

**Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph - December 29, 2024**



*The Holy Family*, by Joseph Paelinck

**REGULAR MASS AND PENANCE SCHEDULE**

**Saturday and Sunday Masses:**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Holy Name Church (English)  
 Sunday 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
 - St. Philip Neri Church (English)  
 12:30 p.m. - Holy Name Church (Spanish)  
 Also, on Facebook & our website (English)

**Sacrament of Penance:**

Thursday 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. (Eng./Sp.) - Holy Name  
 Saturday 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. (Eng./Sp.) - Holy Name  
 Sunday 6:45 a.m. - 7:15 a.m. (Eng./Sp.) - St. Philip Neri  
 Anytime by appointment with priest (Eng./Sp.)

**Holy Days:** Please see the schedule in this bulletin.

**Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday 8:15 a.m. (Eng.) - St. Philip Neri (All-school Mass when St. Philip Neri School is in session)  
 Wednesday 8:15 a.m. (Eng.) - Holy Name (All-school Mass when Holy Name School is in session)  
 Thursday 6:30 p.m. (Sp.) - Holy Name  
 Friday 8:15 a.m. (Eng.) - St. Philip Neri (All-school Mass when St. Philip Neri School is in session)

**St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament Parish: 402-455-1289** <https://saintphilipneriblessedsacrament.org>  
 8200 N. 30th St., Omaha, NE 68112

Week of December 29-January 3: Open Monday, Thursday, and Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 31-January 1.

**St. Philip Neri Catholic School: 402-315-3500** [spnschoolomaha.com](http://spnschoolomaha.com) 8202 N. 31st St., Omaha, NE 68112

**Holy Name Catholic Church (Journey of Faith sister parish): 402-451-6622** [www.holynameomaha.org](http://www.holynameomaha.org)  
 Parish Office: 3014 N. 45<sup>th</sup> St., Omaha, NE 68104

Week of December 29-January 3: Open Monday, Thursday, and Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**This Sunday's Scripture readings:** **Reading 1:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 **Reading 2:** Colossians 3:12-21 **Gospel:** Luke 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his

understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. (Luke 2:41-52)

**St. Vincent de Paul call coordinator** for the week of Monday, December 30: Cheryl Henkenius  
**Immanuel Hospital EMHC** Thursday, January 2: Rita Livengood

	Altar Servers	Reader	Deacon	EMHC	Musicians	Ushers
<b>Mary, Mother of God Holy Day: Tues., Dec. 31, 5:00 PM</b>	Charles Bohnenkamp Solomon Parys	Bill Schmidt	Brendan Kelly	Jan Sammons Larry Ziska		Eric Brink Paul Gray Mark Lampe
<b>Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, Jan. 5 7:30 AM</b>	Andrew Sutherland Joel Sutherland	Bill Cheese	George Butterfield	Regina Cronkhite Jerry Ziska		Norm Hanson Chuck Livengood
<b>Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, Jan. 5 10:00 AM</b>	Jack Leininger Noah Leininger	Sadie Bohnenkamp	Brendan Kelly	Mary Fink Julie Misek	Jean and Friends	Paul Gray Gayle Haman Mark Lampe Michael Ramsgard

**Liturgical Schedule and Mass Intentions**

**Monday, December 30**

No Mass

**Tuesday, December 31**

8:15 am SPN Mass: Mary Tess Wertzberger +  
 5:00 pm SPN Holy Day Vigil Mass: wellbeing of the people in our family of parishes

**Wednesday, January 1**

10:00 am HN Holy Day Mass (Eng./Sp.): María de Jesús Acevedo +

**Thursday, January 2**

5:30 pm HN Confessions (Eng./Sp.)  
 6:30 pm HN Mass (Sp.): Rita Hiber +

**Friday, January 3**

8:15 am SPN Mass: Memorial Society +  
 6:30 pm HN Mass (Eng./Sp.): Susan McGuire

**Saturday, January 4**

4:00 pm HN Confessions (Eng./Sp.)  
 5:00 pm HN Mass: Kirby Hohn +

**Sunday, January 5**

6:45 am SPN Confessions (Eng./Sp.)  
 7:30 am SPN Mass: Barbara Murray +  
 10:00 am SPN Mass: St. Vincent de Paul Society benefactors  
 12:30 pm HN Mass (Sp.): wellbeing of the people in our family of parishes

SPN = St. Philip Neri Church HN = Holy Name Church  
 Masses are in English unless otherwise noted.

**Parish Support: December 16-22**

Weekly Collections

ParishStaq \$ 710  
 ParishSoft \$ 3,025  
 Collections from Masses and mailed \$ 5,858  
 Total Weekly Collections \$ 9,593

Special Collections

\$ 5,070

Total Collections

\$ 14,663

**Business Year Parish Support: July 1-December 22**

The Parish Support business year giving totals are not available at this time due to not having a business manager. We are sorry for the inconvenience. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

**What is ParishStaq?** ParishStaq is our new online giving platform. We will soon replace ParishSoft (our old giving platform) with ParishStaq. If you have a recurring gift in ParishSoft, it will continue until we close our ParishSoft account. You can cancel your recurring gift in ParishSoft now, and set up a new recurring gift in ParishStaq. If you would like help setting up a gift in ParishStaq or have a question, please contact Mary in the parish office. Please consider setting up a recurring gift in ParishStaq. Your donations help us to continue to serve you and allow us to make efforts to grow as a community. Thank you for your generosity and God bless you.



**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 - Feast of the Holy Family**

6:45 A.M. CONFESSIONS (Eng./Sp.) - SPN Church  
 7:30 A.M. MASS - SPN Church  
 10:00 A.M. MASS - SPN Church

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 30**

*December 23-January 6: SPN School Christmas Vacation*

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED  
 8:15 A.M. MASS - SPN Church  
 5:00 P.M. HOLY DAY VIGIL MASS - SPN Church

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED  
 10:00 A.M. HOLY DAY MASS (ENG./SP.) - HN Church

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 2**

5:30 P.M. CONFESSIONS (ENG./SP.) - HN Church  
 6:30 P.M. MASS (SP.) - HN Church

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 3 - First Friday; Optional Memorial of The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

8:15 A.M. MASS - SPN Church  
 9:00 A.M.-9:00 P.M. Eucharistic Exposition - SPN Church  
 6:30 P.M. MASS (ENG./SP.) - HN Church  
 7:30 P.M. POT LUCK DINNER - HN Cafeteria

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4**

4:00 P.M. CONFESSIONS (Eng./Sp.) - HN Church  
 5:00 P.M. MASS - HN Church

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 - Solemnity of the Epiphany**

6:45 A.M. CONFESSIONS (Eng./Sp.) - SPN Church  
 7:30 A.M. MASS - SPN Church  
 10:00 A.M. MASS - SPN Church  
 12:30 P.M. MASS (Sp.) - HN Church

SPN = St. Philip Neri Church HN = Holy Name Church  
 Masses are in English unless otherwise noted.

**Live Safe Environment Training:**

**Thursday, January 9th, from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm** in the St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament Parish Center in the church basement. Please enter through the red door on the west side of the church next to the breezeway or the red door to the right of the church entrance on 30th Street. An elevator is available for those who need it.

You must pre-register online. Register for a new account or log in with your existing account at the Catholic Mutual platform: <https://omaha.CMGconnect.org>.

The Archdiocese of Omaha requires that all adults who interact with children or vulnerable adults in the name of the Church must become Safe Environment Certified. <https://archomaha.org/safe-environment/>



March  
 1st,  
 2025

**St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament  
 Mardi Gras 2025  
 Saturday, March 1st, 2025!**

Join us for Happy Hour at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner, etc. Tap your feet to great music and feast on delectable food and drink with friends and family.

As you are out Christmas shopping, please keep our Mardi Gras in mind. After-Christmas sales are a good time to pick up items for our Mardi Gras silent auction.

We will be asking for home made or brand new items and gift cards to make baskets for our silent auction!

If you already have items or gift cards you would like to donate, please drop them off at the Parish Office. Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and School!

If you would like to help with Mardi Gras, please contact Mary in the parish office.

**The Chosen, Season 2**

Coming soon - Tuesday, January 7 - at 9:15 am or 7:00 pm in the St. Philip Neri Parish Center (church basement). It will be shown on all of the Tuesdays in January. No registration - just come and enjoy! Questions? Call Marsha Moon at 402-455-1485.

**SALT Members**

If you haven't connected in some way with a member of our SALT (*Sages, Advisors, Listeners & Laughers, Teachers & Talkers*) parishioners, take time now to send someone on the list a note or card. The addresses are in the church narthex, or contact Mary in the parish office. Thanks for your caring.

Our SALT members are Sharon Olson, Carol Parks, JoAnn Todd, Donna Thibodeau, Carol Schade, Henry Kelly, Mary Bierma, Bob & Fannie Parker, Jim Kimble, Rich & Rita Muff, Jean Jones, Fred & Liz Maycock, Phyllis Huser, Mary Miner, Joe Hernandez, Irene Nordhues, Theresa Andrews, Pat Potter, Jane Vlcek, Michael Tillotson. Thank you to all helping them stay in touch with their parish.

**Recently added member of SALT:** Michael Tillotson is a recently added member of SALT. If you would like to call, visit, or send a card or note to him, he is at Keystone Ridge Post Acute Nursing and Rehab, 7501 Keystone Dr, Omaha, NE 68134, Room 521 (lower level). If there is no one is at the reception desk when you visit, please call 402-572-5750 for entry.

## From the Pastor

### Happy New Year!

We are just days away from the end of 2024 and the beginning of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025. Having already begun with the opening of the Jubilee Door at St. Peter's Basilica before the Papal Mass at Night for Christmas, the Jubilee Year occurs every twenty-five years. This year's theme is that of hope, and

The Jubilee Year will offer the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in their own dioceses. The great tradition of opening the Holy Door will begin when Pope Francis opens the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024. Other holy doors will be opened at the Rome basilicas of St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls. For pilgrims who cannot travel to Rome, bishops around the world are expected to designate their cathedrals or a popular Catholic shrine as special places of prayer for Holy Year pilgrims, offering opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences and other events intended to strengthen and revive faith. (USCCB)

The opening of special doors and passage through them symbolize Christ, Who is the gate, the door, and the way. It also reveals the hospitality of our Savior and the welcoming spirit of the Church: All are invited to conversion and to enter salvation through Jesus.

May 2025 be a time of renewed hope for all, hope in the saving power of our Lord, and God bless your New Year!

### New Year Masses & Closures

Celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation, on Jan. 1, and usher in the New Year! We will offer a **Vigil Mass in English on this Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 5 p.m., in St. Philip Neri Church.** And we're offering a **bilingual Mass on the day proper, Wed., Jan. 1, at 10 a.m. in Holy Name Church.**

Both the HN and SPN-BS Parish Offices will be closed on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Because of the closures, both offices will be open at their customary weekday hours on Monday, Dec. 30. Phone messages will be checked daily during the Christmas Octave, but non-emergencies will be attended to after Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

### Holy Name of Jesus Mass and Potluck

This Friday, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, is the Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, a commemoration that achieved international status during the pontificate of Pope Innocent XIII in 1727. It was subsequently removed from the liturgical calendar during Vatican II. Pope St. John Paul II reinstated the feast to the modern liturgical calendar when His Holiness revised the Roman Missal in March of 2002.

The Memorial celebrates the name by which all spirits must obey, the name given to Christ on the 8<sup>th</sup> day after His birth, the name announced by the Angel Gabriel to Joseph and Mary, the name Jesus that means "savior" or "God saves." It is also the feast day of Holy Name Church.

To celebrate the occasion, we are hosting a bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m. in Holy Name Church, followed by a potluck dinner in the Holy Name Cafeteria. All those attending the dinner are asked to bring a food item to share with at least 10 people.



### First Friday Exposition

This Friday is the First Friday of January. We will host Eucharistic Exposition from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. in St. Philip Neri Church on Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Adorers who have adopted an hour are reminded to attend during their assigned time. Everyone is invited to pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament this day.

### Resetting Parish Sick Lists

From time to time, we reset the petition in the Mass that includes the names of those asking for our prayers. If you or a loved one would like to be included in our Sabbath petitions, please contact either the Holy Name or St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament parish offices and speak with the respective secretary. We are honored and humbled to intercede for our fellow parishioners and suffering neighbors.

### Seminary 2nd Collection

The Seminary Collection -will be held on the weekend of January 4-5, 2025. The Archdiocese of Omaha currently has nineteen men studying for the Priesthood. We humbly ask for your continued prayers, sacrifices and generous financial support.

### Thank You for Your Generosity

This is the season of giving so we hope you will remember to tithe and donate to our parish in the collection baskets or by EFT. Our cash flow is tight—the Archdiocese automatically deducts our monthly health insurance costs and AAF tax, which makes it difficult for us to meet payroll and utility bills and other expenses. Your generosity is so appreciated and needed. As we conclude one year and begin another, would you consider giving 5% of your annual income to our parish to keep the lights and heat on, fund efforts to evangelize adults and children, and manage our buildings and upkeep? I know there are many worthwhile endeavors that need help but please do not forget your parish in which you were married, confirmed, educated, assisted, forgiven, or raised. Thank you for your support, trust, and sacrifices.

### Archbishop's Annual Appeal

I would like to thank you in advance for your support and important efforts to ensure the 2024-2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is successful. The financial resources generated through the Annual Appeal fund more than 30% of the archdiocesan budget and ensures that programs, personnel and services are fully available to us and all in our parishes and schools.

In the spirit of Christmas and giving, please make a commitment to this important effort as we grow closer to our goals. I know both parishes can meet and surpass the challenge, as we have in previous years. Please give!

- **Holy Name Parish:**
  - **Current Households Donating:** 56
  - **Current Pledge Total:** \$13,843.00 – We're 82% towards our parish's goal!
  - **Financial Goal:** \$16,892.43
- **St. Philip Neri - Blessed Sacrament Parish:**
  - **Current Households Donating:** 95
  - **Current Pledge Total:** \$34,022.00 – We're 75% towards our parish's goal!
  - **Financial Goal:** \$45,303.88
- **Total Financial Goal:** \$62,196.31

### Becoming Catholic in English

Becoming Catholic (RCIA or OCIA) is our process conducted in English for anyone 8 years and older desiring to receive Baptism. It is also our process for any Catholic adults who are still in need of receiving Confirmation, Reconciliation, or First Communion. If you or a loved one would like to learn more, please contact our Becoming Catholic coordinator, Jodi Phillips, at [phillipsjm1@gmail.com](mailto:phillipsjm1@gmail.com) or the Holy Name or St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament parish offices.

### Becoming Catholic in Spanish

Are you an older teenager or adult who has never been baptized or who still needs further sacraments of initiation like Confirmation and First Communion? Do you have coworkers, friends, or relatives, who have never been baptized? Do you have a Christian associate or spouse thinking of becoming Catholic? To prepare for these beautiful sacraments in Spanish, please contact Sr. Beatriz Castañeda at the Holy Name Parish Office at your earliest convenience.

### Baptism Classes in English

The Baptism preparation session conducted in English for expectant parents and parents with unbaptized infants or small children under the age of 7 occurs from 2 p.m.-4 p.m., usually on the First Sunday of every month in the Parish Center (basement) of St. Philip Neri Church. **The next Baptism Preparation Class in English will be on the second Sunday of the month, January 12th, 2025.** Participation in one of our preparation classes, either in Spanish or in English, is necessary to schedule a day and time for a Baptism in either HN or SPN churches. Formal registration and participation in the parish is a prerequisite, and pre-registration is further required to attend the class. Please contact the secretary of your respective parish office, Holy Name or St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament, to pre-register.

### Baptism Classes in Spanish at Holy Name

Parents seeking to baptize their infants and small children under the age of 7 need to attend our Baptism preparation class. Classes in Spanish for both parents and potential godparents are offered in Holy Name Church every other month. **The next Baptism Class in Spanish in Holy Name Church is on Sunday, February 16th, from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.** Please contact the Holy Name Parish Office to pre-register.

### Religious Articles

Holy Name Church sells beautiful and helpful religious articles after the weekend Masses on Sat. at 5 p.m. and on Sun. at 12:30 p.m. The quaint, little shop is in the north hallway just off the church's narthex (lobby). We hope you visit it and grow in faith and share it with others.

### New Catholic

We congratulate SPN-BS parishioner Aaliyah Cartwright who receives all three Sacraments of Initiation today during the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass, Dec. 29, in St. Philip Neri Church. We are so proud of her and grateful for her example and fervor, Aaliyah, may the Good Shepherd guard and guide you all the days of your life. Welcome!

### Knights Mass

Today we are hosting our second Knights of Columbus Mass. Members of our Knights of Columbus will fulfill all the liturgical roles during the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass in St. Philip Neri Church. Men of God, have you considered becoming a Knight of Columbus?



### SPN-BS Lector Books

St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament Lectors can pick up their 2025 workbooks from the St. Philip Neri Church sacristy. The new liturgical year starts November 30th.

### Do You Receive SPN-BS Parish Updates?

The fastest way to know what's happening in the parish is by registering for Flocknote, our parish communications app that sends notifications to you by way of SMS text messaging and emails. You choose the manner of message delivery and which categories of information you'd like to receive and can opt out at any time by texting "stop". It takes just a minute to sign up. Simply use the QR code, text the parish's initials **SPNBS** to **84576**, register online at <https://spnbs.flocknote.com/>, or contact Mary in the parish office. It's that easy!



### Parishioners - What YOU did during this Advent season!

The Sutherland Christmas elves helped package up gifts for 13 families with a total of 32 kids. Christmas was merry for them due to your generosity of gifts and monetary donations.

And we sent off 10 overflowing shoeboxes of items for children all over the world including the US with Operation Christmas Child. Thank you again.

Lots of love to 2 lovely ladies who hand crocheted 15 blankets for babies at the Bethlehem House. Christmas was warm for them. There were more donations for our Bethlehem House baby shower than ever before!

And finally, our SALT parishioners were visited with some type of gift and church calendar to let them know they are not forgotten; Christmas for some can be a lonely time. May you all have a very blessed Christmas season!



### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

is offered at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church Monday through Friday from 5 pm to 9 pm (the final hour being 8 pm-9 pm) in the Prayer Chapel. On First Fridays, Exposition hours are 9 am to 9 pm in the church proper. If you are interested in signing up for a weekly holy hour, please call or text our Eucharistic Exposition coordinator Joann Feller at 402-215-5532.

**Adoration** hours without Exposition are available anytime. There is a church door with a code for entry. Please contact Mary in the parish office for details.

### Dear Eucharistic Exposition Faithful,

Now for the week of New Year's. **Let's start back up on Thursday, January 2, 2025. January 3 is First Friday and that will happen as usual with Exposition in the Church from 9 to 9.**

Joann Feller,  
Eucharistic Exposition Coordinator



## High School Youth Ministry

**PARENTS or Other groups:** If you can help provide snacks or donate money or gift cards to Baker's or Family Fare, go to our website: [saintphilipneriblessedsacrament.org/faith-formation/#youth-1](http://saintphilipneriblessedsacrament.org/faith-formation/#youth-1) or email [jgencarelli@archomaha.org](mailto:jgencarelli@archomaha.org).

**January 1:** Youth Group does not meet. Happy New Year.

**January 8:** All High School youth from SPN and HN are invited to join us from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm tonight. Meet in the SPN Parish Center. Use the red door on the west side of the building near the breezeway.

**2025 V2 Camp Registration is OPEN!** Week 1: July 13 to July 19; Week 2: July 20 to July 26. The location is Camp Kateri Tekakwitha, 1305 Road 3, McCool Junction, NE 68401. Grades 6-9 Boys, Grade 10-12 Helpers, and Adult volunteers needed. Registration: <https://v2ministries.org/adventures/#summer>.

**2025 High Adventure Registration is Open!** Sunday, June 15 -Friday, June 20. Location: Wind River Range, Wyoming. High School: 18 & Under (Young men entering 10th-12th grade); College & Adults: 19 & Over, Fathers welcome to join their sons! Register: <https://v2ministries.org/adventures/#discovery>.

## Steubenville Youth Conference 2025

**July 18-20, 2025 - Steubenville Youth Conference:** At each Steubenville Youth Conference, teens experience a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ that ignites their faith, strengthens their prayer life, leave as transformed disciple-makers, and empowers them to live on mission long after the conference ends.

All incoming & current high school youth are eligible to go. Pre-Registration forms will be handed out at our Wednesday night youth group in November. **ALL Pre-Registration forms are due by January 8th.** Contact John Gencarelli at 402-800-3850 or [jgencarelli@archomaha.org](mailto:jgencarelli@archomaha.org) if you need a form.

## Religious Ed & Sacramental Prep

**Catechists & Helpers Needed:** If you feel the call to serve the Lord by evangelizing our children as a catechist or helper in our Religious Education program, contact our Director of Religious Education, Monica Valles, at 402-455-1289, ext. 804 or email [mavalles@archomaha.org](mailto:mavalles@archomaha.org).

**January 1:** Religious Education does not meet.

**January 8:** Religious Education Class from 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in St. Philip Neri Catholic School, 8202 N. 31st Street.

**January 8:** Mandatory Meeting with all First Communion Parent(s) AND 1st Communicants in SPANISH from 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in SPN Catholic School Activity Center.

## Totus Tuus 2025

June 15-20: Mark Your Calendars! Totus Tuus is a Catholic summer youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic Faith through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. It is open to all 1st to 6th graders during the day and 7th to 12th graders in the evening. Information and forms will be available soon.

## Young Adult Ministry (Ages 21-35)

**January 16:** Join us at 6:30 pm for a Rosary and then meet in the SPN Parish Center for the first of a 3-part series, inspired by Pope St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Tonight's talk is Discovering the Human Person. Mark your calendars for the following dates for the next two presentations: March 6th and April 3rd in the Parish Center.

**January 15:** Winter/Spring Small Group Registration. Groups will meet for 10-12 weeks. Groups will be going through "Relational Prayer", a book that contains reflective readings, teachings on prayer, and scriptural meditations. To register, go to: <https://omahayoungadults.flocknote.com/signup/189077>.

**PUBS:** This "pick-up Bible study" requires no preparation or commitment. All are welcome to come on the weeks they can without the fear of falling behind. Check out the PUBS slack channel to learn more about when this group meets!

**For other events** in the Omaha area, go to the Omaha Young Adults website: <https://www.archoyoungadults.org>, or join Slack at <https://archoyoungadults.slack.com/>.

## Adult Faith Formation

**Inklings Book Club:** Do you enjoy Christian literature or movies like *The Lord of the Rings* or *Chronicles of Narnia*? Do you have an interest in Inklings figures like J.R.R. Tolkien or C.S. Lewis? Then join an Inklings Book Club! We meet monthly. Contact Brandon Harvey for information: [bharvey@catholicu.edu](mailto:bharvey@catholicu.edu).

**February 6, 13, 20, and 27:** A four-part series for Lent will be led by Dr. Brandon Harvey and focused on Sacramental Living. Learn how the sacraments transform our view of God and humanity and are meant to impact every aspect of our lives. This four-week study will meet on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:15 pm in the SPN Parish Center. Registrations are due by February 1st. Register by emailing [bharvey@catholicu.edu](mailto:bharvey@catholicu.edu).



**Little Flowers Girls' Club is a fun & faith-filled Catholic club for girls in kindergarten through 4th grade.**

It teaches virtue through Scripture, saints' biographies, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Activities include games, crafts, scrapbooking, & prayer/adoration.

We meet **Fridays from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm** in the St.

Philip Neri Parish Center. **Next meeting: January 10.**

The January-May schedule will be out soon.

For registration, please contact Mary in the Parish Office or John Gencarelli at [jgencarelli@archomaha.org](mailto:jgencarelli@archomaha.org).

If you can help bring snacks for the group, please contact Maggie Peklo at 402-917-6196.

**Christian Humor**

- Got up at 5:00 a.m., 8k run completed, came back and prepared a vegetable smoothie for breakfast...I don't remember the rest of the dream...
- I ran for the first time with my Fitbit on. It detected me running and asked if my life was in danger or if tacos were on sale for \$1.00 again.
- I'm going to use what little energy I have today to breathe and maybe blink. That's about it.

**Pilgrimage to Visit Nativity Scenes from Around the World:** January 2-3, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the St. Benedict Center, 1126 Road I, Schuyler NE. StBenedictCenter.com



**HOLY FAMILY RANCH**  
FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES

**On Sunday, January 5th** at 2 pm, come celebrate the Epiphany with Holy Family Ranch at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 3400 E 16th St, Fremont, NE. Speakers: Fr. Bill Cremers and Jen Steffensmeier; Eucharistic Adoration; music; & light refreshments! Feel free to bring left over Christmas treats! [www.holyfamilyranch.org](http://www.holyfamilyranch.org)

**Be Not Afraid Holy Hour**

Sunday, January 5, 6 pm-7 pm at Christ the King Church, 654 S. 86th St., Omaha. Theme: Miraculous Medal. We will learn about the fruits of the Miraculous Medal which was given to St. Catherine Labouré to share with the world, and we will receive a blessed medal. This hour includes the recitation of the Rosary, availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the Investiture of the Miraculous Medal. For more details, contact John and Debbie Kukula at [jmkukula@gmail.com](mailto:jmkukula@gmail.com).

**St. Peregrine Mass:** Saturday, January 18, 11 am at the Chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows, 7400 Military Ave. All are invited to a special Mass offered for those who are ill with cancer and their loved ones. The Mass is offered on the third Saturday of each month.

**Holy Hour to Pray for Vocations**

Monday, January 20, 6:30 p.m. at the St. John Paul II Newman Center, 1221 S. 71st St. The evening begins with a meet-and-greet at 6:30 p.m., and Holy Hour at 7:00 p.m. All are invited. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hamilton at [bobxlori@aol.com](mailto:bobxlori@aol.com) or 402-699-5027. "Christian vocation, whatever shape it takes, is a gift whose purpose is to build up the Church and to increase the kingdom of God in the world." - Pope St. John Paul II

**Undone: A Healing Retreat: Jan. 31 - Feb. 2**

Under the patronage of Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, this retreat assists participants in becoming aware of Jesus' desire to bring restoration in their lives and creates a favorable environment for each person to encounter His healing grace.



Conferences focus on the power of Jesus to heal in mind, body and spirit, and offer participants practical ways to invite that grace into their own lives. This retreat is a collaboration of Broom Tree Retreat Center and The Lourdes Center. This grants each retreatant an opportunity not only for individual spiritual direction and prayer, but also one-on-one time with licensed counselors.

The retreat begins Friday evening and ends Sunday after lunch. It is open to men and women age 18 and older and is valued at \$300/person. We ask that you prayerfully consider your gift. For information or to register for this or other retreats: [www.broom-tree.org/retreats/scheduled-retreats](http://www.broom-tree.org/retreats/scheduled-retreats).

Broom Tree Retreat, 123 Saint Raphael Circle, Irene, SD 57037  
Phone 605-263-1040, email [broomtree@sfcatholic.org](mailto:broomtree@sfcatholic.org).

<https://formed.org/signup>

Our parish has a subscription to Formed.org. Catholic Bible studies, video, audio, and children's resources to help you grow in your relationship with Christ and His Church. At the link above, click "Create a New Account". Enter your parish: St Philip Neri Church or zip code 68112. Click "Next" and add your name and email. Formed also has an app for your phone. Questions? Contact Mary in the parish office.

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**OACCW Annual Scholarship**



The Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) offers an annual scholarship to a female high school senior in the Archdiocese of Omaha in the amount of \$750. This scholarship serves to enlighten, inform, and inspire young Catholic women regarding the OACCW as the major organization of Catholic Women in the Omaha Archdiocese. The scholarship will be awarded to a deserving high school senior woman who resides in or is affiliated with a parish within the Archdiocese of Omaha. The scholarship application must be received or postmarked by January 15. For more details or an application form: <https://oaccw.org>.




**Pro Sanctity Second Saturdays: Pilgrims of Hope**  
 Saturday, January 11  
 9:30 am Formation Presentation, Adoration,  
 Confessions for Adults; Festival of Faith for  
 children 4-11; Childcare for children under 4.  
 11:30 am Mass followed by lunch.

January 11: Fr. Zach Eischeid  
 February 8: Archbishop Lucas  
 March 8: Deacon Omar Gutiérrez  
 April 12: Fr. Scott Traynor

www.prosanctity.org  
 11002 N 204th St, Elkhorn, NE 68022  
 Email: prosanctity@prosanctity.org

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY CORNER**

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.”... And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’” (Matthew 25:35-36,40)*



St. Vincent de Paul

We have successfully concluded our Matching Grant Fund Drive and our cup has runneth over! Many Thanks and Blessings to all our Parish Community for helping us to achieve and even exceed our goal of raising \$20,000 to fund our Mission for 2024 and beyond. This Matching Grant will assure us of continuing to answer the many calls for assistance from the individuals and families who find themselves in troubling and too often desperate situations.

The many stories of people and families in need will continue to come in on our call line as we move into the Holiday Season and with the generosity of our St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament Parish community and the Knights of Columbus and our Matching Grant, we will be able to answer the calls and ‘Make us responsive to the Christian calling to seek and find the forgotten, the suffering, or the deprived so that we may bring them Your love’.

THANK YOU! From the SPN-Blessed Sacrament St. Vincent de Paul Society

**The Pope’s worldwide prayer intention for the month of December: For pilgrims of hope.** We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

**CELEBRATE THE SOLEMNITY**

*Mary, Mother of God*

**DECEMBER 31, 2024**

St. James Catholic Church | 4710 North 90th Street, Omaha, NE 68134


**10 pm Adoration & Rosary**  
**11 pm Holy Hour**  
**Midnight Mass**

\*Reconciliation available 10:15-11:30 pm  
 Breakfast following Mass. Please bring goodies to share!

**CHRISTMAS POTLUCK**  
 December 25, 2024

- 1:45 pm Gather
- 2:00 pm Meal
- 4:15 pm Rosary

11002 N 204th St.  
 Elkhorn, NE 68022




**Mr. Alex Kennedy**  
**St. John Vianney Seminary**  
**Propaedeutic Year**  
**St. Stephen the Martyr Parish**  
**Omaha, Nebraska**

As a Parish and as a School, we are praying for the Seminarians of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

**A Prayer for Vocations:** O God our Father, You promised “I will appoint shepherds for My sheep who will shepherd them so that they need no longer fear and tremble: and none shall be missing.” (Jeremiah 23: 4-5). Hear the prayers of Your flock. Through the intercession of Your beloved priest, Saint John Vianney, we beg You to call to the sacramental priesthood generous men who will desire nothing more than to serve You in imitation of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, our High Priest.

And after You call them, we pray that You sustain the doubtful, console the discouraged, and strengthen the weak as they start the long and demanding preparation for the priesthood.

Mary, Mother of priests, and example of faithful, humble, and joyful acceptance of God’s will, help all those who are called to the priesthood to open their ears and hearts to the gentle call of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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