



Howard County Catholics

Sts. Peter & Paul | St. Anthony | St. Joseph
February 2, 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:

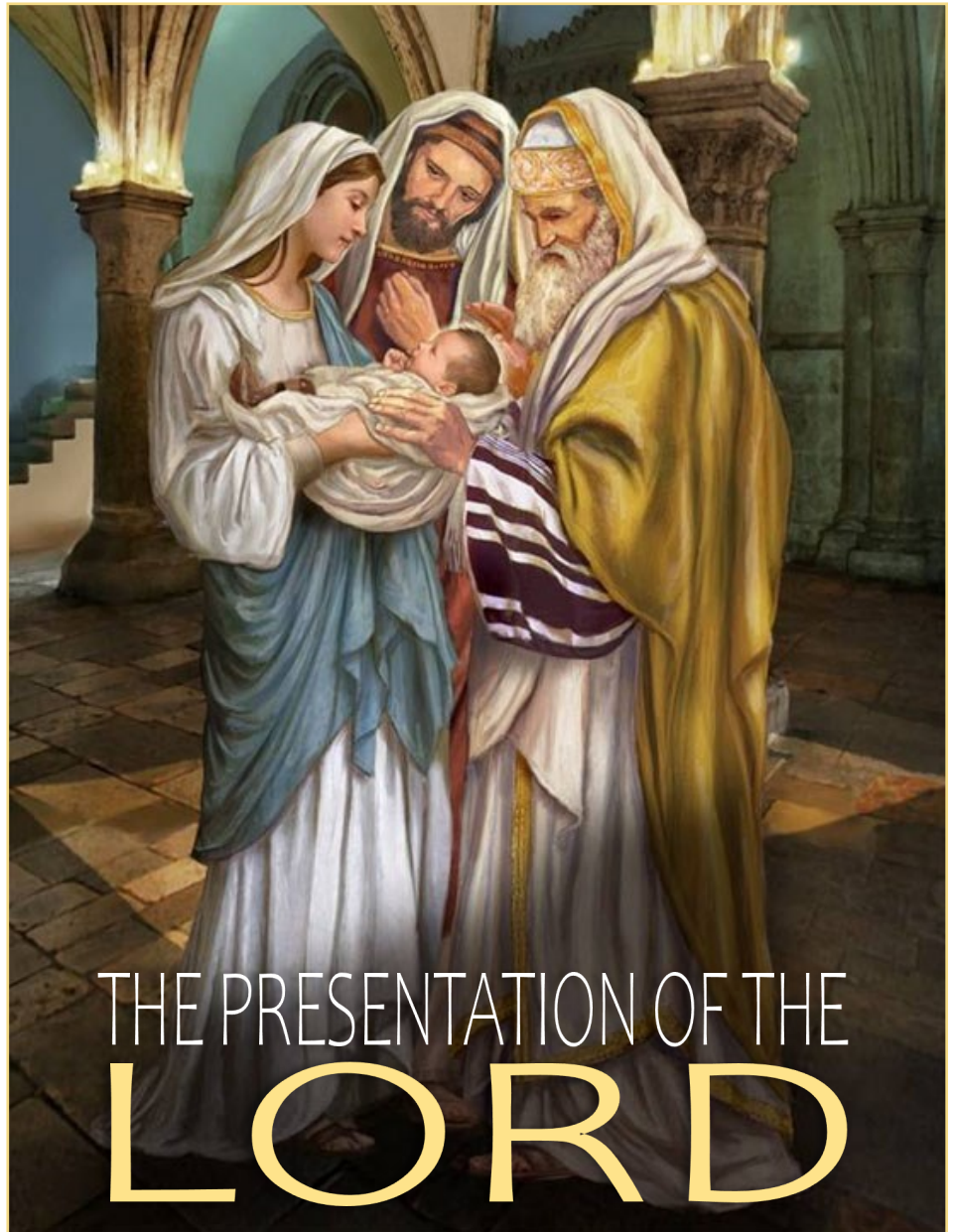
Tuesday-Thursday 8:30am SPP
Friday 9:00am -
at Matelyn/Brookfield

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:30pm or
by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office
(308) 754-4002



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



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

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)
 Elba - Betty Poss (308-750-0512)

**Directors of Religious Education**

Mrs. Becky Knox - Preschool to 4th
 rebecca.knox@spwildcat.org
 Mrs. Judi Baker - 5th to 11th grade
 office@howardcountycatholics.com

Youth Religious Ed. Classes

Preschool - 4th Grades:
 Sundays 9:00am - 10:00am
 (Preschool/K also offered at alt. times)

5th - 11th Grades:
 Wednesdays 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Classes held at
 Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Life Center
 (West Hallway Classrooms)

Ministry Schedule**FEBRUARY 8TH & 9TH****SATURDAY 5:00PM MASS**

S: Michael Happ / Sestaks / Julie Baquet

GREET: Cameron & Stacy Hoppes Family

LECTOR: Larry Happ

EM: Frank & Mary Stepanek / Gerald Solko

SERVE: Paislee Call / Verah Paulsen

SUNDAY 8:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Ken Vincik

GREET: Confirmation Class / Vech

LECTOR: Confirmation Class

EM: Kerry Townsend / Connie Becker

S: Brogan & Reagan Grabowski

SUNDAY 10:00AM MASS

SACRISTAN: Russ Kosmicki/Bill Gregoski

GREET: 6th Grade RE / Julie Gawrych

LECTOR: 6th Grade RE Class

EM: Rich & Marlene Kosmicki / Glen & Michele Killion

S: Laityn & Lenna Poss

The Presentation of the Lord**NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR**

Forty days have passed since Christmas and—perhaps with a bit of nostalgia—we remember the emotions aroused in us by that feast and, even more, the good news that the baby brought us, a star coming from heaven to illuminate our nights, “rising Sun, shining on those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death” (Lk 1:78-79). Why does the Church today make us contemplate that child again?

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord has very ancient origins. It was already celebrated in the East in the fourth century with the name of the Feast of Encounter: it recalled the encounter of Jesus in the temple with his Father and with Simeon and Anna—representatives of the rest of Israel who remained faithful to the God of Abraham. It was introduced in Rome in the seventh century and received the title of Feast of the purification of Mary. It was called ‘Candlemas’ since a night procession characterized it with candles.

The rite of light connected it with Christmas—the feast of Christ—the light. In Bethlehem, the glory of the Lord wrapped the shepherds in light. In the Far Eastern countries, the star shone for the magi; in the temple of Jerusalem, the “Light to enlighten the people” appeared.

Forty days have passed since Christmas, and it may be that the Star of Bethlehem that “we have seen in its rising” has been a bit blurred. It does not fascinate us more as then or is no longer the only one to get our attention. Perhaps we’ve let ourselves be enchanted by other more striking and concrete stars, by other stars that better reflect our dreams and our expectations. That’s why the Church makes us meet that Child again: she invites us to welcome him in our arms, as did Simeon and Anna, the poor of Israel, the people attentive to the voice of the Spirit.

Fr. Vincent L. Parsons

This Week's Schedule**Monday, February 3**

No Daily Mass

OCIA Class 6:30pm (PLC Conference Room)

Tuesday, February 4

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Chris & †Marie Wittry

By Dan, Barbara, & Tom McIntyre

Wednesday, February 5

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Marge Wozniak

By Carolyn Just

Religious Ed. 5th-11th 7pm (PLC Classrooms)

Thursday, February 6

Daily Mass 8:30am (SPP)

Intention: †Rose Irvine

By P.J. & Theresa Wood

Friday, February 7

Daily Mass 9:00am (Matelyn)

Intention: †Deane Werner

By John & Sandi Mudloff

Adoration 10am - 5pm (SPP)

Saturday, February 8

Reconciliation 4:30pm (SPP)

Weekend Mass 5:00pm (SPP)

Intention: †Colleen Killinger

By Buzz Welch

Sunday, February 9

Weekend Mass 8:00am (SPP)

Intention: People of the Parishes

Confirmation Retreat 8am Mass - 2pm (PLC)

Religious Ed. Pre-4th 9am (PLC Classrooms)

Weekend Mass 10:00am (SPP)

Intention: †Phyllis Stepanek

By Carolyn Just





Members of Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Daughters Court 2015 receiving Anniversary Pins for 50 years of Membership were Rita Borzych (not pictured) & Linda Gawrych (50 years). Those receiving pins for 55 years of membership were Barb McIntyre, Jane Kasson, Vange Obermiller and Evelyn Dvorak (not pictured).

Photo by Laurie Krejci

Tri-Parish Events & News

ADORATION

Friday, February 7, 10am-5pm
SPP Church, please sign up & come spend some time with the Lord.

CONFIRMATION CLASS RETREAT

Sunday, February 9th - 8am Mass, followed by 9-2 retreat at the PLC.

MEN'S CHOIR GROUP

Looking for men who like to sing for a men's choir group. Contact Deacon Neil 308-571-0291 or MaryJo Serbousek 308-340-9447 for more information.

CCW update:

Meeting - February 5th, 6pm at SPP Parish Life Center

Meeting date adjusted to avoid SP Parent/Teacher conferences.

Father Vince's Birthday Brunch - February 23rd, 8-11:30am SPP PLC

SUMMER RETREAT REGISTRATION

Attention 6th - 12th grade families- **Registration** is now OPEN for HIGHER GROUND, HIGHER GROUND EXTREME FAITH, & STEUBENVILLE OF THE ROCKIES! **REGISTER FEBRUARY 1ST TO 9TH**

to get Early Bird reduced rates. Find information & register at <https://gidiocese.org/youth-events> If cost is a deterrence, please contact the Parish Office to discuss financial aid options.

Gratitude:

A heartfelt thank you to the family of Bill Sack for the generous memorial donation designated to help pay for the beautiful new Stations of the Cross carvings. Such a gift truly goes on giving for many years to come.

Area Events & News

4-H PANKACE FEED

All you can eat pancake breakfast!
"pancakes, sausage, biscuits & gravy, fruit & drink"

February 9th 9:00am to 1:00pm
Howard Co. Fairgrounds Annex Bldg
1381 US Highway 281
FREE WILL DONATION, all proceed to Howard County 4-H Program

CATHOLIC ENCOUNTER CHRIST Men's & Women's Weekend

February 14-16 - Camp Comeca, Cozad
Experience how God's grace works in you & how to share it with others.

Men & Women are the same weekend, but separate experiences.

There is still room to register!

<https://gidiocese.org/cec>

WOOD RIVER AREA CHOIR

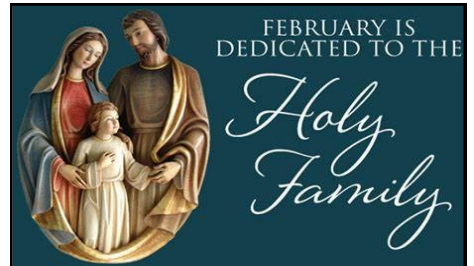
Non auditioning choir, please accept this as a personal invitation to join.

A new Cantata performance will be Sunday, April 6 at 2:30pm St. Mary's Catholic Church, Wood River
Contact Vincent Boudreau
308-583-2961

The goal is to have 10-15 area singers in each singing range.

NEBRASKA RETROUVAILLE

Do you want to rediscover your marriage? Many couples struggle in their marriage & are not wanting to give up. There is hope. Retrouvaille can provide tools for healthy communication & healing. **February 14-16** Register/Info. 308-370-3214 or Email NebraskaRetrouvaille@gmail.com



"...Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Graciously hear our prayer. Amen."

(Source: Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia*, 325)



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

PLEASE mark your calendars & plan to help out!



Together on Mission:

Thank you for your Diocesan Appeal contributions! You can check parish progress across our diocese at

<https://gidiocese.org/diocesan-appeal>

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & OSV Online Giving January 20-26, 2025

The Lord's Portion Farwell & Elba

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| St. Anthony Church | \$280.00 |
| St. Joseph | \$145.00 |

The Lord's Portion Sts. Peter & Paul

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Actual General Fund | \$6568.11 |
| OSV On-Line General Fund | \$1640.00 |
| Parish Life Center | \$435.00 |
| Maintenance | \$5.00 |
| Restoring Our Father's House | \$630.00 |

January Totals as of 1/26/25

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Monthly Budget | \$20000.00 |
| Actual General Fund | \$20010.78 |
| Online General Fund | \$5484.00 |
| Monthly Surplus (Deficit) | \$5494.78 |

Special Collections

DIOCESE: March 5 - Eastern Europe

THANK YOU
for your continued support!

Todd & Cindy Peters
Riley & Katlynn Peters

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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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