

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

508 W. ANGUS STREET GRETNA, NE 68028



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.” - Mt 21:43

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

OCTOBER 4, 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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING (Is 5:1-7)

Isaiah speaks of God's frustration over the people of Judah (the Lord's "cherished plant") who have not yielded a good crop. How do you encourage family or friends to live up to their potential?

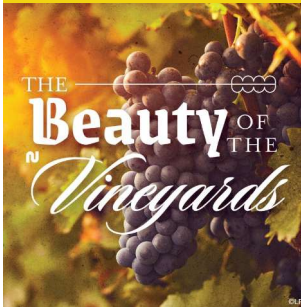
SECOND READING (PHIL 4:6-9)

Paul teaches the Philippians that prayer and positive thoughts are key to avoiding anxiety and experiencing the peace of God. What are some positive thoughts you focus on when you are stressed or anxious?

GOSPEL (MT 21:33-43)

Jesus harshly criticizes the chief priests and Pharisees in the Parable of the Tenants. How do you deliver legitimate criticism to someone you care about?

GOSPEL MEDITATION



Have you ever felt like your attempts at prayer are a waste of time? I have. Early in my priesthood, I noticed that my prayer life was weakening. Awe and eager expectancy of contact with God had given way to routine. I gradually spent less and less time praying. Nothing dramatic had happened, but my attitude toward God had changed, and I was losing the desire to pray.

Jesus' parable of the insane vineyard tenants speaks into this kind of experience. He says the landowner "leased it to tenants and went on a journey" (Matthew 21:33). The key to this message is that the vineyard does not belong to those who work it—they are entrusted with it. But little by little, they view it as their possession, and ungrateful entitlement follows. The servants sent by the owner are treated as intrusions. Even the owner's son becomes a means to their delusional self-will. The central tragedy is not violence but the forgetfulness that spawns it. They need reminding how lucky they are to be given so much.

Eventually, God sent friends to remind me that my relationship with Him and my prayer time are not my possessions, but rather God's tremendous gifts to me. Perhaps you are feeling discouraged for some reason or other these days in your walk with God. Ponder this parable and let it be a gentle reminder that you and I are fortunate stewards, and God is the generous giver. This allows us to rediscover the beauty of the vineyards in our lives and to remain energetic in cultivating his gifts.

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

ANSWER:

The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to His first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in Heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's Kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs—"Give us, this day, our daily bread"—to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of Heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion—united in love and peace—with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to

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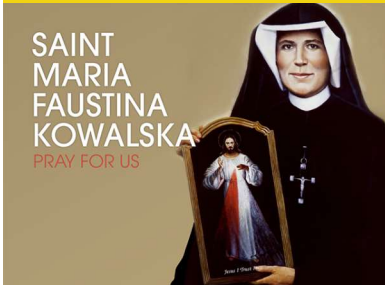
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Continued From Page 2

celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Religious



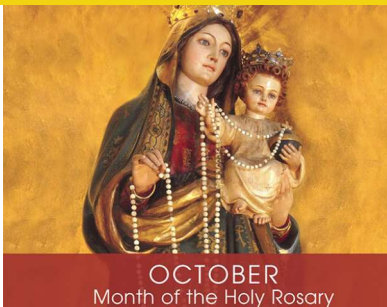
St. Maria Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), baptized with the name Helena, was one of ten children born to a devout, peasant farming family in Poland. She grew up during the tough years leading up to and following the first World War, and received little formal education. She worked as a poor housekeeper before following her religious vocation at the age of 20, entering the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Krakow. There she was given simple, humble jobs which hid her deep interior life. St. Faustina was graced with mystical

visions and revelations from Jesus, as well as her Guardian Angel and certain saints. Jesus gave her the mission to proclaim his infinite, powerful, loving mercy to the whole world, especially to hardened sinners and those facing the hour of their death. St. Faustina, as Jesus' "secretary and apostle of Divine Mercy," faithfully recorded these messages in great detail in a nearly 700-page diary. In it she promoted devotion to the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ as instructed by Our Lord Himself, now famous throughout the Church, and a great consolation for many souls who would otherwise fear to approach God because of their burden of sin. She died at the age of 33 from tuberculosis. Pope St. John Paul II made St. Faustina the first saint of the new millennium. Her feast day is October 5.

OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY

October Devotion of the Month

The Catholic Church designates October as the Month of the Holy Rosary. During this month the faithful venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary especially under her title of Our Lady of the Rosary, and make special effort to honor the Holy Rosary with group recitations and rosary processions. St. Dominic de Guzman, the founder of the Order of Preachers, is the saint to whom Our Lady famously appeared and gave the prayers of the Holy Rosary to assist him as a spiritual weapon in combating heresy and leading souls back to the one, true Catholic faith.



SAINT BRUNO

Religious



St. Bruno (1030-1101) was born to a noble and prominent family in Cologne, Germany. He was well educated and excelled in his studies, and became a priest around the year 1055. He went on to direct and teach at the episcopal school at Reims for many years, earning a reputation as a learned scholar. After also serving as the chancellor of his archdiocese, he and a few companions left their positions in the diocese in order to follow a path of greater religious observance. In 1084 Bruno settled in the Chartreuse Mountains in France with a small group of scholars

who, like himself, desired to become contemplative monks. This was the beginning of the Carthusian order founded by St. Bruno, combining the solitary life of hermits with the conventual life of religious observance. These alpine monks embraced a strictly disciplined life of poverty, labor, prayer, and fasting. After living six years of strict asceticism, St. Bruno was called to Rome by the Pope, who was his former student, to assist with the troubles and controversies rocking the Church. Bruno became a close advisor to the Pope and was allowed to return to monastic life only if he remained nearby within Italy, leading Bruno to establish a second Carthusian monastery there in 1095. St. Bruno wrote many manuscripts and commentaries during his life. His feast day is celebrated on October 6.



ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gretna, Nebraska

READINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37
TUESDAY: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42
WEDNESDAY: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4
THURSDAY: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13
FRIDAY: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26
SATURDAY: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28
NEXT SUNDAY: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

RESPECT LIFE
SUNDAY



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

MONDAY: Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest
TUESDAY: St. Bruno, Priest; Bl. Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin
WEDNESDAY: Our Lady of the Rosary
FRIDAY: St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest
NEXT SUNDAY: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

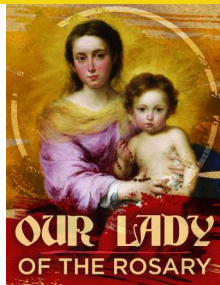




ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH Gretna, Nebraska

ICON BLESSING AND MASS *Special Talk by Fr. Riser*

Join us for an extra special Mass at 6 PM on Wednesday, October 7 to formally bless and install our new Our Lady of the Rosary icon for our Adoration Chapel. When we first built our Adoration Chapel, we had three icons commissioned by Fr. Dan Lenz of Mount Michael—they included one of St. Patrick, one of Our Lady of the Rosary, and a Crucifix. Fr. Dan started writing these icons, but due to his health Fr. Richard Riser has taken over the project. Fr. Riser will be joining us for this special Mass and will give a brief talk afterwards about the process in writing an icon. His talk will be followed by a simple cookie reception in the Parish Center. We hope you can join us for this special event!



EUCCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS



We are hosting the Eucharistic Rosary Congress (Saturday, October 3 through Saturday, October 10). Spend time with Jesus in our Adoration chapel and pray the Rosary for peace. Sign-up for an hour of adoration by scanning the QR code or

visiting our parish website, stpatricksgretna.org.

SEMINARIAN PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the Seminarians of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

This week let us pray for **Deacon Thomas Matya** (Configuration IV) from St. Charles Borromeo in Gretna.



"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." (Matthew 21:42) Jesus, the cornerstone, calls us to build His Church. In Holy Matrimony, couples become cornerstones of love and faith for a family. Have you talked to your children about their vocation? Pray with them and walk alongside them as they discern how God may be calling them to build up God's Church. 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 for all Seminarians

PARISH UPDATE—INCLUDES FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year July, 1 2025 - June 30, 2026

Each year, July 1 marks the beginning of the new fiscal year. This report looks back at the past fiscal year that just ended on June 30, 2026, and reviews the key happenings in our parish. Thank you for your generosity to St. Patrick as we work together to bring the love of Christ to each other and to our communities. We are grateful to each of you for your contributions of time, talent, and treasure. May God bless each of you in abundance!

PARISH LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

Parish life continues to be active and fully alive as represented by these highlights over the past year:

- Currently, we have 1,630 registered households at St. Patrick.
- During Fiscal Year 2025-2026, we had 93 new families join the parish, averaging about 1.8 new families per week. There were 12 funerals, 47 baptisms, and 21 weddings.
- The office keeps busy answering the phone and greeting parishioners who come in with questions or to say hello. Our office door is always open, so please stop in for coffee and treats. We always have homemade goodies to share, not to mention the candy dish that is always full!
- Continued growth in our parish means continued growth on our social media accounts as well. This year, we have nearly doubled the number of viewers per month on Facebook, now reaching an average of about 7,000 people. This year we completed our first pictorial directory since 2017. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this project! The directories have arrived and if you haven't received yours contact the Parish Office.
- Over the course of the year, the Youth Group was involved in many different activities that helped the teens remain in faith, fun, and community. The Youth Group met on a weekly basis covering many different topics within the Catholic Faith such as personal prayer and healing. On average, we had 35-40 high school teens on any given week participate in Youth Group. In July, between St. Charles Borromeo and St. Patrick parishes, we took 30 students to the annual Steubenville conference in Springfield, Missouri. Our teens joined the 4,000 other teens that attended the conference and got to take part in praise and worship, adoration, and hear testimonies of keynote speakers. It was a beautiful experience and there was no doubt the Holy Spirit was moving in every person at the conference! The Youth Group also continued to meet weekly throughout the summer months. The discussion topics were focused on the different people from scripture who encountered Jesus.
- With the start of the new school year the Youth Group is excited to share our new theme of "Faith Maxxing." The goal each week will be to do one thing together as a faith community to be more like Jesus. We will be meeting every Wednesday evening from 7 PM to 8:30 PM. Registration is open for all high school teens who wish to be a part of our faith-filled community!
- The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) was also a great turn out in our parish this past year. At the Easter Vigil we had seven Catechumens who were baptized and entered into the full communion of the Church, as well as eight other candidates who received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. They were a wonderful group of new disciples for the Church! This year's OCIA has already begun with a group of people seeking to grow in their faith journey. Classes are held every Thursday evening beginning in August and going through Easter. If anyone is interested in being a part of or taking these classes, please contact Jonathan Wotipka for more information.
- Amanda Scardina, former Preschool Director, completed the 2025-2026 school year on a high note with a newly adopted baby boy, so she resigned to accept a teacher job at Mary Our Queen that would be less demanding of her time. In July 2026, we welcomed Maria Hedrick as our new Preschool Director. Her education and work experience is a great fit for our Preschool. Maria grew up in a Catholic family in Ashland and is one of eleven children. Her husband, Daniel, and their four children have been registered parishioners of St. Patrick for 10 years. Maria has been actively involved in our Religious Education program as a Kindergarten Teacher for eight years. As a graduate of Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Maria holds a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. She comes with 20 years of teaching experience.
- Preschool is off to a great start this year with 60 students and 5 dual enrollments! Our amazing staff of five Teachers and four Teacher Assistants have worked hard to be ready, and the first day went off without a hitch! We had an amazing turnout for our Open House night, and parents were excited to meet all the teachers as well as the new director. Maria is working to improve and grow the program daily and values the input of all the staff as well as our fellow parishioners whose generosity helps make this program thrive. St. Patrick Preschool is designed to help our students grow academically, socially, and most of all spiritually. We are a Catholic Preschool, and faith is the foundation the children can use to build all their academic skills. Moving forward we will be continuing with the annual children's programs, field trips, and fun visitors to our Preschool.
- Religious Ed had a great 2025-2026. Starting in September, we welcomed 526 students with over 60 volunteers. In October, we had a great Family Rosary Day, where many parents joined their children to pray, got some encouragement on building a faith-filled home, and ended the night with fellowship. December brought on the Advent and Christmas Season. Our K-6th graders put on a nice program

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ST. PATRICK FALL SALE—NEED RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS Drop Off Your Donations Starting Monday, October 12

The Youth Group is hosting a parish-wide garage sale on Saturday, October 24 from 8 AM to 7 PM and Sunday, October 25 from 8 AM to 2 PM, and everything must go! All proceeds go to the St. Patrick Youth Group!

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Any and all usable items, tools, small chairs, household items, books, toys, jewelry, dishes, hardware, and working appliances. Clothing should be clean and not torn, please! We CANNOT take tires, paint, liquids, built-in appliances, air conditioners, de-humidifiers, TV's, encyclopedias, water beds, shower doors, damaged furniture, entertainment centers, hide-a-beds, mattresses, box springs, textbooks, and magazines.

WHEN CAN I DELIVER THESE DONATIONS:

Deliver items to St. Patrick starting Monday, October 12 through Thursday, October 22 during office hours (8 AM to 4:30 PM). We will not accept any donations before Monday, October 12. Any questions, call Jonathan Wotipka (Youth Minister) at 402-332-4444 ext. 212.



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, October 4 at 7 PM. Come join your brother parishioners for prayer and fraternity! If you have additional questions, please reach out to Matthew Henry at mattthhenry@gmail.com, Andy Pearson at apearson709@gmail.com, Eric Devlin at devlineric62@gmail.com, or Seth Boardman at sethd99@hotmail.com.

THE GIVING GARDEN

The Giving Garden is now in the narthex! Please feel free to bring any excess vegetables from your bountiful gardens to share with our parish. Be sure to check it regularly as people bring in new goodies to share. There are bags on the cart that you can use to take the produce you would like.



THANKS FROM VILLA MARIE SCHOOL



On behalf of Villa Marie School the Knights wish to thank all of you who made generous donations during the Villa Marie

Paper Drive. These donations supply the school with paper products for the entire year. Your donations are greatly appreciated by the school. God bless.

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 Hottovy.....402-651-8564

NEW PARISH DIRECTORIES ARE READY FOR PICK-UP Purchase a Copy for \$25



It's official! Our new Parish Directories are here! Stop by the Parish Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4:30 PM) to pick up your copy. Everyone who had their picture taken for the new directory, submitted a family picture, or pre-ordered have a copy saved with your name on it.

We do have additional copies available for purchase of \$25, if you did not get your picture taken and would still like a copy of the new directory. These will only be given to registered parishioners and only one per household will be given out. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

TRUNK OR TREAT CANDY DRIVE Throughout the Month of October

We are welcoming back the Trunk or Treat event hosted by the Hospitality Committee on Wednesday, October 28 from 4:30 PM to 6 PM in the Parish Center. Young children of the parish are encouraged to attend before or after their Religious Education class that evening.

If you are interested in hosting a religious themed table for a guild or group, please contact Karen Wiehl at 402-960-6750 or Mike Wiehl at 402-979-0779.



CANDY DRIVE

We are hosting a candy drive throughout the month of October to ensure that we have enough sweet treats to share. If you would like to participate, please drop off candy to the marked box in the narthex. Thank you!

Stewardship Report

Sep 23-Sep 29, 2026

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

General Contributions	Sep 23-Sep 29	Fiscal YTD thru Sep 29
Sunday Offering	\$12,716.17	\$310,351.79
Other Contributions	\$499.29	\$15,964.15
Total General Contributions	\$13,215.46	\$326,315.94 *
Surplus/Deficit	(\$15,284.54)	(\$44,184.06)

* 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

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, OCTOBER 5TH  
7:30 AM † Claudine Thorne

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH  
6:00 PM † Cardine Svajgl

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH 
7:30 AM † Mark Penney
6:00 PM For Our Parishioners

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH 
7:30 AM † Tom Selzle

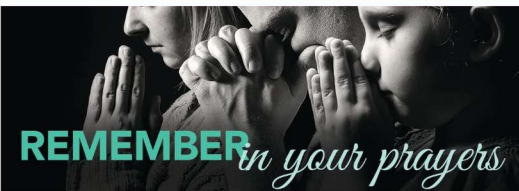
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH   
7:30 AM † Conrad Wildhagen

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH  
5:00 PM † Barbara Sedlacek

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11TH 
8:00 AM † Catherine Berlage
10:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:00 PM INT Duong Pham Family

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 (mom of Theresa Gulizia), Paul Kneifl, Duggan and Amanda, John Engler, Celeste Baumert, 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 clovstad@gmail.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH—27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

12:00 AM to 11:59 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

12:00 AM to 11:59 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
6:30 PM to 9:00 PM Sisters of the Word—Father Hitch Room
7:00 PM to 8:45 PM Ascension Bible Study—Parish Center A and Kitchen

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

12:00 AM to 11:59 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
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
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Called and Gifted Class—Parish Center C
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting—Parish Center AB, Kitchen

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH—NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

12:00 AM to 11:59 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
8:30 AM to 11:00 AM Faith Connection—Father Hitch Room
5:30 PM to 5:50 PM Rosary (before Mass begins at 6:00 PM)—Sanctuary
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Blessing Our Lady of the Rosary Icon Mass and Talk—Sanctuary
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Our Lady of the Rosary Icon Blessing Reception—Parish Center
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Youth Group—Youth Group Room

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

12:00 AM to 11:59 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
7:00 AM to 7:20 AM Rosary (before Mass begins at 7:30 AM)—Sanctuary
4:00 PM to 9:30 PM Private Event—Parish Center AB and Kitchen

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

12:00 AM to 11:59 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
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 8:15 AM Liturgy of the Hours—Behind the Tabernacle
8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Women's Faith Sharing—Father Hitch Room
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal—Sanctuary and Narthex

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

12:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eucharistic Rosary Congress Adoration—Adoration Chapel
7:00 AM to 11:00 AM Wedding Prep—Sanctuary, Narthex, Father Hitch, Bride's Room
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM Wedding—Sanctuary and Narthex
12:00 PM to 4:00 PM Private Event—Parish Center A and Kitchen
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, OCTOBER 11TH—27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM Rosary—Sanctuary
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon Mass—Sanctuary
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Parish Breakfast—Parish Center and Kitchen

ROSARY GUILD DISPLAY EVENT

Hand Crafted Items Made by Our Parishioners

The Rosary Guild will be holding a Rosary Display Event on Sunday, October 11 after each Mass during the Knights of Columbus breakfast. Come see our collection of handcrafted rosaries, bracelets, bookmarks, backpack hangers, and more. All items are available free of charge. Free-will donations are graciously accepted to help us purchase supplies and continue this ministry. Please stop by and take a handmade item with you or simply come see the beautiful work of our Rosary Guild members. Thank you for supporting our ministry and helping us share the gift of the Rosary!



LAY MINISTER'S SCHEDULE 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

OCTOBER 10TH 5:00 PM	OCTOBER 11TH 8:00 AM	OCTOBER 11TH 10:00 AM	OCTOBER 11TH 12:00 PM
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--	--

Sacristan
Larry Neppi

Lectors
Barb Applegate
(Read the 1st Reading)

Ken Beckman
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Liz Beckman
Wendy Neppi
Tammi Hall
Tim Hall
Deacon Ken Broz

Ushers
Chris Lingbloom
Larry Neppi
Andy Pearson
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Kathy Dauner

Altar Servers
Lydia Hall
Addison Lingbloom
Colin Lingbloom

Greeters
Nancy Kirkpatrick
Tim Kirkpatrick

Sacristan
Carol Zeleny

Lectors
Kathy Schwarting
(Read the 1st Reading)

Duane Benes
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Mike Siegel
Paula Siegel
Gene Schwarting
Deb Benes
Phil Lenz

Ushers
Kevin Kaup
Pat Shurtliff
Bob Sis
Marty Stednitz

Rosary Reciter
Theresa Huttman

Altar Servers
Matthew Farwell
Drew Garcia
Jacob Kula

Greeters
Greg Jones
Sally Stednitz

Hilcrest SR/HL
Mike Siegel
Paula Siegel

Sacristan
Mitch Wendlandt

Lectors
Tony Tiefenthaler
(Read the 1st Reading)

Judy Weier
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Cleo Nienaber
Kathy Wendlandt
Nancy Arp
Mitch Wendlandt

Ushers
Russ Eusterwiemann
Tom Nienaber
Norm Svoboda
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Jolene Jefferies

Altar Servers
Sawyer Jennings
Gavin McGregor
Austin Votruba

Greeters
Angie Jennings
Andrew Urban

Sacristan
Ginny Giebelhaus

Lectors
Kelly Eby
(Read the 1st Reading)

Lezlie Thomas
(Read the 2nd Reading)

EMHCs
Leann Otto
Delma Stoner
Steve Otto
Doris Williams
Jamey Kennel

Ushers
Linda Gardner
Delma Stoner
Doris Williams
Need Sub

Rosary Reciter
Need Sub

Altar Servers
James Janda
Thomas Janda
Need Sub

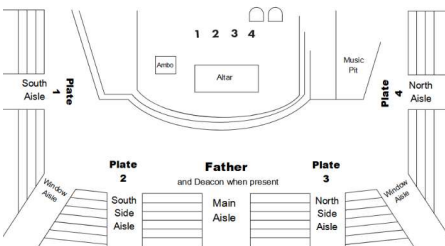
Greeters
Joann Dalley
Need Sub

Vocations Crucifix
Paul Duin

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

27TH 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

PARISH OFFICE

Jolene Jefferies, Parish Mgr.....402-332-4444, x203
jmjefferies@archomaha.org

Megan Seamann, Communications Associate
meseamann@archomaha.org...402-332-4444, x202

Judy Weier, Secretary.....402-332-4444, x201
jaweier@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Shane Fagan.....402-332-3454
smfagan@archomaha.org

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Maria Hedrick.....402-332-3050
mehedrick@archomaha.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY (LITURGY, YOUTH GROUP & FAITH FORM)

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

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC

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

PARISH CENTER COORDINATOR

Lezlie Thomas.....402-525-3098
lathomas@archomaha.org

FACILITY MANAGER

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

EVANGELIZATION COORDINATOR

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

PASTORAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Liz Beckman.....402-305-5945

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

PARISH BREAKFASTS *Monthly Breakfast*



You are invited to join us in the Parish Center every second Sunday of the month, this month October 11, from 9 AM to 12 PM for a delicious breakfast. It's a perfect way to gather after Sunday Mass and get to know other parishioners here at St. Patrick.

PRO-LIFE CHAIN *Public, Peaceful, Prayerful*

Each year, Life Chains form in cities nationwide to make a public, prayerful, peaceful stand for Life. On Sunday, October

4, from 2 PM to 3 PM, we invite you, your family, and friends to gather with us at the intersection of Highways 6 and Highway 370 in Gretna for a peaceful Pro-Life Chain. Together, we will stand as a visible witness for the dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death. This will be a time of prayer, peaceful presence, and unity as our community comes together in love and hope. We will be meeting in the parking lot by Dollar General 30 minutes before the event.



TADPOLES PRESCHOOL CLASS *Registration is Now Open*

Tadpoles



REGISTRATION

St. Patrick Catholic Preschool is now registering for it's youngest class, the Tadpoles, which begins on January 8. Any child who will be 3 years old by March 15, 2027 and is potty trained is eligible for this one-day-a-week class held on Friday mornings from 8:40 AM to 11:10 AM. To register, please go to preschool.stpatricksgretna.org and click the Register tab. If you have any questions, please call the Preschool office at 402-332-3050. Be sure to register early as this class has limited spots and fills quickly.

St. Patrick Catholic Preschool is now registering for it's youngest class, the Tadpoles, which begins on January 8. Any child who will be 3 years old by March 15, 2027 and is potty trained is eligible for this one-day-a-week class held on Friday

PARISH UPDATE

Continued From Page 4

recounting the Christmas story and singing traditional carols. In January, we gathered in the Church to have Eucharistic Adoration. This is a special time of communal and quiet prayer with Jesus. Before Lent began in February, we had our traditional Mardi Gras King Cake and screamed "Alleluia!" before we had to put that song of joy away until Easter. During Lent, our almsgiving project once again was to raise money for Fr. Ssonko's school in Uganda. After Easter, we celebrated 61 First Communions and 74 Confirmations. Last summer, some of our kids, and some of St. Charles', came together for a week of fun learning with Totus Tuus.

- Our Director of Sacred Music, Laura Rau, reflects on the 2025-2026 music year and looks forward to starting her fourth year of service to St. Patrick Parish. Opportunities for involvement in music ministry include children's choir for grades 3-8, high school youth and adult choir, instrumentalists, cantors, and singing from the pew. The parish choir of children and adults started rehearsals in September and sang twice each month for the 10 AM Mass starting in October and continuing through May. During the 2025-2026 season, 11 adults and two children sang for the year. Christmas Eve brought the addition of several guest singers: three adults, two high school youth, and four children. A full choir sang for all the liturgies of Triduum in addition to the usual Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Mass. Excellent high school instrumentalists shared their abilities on the flute, clarinet, trumpet, and bassoon throughout the year. A smaller repertoire of hymns from the *Journey Songs* hymnal and the use of only the Heritage Mass and Roman Missal Chants is yielding better congregational response. Congregational singing is noticeably lively on the Glory to God, Responsorial Psalm, and Holy. The cantors continued to work towards the best balance of solo volume verses congregational volume.
- Laura took parental leave the first three months of 2026 following the birth of her second child. In her absence, the musicians, clergy, and congregation were competently led by Kaitlynn Eaton. New parishioner dinners provided an excellent recruitment opportunity. The spring 2026 dinner yielded an adult trumpet player and two potential singers. Choir members and Laura occasionally pass out invitation cards to people in the pews who display a confident singing voice. Going forward into the 2026-2027 season, locating interested and available musicians remains a challenge. Some people are too shy to respond to an invitation. Many parents of school-age children find themselves and their kids too busy. High school youth are similarly scheduled. However, if someone has a desire, there are short-term opportunities for involvement.
- The mission of evangelization to create a growing number of active parishioners to accompany and help others deepen their personal encounter with Jesus Christ and share the Good News had a busy year. The Evangelization Team audited the Archdiocese's evangelization resources and continues to implement ways to form missional disciples within our parish. Some of the new and ongoing apostolates include men's and women's small faith formation groups, the Well-Read Mom group, large group Adult Bible Study programs, Mystagogy, the Called and Gifted Discernment Process, new parishioner outreach, and participation in the Mentorship Formation program. We continue to explore new ways we can help people connect, witness, learn, and go out to spread the message of the Gospel with those God puts in our lives.
- Last year, on July 11, 2025, we held the second annual Fr. Ssonko Fundraiser to help support our sister school, St. Mary's Primary School in Busaabala, Uganda. We raised \$175,668.48 to help with room and board for the students, teacher salaries, school uniforms, and other student learning costs. On July 10 this year, we held the third annual fundraiser to help with transportation, safety, building needs, and food for the students. This year we raised just over \$214,487.07. We are incredibly grateful for the outstanding work of the planning team and volunteers, and all the sponsorships and donations to support this worthy cause. Thank you!
- On July 1, 2026, we said a heartfelt goodbye to Fr. Vince Sunguti as he moved to St. Gerald to serve as Pastor. At the same time, we welcomed Fr. Matthew Pohlman as our new Associate Pastor. He was ordained two years ago and is pleased to report it has been a wonderful first several months here at St. Patrick. Fr. Matthew says God is visible in this community in many ways, and he looks forward to getting to know even more of you as our faith journey together continues.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Our facility and building maintenance function continues to be very busy this fiscal year. We would like to share our key accomplishments from this past fiscal year, as well as our projects currently in progress.

Accomplishments:

- **Sanctuary Sound System Upgrade**—\$98,454—The upgrade started prior to June 30, 2026, and will be completed in August 2026.
- **Carpet Replacement**—\$65,038—Narthex, Library, Stairs, Lower-Level Commons, Youth Room, Music Room, and RE rooms—The Narthex, Library, and Fr. Hitch conference room had to be replaced a second time, at no charge to the Church. The carpet in those areas was unsatisfactory, and a different carpet was selected to replace the defective carpet.
- **Replaced All RE Classroom Cabinets**—\$30,500

Continued on next page—>

PARISH UPDATE

Continued From Page 8

- **Lower-Level Stage Retiled**—\$5,318—Tiles were worn and cracked and needed replaced.
- **Rental Homes Demolished**—525 Angus, \$21,300; 532 Langdon, \$16,700; 123 Bryan, \$18,350—All three homes required extensive repairs to remain viable rental properties. Therefore, the decision was made to tear the homes down for future use of the property.
- **Stain Glass Window Restoration**—\$21,000—Four Nave windows were removed, restored, and reinstalled.
- **Rectory Generator**—\$15,000
- **Added Back Sacristy, Adoration Chapel, North and South Transept HVAC to Building Management System**—\$10,890—This was done to allow us to better monitor the temperature in these areas to ensure pipes/sprinkler heads don't freeze in the winter, and equipment doesn't overheat due to HVAC equipment failing during the summer months.
- **Replaced Chilled Water Lines Installation**—\$25,452—The insulation around the chilled water lines was compromised and condensation was dripping onto many ceiling tiles. The insulation had to be replaced to prevent mold from forming around it and on the ceiling tiles.
- **Parking Lot/Sidewalk Repairs**—\$35,227—This amount is for repairs to church parking lots including repairing and sealing the south parking lot.
- **Parish Center Projectors Replacement**—Minimal expense since we ordered these online and a parishioner completed the install. All three projectors were replaced.
- **New Door Installed**—A huge thank you to The Knights of Columbus who covered the cost to add a door leading down the east hallway to help with temperature control during the Fish Frys.
- **Landscaping**—The Landscaping Committee has been hard at work beautifying the exterior grounds! A huge thank you to all the volunteers who continue to give of their time, knowledge, and hard work.
- **Routine Equipment Maintenance, Landscaping, Building Repairs/Maintenance and Tracking or Expenses**—Ongoing

Projects in Progress:

- **Preschool Carpet Replacement**—Planned for Spring or Summer 2027
- **Parking Lot and Sidewalk Repairs**—Repairs are evaluated and are being addressed as needed.
- **Parish Center Audio/ Visual Upgrade**—This much needed upgrade should be completed prior to Christmas.

We deeply appreciate your help in bringing needed repairs and/or issues to our attention so they may be addressed as quickly and efficiently as possible. As you can see, managing, maintaining, and cleaning our facilities is no small task. We are grateful to Judy, Jim, our Building Maintenance Committee, and all our wonderful volunteers for their awesome service and teamwork.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Below is a snapshot of our finances for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026, with a previous fiscal year comparison. Our new fiscal year began on July 1, 2026.

St. Patricks Church of Gretna #7041

Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

July 2025 through June 2026

	Jul '25 - Jun 26	Jul '24 - Jun 25	\$ Change	% Change
▼ Ordinary Income/Expe...				
▶ Income	2,519,574.58	3,438,773.26	-919,198.68	-26.7%
Gross Profit	2,519,574.58	3,438,773.26	-919,198.68	-26.7%
▶ Expense	2,465,017.26	2,199,893.41	265,123.85	12.1%
Net Ordinary Income	54,557.32	1,238,879.85	-1,184,322.53	-95.6%
▼ Other Income/Expense				
▶ Other Income	83,516.35	24,593.22	58,923.13	239.6%
Net Other Income	83,516.35	24,593.22	58,923.13	239.6%
Net Income	138,073.67	1,263,473.07	-1,125,399.40	-89.1%

Expenses—Overall expenses during the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year, ending June 30, 2026, were higher than this same time the previous fiscal year. Many of our building projects and ongoing maintenance needs represent a large portion of our expenses.

Income—Overall gross income this past fiscal year decreased substantially compared to the prior year. In the prior year, we had received very generous gifts to St. Patrick through estate bequests totaling \$1,345,770.00. Hence, with the assistance of our Finance Council, we started a new

Continued in the Right Column—>



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.

PARISH UPDATE

Continued From the Left Column

Parish Endowment Trust Fund. On July 24, 2025, the parish invested \$1,300,000.00 into this fund. New donations to the Parish Endowment Trust Fund are always welcome. Contact Father Baxter or Jolene Jefferies with any questions or interest in supporting the fund.

THE WAY AHEAD

St. Patrick Catholic Church of Gretna continues to grow. Our average attendance at weekend Masses is 2,089 individuals. Our parish is very active with a strong Religious Education program and a thriving Preschool. The Gretna Knights of Columbus are a blessing to our parish and are instrumental in nurturing community within the parish through their monthly breakfasts and special events to include the annual Game Feed, parish festival, and much more. Our several guilds and groups meet frequently for faith sharing and work together to support the needs of the parish (e.g., decorating, cleaning, landscaping, and more). Our meeting rooms and spaces are always busy, and we believe that at some point in the future, we may want to discuss the need to build more space to better accommodate parish needs.

If you should have any questions about this update, please do not hesitate to contact either Father Baxter or Jolene Jefferies, Parish Manager. Have a blessed and safe Autumn!

*"Whoever confers benefits will be amply enriched,
and whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
—Proverbs 11:25*



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.....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
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

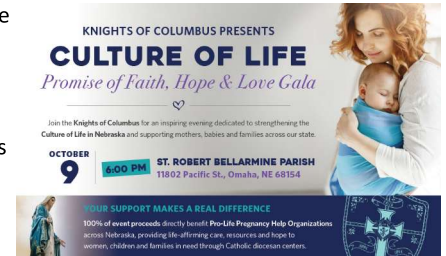
40 DAYS FOR LIFE—MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, SEPTEMBER 23-NOVEMBER 1



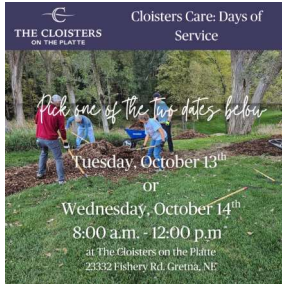
September 23 through November 1 is the fall 40 Days for Life international prayer and fasting campaign to end abortion. Over 26,500 have been saved from abortion, 278 abortion workers have been converted, and 187 abortion centers have closed. Please sign up to pray for an hour at the abortion facility with a friend, fellow parishioners! Visit 40DaysforLife.com or call Nebraskans Embracing Life at 402-399-0299 for more information.

KNIGHTS PRO-LIFE GALA—ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE, OMAHA, OCTOBER 9

The 2026 Nebraska Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Foundation—Faith, Hope, and Love Pro-Life Gala will be held on Friday, October 9 at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church (11802 Pacific St, Omaha), beginning at 6 PM. This is the first time the Nebraska Knights of Columbus has hosted this event in Omaha. The evening will feature dinner, music, prayer, fellowship, and an inspiring keynote speaker, Kelly Lester. Most importantly, 100% of the proceeds will directly benefit pro-life pregnancy help organizations across Nebraska, supporting mothers, babies, fathers, and families in need. Get tickets at <https://onecau.se/prolifegala>.



CLOISTERS CARE DAYS OF SERVICE—CLOISTERS ON THE PLATTE, OCTOBER 13-14



Mark your calendars for our annual Cloisters Care Days of Service on Tuesday, October 13 and Wednesday, October 14 from 8 AM to 12 PM! Each year, these special days bring together a wonderful group of volunteers to help care for the grounds and keep The Cloisters on the Platte campus (23332 Fishery Rd, Gretna) beautiful, welcoming, and ready for retreatants. The impact is truly significant, and every helping hand makes a visible difference. Last year, nearly 50 people joined us for this effort, and we hope to see that many, or more, again this year! Plan to be part of this important day, sign-up to volunteer at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/cloistersontheplatte/event/cloisterscaredaysofservice>.

OUR LITTLEST SAINTS ANNUAL MASS—ST. CHARLES BORROMEO, GRETNA, OCTOBER 17

October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month, a time to remember, honor, and support those who carry the silent grief of miscarriage, infant loss, or infertility. St. Charles Borromeo (7790 S 192nd St, Gretna) will be holding a special Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, October 17 at 8:30 AM to lift up our littlest saints and those walking the path of infertility. All are invited to bring mementos of their children to be blessed during the liturgy. Following Mass, the prayer team will be available, and a reception will be held in the gym with light refreshments and space for fellowship. If you have any questions, please reach out to Michaela Casper at 402-779-1752 or OurLittlestSaintsSCB@gmail.com. For more information regarding Our Littlest Saints, visit www.stcharlesomaha.org/ols.



CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE ETHICS CONFERENCE—CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, OCTOBER 17



Health care professionals are invited to the third annual Converging Roads health care ethics conference on Saturday, October 17 from 8 AM to 5:45 PM at Creighton University (2500 California Plz, Omaha). This one-day conference will explore the theme of *Catholic Social Doctrine and the Future of Medicine* and offers continuing education for health care professionals rooted in the Hippocratic and Catholic ethical tradition. Registration is \$75-\$159 based on CME/CNE inclusion. This conference is presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation, the Archdiocese of Omaha, the Fr. Edward J. Flanagan Guild of the CMA, and Creighton University. For more info, please visit convergingroads.com/omaha or email taylor@forlifeandfamily.org.

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