

April 21, 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 by noon on Monday for the following Sunday. (Hoidays 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

JOHN 10:14

CLPi

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OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH STAFF

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DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Mark Simons | msimons@ourladyoftheprairie.com

CEMETERY CARETAKER Keith Heitkamp | heitkampkeith@gmail.com

LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS TRUSTEES

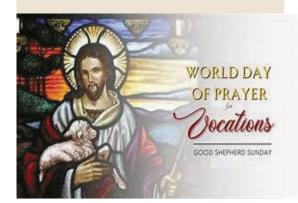
Charlotte Mulroy, Sue Schultz

PARISH COUNCIL

Mike Buchanan, Dan Flynn, Ginny Morgan, Allen Schmitz, Ty Buesgens, Renee Schultz, Leticia Fogarty, Cindy Berger, Joan Brueggemeier, Sandy Schroers, Bob Smith, Tim Murphy

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL Ashley Simons, Matt Offerdahl, Loni Scheff, Jason Palo, Kim Baltus

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



A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL ...

Good Shepherd Sunday

The fourth Sunday of Easter is called Good Shepherd Sunday because the Gospel is always Jesus as the good shepherd who cares and tends to his flock. As members of that flock, we hear the invitation from Jesus to follow him. We must



learn to trust, because Jesus assures us that he will even lay down his own life for our sake! Even when the road through life appears rocky and dangerous, we can be assured that Jesus remains with us. The Church guarantees that in the great gift of the Eucharist we are fed with the great gift of the Good Shepherd. That's what we get at Mass.

The Eucharistic presence of Our Lord strengthens us to be able to maneuver our way through life, especially when challenging conditions are put in our own paths. We remember that God loved us enough to offer himself as a sacrifice on the cross as if we were the only one in need of salvation. In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that the good shepherd is willing to risk his own life and gives us an example. God made himself a gift to us and we are called to be gift to others. The gift of the Good Shepherd is to imitate his way so that we can continue to recall Jesus as the Good Shepherd and lead others to him.

The Easter season is all about sharing the good news that God is alive and we are invited to share God's life. That's a wonderful message for us to communicate to others! As we imitate Jesus in caring for others may we always be grateful for the wonderful things that God does through his church!

God bless you, Father Michael Kaluza



Bud Steen Sara Meyer Bob Koenig George Doheny Matt Hennen Tucker Duffy Florence Moriarty Jean Ann Oglesby Special Intention Gary Schmidt David Gerrish

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 <u>four weeks</u>. Please get the permission of the person you wish to add before calling or emailing.

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APRIL 21, 2024 | 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Faithful Endings:

A Guide to Catholic End-of-Life Planning

Sunday, May 19 1:00 - 4:00 pm St. Wenceslaus Parish Activity Center West entry off the parking lot. (near the gym)

Keynote Speaker Jason Adkins, ESQ



Faithful Endings -

Because one size does not fit all when it comes to planning or starting conversations while remaining true to your Catholic faith, we have developed this workshop to help you begin your planning journey.

Please join us for an

afternoon of intentional conversation concerning Catholic end-of-life planning. In addition to speakers, we will have interactive Q&As, a take-home planning kit, a resource library, snacks, and prayer.

Please RSVP by May 01, at 952-758-3225.

STEWARDSHIP ATTEND SERVE GIVE GROW

Weekly Collection Goal for Month	. \$8,344.00
4/14/2024 Collection (Week 42)*	\$9,723.31
Current Week Surplus	+) \$1,379.31

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday, April 13 at 4:15 pm
Sunday, April 14 at 8:00 am187
Sunday, April 14 at 10:00 am
Livestream views
Total Registered Active Families
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.



Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Rural Life

May 8th, 2024

University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN - James B. Wolfe Alumni Hall



Keynote Speaker Cardinal Timothy Dola

Featured Speaker Monsignor James She American countryside, to mark its 100th Anniversar gather members, donors, chapters, and friends fro the country for an evening program. Beiologin in the Harvest is a celebratory event inclu-

program featuring Cardinal Timothy Dolan and Monsignor ames Shea, dinner, and social time together. The event will ccus on celebrating and learning about the rich history as ell as sharing plans about the future.

Schedule of Events

1:15 PM - Presentation by Dr. James Nolan 2:15 PM - Presentation by Dr. Christopher Thompson 3:30 PM - Mass at University of St. Thomas Chapel 5:15 PM - Presentation by Cardinal Timothy Dolan 6:15 PM - Dinner

7:30 PM - Presentation by Monsignor James Shea 8:30 PM - Social time



Register Here!



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH Please ma in our p

Our Lady of the Prairie welcomes our new parishioners

Dennis & Mary Hansen

Please make them feel at home in our parish community.

Mass Intentions Weekend & Weekday

Openings in 2024

🗭 🖣 Stop by the Parish Office to schedule.



Giving is faith in d Please give to the Catholic Services App

SAINT PAUL &

Please give to the **Catholic Services Appeal**. Share your blessings with those around you.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Zach Wiese, CRL's Communications Manager, at (651) 444-8711 or zach@catholicrurallife.or

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OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC CHURCH



Son of Kyle & Claire Sonnenburg April 14, 2024



Knights of Columbus^{*} Tickets Available

Council 1503 Spring Banquet

ERGY

Appreciation

Dinner

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church

Saturday May 18, 2024

6pm Social in Roedel Hall 7pm Dinner in Parish Hall

Music by: Carolyn Gleason **Speaker:** Pro-Life across America Representative

Southwest Deanery Council of Catholic Women St. Mary's Catholic Church, LeCenter, MN Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Social at 5:30 Dinner 6:30

Tickets are \$20.00 each.

Please call or leave a message at 952-426-5016 by May 8 if you are interested in attending.

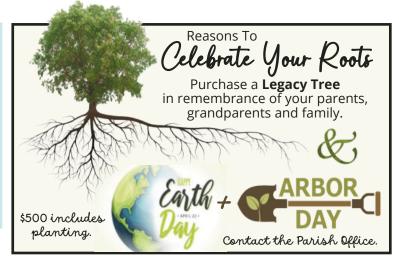
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Please remember in your prayers

Richard John Beach

We extend our sincere sympathy to his family, friends, and loved ones, and pray for his eternal peace.





We invite all Catholics men of Irish birth or descent to seek admittance to the FINEST Irish Catholic Organization in the World - all we ask is for you to live our motto of:

"Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity"

New member installation is Saturday April 27th. Contact us to join!

hibernianshamrock@gmail.com https://hibernianshamrock.com/members

Council of Catholic Women Easter Flower Fund

Thank You!



Additional Contributors (omitted in last week's bulletin)

Donated by:	In Memory of:
Rita Halquist	d. members of Halquist & Bigaouette families
Jean Hayden	Dick Hayden
Gerald & Carman Meyer	Brent Meyer
Mary Pat Murphy	Dan Murphy, Sheila Murphy Ferraro, Colleen Murphy McCreight
LeRoy & Ramona Bentfield	
	Family & Friends
Mary Randklev	Tim Randklev

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, April 22

Tuesday, April 23

3:00-9:00 pm NET Retreat Grades 7 & 8 6:30 pm Mass

Wednesday, April 24

8:30 am	Mass
9:00 am	Coffee & Donuts after Mass
12:00 pm	Ecumenical Lunch
2:15 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:15-7:00 pm	1st Communion Retreat
	Religious Education Classes Grades K-8

Thursday, April 25

8:30 am Mass

7:00 pm Pietra Fitness in Roedel Hall

Friday, April 26

8:30 am OLP Student Mass

Saturday, April 27

- 1:00 pm Ancient Order of Hibernians Founders Day Celebration in the Parish Hall followed by Mass at 4:15 pm
- 4:15 pm Mass (also livestreamed on YouTube) Baptism after Mass: Bennett Schroers

Sunday, April 28

8:00 am Mass 9:00 am Choir Practice in Church 10:00 am Mass Treats & Fellowship after Sunday Masses - hosted by KCs

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon 22 Apr		†	No Mass
Tue 23 Apr	6:30 pm	†	d. Sylvester Gerold
Wed 24 Apr	8:30 am	†	liv. Cathy Budowski
Thur 25 Apr	8:30 am	†	d. Gloria Graham
Fri 26 Apr	8:30 am	†	d. Paul Zehnder
Sat 27 Apr	4:15 pm	†	d. Mary Jane & Donald O'Brien
Sun 28 Apr	8:00 am	†	For the Parish
	10:00 am	†	d. Loy & Eldina Eyrich

Saturday, April 27, 4:15 pm				
Greeters:	Patrick & Charlotte Mulroy			
Ushers:	Keith Heitkamp, Randy Schumacher, Brad Schultz, Matt Schultz			
Servers:	Quinnlyn Gleason, Liam Gleason, MJ Kurvers			
Lector:	Sue Schultz			
EMHC:	Keith Heitkamp, Sue Schultz, Sarah Williams, Volunteer			
Gift Bearers:	Brooklyn Evans & Family			
Sunday, April 28, 8:00 am				
Greeters:	Tom & Pam Cates			
Ushers:	Dr. Tim Halloran, Tim Murphy, Allen Schmitz, Ray Soller			
Servers:	Teresa Fogarty, David Fogarty, Jeffrey Teal			
Lector:	Dr. Tim Halloran			
EMHC:	Rita Halquist, Sharon Schmitz, Susan Cole			
Gift Bearers:	John Shudy IV & Family			
Sunday, April 28, 10:00 a.m				
Greeters:	Joe & Kristen LaJuenesse			
Ushers:	Ben Covington, Peter Feddersen, Caleb Wermerskirchen, Max Wermerskirchen			
Servers:	Stella Scheff, William Scheff, Kenzie Berger			
Lector:	Pat Schroers			
EMHC:	Edsel Faunillan, Nora Wermerskirchen, Jim Covington, Rick Morgan			
Gift Bearers:	Natalie Hagen & Family			
EMHC:	Mary Moriarty (Kingsway)			
	Lisa Schatz (Lutheran Home)			

READINGS

For the Week of April 21, 2024

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 (22)/ Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30 **Wednesday**: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20 **Friday**: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

O.L.P. School Nevs

200 East Church Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011

APRIL, 2024

A Note from the Principal . . .

Congratulations!

American Legion Auxiliary Essay Contest Winners: Luke Hennen, 2nd place, 6th grade; MJ Kurvers, 1st place, 4th grade. The prompt: What Does Freedom Mean to Me? Nicely done, students and teacher, Mr. Lopahs.

<u>Science Fair Advancement:</u> William Scheff's PH level in bottled water science project advanced to the CSCOE Science Fair at Visitation High School in Saint Paul. William presented his project to three judges, answered science methods questions, and gained a greater understanding of the many creative science fair projects throughout the Archdiocese Catholic Schools. Nicely done, William. You represented OLP in a great way.

Saint Juan Diego March Saint of the Month: Saint of the month in Mrs. Hennen's 1st and 2nd grade class is Luke Berger. Luke is most like St. Juan Diego by his compassion for our Lord Jesus and devoted love for our Mother Mary. Luke studies prayer cards and saint books in our classroom. He shares his words of respect toward the Blessed Mother Mary with others. Luke cares about others when they do not feel well. He will let me know about a sick person who needs our prayers, and we pray for that person. Luke enjoys drawing religious pictures of Jesus, the cross, Holy people and sharing his joy through talking about them. ~ Mrs. Hennen

The Saint of the Month, from Mr. Lopahs' 4th, 5th, and 6th grade class is Garrett Simons. Like St. Juan Diego, Garrett is a hard worker and does whatever the task demands to get the job done. Throughout this school year Garrett has shown great patience and dedication in his school work as well as his spiritual life. As a result Garrett has become smarter and grown in his faith. St. Juan Diego was asked to do amazing and difficult things for his Faith. In the same way Garrett has become more open to God's Plan for him as a student, friend, and brother. Like St. Juan Diego, Garrett is very caring and treats everyone with compassion and respect. ~ Mr. Lopahs

<u>Divine Mercy Chaplet:</u> In honor of Saint Faustina, OLP students' last two Divine Mercy Chaplets will be: Wednesday, April 24 and May 15 at 2:15pm. All are welcome! This is a special prayer time as Mrs. Gleason leads us in song praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

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** - 267 pounds of food delivered to local food shelf; **April - Pick-up garbage on playground and local park.** Mrs. Hendricks

A Word from Father Michael ...

Saint John Neumann is credited as the founder of the American Catholic School system. He was born in 1811 in Bohemia and immigrated to the United States in 1836. Soon after his arrival in New York, he was ordained a priest for the diocese of New York.

Bishop Neumann, as a young priest, was the first to make his religious profession as a Redemptorist in the New World. He did this in 1842 in Baltimore at the Church of Saint James. Before his elevation to the See of Philadelphia at the age of 41, he had served as rector of Saint Philomena's, Pittsburgh, and Saint Alphonsus, Baltimore, as well as vice-provincial of this missionary order in America.

Recent research in the files of the State Department show that Bishop Neumann became a naturalized citizen of the United States at Baltimore on February 10, 1848, renouncing allegiance to the Emperor of Austria in whose realm he was born on March 28, 1811. On his 41st birthday, he was consecrated bishop of Philadelphia by Archbishop Francis Kenrick at Saint Alphonsus Church in Baltimore, in 1852.

As bishop, he was the first to organize a diocesan Catholic school system. A founder of Catholic education in this country, he increased the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from two to 100. He inspired many immigrants to have the parish educate their children in all matters – spiritual and secular. Ever since, the Catholic school system has continued to spread throughout the nation and we remain grateful to the work of Saint John Neumann for creating the American system of parochial schools. **Prayer**

Saint John Neumann, you helped organize Catholic education in the United States. Please watch over all Catholic schools and help them be a model of Christianity in their actions as well as their words. Amen



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS





Here's what's happening in the classroom .

PreK

April has been filled with adventure; we started the month with a "Who's Hatching?" Egg Animal theme. Students told stories with a duckling puppet, glued 8 legs on a spider headband and surprised their families with a googly eye snake. Students moved their bodies shaking "snake" scarves with a Hap Palmer classic Sally the Swinging Snake. Our Weather Watcher theme had our eyes to the sky. We learned about the water cycle, created colorful windsocks and watercolor painted goulashes. We had a Tornado Drill so that students know how to carefully & quickly get to our Safe Spot in the event of severe weather. Eric Carle was our featured author. Students imitated his bright colored illustrations making beautiful butterflies and purple cat bag puppets. We learned about the parable of the Sower and the Seed and reviewed the butterfly lifecycle. Thanks to ALL those that donated items for our "Family Fun" Gala basket. Mrs. Ross



Kindergarten

April Showers Bring May Flowers! This month our theme in science has been "wild weather." Students learned about severe weather and how to prepare for and stay safe in storms. They also practiced describing the various characteristics of weather

> (wind, clouds, temperature, and precipitation) in order to make their own predictions about storms. We also studied solar eclipses. Students made model eclipses and oil pastel art projects. In Believe and Read, kindergarteners are learning all about digraphs. Students have been engaging in a variety of phonemic awareness, blending, and segmenting activities that incorporate our new digraph sounds. In Catechesis we celebrated the Liturgy of the Light. In our classroom we are celebrating the Easter season and reviewing the Annunciation and Divine Mercy that were celebrated this month.

> > God Bless, Ms. Schroers

1st & 2nd Grades

Our first and second graders are very busy learning about Erosion, Earth's surfaces and landforms in our Mystery STEM science classes. This week we will focus on What's strong enough to make a canyon! Our Social Studies Unit is about People Long Ago.

In first grade Math we are starting a chapter on Geometry, and second grade is working on telling time. It is so exciting to see the students come with their library books and talk about what they are reading. We are always decoding words in our readers. We are also learning grammar skills too.

My favorite class to teach is Religion. It is always fun to ponder the deeper meaning of the parables and celebrate the Easter Season. Our second grader is preparing for his First Communion!

Blessings to everyone, Mrs. Hennen



4th/5th/6th Grades

Entering the 4th Quarter of the school year there is no skipping a beat in Mr. Lopahs' 4th, 5th, and 6th grade class! In Math students are reviewing all the material from the year and say "Wow, we have learned a lot!". In Language Arts students are completing yet another book report along with finishing up all the spelling lists. For Social Studies students have finished with the American Revolution and are now diving into our unit on Government and Good Citizenship. And in Science we owned Severe Weather Awareness Week by learning all about the extreme weather we experience in Minnesota. Mr. Lopahs



OLP CATHOLIC SCHOOL IS PARTNERING WITH THE EPILEPSY FOUNDATION

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Accepted Items: Clothing Coats Shoes Linens Accessories (purses, belts, etc)

STUFF THE TRUCK TR

Contact Jess to arrange early or curb pickup email jlstuhr@yahoo.com FRIDAY, MAY 10 3-5PM SATURDAY, MAY 11 10AM-12PM & 4-6PM SUNDAY, MAY 12 12-2PM

OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL BELLE PLAINE *TRUCK LOCATED IN THE BACK PARKING LOT OFF STATE STREET*

