



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph
November 17, 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

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SON OF MAN

COMING IN CLOUDS WITH
WITH GREAT POWER AND GLORY

MARK 13:26



One God
One Family
One 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

The Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Some Catholics and non-Catholics alike jokingly refer to the sit-stand-kneel rhythm at Mass as “Catholic calisthenics.” Some Catholics wonder why we don’t allow gum, or food in the church for the Holy Mass. Some wonder why our statues of old dead saints are present in our church. And still others wonder why we don’t modernize and get up with the current times when we could contract with Starbucks or Bed Head Coffee and make a pretty mint. I could have that church paid off in months instead of a couple of years! Yet is that the point?

Ritual actions in Catholic Mass are not merely a sequence of movements and words; they are deeply intentional practices designed to center our focus solely on God. Each ritual, be it the responses, the music, or even the decor, serves to transport us from the everyday distractions of life into a sacred space—the holy presence of the divine.

The structure of the Mass is meticulously crafted to facilitate an encounter with the sacred. From the moment we enter the church, our senses are engaged by sights, sounds, and smells that remind us we are in a different realm—one devoted to worship. This intentional design helps differentiate the sacred from the secular, reminding us that we have stepped away from the mall, school, or work, and into a space where God is at the center.

As we approach the completion of Restoring Our Father’s House, it’s an opportune moment to reflect on the ritual actions that enrich our worship at Sts. Peter and Paul. These sacred practices not only define our community’s identity but also embody our connection with the divine.

Every ritual action, whether it’s lighting a candle, participating in communion, or offering prayers, invites us into a deeper relationship with God. They serve as reminders of our faith journey and our commitment to the community. As parishioners and non-parishioners enter our church, I hope they experience the beauty and sanctity that these actions represent.

The transformation of our space is a collective offering—a physical manifestation of our gratitude and devotion. Let’s embrace this opportunity to foster an atmosphere where everyone feels welcomed and inspired by the rituals that unite us, making Sts. Peter and Paul a vibrant place of worship for all.

Ritual actions are powerful expressions of faith, serving as a bridge between the divine and the community. These meaningful practices not only enhance our worship experience but also deepen our connection to God.

Recently, Father Sichko highlighted the importance of our physical presence during communal worship. One suggestion he offered is that we refrain from food and drinks—like gum, coffee, or even water—during these sacred moments. This practice encourages us to focus solely on our worship and reflection. After all, when Jesus instructed us to "Do this in memory of me," it prompts us to consider the appropriateness of our actions during these times. Eating cereal or sipping a latte might detract from the reverence we're called to uphold. To elevate our ritual actions, let's embrace a spirit of intentionality. By setting aside distractions, we engage fully with our prayer and contemplation, allowing ourselves to be truly present for the divine encounter. Ritual actions can take many forms, from silent prayers to communal singing, each contributing to the overall atmosphere of devotion.

Ultimately, the essence of ritual actions lies in their ability to foster a deeper understanding of our faith. By participating earnestly in these practices, we transform simple acts into profound expressions of love and reverence for God. Let us approach our worship with open hearts and mindful actions, making every gathering a true celebration of our faith. Next pastor’s note: Music and our worship.

Jr. Vincent L. Parsons

Ministry Schedule

NOVEMBER 23RD & 24TH

SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS

S: Michael Happ / Sestaks / Julie Baquet

GREET: Alan & Joleen Lewandowski / Troy & Kim Johnson

LECTOR: Alan Lewandowski

EM: John & Sandi Mudloff

SERVE: Volunteers

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Ken Vincik

GREET: Dan & Carrie Vech Family / Al & Janet Wemhoff

LECTOR: Jean Thede

EM: Branson Townsend / Todd Peters / Marc Verley

SERVE: Voluteers

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Russ Kosmicki/Deacon Neil

GREET: 1st Grade Religious Ed. Class

LECTOR: Chris Elstermeier

EM: Chris, Gina, & Emma Elstermeier / Monte Brouillette

SERVE: Gabe Rief / Brennen Shreve

This Week’s Schedule

Monday, November 18

No Daily Mass

Women’s Holy Hour 7pm (SPP)

Tuesday, November 19

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Colleen Brouillette

By Monte Brouillette & Family

Catholic Daughters Meeting 7pm (St. Libory)

Meet in SPP parking lot 6:45pm to carpool

Wednesday, November 20

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Leonard & †Josephine Gorecki

By Family

Religious Ed Team Meeting 6:15pm (PLC)

Religious Ed. 5th-11th 7pm (PLC)

RCIA Class 7pm (PLC Conference Room)

Thursday, November 21

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Janice Jelinek

By Family

Friday, November 22

Daily Mass 9:00am (Brookfield)

Intention: †Marge Wozniak

By Terry & Teresa Gorecki

Saturday, November 23

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)

Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †Jeff Welch

By Buzz Welch

Blake & Lacey Barge Baptism 6pm (SPP)

Sunday, November 24

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)

Intention: †Colleen Killinger

By Robert & Victoria Wittry

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

Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)

Intention: People of the Parishes



Requesting a Mass to be said for a loved one is a special way to honor either someone living, or one who has gone before us to the next stage of life in Christ. Contact the parish office for more information. (Ten dollars is the suggested donation for a Mass.)

THANKSGIVING MASS

NOVEMBER 26 - 6:30PM MASS - STS. PETER & PAUL
 WINE & CHEESE TO FOLLOW AT PLC,
 PLEASE BRING SNACK TO SHARE

NOVEMBER 27 - 6:30PM MASS - ST. ANTHONY
 PLEASE BRING ITEMS/COLLECTION FOR FOOD PANTRY
 WINE & CHEESE TO FOLLOW MASS

Tri-Parish Events & News

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Thursday, November 21, at 7pm
 Fr. Vince speaking on judgement day and the teachings of purgatory in the Catholic Church. Loup River Distillery (back room).

FOOD PANTRY SUPPORT

Please consider supporting our local Food Pantry this month. Popular items - pancake mix, syrup, juice, cereal, & macaroni & cheese; place items in or near the basket in the back of Church.

JIM SICHKO SAUCE & BOOKS

When all the ordered sauce and books come in it will be announced at Mass. Then you can pick up what you ordered in the back of Church following Mass. Please mark off your name when you pick yours up.

Looking Ahead

RCIA

No Class on November 27

Religious Education

No Class on November 27

No Class on December 1

Christmas Program December 11, 7pm

NEW BREAKING BREAD BOOKS

Following 10am Mass next Sunday, November 24, please help change out the old Breaking Bread books for the new ones.

ST. ANTHONY PARISH

Men & women volunteers are needed to please find time to check the list in the Farwell Church basement and help out when you can with clean up & maintenance.

GROUP EFFORT

Thank you to all that helped move in and assemble the new Altar & Church furniture. Your muscle & efforts are much appreciated. Also, thank you to the ladies that did extra cleaning & those that re-decorated afterwards.

Advent Penance Service

Please plan to attend -

Wednesday, December 4th

7pm Sts. Peter & Paul Church

We appreciate our area Priests that make our Reconciliation possible.

Area Events & News

COMMUNITY THANSGING

Free Dinner at Presbyterian Church

Thursday, November 28, 11am-1pm
 Volunteers are needed! Wed. prep & Thursday gam to clean up. Serve food, reset tables, & clean up at the end... all ages are welcome! If can donate a Pumpkin Pie(s) on Wed., please call 308-754-4258. Donations to: "St. Paul Community Thanksgiving"

MOUNTAIN OYSTER FEED

Knights of Columbus #5455

November 22, 508pm St. Francis Parish Hall in Ashton, NE \$15 all can eat Also serving Maschka's Polish Sausage

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

Giving Strategies Presentation

Thursday, November 14 - 6:30pm
 Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center



Congratulations on your Baptism

Andi Kay Valasek

Pictured: Godparents Tyler & Kara Hohenstein, Rev. Parsons, Parents Carissa & Joshua Valasek

November 9, 2024

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



Congratulations on your Baptism

Brooklynn Renae Galvan

NOVEMBER 10, 2024

STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH

PICTURED: DEACON NEIL, BROOKLYNN, GRANDPARENTS CONNIE & MIKE BECK

THANK YOU to those that give their time & talent to count collection!

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving

November 4 - 10, 2024

The Lord's Portion Farwell & Elba

St. Anthony Church \$325.00

St. Joseph \$145.00

The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter & Paul

Actual General Fund \$3640.23

OSV On-Line General Fund \$1626.00

Parish Life Center \$1222.00

Maintenance \$80.00

Restoring Our Father's House \$1525.00

November 2024 Totals

Monthly Budget \$20000.00

Actual General Fund \$8591.05

Online General Fund \$2429.00

Surplus (Deficit) **\$8979.95**

Thank you for your continued support!

Todd & Cindy Peters
Riley & Katlynn Peters

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Mike Baker, DVM
Tracy Hadenfeldt, DVM
Barrett Huneke, DVM

1373 Hwy. 281
St. Paul, NE 68873
Phone: 308-754-4222
spvetclinic3@gmail.com



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WROBLEWSKI & GAWRYCH
LAW OFFICE LLC

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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