



# Our Lady OF THE Prairie

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 24, 2024

### 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

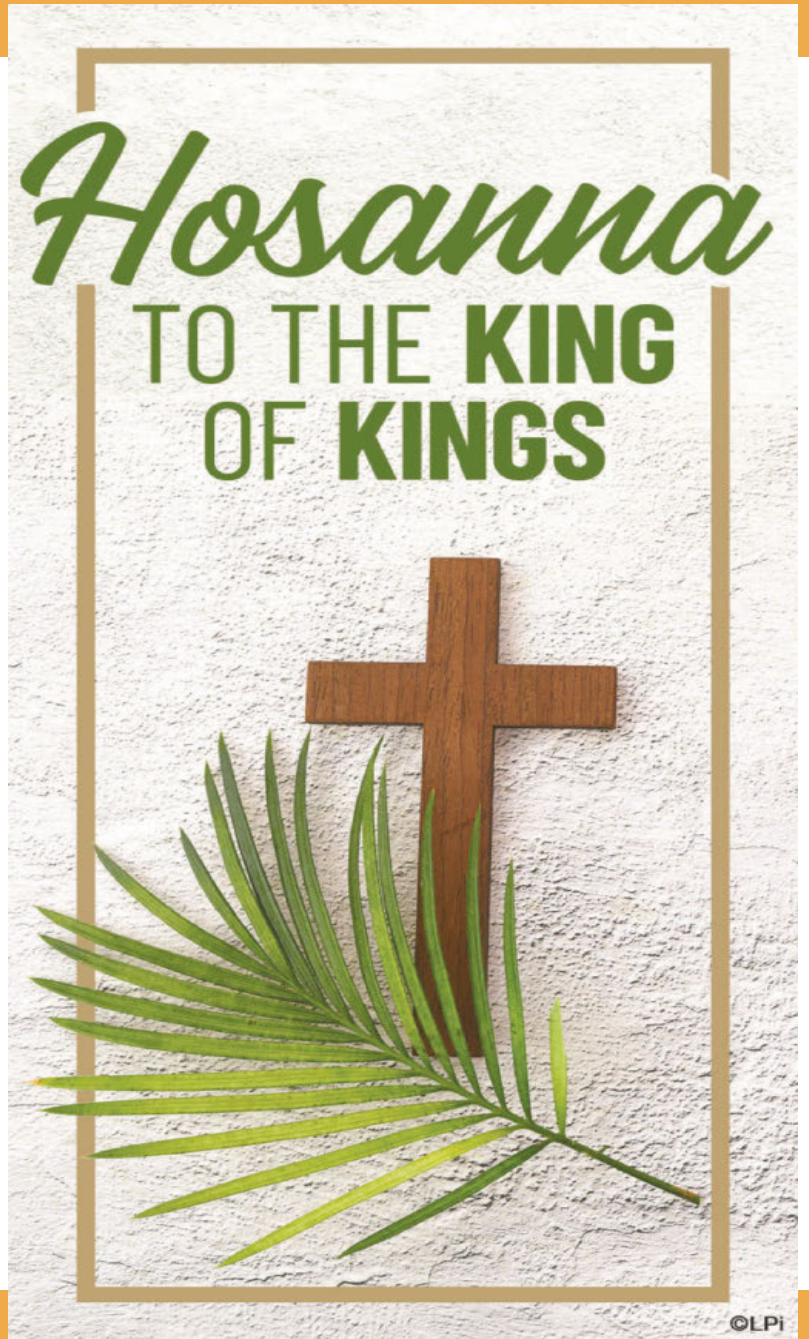
Congratulations! Thank you for accepting and caring for one of God's greatest gifts. As part of Baptism preparation, expectant parents are required to attend Mass weekly. Please contact the Parish Office (952) 873-6564. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.

#### Bulletin Announcements

If you would like to post in the bulletin, please send an email to: [bulletineditor@olp.church](mailto:bulletineditor@olp.church) by noon on Monday for the following Sunday. (Holidays may have earlier deadlines)

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

Please contact 952-992-0140



200 East Church Street | Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011  
952-873-6564 | [www.ourladyoftheprairie.com](http://www.ourladyoftheprairie.com)

## PARISH STAFF

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## LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

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### FINANCE COUNCIL

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## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL . . .

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

This week begins Holy Week, the most sacred week of the whole year. We are offered two Gospels at Mass for our consideration about our response to Jesus. His triumphal entry into Jerusalem in the midst of jubilation and the waving of palm branches and also the passion and death of our Lord. We're given both ends of the spectrum to consider. It also helps us to make an honest evaluation of our motivation and our Christian faith. Are we swayed by the crowd and with Jesus when things are going well? Do we persevere with Jesus when our faith places challenges around our status? Do we give in to pressure to allow the crowd to continue to assault Jesus? Is the crowd just a big bully? Yet the crowd does sway great influence in both Gospel passages.

The crowd eagerly cheers for Jesus as he comes to Jerusalem with glory and majesty, but the crowd has a change of heart and leads him to hang on the gibbet of the cross on the hill of Calvary. Their shouts of hosanna turn to taunts of jeers mocking his royalty and divinity. It all changed during a period of just a few days. How willing the crowd was to be persuaded by the authorities to exchange their palms for calls of crucifixion.

Saint Mark's account of the passion presents Jesus as the Messiah who is prophesized in Isaiah as the Suffering Servant. Jesus shares in every kind of human suffering. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus expresses sorrow and distress without any support, even from his closest disciples. He suffers denial and betrayal. As he appears on trial in front of religious authorities and Roman leaders, Jesus is mocked and abused. Ultimately though, Jesus is revealed as chosen by God for the mission of salvation.

I look forward to seeing you at Holy Week liturgies. Please join us for Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continuing until 9 p.m. Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m. and the Good Friday Liturgy at 6:30 p.m. Our Easter Vigil will be celebrated at 8 p.m. Easter Sunday Masses are at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

God bless you,  
Father Michael Kaluza



## Prayer Requests

Richard Beach  
Bud Steen  
Sara Meyer  
Bob Koenig

George Doheny  
Matt Hennen  
Tucker Duffy  
Florence Moriarty

Jean Ann Oglesby  
Special Intention  
Bob Johnson  
Gary Schmidt

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.





2024-2025

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"A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students become saints."

- Pope Benedict XVI



Weekly Collection Goal for Month	\$8,344.00
3/17/2024 Collection (Week 38)*	\$5,091.00
Current Week Deficit	(-) \$3,253.00
Church Painting & Renovations	\$235.00
Irish Mass	\$1,491.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday, March 16 at 4:15 pm	177
Sunday, March 17 at 8:00 am	207
Sunday, March 17 at 10:00 am	210
Live stream views of Mass	105
Total Registered Active Families	486
Total 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.

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE  
MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS

How Can I Keep  
From Singing?

WHEN: APRIL 4TH, 2024  
7 PM


WHERE: OLP CATHOLIC  
CHURCH, BELLE PLAINE

WHAT: A SPRING CHOIR  
CONCERT



**Adoration Chapel**

- ◆ Spend time with our Lord anytime at your convenience
- ◆ Open 24 hours
- ◆ No length of time required
- ◆ Call the Parish Office for detailed information and to complete a one time registration.



**Prolife Across America  
Culture of Love Celebration!**  
Learn how to have a simple a conversation with someone who is not pro-life.  
April 18, 2024  
Doors open at 5:45 p.m. / Dinner at 6:30  
Banquets of Minnesota (6310 Hwy. 65 NE, Fridley, MN)  
**Keynote:** Scott Klusendorf, apologist  
President of Life Training Institute, where he trains pro-life advocates to make a persuasive case for life in public .  
Please register at [prolifeacrossamerica.org/love](http://prolifeacrossamerica.org/love)

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**CASINO**  
Night Gala

SAVE THE DATE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024**

DINNER, DRINKS, GAMES, SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION



*Spring is right around the corner!*

DON'T MISS OUT on your chance to beautify the church property by purchasing a **Legacy Tree** in remembrance of your parents, grandparents and family.

We will plant in the Spring of 2024

Stop in the Parish Office for details, or contact Pat Schroers at (952) 288-4801.

Only \$500 per tree (includes planting)

Choose from: Autumn Blaze Maple, Oak, or Basswood.

Be a part of Our Lady of the Prairie's History!

Giving is *Faith in Action*

*"I ask you to prayerfully consider making a gift to the Catholic Services Appeal and sharing your blessings with those around you. Just as Christ's love for us is unwavering, your generosity will demonstrate that our Giving is Faith in Action."* - Archbishop Bernard Hebda

Educate in Faith Help Those in Need Strengthen in Faith Protect Life

Your 2024 Catholic Services Appeal gift will transform countless lives by bringing Jesus to others through the education and outreach of ministries throughout the Archdiocese.

**Please Give to the Catholic Services Appeal today.**

**WELCOME**  
*welcome*  
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*We're glad you're here  
with us today!*



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Visit the Parish Office to submit

*Mass Intentions*

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*The Celebration of  
Divine Mercy Sunday*



*April 7, 2024*

*Our Lady of the Prairie Schedule*

- *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – 2 pm*
- *Opening Hymn: “O Salutaris Hostia”*
- *Sacrament of Confession: 2:10 pm – 2:50 pm*
- *A Rosary for Life: The Glorious Mysteries*
- *Meditation Song*
- *Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song - 3 pm*

*Directed by Colin Schultz*

*Benediction*

*“Tantum Ergo”*

*Divine Praises*

- *Closing Hymn: “Holy God We Praise Thy Name”*

**Our Lady of the Prairie  
Council of Catholic Women  
Flower Fund Donations  
Easter Season**

Excess donations will be used for altar flowers during other times of the year.



**Donated By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory Of:** \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Calendar with Readings		
<p>Monday <b>25</b> March</p>	<p>Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11 No School-Spring Break March 25-28</p>	
<p>Tuesday <b>26</b> March</p>	<p>Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38 1:30pm ☩ Kingsway Mass 6:30 pm Mass ☩ d. Andy Berger 7:00 pm Church Night Meeting</p>	
<p>Wednesday <b>27</b> March</p>	<p>Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25 8:30 am I Mass ☩ d. Bob &amp; Catherine Lambert</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coffee &amp; donuts after Mass</li> <li>• No Religious Ed Classes</li> <li>• 7:30-8:30 pm Concert Practice</li> </ul>	
<p>Holy Thursday <b>28</b> March</p>	<p>Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21 Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15 6:30pm Mass ☩ d. Apollonia Gerold <b>Lector:</b> Sue Schultz <b>EMHC:</b> Keith Heitkamp, Jason Palo, Susan Cole, Sue Schultz <b>Ushers:</b> Volunteers (4) <b>Servers:</b> Kaiden Palo, Jaxson Palo, Volunteers (2) <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Sacramental Families, Please Volunteer Adoration following Mass until 9:00pm</p>	
<p> Good Friday <b>29</b> March</p>	<p>Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46) / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42 No School / Parish Office Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3:00 pm Stations of the Cross</li> <li>• 6:30 pm Liturgy (no Mass) Washing of the Feet</li> </ul> <p><b>Lectors:</b> Sheila Schmitz, Joe Vandermark <b>EMHC:</b> Keith Heitkamp, Jason Palo, Susan Cole, Sue Schultz <b>Ushers:</b> Volunteers (4) <b>Servers:</b> Kaiden Palo, Jaxson Palo, Volunteer <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Sacramental Families, Please Volunteer</p>	
<p>Holy Saturday <b>30</b> March</p>	<p>Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/ Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7 8:00 pm Mass ☩ d. Carl Gansen <b>Lector:</b> Pat Schroers, Sheila Hendricks, Janice Teal <b>EMHC:</b> Keith Heitkamp, Sheila Hendricks, Janice Teal, Volunteer <b>Ushers:</b> Volunteers (4) <b>Servers:</b> Jeffrey Teal, Volunteers (3) <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Sacramental Families, Please Volunteer</p>	
<p><i>Christ is Risen!</i> Easter Sunday <b>31</b> March</p>	<p>Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 8:00 am Mass ☩ d. Lorraine Schultz <b>Lector:</b> Volunteer <b>EMHC:</b> Susan Cole, Volunteer (3) <b>Ushers:</b> Volunteers (4) <b>Servers:</b> Volunteers (3) <b>Greeters:</b> Mark &amp; Leticia Fogarty <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Sacramental Families, Please Volunteer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:00 am Choir Practice</li> </ul> <p>10:00 am Mass ☩ d. For the Parish <b>Lector:</b> Joe Vandermark <b>EMHC:</b> Jason Palo, Joe Vandermark, Karen Vandermark, Volunteer <b>Ushers:</b> Volunteers (4) <b>Servers:</b> Kaiden Palo, Jaxson Palo, Volunteer <b>Greeters:</b> Al &amp; Dorothy Bartolomei <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Sacramental Families, Please Volunteer <b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> Mary Moriarty (Kingsway) / Lisa Schatz (Lutheran Home)</p>	



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 Blessings to all: Gerald, Carman Meyer & family

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## A Note from the Principal . . .

### Saint Joachim February Saint of the Month

"There is no actual Biblical data on Saint Joachim and Ann. Tradition points out that this husband and wife were the vessels from which God sent into the world, the greatest woman ever to be born and ever to live, who would become the mother of God and the queen of heaven and earth!"

Student Saint of the month in Mrs. Hennen's 1st and 2nd grade class is **JD Vandermark**. Like St. Joachim, **JD** prays for others. **JD** is mindful of trying to live as a saint by listening carefully to scripture and taking time to read Bible passages. **JD** reflects on the scripture and how it is related to himself. **JD** cares deeply for his family and tries to better himself in all his actions and words.

Student Saint of the Month from Mr. Lopahs' 4th, 5th, 6th grade class is **Peter Hennen**.

**Peter** has shown a great deal of growth this school year, both academically as well as spiritually. Like any great saint **Peter** understands what challenges feel like and how to meet those challenges through hard work and Faith in Christ. **Peter** is a great leader in the classroom as well as the entire school and always demonstrates an understanding of the needs of others. Like most saints **Peter** knows that everyone is a Child of God and should be treated with respect and love. And just like Saint Joakim **Peter** understands that when you listen to God good things happen to you. .

### Divine Mercy Chaplet

In honor of Saint Faustina, OLP PreK-6th student body will continue to assemble at **2:15 pm on the fourth Wednesday (unless otherwise stated)** of each month to sing the **Divine Mercy Chaplet**. All are welcome to join in this powerful prayer!

### Service Projects

Each month OLP PreK-6th grade students focus on a special **Service Project**: **October** raked leaves in three yards; **November** brought items and packed boxes of Joy that were sent to children across the ocean who are less fortunate; **December** performed at Kingsway Home Christmas Program, "Walking Through the December Saints". **January** making tie blankets for patients. **February** creating Valentine cards for families at Mary's Place in Minneapolis, **March** students brought 267 pounds of food to local Food Shelf. Well done!



Student Saints of the Month

## A Word from Father Michael . . .

### Holy Week

Next week we celebrate Holy Week. The events of Holy Week are much more than just recalling Christ's suffering and glorification. We actually celebrate his life and share in his victory. Through his Passion, Death and Resurrection, Jesus accomplishes the mission to which his Father calls him. He conquers sin and restores humanity to the justice of God. This is the holiest week of the year and these liturgies are the center of the entire Christian year!

Holy Thursday marks the end of the Lenten season and we begin to celebrate the Triduum (Latin for "three days"). On Holy Thursday we experience Jesus' gift of himself in the Eucharist, which has been handed down to us. At the celebration of the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us an image of what the church is supposed to be like. We contemplate Christ in the Upper Room, on the eve of his Passion, as he made a gift of himself to the Church, instituted the ministerial priesthood and left to his disciples the new commandment of love. In this way he wished to remain with us in the sacrament of the Eucharist, making himself the food of our salvation.

On Good Friday we recall the brutal passion of Jesus who suffered so much for our sins and freely gave himself so to open the gates of heaven and prepare an eternal dwelling for all of God's people. Passing over through death to new life defines daily Christian living. We are called to take up our own cross in order to follow Jesus. Life offers so many opportunities to unite ourselves to the cross of Jesus. We venerate the cross to remember that it was our sins that put Jesus on the cross.

The Easter vigil is the grandest liturgy of the entire year celebrating the gift of newness of life. Fire is blessed to illuminate our passage from death into life as the readings are read. Water is blessed to signify our new birth in Christ. New members are welcomed into the church and the initiation sacraments are celebrated. It is truly a wonderful gift to all who participate! Easter Sunday is the day of resurrection and each Sunday we are reminded of Jesus overcoming sin and death and that his resurrection affords hope for each one of us!

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Holy Week Liturgies.

God bless you!

Father Michael Kaluza

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

### PreK

March came in like a Lion with our "All God's Creatures Great & Small" Zoo theme. Students added black stripes to orange tigers, classified land/water/air animals and heard the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den. Our "I Spy with My Little Eye Something Green" theme taught us about primary colors yellow, blue and what happens when you mix them together to create the secondary color green. Our little scientists explored the Lifecycle of a tree and fork printed texture on a cactus craft. Our classroom was filled with joy celebrating Saint Patrick. Students searched the classroom for gold coins to fill our alphabet pot, danced with a leprechaun, and painted a green shamrock with a hint of gold shimmer. We welcomed the season of spring with Show & Tell, learned about the Lifecycle of a butterfly and watercolor painted umbrellas. Thank you to all that gave generously for the Belle Plaine Food Shelf! Easter Blessings to all. Mrs. Ross



### Kindergarten

March has been a month of so much growth in kindergarten! In Believe and Read, we've been practicing blending and segmenting CVC words, distinguishing between short vowel sounds, and reading and writing sentences. Students are also working on short story readers, and illustrating those stories. Our letter Ff theme was all about fishing with our friend Frits in the Superkid books. Students heard stories about fishing, played fishing games to practice math skills, and made their own colorful fish creations. Kindergarteners have been working on addition to ten this month, and now they have started subtraction. For science, our unit is on forces, motion, and direction. In one of the lessons, students investigated how pushes can change the speed and direction of falling objects. In the activity, "Boulder Bounce," we played a game where they designed a solution that would protect a model town "Tiny Town" from a bouncing-ball "boulder." Our Catechesis presentations were on the Good Shepherd, Psalm 23, and The Last Supper. Have a blessed Easter, and Spring Break! Ms. Schroers



### 1st & 2nd Grades

Dear Families,

Our class has been working on many little projects in the classroom. We finished our GALA art project, wrapped up some book reports, and are tracking the 40 days of lent. In our Religion text we are reading about the Three Days (Triduum). In the atrium we have been pondering on many lenten parables such as The Lost Coin, The Good Samaritan, and The Ten Bridesmaids. The children have great responses. In Social Studies we are close to wrapping up our unit on Using Our Resources. In Science we will start Why is there sand at the beach? First grade is working on counting on by tens and soon by ones and then adding ones and tens. Second grade is working on reading and making various graphs. Next we will work with time and money. Our Believe and Read Reading program has first grade spelling and decoding long vowel words and second grade spelling and decoding vowel digraph words. We are always excited to read a new story in Our Superkids readers! Have a great spring break, Mrs. Hennen

### 4th/5th/6th Grades

In Mr. Lopahs' class, it has been a theme of "hard work results in good rewards". When our class sold the most raffle tickets in the school for the Catholic United Financial Raffle the students enjoyed a suitable reward - bowling! Likewise with this long stretch of school days and crazy weather the students have worked hard to make good choices by being good

friends and a positive attitude. As a result their "Fun Fri-yays" have been spent with extra outdoor recesses. And in regards to school work our class is continuing to grow in confidence and knowledge in all subject areas as we close out the 3rd Quarter. Mr. Lopahs

