



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

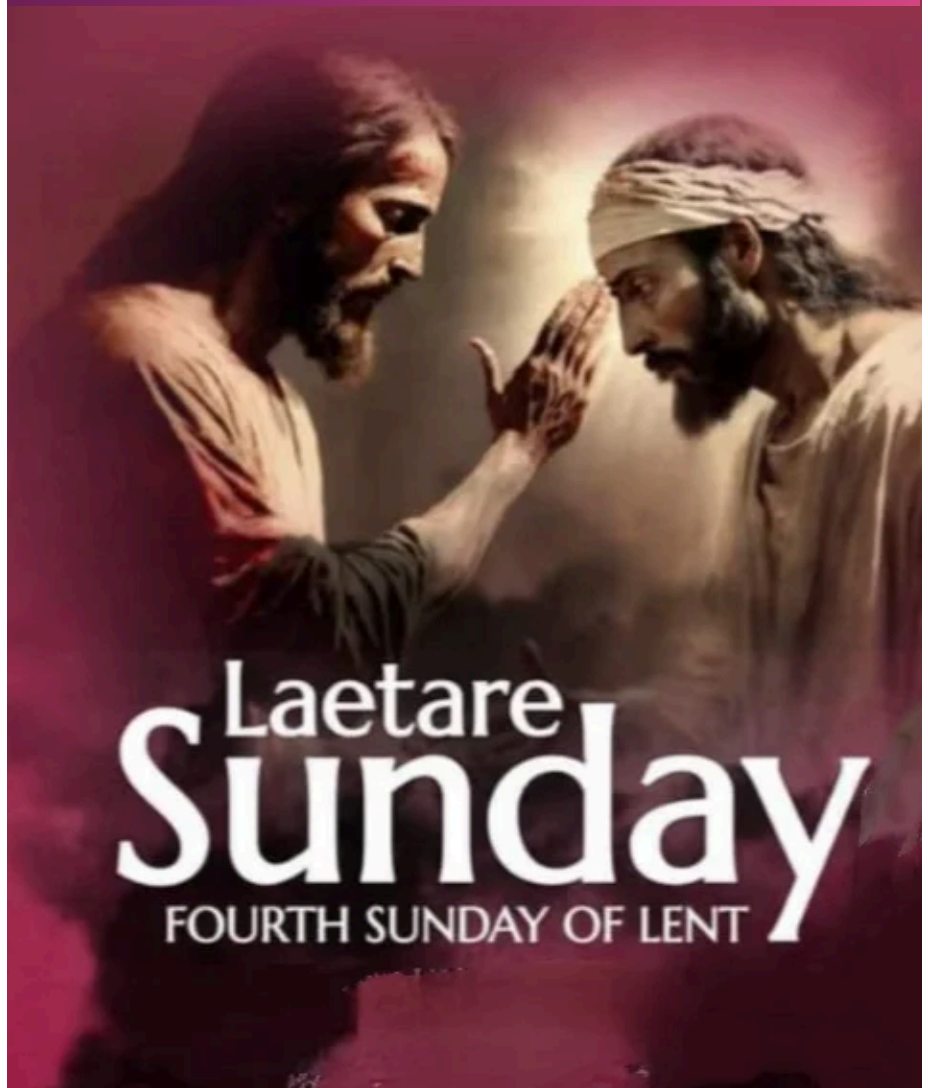
If you would like to post in the bulletin, please send an email to: bulletineditor@olp.church by noon on Monday for the following Sunday (Holidays may have earlier deadlines).

In Case of an Emergency

Please contact 952-992-0140

March 15, 2026

Open My Blind Eyes Oh Dear Jesus



The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally known as **Laetare Sunday**, derived from the Latin word *laetare*, meaning "rejoice." This Sunday provides a moment of joy and hope in the midst of the Lenten season, which is otherwise marked by penance and reflection.

PARISH STAFF

(952) 873-6564

Pastor

Fr. Michael Kaluza | mkaluza@olp.church

Business Administrator |

Safe Environment Coordinator

Kelly Pumper | kpumper@olp.church

Administrative Assistants

Anita Glisczinski | Bonnie Weber
frontdesk@ourladyoftheprairie.com

**Principal of Parish School
& Preschool Director**

Sheila Hendricks | shendricks@olp.church

Facilities Manager

Marty Huss | 952.873.6564

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,
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 . . .

The readings this weekend speak to us about light and darkness. Not only in the Gospel are we reminded that Jesus is the source of light and the one who can bring sight to the blind. With Jesus everything starts fresh and new. God desires to give us new beginnings and that is why His son came to us so that we might know of God's love and mercy.

The choosing of David as King of Israel is also a reminder of how God chooses the least likely and assists with the great tasks necessary for following the Lord. God's spirit was given to King David to be a shepherd to the chosen people of God. The people needed someone who would see them through the changes of life and continue to remind them that God had elected them to be precious in his sight.

Saint Paul also tells us that we have been brought into the light with the coming of Jesus and tells us to do remarkable things because of the blessings given to us through Christ. Our Christian lives involve putting into practice what we have learned and fostering faithful worship. These help us to focus our attention to what really matters. What really matters is: that we have been made for something more. Our realization makes us want to contribute to God's kingdom. We must move with that new-found sight united toward the eternal kingdom where Jesus reigns. If we keep Jesus in our sight, we will find that we too can make all things possible.

God bless you,
Father Michael Kaluza



Lord of Light and Mercy, You sent Your Son into the world not to condemn it, but to save it. Open our eyes to see Your grace at work in our lives. Heal the wounds of our hearts, restore what is broken, and lead us into the fullness of Your truth. When we feel far from You, draw us close with Your love. May this day's rejoicing renew our courage, so that we may continue our Lenten journey with faith, serving You in humility and loving others with generosity.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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

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.

March 15, 2026 | 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

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!



IN CHRIST WE LIVE FOREVER
 Please remember in your prayers
Gerard "Jerry" McCue
 We extend our sincere sympathy to his family, friends, and loved ones, and pray for his eternal peace.

2026 Hibernian Founder's Day Celebration

KC Hall, New Prague
 Saturday, April 25, 2026



Evening Schedule

- 5:00 PM Social Hour
 – Complimentary beer & wine from 5:00–8:00 PM
- 6:30 PM Chicken & Beef Dinner
- 7:30 PM Live Irish Music by Wild Colonial Bhoys
- Full bar available all evening

Tickets: \$40 per person

Order tickets: hibernianshamrock@gmail.com



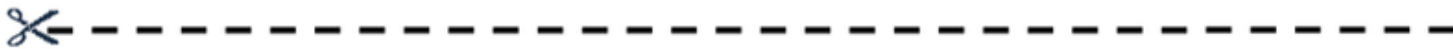
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THE
 CHAPLET OF
Divine Mercy
 IN SONG

**Tuesday
 March 17
 8:30 am**

**Our Lady
 of the
 Prairie
 Catholic Church**

**Carolyn Gleason,
 Musician**

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School invites you to join in the beautifully sung **Divine Mercy Chaplet**. As a school we collectively pray for each prayer intention when we gather monthly to pray/sing the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Mark your calendars for this beautiful prayer time together as a community of believers in Christ and His Divine Mercy.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Place your prayer request in the Divine Mercy Prayer Requests box located in the back of the church or in the parish office. Requests will be read aloud during OLP School's monthly Divine Mercy Chaplet .



Knights of Columbus



Lenten Fish Dinners

<p>Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church 200 East Church St. Belle Plaine, MN</p> <p>March 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>Menu</p> <p>Salad</p> <p>Dinner Roll</p> <p>Baked Fish (breaded & 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



COME FOR THE MASS
8:30 am
Wednesday

18
March
performed by the OLP Students

STAY FOR THE IRISH JIG

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

Alpha Women's Center Gala
Thursday, April 30, 5:30-9 pm
Brackett's Crossing Country Club
in Lakeville. Tickets are \$100;
available online at
MiracleMachineMN.com/Gala, or
by calling 651-894-2882.



Our collection of baby items for Birthright of Mankato will continue during this Lenten season. Currently, they have a big need for:

- unscented baby wipes
- diapers (all sizes)
- sleepers size newborn to sizes 3-6
- Summer baby clothing (mostly sleepers).

Please place your donations in the cradle at the back of the church.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to Birthright of Mankato, please contact them at (507) 387-7818. No gift is too small! Your donation is 100% tax deductible.

Thank you for supporting moms and babies.
Birthright of Mankato is grateful for your help and support!

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

Director: Carolyn Gleason

Friday, March 20th
after
8:30 am Mass
&
at 6:30 pm




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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, March 16

7:00-9:00 pm Catechetical Institute in Roedel Hall

Tuesday, March 17  **St. Patrick's Day**

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song
6:30 pm Mass

Wednesday, March 18

8:30 am Mass
OLP students perform the Irish Jig
- donuts & coffee after mass
9:00 am Reconciliation OLP 3rd & 6th grades
2:00 pm Church Staff meeting in Roedel Hall
3:10 pm Teacher Staff meeting in Art Room
6:20 pm Religious Ed Class K-8

Thursday, March 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 am Mass
6:30-7:30pm Men's Small Group in Roedel Hall

Friday, March 20

8:30 am Mass
9:00 am **Stations of the Cross Shadow Play**
- presented by OLP Students
4:30-6:30 pm KC Fish Dinner in Parish Hall
6:30 pm **Stations of the Cross Shadow Play**
- presented by OLP Students

Saturday, March 21

4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, March 22 **5th Sunday of Lent**

8:00 am Mass
9:00 am Choir Practice
10:00 am Mass
Treats & Fellowship after Mass
- sponsored by KCs

MASS INTENTIONS

MON	16	MAR	No Mass	
TUE	17	MAR	6:30 pm	† liv & d. Wodtke Family
WED	18	MAR	8:30 am	† d. Phil Myron
THU	19	MAR	8:30 am	† d. Dick Klehr
FRI	20	MAR	8:30 am	† d. Bob Bigaouette
SAT	21	MAR	4:15 pm	† CCW Members
SUN	22	MAR	8:00 am	† For the Parish
		MAR	10:00 am	† d. Loy Eyrich

Saturday, March 21, 4:15 pm

Greeters	Volunteers (2)
Lector	Charlotte Mulroy
EMHC	Keith Heitkamp, Sue Schultz, Sarah Williams, Volunteer
Ushers	Jim Forgarty, Joe Hartmann, Chris Weldon, Scott Williams
Servers	Eli Williams, Volunteers (3)
Gift Bearers	Volunteers

Sunday, March 22, 8:00 am

Greeters	Bob & Dorene Smith
Lector	John Walsh
EMHC	Susan Cole, Janice Teal, Volunteers (2)
Ushers	Tim Murphy, Dr. Tim Halloran, Volunteers (2)
Servers	Luke Hennen, Henry Hennen, Peter Hennen, Volunteer
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)

Sunday, March 22, 10:00 am

Greeters	Troy & Nora Wermerskirchen
Lector	Sandy Schroers
EMHC	Mary Randklev, Paula Covington, Jim Covington, Terry Feddersen
Ushers	Jim Covington, Jim Gerres, Jeff Klein, Volunteer
Servers	Kenzie Berger, Mason Berger, Luke Berger, Volunteer
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)
EMHC	Janice Teal (Kingsway) Sue Halloran (Lutheran Home)

READINGS

Readings for the week of March 15, 2026
Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/ Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/ Jn 7:40-53

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Brent W. Meyer
39
Blessings to all:
Gerald, Carman Meyer & family

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