



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph
December 14, 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
308-754-8126

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FILL US ALL WITH

Joy



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
 deacon@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 - Theresa 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

CLASS TIMES

Preschool thru 4th grade
 Sunday, September 7th, 9-10am
 5th thru 11th Grades

Wednesday, September 10th
 from 7- 8pm

All classes will meet at the
 Parish Life Center classrooms.

Ministry Schedule

DECEMBER 20TH & 21ST

SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS

MUSIC: Mary Jo Serbousek Group
GREET: Bill & Mary Gregoski Family
LECTOR: Eryn Gregoski
EM: Bill Gregoski / Sherrie Oakley
S: Kendyl & Jaxon Fowler

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

MUSIC: Lewandowski Family
GREET: John & Sandi Mudloff /
 Ken & Deanna Hirschman
LECTOR: Marlene Kosmicki
EM: Anna Thede /
 Branson Townsend
S: Archer & Owen Shotkoski

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

MUSIC: Open
GREET: PreK /Kindergarten Religious
 Ed. / Jim & Charlene Potter
LECTOR: Terri Townsend
EM: Beth Svoboda / Nikki Bader /
 Daneecia Sharman / Chris Townsend
S: Macy Bockmann / Paislee Call

Third Sunday of Advent

NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT! Time walks fast. We have only 10 days before Christmas to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Let us strive to make these days eventful moments for conversion.

The punch line of an advertisement says, "What's in your wallet?" I would like to copy that as the punch line of the gospel today but with a twist and paraphrase it this way, "WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART?" If your wallet keeps your money, credit cards, driver's license, your heart holds your love and care, your hope and faith, and your life. Your wallet keeps your identification on earth, while your heart keeps what can identify you in heaven. Your wallet keeps your material sustenance while your heart keeps your spiritual nourishment.

If our eyes become blind to our neighbor's needs, our hearts will remind us about the situations of the destitute, the poor, the homeless, and the people who are deformed or disabled. Our hearts will let us feel our neighbor's pains and sorrow, brokenness and helplessness. Sometimes, our eyes deceive us, but our hearts unveil to us the truth of life.

This deception and truth are embedded in John's question to Jesus and in Jesus' answer. John's disciples asked Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we LOOK for another?" Their eyes were blind, and likewise their hearts. So Jesus opened them by saying to them: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them..." Jesus clearly revealed to them what the KINGDOM OF HEAVEN would be like.

That is Jesus! He is the savior that gives hope to the blind, the lame, lepers, and poor. When they are desperate and confused, he serenades them with this love song of our times:

"Hello! Is it me you're looking for? Because I wonder where you are and I wonder what you do; are you somewhere feeling lonely? Tell me how to win your heart for I haven't got a clue but let me start by saying I LOVE YOU!"

To you who are desperate and hopeless, to you who are poor and homeless, to you who are rejected and discriminated, remember, JESUS LOVES YOU!

Jr. Vincent L. Parsons

This Week's Schedule

Monday, December 15

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

Tuesday, December 16

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)
 Intention: †Rose Marie Olsufka
 By Sister Paulette Kuta
 Knights of Columbus Meeting 7pm (PLC)

Wednesday, December 17

Daily Mass 12:05pm (SPP)
 Intention: †Bill Sack
 By Tom & Zola Jarecke
Children's Christmas Program Pre-6th
 7pm (SPP Church)

Thursday, December 18

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)
 Intention: †Anna Dedic
 By Randy & Patricia Curran

Friday, December 19

Daily Mass 9:00am (Matelyn)
 Intention: †Karen Killion By CCW

Saturday, December 20

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)
 Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)
 Intention: †Joseph & Victoria Radke
 & Family by Shirley Hanisch
 Weekend Mass 6:30pm (SJ)
 Intention: †Tiny Chiodo
 By Judy Johnson

Sunday, December 21

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)
 Intention: People of the Parishes
 NO Religious Ed. Classes
 Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)
 Intention: †Ed Koperski
 By Dorothy Koperski
 Last Chance Reconciliation 6pm (SPP)

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve:

4:00pm Sts. Peter & Paul - St. Paul
 5:30pm St. Joseph - Elba
 7:00pm Sts. Peter & Paul - St. Paul
 10:00pm St. Anthony - Farwell

Christmas Day:

9:00am Sts. Peter & Paul - St. Paul

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - FAMILIES OF THE MONTH



NOVEMBER - the Mottl Family from Palmer: Rebecca & Matt, Lane, Ella, Makenna, Hayes & Wyatt



DECEMBER - the Jonak Family from Elba: Breann & Matt, Zach, Eli, Isaac & Alex



CONGRATULATIONS
Simon & Allie Krenk
UNITED IN CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE
DECEMBER 6, 2025
STS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Tri-Parish Events & News

RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITIES

Grand Island:
Dec. 14, 7pm - Blessed Sacrament
Dec. 15, 7pm - St. Leo's
Dec. 16, 7pm - St. Mary's Cathedral
Dec. 17, 6pm - Resurrection

LAST CHANCE RECONCILIATION

Sunday, Dec 21st at 6pm SPP

CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SIGN UP

Please sign up in the back of Church if you able to be a Liturgical Minister for a Christmas Mass.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve:
4:00pm Sts. Peter & Paul - St. Paul
5:30pm St. Joseph - Elba
7:00pm Sts. Peter & Paul - St. Paul
10:00pm St. Anthony - Farwell
Christmas Day:
9:00am Sts. Peter & Paul - St. Paul

FARWELL / ELBA ENVELOPES

Please pick up at back of Church.

Religious Education

December 17 - **Christmas Program**
Preschool to 6th grade, 7pm SPP
Please arrive at 6:30pm for costumes.
(7th-11th no class on the 17th, unless teacher lets you know otherwise)
Dec. 21 to January 3rd - NO Classes
Classes resume January 4th & 7th!

FRIDAY MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE Effective January 1, 2026

Beginning in the new year, our Friday Nursing Home Mass schedule will be as follows:
Brookfield Park – 9:00 AM

- 1st Friday, 3rd Friday & 5th Friday (when applicable)
- 2nd Friday & 4th Friday

Matelyn Assisted Living – 9:00 AM
Why the change?

Our parishioners at Brookfield Park tend to have greater medical needs and therefore require additional pastoral presence. When **Fr. Vince** is not scheduled to have mass that week, our pastoral minister, **Mrs. Julie Dush**, will visit the residents to ensure that everyone receives Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding and continued prayers for our parishioners in care facilities.

St. Anthony - With Gratitude

Thank you to Katalari Farms by Loup City for generously donating the two beautiful evergreen wreaths that now adorn the front doors of our St. Anthony Church! Much appreciated.

A HELPFUL REMINDER

If you or a loved one is ever hospitalized or in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the church office right away. Father will follow up immediately to ensure you receive the care and the sacraments you need.

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving
December 1 - 7, 2025

The Lord's Portion Farwell & Elba

St. Anthony Church	\$1205.00
St. Joseph	\$205.00

The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter & Paul

Actual General Fund	\$4879.50
OSV On-Line General Fund	\$1346.80
Maintenance	\$30.00
Parish Life Center	\$200.00
Restoring Our Father's House	\$705.00

NOVEMBER Totals as of 12/7/25

Monthly Budget	\$20000.00
Actual General Fund	\$4879.50
Online General Fund	\$1346.80
Monthly Surplus (Deficit)	\$13773.70

Special Collections

DIOCESE - Religious Retirement - \$25.00
PARISH - Christmas Flowers - \$280.00

Area Events & News

"FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS"

Wood River Community Choir
Sunday, December 14th at 2:30pm
St. Mary's Catholic Church
408 11th Street, Wood River
The 32 member choir includes singers from eight area towns. Please join us and prepare yourself for a most joyous season.

GIFT FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL "Children's Book of Virtues"

Reverend Vidya Sagar Arikotla of Holy Spirit Church in North Platte & Monica Kramer, a former educator & current counselor have written a book of virtues for adults & children. Available: Amazon or 308-534-6623
Proceeds- faith development of children

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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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