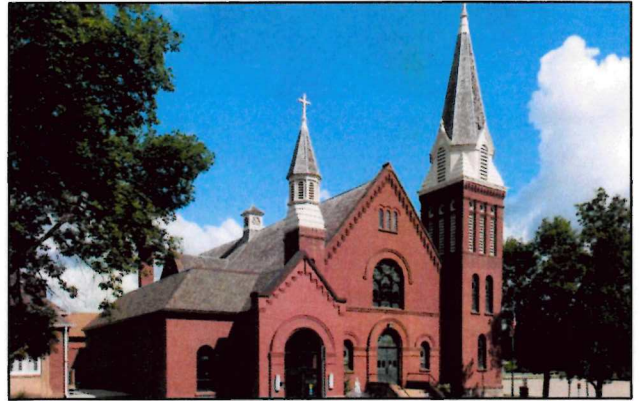


St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish

540 3rd Ave NE - Valley City, ND 58072

Easter Sunday
April 20, 2025

www.catherineofalexandria.org



MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

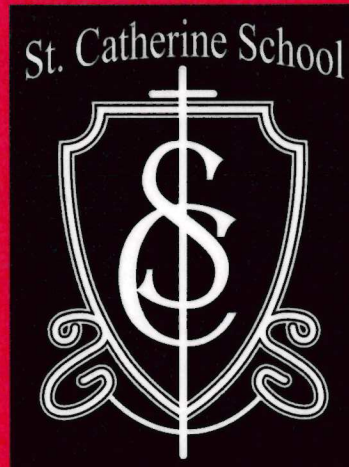
RECONCILIATION:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 7:50 am
Tuesday 8:15 - 9:30 pm
Saturday - 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Sunday - 7:30 - 8:00 am

Parish Office Hours:

Monday: 8:00am - 3:00pm
Tuesday - Friday: 8:00am - 4:30pm
Closed from 12:00 - 12:30pm everyday

St. Catherine Little Saints Childcare Center



Scan the QR
Code for full
position
description



Now Hiring Lead Teachers
St. Catherine School & Little Saints Childcare
Opening June 1 | 5 Positions Available
\$16-\$18/hr • Full Benefits
Faith-Based • Full-Time

Start Date: May 1st (or sooner depending on needs of facility)

How to Apply:

Submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to:
✉ Beth Nadelin - Childcare Director
✉ beth.nadelin@k12.nd.us
✉ 540 3rd Ave NE, Valley City, ND 58072

<https://www.stcatherine.k12.nd.us/>



April Calendar of Events

SUN 20	EASTER SUNDAY 8:00am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 8:30am Mass 10:00am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 10:30am Mass
MON 21	EASTER MONDAY NO SCHOOL/PARISH OFFICE CLOSED 7:40am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 8:00am Mass
TUE 22	7:40am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 8:00am Mass 8:30am – 10:00pm Adoration 8:30am Tuesday Movie 3:00pm Finance Council Meeting 5:30pm REACH Meeting
WED 23	7:40am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 8:00am Mass 6:30pm RE 7:00pm YG – End of Year
THU 24	7:40am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 8:00am Mass 1:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Quilters
FRI 25	7:40am CDA Divine Mercy Novena 8:00am Mass
SAT 26	4:40pm CDA Divine Mercy Novena 5:00pm Mass
SUN 27	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 8:10am CDA Divine Mercy Chaplet 8:30am Mass 10:10am CDA Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass 2:00pm Reconciliation and Holy Hour 3:00pm Divine Mercy Sunday Hour of Mercy

MASS INTENTIONS April 21 – 27

M	8:00am	† Marilyn Beach
T	8:00am	† Walt Clement
W	8:00am	† Mylo Falstad
Th	8:00am	† James and Esther Hovda
F	8:00am	Hank and Karen Weber - 50 th Ann.
	2:00pm	† TJ McGough
Sa	8:30pm	† Kenneth and Sharon Kinney
Su	8:30am	Sean Byrne
	10:30am	People of the Parish

TODAYS READINGS

First Reading — Easter Sunday Readings

Second Reading — Easter Sunday Readings

Gospel — Easter Sunday Readings

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-23; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday: Acts 5:12-16; Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

PRAYER NETWORK

Remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who are ill or are in need of our prayers:

Warren Ventch

Audrey Suhr

Darlene Miller

Renita Westerhausen

Larry Doyle

Linda Kosse

Lucille Winkler

Tyana Judd

Marlys Koble

Colleen Musgrave

Donna Hammond

Jerry Sand

Krystal Lemer

Cemetery Announcement

St. Catherine cemetery is closed for the winter and will reopen in the spring when the conditions improve, if you need any help, you can call the **Sexton Deacon Joe Leitner 701-840-7429.**

May Serving Information:

Temporary Chairperson:

Margaret Doyle: 701-840-0142

Events: May 2, 10:30 Funeral

May 4, Coffee and Rolls



Pastor's Page

A BLESSED EASTER TO ALL!



As we celebrate Easter this weekend, the first object of our celebration is Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, raised from the dead. It was His task from the Father that in His death and resurrection would be the atonement of our sins, reconciling the human family with God our Father, and getting those closed gates of heaven back open so that we can, if we rise with Him, be welcomed into our eternal home once we have passed from this life.

Secondly, we celebrate that very salvation now available to each of us: an opportunity now to unite ourselves to Him in the grace He won for us, so that in fact we will be able to rise with Him to that new life in the heavenly eternity, being able to see God Himself face to face.

But there is a third result of the Easter mystery: what it did for our neighbor. And not so much just to realize that what is now possible to us in Christ is now possible for all - which it is - but what that means for *my relationship and my view and my attitude towards those "neighbors"* who surround my life and with whom I act and interact with each day.

C.S. Lewis, one of the great Christian writers of the 20th century, called this third result "the weight of my neighbor's glory" (and so not just my own glory in Christ) when he delivered a wonderful address to an English congregation in 1941, in the middle of World War II when Nazi Germany was bombing Great Britain. In the midst of that discouraging time, he focused on the destiny of those I live with and amongst:

It may be possible for each to think too much of his own potential glory hereafter; it is hardly possible for him to think too often or too deeply about that of his neighbor. The load, or weight, or burden of my neighbor's glory should be laid daily on my back, a load so heavy that only humility can carry it, and the backs of the proud will be broken. It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations. It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities, it is with the awe and circumspection proper to them, that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics. There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal . . . Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbor is the holiest object presented to your senses.

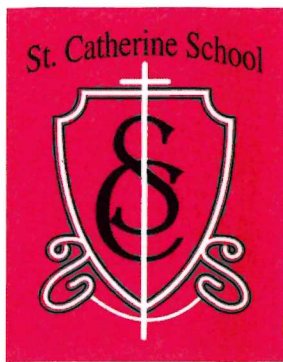
Wow - right? I very rarely think of that perspective concerning those around me. Read that again - I needed to read it a few times before it finally sank in what Lewis was saying. And he's absolutely correct. That is the Easter mystery applied to ALL of us - first for myself to take advantage of for the sake of my own glory in Him, but secondly for me to realize the "potential gods and goddesses" I'm surrounded by each day, and my living response to seeing them as such. With that insight the teaching of Christ on the necessity of the love of our neighbor begins to make much more sense.

* * *

There have been any number of things going on around here that I just want to make a public "thank you" for. I love seeing things happening in our parish and for our parish family. The REACH banquet on April 3 was a special evening at the Eagles - I appreciate their support of our parish school. We've had a few funeral luncheons this past month - as always, a wonderful gift to the families involved during that difficult time for them. On April 11 we had a wonderful Fish Fry served up by a whole bunch of volunteers. And this past Sunday (April 13) as you will read elsewhere also in the bulletin, we had a great bunch of workers involved in the Sunday breakfast to help finance the trip for our youth to attend the Steubenville Catholic Conference this summer in Illinois.

The new life that Christ offers us in Himself gives us so many opportunities to live fully and with meaning, and things like those listed above are but just a small few of those kinds of opportunities. Thank you to all involved - let's always keep up living our new life in Christ well, but loving and serving Him, His Church, and each other! Happy Easter!

Fr Duchscher
Pastor



Principal's Page

Dear St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish Family,

This past week, I had the privilege of accompanying our **5th and 6th grade students** to the **Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo**—a liturgy rich in meaning and beauty. The Chrism Mass is one of the most solemn and unifying celebrations in the life of our Church. During this Mass, the bishop blesses the holy oils used throughout the diocese for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick. It is also when **priests across the diocese gather to renew their priestly vows**.

Witnessing this sacred tradition through the eyes of our students was incredibly moving. They watched as those who have devoted their lives to shepherding the faithful stood together in joyful commitment to the Church and its mission. It was a powerful reminder—not only of the spiritual heritage we share but of the living, breathing **communion of vocations** that sustain and nourish our Catholic identity.

Our students represented St. Catherine School with reverence and maturity; I am so proud of them. The experience brought them closer to the heart of our faith. This moment planted seeds in their hearts of **gratitude for our priests**, a more profound **connection to the sacraments**, and perhaps even a quiet **discernment of their vocation in the future**. God calls each of us in different ways, and he will one day call each of these young men and women to different Vocations.

Little Saints Childcare – Wishlist and Sponsorship Opportunities

As we prepare to welcome our first group of children into **St. Catherine Little Saints Childcare**, we seek parish and community support to help equip our rooms with the tools needed to provide high-quality care—especially for our **smallest future saints**.

We will be licensed to care for up to **10 infants**, and we initially set a goal of **8 commercial-grade cribs** (each costing approximately **\$250**). Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, **we have already received sponsorships for three cribs!**

Thank you so much to those who have supported this initiative—your kindness truly blessed us. We are still seeking three **additional crib sponsorships** to furnish the infant room fully.

In the coming days, we will also release our **Amazon Wishlist** with needed items and **opportunities to sponsor entire rooms or specific supplies**.

If you are interested in helping or have questions, please get in touch with me at nicholas.lee1@k12.nd.us.

Daycare Hiring – Join Our Team!

We are **hiring for Lead Teachers, Assistant Teachers, and Float Staff**, with both **part-time and full-time positions available**. Interested applicants should email our Childcare Director, **Beth Nadelin**, at beth.nadelin@k12.nd.us. A **resume, cover letter, and three professional references** are requested.

Exploring Summer Tutoring Opportunities

We are exploring offering **summer tutoring for students entering grades K–6** next school year. This would support students who experience **summer learning loss** or would benefit from **enrichment**. Tutoring will be open to all families, not just those currently enrolled. If interested, please email nicholas.lee1@k12.nd.us.

Virtue Focus: Fortitude – Patience

Our schoolwide virtue focus from **April 7–18** is **Patience**, a strength of the virtue **Fortitude**. Patience means **responding to difficulties calmly and waiting with grace**.

We look to **St. Teresa of Calcutta** as our model of this virtue, whose quiet strength and enduring love made a difference in countless lives. As Scripture reminds us:

“Be patient, therefore, until the coming of the Lord.”

— *James 5:7–8*

This week, we are encouraging students to practice patience especially during transitions and to model **grace under pressure**, trusting that virtue is built not just in big moments, but in the quiet, everyday ones.

I hope it was a **blessed Holy Week** and we are all reminded of the **SACRIFICIAL love** that allows **GRACE** to flow to us.

With gratitude and peace,

Nick Lee

Principal, St. Catherine School

St. Catherine's Parish Team

Parish Office 845-0354

Hours:

Monday 8am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Tuesday - Friday 8am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 4:30pm

Pastor: Very Rev. Paul Duchscher

e-mail: paul.duchscher@fargodiocese.org

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Joe Leitner

Rev. Mr. Tom Vanorny

Parish Office Administrator: Jessica (Jess) Storhoff

e-mail: stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

Liturgy Coordinator:

e-mail: st.catherine.liturgy.schedule@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Carol Jabs

e-mail: stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com

Lay Directors: Jeff Bopp & Rhonda Fairfield

Parish Council:

Steve Jorissen

Doran Chandler

Larissa Musgrave

Mark Oberlander

Joe Zubrod

St. Catherine School 845-1453

Principal: Nick Lee

Office Assistant: Terra Giesen

Sexton: Deacon Joe Leitner 840-7429

Rectory 845-0725

Fax 845-0556

Nearly Nu Store 845-1022

Baptisms: Contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Contact the Pastor at least 7 months prior to the wedding.

Home Bound Eucharist: Darlene Kerzman, 701-721-1899

Bulletin Deadline: 3 PM on Wednesdays

If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please email Jess:

stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

Newcomers: WELCOME! Please register at the Parish Office or use the registration form on our website.

FINANCIAL REPORT: April 13, 2025

Regular Parish Income

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Last Week	6,497.25	10,265.38	(3,768.13)
Year to Date	439,631.10	420,880.58	18,750.52

Registered families.....469

Adult Envelopes	5,765.00
Children	2.00
Plate	640.25
Utility	90.00

Total Collection 6,497.25

Thank you for your generous gifts!!

*Online Giving available @
www.catherineofalexandria.org*

Prayer Quilts/Shawls Available

Some of our parishioners may be dealing with some very challenging physical, mental, spiritual or emotional situations/needs (a terminal illness, treatments, an accident, severe depression, a miscarriage) To convey the prayers & support of our parish family, Prayer Quilts/Shawls are available for all parishioners who will need them. To request a Prayer Quilt/Shawl contact: Georgia, 840-2737 or Lela, 840-8352.



Our Lord wishes for us to be whole, body, mind and soul. To be healed, to be complete. There is a group of individuals from the deanery

that are offering to pray with you, for healing. We would be willing to come to pray with you as an individual, at your home or parish church. Confidentiality is assured. The St. Catherine's Healing Prayer Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church our next prayer meeting is Monday, April 28, 2025. We are also asking for individuals who would like to be involved in this healing ministry from around the deanery to join us. We have gotten permission from the priests in the deanery so please visit with your pastor. If you are interested, please contact one of the individuals listed below for more information.

Doran Chandler 701-840-1257

Deacon Jim McAllister 701-840-1473

**St. Catherine's Religious Education
Grades K-8, 6:30 pm**



Dates to Remember:

April 23: RE Classes 6:30pm in the school building.

April 30: Closing Mass and Ice Cream Social

If you have questions or concerns, please contact
DRE Carol labs@stcatherine.dre.vc@gmail.com

St. Catherine of Sienna, pray for us.

**St Catherine's Teen Corner
Grades 9-12, 7:00 pm**

Wednesday, April 23: Class, "Universality of the Catholic Church"

Wednesday, April 30: Closing Mass, **6:30pm**
(Note Time)

Classes will be from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., unless noted in teen corner. All youth, grades 9-12 are invited to come, have fun and learn about their Catholic faith. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Deacon Tom Vanorny 701-210-0640.

Tuesday Morning Movies

Please join the Tuesday Morning Movie Group, each Tuesday morning after the 8:00am Mass in the Sacred Heart Room for a movie, muffins and mighty good fellowship. Showing this week: "Paul-Apostle of Christ" Part 1. All are welcome!

**Prayer - Fellowship - Quilting
Join the Fun!**



St. Catherine Quilters make quilts for those in need in our area every



**Thursday 1-4:30pm & 6:30-9pm
next to the school cafeteria.**

Everyone is welcome for any length of time. No experience necessary & supplies provided.

Questions call:

Christine, 840-2580 or Lela, 840-8352.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St.
Gerard # 2518**

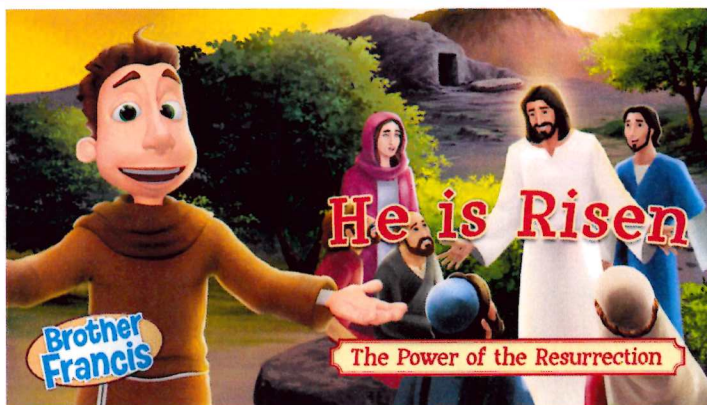


Meet Monthly 2nd Monday

April 28: Mid-Month Meeting 1:30pm
Mother's Day Item
7:00pm Healing Prayer Group

Please continue to save the Our Family Bar Codes!!
We love free money!!

Happy Easter to all Catholic Daughters and Parish Family, God Bless!!



formed™
Forming Catholics for *Life*.

He Is Risen! The Power of the Resurrection

Join Brother Francis as he celebrates the power and splendor of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in this moving, instructive, and joyful animated presentation!

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the Formed app to your phone.





YOU ARE INVITED
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY HOUR OF MERCY
SUNDAY APRIL 27, 2025

On this day, Divine Mercy Sunday, God promises us complete pardon to our souls.

On this day, the grace of Divine Mercy Sunday wipes away all of our sins and temporal punishment due to sin. Our souls will be white as snow like on the day we were baptized. **"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy.**

Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (*Diary of St. Faustina*, 1109)

To receive His complete mercy you must do the following:

1. **Confess your sins** (before Divine Mercy Weekend, be truly sorry for them, and do your penance)
2. **Receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday**

1:45-2:00 p.m.

Consecration to the Divine Mercy

(for all those who participated in the 33 days to Divine Mercy Consecration)

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Eucharist Holy Hour and Confessions

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Hour of Prayer

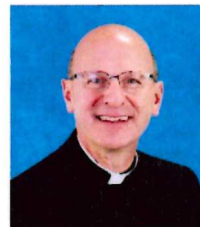
Is Jesus calling
you to be His own?

Come join us for the
Miryam Dinner

Tuesday, April 29, 2025
5:30-7:30 pm at Bishop Folda's Home

Bishop Folda and Fr. Kyle Metzger, the director of vocations, invite women ages 16-30 who are open to the religious life to an evening of prayer, dinner, and fellowship. They will be joined by consecrated religious women sharing their own vocation stories of discernment. It is typical for women to be accompanied by their pastor, a consecrated religious, or a friend. RSVP by 5 days prior to the dinner.

To reserve your place, contact
vocations@fargodiocese.org
or (701) 356-7956



**Invitation to the 40th Anniversary
of Priesthood**

Dear St. Catherine's Parishioners,
With a heart full of gratitude to our
Father in heaven, I warmly invite you
to join me in commemorating

the Fortieth Anniversary of my ordination to the Priesthood of
Jesus Christ. It brought joy to my heart to serve the community of
St. Catherine's for seven grace filled years as God guided me
through your prayers and loving support. I hope many of you will
be able to celebrate my anniversary with me.



- Date: Sunday June 8
- Location: Sts. Ann and Joachim
- Holy Mass of Thanksgiving: 4:00 p.m.
- Reception: A banquet meal will be served in St. Ann & Joachim's social hall. [Please RSVP](#)

I would be honored by your presence and ask your prayers for
God's gracious blessing for the path ahead.

[Please RSVP by Monday May 26th to Deidra Lies at
deidra@stanthonyfargo.org, or call 701-237-6063.](#)


In Christ's love and service,

Fr. Gerard Braun

*"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that He
considered me trustworthy, appointing me to His service."*

1 Timothy 1:12

BIG TICKET RAFFLE!

NAME ADDRESS PHONE	PROOF	#001		#001	City of Valley City Permit #1537	St. Catherine School - 2025 540 3rd Ave. NE, Valley City, ND 58072						
						\$100 PER TICKET. ONLY 300 TICKETS PRINTED.						
<table border="1"><tr><td>Grand Prize - \$5,000</td><td rowspan="6"><i>Drawing to be held: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. in school gym. Winners will be notified. Need not be present to win. Not a charitable donation.</i></td></tr><tr><td>• 2nd Place - \$1,000</td></tr><tr><td>• 3rd Place - \$1,000</td></tr><tr><td>• 4th Place - \$1,000</td></tr><tr><td>• 5th Place - \$1,000</td></tr><tr><td>• 6th Place - \$1,000</td></tr></table>						Grand Prize - \$5,000	<i>Drawing to be held: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. in school gym. Winners will be notified. Need not be present to win. Not a charitable donation.</i>	• 2nd Place - \$1,000	• 3rd Place - \$1,000	• 4th Place - \$1,000	• 5th Place - \$1,000	• 6th Place - \$1,000
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• 4th Place - \$1,000												
• 5th Place - \$1,000												
• 6th Place - \$1,000												

(Prize money already gifted)
All proceeds go to St. Catherine's School

ONLY 300 TICKETS SOLD!
— \$100 per ticket —

All-cash prizes: Grand Prize - \$5,000

2 nd	-	\$1,000
3 rd	-	\$1,000
4 th	-	\$1,000
5 th	-	\$1,000
6 th	-	\$1,000

**Sales begin after Masses on April 26-27
and May 3-4**



2025 Easter Flower Donations



Thank you to all who donated to help decorate our worship space for Easter!

In Honor of Family and Friends

Phyllis Lemer

Herman, Lue & Allan Kunze; Joseph & Pauline Kunze;
George & Christine Stroh; Evelyn, Floyd & Joey
Westerhausen; Amy & Paul Frappier

Joe Mitzel; Clayton & Marilyn Sather

Walt Clement; Willie & Bernice Bonham Family; Ed &
Bernice Clement Family

Tyce Daniel Musgrave and Josie Faye Musgrave

Deceased Family of George and Andrea Miller

Lowell McCarthy

Tom Ihry

Joe & Clara Weishapt; Roy & Hazel Wuolu; Nicholas Wuolu;
Wuolu Children and Grandchildren

Hock Family; Knutson Family; Erin Spann

John J. O'Brien

DeVerne Hoggarth

Living and Deceased members of the Coles & Ballweg
Families

Deceased Goven Family Members

The Families of James and Susan Nelson

John and Marian Gulka Family;
Joe and Clementine Weiler Family

Lawrence and Rita Petrowitz; Amanda Leininger;
Charlie Bowman

Bill Magee and deceased family members

George Thilmony; Deceased Thilmony Family; Deceased
Parr Family and Deceased Relatives

Harold and Lillian Schultz

Ames and Avis Skolness; Ed and Bertha Schell;
Sandy Brier; Jim Skolness

Gieger and Kerzman families living and deceased

Deceased family and friends

Louis and Geraldine Yanish

Deceased members of the Kadrmas, Fisher, Bodnar and
Kormanik Families

Dave Winkler; Deceased Bernard and Ann Moritz Families;
Deceased Tom and Laure Winkler Families

Piatz and Winkels Families

Ed Spitzer and Sondag - Spitzer deceased Family Members

Deceased Family and Friends

Given By

Eugene Lemer

Woody and Chris Westerhausen

Dale and Collen Sather and Family

Berta Clement

Dave and Larissa Musgrave

Goerge and Andrea Miller

Sue McCarthy

Dawn Ihry

Robert and Ann Wuolu

Jim and Carol Knutson

Candy O'Brien and Family

Margaret Hoggarth Family

Larry & Gayle Coles

Gigi Goven

James and Susan Nelson

Arnie and Carol Gulka

Eldon and Shari Maasjo

Marion Magee and Family

Anne, Jason, and Paul Thilmony

Janet Schultz

Mike and Brenda Schell Family

Darlene Kerzman and Family

Pat Johnson

Donald Yanish

Tim and Joanne Kadrmas

MaryAnn, Scott and Mark Winkler

George and Shelly Piatz

Madeline Spitzer

Ken and Darlen Weshnevski



2025 Easter Flower Donations



Thank you to all who donated to help decorate our worship space for Easter!

In Honor of Family and Friends

Will Kupitz

Orville and Astrid Isensee; Patrick and Eleanor McCurdy

Elsperger and Klingenberg Families

In Memory of Patrick and Lucille Garrahy; Harry and Lucille Hannig; Michael Hannig

Families of Cordie, Wieser, LeClair, Lenzmeier and Burchills

George and Agnes Reisenauer; Ernest Reisenauer

Deacon Carl Orthman; Deceased members of Orthman and Dix families

Lilia S. Algosio; Eulalio Algosio; Rolando Estacio

John and Adeline Schwehr families

Lyle and Marianne Utt and Deceased Family Members; Helmer and Birdie Wenaas and Deceased Family Members

Living and Deceased Family Members

Dick Fiegen

Gert and Chester Campbell; Mary and Lawrence Weshnevski

Mary and Julius Langer; Vivian and Daniel McKay

Karl and Louise Beckhart and family members; Walt and Cecelia Webber; Richard and Mary Wright; Dick and Kate Kunze; Helen and George Amann and deceased family members

Daron Scherr

All Deceased relatives

Ken and Jeannie Kohler; Leo and Ruth Langer; Cody Lahr; Teresa Tangen

Travis Robinson

Rob Ingstad; Ron Birchem

Moises and Veronica Benedioto; Rasal and Emiliano Serudo

Denis Horsager

Ted and Jo Koch; Kelly Koch; Gene Koch; Susie Eggert Goin

Bob Maresh; Winkels and Maresh Families

Larry Lindemann

Curt and Ginger Kjelland

Duane and Tristan Hesch; George and Helen Gratz; Garvis and Bernice Hesch

Given By

Lauri Kupitz Family

Lee and Micki Isensee

Mel and Erin Klingenberg

Jerome and Teresa Garrahy

Ardith Cordie

Steve and Rita Earles

Nancy Orthman

Marie Dulay

John and Adeline Schwehr

Brad and Lou Ann Wenaas

Shelly Differding

Rayma Fiegen

Ted and Beth (Campbell) Weshnevski

Kevin and Kristene Langer

Ken and Rose Wright

Pius and Delphine Scherr

Julie Mindt

Mike and Deb Kohler

Larry and Mary Lee Robinson; James, Mandi, Alex, Max and Jax Robinson

Stacy Ingstad and Family

Jonathan and Argen Sales

Angie Horsager

Jodie and Lonney Scherr Family

Carrie Maresh

Kathy Lindemann

Tom and Nichola Kjelland

Linda Hesch and Family

Twelve Women of the Bible

Women's Retreat † June 23-25, 2025

Maryvale Retreat Center

We invite you to this mid-week retreat to have
a closer look at twelve specific women—
What can they teach us today?

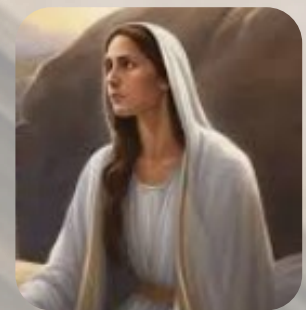
Fr. Paul Duchscherer—Retreat Director

- † Retreat begins on Monday, June 23 at 12:00pm
and concludes on Wednesday, June 25 at 3:00pm
- † Bring a Bible
- † Series of talks throughout each day
- † Daily Mass
- † Holy Hour-Adoration (Monday & Tuesday)

Suggested Donation

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Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2025

St. Catherine Church
Very Rev. Paul Duchscherer

One Minute Meditations

St. Catherine of Siena

Born in 1347, St. Catherine began having divine visions as a young girl, and after much resistance from her family, she became a member of the Third Order of St. Dominic. She lived a life of solitude, prayer, poverty, mortification, and acts of charity. Her reputation for holiness spread and people began seeking her advice, especially to resolve political feuds peacefully. She is a Doctor of the Church for her works of doctrine and spiritual inspiration.

"Silent Saturday"

On Holy Saturday, also called "Silent Saturday," we recall Mary's silent waiting for Jesus' Resurrection. Waiting is part of God's plan, and He uses that time to heal and prepare our hearts for the next stage. Thank God for the seasons of waiting, as you prepare your heart and home to celebrate the joy of Easter Sunday.

Celebrate Mercy

Divine Mercy Sunday, established by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000, fulfills Jesus' request to St. Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, calling the world to trust in His infinite mercy. It is celebrated on April 27 this year.

"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:3).

Anointed for a Mission

Living as Priest, Prophet, and King

In ancient Israel, priests and kings were anointed with oil as a sign that they were set apart for a sacred mission. In baptism, we too were anointed, marking us as belonging to Christ and sharing in His threefold office as priest, prophet, and king. As we approach our new life at Easter, we can take our proper place in His kingdom:

Priest

A priest serves as a bridge between God and humanity, offering sacrifices and interceding for others. We embrace our baptismal priesthood when we pray for others, make sacrifices on their behalf, and fully participate in the Mass with devotion and joy.

Prophet

A prophet is God's messenger, speaking the truth and calling people to conversion. A prophet's words have power because they flow from a holy life. We share in Christ's prophetic mission by living out our faith, teaching

others about God's love, and spreading the Gospel.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

King

A true king protects, leads, and serves as a model of virtue. We fulfill our royal calling when we guide and educate others in the faith, resist sin, and strive to lead others to Christ. We are servant leaders when we build up the Church, defend what is right, and help others on their path to salvation.

By fully living our faith, actively participating in the Church, and embracing the Sacraments, we do more than follow Christ—we become His hands and voice in the world. This is our calling and our mission.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics venerate the Cross on Good Friday?

Veneration of the Cross is a devotion, traditionally observed during the Good Friday liturgy. The Church invites the faithful to bow, kneel, or in some other way venerate the image of the crucified Christ.

While physically kissing a statue may seem unusual, the act is not about the

object itself but about honoring the One it represents. Much like observing a moment of silence before a war memorial, we pause to remember and revere the greatest act of love. In this gesture, we express sorrow for sin, love for Christ, and gratitude for His saving victory.

Keep watch with Jesus

A Holy Thursday invitation

On Holy Thursday night, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives to pray. In His anguish, He turned to His disciples and asked, *"And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not watch with me one hour?'"* (Matthew 26:40). Yet, they slept.

That same night, Jesus instituted the Eucharist, ensuring His presence would remain with us always. This Holy Thursday, set aside an hour to stay with Him.

Enter the Garden: Meditate on Matthew 26:36-46 or Luke 22:39-46. Listen to Jesus' prayer of surrender: *"Thy will be*

done" (Matthew 26:42). Make it your own, trusting that God will bring all things to fulfillment in His perfect way.

Make a spiritual Communion: St. Thomas Aquinas described this as a prayer of longing for the Eucharist when receiving it physically isn't possible. Though it cannot replace the Mass, it is deeply pleasing to God and nourishes the soul.

Simply be present: Prayer is not about many words or devotions but about being with Him. This Holy Thursday, offer Jesus your silent presence—attentive, open, and watchful—for He is always present to you.

from Scripture

The two Resurrection appearances of Jesus to His disciples in this passage highlight God's merciful love. The first appearance was on Easter Sunday. He could have abandoned them, just as they had abandoned Him in the Garden of Gethsemane, but He didn't. Instead, Jesus appeared to them and gave them His peace, His Spirit, and the power to forgive sins in His name.

The second visit was for St. "Doubting" Thomas, who wasn't there the first time. He refused to believe that Jesus was really risen, despite the evidence of several eyewitnesses.

John 20:19-31, "Doubting" Thomas believes

He demanded physical proof. Jesus appeared in the Upper Room and invited him to touch Him. St. Thomas, moved to faith, cried out, *"My Lord and my God!"* (John 20:28).

This passage reminds us we can always bring our doubts, fears, and need for forgiveness to God, especially on this Sunday — Divine Mercy Sunday. To the disciples who abandoned Him, Jesus extended His peace and forgiveness. For St. Thomas who had been struggling with doubt, Jesus came in person to strengthen his faith. "Jesus, I trust in You!"

Q & A How can I be sure that I am discerning God's will in prayer?

God calls all of us to greater holiness, deeper intimacy with Him and greater charity for others. If you feel God is calling you, consider the "roots and fruits" more carefully before responding.

While the Holy Spirit often works through our "holy imagination," not everything that pops into our heads is from Him. God will never tell us to sin or contradict Church teachings, and His voice is always gentle (if firm) and brings a deep peace that remains, even when our emotions and situations change.

Assuming the "roots" are good, you can take the first steps in answering the call. Examples of "good fruits" would be an increase in virtue, greater attraction to the Sacraments, a concrete change in how we treat others, and even a change of heart in others.

It's always good to find a good spiritual director when discerning "big" decisions, e.g., a vocation. Be at peace: if you are seeking God's will in good faith, He will direct you where you need to be.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 13 – Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by crowds waving palms and cheering, *"Hosanna to the Son of David!"* (Matthew 21:9). This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

April 16 – St. Joseph Benedict Labré (1783). Nicknamed "the poor man of the Forty Hours (Eucharistic) devotion," St. Benedict lived most of his life as a poor pilgrim. When he wasn't in church, he lived on the streets, in poverty and absorbed in prayer.

April 25 – St. Mark the Evangelist

(First Century). St. Mark wrote the second Gospel based on St. Peter's perspective and accompanied Saints Paul and Barnabas on their missionary journey in Cyprus. He is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.

April 27 – Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus promised St. Faustina that those who receive the Sacrament of Confession and the Eucharist on this day will receive complete forgiveness of sins and punishment—a grace akin to baptism. This extraordinary gift highlights God's desire to wipe away our past and renew us in His love.

April 28 – St. Louis de Montfort (1716). A French priest with a passion for preaching the Gospel, St. Louis had a special devotion to the Blessed Mother, and his True Devotion to Mary is widely popular today.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)