



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph
December 1, 2024

Rev. Vincent L. Parsons
J.C.L., Pastor

pastor@howardcountycatholics.com

Rev. Mr. Neil Baquet
Deacon

deacon@howardcountycatholics.com

Julie Dush
Homebound Pastoral Minister
308-968-3421

Judi Baker
SPP Office Manager
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
308-754-4002
office@howardcountycatholics.com

Kathy Gorecki
SA & SJ Office Manager
308-336-3351

Tri-Parish Website:
www.howardcountycatholics.com

Daily Mass Schedule:

Tuesday-Thursday 8:30am SPP
Friday 9:00am -
at Matelyn/Brookfield

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or
by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office
(308) 754-4002

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FILL US ALL WITH

Hope



Sts. Peter & Paul
713 Elm Street
St. Paul, NE 68873
(308)754-4002
Saturday Mass 5:00PM
Sunday Mass 8AM & 10AM

St. Anthony
103 Kerns Avenue
Farwell, NE 68838
(308)336-3351
MASS 1ST SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH 7:00PM

St. Joseph
1803 Highway 11
Elba, NE 68835
(308)336-3351
MASS 3RD SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH 6:30PM

First Sunday of Advent

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

In our modern worship experiences, it's easy for us to get caught up in our routines, preferences, and favorite seating spots within our beloved church. However, as we gather in His name, we must remember that our collective worship is a powerful testament to our unity as a community of faith. Together, we can strengthen our bond not only with one another but also with God, who desires for us to come together as one body. One key aspect of fostering that unity is the physical arrangement of our worship space. We recognize that many of us have our preferred pews—places that feel comfortable and familiar. However, during times of increased attendance, such as our popular 10 AM Mass, it's essential that we make a conscious effort to accommodate all congregants.

By filling the church instead of relegating ourselves to the Gathering Space, we embody the spirit of community and inclusiveness. The pews, which are often arranged to foster a sense of order, are also a symbol of our collective journey of faith. Each seat has the potential to represent a soul seeking connection, solace, and inspiration from God. When we gather in the church, we not only create a thriving atmosphere of worship; we also ensure that everyone has the opportunity to engage in a meaningful spiritual experience. As the Body of Christ, our worship should reflect our commitment to one another.

In moments of high attendance, I urge each of you to take an extra moment to be considerate of your fellow parishioners. Rather than clinging to our habitual seats, let us endeavor to share space and show generosity by welcoming others. For it is in our giving—our willingness to sacrifice personal preferences for the sake of our community—that we honor the call to love our neighbors. Moreover, worshipping together in the church proper enhances our spiritual experience. The ambiance of the sanctuary, filled with worshippers joined in prayer, is a powerful reminder of the divine presence among us. In those moments, whether we are singing hymns, listening to the readings, or partaking in the Eucharist, we share a divine unity that transcends our individual experiences.

It's essential to remember that our parish is a place for all seeking a closer relationship with God and making room for one another during busy services reflects the heart of our faith. It's not just about filling pews; it's about embodying the love of Christ and the teachings of the Gospel. Every time we gather, we deepen our relationship with God and with each other, demonstrating the kind of fellowship that is at the core of our beliefs. As we move forward, let's embrace this spirit of community and unity. Let us consistently strive to make room for one another within our church, especially during high-attendance Masses.

Each of us has a role in creating a welcoming environment where all feel the love and grace of God. So, let's come together, making space both physically and spiritually, as we journey together in faith. After all, together is truly where we find our strength.

By approaching every Mass with a renewed understanding of its sacredness, we invite all to come together in worship, celebrating our shared faith and commitment to one another. In doing so, we create a nurturing environment that reflects the love and grace of God, reminding us of our collective mission to bring hope and light to the world around us. Through ritual actions, we not only honor our faith but also fortify the bonds that unite us as a community of believers.

J. Vincent L. Parsons

Ministry Schedule

DECEMBER 7TH & 8TH

SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS

S: Michael Happ / Sestaks / Julie Baquet

GREET: Liana Wroblewski / Leona Leth / Cindy Wilson

LECTOR: Marlene Kosmicki

EM: Joe & Paulette Hansen

SERVE: Claire Dubas / Sophia Hoppes / Verah Paulsen

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Ken Vincik

GREET: Leo & Ginna Haggerty Family

LECTOR: Amy Scheer

EM: John Mudloff / Tim Scheer

SERVE: Laityn & Lenna Poss / Hallie Bauder

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Russ Kosmicki/Deacon Neil

GREET: Kindergarten RE Class

LECTOR: Bill Gregoski

EM: Tina Headrick/ Todd Peters / Kevin Reilly / Ann Rief

SERVE: Braxton & Brody Headrick

This Week's Schedule

Monday, December 2

No Daily Mass

Women's Holy Hour 7pm (SPP)

Tuesday, December 3

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Anna Dedic

By Ted & Pat Lukasiewicz

Wednesday, December 4

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Leonard & Josephine Gorecki

By Family

Advent Reconciliation Service 7pm (SPP)

Religious Ed. 5th-11th 7pm -> Reconciliation

NO RCIA Class 7pm (PLC Conference Room)

Thursday, December 5

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Colleen Killinger

By Marilyn & Gerald Otte

Friday, December 6

Daily Mass 9:00am (Matelyn)

Intention: †Matthew Parsons

By Kathleen Roehl

Adoration 10am - 5pm (SPP)

Saturday, December 7

First Reconciliation 10:30am (SPP)

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)

Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †Margaret Thompson

By Chuck & Charlene Schmid

Weekend Mass 7:00pm (SA)

Intention: †Dan Gorecki

By Doris Kaminski

Sunday, December 8

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)

Intention: People of the Parishes

Religious Ed. Pre-4th 9am (PLC Classrooms)

Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)

Intention: †Ernie Kosmicki

By Rich & Marlene Kosmicki

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD...

Advent Parish Reconciliation Service



December 4th
7:00pm - 8:30pm
Sts. Peter & Paul Church

In preparation for Advent Reconciliation, let us pray as a family...

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having Offended You,
and I detest all my sins, because I dread
the loss of Heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all,
because they offend You, my God,
who are all good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace,
to confess my sins, to do penance,
and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.



Congratulations on your Baptism

Lacey Elaine & Blake David Barg

NOVEMBER 23, 2024
STS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Tri-Parish Events & News

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 4th, 7pm,
at Sts. Peter & Paul Church. Eight
Priests will be here, please take
this opportunity to receive the gift
of the healing sacrament of
Reconciliation.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

All 2nd Grade students & those
preparing for First Communion will
be celebrating the sacrament of
First Reconciliation on Saturday,
December 7th, at 10:30am at SPP
Church. Parents please plan on
attending with your child. The
CCW is graciously providing hot
cocoa & cookies to follow in the
Church Gathering area.

CCW BAKE SALE

December 7th, 9-2 at SP Civic Center

Upcoming Meetings

Young at Heart Luncheon -

December 10th, Noon SPP PLC, if
favorable weather; bring dish to share
Knights of Columbus - December 10th,
7pm at SPP PLC NW Classroom

CCW Meeting - December 11th,
6pm at SPP Parish Life Center

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

December 4 ~ Reconciliation 5-11th
grades 7pm at SPP Church
December 8 ~ Christmas Program
practice 11am-12pm at SPP Church,
grades 1st to 6th (Catechist may
release younger students early)
December 11 ~ Christmas Program
7pm Preschool to 6th grade, at
Sts. Peter & Paul Church
December 15 & 18 ~ Regular Class
December 22 - January 4 ~ NO Class

ADVENT BOOKS

The **33 days to Eucharistic Glory**
books are a gift to parish families
in memory of John Wroblewski
from his family & the CCW. All are
welcome on Sundays at 2pm (PLC)
to discuss that week's reading.

Eternal Life

*In your charity, please pray for the
repose of the soul of Rose Marie
Olsufka, formerly of Farwell, who
passed on November 21. Mass of
Christian Burial was November 25,
2024 at Sts. Peter & Paul Church.
Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.*

ADVENT

ADVENT is the Catholic liturgical
season leading up to Christmas
Day. The word *advent* is derived
from the Latin word *adventus*,
which means coming. During
Advent we anticipate the coming
of Jesus as a baby. It's a
penitential time full of reflection,
excitement, and hope as we
prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth.
The liturgical color purple reminds
us of our imperfections and
the need for repentance.

By acknowledging our
shortcomings, we open ourselves
to God's grace and prepare to
receive the gift of Christ.

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving
November 18-24, 2024

The Lord's Portion Farwell & Elba
St. Anthony Church \$260.00
St. Joseph \$83.00

The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter & Paul
Actual General Fund \$3128.00
OSV On-Line General Fund \$1240.00
Parish Life Center \$5370.00
Maintenance \$5.00
Restoring Our Father's House \$415.00

November 2024 Totals

Monthly Budget \$20000.00
Actual General Fund \$14348.51
Online General Fund \$8534.00
Surplus (Deficit) \$2882.51

*Thank you for your
continued support!*

Area Events & News

SOUP WITH SANTA

December 7th, serving 5 - 7pm
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center
Serving a variety of Soups,
Cinnamon Rolls & Drinks
FREE WILL DONATION
All proceeds to HG Food Pantry.
Sponsored by St. Paul Chamber &
Howard Greeley Food Pantry

BENEDICTINE COLLEGE

Youth Conference Early Bird Discount
10% off if register by February 1st
Dynamic weekend of faith, fun and
fellowship, filled with prayer, small
groups, Adoration & the Sacraments
Contact: 913-360-7406 or
Visit website: Benedictine.edu/BCYC

Todd & Cindy Peters
Riley & Katlynn Peters

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Jared Lukasiewicz



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