



St. Stephen the Martyr CATHOLIC CHURCH

Encounter, Know, Proclaim

July 2, 2023

Pray & Worship

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday-Friday at 6:30 AM & 8:15 AM*;
Saturday at 8:15 AM*

Weekend: Saturday at 5:00 PM; Sunday at 7:30 AM,
9:00 AM, 10:30 AM* & 6:00 PM

*These Masses will be live-streamed on our Facebook
page ([https://www.facebook.com/
StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha](https://www.facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha)) and our website
(stephen.org/live-stream)

Private Prayer

Daily Mass Chapel and Worship Space are open
from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday-Friday and from 10 AM
to 6 PM on Saturday-Sunday. The Adoration Chapel
is open 24/7; door access code: 9675*

Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hours

Mondays from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space

Contact Us

Parish Office:

Phone: (402) 896-9675
Emergency: (402) 896-9675 ext 2
Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, M-F

Pastor: Fr. David Belt

Associate Pastor: Fr. Zach Tucker

Staff Contact Info: stephen.org/staff

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM

Submit requests to Leslie at l.schulte@stephen.org.



13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever gives only a cup of
cold water to one of these
little ones to drink because the
little one is a disciple--amen, I
say to you, he will surely not
lose his reward." - Mt 10:42

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

©LPR

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me..."

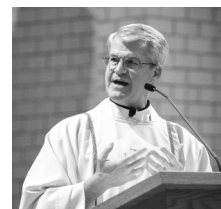
These words, spoken to the apostles by Jesus, sound kind of harsh. Why is Jesus telling the apostles not to love their family? Why would loving father and mother, brother and sister make a person "not worthy" of being called a follower of Jesus?

The truth is that Jesus is not telling the Twelve to love their family less than they do. What Jesus is saying is that their love for Him should surpass all human love. When we prioritize our lives and who is important in our lives, Jesus says that He should be "number 1." Everything else and everyone else in our life is secondary to the love that we share with Jesus Christ.

Think about how different our lives would be if we loved Jesus first. If we strive to love the Lord with our entire being, then our love for Jesus would have a profound effect on our love for family members and friends. The way that we live our faith colors every aspect of our lives. Let us pray that this summer may be a time of refreshment and renewal for us, so that we may come to realize the blessings that have been shared with us by our generous God. In turn, may we proclaim our gratitude in the way that we love Jesus Christ and His holy people.

"The healing of the world is in its nameless saints. Each separate star seems nothing, but a myriad scattered stars break up the night and make it beautiful." -Bayard Taylor

*God Bless you,
Father Dave*



Tailgate #2

A Friendly Competition
(for ages 21 and over)
Saturday, July 8th

6 PM after Mass
In front of the Parish Center

- Bring your own lawn chairs/blankets, games & favorite beverages.
- Dinner for purchase provided by Pulled BBQ
- Desserts for purchase (cash only) provided by the Council of Catholic Women
- Beginning at 7:30 PM, there will be a Bags Tournament (on the Basketball Court) and a Putter Ball Competition (in the fenced playground). Both of these events are for adults ages 21 and over.



*God, source of all freedom, bless our
nation with peace and holiness. Amen.*

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY GOD BLESS AMERICA

- PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
- NO 6:30 AM MASS
- NO RECONCILIATION
- PATRIOTIC ROSARY FOLLOWING 8:15 AM MASS



16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | stephen.org

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is a community for all people to encounter Christ, know Christ, and proclaim Christ.

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Tuesday: 5:30-6:30 PM & Saturday: 3:30-4:45 PM

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays. Parents are required to attend a preparation class. Contact the parish office for information or visit: stephen.org/sacraments.

Matrimony

Preparation for Marriage begins at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date. Contact parish office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact Deacon Denny at (402) 861-4538 or d.dethlefs@stephen.org.

Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Parish office phone number: (402) 896-9675

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 6/20-6/26/2023:

Actual:	\$55,748
Budget:	\$51,557
FYTD Actual:	\$2,435,542
FYTD Budget:	\$2,622,039

St. Stephen the Martyr operates on a Fiscal Year from July 1—June 30

Thank you for your generous giving!

Your financial support is vital to the well-being of our church and school. To make a gift simply scan the QR code or go to stephen.org/give. Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha, NE 68135.



Special Second Collection

The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father through the Peter's Pence Collection are designated to Church needs, humanitarian initiatives, social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. Visit stephen.org/give today to contribute to this important fund. Thank you!

"...whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." - Matthew 10:38

Pope Benedict XVI said "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness". "Comfort" puts me first. "Picking up your cross and following Jesus" puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

#StewardshipReflection



Congratulations Newly Baptized!

Cameron Jon Keady,
son of Patrick and Alyssa

Aurora Victoria Shropshire,
daughter of Dustin and Lacey

Charlotte Ann Buckley,
daughter of Brian and Steffanie

School News

United in Christ to ignite the joy of faith, community, and learning.

⇒ We're Hiring Teacher Associates:

We need a couple more teacher associates for the 2023-2024 school year. We have both part-time and full-time positions available. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact assistant principal, Greg Verraneault, at (402) 896-0754 or email g.verraneault@stephen.org.

⇒ Fourth of July Office Hours:

Our school office will be closed July 3rd - 7th. We wish you all a very Happy 4th of July! Emails or voice messages received will be returned as quickly as possible. We will resume our normal office hours of Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM-Noon next week.

⇒ Summer Play Dates:

We know starting a new school year can be an exciting, yet apprehensive transition for our kids. The goal of our summer play dates is to give them a chance to meet future classmates before the big day! All incoming PreK, TK & Kindergarten students are invited. Our next play dates are July 26th at 11 AM—Noon and August 13th, 11:35 AM—12:35 PM. Please visit our website to RSVP: school.stephen.org/summer-play-date.

⇒ We still have room for your student!

We still have space in most classes for the 23-24 school year, including our preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten classes! Request a tour or apply at school.stephen.org/admissions.

Religious Education News

⇒ Happy 4th of July!

May peace, love, and happiness always be with you and your family. Wishing you a very happy Fourth of July!

⇒ Is God calling you to share your Catholic faith with others?

St. Stephen's Religious Education relies on adult and high school volunteers to share PREPARED LESSONS with K-8th grade students for one hour a week on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon/evening during the school year. We supply everything you need to present the provided lessons. All you need is a love for the Lord and a desire to share it. You will be amazed at how much your own understanding of the Catholic church, as well your faith itself, grows as you share it with the children of your parish! Please contact Eileen at 402-896-5683 for details on how to become a Lead or Assistant RE catechist for the 23/24 school year.

⇒ Religious Education 2023-2024 Registration:

Don't wait to register for next year as we have many exciting plans for the upcoming year. Please register early to help us prepare. Register online at stephen.org/re-registration or call our office if you have any questions at 402-896-5683.

⇒ Religious Education Department Summer Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday; 9 AM to 1 PM or by appointment; 402-896-5683.

Youth Ministry News

⇒ Summer Events for High Schoolers:

You are invited to "Witness Wednesdays" on July 5th at St. Wenceslaus to learn how ordinary people became extraordinary saints and July 19th at St. Stephen for praise & worship and adoration. Get more details at stephen.org/youth-ministry.

⇒ Summer Events for Middle Schoolers:

Join us at "Better Together Tuesdays" on July 18th and August 8th at St. Stephen the Martyr. Find more information at stephen.org/youth-ministry.

Help Feed Our Totus Tuus Missionaries!



Totus Tuus Missionaries will be in Omaha July 9th-14th to lead over 120 children of St. Stephen the Martyr & St. Wenceslaus. Please help us feed them during their time here!

Details can be found in the sign-up below.

Scan the
code to
sign up



TOTUS TUUS
TOTALLY YOURS



PrimeTimers Upcoming Events

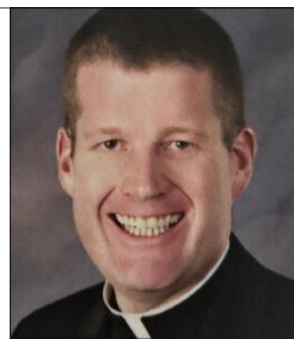


Join us for "Spamalot" on July 9 at 2 PM at Ralston Theater
We understand it's short notice, but the box office just opened. We need to know how many PrimeTimers will join us for this fun-filled afternoon, so please get your reservation in ASAP! Cost is \$20 and we will be going "across the road" to Spaghetti Works for dinner on your own following the show. Ralston Theater is in the high school at 8969 Park Dr., Ralston and we will be gathering in the lobby on 7/9 at 1:30 in order to be seated as a group. Cost is \$20 for the show; reservations must be submitted to Pat, Moe or Jan by 7/2. Make checks out to Pat Miller at 402-201-7945.

Every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 1 PM in the Parish Center:
Everyone is welcome! Bring your favorite board game or join a group for pitch, pinochle, bridge, dominos, or tripoli. Bring a snack to share, an item for the St. Stephen food pantry & a friend or partner! Sign up for our emails at stephen.org/primetimers.

Father Andy Sohm assigned as primary priest/chaplain for area hospitals

Welcome Father Andy Sohm to his new role of ministering to those in our West Omaha and Elkhorn area hospitals. Father Sohm, who was once an Associate Pastor at St. Stephen the Martyr, will be primary priest and chaplain at Lakeside and Methodist Women's Hospitals, and will serve the nursing homes and care facilities in the parishes of St. Wenceslaus, St. Stephen the Martyr and St. Patrick in Elkhorn. He will also be able to assist with Masses and confessions in these parishes as needed. His assignment will begin on July 1. Welcome, Father Andy! We are so grateful for your priesthood.



CYSL FALL SOCCER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



- CYSL Soccer is for SSM Parishioners in grades K-8th
- Athletes of all abilities and in multi-sports welcome
- Registration Deadlines: Noon, Friday, July 7th

Note: Micro (Ages 3-6) Registration Opening Soon!



Sports Club

Register & more information at:
stephen.org/sports-club



Sports Club

CROSS COUNTRY REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- Open to all registered St. Stephen parishioners in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th
- Welcome students of all capacities and those participating in other sports
- The registration deadline is Sunday, August 13th
- Fees are \$40 per student and includes new jersey

MORE INFORMATION & REGISTER AT
STEPHEN.ORG/SPORTS-CLUB-CROSS-COUNTRY



ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

MIDDAY WITH MATTHEW

A summer bible study in July diving into the Sunday readings alongside the meditations of Fr. Simeon (Erasmus Leiva-Merikakis)

JULY 8TH, 15TH, 22ND
FROM 11AM TO NOON

For more details and to receive text notifications, scan the QR code or visit stephen.org/young-adults.



Summer Events for Youth

Better Together Tuesdays

You | Us | Him
we're better together

6th - 8th Graders
July 18th & August 8th
from 5:30 - 7 PM
St. Stephen the Martyr Field
Games | Dinner | Time Together

Learn
More



St. Stephen the Martyr
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Encounter, Know, Proclaim

WITNESS WEDNESDAYS *a summer series for high schoolers*

learn how
ordinary men & women
became extraordinary
witnesses
(and how you can be one, too!)

YOU ARE INVITED

JULY 5 | 6-8 PM | ST. WENCESLAUS

witness & conversation

JULY 19 | 7-8 PM | ST. STEPHEN

adoration, praise & worship

stephen.org/youth-ministry

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

FOR THE CONSECRATION OF OUR NATION



JULY 4

AFTER THE 8:15 AM MASS
ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR PARISH

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE



CALL FOR 2023-2024 CORPORATE SPONSORS

LEARN MORE:
SCHOOL.STEPHEN.ORG/CORPORATE-SPONSORS

Become a sponsor for St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic School!

Interested in helping support our school while promoting your business? Become a 2023-24 St. Stephen the Martyr Corporate Sponsor! This year's fundraising efforts will help underwrite the cost of security updates including replacing classroom door handles/locks and upgrading our internal communications system for teachers and staff. Additional funds raised will support our teachers & staff and help aid in equipment needed for our school. The deadline for sponsorships is July 31st. Contact Lori Havens for more information, lorihavens80@gmail.com or visit school.stephen.org/corporate-sponsors.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question: Is the Catholic Mass really celebrated the same throughout the whole world?

Answer: One of the truisms of the Catholic Faith is that "wherever you go in the world, the Mass is the same." In fact, the answer to this question is both "yes" and "no."

On the one hand, the essential elements of the Roman Rite are the same. The structure of the Mass as it is presented in the Roman Missal is consistent and this is one of the beauties of belonging to a liturgical tradition.

On the other hand, however, there are elements of celebrations that can vary depending on the country or even local region you might be in. For example, in certain parts of the world, certain feasts and solemnities are celebrated on different days (even here in the United States the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord can be celebrated on Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter or it may take the place of the Seventh Sunday of Easter, depending on what diocese you are in). Whether it is the use of certain liturgical colors, local celebrations of regional saints, special seasonal blessings of crops or produce, or the use of dance and processions all demonstrate a sort of organic variety that can exist even within our established liturgical tradition.

While we always respect what is essential to the rite, such local variations and traditions are very much in keeping with the vision of liturgical renewal and adaption envisioned by the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (nos. 37-40). ©LPi



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"I know that Elisha is a holy man of God.
Since he visits us often, let us arrange a little room on
the roof
and furnish it for him with a bed, table, chair, and
lamp,
so that when he comes to us he can stay there."
(2 Kgs 4:9-10)

Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

Second Reading:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into
Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?
We were indeed buried with him through baptism
into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life. (Rom 6:3-4)

Gospel:

"Whoever receives you receives me,
and whoever receives me receives the one who sent
me." (Mt 10:40)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of
Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on
English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our relationship with Christ is the ultimate
starting point. The wellspring. Every good quality
in our character, every kind action of our lives,
every devout practice of our day must flow from
this place where we encounter him in our hearts.

Observances for the week of July 2, 2023

Sunday: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Thomas, Apostle
Tuesday: Independence Day
Wednesday: St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth
of Portugal
Thursday: St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
Next Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Join our Parish Family!

Welcome visitors and newcomers! If you would like to register as a
parishioner, please visit stephen.org. Click on "Become a Parishioner" in the
footer of our website.

Contact Adam Ybarra at (402) 861-4507 or a.ybarra@stephen.org with any
questions and to chat about ways we can help you grow closer to Christ!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 1

8:15 am † Thomas Grabowski (DB)
5:00 pm † Diane Ames (ZT)

Sunday, July 2

7:30 am † Donald Schaecher (ZT)
9:00 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)
10:30 am † Orlando Rojas Gutierrez (DB)
6:00 pm † Joseph Bellus (ZT)

Monday, July 3

6:30 am † Tim Zrust (ZT)
8:15 am † JoAnn Spurgin (ZT)

Tuesday, July 4

8:15 am † Norbert Widhalm (ZT)

Wednesday, July 5

6:30 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (ZT)
8:15 am † Dolores Knier (ZT)

Thursday, July 6

6:30 am † Juris Judalena (DB)
8:15 am † Norbert Widhalm (DB)

Friday, July 7

6:30 am SI Terry & Marie Zrust (DB)
8:15 am SI William Harr (ZT)

Saturday, July 8

8:15 am † Jim Muhlbauer (ZT)
5:00 pm † Erin Doll (DB)

Sunday, July 9

7:30 am † All Aborted Babies (ZT)
9:00 am † Bob Menard (ZT)
10:30 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)
6:00 pm † Gerald Fansler (DB)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; ZT = Fr. Zach Tucker;

Please note: Priest schedule subject to change

*If you'd like to reserve a Mass intention, please contact
Melissa in the parish office at m.kane@stephen.org or
402-896-9675.*



Pray For...

Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

Nick Skar, son of A.J. & Kim
Lindsay Austin, sister of Heather and Joe DeMaria
Chuck Skomol, husband of Jane
Mary Azara, mother of Sally Bishop
Barb Armstrong, wife of Mike
Nancy Major Jaeck
Ryan Huebner, son of Marty and Cheryl

Deceased souls of our parish family:

Sheila Curran, mother of Amanda
Judith Wilfing, wife of Carl
Gene Scholz, father of Todd
Diane Pacal, mother of Nicholas & Angela



How can we pray for YOU?

You are not alone! St. Stephen has prayer warriors
who are ready to pray for YOUR intention! God has
given us this incredible gift to intercede on behalf
of others through prayer and thanksgiving! Submit
your prayer request to at stephen.org/prayer-line
or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

News from the Community

REGISTER FOR EPS' BREAKFAST FOR LIFE

Essential Pregnancy Services and the EPS Auxiliary invite you to the 13th Annual Breakfast for Life on Saturday, August 12 at 9:30 AM in the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Center at 14330 Eagle Run Dr. in Omaha.

The event will feature local guest speaker Angelina Giles, APRN, Executive Officer of Sancta Familia Medical Apostolate. Angelina will share how EPS helped her navigate an unexpected pregnancy and inspired a personal desire to serve and support women with life-affirming medical care. Doors open for registration and continental breakfast at 9:00 AM. Registration is \$40. Reserve your seat(s) and learn more about this pro-woman, pro-life event at friendsofeps.org. Registration preferred by Friday, Aug. 4. For questions, contact Maria: 531-239-3138 or mariad@essentialps.org.



CATHOLIC BUSINESS GROUP JULY NETWORKING EVENT

Join us Thursday, July 20th from 4:30 pm - 6:00pm at the JPPI Newman Center-Omaha to learn about a local Catholic Business. Attend & share conversation, create business connections, learn from others about Catholic resources here in Omaha. There is always quality networking, conversation and growing in our Catholic faith. No reservations/cost for this event. Visit cpbcomaha.org for more info. Contact John at yochumja@yahoo.com with any questions.

HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTS AND VOCATIONS WITH FR DAVID KORTH

July 13 at 7 PM Our Lady of Lourdes Church— Pray for priests and vocations before our Eucharistic Lord, receive benediction and hear Fr David's vocation journey. Pope St John Paul II said, *"The world looks to the priest, because it looks to Jesus. No one can see Christ, but everyone sees the priest, and through him, they wish to catch a glimpse of the Lord. Immense is the grandeur of the Lord. Immense is the grandeur and dignity of the priest."* Please join in praying for them at the monthly Holy Hour for Priests and Vocations the second Thursday of each month at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

West Omaha Family of Catholic Parishes

Immaculate Conception

13943 Dowd Drive | Boys Town, Nebraska | (531) 355-1030

Mass Times

Sun: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Daily: 11:40 a.m.

Confession

Tue and Thu: 11 - 11:30 a.m.

St. Stephen the Martyr

16701 S St, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675

Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Confession

Tue: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.; Sat: 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.
or by appointment

St. Vincent de Paul

14330 Eagle Run Dr, Omaha, NE 68164 | (402) 496-7988

Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:45 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11a.m. and 5 p.m.

Confession

Sat: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.; Sun: 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.
anytime by appointment

St. Wenceslaus

15353 Pacific St. Omaha, NE 68154 | (402) 330-0305

Mass Times

Mon - Thu: 6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Fri: 6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m.

Sat: 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sun: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon and 5:30 p.m.

Confession

Mon - Thu: 5 PM until line ends
Sat: 9 AM until line ends; 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM
anytime by appointment

Fathers and Sons - Together Forever A retreat for fathers and their sons, ages 11-16



Come Join Us for our 19th Annual Fathers & Sons Retreat

*Our kids grow up too fast!
As they grow, they learn from their fathers
what it means to be a man.*

The weekend includes talks, prayer,
Reconciliation, Mass, Adoration, Benediction,
game night, water balloon competition, and
more fun activities!

July 8-9, 2023

**Saturday 8:00am
until Sunday noon**

Total Cost: \$187.92 (includes tax)

Includes meals, overnight
stay and materials

Fathers versus sons in dodgeball!



For more information, contact: Ed DeSimone, Retreat Leader, 402-679-1841 (cell),
email FathersandSons@cox.net or visit our website www.FathersAndSonsTogether.org

Themes explored this weekend in light of our Catholic faith are our identity
as father and son, the father-son bond, becoming a man, communicating from the heart,
living our Catholic faith, relating to peers, and
our vocations as a father and a son: our response to God's call.

Comments from past evaluations when asked what they were most grateful for:

Father: "Connecting with my son at a new level"

Son: "The time I spent with my dad"

Father: "The time alone with my son with no distractions"

Son: "Having long talks with my dad everyday."



This weekend is held at the beautiful St. Benedict Center.

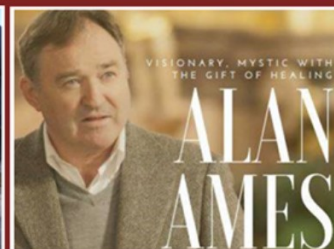
1126 Road I, PO Box 528, Schuyler, NE 68661-0528

TO REGISTER: Go online to www.StBenedictCenter.com,

call 402-352-8819, ext. 360,

or email Retreats@StBenedictCenter.com

International Healing Ministry Presents A Powerful Healing Service



- Life-changing, transformative evening
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- Exposition & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Reconciliation
- Extraordinarily powerful healing service!

July 17 7:00 pm St. James
4720 N 90th St, Omaha

July 19 7:00 pm at St. Pat's
3400 E 16th St., Fremont

July 18, St. Gerald
9602 Q St, Ralston

July 20 7:00 pm St. Mary
811 W 23rd Ave, Bellevue

Each evening includes Mass, talk, & healing service

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