvey at 402-681-5424.

POPE LEO XIV'S FIRST ENCYCLICAL Why is He Writing About Artificial Intelligence?

When Pope Leo XIV announced that his first encyclical would focus on artificial intelligence, many people were surprised. At first glance, AI can seem like a topic better suited for Silicon Valley than the Vatican. Yet the more one reflects on it, the more obvious it becomes why the Church is paying close attention.



Artificial intelligence is no longer some distant or futuristic concept. It is already shaping the way we communicate, work, learn, search for information, and even think. Many people now interact with AI every day without fully realizing it. And while the technology itself is advancing rapidly, Pope Leo's new encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* (Magnificent Humanity), asks a deeper question beneath all the excitement: What does it mean to remain truly human in a technological age?

That question runs through the entire document. The pope does not approach technology with fear or rejection. In fact, the encyclical acknowledges the remarkable achievements of science and technological development. The Church has always valued human creativity and innovation. But Pope Leo also warns that technology cannot become detached from moral truth or from an authentic understanding of the human person.

One of the most powerful sections of the encyclical addresses transhumanism and the growing idea that humanity itself should be "enhanced" or eventually surpassed through technology. The pope notes that some modern visions of progress no longer see human limitations as part of our humanity, but merely as flaws to eliminate.

Line 118 of the encyclical states: "Our relationship with life seems to be in crisis today. Everything that appears as a 'limit'—incapacity, illness, old age, suffering, vulnerability—tends to be seen primarily as a defect to be corrected, rather than as a reality through which our humanity matures and opens itself to relationship... Humanity flourishes not despite limitations, but often through them," Pope Leo XIV writes.

Modern technology constantly promises optimization, efficiency, enhancement, and speed, yet the encyclical repeatedly returns to the distinction between information and wisdom. Artificial intelligence can gather enormous amounts of information. It can synthesize data faster than any human being. But it cannot love. It cannot pray. It cannot suffer. It cannot enter into relationship. And because of that, it cannot fully understand the meaning of human life.

Pope Leo writes that a society obsessed only with optimization risks losing sight of the dignity of the vulnerable, the elderly, the weak, and even the unborn. If humanity begins to see itself merely as something to improve or redesign, then some lives inevitably begin to appear less valuable than others. We are not machines to be perfected. We are souls created in the image and likeness of God.

Perhaps the most hopeful part of the encyclical is that it does not present the answer as technological retreat or panic. Instead, Pope Leo XIV calls for a deeper Christian humanism rooted in relationship, truth, moral responsibility, and openness to God's grace. He reminds readers that the true "more than human" is not found in merging with machines, but in becoming more fully alive through communion with God.

Artificial intelligence is forcing humanity to ask questions that are not merely technological, but spiritual. Questions about consciousness, dignity, freedom, truth, work, suffering, and what it means to be human. And those are precisely the kinds of questions the Church has always been called to address.

Magnifica Humanitas arrived the day after the Church celebrated the feast of Pentecost. At a moment when the world is increasingly fascinated by artificial intelligence, Pope Leo's first encyclical reminds us of something far more important: humanity does not need a new machine spirit. It needs the Holy Spirit.

Artificial intelligence may continue to advance rapidly, but no technology can replace grace, conscience, love, sacrifice, prayer, or the transforming work of the Holy Spirit within the human soul. Perhaps that is why Pentecost feels like such a fitting backdrop for this encyclical. The answer to the confusion of every age has never been found merely in greater power or greater efficiency, but in openness to the Spirit of God, who renews hearts and leads us into truth.

—Article by The Catholic Company

DIOCESE OFFICIALLY OPENS CAUSE OF CANONIZATION

Potential First Gen-Z Saint?

The Catholic Church is seeing an increasing number of young people being considered for canonization—individuals who only lived a short time on this earth but scaled the heights of holiness quickly. Such was the case of Pedro Ballester, a university student from England who died in 2018 at the age of 21. While many of his peers were busy enjoying the college life, Pedro remained faithful to God and his Catholic faith.



The Diocese of Salford announced on May 13 that they have officially opened the cause for canonization of Pedro and that they are collecting testimonies from people who knew him: “Bishop John is now inviting members of the faithful to assist the process by submitting any information that may help to build a full picture of Pedro’s life, virtues, and reputation for holiness. This includes personal testimonies, memories, and any writings attributed to him, such as letters or diaries.” Once this stage is completed, all the documents will be submitted to Rome for further evaluation.

WHO WAS PEDRO BALLESTER?

Born in Manchester, England, on May 22, 1996, Pedro grew up in a family deeply devoted to God. His parents are married members of Opus Dei, an organization founded by St. Josemaria Escriva that promotes holiness of life in the laity.

His father explained to *Aleteia* that Pedro had a keen interest in the Catholic faith since he was a boy: “He [received] his First Confession (we celebrated it by going to McDonald’s) and First Holy Communion with a lot of joy. He was an altar boy and happy to be one. He prayed the normal Morning Offering, Angelus, [and] three Hail Marys at night. He progressed in the faith and took it seriously according to his age.”

This faith stayed with Pedro as he grew up and eventually joined Opus Dei as a numerary member in 2013. What this means is that Pedro “committed himself to a lifelong vocation to celibacy in the midst of the world.”

After high school Pedro attended Imperial College London, where he began studying Chemical Engineering. Shortly after beginning studies in 2014, Pedro felt intense pain and was diagnosed with advanced cancer of the pelvis. Yet, despite the pain he was in and the reality of constantly being in the hospital, Pedro went out of his way to maintain relationships and to be a beacon of joy in the hospital.

Jack Valero, Director of the Opus Dei Information Office in the United Kingdom, explained to *Aleteia* the efforts Pedro made in order to remain connected to his friends: “He was very faithful in his friendships with the people around him. He kept up friendships even when he moved from place to place. He had a deep interest in the people he was dealing with. For example, in the hospital he saw [there was] a football match on TV. He was not particularly interested in watching it, but went [in] his wheelchair to the other side of the hospital to watch the match with one of his friends, also being treated with cancer. That deep interest in the person made them feel important and valued in their lives. When he was ill he wanted to see as many people as possible so as to bring them closer to God.”

Furthermore, Valero related another story about Pedro that showcased the joy he had in the midst of suffering: “He was a very happy person even when he was in a lot of pain. People wanted to be in his room with him because he was so happy. Another cancer patient of his age (who died soon after Pedro) who had not been brought up with any faith would often go to Pedro’s room, even when Pedro was unconscious, because “Pedro gives me a lot of peace.” When Pedro died this young man asked to be baptized Catholic because of Pedro’s happiness in suffering.”

Pedro could eventually become the first Gen-Z saint in the Catholic Church.

—Article by Aleteia

“In our self-centered culture and classic American emphasis on work, we often feel we have to accomplish something during our times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We rate our experience by how ‘good’ our prayer was, how heartfelt our devotion was, or how focused we could remain. Yet prayer and contemplation are fundamentally God’s work, in which we are invited to participate. We need only to give Him the opening, and He will do the rest. By coming to adoration, we are handing Him the keys to our hearts, allowing the rays of His love and grace to bathe our souls in the light of His Presence, as the rays of the sun bathe our bodies in light. If we can take the time to pull away from the busyness and distractions of life and just sit at His feet, He will lead us.”
—Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, *Manual for Eucharistic Adoration*, p. 331



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gretna, Nebraska

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

LAY LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Jonathan Wotipka.....402-332-4444, x212
 jjwotipka@archomaha.org

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Ann Ball.....402-619-1248
 annball1018@gmail.com

LEAST OF MY BRETHREN

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 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.

MEDJUGORJE, FR. JOZO RETREAT

October 8-20

It starts with a stirring...an ache...a longing to withdraw from the everyday routine and grow closer to Our Lord. Our Blessed Mother invites you to visit



one of the most spiritual and peaceful places on the planet, a place of spiritual growth and conversion where she still appears today. The visionaries tell us that no one goes to Medjugorje by accident. You are invited to participate in a life-changing pilgrimage from October 8-20 to Medjugorje, Shrines of Croatia, and Fr. Jozo Retreat (he was the pastor of St. James in Medjugorje when Our Blessed Mother began to appear to the six children in 1981). Our Spiritual Director is Fr. Damien Wee, Pastor of Trinity Catholic Parishes in the Archdiocese of Omaha. Our registered group leader is Jolene Jefferies, Parish Manager of St. Patrick in Gretna. To learn more about the trip itinerary, cost, and related details, see the flyer at <https://blessedarthoutours.com/pilgrimages>. Please be sure to attend our upcoming Medjugorje Pilgrimage Info Meeting on Sunday, June 14 at 4 PM at St. Francis Borgia (2005 Davis Dr, Blair) in the Parish Center. Fr. Wee will attend both of these meetings. Each meeting will last about 90 minutes. How will you respond to our Blessed Mother’s loving invitation? For questions, please contact Jolene Jefferies at 402-521-0717 or jolenejefferies@gmail.com.



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.boysstown.org
- CATHOLIC ANSWERS**
Phone.....1-888-318-7884
Website.....www.catholic.com
- CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**
Phone.....402-554-0520
Website.....ccomaha.org
- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com
- COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION)**
Phone.....402-557-5692
Website.....couragerc.org
- EWTN (GLOBAL CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK)**
Phone.....1-800-447-3986
Website.....www.ewtn.com
- HEARTS RESTORED (HEALING AFTER ABORTION)**
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Website.....heartstorestordnebraska.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
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Website.....christthekingpriory.com/sbcabout
- ST. JOHN PAUL II NEWMAN CENTER**
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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

PARISH MISSION WITH FR. DANIEL KLIMEK—CHRIST THE KING, JUNE 19-21



PRESENTATION NIGHTLY AT 7:00PM FOLLOWED BY ADORATION
"Falling in Love with Jesus"
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
604 S 86th St, Omaha, NE 68114

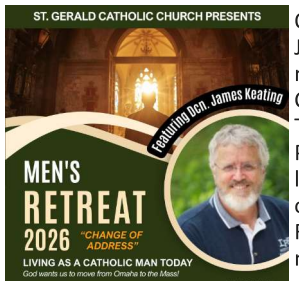
Christ the King Parish invites you to a most insightful Parish Mission on Falling in Love with Jesus at Christ The King Catholic Church (654 S 86th St, Omaha) on the evenings of Friday, June 19 through Sunday, June 21 at 7 PM shared by Fr. Daniel Klimek of the Marian Fathers from Stockbridge, MA. Each evening will end with Eucharistic Adoration after the presentation. Each evening will also be live-streamed; there will be a link at the bottom of the home page of <https://www.ctkomaha.org>. Please call with any questions at 402-498-9871. Fr. Daniel Klimek is the assistant director of evangelization at The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA, for the Marians of the Immaculate Conception. He is a Marian theologian, author, podcaster, and lecturer.

CLOISTERS MARRIAGE RETREAT—THE CLOISTER ON THE PLATTE, JUNE 19-21

The Cloisters on the Platte invites you and your spouse to attend the third annual Cloisters Marriage Retreat with guest speaker Dr. Mario Sacasa. *Living the Gift of Marriage* blends the beauty of the Church’s vision of marriage together with the best marriage advice from science. This weekend fosters marital growth unlike any other retreat. Combining lessons learned from years of counseling experience with storytelling and practical exercises, Dr. Mario Sacasa guides couples through a dynamic weekend that will bless those in attendance. If you are ready to see how God is working in your marriage, then please join us! Your \$1500 registration includes lodging for two, meals, and all activities. Join us June 19-21, for a weekend of inspiring talks, wonderful meals, live music, confession, and Mass, including a beautiful renewal of your wedding vows. Check-in is Friday afternoon from 1 PM to 4PM, with departure early Sunday afternoon. Please note, this is not a silent retreat. Space is limited, so we encourage you to register soon at <https://cloistersontheplatte.com/marriage-retreat>.



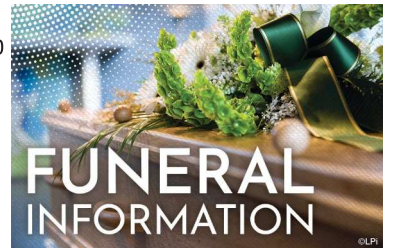
MEN’S RETREAT WITH DEACON JAMES KEATING—ST. GERALD, JUNE 27



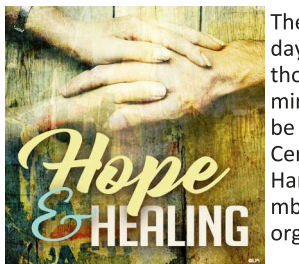
On Saturday, June 27, theologian, author, and speaker Deacon James Keating will lead a men’s retreat focused on what it means to live with greater fidelity, purpose, and courage as Catholic men seeking Christ as the foundation of their lives. The retreat will be held from 9 AM to 3 PM in the St. Gerald Parish Fellowship Hall (9602 Q St, Ralston). Cost is \$25, and a light breakfast and lunch will be served. There will also be an opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Learn more and register at stgerald.org/mensretreat.

PRE-PLANNING AND FUNERAL RITES WORKSHOP—CALVARY CEMETERY, JUNE 27

Catholic Cemeteries is hosting a Pre-Planning and Funeral Rites workshop on Saturday, June 27 at 10:30 AM in the Calvary Cemetery office (7710 W, Center Rd, Omaha). This workshop will demonstrate how faith, liturgy and practical cemetery planning can assist you in the immediacy of the death of a loved one. To register or to receive more information, please contact Deacon Jim Tardy at 402-391-3711 or jtardy@catholiccem.com. Catholic Cemeteries—our faith is at the heart of all that we do.



THE WAY HEALING RETREAT—OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, WAVERLY, JULY 17-19




The Way is a healing retreat for survivors of abuse. This three-day guided meditation and prayer experience is designed for those whose abuse by another has deeply affected their hearts, minds, bodies, and souls. The next retreat is for women and will be held July 17-19 at the Our Lady of Good Counsel Retreat Center in Waverly. For more information, contact Mary Beth Hanus from the Archdiocese of Omaha at (402) 827-3798 or mbhanus@archomaha.org. Learn more at <https://archomaha.org/safe-environment/victim-assistance/#theway>.



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