

Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 24, 2023



HOWARD COUNTY CATHOLICS

WWW.HOWARDCOUNTYCATHOLICS.COM

† STS. PETER & PAUL

713 ELM STREET
ST. PAUL, NE 68873
SATURDAY MASS 5:00PM
SUNDAY MASS 8:00AM & 10:00AM

† ST. ANTHONY

103 KEARNS AVE
FARWELL, NE 68838
MASS 1ST SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH 7:00PM

† ST. JOSEPH

1803 HIGHWAY 11
ELBA, NE 68835
MASS 3RD SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH 6:30PM

CLERGY

Rev. Vincent L. Parsons, J.C.L., Pastor
pastor@howardcountycatholics.com
Rev. Mr. Neil Baquet, Deacon
deacon@howardcountycatholics.com
Julie Dush, Homebound Pastoral Minister
Phone (308) 968-3421

PARISH OFFICE

Monday-Friday 8AM- 4PM (308)754-4002

STAFF

Judi Baker, SPP Office Manager & Co-DRE
office@howardcountycatholics.com
Becky Knox, Co-Director of Religious Education
dre@howardcountycatholics.com
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media@howardcountycatholics.com

Facebook:

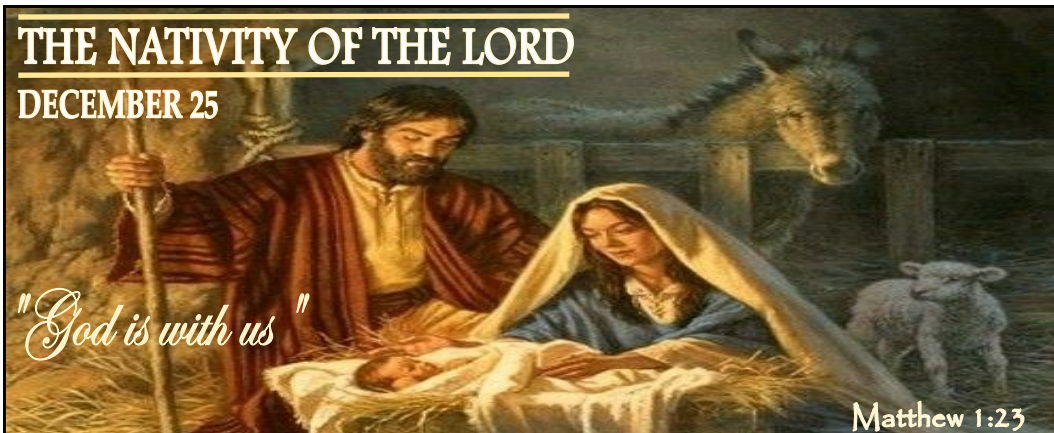
Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church
St. Joseph Catholic Church
St. Anthony Catholic Church of Padua/Farwell

My Parish App:

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

DECEMBER 25



"God is with us"

Matthew 1:23

December 31st



The Holy Family

*"Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
please pray for us."*

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas December 24, 2023

Christmas is only moments away. A woman had not sent a single Christmas card. Feeling a bit under pressure, she rushed into a Hallmark store and bought a package of 50 cards. She never checked the message within the card. She quickly signed each card, still not reading the verse within. She sent 49 cards to her family, friends and neighbors. A few days later she happened to notice the left-over card lying on the table. She glanced at it closely, only to discover to her dismay, the following verse: "This card is just to say a little gift is on the way." She nearly fainted. Some 49 people were waiting to receive gifts that would never come.

The late Bishop Boland, the Bishop in Kansas City, wrote a prayer for postal employees during the Christmas rush. He composed this prayer for overloaded workers and impatient postal customers during the Christmas season:

God, Our Father, may everything we do be first class. Imprint your own Loving Zip Code upon our hearts so that we may never go astray. Provide your gracious Providence, special handling for those of us who are fragile and keep its in one piece. We have been signed, scouted, stamped and delivered in your image and likeness. We beg you to keep us in your care as we go about our appointed rounds. And when our days draw to a close and we are marked "Return to Sender" may you be there to greet us at Heaven's door so that nobody may every say, "Unknown at this Address." Amen.

The pastor of a church in a small town ordered a sign for their outdoor manger scene. The company needed to know the dimensions and verbiage of the sign. The next day a Western Union employee was shocked to see this message come across the wire: "For unto us a child is born. 8 feet long, 3 feet wide."

Based on the song *The 12 Days of Christmas*...I would pray a blessing for each one of you:

ONE faithful friend to help carry your load.

TWO cups of Christmas cheer one to savor, one to share.

THREE special gifts for you to give away "one to show love, one to make peace and one to bring joy."

FOUR hours of quiet solitude in which to dream your fondest dreams for the coming year.

FIVE glorious sunsets unmarred by clouds or crowds.

SIX happy songs to sing of Christmas warmth and gladness.

SEVEN golden threads to run through your life: faith, virtue, knowledge, patience, godliness, kindness and love.

EIGHT precious memories of long ago to keep you young forever.

NINE words of hope to calm your troubled heard: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

TEN minutes of creativity at its height.

ELEVEN smiles from strangers to renew your faith in people.

TWELVE tranquil months of peace and love.

On behalf of the Parishes of Sts. Peter & Paul, St. Joseph, St. Anthony's, Deacon Neil and myself wish you the most joyous Christmas and happiest of New Years!

Fr. Vincent L. Parsons

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	12/25	9:00 am <i>Christmas</i> Mass (SPP) † Frank & † Vernie Fost by Leona Swanson
Tuesday	12/26	No Daily Mass
Wednesday	12/27	No Daily Mass
Thursday	12/28	8:30 am Daily Mass (SPP) † Esther Ambrose By Bob & Leona Leth
Friday	12/29	9:00 am Daily Mass (Matelyn) † Colleen Brouillette By Monte Brouillette & Family
Saturday	12/30	4:30 pm Reconciliation (SPP) 5:00 pm <i>Feast of the Holy Family</i> Mass (SPP) † Jerrid Mudloff By Tom & Sally Mudloff & Family
Sunday	12/31	8:00 am <i>Feast of the Holy Family</i> Mass (SPP) Linda Simmons By Tom & Pat Knutson, People of the Parishes 10:00 am <i>Feast of the Holy Family</i> Mass (SPP) † Matthew Parsons By Sister Ann Ference



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

SOLEMNITY OF
MARY, MOTHER
OF GOD

January 1st

MASS 9:00AM STS. PETER & PAUL

MINISTRY SCHEDULE DEC 30TH - JAN 1ST

SACRISTANS

Sat - 5pm: Michael H/Julie B

Sun - 8am: Ken Vincik

Sun - 10am: Russ K/Neil B

Mon - 9am: Volunteer

GREETERS

Sat - 5pm: Travis & Rebecca Sydzzyk/ Alan & Joleen Lewandowski

Sun - 8am: John & Sandi Mudloff/ Ken & Deanna Hirschman

Sun - 10am: Matt & Ann Rief Family

Mon - 9am: Bill & Mary Gregoski / Cheyenne & Kennedy Copen

LECTOR

Saturday - 5pm: Alan Lewandowski

Sunday - 8am: Diane Rice

Sunday - 10am: Tara Sujts

Mon - 9am: Kristin Townsend

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat - 5pm: Niki Bader / Nancy Psota

Sun - 8am: Zach Hirschman / Deanna Hirschman

Sun - 10am: Chris, Gina, & Emma Elstermeier / Tara Sjuets

Mon - 9am: Christopher Thomas / Branson Townsend

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday - 5pm: Jaxen & Kendyl Fowler

Sunday - 8am: Archer Shotkoski

Sunday - 10am: Macie Bockmann & Paisley Call

Mon - 9am: Eryn Gregoski & Delores Koperski

 **TRI-PARISH YOUTH** Religious Education

Preschool - 4th Grades: **Sundays 9-10am**
 5th - 11th Grades: **Wednesdays 7-8pm**
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center Classrooms
 DREs ~ Becky Knox 308-571-0430 & Judi Baker 308-750-8418
Break time... NO CLASSES - Dec. 24, 27, & 31!
May you all have a Blessed Christmas!
Wishing you a Safe & Happy New Year!
 Religious Ed. will resume on Wed., January 3, 2024



3rd Grade Religious Ed. Class was the **WINNER** of the Jackie Synowski memorial Best Choice label contest!

They were rewarded with breakfast pizza at class on Sunday!!! Thank you to all that participated & to Becky Knox for organizing!



Special Thanks to all that helped decorate our Churches for the celebration of the coming of our Lord Jesus. They look beautiful and we are thankful for your great gifts of time & talent!

Parish Office will be Closed
 December 25 - 26, 2023 & January 1, 2024

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!


Women's Holy Hour

MONDAYS AT 7PM ALL ARE WELCOME
STS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

CCW Meeting - Monday, January 8

7:00PM Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center
 All women of the Parish are welcome to attend!

Inviting all ladies 18 and older to consider a CCW officer position. Contact Shelly Johns if interested 308-571-0515. New officer installation will be at the January 8th meeting.

 **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** COUNCIL 1918
 Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 9th, 7:00 PM
 SPP Parish Center NW classroom

Come help your Knights of Columbus plan for future events.

 **Christmas Flowers**

In loving honor / memory of...

- * Jim & Carolyn Kasson by Jane Kasson & Family
- * Joan Anderson, Carol Oseka, Theresa Turek, & Isabelle Trompke by Adam & Tonya Anderson Family
- * Alex & Elaine Kulwicki by Ron, Diane, Spencer, & Amanda Kulwicki
- * Alex & Elaine Kulwicki by Mark, Kathleen, & Hannah Seitzinger & Spencer Putnam
- * Alex & Elaine Kulwicki by Renee & Tom Dalton II, Christina & Thomas Dalton III, and James & Greg Dalton
- * Jerry Becker & Deceased members of the Scarborough Family by Connie Becker & Family
- * Steven Danczak, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Waskowiak, Mr. & Mrs. Leo Danczak by Bernard & JoAnn Danczak
- * Jim Wieck by Matthew & Christi Stepanek Family
- * William Gregoski Sr. by Emily Gregoski & Family
- * Melvin, Alice & Tony Boysen, Bennie & Lorraine Knutson, Ed Wieling, Fr Ray Wieling by Tom & Patricia Knutson
- * Gary Lemburg, Daniel & Isabelle Lukasiewicz, David & Karen Lukasiewicz by Judy Lemburg Family
- * Hank & Carla Peters by Chris & Terri Townsend
- * Ken Svoboda, Tony & Bette Hiller, Mike Hiller, & Connie Koerin by Beth Svoboda
- * Eldon Baker, Jon Baker, & David Woitalewicz by Michael & Judi Baker Family
- * Alex & Elaine Kulwicki by Karen & Kirk Cisler
- * Melvin Woitalewicz, Maria Skorupa, Harold & Alyce Dethlefs by Neal & Chris Dethlefs
- * George & Pauline Sack and Victor & Ellen Goerl by Jerry & Barb Sack Family
- * Kelly Hoppes & Kenny Wilson by Cameron & Stacy Hoppes Family
- * The O'Hare Family by Kathy Lewandowski
- * Dan Svoboda, Anton Barbara, & Della Jurzenski by Helen Svoboda & Family

Feast of Holy Innocents Mass of Healing

A bilingual Mass for Holy Innocents will be celebrated at St. Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday, December 28 at 5:15PM. Many families struggle with infertility, miscarriage, still birth, infant death or abortion. We welcome you to this Mass of Healing. If you would like your baby remembered during the Mass, please call the St. Mary's Cathedral Office, 308-384-2523, and leave a message.

PRO LIFE GALA / TOGETHER FOR LIFE CONFERENCE
JANUARY 5 & 6 EMBASSY SUITES - LINCOLN, NE

<https://nebraskansembracinglife.org/upcoming-pro-life-events/>

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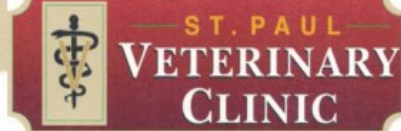
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Wed. & Thurs. 11-5:30 Fri. 11-5 Sat. 10-2



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LORD'S PORTION

Sts. Peter and Paul

General Fund - \$2,553.00

Parish Life Center - \$600.00 | Maint. \$30.00

Immaculate Conception of Mary - \$25.00

Restoring Our Father's House - \$490.00

St. Anthony

General Fund - \$202.00

St. Joseph

General Fund - \$230.00

St. Joseph Outreach Given Out - \$600.00

Prayer Chain

St. Paul - Dianne Rice: 308-571-0039

St. Paul - Ann Rief: 308-380-0619

Farwell-Michelle Woitalewicz: 308-336-3241

Farwell - Thereasa Nealon: 308-336-3349

Elba - Betty Poss: 308-750-0512

Pray without ceasing 1 Thessalonian 5:17