October 29, 2023

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8:00am-3:00pm

## Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses
Saturday | 4:15pm
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am
Weekday Masses
Tuesday | 6:30pm
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday | 8:30am
Holy Days \& Holidays
Consult bulletin.
Eucharist Adoration
Wednesday | 9:00am-10:00pm

## SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Confession
30 mins prior to Mass.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Make arrangements with the Parish Office six months prior to proposed wedding date.

## Sacrament of Baptism

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 contact the Parish Office (952) 873-6564. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.

## IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

Please contact 952-992-0140


## PARISH STAFF

(952) 873-6564

## PASTOR

Fr. Michael Kaluza |
mkaluza@olp.church

## BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Kelly Pumper | kpumper@olp.church

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Anita Glisczinski | Janis Buesgens frontdesk@ourladyoftheprairie.com

PRINCIPAL OF PARISH SCHOOL \& PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
Sheila Hendricks | shendricks@olp.church

FACILITIES MANAGER
Patrick Schroers
pschroers@olp.church

## DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION
Mark Simons
msimons@ourladyoftheprairie.com
CEMETERY CARETAKER
Keith Heitkamp |
heitkampkeith@gmail.com

## LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

TRUSTEES
Charlotte Mulroy, Sue Schultz
PARISH COUNCIL
Mike Buchanan, Dan Flynn, Ginny Morgan, Allen Schmitz, Ty Buesgens, Renee Schultz, Leticia Fogarty, Cindy Berger, Joan Bruggemeier, Sandy Schroers, Bob Smith, Tim Murphy

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Ashley Simons, Jessica Fogarty, Loni Scheff, Jason Palo, Kelli Berger

FINANCE COUNCIL
Dan Neisen, Maria Tracy, Jerome Flaherty, Joe Vandermark, Jim Koepp


## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL . . .

The readings this week call to mind what we are all about - loving God and neighbor. The two are connected and never opposed. By loving your neighbor, you cannot love God less, and by loving God, you cannot love your neighbor less. That is at the heart of God's ways and the core of our very being. Sometimes sin interferes and we are misled
 by the allure of evil, but Jesus never fails to remind us to reset our ways and focus our lives on his teaching, preaching and actions.

The first reading from Exodus reminds us that God's revelation has always been about protecting the vulnerable and reaching out as God has chosen us for himself! Life is a precious gift and must always be nurtured and protected. Exploitation is always a grave matter. Neither the message nor the stories are new, but they must be retold so as not to forget and always remember. It also keeps us grounded in humbly walking with God.

The commandments are all about helping us to live in freedom as sons and daughters of God. They do not hinder or repress us, but liberate us to choose God's ways above all else. The commandments assist us to interact with God and each other. They always are the surest way to know that we are following the will of God, which is to make good, wise and prudent choices.

Do not forget that Wednesday, November 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation and we are obliged to attend Mass. Normally we do not offer a vigil Mass for this holy day because it is Halloween, but since we normally have a daily Mass at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, we are offering the vigil Mass option this year. Masses on Wednesday will be at 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. All Saints is an important holy day where we remember all of the saints that populate heaven, especially those saints not given a special day on the calendar.

The message of love and mercy never get old and we are called to share that message with all!

God bless you,
Father Michael Kaluza


Richard Beach Mary Jo Gregory Eileen Effertz

Deacon Bob Raleigh Bud Steen
Sara Meyer

Bob Koenig Merlin Bartels Special Intention

If you know of someone who would like to have their name added to the prayer List, please notify the bulletin editor. A name will be listed for four weeks. Please get the permission of the person you wish to add before calling or emailing.


STEWARDSHIP \& ATTENDANCE
For the Week of October 22, 2023
Weekly Collection Goal for Month . . . . . . . . . \$8,344.00
10/22/2023 Collection (Week 14) . . . . . . . . . . . . \$3,775.75
Current Week Deficit . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . - ) $\$ 4,568.25$
Church Painting Collection . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $\$ 370.00$
World Mission Sunday Collection . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$540.00
Attendance at Saturday 4:15pm Mass .............. . 111
Attendance at Sunday 8:00am Mass ................ . . 131
Attendance at Sunday 10:00am Mass . . . . . . . . . . . . . 152
Live stream views of Mass . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Not streamed
Total Number of Registered Active Families . . . . . . . . 486
Total Number of Registered Active Members . . . . . 1,293
*Collection week includes envelopes and loose total for that weekend collection.

## Automatic Contributions

Did you know your contributions can be automatically deducted from your checking, savings, or credit card account? For more information call the parish office at 952-873-6564 or check out our website.


## November

1 Students will attend All Saints Day Mass with their classes. Students will meet in classroom by 6:20 pm.
8 No Class - No school for Belle Plaine District
9 "Box of Joy" packing - More info to come on this service project at the Parent Meeting
15 Class for K-8: Safe Environment Lessons
22 No Class - Thanksgiving break
26 St. Paul Cathedral Field Trip for Grs. 7 \& 8. Required part of Confirmation Prep for candidates and families. Travel details forthcoming.
29 Class for K-8

| Kindergarten | 4:00 pm |
| :--- | :--- |
| Grades 1-2 | $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ |
| Grades 3-8 | 6:30 pm |



CHURCH PAINTING
Collected as of 10/22/2023
\$350,280.64
Daily Masses
are held in the Roedel Hall gathering space.

## Sunday \& Holy Day Masses

are held in the Parish Hall.

2) 

## Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School <br> Marathon of Prayer

 Thank YauThank you to all who have supported our school community with your generous support for our 2023 school marathon. Our students have worked very hard and shown amazing effort to help raise money to grow our school and continue improving our resources to make our school a \#1 educational, faithfilled learning environment.
$W e$ set a goal of $\$ 6,000$. We have brought in over $\$ 11,500$ ! We are still hopeful to double our marathon goal and treat our students to a special all school magician lyceum for Catholic Schools!
If you would like to donate to our school, please stop by the office or mail a check with school marathon noted in the memo.
A special thank you to the following matching donors:
Bob Fritz Trucking, Inc. $\$ 1000$
Matt Saxe Chevrolet \& Buick $\$ 500$
Vos Construction Inc. $\$ 500$
Hennen Electric \$250
Knights of Columbus $\$ 250$
The Cabin Bar \$100
Kolden Funeral Home $\$ 100$


## GIVE CHRISTMAS JOY!

Our parish will be participating in the holiday "Box of Joy" project during the upcoming seasons of Thanksgiving \& Joy!

A Box of Joy is a Christmas shoe box, donated and packed with toys, clothing, school supplies, and hygiene items by our parish families. Each gift represents Christ's love and may be the only Christmas gift children in developing countries are blessed to receive.
The box of Joy project is a fun and simple activity for the whole family. It teaches the lesson of loving our neighbor as God has loved and blessed us.
Let's make this a very Merry Christmas for some children! Gift ideas, drop off information, packing information along with scheduled dates and times are available to you at the Box of Joy display by Roedel Hall entry.



Families \& Individuals Sharing Hope A PARTNER NETWORK
OLP is a valued FISH Partner, and we thank you for your attention to a need which has been submitted to the network.
Formerly Homeless Youth Need Supplies In order of highest need:

- Blankets and/or Queen size comforter • (2) pillows • Queen sheet set with pillowcases • Winterwear: Winter coat (Adult Male Size Small, Adult Female Size Medium) • Silverware set (spoons, forks and knives) • Bathroom items (shower curtain, bath towels, floor rug) • Garbage can $\cdot$ Kitchen sponges $\cdot$ Small folding table $\cdot$ Clothing: Adult Male (small shirts, pants waist 3032 , shoe size $8.5-9$, belt size medium) Clothing: Adult Female (medium shirts, pants Size 8, shoe size 5-5.5)
What caused this need?
Two young adults moved into their apartment in Belle Plaine after being homeless for numerous months. Due to the financial hardships of being without housing, they do not have the resources to purchase supplies. Please contact Jodi with questions or offers: jraidt@co.carver.mn.us or 612-802-4292 (call or text).



200 East Church Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011

## A Note from the Principal . . .

Children's Rosary Pilgrimage
Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School Students had a wonderful opportunity on Friday, October 6 to attend a Children's Rosary Pilgrimage at the Saint Paul Cathedral. The beautiful Cathedral was filled with Catholic school children from all over the Archdiocese. The Rosary was led by students and Bishop Izen.

## Relics from Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and Sts. Louis and Zellie Martin

As part of the Children's Rosary Pilgrimage, OLP students had the amazing opportunity to bring a rosary, Bible, or special item and touch the first class relics of Saint Thérèse and her parents Saints Louis and Zellie Martin. Each of the students and staff left with a third class relic! It was a very powerful and special day for students from OLP Catholic School! In my heart I wanted every Catholic child from Belle Plaine to have this amazing experience!

## Saint Benedict

For the month of September OLP students studied Saint Benedict. The word that surfaced for Saint Benedict is hospitality. Do you know that the number one reason adult Catholics say they leave the church is lack of hospitality. Our students showed excellent examples of hospitality. They were happier because of the warm kindness that was spread throughout the school and playground. It was contagious.
There are three students who were selected for Saint Benedict Student Of the month: Kindergarten -The kindergartener who is an example of Saint Benedict's hospitality towards others is a student who is quick to share and help others. This student demonstrates the love of God through kind actions, willingness to assist others, reverence, and respect. This student is a good friend. He consistently

## A Word from Father Michael . . .

Thank you to everyone for our great spaghetti supper! It was truly a great event and in preparation through delivery, it showed what good teamwork accomplishes! Already decades ago the event was begun by the Gansen family and now is a joint project of Catholic United Financial and our PTA. It is an important school fundraiser and through many years it has not only brought in much needed revenue
 for the school, but it has been a great event for the entire community to enjoy. In addition to our school families, we welcome the volunteer help from other parishioners and school advisory board as well. I am grateful for all of the good work to create a great evening of togetherness and enjoyment! Thank you.
For our school and parish, the church needs to be the spiritual hub of our lives. I also hope that it is the social hub of the entire community as well. God commands that we go to church once a week, but what if we make coming to church something that we want to do! When it is fun to be at church, because the event is great, our friends are there, the food is delicious, the entertainment is great. That's why our parish and school calendar are loaded with a variety of items. Some are mandatory worship times, such as Sundays and Holy Days. Others are social gatherings or educational opportunities. It is great fun to be at Our Lady of the Prairie and I hope that you love being here too. We work hard to make our community welcoming and enjoyable so that we can truly call ourselves "God's family in Belle Plaine." I am blessed to be your pastor and grateful that we make Our Lady of the Prairie the center of our lives!
God bless you,
Father Michael Kaluza
shows friendship to others in the classroom,
playground, lunchroom, and hallways. He is a wonderful example of what it means to be a saint.
Kenan Otto is the Kindergarten student chosen for the Saint Benedict award.

First-Second Grades -This person shows kindness towards everyone. He encourages others when they are struggling by saying kind supportive words. He gives praise to each person for the work they do, especially when sharing their work in front of class. He has said thank you to me for teaching the class. He jumps in to help pick up crayons and pencils when others drop them. I have seen him help carry gym supplies for the gym teacher. Like Saint Benedict he shows hospitality in our classroom. He has even made the comment that hospitality should be a rule in the classroom so everyone can be happy. Saint Benedict was kind and caring and I see that in this person.
Gabriel Vandermark is the 1st-2nd grade student chosen for the Saint Benedict award.

4th,5th, 6th Grades - Like St Benedict this student has been very welcoming to all and has shown great leadership not just in the classroom but in the whole school. When asked to take on challenges this student does not complain and actually helps others to also rise to meet the same challenges. Most of all this student, like St Benedict, has a deep reverence for Christ and shows his faith with his actions.
The Saint of the month, from Mr Lopahs' class, is Luke Hennen.
Mrs. Hendricks, Principal

## Here's what's happening in the classroom . . .

What a fun and busy month October has been at preschool! Students wore their best smiles for Picture Day, learned about Fire Prevention/Safety during a Fire Drill, and experimented with textures during Ff "Farm" week. Our Prayer Marathon was a GREAT success; thank you to all the generous sponsors. Students prayed for their families, our school and each other. We had three moms that walked \& prayed with us during our final 6 laps. We will finish the month with the Rake-a-thon, Halloween Carnival and Costume Show \& Tell (Oct. 31st). Watch your student's gray folder for more information about the upcoming events.

Mrs. Ross


It has been a beautiful Fall season so far! We have been enjoying many Fall themed activities in our classroom. During apple week, we learned about Johnny Appleseed, the life cycle of an apple, performed apple experiments to see what would keep an apple from turning brown, and made homemade applesauce together. The theme of our math and reading centers have been fall related as well.

During fire safety week, we learned what we should do in emergencies and had our first fire drill. Students participated in the fire safety poster contest and we even had a few winners in our classroom!

In Believe and Read, we work on our letters and sounds daily. A few of our daily practice routines include listening for sounds at the beginning and the ending of words, vowels vs. consonants, blending syllables into words, letter formations, and rhyming words.

Another wonderful aspect to our week is participating in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. A few of our newer works have been learning the liturgical colors of the church year and how to prepare a model altar. The students have been so eager to see what color chasuble Father will be wearing at Mass. It is a blessing that some of the preschoolers join us during our time in the Atrium. We are so blessed that our classes can come together to learn!

## God Bless, Ms. Schroers



Hello Families!


The first graders have been working on printing neatly and sentence writing. They are recognizing telling and asking sentences. First grade is also decoding words with the digraph blends sh,th, ch, wh, and ck. We are on our 3rd unit in reading. As for math class, the first grade is working on strategies for subtraction.

The second grade is working on cursive writing. We are also decoding words by using syllables. Second grade is recognizing prefixes and suffixes.We are also on the 3rd unit in reading. Our second grader is also in a book club reading chapter books and digging deeper into the story concepts such as opinion or fact. Second grade will start place value to 100 next week.

We finished Animal Biodiversity in Mystery Science and will start a plant unit. In our Social Studies we hope to wrap up unit one by the end of the month and start with the World Around Us.

Second grade is learning all about the Sacraments, and first grade about God's love and the two great commandments. In our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd class we've heard a lot about The History of the Kingdom of God. Stay tuned for next month's update!
Mrs. Hennen

The 5th \& 6th graders had an awesome trip to Wolf Ridge making memories and learning about and taking in the sights and sounds of the North Woods. Also several students have been assisting the principal with making and updating the Saint of the Month bulletin board in the hallway. And our students have been outstanding leaders with our visit to the Cathedral, the Prayer Marathon, and serving at the Children's Mass.

Our older students have also been busy working on an oral book report, an Animal Ecosystem Research project, studying the Early Explorers, and expanding their math skills in division (4th) and decimals (6th).

Mr. Lopahs


| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 29 | 30 | 31 <br> 6:30 pm All Saints Vigil Mass | 1 <br> Solemity of All Saints 8:30am Deceased Members of OLP Parish <br> Coffee \& donuts after Mass 12 Noon Ecumenical Lunch in RH Religous Education Opening Night \& Parent Mtg. | 2 <br> All Souls' Day <br> 8:30am For the Faithful Departed 6:30pm OLP Remembrance Mass in PH CCW light refreshments after Remembrance Mass in RH | $3$ <br> 8:30am d. Francis, Leona, \& Robert Huber End of 1st Quarter | 4:15pm d. Douglas (Spike) Mueller |
| 5 <br> 8am d. Brent Meyer <br> 9am Choir Practice in Church <br> 10am For the Parish | 6 | 7 <br> Father out of the office <br> Father Roger Hessian Presiding <br> 6:30pm d. Charles Morgan <br> 7:00pm KC Meeting in PH <br> 7:00pm CCW Meeting in RH | 8 <br> Father out of the office <br> Father Roger Hessian Presiding 8:30am <br> Coffee \& donuts after Mass <br> No School - Teacher Workshop <br> No Religous Education Classes | 9 <br> Father Out of Office Father Roger Hessian Presiding 8:30am d. Carl Gansen 5:00 pm Marriage Prep in RH Religious Ed "Box of Joy" Service Project | 10 <br> Father out of the office Father Roger Hessian Presiding 8:30am d. Don Guertin | $11$ <br> Father out of the office Father Roger Hessian Presiding 4:15pm KC Memorial Mass <br> d. Gary McCue (Vietnam Vet) |
| 12 <br> 8am For the Parish 9am Choir Practice in Church 10 am d. Donald \& Mary Jane O'Brien CUF Treats \& Fellowship following 8 \& 10 Masses 7 pm ME meeting in RH | 13 | $14$ <br> 1:30 pm Mass at Kingsway 3:00-7:00 Parent Teacher Conferences 6:30pm 7:00pm Small group Planning Day \#1 in RH 7:00pm Liturgy Planning | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \\ & 8: 30 \mathrm{am} \\ & \text { Coffee \& donuts after Mass } \\ & \text { Religous Education Classes K-8 } \end{aligned}$ | 16 <br> 8:30am d. Pat Fogarty 2:00 pm Mass at Lutheran Home 3:00-7:00 Parent Teacher Conferences | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \\ & \text { 8:30am d. Eldina Eyrich } \end{aligned}$ | 18 <br> 4:15pm For the Parish CCW Treats \& Fellowship following Mass |
| $19$ <br> 8am d. Jeanette Gerres 9am Choir Practice in Church 10:00 pm d. Colleen MurphyMcCreight <br> CCW Treats after Masses $11 \mathrm{am}-2 \mathrm{pm}$ The "FEAST" Community Dinner at OC Elem. | \|20 <br> 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Community Ecumenical Service | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \\ & \text { 6:30pm } \\ & \text { 7:00 pm Small Group Planning } \\ & \text { Day \#2 in RH } \end{aligned}$ | 22 <br> 8:30am d. Francis, Leona, \& Robert Huber Coffee \& donuts after Mass No school/Thanksgiving Break No Religious Ed Classes Parish Office Closed | 23 <br> Thanksgiving Day 8:30am d. Susan Fahey No school/Thanksgiving Break Parish Office Closed | 24 <br> 8:30am d. Michael Fogarty No school/Thanksgiving Break Parish Office Closed | $25$ <br> 4:15pm CCW Volunteers |
| 26 <br> 8am For the Parish 9am Choir Practice in Church 10 am d. Jim Covington Religous Ed Cathedral Field Trip Grades 7 \& 8 | 27 | 28 <br> 1:30 pm Mass at Kingsway 6:30pm d. Jake \& Irene Balk 6:30 pm Church Night Meetigs in RH | $\begin{aligned} & 29 \\ & \text { 8:30am } \\ & \text { Religous Education Classes K-8 } \end{aligned}$ | $30$ <br> 8:30am d. Phyllis Muecke PreK-6 School Trip to Old Log Theater 5:00pm Marriage Prep in RH | 1 | 2 |
| 3 <br> 8am For the Parish 9am Choir Practice in Church 10am d. Douglas (Spike) Mueller | 4 | Notes | Adoration: Every Wedn Sacrament of Confessi *RH - Roedel Hall Gath <br> *CGS - Caticesis of the <br> *TGA - The Great Adve | nesday 9:00 AM-10:00 P on: Half Hour before m ering Space) Good Shepherd nture | M <br> ass each day <br> *PH - Parish Hall <br> *CI - Catechetica | nstitute |



## EAT, GATHER \&

## BE GRATEFUL



## A BELLE PLAINE COMMUNITY EVENT

## GRACIIOSLYY FUNDED BY MOOOY ENTERPRISE

An event for community members to come together and show gratitude for each other and celebrate our wonderful community. Activities, open gym, arts \& crafts and a warm meal will be served.

# Sunday, November 19 <br> U/ 11:00 AM - $2: 00$ PM Oak Crest Elementary 

-Free Will Donation -
Free will donation goes towards scholarships for our youth!
Interested in meal delivery? Call - (952) 649-2499

| NR $\frac{\text { NATIONAL }}{} \frac{\text { Edsel }}{\text { REALAY }}$ <br> G GUILI <br> Your Home, My Priority | Edsel Faunillan - Realtor <br> 952 465-6820 <br> EdselHomes@gmail.com | Does your home have high levels of RADON? <br> Today to make sure your home safe from elevated RADOI $612-504-4540$ |  | Meet Randy. He's a great listener and will guide you every step of the way. Lampert <br> Lumber Apple Valley, MN <br> ndy.Koepp@LampertLumber.com 952-292-4416 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| Kolden <br> FUNERAL \& CREMATION SERVICES <br> Karl \& Rosemary Kolden 952-873-6227 <br> www.koldenfuneralhome.com | - |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | FARM SUPPLY <br> 952-873-4234 <br> II5 W. Church • Belle Plaine |
|  |  | (2ish Scheffler - Tish Scheffler - <br> (Patricia) Insurance Agency ILC <br> Licensed $612-799-6496$ <br> Insurance Agent tishscheffler@ipnagent.com |  |  |
| LET'S GROW YOUR BUSIIESS <br> Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish! <br> CONTACT ME Rolando Mararac <br> rmararac@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2139 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Mathew Doerr (507) 3 | Radermacher's <br> FRESH <br> MARKET <br> Quality Freshness Convenience <br> Jordan- (952) 492-2044 <br> Le Sueur - (507) 665-2630 <br> Le Center - (507) 357-4424 |  |
|  |  |  | $507-665-3300$ | SPRAY FOAM <br> acorn insulation $\qquad$ $\qquad$ |
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