



# 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

May 17, 2026



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” - Mt 28:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

**The Ascension of the Lord** commemorates Jesus Christ's bodily ascent into heaven forty days after His Resurrection, marking the completion of His earthly mission and His exaltation at the right hand of God.

- The Ascension is described in Luke 24:50–52 and Acts 1:9–11, where Jesus, after appearing to His disciples over forty days, blesses them and is taken up into heaven in their sight, hidden by a cloud, symbolizing His divine presence and glory.
- The feast is celebrated with liturgical observances emphasizing worship, reflection, and preparation for Pentecost.
- It inspires us to live in hope, emulate Christ's holiness, and participate in His mission.

**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 . . .**



As we celebrate the Ascension, we remember that Jesus has gone ahead of us into God's world; and our world is now ruled from his throne as he draws us into that space. Jesus has entered God's space, a different kind of space, with a different kind of time. God's space and ours, what we call heaven and earth, are different but not far from each other, different but not distant. In professing that we are being drawn after him to where he has gone before we are proclaiming that one day these two will be united in a totally mysterious way and that Jesus will be present to us in a radically different way to the way we now know.

Jesus has ascended into the fullness of life in God. He has promised to remain with us as we make our way through life toward heaven. He commands us to make disciples of all people, proclaiming by our words and deeds of his reign in this world and beyond. We need to commit already here and now our desire to be a part of that life that goes on forever. His constant presence is needed so that we might know our faith and allow the workings of the Holy Spirit to unfold in our lives.

Soon summer vacation will be upon us and we have summer religious education opportunities with Totus Tuus. Please be sure to enroll.

We continue to recruit and take applications for enrollment in our parish school. We have many advantages to share and great space for a wonderful learning environment. Every Catholic should seriously consider providing a Catholic school education for their children. Our school is a reminder that Jesus reigns from his throne in heaven looking upon us with love.

God bless you,

Father Michael Kaluza



*Prayer*  
**REQUESTS**

Bud Steen

Deacon Bob Raleigh

Mona Bentfield

Don Morrison

Junior Dremel

Shannon Peterson

Angie Sellnow

Michael Dahl

Lori Neisen

Mary Tuma

Katie Lowe

Katie Cates

Jeff McCabe

Ivy Flattum

Briar Fritz

Fred Welsch

Mary Ann Bigaouette

Ron (Franny) Gerres

Maureen Millard

Mary Jo Morris

Barb Wentworth

Rhonda Walsh

Linda Luetmer

Chuck Kroells

Hubert Jeurissen

Annette Schmit Mann

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.



**BABY BOTTLE COLLECTION**

**How it works:**

1. Take a bottle from the bin in back of church
2. Fill it with change, cash, or checks
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[MiracleMachineMN.com](http://MiracleMachineMN.com), or call

(651) 894-2882

# YOUNG ADULT SUMMER BIBLE STUDY



Our Lady of the Praire Catholic Church  
200 E Church St, Belle Plaine, MN 56011  
Starting May 19<sup>th</sup>  
Every Tuesday @ 7:15pm  
Questions? Call or Text (952) 239-4636

### Young Women's Bible Study

Looking for community, deeper faith, and meaningful conversation?

Join us as we begin a beautiful new study on the Mysteries of the Rosary – exploring the life of Christ through prayer and reflection.

- **Who:** Young adult women
- **When:** Sunday nights, 8:00–9:00 PM (open to adjusting to a weekday that works best for the group)
- **Where:** Our Lady of the Prairie

Whether you've prayed the Rosary for years or are just curious, you are warmly invited.

We'd love to grow in faith together.

Interested or have questions? →



**Registration for the 2026-2027 Religious Education Year, and Totus Tuus July 13-17** is now open. Registration forms were sent home with the eldest child in each family, and printable forms will also be available on the parish website. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Simons.



SEAL  
coat

Now is the time to protect our cemetery driveways.

Driveways in both cemeterys were black topped 5 years ago through generous donations. If you would like to help preserve this work, please drop your contribution in the collection basket, mail, or office. Mark it clearly for Seal Coating Project.

Questions? Contact Keith Heitkamp: (612) 819-8272

**Smoothly & safely visit your loved ones graves.**



### BASKET COLLECTIONS

Weekly Collection Goal: \$8,344

Date	Amount	(+/-) Goal
Sunday, May 10, 2026	\$8,807	+\$463

### ATTENDANCE


Saturday, May 9, 2026	4:15 pm	212
Sunday, May 10, 2026	8:00 am	196
	10:00 am	244
Livestreamed		49

Total Registered Active Families . . . . . 547

Total Registered Active Members . . . . . 1,468

### 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.



*Celebration of Baptism*

**Jack David Omtvedt**  
son of Jesse and Jillian Omtvedt  
May 5, 2026

### First Holy Communion

#### May 13, 2026

Frederick Beckius  
Lucy Buck  
Asher Hanson

#### Parents

Jacob & Sadie Beckius  
David & Ashley Buck  
Michael & Melissa Hanson



#### May 14, 2026

Ellis Duklet  
Elyse Elliott  
JP Fogarty  
Warren Foster  
Izalea Mendez Ochoa  
Wyatt Olson  
Kenan Otto  
Paisley Pekarna  
McKenzie Polinder  
Piper Polinder  
Camden Rutt  
Vivian Schroers  
Marcus Villanea  
Martin Werner

#### Parents

Charles & Sarah Duklet  
Coleman Elliott & Deisy Gil  
James & Jessica Fogarty  
Blake & Lindsay Foster  
Jesus Mendez & Zulaima Ortiz  
Anthony & Jamie Olson  
Tom & Stephanie Otto  
Tyler & Paige Pekarna  
Eric & Angie Polinder  
Eric & Angie Polinder  
James & Betsy Rutt  
Michael & Samantha Schroers  
Marcnea Villanea & Tricia Manalili  
Jarod & Carly Werner



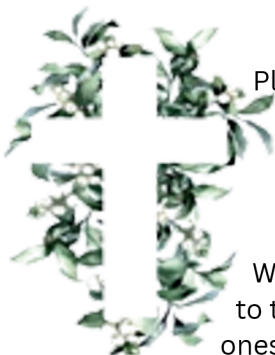


Hello everyone!  
 My name is **Grace Hardel**, and I am the new **Kindergarten Teacher**. I recently graduated from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Winona, and I am excited to begin my teaching career at OLP.  
 I am from Henderson, and my home parish is St. Anne's in Le Sueur, so I am very familiar with the area. My faith is very important to me, and I feel blessed to be teaching in a Catholic school. I can't wait to get started!



Our Lady of the Prairie welcomes our new parishioners  
**Jessica Fenske**  
 ↓  
**Patty Brown and Brock, Briggs, Ben**  
 Please make them feel at home in their new parish community.

**IN CHRIST WE LIVE FOREVER**



Please remember in your prayers

- Mark E. Fisher**
- Johan Franklin Miller**
- Gary Leo Kroells**

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

**AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES**

Gina Shaughnessy from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

 Gina Shaughnessy  
 952-356-6488 Cell  
 GShaughnessy@4LPi.com



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Complete this form and return it to the OLP Parish Office with your check (payable to OLP).

**Place your order by May, 26.**  
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- Spot Free Rinse
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
<b>Monday, May 18</b>	
<b>Tuesday, May 19</b>	
1:30 pm	Mass at Kingsway
6:30 pm	Mass at OLP
<b>Wednesday, May 20</b>	
8:30 am	Mass
<b>Thursday, May 21</b>	
8:30 am	Mass
2:00 pm	Church Staff Meeting
<b>Friday, May 22</b>	
8:30 am	Mass
<b>Saturday, May 23</b>	
4:15 pm	Mass
<b>Sunday, May 24 PENTECOST</b>	
8:00 am	Mass
9:00 am	Choir Practice
10:00 am	Mass
Treats & Fellowship after both Masses - hosted by Knights of Columbus	



MASS INTENTIONS				
MON	18	MAY	No Mass	
TUE	19	MAY	6:30 pm	† d. John Foley
WED	20	MAY	8:30 am	† d. Kelman Kvien
THU	21	MAY	8:30 am	† d. Minnie & John Knobon
FRI	22	May	8:30 am	† d. Kevin Schmitt
SAT	23	May	4:15 PM	† d. Florence Leonard
SUN	24	May	8:00 am	† d. Michael John Leuwer
		May	10:00 am	† For the Parish

<b>Saturday, May 23, 4:15 pm</b>	
Greeters	Volunteers (2)
Lector	Charlotte Mulroy
EMHC	Charlotte Mulroy, Betty Weldon, Volunteers (2)
Ushers	Jim Fogarty, Joe Hartmann, Chris Weldon, Scott Williams
Servers	Volunteers (4)
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)
<b>Sunday, May 24, 8:00 am</b>	
Greeters	Mark & Leticia Fogarty
Lector	John Walsh
EMHC	Sheila Hendricks, Rita Halquist, Sharon Beach, Volunteer
Ushers	Tim Murphy, Dr. Tim Halloran, Volunteers (2)
Servers	Teresa Fogarty, David Fogarty, Jeffrey Teal, David Koehn
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)
<b>Sunday, May 24, 10:00 am</b>	
Greeters	Joe & Kristen LaJeunesse
Lector	Joe Vandermark
EMHC	Mary Randklev, Paula Covington, Jim Covington, Volunteer
Ushers	Caleb Wermerskirchen, Ben Covington, Max Wermerskirchen, Peter Feddersen
Servers	Cole Chessen, Emmett Strauss, JD Vandermark, Volunteer
Gift Bearers	Volunteers (2)
EMHC	Mary Moriarty (Kingsway) Georgine Gansen (Lutheran Home)

READINGS
<b>Readings for the week of May 17, 2026</b>
<b>Sunday:</b> Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
<b>Monday:</b> Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33
<b>Tuesday:</b> Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a
<b>Wednesday:</b> Acts 20:28-38/ Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19
<b>Thursday:</b> Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26
<b>Friday:</b> Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19
<b>Saturday:</b> Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

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

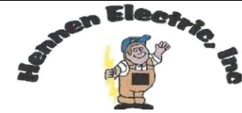
Blessings to all:  
Gerald, Carman Meyer & family



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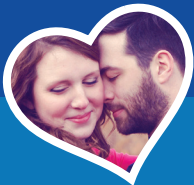
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