



# Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph  
February 8, 2026

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

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

**Rev. Mr. Neil Baquet**  
Deacon

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

**Rev. Mr. Phil Lukasiewicz**  
Deacon

[deaconphil@howardcountycatholics.com](mailto:deaconphil@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  
308-754-8126

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

### Daily Mass Schedule:

Tues/Thurs 8:30am Wed 12:05pm SPP  
Friday 9:00am - at Brookfield/Matelyn

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or  
by appointment

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LET  
YOUR LIGHT  
SHINE

BEFORE  
MEN

that they may see your

GOOD  
WORKS

& Glorify your Father  
who is in

Heaven  
MATTHEW 5:16



**Sts. Peter & Paul**  
713 Elm Street  
St. Paul, NE 68873  
(308)754-4002  
Saturday Mass 5:00PM  
Sunday Mass 8AM & 10AM

**St. Anthony**  
103 Kearns 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  
 deaconneil@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 - 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  
 308-571-0430

Mrs. Judi Baker - 5th to 11th grade  
 office@howardcountycatholics.com  
 308-750-8418

**Youth Religious Ed. Classes**

Preschool thru 4th Grades:  
 Sundays 9:00am – 10:00am  
 5th thru 11th Grades:  
 Wednesday 7:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Classes held at SPP  
 Parish Life Center classrooms  
 (Confirmation Class at Bed Head Coffee)

**Ministry Schedule**

**FEBRUARY 14TH & 15TH**

**SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS**

**MUSIC:** Julie Dush

**GREET:** Neal & Kaitlin Hahn /  
 Denny & Kathy Hahn

**LECTOR:** Eryn Gregoski

**EM:** Bill Gregoski / Sherrie Oakely  
**S:** Verah Paulsen / Jamie Stepanek

**SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS**

**MUSIC:** Lewandowski Family

**GREET:** Ken & Carol Vincik /  
 Jackson Seward / Anna Thede

**LECTOR:** Jean Thede

**EM:** Carrie Vech / Beth Svoboda  
**S:** Owen Shotkoski / Brennen Shreve

**SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS**

**MUSIC:** Men's Choir

**GREET:** 6th Grade Religious Ed. Class  
**LECTOR:** 6th Grade RE Students

**EM:** Joe & Paulette Hansen /  
 Tina Headrick / Glen Killion

**SERVE:** Lauryn & Tyler Brandt

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR**

Spiritual writer, Henry Nouwen, once said: "Often we want to be somewhere other than where we are, or even to be someone other than who we are. We tend to compare ourselves constantly with others and wonder why we are not as rich, as intelligent, as simple, as generous, or as saintly as they are. Such comparisons make us feel guilty, ashamed, or jealous. It is very important to realize that our vocation is hidden in where we are and who we are. We are unique human beings, each with a call to realize in life what nobody else can, and to realize it in the concrete context of the here and now. We will never find our vocations by trying to figure out whether we are better or worse than others. We are good enough to do what we are called to do. Be yourself!"

But in our gospel today, Jesus explicitly unveils who we are: "the SALT of the earth and the LIGHT of the world!" As SALT- giving flavor to life, and as LIGHT- giving hope to people, you are not competing with others if you are better than them or not. It is imperative that you do what God calls you to do to perpetuate his presence in your life, make sure that good overcomes evil, ensures that you make a difference in the life of others. And today, in a world so full of social and political turmoil and immense human suffering, people of faith, love and hope: ARE YOU READY TO BECOME SALT OF THE EARTH; ARE YOU READY TO BECOME LIGHT OF THE WORLD?

*Jr. Vincent L. Parsons*

**This Week's Schedule**

**Monday, February 9**

No Daily Mass  
 OCIA 6pm (PLC Classroom)  
 Women's Bible Study 6:30pm (PLC)

**Tuesday, February 10**

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)  
 Intention: †Bill Sack  
 By Bob & Patty Krzycki  
 Young at Heart 12:00pm (PLC)  
 Parish Council 6:30pm (SPP Conf. Room)

**Wednesday, February 11**

Daily Mass 12:05pm (SPP)  
 Intention: †Alex Krzycki  
 By Bob & Patty Krzycki  
 CCW Meeting 6pm (PLC Conf. Room)  
 Religious Ed. 5th-11th 7pm (PLC CR)

**Thursday, February 12**

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)  
 Intention: Dedic Family  
 By Ron Derner  
 SJ Parish Council Meeting 7pm (Elba)

**Friday, February 13**

Daily Mass 9:00am (*Matelyn*)  
 Intention: †LaVern & Jerome Gawrych  
 By Linda Gawrych

**Saturday, February 14**

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)  
 Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)  
 Intention: †Bill Sack  
 By Dave & Dee Leschinsky

**Sunday, February 15**

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)  
 Intention: †Art Schmidt  
 By Family  
 Religious Ed. Preschool-4th 9am (PLC CR)  
 Religious Ed. Pre/K Class 2 10am (PLC CR)  
 Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)  
 Intention: People of the Parishes





Thank you to the UNK/UNL students that conducted our Confirmation Retreat! Please pray for our 23 candidates as they continue to prepare for this special Sacrament to be celebrated on April 18th, 2026 at the 5pm Mass!



**FRIDAY NIGHT LENTEN FISH FRY**  
 FEBRUARY 20TH, MARCH 6TH, MARCH 20TH  
 STS. PETER & PAUL PARISH LIFE CENTER  
 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

**ST. ANTHONY'S ITALIAN SEAFOOD NITE**  
 MARCH 27, 2026  
 5:00 - 7:00PM  
 Mark your Calendars!

**PRO-LIFE COFFEE**  
 FEBRUARY 14, 2026 Riverside Golf Club Grand Island 9 - 11AM  
 Join statewide pro-life groups & leaders from Tri-Cities area for a panel discussion on pro-life news and bills in Nebraska over snacks & sips. Free & open to the public.

**Finance Corner**  
 Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving  
 January 26 - February 1, 2026

<b>The Lord's Portion Farwell &amp; Elba</b>	
St. Anthony Church	\$480.00
St. Joseph	\$200.00
<b>The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter &amp; Paul</b>	
Actual General Fund	\$4530.00
OSV On-Line General Fund	\$593.80
Maintenance	\$10.00
Parish Life Center	\$190.00
Restoring Our Father's House	\$1674.00

**FEBRUARY Totals as of 2/1/26**

Monthly Budget	\$20000.00
Actual General Fund	\$4530.00
Online General Fund	\$593.80
Monthly <b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$14876.20</b>

**Special Collections**  
 DIOCESE for January - Latin America \$7.00  
 DIOCESE February - Eastern Europe

**SCAN HERE**



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**THANK YOU**  
 for your continued support!

**Tri-Parish Events & News**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
 February 18th, 2026 - Mass times will be 7:00am, 12:05pm, and 7:00pm, all at Sts. Peter & Paul. *Wednesday Religious Ed. students please plan on attending.*

**LENTEN FUNDRAISERS**  
 Please take note of the Fish Fry & Italian Seafood dates, these events take everyone's help & everyone's attendance - Lenten fellowship!

**LENTEN RECONCILIATION**  
 Wednesday, February 25, 7pm at SPP. *Wednesday Religious Ed. students please plan on attending.*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
 Friday's during Lent at 5:30pm SPP - the Stations are rooted in the early Church's practice of pilgrims walking the actual Via Dolorosa ("Way of Sorrow") in Jerusalem, retracing Jesus' steps to Calvary. Today, Catholics can participate in this devotion right in their Church!

**Men's Lenten Bible Study**  
 Thursdays 6pm - Parish Life Center - Men, if you would like the option of a book or study guide for the Lenten series, get a hold of Deacon Neil by **February 13th**. 308-571-0291 First meeting will be February 26.

**DIOCESE SUMMER YOUTH EVENTS**  
 Register **TODAY** to get the early bird discount for Higher Ground, HG Extreme Faith, & Steubenville. Find the links on [gidiocese.org/yya](http://gidiocese.org/yya). If cost is a deterrent, select the Anne Alt Youth Grant screen on our website to learn about financial assistance for these events.

**ST. ANTHONY CONTRIBUTIONS**  
 An additional donation of \$600 was made towards the cost to heat the Church during these winter months. Much appreciated!

**ANNE ALT COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
 High School Seniors and College/Tech School Students may access the online application via our [howardcountycatholics.com](http://howardcountycatholics.com) website - click on the Anne Alt Scholarship screen. Applications are accepted from now thru April 15th, 2026. Late applications will not be accepted.

**Eternal Life**  
*In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Evangeline Markvicka Obermiller of St. Paul. Mass of Christian Burial was February 5, 2026 at Sts. Peter & Paul Church. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.*

**Area Events & News**

**ST. LIBORY VALENTINE SUPPER**  
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026  
 Send reservation & \$40/person to Beth Kozisek, 106 Eagle Road, St. Libory, NE 68872 by 2/10/26

**ST. PAUL SENIOR CENTER SOUP LUNCHEON**  
 Sunday, February 15th, 11am-1pm  
 All are welcome - Free Will Donation to benefit Senior Center

**RETRouvaille WEEKEND**  
 Rediscover Your Marriage - rediscover yourself, your spouse, & a loving relationship in your marriage. **Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples save their marriage.** For confidential info. 402-540-8381 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) Retreat weekend in Schuyler, NE mid February so contact us today.

Todd & Cindy Peters  
Riley & Katlynn Peters

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CLINIC

Mike Baker, DVM 1373 Hwy. 281  
Tracy Hadenfeldt, DVM St. Paul, NE 68873  
Barrett Huneke, DVM Phone: 308-754-4222  
spvetclinic3@gmail.com



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