



Holy Ghost Catholic Church  
402-731-3176  
5219 S. 53rd St. Omaha, Ne 68117

Mass Times

Wednesday & Friday .....7:00 am  
Sunday.....9:00 am  
Confessions on Sundays 8:15 am

Parish Office

Weekday Hours..... 8 am—4 pm  
Lunch 12-1 pm

Bulletin.....stbulletin@gmail.com  
**Items for the bulletin must be submitted  
9 days prior to the date of the Bulletin!**

Parish Staff

Fr. Ben Boyd....frboyd@bernadetteholyghost.org  
Fr. Phil Flott .....In Residence  
Carrie Kaczmarek.....Secretary  
parishsecretary@holyghostomaha.org  
Jeff Belling.....Maintenance  
Sue Reed.....PRE Director

Deacon Couples:

Tom & Kathy Schulte 402-731-3599  
Al & Terri Aulner 402-734-4557



St. Bernadette Catholic Church  
402-731-4694  
7600 So 42nd St. Bellevue, Ne 68147

Parish Website.....stbernadetteparish.org

Facebook....St. Bernadette Parish Archdiocese of Omaha

Mass Times

Tuesday & Thursday..... 8:00 am  
Saturday Evening.....5:00 pm  
Sunday .....11:00 am  
Confessions on Saturdays 4-4:45 pm

Parish Office

Weekday Hours.....7:30 am—3:00 pm

Bulletin.....stbulletin@gmail.com  
**Items for the bulletin must be submitted  
9 days prior to the date of the Bulletin!**

Fr. Ben Boyd..frboyd@bernadetteholyghost.org  
Subby Enzolera (Faith Formation)....saenzolera@archomaha.org  
Sue Reed (PRE Director).... sreedstb@gmail.com  
Tristen Riha (Secretary) .....tristenriha@gmail.com

Pastoral Staff

Ron Casart .....Deacon  
Subby Enzolera .....Deacon  
Gary Krupa .....Deacon

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

BAPTISM

“I am baptizing you with water,  
but one mightier than I is coming.  
I am not worthy to loosen the  
thongs of his sandals. He will  
baptize you with the Holy Spirit  
and fire.” - Lk 3:16bc



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry.

Jesus begins His ministry through an act of deep solidarity with the fallen human race. John the Baptist had been preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance. John's baptism was not the same as our baptism today. Instead, it was only a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, had nothing to repent of. He was sinless in every way. But that didn't stop Him from freely choosing to receive the baptism of repentance. Why would He do that?

Simply put, Jesus chose to unite Himself with fallen humanity, taking upon Himself our own sins and suffering their consequences. He humbly allowed Himself to be identified as a sinner in need of repentance. This was done out of love for us and out of His longing to become one with us so that we could become one with Him.

By bowing His sacred head to receive the baptism of repentance, Jesus united Himself and His divinity to everyone who had already chosen to repent. And He gave power to every forthcoming act of repentance others would make, even until today. When we repent today, we meet Jesus in that same water of repentance.

It was not only the Eternal Son Who was present at that baptism of repentance, but the Father and the Holy Spirit as well. The Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, and the Father's Voice spoke to acknowledge His oneness with His Son. Therefore, every time we make a humble act of repentance, such as when we combine the crucifixion, the Trinity, and holy water upon entering a church and blessing ourselves, we not only meet our Lord but also receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and share more fully in our adoption as sons and daughters of the Father in Heaven.

As we commemorate Jesus' baptism liturgically, we celebrate the fact that our Christian baptism was the beginning of this new unity with the Holy Trinity. But we also celebrate our oneness with God, which is renewed every time we make an interior act of repentance for our sins. If we fully understood what happens every time we acknowledge our sins and repent of them, we would never grow tired of repenting. Every time we acknowledge and repent of our sin, we meet Christ anew, receive a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and affirm and deepen our adoption by the Father in Heaven.

***Prayer:** Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You came to me in my baptism and united me in my fallenness with You in Your divinity. I pray that I will continuously be aware of all that divides us and will never grow weary of repenting of my sin. I do repent once again, dear Lord. I beg for Your mercy and forgiveness and open myself more fully to You, Your Father, and the Holy Spirit. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I trust in You.*

### **Nebraska Walk for Life and Gala**

The Walk for Life Gala is on Jan 31, 2025, at the Embassy Suites Convention Center, LaVista. It's a fundraiser for Nebraska Right to Life held the night before the annual Walk for Life. Come join pro-lifers for either or both events. Speaking at the Gala will be Jim Caviezel, the actor who portrayed Jesus in "Passion of the Christ" and starred in the movie "Sound of Freedom." Tickets for the Gala are \$75, and can be purchased online at [nebraskarighttolife.ticketspice.com/2025](http://nebraskarighttolife.ticketspice.com/2025), or send a check to Nebraska Right to Life.

Registration deadline is January 17.

The Walk for Life is on February 1 and begins on the North steps of the State Capitol at 10:00 a.m. A new route this year will take us to the Cornhusker Hotel where you can browse informational booths and hear speaker Elizabeth Gillette's keynote speech at 11:30 a.m. Contact: Nebraska Right to Life, PO Box 80410, Lincoln, NE 68501-0410. 402-438-4802, [nebraskartl@gmail.com](mailto:nebraskartl@gmail.com).

**§ Parish Financial Update §**

Through 12/31/24:  
Weekly Needs: \$13,585.00  
Collection: \$47,594.00  
YTD Needs: \$348,160.00  
YTD Collection: \$354,277.76  
Overage: \$6,117.76

**Weekly Mass Intentions**

**Tuesday, January 14, 2025**  
8:00 am + Ronnie Wolf Jr.  
**Thursday, January 16, 2025**  
8:00 am + Delphin Cronican  
**Saturday, January 18, 2025**  
5:00 pm Parishioners of St. Bernadette  
& Holy Ghost  
**Sunday, January 19, 2025**  
11:00 am + Doris Dube

**BEGIN YOUR YEAR IMMERGED  
IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE**



**“Luke: The Story of  
Salvation Fulfilled”**

The Gospel of Luke takes you on a journey that begins with the foretelling of John the Baptist's birth and culminates in Jesus' ascension into

heaven. On the road to Emmaus, a story unique to the Gospel of Luke, Jesus gave us the greatest Bible study of all time, laying out his fulfillment of the Old Testament.

In “*Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled*”, you will witness key moments in salvation history including the Annunciation, the Nativity, his public ministry, and Jesus' suffering, death, and glorious Resurrection. There are parables found only in Luke, including the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the rich man and Lazarus which will show you the mercy and compassion that Jesus has for each one of his children.

In this 8-Week Study, Jeff Cavins and Dr. Jeffrey Morrow will show you how the Gospel of Luke will transform your relationship with our Savior. With Luke's powerful prose and unique parables, you will learn about the love and mercy Jesus has for each of us.

There will be a Video Presentation and Small Group Discussion each week of the course.  
*Refreshments will be provided*

**Begins: January 7<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm - 8:00pm**  
**Location: St. Bernadette Social Hall**  
**Contact: Deacon Al Aulner – 402 669-1714**  
or: [awaulner@archomaha.org](mailto:awaulner@archomaha.org)

**Pilgrimage 2025**

For the Holy Jubilee Year of 2025 the Archdiocese of Omaha has designated **St. Benedict Center** to be an official Place of Pilgrimage.



Come as a Pilgrim of Hope to St. Benedict Center:  
[1126 Co Rd I, Schuyler, NE.](http://1126CoRdI.Schuyler.NE)

The winter can be a lonely time for some people. If anyone would like a visit or phone call from the Legion of Mary, please call:  
Joe Micek at 402-734-2384  
Patty Pogge at 402-681-7331



**Religious Education**

Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's

**January**  
8th Family Class  
15th Sacrament Classes –Communion & Confirmation  
22nd Sacrament Classes –Communion & Confirmation  
29th Parent Class

## Heavenly Dusters

Jan 11 Rose Zoucha, Mary Sporcic, Rose Tslentis,  
Connie Tucker, Linda Halsey  
Jan 18 Ellen Stuva, Marge Egermier  
Jan 25 Liz Zoucha, Kelly Linder

The Rosary at 4:20pm before the 5pm  
Mass on Saturdays will be for the  
intention of vocations.



## Money Counters

Jan 21 Rolly & Theresa Yost, Chris & Jerry Ortner  
Jan 27 Carol Paskach, Mariann Kokotajlo  
Rosary Soresen  
Feb 3 Rosemary Mapes, Joyce Renner,  
Colleen Kurlmel  
Feb 10 Rich Kmiecik, Jim Seylak, Juan Jesus,  
Sal Zoucha  
Feb 18 Rolly & Theresa Yost, Chris & Jerry Ortner  
Feb 24 Carol Paskach, Mariann Kokotajlo,  
Rosary Sorensen

## Scrip Sales

**Jan 18 & 19 Altar Society**  
**Jan 25 & 26 Men's Club**  
**Feb 1 & 2 Parish Grp**  
**Feb 8 & 9 Home & School**



Please help support St Bernadette Home and  
School at these upcoming Family Food Nights.  
Please mention St. Bernadette when ordering.  
**First Tuesday of every month**  
Don & Millie's - Bellevue 11am-8pm

*Thank  
You*

*A big THANK YOU to all the  
students, parents and teachers  
who donated socks, gloves and  
hats for the Stephen Center.  
They were very much appreciated*

*Sincerely Bob Macaitis*

We will continue our Patriotic Rosary  
vigil every Monday night at 6:30 pm.  
Legion of Mary



## Join the Serra Club of West Omaha for a Holy Hour to Pray for Vocations

Monday, January 20, 2025

Gather at 6:30 PM | Holy Hour at 7 PM

St. John Paul II Newman Center, 1221 S. 71st Street, Omaha

Fr. Tom Weisbecker, Chaplain of the Serra Club of West Omaha

PRAY WITH US BEFORE A MONSTRANCE BLESSED BY POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II

*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 —



Questions:  
Contact Lori Hamilton  
bobxlori@aol.com  
402-699-5027

Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) is  
accepting applications for their **\$750 SCHOLARSHIP**. Get the **2025  
Scholarship Packet** from your school Guidance Counselor today!  
The completed scholarship application, transcript, essay and a  
reference letter by priest, school/parish staff or faculty  
person **must be postmarked or received by** your parish's Deanery  
President by **January 15, 2025**. **Late entries will not be accepted**.  
The Parish Deanery President name can be obtained from the  
school Guidance Counselor or by calling 402-340-2866,  
Kim Estes, Scholarship Chair. Applications are accepted in the  
Deanery where you attend church, not where you attend school.  
\*\*In the event your parish is not in an active Deanery, send your  
application directly to the OACCW Scholarship Chair Kim Estes,  
87671 467<sup>th</sup> Ave., Stuart, NE 68780.  
President/Scholarship Chairs by Deanery: OMAHA URBAN: Cathy  
Vak 3255 S. 77<sup>th</sup> St., Omaha, NE 68124

RURAL CENTRAL: Nancy Schaecher, PO Box 118, Battle  
Creek, NE 68715

RURAL NORTH CENTRAL: Melissa Lordemann, 88091  
Hiway 15, Hartington, NE 68739

\*\*RURAL NORTHEAST AND RURAL SOUTHEAST: Kim  
Estes, 87671 467<sup>th</sup> Ave., Stuart, NE 68780

RURAL NORTHWEST: Ann Kurpgeweit, 50444 852 Rd,  
Ewing, NE 68735

RURAL SOUTHWEST: Deanna Reardon, 50143 Central  
Hiway, Genoa, NE 68640

### Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, January 18, 2025 5:00 pm Mass**

Lector:

EMHC: Theresa Rothermund, Rosary Sorensen

Altar Servers: Josie Chandler, Kassandra Hernandez, Kristine Overfelt

**Sunday, January 19, 2025 11:00 am Mass**

Lector: Kevin McCoy

EMHC: Colleen McCoy, Tom Van Haute

Altar Servers: Liana Santos Chavez, Daleyxa Sotoyo Rocha

### In Loving Memory

Please remember in your prayers all those who have been born into eternal life. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



### Prayer Line

Please call Betty Rezek at 402-734-2531 to request instant prayer for those in need. Special Prayers needed for all military personnel. Please consider putting your name on our prayer line.



Join us for Coffee and sweet treats after the 8am Mass every 2nd Thursday of the month.

### Healing Prayers Needed for the Sick

If you have someone in need of Prayers, contact the Parish Office

Cheryl Adamson, Annabelle Berrera, Rick Becerra, Elle Burgess, Alfonso Calderon, Leonardo Clymer, Kathi Ciurej, John Cunningham, Charlotte & Dominic Cullenward, Connie Cope, Donna Dailey, Kathleen Devlin, Mike Digilio, Kelly Dix, Margaret Eipperle, Norma Flores, Louise LaFramboise, Adam Gutierrez, Tillie Gunia, Josephine Gutierrez, Michelle Gutierrez, Lisa Hargis, Jeanette Hauptman, Barbara Jansen, Margie Janssen, Carol Johnson, Carol Jura, Olga Kanne, Phyllis Knicky, Janet Klamt, Connie Kleber, Donna Kubiak, Donna Krysl, John Kwapnioski, Terry Lampe, Jan Lampe, Kris Mixan, Michael Macdonald, Marge Monaco, Mark Maeder, Steve Maguire, Fr. Robert Matya, Edwin Maslonka, Lisa Meier, Carol McDaniel, Leonard Meier, The Meyer Family, Joel Rivera, Blanche Murphy, Charles Murphy, Sue Novotny, Maryn Page, Ellen Pankiewicz, Ella Peters, Jonathan Perez, Rita Perito, Keelan Phillips, Joe Pitman, Jennifer Pryjmak, Jann Reinig, Jodi Ronnfeldt, Joyce Salvatori, Kelly Burkhardt Sheard, Fred Sokol, JoAnn Simoens, Debbie Schumacher, Isabella Sterba, Pam Stein, David Virgilito, Hope Wicken, Mark White, Michael Winter, Claire Winter, Theresa Yost, Annabella Zyla,

### Vocations

Q. Is it necessary to have so many years of schooling to become a priest?

A. A man who wants to become a priest must go to college for four years, with at least two years of philosophy. After graduating college, he must go to a seminary for another four years to earn a master's degree in divinity. Most men go to school eight to ten years after high school before they can be ordained as priests! It is very important for a priest both to have a well-balanced liberal arts education, as well as a deep grasp of theology and the spiritual life. Priests must be at least as well educated as the people they serve; otherwise, they will not be respected when they speak of spiritual things. Every soul is precious to God and, therefore, to the priest. A priest is called to help the most educated, as well as the least educated to find Jesus and to attain salvation.



If you or someone you know is considering a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Father Boyd or email: [vocations@archomaha.org](mailto:vocations@archomaha.org).



Our next Don & Millie's on 84th & Q Caring and Sharing event is January 20th from 11am- 9pm. Dine in or carry out! We hope to see you there!



May the Lord grant peace and consolation to the families of Florence Magz and Lyman Bridgman.

**GAME ON 2025 An Adult Fun Night  
February 15, 2025 at 6:30pm**

Game On needs you! Game on is coming soon and raffle items & beautiful baskets are needed. The Holy Ghost crew is working hard to put on a successful night of fun and fundraising to help our church as we are continually improving our facilities and providing for other needs in our parish. The raffles are a big part of our night. Please consider donating to our raffle table for this event. We are looking to have 30 raffle items with a price range of \$40-60 each. You can assemble a basket yourself, donate cash or gift cards, or take a tag from the church wall and contribute items to help us make baskets. Return all gift cards and cash donations in the collection baskets labeled GAME ON RAFFLES and all items to the back of church near the stairs no later than Feb 2nd.

Please call me with any questions at the number in the shaded box below.



Thank you for your consideration.  
Heather Slizoski, Raffle contact

St. John Vianney social  
hall 5801 Oak Hills  
Drive Southwest of  
120th & Q St

Raffle contact  
Heather Slizoski,  
402-669-8863  
andyheather@cox.net

Husker Night at Holy Ghost Doors open at 5pm and the speaker starts at 7pm. Admission is \$5 for kids and \$10 for adults Food and drink are available for purchase. Speaker for January 16th speaker Sean Callahan.

**Weekly Mass Intentions**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2025**

7:00 am + Leonard Albers

**Friday, January 17, 2025**

7:00 am + Deacon Paul Eubanks

**Sunday, January 19, 2025**

9:00 am + Jason Gofta

**Holy Ghost Women's Club**

Meeting: Wednesday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Holy Ghost social hall

Sunday, January 26: Cinnamon rolls after mass at Holy Ghost

Saturday, February 1: 2025 Nebraska Walk and Rally for Life in Lincoln, NE. More details to come

Wednesday, February 19 at 6:00 pm  
Valentine salad pot luck and meeting, HG social hall.

All women of both parishes are invited. Questions?  
Contact Terri Aulner at 402-669-9024

Thank you to everyone that worked at and/or attended our Chicken Dinner on Friday. We will get the final number out within the next few weeks.

**Holy Ghost Financials through  
12/31/2024:**

Weekly Needs: \$3,350.00

Collection: \$19,317.00

YTD Needs: \$87,100.00

YTD Collection: \$98,615.14

Overage: \$11,515.14

**The following members of our Parish, or loved ones of our Parishioners that are in need of prayers for their health.** May our Lord grant them a speedy recovery and return them to their families in perfect health: Dorothy Blach, Jan Brinck (sister-in-law of Marita Grebl), Carmen Cogan, Becky English, Theresa Eubanks Schwartzer, Yvonne Fisher, Etta Flott, Warren Hadley, Christine Haite, Donna Hansen, Cheryl Koziel (daughter of Jackie Peroutka), Cathy Longacre, Betty and Mike McMillan, Mark Mruz, Ender Pitman, Cooper Pofahl, Jon Ricci (nephew of Nellie Hadley), Melody Promes, John Ripa, Hayden Sommer, Raymond Starks, Mary Townley, Donna Vaughn, Brian Walters, Danny Watkins (brother of Brenda Tylkowski)

**Let us also remember in our prayers those who in care centers or homebound:**

Rick Becerra, Frances Becerra, Jean Buechler, Dee Clap, Patty Dworak, Jacob Fraser, Kim Hall, Dorothy Kazor, Joanne Leutzinger, Pat Makara, Darlene McKinley, Janet Nicholas, Dolores Noonan, Rita Tomes,



**Save the Date! Totus Tuus summer youth camp will be back at St Bernadette the week of June 8-13! Registration and more information coming soon.**



**WHEN**

Thursday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
4:30 – 6:00pm

**Where**

Virtue Wealth Counsel, LLC  
16924 Frances St. \*Northwest of 168 & W. Center Rd.

**Cost** Free

BRING A friend, associates, Parish members  
NO registration is required for this event.

**INFO** - online AT

[www.CBGOmaha.org](http://www.CBGOmaha.org)

**MISSION** As Catholic men and women in the business world, we are called to live our faith at work, home and play, sharing the joy and peace received through Christ & a Christian Community

**8:15am Weekday Mass at Holy Ghost with St. John Paul II Academy** - Please join us for

Mass, which takes place each Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Students from St. John Paul II Academy serve, sing and lector for this Mass, which is usually offered by Fr. Flott, Fr. Boyd, or other priests from nearby parishes. All are most welcome!



**Gross High School Honor Roll for the Second Semester**

Adamson, Brace, Adamson, Cale, Casart, Evy Cogswell, Alex, Davison, Lucy, Donohue, Mia Hiatt, Jane, Hofmann, Brynn, Jansen, Joshua McCoy, Clare, Nilson, Grace Nilson, Jordan Podany, Robert, Rice, Anna, Rice, Emma Skradski, Alexis, Turley, Knyomi, Wurgler, Eva Casart, Ryker, Earnest, Macey, Graser, Lily Hiatt, Thomas, Hunter, Dezirae, Linder, Lucy O'Brien, Liam, Riha, Lillian, Roberts, Calvin

His Global Love Prayer Communities invite you to a Healing Mass on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at St. Gerald Catholic Church, 9602 Q St. Omaha. Rosary at 6:15 p.m., praise and worship to follow. Mass at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Kevin Joyce from His Global Love Ministry will be presiding. All are welcome. Questions contact Frances Mignon at 402-515-8000.



**PILGRIMAGE TO SLOVENIA, CROATIA & MEDJUGORJE with Fr. Michael Grewe, Sept. 30 - Oct. 12, 2025**

Join us on a journey through Slovenia, Croatia, and BosniaHerzegovina, a region rich in Catholic history and tradition, where you will experience a culture of deep faith and spirituality. From the island Church of the Assumption on Lake Bled to the shrine of Our Lady, Queen of Peace, you will visit the most important sites dedicated to the Blessed Mother in Slovenia. In Croatia, venerate the relics of St. Simeon, explore the UNESCO World Heritage town of Trogir, and marvel at Dubrovnik, the Pearl of the Adriatic. Spend five days in the peaceful Bosnian village of Medjugorje, which many say it feels like Heaven on earth. Return home refreshed and renewed in your faith. To learn more about the trip itinerary, cost, and related details go to: [https://www.tektonministries.org/pilgrimage\\_pages/pilgrimage-to-slovenia-croatia-and-medjugorje/](https://www.tektonministries.org/pilgrimage_pages/pilgrimage-to-slovenia-croatia-and-medjugorje/) Our Spiritual Director is Father Michael Grewe, retired priest of the Archdiocese of Omaha, and our Group Leader is Jolene Jefferies, Parish Manager of St. Patrick in Gretna. Please be sure to attend our upcoming Pilgrimage Info Meeting on Tuesday, January

21, 2025, at 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 508 W. Angus Street in Gretna in the Parish Center. Father Grewe will be in attendance. You will have the opportunity to ask questions as you discern this pilgrimage opportunity. If you cannot attend the meeting, a Zoom video can be emailed to you for viewing at a time convenient for you. How will you respond to our Blessed Mother's loving invitation? For questions, please contact Jolene Jefferies at 402-521-0717 or [jolenejefferies@gmail.com](mailto:jolenejefferies@gmail.com).

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Saturday 9-4, Evening by Appt.

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Jim Blaszak, Parishioner

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