



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph
August 17, 2025

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

pastor@howardcountycatholics.com

Rev. Mr. Neil Baquet
Deacon

deaconneil@howardcountycatholics.com

Rev. Mr. Phil Lukasiewicz
Deacon

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

Kathy Gorecki
SA & SJ Office Manager
308-336-3351

Tri-Parish Website:
www.howardcountycatholics.com

Daily Mass Schedule:

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

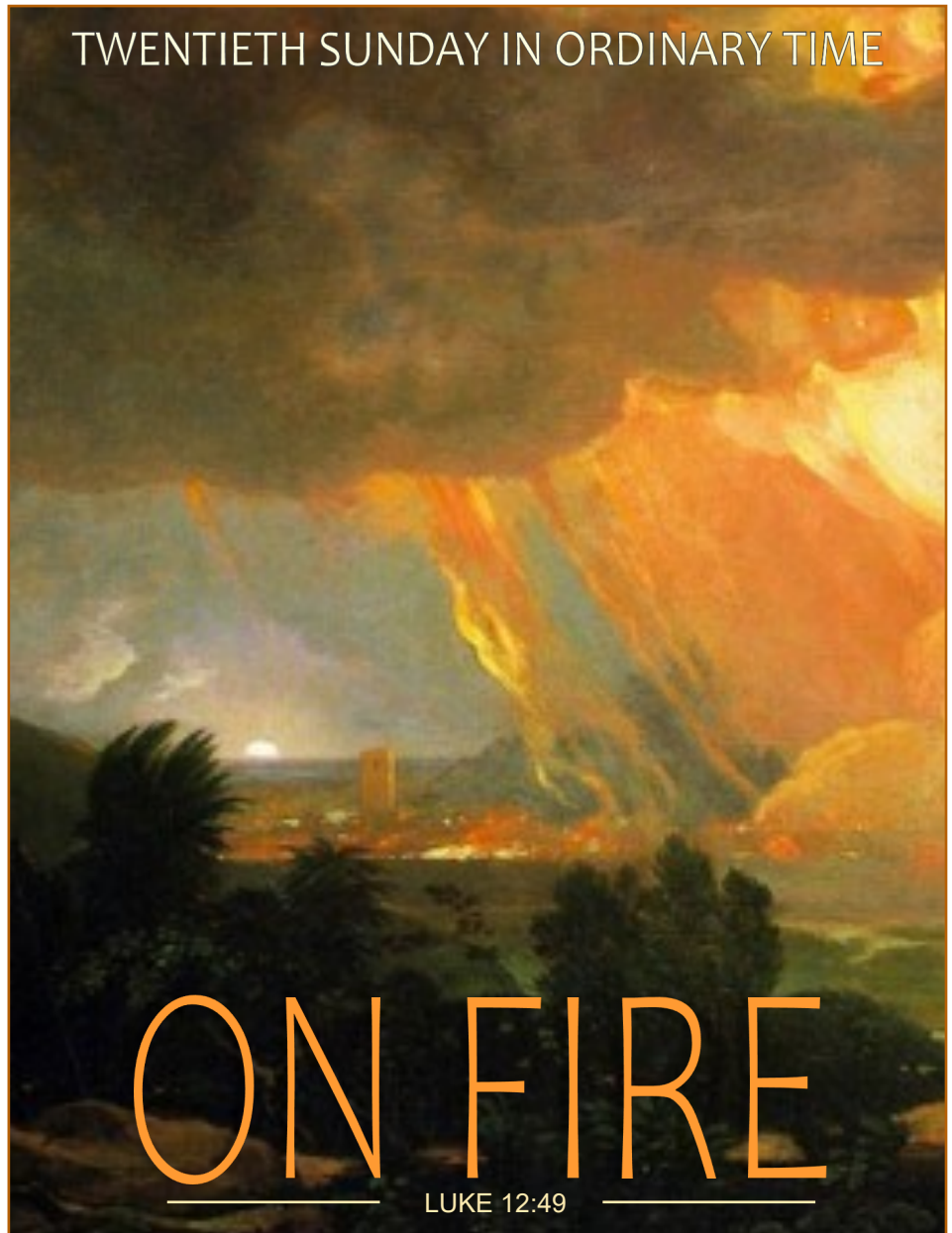
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or
by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism
Please call the Parish Office



TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

"I have come to set the earth on fire." Jesus did not come into the world for us to be satisfied here on earth. If that were true, then Jesus would have eliminated all disease. He would have eradicated hatred, injustice, and conflict. Jesus would have stopped the suffering associated with the evils associated with poverty. Jesus would have restored the world to the Garden of Eden if his goal was to create heaven here on earth.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus is the fire that destroyed the threat of sin and death. Through our Baptism, the Holy Spirit has set fire to our hearts for our Lord to prepare us for heaven. It is this fire that purifies our hearts to seek God with a more intense desire. These words come from the heart of Jesus, who wants us to seek that holy relationship with God that is necessary for our salvation.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." Jesus was not discounting his teachings or his actions of peace. He remains the same man of whom the angels sang of "Peace on Earth and Goodwill to Man" at his birth. He is one who rode a donkey, not a warhorse as the crowds called him King as he entered Jerusalem. Jesus prevented further bloodshed in the Garden of Gethsemane after Peter cut off an ear of one of those who had come to arrest Jesus. Instead, he wants the brilliance of his love to change the world.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." Jesus' disconcerting words of conflicts between family members seem to be in direct opposition of Jesus' words of loving one another. He is attempting to identify; instead, the most important relationship to develop is the one with God. Jesus was reminding us that we cannot amble through life unconcerned about our relationship with God. Even familial relationship cannot supersede the attention one should give to the Lord. This prioritization of the Lord over anyone else is a challenge for spouses after a lifetime together or attachment between a child and a parent. However, our salvation is found in heaven, not on earth for a spouse or parent cannot provide eternal happiness.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." Jesus is not supporting the idea of a person walking away from family responsibilities. He is not suggesting that individuals purposefully cause dissension in the family. He is not supporting the destruction of relationships. Instead, Jesus depends on us to facilitate lifestyles through our words, actions, and prayer to be his disciples assisting all of his 'lost' sheep to the fruitful paradise of heaven.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." Jesus is reminding us to recognize that our time here on earth is limited. We are far too preoccupied on the win/loss record of our favorite team, the latest fashion trends, current grain prices, and an assortment of other priorities that seem to shape our lives. Of more significance are the words of the Bible that remind us of God's love and ongoing commitment to us since the beginning of creation. We should be looking for the signs of Jesus' presence in our lives, to turn away from our sinful ways and pray for repentance that leads to salvation.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." Unfortunately, the earth has not been set ablaze for God because the world has not listened to Jesus' message. The cross continues to be an incongruity for the societal attitudes of self-centered gratification. Jesus selflessly entered into the suffering associated with his death for no other reason than to save us from the fires of hell.

"I have come to set the earth on fire." If we are faithful to God, he will be faithful to us. If we believe in Jesus, then let us take up our cross, demonstrating our love for others. Let us live in humble self-denial of the promised wealth of this world in favor of the experiences of joy, peace, and happiness of our salvation. Let us continue our pilgrimage seeking the Lord, who sets our hearts on fire in love.

J. Vincent L. Pausan

Ministry Schedule

AUGUST 23RD & 24TH

SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS

MUSIC: Julie Dush

GREET: Mike & Cassandra Knapp
Family / Denny & Kathy Hahn

LECTOR: Larry Happ

EM: Kathy Hahn / Julie Baquet

SERVE: Volunteers

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

MUSIC: Farwell Group

GREET: Kirk & Crissy Bader /
Wyatt Bader / Bob Dvorak

LECTOR: Anna Thede

EM: Beth Svoboda / Branson Townsend

SERVE: Volunteers

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

MUSIC: Kezeor Group

GREET: Liana Wroblewski /
Leona Leth / Cindy Wilson

LECTOR: Tina Headrick

EM: Chris, Gina, Emma Elstermeier /
Nikki Bader

SERVE: Volunteers

This Week's Schedule

Monday, August 18

No Daily Mass

Tuesday, August 19

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Marion Potts

By CCW

Knights of Columbus Meeting 7pm (PLC)

Wednesday, August 20

Daily Mass 12:05pm (SPP)

Intention: †Walter & †Alice Greenwalt

By Ron Greenwalt

Thursday, August 21

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: Dedic Family

By Michael & Terri Calvert

Men's Bible Study 6:30pm (Bed Head Coffee)

Friday, August 22

Daily Mass 9:00am (Brookfield)

Intention: †Phyllis Stepanek

By CCW

Saturday, August 23

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)

Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †Jeff Welch

By Family

Sunday, August 24

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)

Intention: †Kenny Stanczyk

By Tom & Ziola Jarecke

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 to schedule a Mass intention. (Ten dollars is the suggested donation.)



Join

OUR RELIGIOUS ED TEAM

TEACHERS NEEDED

TEACHERS NEEDED - CONTACT A DRE TODAY!

Becky 308-571-0430 / Judi 308-750-8418

Tri-Parish Events & News

RELIGIOUS ED. REGISTRATION

Thank you to those that have gotten your students registered! If you have not yet, please do so TODAY! Fill out a form in the back of Church or use the online registration link on our Parish website or on our Facebook post. Registrations are going through our Church Manager system this year, so students must be registered to be on their class list. An email address is required, but it is ok to not know their exact date of Baptism.

RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES

... Starting SOON!!!
 Preschool thru 4th grade
 Sunday, September 7th, 9-10am
 5th thru 11th Grades
 Wednesday, Sept. 10th, 7-8pm
 All classes will meet at the Parish Life Center classrooms.

Parish Support

Thank you to all the Tri-Parish Parishioner businesses that help support our bulletin by purchasing ads. Please, when given the opportunity, let these businesses know we appreciate their support!

ADORATION / HOLY HOUR

Sunday, September 7th, at 5pm - please join Carmen Kosmicki as she will sing and provide music for all attending a special Holy Hour. Take this opportunity to spend some time with our Lord and support Carmen with free will offering on her quest to sing at Mass of Americas in Mexico City!

PARISH HUMOR

So far today, God, I have done all right, haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, or been grumpy, greedy, nasty, or selfish. I am really glad about that - but, - in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed, from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot of help!! (shared by Emily Gregoski:)

Upcoming Dates:

Junk Jaunt Fundraiser - Sept. 27-29
 at Fair Grounds
 HOLY SMOKE Cook Off - Oct. 4th
 at SPP Parish Life Center
 Fall Bazaar - Sunday, October 19,
 at SPP Parish Life Center

Area Events & News

CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL AIDE

Christ Lutheran Christian Preschool at Christ Lutheran Church in St. Paul is seeking a classroom aide 12-24 hours per week. If you are interested please contact the church (308) 754-5135 for an application.

ST. PAUL SENIOR CENTER - AUGUST

808 Howard Avenue
Open 9:00am - 2:00pm
 BINGO - Tues. & Thurs. 10:30am
 Wed., August 27 - Potluck at Noon
 Aug. 20, & 27 - Hospital at 10:30am
 Aug. 22 - Ice Cream & Cake at 10am



AUGUST Prayer Intention: **For mutual coexistence**

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.

DIOCESAN APPEAL

Together on Mission: 2024-2025 campaign goes through September, & it's only 9% short of the \$1,200,000 goal! You can still contribute, visit: <https://gidiocese.org/diocesan-appeal>

Thank you for checking the amount & type on your envelope, it saves our counters a lot of time:)

PLEASE ☒ OR WRITE IN AMOUNT

<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____		

☒ Cash ☐ Check # _____

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving

August 4 - 10, 2025

The Lord's Portion Farwell & Elba

St. Anthony Church	\$256.00
St. Joseph	\$190.00

The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter & Paul

Actual General Fund	\$2916.45
OSV On-Line General Fund	\$1521.00
Maintenance	\$20.00
Parish Life Center	\$202.00
Restoring Our Father's House	\$105.00

JULY Totals as of 8/10/25

Monthly Budget	\$20000.00
Actual General Fund	\$7267.95
Online General Fund	\$2322.00
Monthly Surplus (Deficit)	\$10410.05

Special Collections

PARISH - Assumption of the Virgin Mary
 PARISH - Clergy Health Insurance

SCAN HERE



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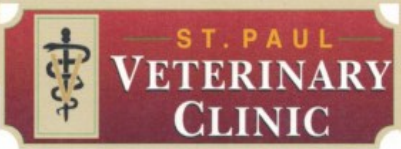
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Phone: 308-754-4222
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