

# 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:**

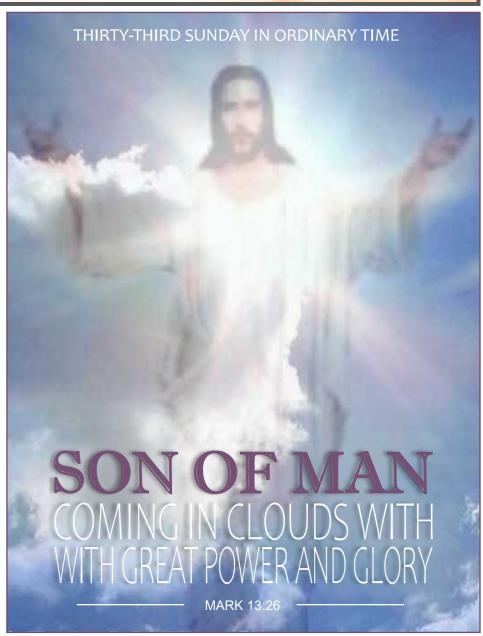
Tuesday-Thursday 8:30am SPP Friday 9:00am at Matelyn/Brookfield

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism Please call the Parish Office (308) 754-4002





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.

# 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.)

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# 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.

# Arga Events & News

# COMMUNITY THANSGIVING Free Dinner at Presbyterian Church

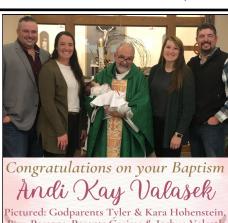
Thursday, November 28, 11am–1pm Volunteers are needed! Wed. prep & Thursday 9am to clean up. Serve food, reset tables, & clean up at the end... all ages are welcome! If can donate a Pumpkin Pie(s) on Wed., please call 308-754-4258. Donations to: "St. Paul Community Thanksgiving"

# 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



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!

## <u>Finance Corner</u>

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!









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Trev Sharman Sales

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

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