



# OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC CHURCH

## WEEKEND MASSES

*Saturday:* 4:15 p.m.

*Sunday:* 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

*Monday:* 11:00 a.m.

*Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:* 8:30 a.m.

Consult bulletin for special Holy Day  
and holiday schedules.

## SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

*Conversion & Reconciliation*

*Saturday:* 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Sunday:* 7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

*Monday:* 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

*Tuesday:* 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

*Wednesday:* 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

*First Friday:* 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

*Tuesdays & Wednesdays:*

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

*Thursdays:* 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

## OFFICE HOURS

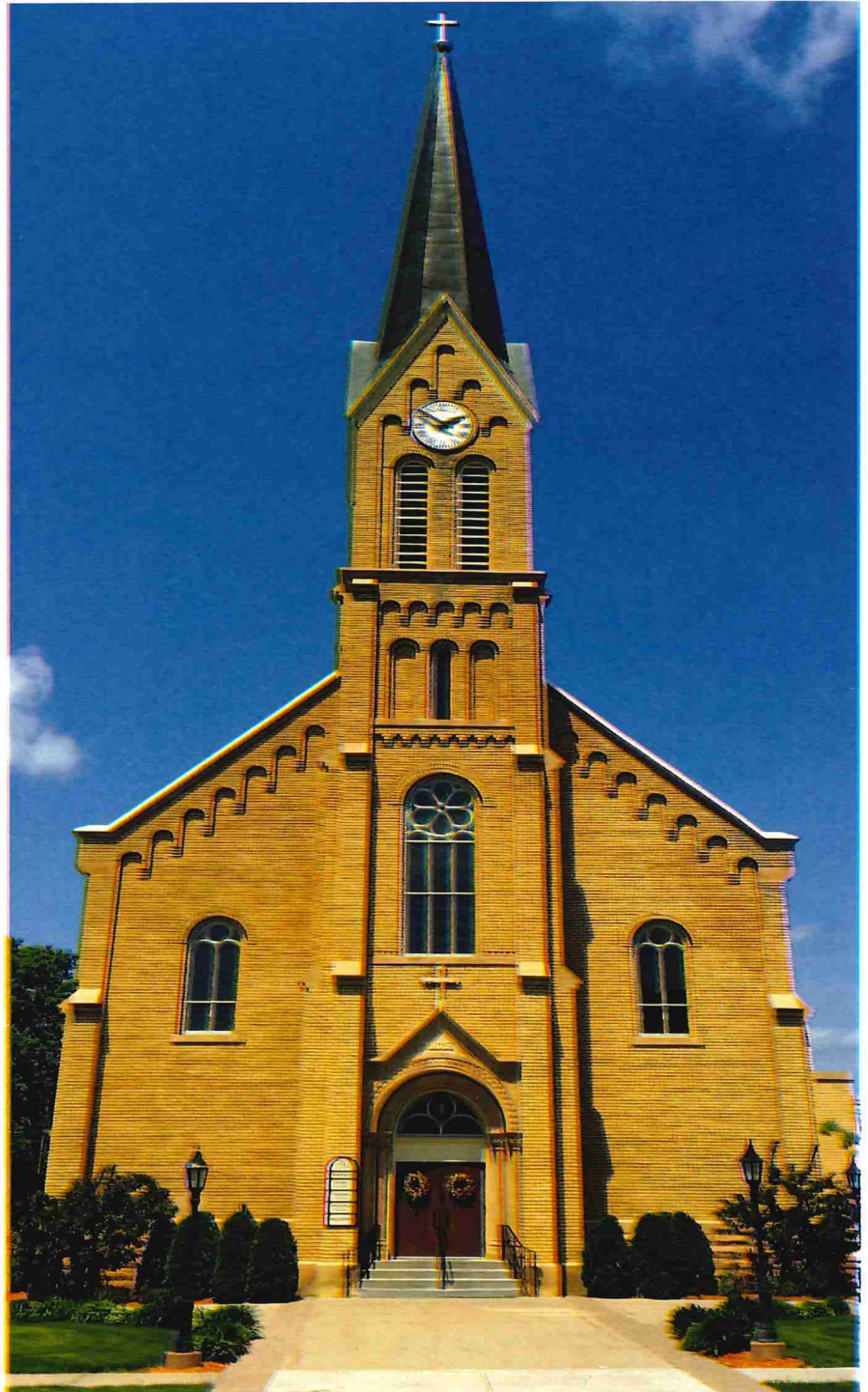
*Weekdays:* 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE:

*Make arrangements with Parish Office  
six months prior to tentative date.*

## BAPTISMS:

*Congratulations! Thank you for accepting and caring for one of God's greatest gifts. As part of Baptism preparation, expectant parents are required to attend Mass weekly. Please speak to Fr. Brian Lynch after Mass during the second trimester of pregnancy to begin the formal preparation process. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.*



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**THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR**

**What We Can Do About Unchurching**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of the Prairie:

Last Sunday, in the wake of celebrating our nation's 242nd birthday, the Star-Tribune published the first in a series of articles on the "unchurching" of America. Though I was unfamiliar with the word "unchurching," I am certainly not unfamiliar with the symptoms: the very parish in which I celebrated my "First Mass," St. Michael's in West St. Paul, was closed in 2016 and my mother's parish closed in 2017. Between 2000 and 2017, the United States (and Minnesota) lost approximately 1 out of 10 parishes; that is the gist of unchurching, and the numbers are much worse for mainline Protestant communities.

Why is this happening? If it were an exclusively Catholic problem we could perhaps pin it all on the clergy sex abuse scandal. The Star-Tribune article mentions busy lives and the expense of maintaining antique church buildings. These are certainly factors. I would suggest that another factor is a lack of a clearly defined purpose that is true to our Divine Founder's intention: getting people to Heaven.

Sixty years ago Catholics understood that the Church has Heaven to offer and that they could not get Heaven elsewhere. However, increased exposure to non-Catholic ideas and non-Christian people by way of technological advances caused Catholics and other Christians to question this traditional way of thinking, and unfortunately, many came to an erroneous conclusion.

The Church's admission that in some unusual circumstances God could and might choose to save a person without an explicit living Christian faith nourished by the sacraments was manipulated to become the rule rather than the exception. And so, with nothing to offer that cannot be found more easily elsewhere, the parish church became optional at best, and so naturally people opted out; they just stopped coming.

Don't fall for it! Despite the popularity of this fiction it remains untrue. Live your Catholic faith proudly and publically. Place and keep Sunday Mass attendance and regular (monthly) Confession among your top priorities. I am striving to offer these Heaven-providing sacraments at regular and convenient times, but I need your support. Please show up and help me to reverse the unchurching of America.

All the Best in Christ,  
Fr. Brian Lynch  
blynch@olp.church

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

Pastor, Rev. Brian Lynch - blynch@olp.church  
Robert Raleigh - Deacon - 952-873-6688

**PARISH OFFICE, 952-873-6564**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 - 3:00pm  
Kris Koehler - Business Administrator  
Kelly Pumper - Administrative Assistant

**OLP SCHOOL & LITTLE PRAIRIE PRESCHOOL,**

952-873-6564  
Wendi Alessio - Principal of Parish School, Preschool Director

**FAITH FORMATION, 952-873-6564**

Patrick Schroers - Youth/Religious Education Coord.  
Loree Heinkel - Religious Education Assistant

**LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:**

**Trustees**

Charlotte Mulroy  
Sue Schultz

**Finance Council**

Kevin Berger  
Jerome Flaherty  
Tammy Kottke  
Lisa May  
Dawn Skluzacek

**Parish Council**

Joan Bruggemeier  
Maureen Daly  
Jim Gerres  
Randy Koepp  
Julie Lenz

Rick Morgan  
Joe Murphy  
Mike Pingaloro  
Renee Schultz  
Chuck Valek

**Prep Board**

Rebecca Rupp  
Sarah Williamson

**School Advisory Council**

Michele Giles  
Rose Kolden  
Ashley Simons  
Kristen Strauss  
Joe Vandermark

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

The Catholic Church is the Church founded by Jesus Christ; it is the same Church mentioned in the New Testament of the Christian Bible. The term "Catholic" means "according to the whole;" it was used early in the Church's history to distinguish her from a number of other gatherings whose teachings and practices were not true to the authoritative teachings of Christ's apostles. All human persons are invited and encouraged to accept the salvation offered by Jesus through His one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church by living the sacramental life offered by the Catholic Church. It is the mission of Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church to offer this life to the people of Belle Plaine, Minnesota and its environs.

If you would like to become Catholic, please contact Fr. Brian Lynch in person or by email at Blynch@olp.church.

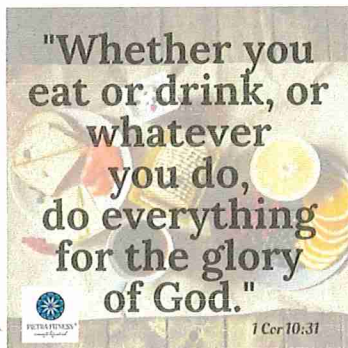
**ANNUAL CHURCH BAZAAR** – Church of the Immaculate Conception, Lonsdale, MN.  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 2018.** Mass at 10:00 AM. Stands open at 11:00 AM. Serving Pork & Dumplings, Hamburgers, Hot Beef Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, French Fries, Nachos & Cheese, Pie & Ice Cream, Sno-Cones & Floats, and Refreshments! Featuring Games for Kids, Big Wheel, Chicken Plop, Book of Prizes, Used-A-Bit, Bingo, Chance Booth, Homemade Czech Baking, Country Market & Crafts. Live Entertainment featuring the **Jolly P's** and **Colton Tupy and the Sandcreek Connection**. Drawing at 4:30 PM.  
 Please join us for a fun-filled day for the whole family!

### Faith Formation Position

St. Bernard/Ascension Faith Formation Program in Cologne/NYA is seeking a Director of Faith Formation for Middle School/High School. Visit the job description at <http://careers.archspm.org/> or contact Kara at [officeadmin@ascensionnya.org](mailto:officeadmin@ascensionnya.org) or 952-250-3620

### Happy, Healthy & Holy!

A presentation on nutrition for a healthy lifestyle



**When?: Thursday, July 19th at 7:30pm**

**Where?: Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine Gathering Space**

Join us for a 30 minute presentation on making simple changes to affect lifelong health through nutrition and a healthy lifestyle!

Presenters: Susan Torborg, creator of the R3 Weight Loss Plan Cathy Carson, Certified Pietra Fitness Instructor

Attention OLP alumni: We are updating our records for our alumni newsletter and would love to hear what you are currently doing. Visit [school.ourladyoftheprairie.com/alumni](http://school.ourladyoftheprairie.com/alumni) to update your current contact info to receive updates about Our Lady of the Prairie. Or email [alumni@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:alumni@ourladyoftheprairie.com) and include your current contact information.



We're very excited to be welcoming many new families to our school this year. We hope that you too, will consider enrolling your child at Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School. We have a strong multi-age program where we provide updated technology and curriculum along with daily prayer. We have small class sizes in an academically challenging environment where our students thrive. Please call the office to set up a tour or set up a time to meet with the Principal to discuss scholarship opportunities. The gift of a Catholic education is with your child for life, instilling a love of Christ into their hearts forever.

### OLP - Faith Formation

All families are warmly welcomed to join *A Family of Faith* next fall! The goals of this program are to encourage and equip parents to live and teach their children the Catholic Faith at home. With one adult meeting and one family meeting each month, this program replaces CCD and will give you all the knowledge and tools you need to bring your children up in the Faith. This years focus-The Sacraments. For more information, contact Patrick Schroers: 952-873-6564 or [pschroers@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:pschroers@ourladyoftheprairie.com).



# Little Prairie Preschool Registration 2018-2019

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Children must be 33 months and potty trained by September 1<sup>st</sup>**

## Monthly Tuition September-May

### Part Day Class Options (33mo – 5 yrs)

T-Th	8:15-12:30	\$136.00
M-W-F	8:15-12:30	\$204.00
M-F	8:15-12:30	\$295.00

### Full Day Class Options (33mo – 5yrs)

T-Th	8:15-2:45	\$208.00
M-W-F	8:15-2:45	\$312.00
M-F	8:15-2:45	\$455.00

**A \$25.00 non-refundable fee is due with registration.**

## Please choose your child's class

### Part Day Classes

2 Days (T-Th) \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 Days (M-W-F) \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 Days (M-F) \_\_\_\_\_

### Full Day Class

2 Full Day (T-Th) \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 Full Day (M-W-F) \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 Full Day (M-F) \_\_\_\_\_

## Family Information

Parents/Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home & Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

SSN (for electronic payment) \_\_\_\_\_

**The attached forms (Student Immunization Form and Health Care Summary Form) are due by the first day of the school year.** Papers may be sent in with your child or sent to/dropped off at: Our Lady of the Prairie, 200 East Church Street, Belle Plaine, MN 56011, or faxed to: 952.873.6717 attn: Student Records

### Our Gifts to the Lord

Weekly Collection Goal for July 2018	\$6,735.00
<b>7/8/18 Collection Week 2</b>	<b>\$6,239.90</b>
Endowment Fund	\$706.00
Total Contributions July 2018 – to date	\$13,555.40
Contribution Goal for July 2018 – to date	\$13,470.00
<b>Budget Surplus</b>	<b>\$85.40</b>
Number of registered Families	552

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**Did you know your contributions can be automatically deducted from your checking, saving or credit card account? For more information call the parish office 952-873-6564 or check out our website [ourladyoftheprairie.com](http://ourladyoftheprairie.com)**  
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Please remember Our Lady of the Prairie in your will & other estate planning.

### Calendar of Events

- Monday, July 16, 2018**
- Baptism Class 6:30pm in the Gathering Space
- Wednesday, July 18, 2018**
- Pietra Fitness 6:30pm
- Wednesday, July 25, 2018**
- Pietra Fitness 6:30pm
- Sunday, July 29, 2018**
- Catholic United Financial Mass & Breakfast 8am
- Thursday, August 2, 2018**
- CCW Meeting 7:00pm
- Friday, August 3, 2018**
- First Friday, 3:00pm Chaplet, 3:00pm - 8:00pm  
Confessions, 6:30pm Stations of the Cross
- Saturday, August 4, 2018**
- Sign-Up Sunday after Mass
- Sunday, August 5, 2018**
- Sign-Up Sunday after all Masses
- Tuesday, August 7, 2018**
- Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00pm
- Liturgy Committee Meeting 7:00pm
- Sunday, August 12, 2018**
- Marriage Encounter 7:00pm
- Wednesday, August 15, 2018**
- Assumption of Mary - Mass Times: 6:30am, 8:30am, & 6:00pm

### Welcome Visitors and Guests

If you have just moved into our community, we encourage you to register as members of our parish. To do so, please call the office during normal business hours 952-873-6564 or visit our website at [www.ourladyoftheprairie.com](http://www.ourladyoftheprairie.com) and go to \*Register on the home page.

### Ministry Schedule

#### July 21-22

	<b>4:15 p.m.</b>	<b>8:00 am.</b>	<b>10:00 am.</b>
<b>SERVERS:</b>	Server Crew	J. Teal Isabel T.	M. Daly S. Schroers
<b>USHERS:</b>	K. Heitkamp D. Schumacher	T. Halloran A. Hennen J. Jeurissen J. Mahoney	H. Jeurissen J. Klein J. Miller P. O'Brien P. Turmes
<b>LECTORS:</b>	W. Driscoll	L. Doheny	M. Daly
<b>EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:</b>			
	Deacon Bob R. Klehr S. Schultz R. Koepp K. Heitkamp	Deacon Bob S. Cole B. Fahey G. Bartels C. Mahoney	Deacon Bob M. Daly A. Bigaouette M. Turmes P. Covington K. Vandermark

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTER FOR SHUT-INS:

Mary Moriarty 952-873-6950  
 Ty Buesgens, Connie Witt

### Greeter Ministry

#### July 22

- 8 AM - Mark & Tammy Kottke
- 10 AM - Al & Dorothy Bartolomei

### Mass Intentions

- Mon. (16) 11:00 am - d. Robert Francis Huber
- Tue. (17) 8:30 am - Poor Souls
- Wed. (18) 8:30 am - d. Ralph Weiers
- Fri. (20) 8:30 am - d. Leon, Gordon, & Dolores Thomeson
- Sat. (21) 4:15 pm - d. Ray, John, & Jerry Connolly
- Sun. (22) 8:00 am - liv. & d. mem of Catholic United Financial**
- 10:00 am - For the Parish
- 6:00 pm - d. Rosella Riesgraf

### Readings For The Week Of July 16, 2018

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>Isa. 1:10-17;/Matt. 10:34-11:1</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>Isa. 7:1-9;/Matt. 11:20-24</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>Isa. 10:5-7;/Matt. 11:25-27</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>Isa. 26:7-9;/Matt. 11:28-30</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>Isa. 38:1-6;/Matt. 12:1-8</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>Micah 2:1-5;/Matt. 12:14-21</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>Jer. 23:1-6;/Eph. 2:13-18;/ Mark 6:30-34</b>

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952-873-6810

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