



# Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church

200 East Church Street | Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011 | (952) 873-6564 | ourladyoftheprairie.com

## Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday | 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

## MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses  
Saturday | 4:15pm  
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am

## Weekday Masses

Tuesday | 6:30pm  
Wed, Thur, Fri | 8:30am

## Holy Days & Holidays

Consult bulletin.

## Eucharist Adoration

Wednesday | 9:00am - 10:00pm  
Available 24 hours / 7 days a week

## 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

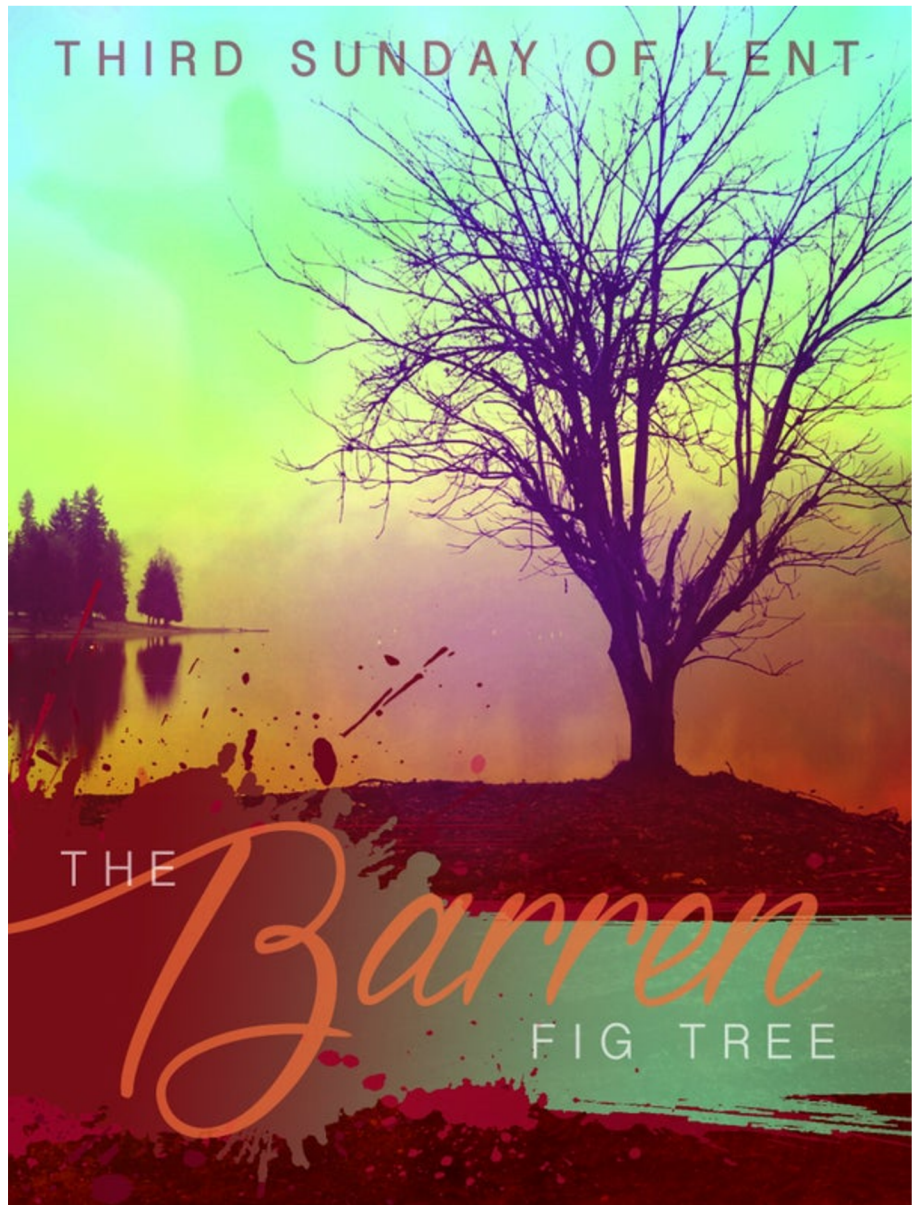
If you would like to post in the bulletin, please send an email to: [bulletineditor@olp.church](mailto:bulletineditor@olp.church) by noon on Monday for the following Sunday (Holidays may have earlier deadlines).

## In Case of an Emergency

Please contact 952-992-0140

March 08, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



**PARISH STAFF**

(952) 873-6564

**Pastor**

Fr. Michael Kaluza | [mkaluza@olp.church](mailto:mkaluza@olp.church)

**Business Administrator |**

**Safe Environment Coordinator**

Kelly Pumper | [kpumper@olp.church](mailto:kpumper@olp.church)

**Administrative Assistants**

Anita Glisczinski | Bonnie Weber  
[frontdesk@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:frontdesk@ourladyoftheprairie.com)

**Principal of Parish School  
& Preschool Director**

Sheila Hendricks | [shendricks@olp.church](mailto:shendricks@olp.church)

**Facilities Manager**

Marty Huss | 952.873.6564

**Director of religious Education**

Mark Simons |  
[msimons@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:msimons@ourladyoftheprairie.com)

**Cemetery Caretaker**

Keith Heitkamp |  
[heitkampkeith@gmail.com](mailto:heitkampkeith@gmail.com)

**LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

**Trustees**

Charlotte Mulroy, Sue Schultz

**Parish Council**

Mike Buchanan, Dan Flynn, Ginny Morgan,  
Ty Buesgens, James Fogarty, Brian Berger,  
Susan Cole, Greg O'Brien, Jim Glisczinski,  
Tom Otto, Mona Altman, Edsel Faunillan

**School Advisory Council**

Ashley Simons, Kim Baltus,  
Stephanie Otto, Danielle Campos

**Finance Council**

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



**MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL . . .**

There is much to be learned from the story of Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman by the well. Traditionally Jews despised Samaritans as being semi-pagans and had nothing to do with them. Yet there is something that Jesus wants from this woman. He desires her love. Jesus' request breaks down the racial and religious barriers between Jews and Samaritans. The lesson that we can learn is responding to the needs of others erases barriers that too often separate and divide.



If we desire to grow in holiness and love God more and more, we too need to remove the barriers that separate us from God. The Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving allow us the opportunity to eradicate the barriers by showing our love for God in time with God in prayer, making more room for God with fasting and responding to the needs of those around us in the world with good works of charity.

My desire for this parish is for us to grow in holiness and break down any barriers of separation. We need to grow in togetherness and when the love of Jesus touches our lives, we too can respond in a way that strengthens our unity and resolve to be unafraid of the work of worship and community.

As a community, we need to continue to educate ourselves and our children about the faith that we profess. Together we can accomplish so much, but if divided, very little. Because of our knowledge and love of Christ we can continue the work of the church in Belle Plaine!

God bless you,  
Father Michael Kaluza



*Celebration of Baptism*

**Josie Mae Hilgers**  
daughter of  
John & Taylor Hilgers  
February 28, 2026



- |                    |             |                     |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Bud Steen          | Jim Turek   | Katie Lowe          |
| Deacon Bob Raleigh | Pat Sexe    | Joan Larson         |
| Mona Bentfield     | Briar Fritz | Mary Ann Bigaouette |
| Don Morrison       | Fred Welsch | Ron (Franny) Gerres |
| Doris Fahey        | Dan Flynn   | Annette Schmit Mann |
|                    |             | Melissa Kjonaas     |
|                    |             | Maureen Millard     |
|                    |             | Barb Wentworth      |
|                    |             | Elmer Lambrecht     |
|                    |             | Katie Cates         |
|                    |             | Hubert Jeurissen    |
|                    |             | Johnny Miller       |
|                    |             | Michael Dahl        |

If you know of someone you would like added to the prayer list, please notify the bulletin editor or Parish Office. Obtain the permission of the person you wish to add before calling or emailing. Names will remain on the list for at least four weeks.

*Save the Date!*  
**OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE**  
 ANNUAL SCHOOL GALA

*Derby Night*  
 DINNER, DRINKS & CASINO FUN!  
**APRIL 25, 2026 | 5 PM**

WEAR YOUR DERBY ATTIRE & JOIN US FOR  
 — A NIGHT OF THRILLS,  
**BETTING & EXCITEMENT!**  
 FREE TO ATTEND & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

**No-Tap Bowling Tournament**  
 Sunday, March 15

Prairie Grille & Bowl  
 Belle Plaine

Shifts offered at  
 11am, 2pm, and 5pm.  
 5 bowlers per team.  
 Up to 8 teams per shift.

Registration begins ½ hour prior to shift.  
 Text 952.367.6844 to pre-register your team!

**Team entry: \$125**  
 Includes 3 games of bowling and shoe rental for up to 5 people.  
**Payment required at time of pre-registration!**  
 Door Prizes & Raffles throughout event!

This event is sponsored by a grant from Catholic United Financial, made possible by OLP CUF Parish Volunteer Team.

Catholic United is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial services company, connecting people of faith, protecting their future and generously impacting parishes, schools and communities.

— faithful —  
**STEWARD**  
*time – talent – treasure*

**BASKET COLLECTIONS**

Weekly Collection Goal: \$8,344

Date	Amount	(+/-) Goal
Sunday, March 1, 2026	\$8,158	-\$186

**ATTENDANCE**

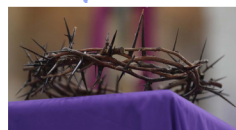
Saturday, February 28, 2026	4:15 pm	238
Sunday, March 1, 2026	8:00 am	154
	10:00 am	224
Livestreamed		NA

Total Registered Active Families . . . . . 512  
 Total Registered Active Members . . . . . 1,301

**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.

**In Christ We Live Forever**  
 Please remember in your prayers  
**Betty Wolf and Kelly Scott**  
 We extend our sincere sympathy to their families, friends and loved ones and pray for their eternal peace.



*Stations of the Cross*

every Friday in Lent  
 9:00 am & 6:30 pm

**Southwest Deanery  
 CCW Spiritual Day**  
 St. Patrick, Shieldsville  
 Saturday, March 14 at 8am  
 Registration \$10 by Mar. 7  
 RSVP: (507) 514-7483

**St. Wenceslaus  
 Spring Market**  
 Parish Activity Center  
 New Prague, MN  
 Saturday, March 21  
 9am-2pm



Our Lady of the Prairie welcomes our new parishioners  
**Shirley Rassmussen**  
**Seth & Britta Forney**  
 Josephine, Lillian, Gabriel  
**Jes & Maria Schwingler**  
 Elsa and Sophia  
 Please make them feel at home in their new parish community.



**Knights of Columbus**



*Lenten Fish Dinners*

<p><b>Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church</b> 200 East Church St. Belle Plaine, MN</p> <p><b>March</b> 6, 13, 20, 27</p> <p>Free will donation.</p> <p>Proceeds will go towards the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus of St. Paul.</p>	<p><b>Menu</b></p> <p>Salad</p> <p>Dinner Roll</p> <p>Baked Fish (breaded &amp; unbreaded)</p> <p>Au-Gratin Potatoes</p> <p>Dessert</p> <p>Coffee</p>
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**Serving:** 4:30 - 6:30 pm | Take out available

OLP Council of Catholic Women  
Easter Season Flower Fund Donations  
Forms in Roedel Hall



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**Irish BINGO**  
Sunday, March 15th, 2026, 2:00 pm  
at River Bottom Tavern and Brewhouse  
514 Main St, Henderson, MN 56044

- 15 games of regular BINGO
- 3 games of Cover-all Bingo
- \$25 at the door. Cash Prizes!

Door prizes, Raffle, and silent auction.  
Lunch to follow. Cash bar

Sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Shamrock Division.  
All proceeds go to the Ancient Order of Hibernians a 501c3 non profit group.



**IRISH MASS**  
12:00 Noon  
Saturday, March 14th

Miss Shamrock Coronation at 1:00 pm in Roedel Hall  
- followed by parade line-up - in church parking lot

**Metro Bag Pipers playing all day!**



**Belle Plaine St. Patrick's Day Celebration**  
\*FREE IRISH MUSIC & DANCE EVENT\*  
Open to the Public!

Join us for an afternoon of Irish culture and fun!

Belle Plaine Vet's Club  
Saturday, March 14  
1:30 PM

Live Irish Music by The Legacy Irish Band  
Irish Dancing by Shamrock School Irish Dance Step

Presented by the Ancient Order of Hibernians — Shamrock Division.  
Bring your friends, wear some green, and celebrate the spirit of Ireland with us!

**Birthright of Mankato**

We will be collecting baby items for **Birthright of Mankato** throughout the **Lenten season**. Please place your donations in the wooden cradle at the back of church.

**Here is a partial list of needed NEW items:**

- Diapers
- Sleepers
- Onesies
- Receiving blankets
- Fitted sheets for Pack 'N Plays
- Hooded bath towels
- Baby wipes (preferably unscented), diaper cream, baby lotion, baby shampoo, baby wash
- Jackets/coats 18 months to size 2T
- Baby board books, infant rattles or teethers, washcloth sets
- Personal care items for moms, such as: travel-size lotion, fuzzy socks, facial sheet masks, lip balm/Chapstick, travel-size hand sanitizer, travel-size tissue packs, new nail polish, hair accessories, etc..



Please keep this list and watch future bulletins for any updates.

**God bless you for helping moms and their babies!**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
<b>Monday, March 9</b>	
7:00-9:00 pm	Gala Ticket Sales Begin Catechetical Institute
<b>Tuesday, March 10</b>	
6:30 pm	Mass
<b>Wednesday, March 11</b>	
8:30 am	Mass - donuts & coffee after mass
6:20 pm	Religious Ed Class K-8
<b>Thursday, March 12</b>	
8:30 am	Mass at OLP
2:00 pm	Mass at The Lutheran Home
6:30-7:30pm	Men's Small Group in Roedel Hall
<b>Friday, March 13</b>	
8:30 am	Mass
9:00 am	Stations of the Cross
4:30-6:30 pm	KC Fish Dinner in Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Stations of the Cross
6:30- 9:00 pm	Youth Group (9-12 Grades): Movie Night
<b>Saturday, March 14</b>	
8:00 am	SW Deanery Spiritual Day at St. Patrick's in Shieldsville
8:30-11:00 am	CI Formative Session at Winsted (begins with Mass)
12:00 Noon	Irish Mass
1:00-2:00 pm	Miss Shamrock Coronation in Roedel Hall Parade line-up in Church parking lot
4:15 pm	Mass
<b>Sunday, March 15 4th Sunday of Lent</b>	
8:00 am	Mass
9:00 am	Choir Practice
10:00 am	Mass



MASS INTENTIONS				
MON	9	MAR	No Mass	
TUE	10	MAR	6:30 pm	† d. Rev Victor C. Valencia
WED	11	MAR	8:30 am	† d. Mike Fogarty
THU	12	MAR	8:30 am	† d. Leon Luce
FRI	13	MAR	8:30 am	† d. Pat Bigaouette
SAT	14	MAR	12:00 pm	† liv. & d. Leo & Mag Sullivan Family
SAT	14	MAR	4:15 pm	† For the Parish
Sun	15	MAR	8:00 am	† d. Florence Leonard
		MAR	10:00 am	† d. Bob, Laura, & John Worm

Saturday, March 14, 12:00 pm  Irish Mass	
Greeters	Volunteers (2)
Lector	Volunteer
EMHC	Volunteers (4)
Ushers	Volunteers (4)
Servers	Volunteers (4)
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)

Saturday, March 14, 4:15 pm	
Greeters	Volunteers (2)
Lector	Sue Schultz
EMHC	Betty Weldon, Dan Flynn, Joe Shimota, Volunteer
Ushers	Keith Heitkamp, Randy Schumacher, Brad Schultz, Matt Schultz
Servers	Volunteers (4)
Gift Bearers	Volunteers

Sunday, March 15, 8:00 am	
Greeters	Mark & Leticia Fogarty
Lector	Jake Hess
EMHC	Sheila Hendricks, Rita Halquist, Sharon Beach, Volunteer
Ushers	Paul Guertin, John Edberg, Volunteers (2)
Servers	Teresa Fogarty, David Fogarty, Jeffrey Teal, David Koehn
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)

Sunday, March 15, 10:00 am	
Greeters	Troy & Nora Wermerskirchen
Lector	Rick Morgan
EMHC	Nora and Hannah Wermerskirchen, Joe Vandermark, Karen Vandermark
Ushers	Caleb Wermerskirchen, Ben Covington, Max Wermerskirchen, Peter Feddersen
Servers	Stella, William, and Paisley Scheff, Volunteer
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)

EMHC: Pat Schroers (Kingsway), Edsel Faunillan (Lutheran Home)

READINGS	
<b>Readings for the week of March 8, 2026</b>	
<b>Sunday:</b> Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42	
<b>Monday:</b> 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30	
<b>Tuesday:</b> Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35	
<b>Wednesday:</b> Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19	
<b>Thursday:</b> Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23	
<b>Friday:</b> Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34	
<b>Saturday:</b> Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14	

Stations of the Cross  
Shadow Play  
presented by  
Our Lady of the Prairie Students

Director: Carolyn Gleason

Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

after

8:30 am Mass

&

at 6:30 pm



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In loving memory of:  
**Brent W. Meyer**

Blessings to all:  
Gerald, Carman Meyer & family

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