



# Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph  
December 22, 2024

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

[pastor@howardcountycatholics.com](mailto:pastor@howardcountycatholics.com)

**Rev. Mr. Neil Baquet**  
Deacon

[deacon@howardcountycatholics.com](mailto: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](mailto:office@howardcountycatholics.com)

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

**Tri-Parish Website:**  
[www.howardcountycatholics.com](http://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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



FILL US ALL WITH

*Love*



**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

## Liturgical Ministry Directors

Deacon Neil & Julie Baquet  
deacon@howardcountycatholics.com  
308-571-0291

## Tri-Parish Media

### Facebook:

St. Anthony Catholic Church of Padua/Farwell  
St. Joseph Catholic Church  
Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church

### My Parish App:

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church

## Prayer Chain Contacts

St. Paul - Dianne Rice (308-571-0039)  
St. Paul - Ann Rief (308-380-0619)  
Farwell - Michelle Woitalewicz  
& Thereasa Nealon (308-336-3349)  
Elba - Betty Poss (308-750-0512)



## Directors of Religious Education

Mrs. Becky Knox - Preschool to 4th  
rebecca.knox@spwildcat.org

Mrs. Judi Baker - 5th to 11th grade  
office@howardcountycatholics.com

## Youth Religious Ed. Classes

Preschool - 4th Grades:  
Sundays 9:00am - 10:00am  
(Preschool/K also offered at alt. times)

5th - 11th Grades:  
Wednesdays 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Classes held at  
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

The weekend readings reminds us to be always looking for signs of God's presence in our lives. The Visitation, where Mary visits Elizabeth, is full of joy. Elizabeth recognizes Jesus when her baby, John, leaps in her womb. This moment shows us the importance of being open to God's presence in everyday moments.

Elizabeth could have dismissed her baby's movement as just another kick. Instead, she saw it as a sign of something bigger. She recognized it as a moment of grace and the closeness of redemption. This teaches us to see God's hand in small, everyday events.

Jesus came to us as a baby in Bethlehem, but He also comes to us in our daily lives. If we only see Him in the nativity scene, we miss many moments of grace. We need to be ready to encounter Him in our interactions with each other. Through prayer and the sacraments, we prepare ourselves to recognize and welcome Jesus every day.

The Church encourages us to be watchful and open to God's presence. Like Elizabeth, we should be aware of the signs of grace around us. By doing so, we prepare our hearts for Jesus and experience the joy of His coming, not just at Christmas but every day.

- How can you prepare your heart to encounter Jesus daily?
- How can prayer and the sacraments help you recognize Jesus in your life?

## Ministry Schedule

### DECEMBER 28TH & 29TH

#### SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS

S: Michael Happ / Sestaks / Julie Baquet

GREET: Larry & Jeanne Happ /  
Kenny & Sharon Tibbetts

LECTOR: Kevin Sestak

EM: Rich & Marlene Kosmicki

SERVE: Claire Dubas / Verah Paulsen

#### SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Ken Vincik

GREET: Clint & Wanda Nilson /  
Kirk & Crissy Bader

LECTOR: Betty Roebuck

EM: Frank & Mary Stepanek

SERVE: Peyton Reilly / Reed Coufal /  
Kendyl Fowler

#### SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Russ Kosmicki/Deacon Neil

GREET: Jim & Charlene Potter  
Glen & Michele Killion

LECTOR: Jordan Meyer

EM: Amy Brandt / Heather Valasek /  
Matt Rief / Tami Reilly

SERVE: Laityn & Lenna Poss

## This Week's Schedule

### Monday, December 23

No Daily Mass / No Women's Holy Hour  
OCIA Class 6:30pm (PLC Conference Room)  
Reconciliation 6pm (SPP)

### Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Mass 4:00pm (SPP)  
Intention: †Anna Dedic By Family

Christmas Eve Mass 5:30pm (SJ)

Intention: Rev. Alex Borzych

By John & Sandi Mudloff

Christmas Eve Mass 7:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †John McIntyre

By Dan, Barb, & Tom McIntyre

Christmas & Polish Singing 9:30pm (SA)

Christmas Eve Mass 10:00pm (SA)

Intention: Gorecki Family

By Don & Kathy Gorecki

### Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day Mass 9:00am (SPP)

Intention: †Russ Sack

By Bill Sack Family

NO Religious Ed. 5th-11th 7pm (PLC Classrooms)

### Thursday, December 26

NO Daily Mass

### Friday, December 27

NO Daily Mass

### Saturday, December 28

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)

Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †Phyllis Stepanek

By Jane Kasson

Ross Baptism 6pm (SPP)

### Sunday, December 29

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)

Intention: People of the Parishes

Knights of Columbus Breakfast 8-11:30am (PLC)

NO Religious Ed. Pre-4th 9am (PLC Classrooms)

Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)

Intention: †Colleen Brouillette

By Monte Brouillette & Family



Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul  
SOLEMNITY OF  
MARY, MOTHER  
OF GOD

January 1st

December 31 ~ 5:30pm  
January 1 ~ 9:00am





*Congratulations*  
 on your Baptism  
**HART LEE LASSEN**

*Pictured:*  
 Godparents: Matt & Mercedes Schramm,  
 Parents: Jaydon & Taylor Lassen,  
 Godparents: Cydney & Cody Wetzel

**December 14, 2024**  
 Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



CONGRATULATIONS  
*Jared & Sidney*  
*Lukasiewicz*

UNITED IN CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE  
**DECEMBER 14, 2024**  
 ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DIOCESAN APPEAL**  
 OCTOBER 2024 - SEPTEMBER 2025

**Together on Mission:**  
 Please send your 2024 end of year Diocesan Appeal donations before December 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you. Check parish progress across our diocese at <https://gidiocese.org/diocesan-appeal>.

**Finance Corner**

**Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving**  
**December 9 - 16, 2024**

<b>The Lord's Portion Farwell &amp; Elba</b>	
St. Anthony Church	\$261.00
St. Joseph	\$180.00
<b>The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter &amp; Paul</b>	
Actual General Fund	\$4710.85
OSV On-Line General Fund	\$2165.00
Parish Life Center	\$680.00
Maintenance	\$75.00
Restoring Our Father's House	\$430.00

**December 2024 Totals**

Monthly Budget	\$20000.00
Actual General Fund	\$12129.26
Online General Fund	\$4449.00
Monthly Surplus (Deficit)	<b>\$3421.74</b>

*Thank you for your continued support!*

**Tri-Parish Events & News**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BREAK**  
 December 22 - January 4 ~ NO Class

**LAST CHANCE RECONCILIATION**  
 At Sts. Peter & Paul- Sunday, Dec. 22nd & Monday, Dec. 23rd, both at 6pm until no one is in the Church

**THANK YOU**  
 Heartfelt thanks to our Religious Ed. Teachers & Helpers for making the children's Christmas program, **The Birth of Jesus Christ**, possible. Thank you to Linda Kezeor for playing piano! Thank you to our students for doing such a great job of bringing the beautiful story to life! Thank you to our CCW for the cookies! Have a Blessed Christmas!

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**  
 Office will be closed December 24-26. Please have bulletin info. in by Monday, Dec. 23, noon.

**St. Anthony Christmas Music**  
 At 9:30pm, prior to Christmas Eve 10pm Mass, at St. Anthony in Farwell, there will be singing of Christmas Carols and Polish songs! Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord!  
*Psalm 95:1*

**CCW NEWS**  
 Thank you for all your support at the Bake Sale, it was a success! With the monies raised we were able to support the following young adults from our parish financially to offset their costs to attend SEEK in January:  
 Mattilyn Stepanek, Sidney Gawrych, Carmen Kosmicki, Kaleb Baker, Samuel Kramer, & Zachary Hirschman.  
 We look forward to supporting our children, young adults and adults with their spiritual growth in 2025!!! We continue to be good stewards of your contributions and are entering 2025 in a very positive position. Please join us at the CCW meetings to share ideas and thoughts on how to support all!!!

**Knights of Columbus Breakfast**  
 Sunday, December 29th, 8:00am to 11:30am Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center. Serving eggs, sausage, pancakes, rolls, bars & drinks. Free will donation.

**Area Events & News**

**SOUP SUPPER**  
**By FARWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
 Saturday, January 4, 2025  
 5:00pm to 9:00pm  
 at Farwell FIREHALL - Main Street  
 300 South Road, Farwell  
 Join us before or after the 7pm Mass at St. Anthony.

**CENTRAL NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND ADDICTIONS**  
 - A nonprofit organization serving Nebraska with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention education, information, referral, intervention and recovery services. Providing resources that help empower youth and adults to make healthy lifestyle choices.  
 Website - <https://cncaa.net>

Todd & Cindy Peters  
Riley & Katlynn Peters

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**BARBARA A. WROBLEWSKI**  
**JULIE K.W. GAWRYCH**  
Attorneys at Law

617 Howard Ave.  
P.O. Box 23  
St. Paul, NE 68873

308-754-4442



619 Grand Street  
St. Paul, NE  
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