



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph
February 23, 2025

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

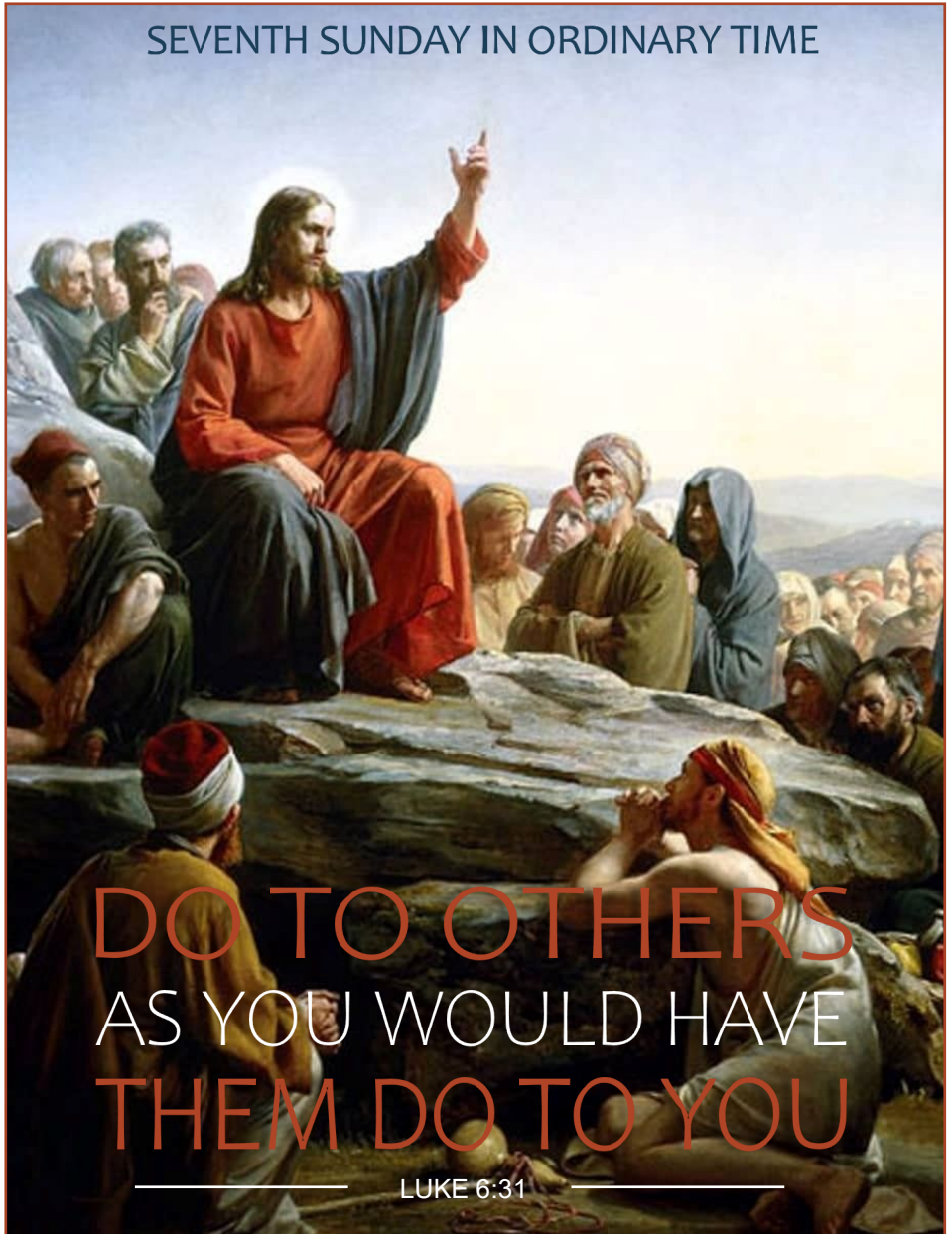
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or
by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office
(308) 754-4002

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



DO TO OTHERS
AS YOU WOULD HAVE
THEM DO TO YOU

LUKE 6:31



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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

We as humans have a great attachment to things. The world seems to pivot around the things we own. For example, what would be our response if a person asked for our cell phone, our watch, and our car keys and said I can't promise that you will get them back? Obviously, most of us would agree that the typical response would be no when asked to give up something that is important to us.

Could we live without these items? Yes, as with most things we own, we would survive. True, their absence would disrupt our life, and it may be much more challenging to make it to an appointment on time, to communicate or commute. However, we habitually mold our lives around our possessions. Even from an early age, recognize the importance of possessions as we hear a toddler screaming 'Mine, Mine!' when another attempts to take a toy from her. As we get older, we don't necessarily use those same words as the toddler, but the meaning remains the same when we say, 'What is mine is mine.'

What is it that we possess that we are not willing to give up in service to the Lord? Let us consider whether the physical things we identify as having the most value for us, should be the things we are most willing to share with others or even give away. Jesus reminds us today whatever we claim as our own is not really ours. For the Lord God has provided everything for us, even our very existence. Therefore what we have, what we can do are only on loan from the Lord. He will one day take it all back. Will we be ready to give those things up for a share in a perfect existence in his heavenly kingdom?

Even though we are sinners, each of us possesses an innate ability to do good. We often without thought or resentment accomplish virtuous deeds for family or friends. Could we offer the same graciousness to someone we dislike, or we may think of as an enemy? Although we have the capacity to do good works, sometimes we allow judgment and the desire for revenge blind us from doing the right thing. How willing would we be to be in service for another if we have these thoughts?

That person has never talked to me, and he sees me every day, why should I be the one who initiates the conversion. This person often says hateful things about me behind my back; I have no reason to offer my sympathy because of her father's death. That person isn't a Christian; he doesn't deserve my assistance.

Jesus challenges us to learn to love, even our enemies. We far too easily fall into punishing through revenge because we dislike something said or done to us. However, when we make judgments and fail to respond to another in need, we do not allow God to do his work through us. It is only God, in his infinite wisdom, who can judge fairly. Jesus knows that for us it is more difficult to act on another's behalf when there is no recompense. He expects us to go beyond our comfort zone. If our faith is strong, we can be confident to stand up for the plight of the needy, the lost, and the forsaken. We can recognize when others are in need and can respond with a caring heart if we are open to allow grace to flow into our being. Jesus tells us, if we are people of faith, meeting the needs of others is an ongoing practice, and we must not be satisfied reaching some quota.

If we believe that the power of the Lord is present within us, then we can act with spiritual abandon. If we believe in salvation, our faith will never waver even to the point of giving up our most prized possession, our lives, for what we believe. Jesus has shown us the way through his death on the cross. Have faith, for if you give away everything, one day you will possess everything in the Kingdom.

J. Vincent L. Parsons

Ministry Schedule

MARCH 1ST & 2ND

SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS
S: Michael Happ / Sestaks / Julie Baquet
GREET: Mike & Kassandra Knapp Family
LECTOR: Neal Hahn
EM: Neil Hahn / Benjamin Syringe
S: Jaxen Fowler / Kendyl Fowler

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS
SACRISTAN: Ken Vincik
GREET: Anna Thede / Jackson Seward / Ken & Carol Vincik
LECTOR: Jean Thede
EM: Travis & Trisha Hedman/ Beth Svoboda
SERVE: Brogan Grabowski / Brennen Shreve

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS
SACRISTAN: Russ Kosmicki/Bill Gregoski
GREET: Confirmation Families
LECTOR: Confirmation Candidates
EM: Confirmation Families

SERVE: Ike Gawrych / Jace Valasek

This Week's Schedule

Monday, February 24
 No Daily Mass
 OCIA Class 6:30pm (PLC Conference Room)

Tuesday, February 25
 Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)
 Intention: †John McIntyre
 By Dan, Barbara, & Tom McIntyre

Wednesday, February 26
 Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)
 Intention: Rev. Vincent Parsons
 By Parish Family
 Religious Ed. 5th-11th 7pm (PLC Classrooms)

Thursday, February 27
 Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)
 Intention: †Marge Wozniak
 By CCW

Friday, February 28
 Daily Mass 9:00am (Brookfield)
 Intention: †Bob Pearson
 By CCW
 Guzman & Roan Rehearsal 5pm (SPP)

Saturday, March 1
 Guzman & Roan Wedding 2pm (SPP)
 Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)
 Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)
 Intention: †Steve Welch
 By Buzz Welch
 Gorecki Baptisms 6pm (SPP)
 Weekend Mass 7:00pm (SA)
 Intention: †Dan Gorecki
 By Ron & Jackie Gorecki

Sunday, March 2
 Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)
 Intention: †Daryl Platek
 By Marie Platek & Family
 Religious Ed. Pre-4th 9am (PLC Classrooms)
 Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP) - **Confirmation**
 Intention: People of the Parishes





Knights of Columbus * Sts. Peter & Paul CCW

FRIDAY NIGHT LENTEN FISH FRY

MARCH 7TH • MARCH 21ST • APRIL 4TH

Saints Peter & Paul Parish Life Center 5:00 – 7:00PM

Please answer the CALL to help out with the Fish Frys! If you are not contacted & are able to help please contact Tonya Anderson at 308-380-0037. THANK YOU!!!

BASKET FUNDRAISER

St. Paul CCW is organizing a Basket Raffle Fundraiser. *All are invited to contribute a themed basket!* A list of included items, the donors name, and a monetary value would be appreciated. Please have completed baskets to the Church or the Church Office by Wednesday April 9th. The drawing of the lucky winners will take place on Palm Sunday at Sts. Peter & Paul Church. Thank you!

Tri-Parish Events & News

CONFIRMATION MASS
Please pray for our candidates that receive this special Sacrament on March 2nd during the 10am Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 5 MASS
7:00am, 12:05pm, & 7:00pm at SPP

ADORATION
Friday, March 7, 10am-5pm
SPP Church, please help fill in times

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE
Wednesday, March 12, 7pm at SPP

SUMMER RETREAT REGISTRATION
Information and Registration:
<https://gidiocese.org/youth-events>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
Friday, March 7, SPP CCW will be hosting: Service at 10:30am, with a light lunch to follow at the PLC.

PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS
Sunday, April 13, 11am-12pm SPP Parish Life Center; Contact the Parish Office to register.

Gratitude:
A heartfelt thank you to the family of Florence Duester, for the generous memorial donation to be put towards Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center building fund.

St. Anthony CCW Meeting:
(rescheduled) Thursday, March 6th at 7pm, at Farwell Rectory.
Agenda: Phil's Ordination, April 11 - Lenten Fundraiser, 100 year celebration of moving Church building, & Elections of Officers.

WHY ASHES?

For centuries, Catholic Christians have marked the beginning of the season of Lent by receiving ash on their foreheads on Ash Wednesday. This tradition has its roots in the Old Testament, where wearing ashes was a common sign of repentance for sins, and a sign of one's humility before God. Since Lent is a season of penitential renewal through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, it's appropriate that this ancient sign marks the beginning of the season. (FACT OF FAITH Fr. Larry Rice)

Area Events & News

ST. JOSEPHAT'S FISH FRY'S
St. Josephat's Parish Hall - Loup City, NE
March 14, March 28, & April 11
5:00 - 7:00pm
Serving Hand Breaded Fried Fish, Cheesy Potatoes, Sauerkraut & Dumplings, Mac & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Dinner Roll, & Homemade Desserts.

LENT 2025 PILGRIM OR TOURIST?
Prepare for Ash Wednesday & Lent
March 1 Registration 8:30am
Blessed Sacrament, Grand Island Jubilee Center - 4 short talks 9:15am to 10:45am, Eucharistic Adoration / Benediction 10:55-11:35am. For all ages. Bring item for BS Food Pantry
Contact: Bill Buchta 308-381-2700

SPRING ASSEMBLY
Grand Island Council of Catholic Women
March 24th & 25th
Holy Spirit Parish, North Platte, NE
Registrations are due by March 17
Speakers, Panel Discussions, Social Hour, Fellowship & Fun ... Visit:
<https://gidccw.org/spring-assembly-2025>
for complete agenda & registration

MISSION OF THE FAMILY
Five short (14 minute) FREE videos...
Men and women, young and old, strengthen and grow in your faith for your families.
Produced by the Knights of Columbus, Visit their website:
<https://www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html>

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving February 10 - 16, 2025

The Lord's Portion Farwell & Elba

St. Anthony Church	\$367.00
St. Joseph	\$265.00

The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter & Paul

Actual General Fund	\$3047.79
OSV On-Line General Fund	\$1530.00
Parish Life Center	\$85.00
Religious Education	\$5.00
Restoring Our Father's House	\$3318.00

February Totals as of 2/16/25

Monthly Budget	\$20000.00
Actual General Fund	\$10619.79
Online General Fund	\$3697.00
Monthly Surplus (Deficit)	\$5683.21

Special Collections
DIOCESE: March 5 - Eastern Europe
PARISH: March 5 - Ash Wednesday

THANK YOU

for your continued support!

Todd & Cindy Peters
Riley & Katlynn Peters

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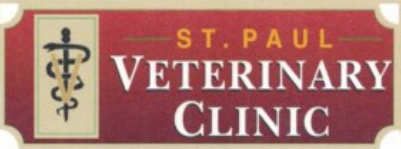
JOE MLINAR, AGENT
1116 2nd Street St. Paul, NE
308-754-4662

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Mike & Jean Thede
Trev Sharman
Sales

Office: 308-754-2200
Fax: 308-754-2221



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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308-750-2782 After Hours
Teresa Valasek-Martinsen

With Branches In:



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St. Paul, NE
308-754-4426

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Loup City, NE
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