

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct.” - Mt 16:26-27

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

AUGUST 30, 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 STPATGRETNA to 84576

MASS AND HOLY EUCHARIST

Saturday.....5:00 PM
Sunday.....8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, & Noon
Tuesday.....6:00 PM
Mon, Wed, 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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING (JER 20:7-9)

Jeremiah wrestles with an inner struggle to proclaim the Word of the Lord that comes to him. Who helps you work through distress or anxiety?

SECOND READING (ROM 12:1-2)

Paul challenges believers not to conform to the present age but be transformed by the renewal of their minds. What in our "present age" needs to be avoided?

GOSPEL (MT 16:21-27)

Peter does not want to accept Jesus' destiny as the Messiah who suffers greatly and dies. How do you process difficult news or information?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



Do you know what it is like to be thrilled by the power of Christian faith one moment and then utterly fail in it the next? I do. That is Peter in today's Gospel. After last week's bold confession, he now hears Jesus speak of suffering and death, and something in him recoils. He takes Jesus aside and tries to correct Him. Jesus responds with the shocking rebuke, "Get behind me, Satan."

Peter is the mirror of every disciple. We love Jesus until He contradicts the script we have written for our lives. Peter does not reject Jesus. He rejects a suffering Jesus. So do we, whenever we avoid a hard responsibility, resist a demanding relationship, or cling to comfort instead of choosing love. We want a Lord who supports our plans, not one who overturns them.

Yet Jesus does not discard Peter. He redirects him. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." In effect, Jesus says, stop trying to lead me. Let me lead you. Discipleship does not begin with heroism or clarity but with surrender. It means trusting that God's path to life often passes through places we would never choose.

Peter is all of us. We move from insight to confusion, from confidence to correction. That is why we should have hope. Jesus patiently teaches us again and again. Trust me. Get behind me. Follow me. When we stop fighting the crosses that come and start carrying them with Him, we discover a freedom deeper than comfort and a love stronger than fear.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

Why do priests wear vestments? Do they have a special meaning?

ANSWER:

Vestments are clothes worn for a specific purpose. Priests will joke that they cover a thousand flaws. But our own manner of dress often corresponds to what we do. We dress up for special occasions and for special guests. We wear certain clothes for golf, for outdoor activities, and years ago, we even had our "Sunday best" clothes we wore just for Church. Vestments are much the same, and each one has a meaning. The alb is a reminder of the baptismal garment. The stole is a symbol of ordained ministry and authority within the Church. The chasuble reminds us that we are on a pilgrimage of faith, passing through this life towards Heaven.



Priests wear vestments for two basic reasons. First, they draw attention to the importance and solemnity of the act of worship. The color of the vestments indicates the season of the year or the feast being celebrated. Secondly, vestments draw attention to what the priest does, rather than who he is. In the celebration of the Mass, the focus is on what we do together, on our common unity, and on the mystery and person of Christ.

"All, however, cannot attain to the same degree of sacrifice. There are chosen souls whom God has raised above the ordinary callings of life, who, true to their vocation, show their love for God in heroic self-denial, in total surrender to His will, exulting in the use of all their powers to spread His Kingdom. But regardless of disparity of calling, all can be led by the same spirit. It is the spirit, not the measure, of sacrifice that will decide our eternity." —John A. Kane, *How to Make a Good Confession*, p. 81

SAINT FIACRE

Priest



SAINT
FIACRE
PRAY FOR US

St. Fiacre (d. 670 A.D.) was born in Ireland and was raised from childhood in an Irish monastery. There he grew in knowledge as well as holiness, and became a priest. He retired to a hermitage to live in prayer and solitude, but men began to flock to him to imitate his way of life and become his disciples. To escape them, Fiacre left Ireland to establish a new hermitage in France. He went to the bishop and asked for land to plant a garden to grow food as well as herbs for medicinal healing, a science which he studied in the monastery. The bishop agreed to give Fiacre as much land as he could entrench. Fiacre picked a plot of land and walked around its perimeter, dragging his shovel behind him. Wherever his spade touched the ground, the land was miraculously cleared and the soil became entrenched. St. Fiacre lived a life of great mortification in prayer, fasting, vigils, and manual labor in his garden. Disciples gathered around him again, and soon formed a monastery. St. Fiacre then built an oratory in honor of the Virgin Mary, a hospice in which he received strangers, and a cell for his own dwelling. His fame for performing miracles became widespread, and his garden became a place of pilgrimage for centuries for those seeking healing. St. Fiacre is best known as the patron of gardeners, florists, and cab drivers. His feast day is August 30.

SAINT GILES

Religious

St. Giles (7th c.) was born to a wealthy and noble Greek family. He devoted his life to the things of God and grew in sanctity, but found that his material and spiritual riches drew unwanted praise and attention. To escape prestige, he sold all of his possessions, gave his wealth to the poor, and moved away to Gaul (present day France) to live in solitude in the wilderness as a cave-dwelling hermit. He lived in this way without companionship for many years while practicing severe penances. He became so impoverished that God sent a deer to be his companion and to nourish him with its milk. One day a royal hunting party in pursuit of the deer chased it into the saint's cave. A hunter shot an arrow into the cave, and instead of hitting the deer, he injured the saint. St. Giles was discovered and soon became known throughout the countryside as a holy hermit, the king himself often coming to visit him. St. Giles consented to receive disciples who desired to imitate his way of life. The king built a monastery for these followers, who lived as monks under the Rule of St. Benedict with St. Giles as abbot. St. Giles was known as a miracle worker during his life, and his monastery and the town that grew around it became a shrine and place of pilgrimage, especially for crippled beggars. St. Giles became one of the most popular saints in the Middle Ages, and is the patron of many causes including lepers, hermits, cripples, epileptics, cancer patients, the mentally ill, the disabled, and the poor. St. Giles' feast day is September 1.



SAINT
GILES
PRAY FOR US

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

Pope and Doctor of the Church



POPE
SAINT
GREGORY
THE GREAT
PRAY FOR US

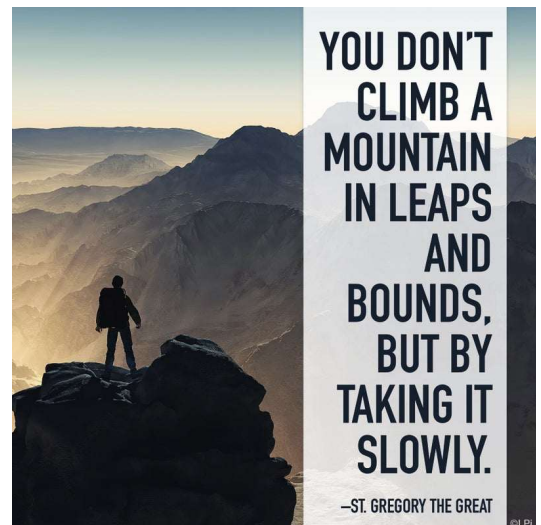
Pope St. Gregory the Great (540-604 A.D.) was the son of a wealthy Roman senator. His mother and two of his aunts are also saints, which provided him with a strong and devout religious upbringing. His skill in grammar and rhetoric were exceptional, and he followed in his father's political footsteps by serving in public office as the prefect of Rome. Discerning a call to the religious life, he sold all of his possessions and converted his home into a Benedictine monastery. He used his liquidated assets to build six other monasteries. Because of his talent and intelligence he was unanimously chosen to become the Roman Pontiff, the first monk to become Pope. During his lifetime Rome was sacked by invading barbarian hordes, and the city also suffered severe damage from floods and pestilence, causing his pontificate to be an important one. He brought stability and order to the Church in a time of great societal and cultural upheaval. His profound influence on the doctrine, organization, and discipline of the Church cannot be underestimated, thus earning him the title "The Great" which he shares with only two other popes. For his abundant doctrinal and spiritual writings he is also considered to be one of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church. He is most commonly known for promoting and standardizing the sacred music of liturgical worship, now called "Gregorian Chant." Pope St. Gregory the Great is the patron of popes, masons, choir boys, singers, teachers, and musicians. His feast day is September 3.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
TUESDAY: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
WEDNESDAY: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
THURSDAY: 1 Cor 3:18-23/ Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
FRIDAY: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
SATURDAY: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
NEXT SUNDAY: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
NEXT SUNDAY: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

PARISH LITURGICAL MUSIC
Play Loudly with All Your Skill



Calling all woodwind, brass, and string players, both high school students and adults with an instrument gathering dust in a storage room: Consider adding the beauty of your instrument to a weekend Mass. The music director will write parts tailored to your ability. In-person rehearsals are scheduled as needed. To express interest or learn more about parish liturgical music, please contact the parish music director Laura Rau at 402-332-4444 or lrau@archomaha.org.



Follow St. Patrick on
Instagram at
@stpatgretnane

VOCATION PRAYER CORNER

Dear God, give us the courage and strength to answer when you call! Give us clarity and trust to hear your soft invitations. Give us the love to respond, and the bravery to take the steps that will bring us ever closer to you. Amen.



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (Matthew 16:24) Jesus entrusts His Church to faithful servants and calls each of us to lay down our lives in love and service. Priests, religious, and married couples all share in this call to embrace sacrifice for the good of others. Consider how God may be inviting you. If you feel called to the priesthood or consecrated 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."



PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, 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

Timothy (Tim) Lawry.....8/14/2026.....At a Later Date

Maxine Burke.....8/18/2026.....Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

MAKING JESUS PROUD WITH REBEKAH ALLICK Professional Volleyball Player Shares Her Testimony

Rebekah Allick



Join us for a special evening with Rebekah Allick as she shares her personal journey of faith, her conversion to Catholicism, and how her relationship with Christ has shaped her life both on and off the court. Rebekah will be here at St. Patrick to share her testimony on Sunday, September 13 at 7 PM in the Church. This event is free, but RSVPs are required. Save your seat today on our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org. Everyone is welcome!

St. Patrick Catholic Church

Rebekah Allick is a professional volleyball player, former Nebraska Cornhusker and proud Nebraska native whose Catholic faith has become central to her life. A standout middle blocker at the University of Nebraska, Rebekah earned AVCA Second Team All-American and First Team All-Big Ten honors during her senior season and helped lead the Huskers to two NCAA semifinal appearances. She has also represented the United States internationally, winning gold with the U.S. U21 National Team at the 2022 Pan American Cup. Following her collegiate career, Rebekah began playing professionally with League One Volleyball and will return home to Nebraska as a member of LOVB Nebraska for the 2026-27 season.

Rebekah came to the University of Nebraska as a Christian but not a Catholic. Through friendships, a Catholic Bible study and the witness of other Catholic student-athletes, she discovered a deeper relationship with Christ and ultimately converted to Catholicism. Since then, she has spoken openly about her faith and her desire to use the platform God has given her to help others encounter Jesus.

Rebekah also has a special connection to St. Patrick Gretna through her friendship with Husker soccer player Sarah Weber, who grew up in our parish and whose family has been part of the St. Patrick community for many years.

FIRST FRIDAY AFTERNOON MASS AND ANOINTING Gretna - Springfield Family of Parishes

On First Fridays, St. Joseph (100 9th St, Springfield) has a 2 PM Mass with Anointing of the Sick available and confessions beforehand. This Mass is specially scheduled to accommodate older and limited mobility persons who may have difficulty attending an early morning Mass or sitting through an entire Sunday Mass. The church and parking are easily accessible. All are welcome.



"Man was created for a certain end. This end is to praise, to reverence, and to serve the Lord his God and by this means to arrive at eternal salvation. All other beings and objects that surround us on the earth were created for the benefit of man and to be useful to him, as means to his final end; hence his obligation to use, or to abstain from the use of, these creatures, according as they bring him nearer to that end, or tend to separate him from it."

—St. Ignatius of Loyola, *The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*, p. 18

EXPERIENCE THE EUCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS

My Spirit Rejoices in God My Savior



We must strive to strengthen our relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist through Mary and the Rosary, and in doing so we will encounter His healing grace. We are given this opportunity during the Eucharistic Rosary Congress. A Eucharistic Rosary Congress is a seven-day period of Eucharistic Adoration with an hourly Rosary prayed before the Blessed Sacrament. Dioceses throughout the United States will participate in this Catholic call to help establish peace in our country and the world. The Congress is offered in a spirit of reparation to restore the sanctity of life, to heal families, and to console the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

We will host the Eucharistic Rosary Congress (Saturday, October 3 through Saturday, October 10). Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in our Adoration chapel with the Rosary prayed aloud at the start of each hour, followed by silent prayer for the remainder of the hour. The prayers with the special intentions for the decades of the Rosary are provided.

Please consider participating by volunteering to cover one of the hours of Adoration during the day or the night hours. Bring your family, a friend, or if you are part of a parish group, consider inviting your group to pray a Holy Hour. If you are interested in leading the Rosary, please contact Kathy Dauner at kathydauner@gmail.com. Sign-up for an hour of adoration by visiting our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org.

SUPPORT THE KNIGHTS ANNUAL PAPER DRIVE

Supporting the Villa Marie School

The Knights of Columbus Annual Villa Marie Paper Drive will be held Friday, September 4 through Sunday, September 27 at St Patrick. Villa Marie is a Catholic school serving students challenged with Down Syndrome, Autism, developmental delays, and other health impairments, located near Waverly, NE. Paper products of all kinds are needed by the school: copy paper, construction paper, paper towels, napkins, toilet paper, etc. Leave your donation in the narthex any time during these dates. The Knights will collect the donated items regularly and deliver them to Villa Marie on Sunday, September 27. Your support is much appreciated!



DIAPER DRIVE FOR THE BETHLEHEM HOUSE

Diapers Size 4-6 Needed

Diaper Drive

(Accepting diapers sizes 4-6 for Bethlehem House.)



The Gretna Knights of Columbus Council #10047 is hosting a diaper drive for the Bethlehem House. The only sizes needed during this drive are diaper sizes 4-6. Please leave your donations in the labeled box in the narthex throughout the rest of the month of August. Thank you for your donations in supporting moms in need.

Stewardship Report

Aug 19-Aug 25, 2026

Current Fiscal Year - July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

General Contributions	Aug 19-Aug 25	Fiscal YTD thru Aug 25
Sunday Offering	\$12,124.70	\$201,895.25
Other Contributions	\$487.80	\$11,942.19
Total General Contributions	\$12,612.50	\$213,837.44 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$15,887.50)	(\$14,162.56)

* Our budget requires an average weekly income of \$28,500.

'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

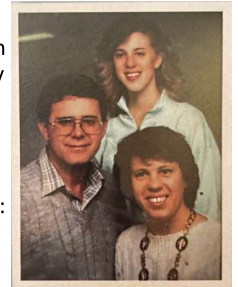


Cor exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and

fraternity. Cor is held in the Fr. Hitch Room every two weeks with the next meeting being on Sunday, September 6 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.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE—AUGUST 31

The Knights of Columbus #10047 and St. Patrick Church will host a Gretna Community Blood Drive on Monday, August 31 from 12 PM to 6 PM. To make your appointment, go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter: GretnaNE or call Marty Stednitz at 402-332-3840.



Donate blood in memory of Sharon Laughlin and Jennette Townsend. Sharon Laughlin and her daughter, Jennette Townsend, shared a deep commitment to their faith, family, and community. Throughout their lives, both courageously battled Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (FAP), a rare inherited disorder. In honor of their memory and the lasting impact they made on those around them, community members are invited to participate in a special memorial blood drive that pays tribute to Sharon and Jennette. Did you know, for every pint of blood donated three lives are saved! Since 2004, the Knights of Columbus and St. Patrick Church have hosted the Gretna Community Blood Drive, where 2428 pints have been collected which translates into 7284 lives saved. Sign up today and you can make a difference!

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight, Tim Hall.....307-214-3714
Deputy Grand Knight, Jeff Harpenau....402-214-3062
Financial Secretary, Steve Otto.....402-212-1267
Chancellor/Membership, Larry Sibley..402-957-8770
Century Club Admin, Jim Hottov.....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, AUGUST 31ST

7:30 AM † Henry Sedlacek

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

6:00 PM † Tom Rongisch

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

7:30 AM † Eileen Sutton

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

7:30 AM † Tom Rongisch

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

7:30 AM † Alan Koenig

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

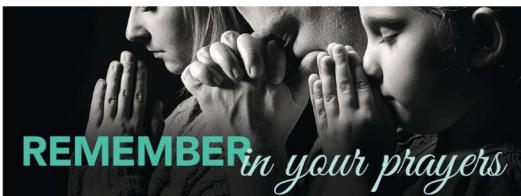
5:00 PM † Patrick and Dorothy O'Brien

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

8:00 AM † Gertrude Wilde
10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM † Eileen Sutton

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 JoAnne Lyons, Bob H, John Engler, Barb McMahon, Kurt Nielsen, Celeste Baumert, Richard Smith, Bill Bergfeld (brother of Susie Yager), Amber Janda, Norma Hintz, Rita Kalkowski, Steve N, 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 cllovstad@gmail.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH—22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms

MONDAY, AUGUST 31ST

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
10:00 AM to 7:30 PM Blood Drive—Parish Center AB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Project Linus—Basement Commons
5:30 PM to 5:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 6:00 PM)—Sanctuary
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Holy Hour of Prayer—Sanctuary
6:30 PM to 6:40 PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting—Parish Center AB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

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
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Religious Education Classes—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Outreach Ministry Meeting—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
4:30 PM to 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal—Sanctuary and Narthex
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM Wedding Rehearsal—Sanctuary and Narthex
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM OCIA Class—Parish Center C

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

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
11:00 AM to 5:00 PM Wedding Prep—Sanctuary, Narthex, Father Hitch, Bride's Room
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM Wedding—Sanctuary and Narthex

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Wedding Prep—Sanctuary, Narthex, Father Hitch, Bride's Room
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM Wedding—Sanctuary and Narthex
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

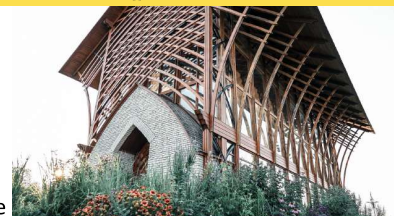
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH—23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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—Basement Commons, RE Classrooms
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Baptisms—Sanctuary and Narthex
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM COR Men's Group Meeting—Father Hitch Room

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR FAMILIES

At the Holy Family Shrine—Monday, September 21

Join the Serra Club of West Omaha on Monday, September 21 for a beautiful Holy Hour to Pray for Families at Holy Family Shrine (23132 Pflug Road, Gretna). This special prayer event begins with greetings at 5:30 PM. At 6 PM we will gather in the chapel for the Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Presider will be Father Tom Weisbecker, Chaplain of the Serra Club. Together we will pray a Rosary for the Healing and Protection of Families, reflect on a Gospel reading and homily, and will also recite the Litany of the Holy Family. We will spend time in silent adoration and sing hymns as we pray for families in the Archdiocese of Omaha. All are welcome! For questions, contact Lori Hamilton, Serra VP, at 402-699-5027 or email westomaha@serrainternational.org. Learn more at serrawestomaha.org and follow us on Facebook @serrawestomaha.



Join the Serra Club of West Omaha for a
Holy Hour to Pray for Families

*"As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live."
—Pope St. John Paul II*

LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 5TH 5:00 PM	SEPTEMBER 6TH 8:00 AM	SEPTEMBER 6TH 10:00 AM	SEPTEMBER 6TH 12:00 PM
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Sacristan
Pat Gilmore

Lectors
Barb Applegate
(Read the 1st Reading)

Crystal Schroeder
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Julene Crockett
Tracy Wollenburg
Anamaria Quick
Robert Quick
Phil Lenz

Ushers
Ken Beckman
Jeff Wollenburg
Need Sub
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Jayne Schram

Altar Servers
Shailynn Gatewood
Need Sub
Need Sub

Greeters
Chris Gatewood
Need Sub

Sacristan
Carol Zeleny

Lectors
Carrie Hubert
(Read the 1st Reading)

Joan Ingram
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Laura Fischer
Deb Benes
Jason Kassmeier
Carol Zeleny
Jamey Kennel

Ushers
Tony Schultz
Bob Sib
Pat Shurtliff
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Theresa Huttman

Altar Servers
Luke Hubert
Paul Joseph Hubert
Need Sub

Greeters
Steve Ingram
Tony Schultz

Hilcrest SR/HL
Marty Stednitz
Sally Stednitz

Sacristan
Jim Hottovy

Lectors
Eric Hittner
(Read the 1st Reading)

Jolene Jefferies
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Jim Hain
Dan Dauner
Rosie Stec
Nell Votruba

Ushers
Clint Bollock
Bruce Jefferies
John Schaffert
Tony Vanek

Rosary Reciter
Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers
Anderson Brei
Ellie Brei
Gavin McGregor

Greeters
Andrew Brei
Need Sub

Sacristan
Ginny Giebelhaus

Lectors
Karen Meyerott
(Read the 1st Reading)

Stephanie Lampe
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Ginny Giebelhaus
Kathy Broz
Doris Williams
Delma Stoner
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Linda Gardner
Ginny Giebelhaus
Delma Stoner
Mary Zeigler

Rosary Reciter
Norm Svoboda

Altar Servers
Need Sub
Need Sub
Need Sub

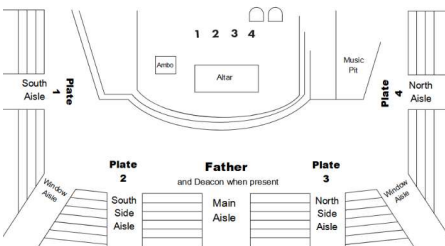
Greeters
Joann Dalley
Mary Zeigler

Vocations Crucifix
Merrill Neary

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.

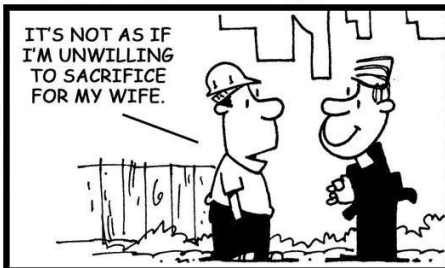
EMHC STATION MAP



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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Matthew L. Pohlman.....402-332-4444, x204
mlpohlman@archomaha.org

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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Judy Weier, Secretary.....402-332-4444, x201
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DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Maria Hedrick.....402-332-3050
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DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC

Laura Rau.....402-332-4444, x216
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lathomas@archomaha.org

FACILITY MANAGER

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

EVANGELIZATION COORDINATOR

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FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Tim Hall.....307-214-3714
tshallnj10@gmail.com
Steve Otto.....402-212-1267
thegretnaottos@gmail.com



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

WELL-READ MOM SMALL GROUP *Invited to Reading and Friendship*



Well-Read Mom accompanies women in the reading of great books and spiritual

classics to encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversations in order to explore the human condition and reorient ourselves to what is good, beautiful, and true. *Well-Read Mom* groups read one book per month and meet to discuss once a month. Book selections for each year correspond to the themes of a woman's life. This year, we are excited to dive into the theme of "woman." Our first meeting will be on Sunday, September 20, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, hosted by Vicki Duin at 7701 S. 162nd Ave. For more information, contact Vicki at 402-616-2311 or vduin8@gmail.com or visit WellReadMom.com.

90TH BIRTHDAY

Card Shower for Helen Krajicek

Long-time parishioner of St. Patrick, Helen Krajicek, will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Friday, September 4! Her family would like to recognize this milestone with a card shower for her. Please consider sending her a birthday card if you are able. Her address is 19204 S 204th St, Gretna, NE 68028. Thank you and may God bless you.



OUR LITTLEST SAINTS

Support for Parents Experiencing Loss



Our Littlest Saints at St. Charles Borromeo offers support for individuals and families experiencing pregnancy/infant loss or infertility. A monthly support group for men and women meet on

the first Thursday of each month from 7 PM to 8 PM in Room 3 of the Parish Life Center at St. Charles (7790 S 192nd St, Gretna). The next gathering will take place on Thursday, September 3. For more information about the ministry, upcoming support group meetings, or to request a care package, please visit www.stcharlesomaha.org/ols or contact OurLittlestSaintsSCB@gmail.com.

INFLUENCE THE CHILDREN OF ST. PATRICK *Catechists and Volunteers Needed for Religious Education Classes*

DO YOU WANT TO HAVE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE IN CHILDREN'S LIVES?

If you have a heart ready to share your love for Jesus and the Church, the children of St. Patrick need you! Religious Education classes begin this month and we are in need of some lead Catechists and other volunteers. Catechists



receive lesson plans, other guides, access to materials needed, and all the help you may need. If you are not ready to be a lead Catechist, we can use assistants in some classrooms on Wednesday at 4 PM or 5:30 PM, and on Sunday. Assistants help the Catechist gather and prep materials and with classroom management. If you cannot help each week, substitutes are needed at every session to fill in for volunteers when they are gone. Catechists and assistants have Religious Education tuition waived for all children.

Catechists are needed:

Wednesday at 4 PM in 5th and 7th grade

Wednesday at 5:30 PM in Kindergarten

Wednesday at 7 PM in Kindergarten, 3rd, 5th, and 8th grades

Sunday at 8:55 AM in 5th grade

If you are ready to give of your time and talent for the good of our parish families, please contact Shane Fagan at 402-332-3454 or smfagan@archomaha.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BEGINS THIS MONTH

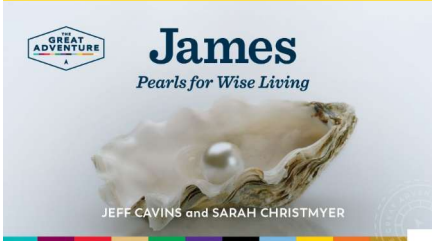
If you have a child in public school our Religious Ed program is here to help your child learn more about their Catholic faith. While parents help their children pray, celebrate the sacraments, and practice charity, the parish Religious Ed program helps them grow in their knowledge of Jesus and His Church. If you need to sign up, an online form can be found on the Religious Education page of the parish website, stpatricksgretna.org, or contact Shane Fagan at 402-332-3454 or smfagan@archomaha.org.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR YOUR CHILD

If you have a child age 7 or older in need of a sacrament: Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation, we are here to help them. No matter their age or what sacrament they need, we will help them prepare to receive the grace of God through the waters of Baptism, nourishment of the Eucharist, and strengthening of the Holy Spirit. Please contact Shane Fagan at 402-332-3454 or smfagan@archomaha.org with questions or concerns.

JAMES: PEARLS FOR WISE LIVING

Ascension Adult Bible Study—Starting September 14



Have you ever struggled with living your faith practically? Do you want advice on how to live as a Catholic? James is one of the most practical books of the Bible. Its teachings speak loudly to those who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and their faith.

This study offers "pearls for wise living" by applying the wisdom of James to our current

day. For anyone who has struggled to live a truly Christian life, James offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling and even sanctifying everyday circumstances. In this study, you will explore topics such as perseverance in trials, the power of our words, the source of conflict, and the path to true wisdom and peace.

Participants of *James: Pearls for Wise Living* will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship. Our James Bible study will begin on Monday, September 14 at 7 PM in the Parish Center. Register at <https://stpatricksgretna.org/faith-formation/bible-study>. You will also need to order study materials (workbook and/or online access) at <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/program/james-pearls-for-wise-living#program-materials>. Note: The study materials are the same as previous study in 2016—you can reuse your books if you still have them.

If you need help with registration or ordering, contact Ginny Giebelhaus at ginnyg651@aol.com or 402-319-5806. If you have general questions about the study or would like to volunteer as a small group facilitator, contact Jean Hlavacek at jean.jeweler@gmail.com or 402-504-4222.

SEVEN SAINTS FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL SEASON

Saints to Guide, Strengthen, and Inspire Our Learning

It's here already—back-to-school season. Every August, it seems to sneak up on us. The start of a new school year can feel a little overwhelming. Still, it's also a fresh opportunity for students and non-students alike to get organized, refocus our priorities, be inspired to keep learning, and pursue excellence. As Catholics, we don't have to face this season on our own. The saints are powerful intercessors and faithful friends who want to help us along the way. Here are seven saints to pray with during this back-to-school season:

St. Thomas Aquinas—Patron of Scholars

St. Thomas is a classic patron for students. He wasn't just brilliant—he also knew how to place his learning in service of God. His famous prayer before study is still prayed by students today. *Ask for his intercession when:* you need focus, clarity, and the wisdom to use your studies well.

St. Joseph of Cupertino—Patron of Exams

Known for his struggles in academics, St. Joseph passed his priestly exams by a small miracle. His story gives hope to anyone who feels overwhelmed by tests. *Ask for his intercession when:* you're facing exams or presentations and need peace and confidence.

St. Catherine of Alexandria—Patron of Students and Philosophers

Brilliant, articulate, and courageous, St. Catherine defended the faith with wisdom that amazed scholars of her time. *Ask for her intercession when:* you're writing essays, preparing debates, or need courage to stand up for the truth.

St. Monica—Patron of Mothers

St. Monica prayed faithfully for her son, St. Augustine, through years of difficulty. She is a model of perseverance and trust in God. *Ask for her intercession when:* you feel worried about your children's choices or need encouragement to stay patient and prayerful.

St. Joseph—Patron of Workers and Families

As the foster father of Jesus, St. Joseph balanced the demands of family life and daily work with quiet strength. He understands the challenges of providing and caring for a household. *Ask for his intercession when:* you're balancing schedules, work, and family life during the hectic school year.

St. Frances of Rome—Patron of Homemakers

Known for managing her household with love and holiness while still serving the poor, St. Frances shows how ordinary tasks can be sanctified. *Ask for her intercession when:* you need grace in the busyness of chores, errands, and after-school routines.

St. Gianna Molla—Patron of Mothers and Physicians

A modern saint, St. Gianna was a doctor, wife, and mother who managed the challenges of modern family life with deep faith. *Ask for her intercession when:* you're stretched thin between family responsibilities and personal demands, and need peace in the middle of it all.

Back-to-school doesn't just mean new books and routines—it often means busier mornings and fuller days. As you head into this season, don't forget to keep your faith at the forefront, and ask for the saints in Heaven to walk with you during this school year.

—Article by The Catholic Company

God of all knowledge and understanding, we seek your guidance and direction as both students and teachers begin a new school year. Look with favor upon those who have given so much to be teachers. We know the nervousness of new students, and know you are with them. Give us all the wisdom and patience we need to be good students and teachers. We ask all of this in the name of the good teacher, Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Good and gracious God of all created things, seen and unseen. You created all things in this world for our use, and charge us with protecting that creation. Help us to see in all things the reflection of a parent's love for a child. When we see your goodness in the face of the moon, we see our sister. When we feel the warmth of the sun on our face, we feel the love of a brother. We ask for your strength to give us wisdom and courage to protect our earthly environment from destruction and overuse. Help us to share the goodness and generosity of the earth with every living person. We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ, our brother and savior. Amen.



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

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.

ENCOUNTER SCHOOL

Two-Years of Ministry Formation

ENCOUNTER
OMAHA CAMPUS

The Encounter School of Ministry Fall semester begins on Tuesday, September 15 at the Ablaze House of Prayer (11501 Fairview Rd, Springfield). Classes are every Tuesday evening from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Each week you will access your personal online dashboard where you will watch two teaching videos at your own pace. Then during class you will have hands-on, in-person formation including small group discussion, questions and answers, and practical activations to put what you've learned into practice.

Encounter is more than a class. You will be surrounded by a community of people who are hungry for more of God. Learning alongside others creates a "greenhouse effect" that accelerates spiritual growth. You will experience a deeper peace, joy, and healing in your identity in Christ. Learn more about the school and the curriculum at <http://encounterschool.org/omaha>.

COME AND SEE

Come test drive the Encounter School for three weeks (September 15-29) to help you discern whether God is inviting you to apply and enroll. Experience the teachings, community, and ministry environment before making your commitment.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

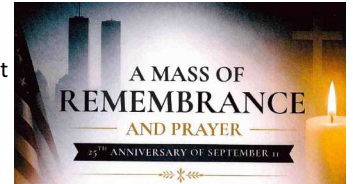
HELPFUL RESOURCES

- AL-ANON (ALCOHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT—OMAHA)**
Phone.....402-553-5033
Website.....al-anon.org
- BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE**
Phone.....1-800-448-3000
Website.....www.boystown.org
- CATHOLIC ANSWERS**
Phone.....1-888-318-7884
Website.....www.catholic.com
- CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**
Grief & Healing Counselor.....402-391-3711
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Gretna....402-332-3475
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES—OMAHA**
Phone.....402-554-0520
Website.....ccomaha.org
- CATHOLIC VOICE ONLINE**
Website.....catholicvoiceomaha.com
- COURAGE (PASTORAL SUPPORT—SAME-SEX ATTRACTION)**
Phone.....402-557-5692
Website.....couragerc.org
- EWTV (GLOBAL CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK)**
Phone.....1-800-447-3986
Website.....www.ewtn.com
- HEARTS RESTORED (HEALING AFTER ABORTION)**
Phone.....402-783-4673
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.mass-times.org
- NEBRASKA HOMESCHOOL NETWORK**
Website.....nebraskahomeschool.org
- POPE PAUL VI INSTITUTE (FERTILITY HELP)**
Phone.....402-390-6600
Website.....www.popepaulvi.com
- SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO—FM 102.7**
Phone.....402-571-0200
Website.....www.spiritcatholicradio.com
- ST. BENEDICT CENTER (RETREATS IN SCHUYLER)**
Phone.....402-352-2177
Website.....christthekingpriory.com/sbcbabout
- 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

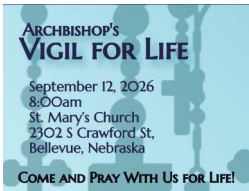
AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE—ST. MATTHEW, BELLEVUE, SEPTEMBER 11

Archbishop Michael McGovern will celebrate a Mass of Remembrance marking the 25th Anniversary of the September 11 attacks on Friday, September 11 at 9 AM at St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish (12330 S 36th St, Bellevue). As we remember the nearly 3,000 lives lost and all those whose lives were forever changed by the tragedy of September 11, we will gather as a community of faith to pray for the deceased, their families and loved ones, and all who continue to carry the wounds of that day.



VIGIL FOR LIFE MASS—ST. MARY, BELLEVUE, SEPTEMBER 12



All are invited to join Archbishop Michael McGovern at the Vigil for Life Mass on Saturday, September 12 at 8 AM at St. Mary Parish (2302 S Crawford St, Bellevue). The event includes Mass, a Rosary procession to the abortion facility, followed by a reception in the Parish Center. Adoration of the Most Holy Eucharist will be held in the church's sanctuary. Several pro-life organizations will have information tables at the reception, and this is an excellent opportunity to discover how to get more involved.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER—GRAND ISLAND, NE, SEPTEMBER 18-20

Are you looking to rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day? Do you want to rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married? The Worldwide Marriage Encounter will do that and more! Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends: September 18-20 in Grand Island. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: wwme.org or call 402-370-5839. For Spanish WWME Experience information, contact Victor and Lupita Corona at 651-343-2348.



ICON WRITING WORKSHOP—ST. BENEDICT CENTER, SCHUYLER, SEPTEMBER 20-26



Christian icons have served as "Windows into Heaven" for nearly 2,000 years. Iconography begins with prayer and is executed with the sense that the seven days of creation are being represented in the artistic endeavor. This workshop is an instruction in icon writing in the Byzantine-Russian tradition. Its objective is the completion of one icon, provided attendance for full six days and the completion of daily assignments as allocated by the instructor. This workshop is for beginners, as well as for intermediate and advanced icon writers. This year we will write the Archangel Raphael. Join Master Iconographer Dmitri Andreyev from Brookfield, VT from Sunday, September 20 at 4 PM through Saturday, September 26 at 5 PM for this Icon Writing Workshop at the Saint Benedict Center (1123 Road I, Schuyler). For more information, visit <https://www.christthekingpriory.com/retreat-schedule> or call 402-352-8819.

OACCW—WAYNE CITY AUDITORIUM, WAYNE, SEPTEMBER 21

The 102nd Convention of the Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) will be held on Monday, September 21 at the Wayne City Auditorium (222 N Pearl St, Wayne). The theme is *Blaze Boldly in the Darkness*. Registration begins at 7:30 AM with a light breakfast followed by a Rosary at 8 AM. The opening session begins at 9 AM, Mass with Archbishop Michael McGovern will be at 11 AM, and lunch at Noon. Our afternoon session starts at 1 PM with our guest speaker, Shannon Bolin, who has served the Archdiocese through mentorship programs and retreats helping others grow deeper in their relationship with Christ and confidence in sharing their faith. With an energetic spirit and a gift for speaking on Scripture and evangelization, she inspires others to live boldly as missionary disciples. Come ready to pray, grow, reconnect, and be renewed in the mission Christ has entrusted to each of us. For planning purposes, please pre-register by September 1 if possible. Registration forms call or text Leonarda Arens at 402-253-5120 or Colleen Elsasser at 402-380-6443. Registration form and \$35 registration fee are mailed to: Colleen Elsasser, 1962 19th Rd, Bancroft, NE 68004. Checks can be made payable to: RNE Deanery.



"If your life isn't producing the outcomes you desire, it is time to change the inputs. That's the amazing thing about life. If you don't like the path you are walking, you can choose a different path." —Matthew Kelly, *The Content Diet*

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