



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

August 18, 2024

## 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 are live-streamed on our Facebook  
page (<https://www.facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha>) and our website.

### Private Prayer

Daily Mass Chapel and Worship Space are open  
6 AM-9 PM Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM-7:30 PM  
Saturday & 6:30 AM-7:30 PM Sunday. Church doors  
are locked during school Mass from 8:20-9:15 AM  
on Tues/Wed/Fri. The Adoration Chapel is available  
24/7 via 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

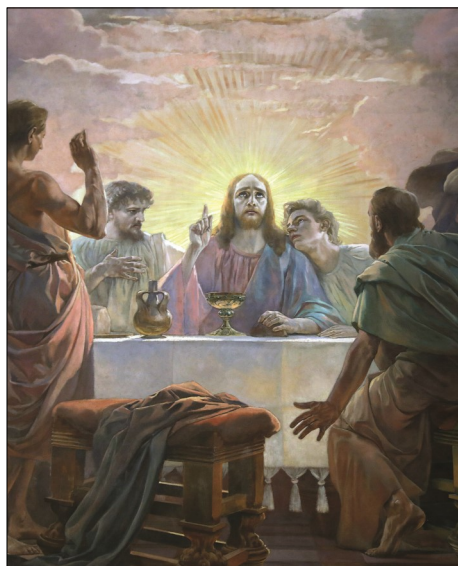
**Pastor:** Fr. David Belt

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Matthew Pohlman

**Staff Contact Info:** [stephen.org/staff](http://stephen.org/staff)

**Bulletin Deadline:** Monday, 5 PM

Submit requests to Leslie at [l.schulte@stephen.org](mailto:l.schulte@stephen.org).



## 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

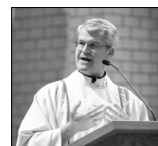
"Whoever eats my flesh and  
drinks my blood remains in me  
and I in him. Just as the living  
Father sent me and I have life  
because of the Father, so also  
the one who feeds on me will  
have life because of me."  
- Jn 6:56-57

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

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## Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

**"Jesus said to them, 'Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.'"**



There are some tribes in Africa that share the custom where two friends make a small cut in the flesh of the other person, just above the heart, to draw blood. The friends then intermingle their blood to symbolize that they are now a part of each other's flesh and blood and will also share in each other's pain.

Jesus Christ has given us the gift of His blood, and through His suffering and death on the cross, He shares our own pain and suffering. Catholic theologian Karl Rahner once wrote, "Jesus gives us His flesh because we do not often know how to come to Him. He is never far away. Jesus becomes touchable and tangible." Isn't it comforting to know that, when we are lost and do not know the way back to Jesus, He comes to find us? When we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus comes to us, and His pain touches our pain. In this moment we are healed, and we are united always and forever by a flesh-and-blood bond that can never be broken.

We taste sacrifice and love in the Eucharist. Just as Jesus gave His flesh for food and blood for drink, this Communion with Christ can transform us to do God's work in the world. Jesus gave His very life for us, and we are sent to do the same for others.

**"If you have received worthily, you are what you have received."**  
—Saint Augustine of Hippo

*In Christ,  
Father Dave*



**Please pray for our young people headed back to school and Religious Education. May God's love shine brightly in your hearts this school year!**

## Prayer for our Students

*Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe.*

*Send your Spirit upon these students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## ENCOUNTER JESUS IN COMMUNITY AT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR

***Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Light!***

Take advantage of the many ways you can come to Encounter Christ at your parish:

- Becoming Catholic! Program with Deacon Scott & Julie Tylski
- Book & Bible Studies (see page 4 for just a few of the many options)
- Small Groups: Beloved Women's Group and Sisters of Faith



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

Scan the QR code  
to learn more!



16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | [stephen.org](http://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](http://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 & Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

### Becoming Catholic! Order of Christian Initiation

Contact Adam Ybarra, Director of Mission, at (402) 861-4507 or [a.ybarra@stephen.org](mailto:a.ybarra@stephen.org).

## Financial Stewardship

### Offertory & Online Giving 8/6-8/12/24:

Actual:	\$43,665
Budget:	\$47,226
FYTD Actual:	\$256,589
FYTD Budget:	\$274,958

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](http://stephen.org/give). Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha, NE 68135.



## Congratulations, Newly Married!

Matthew Alan Geelan and Klaire Hart Phillips

Our faith community wishes you many blessings!

## School News

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

⇒ **We still have room for your student!** We still have space in most classes for the 24-25 school year, including our PreK and Kindergarten classes! Request a tour or apply at [school.stephen.org/admissions](http://school.stephen.org/admissions).

## Religious Education

- ⇒ **Welcome! Religious Education Classes Start This Week:** Please join us in the Worship Space at the beginning of class and sit with your children. After brief introductions and a blessing, parents will be invited to take their children to their classrooms to meet their catechists. Assignment letters were mailed earlier this week. Please call the office at 402-896-5683 if you registered and did not get a letter.
- ⇒ **Why Religious Education?** Our program invites, encourages, and equips children and their families to encounter, know and proclaim Christ! Through Religious Education, we strive to teach a deeper understanding of prayer and worship, as well as make known the love that God offers to all. We offer weekly, catechist-led classes for students in PreK through Grade 8 on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. We also offer a home-school RE program for parent-led faith formation in non-sacrament years. Lastly, we offer additional sacrament preparation for students who missed First Communion and Reconciliation in the second grade. Please reach out to discover how SSM Religious Education can support your family on your journey of faith! Call 402-896-5683 for more information.
- ⇒ **RE Volunteer Opportunities:** We have added a "Catechist Assistant" volunteer role this year for parents/grandparents/high school students who want to be involved in the classroom without the responsibilities of preparing and teaching the curriculum. Many of our classes need this second person to help in the classroom. To learn about this and all our volunteer opportunities visit [stephen.org/re-registration](http://stephen.org/re-registration). Volunteers receive discounted or waived tuition. Please prayerfully consider signing up—we cannot do this without you!

## Youth Ministry

- ⇒ **Witness Wednesdays:** Join us again this week, Wednesday, August 21st from 8—9:30 PM at St. Wenceslaus. We will spend time together learning from powerful witnesses to our faith. Snacks and drinks are provided. For more information, please visit [stephen.org/witness-wednesdays](http://stephen.org/witness-wednesdays).

“  
GOD IS AS REALLY  
PRESENT IN THE  
CONSECRATED HOST  
AS HE IS IN THE GLORY  
OF HEAVEN.  
”

- ST. PASCHAL BAYLON

*“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.” John 6:56*

This line from Scripture is what ultimately separates Catholics from our Protestant brothers and sisters. Jesus is really present in the bread and wine that are consecrated at Holy Mass. It is His actual body and blood that we consume. This is the greatest gift that we can receive. The Eucharist shows us how great of love that Jesus has for each of us.

*#stewardshipreflection*

## MICRO SOCCER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- Micro Soccer is for SSM Parishioners, ages 3-6
- Games will start Sept. 15th and play for 7 weeks, every Sunday at Mission Park
- Register by 5 PM, Friday, August 30th



Register & more information  
at: [stephen.org/sports-club](http://stephen.org/sports-club)  
or scan the QR code.





***"Behold, I stand at the door and knock." - Rev 3:20***

**Are you ready to open the door?**



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## ***Becoming Catholic!***

### **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults**

- Are you seeking full communion with the Catholic Church?
- Are you a baptized Catholic needing First Communion or Confirmation?
- Do you have loved ones falling into any of these descriptions?

The *Becoming Catholic!* Program at St. Stephen the Martyr will help you **deepen** your **relationship** with Jesus Christ through a more intimate knowledge of **His Church** and **Holy Scripture**.



**For more information, scan the QR code or contact Deacon Scott & Julie Tylski at [tylskisj@outlook.com](mailto:tylskisj@outlook.com), 402-850-4501 (Julie) or 402-689-3387 (Dcn. Scott).**

### **Join our Parish Family!**

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

#### **Welcome visitors and newcomers!**

Scan the QR Code if you would like to register as a parishioner. To learn more about ways you can get involved & grow closer to Christ, contact Adam Ybarra at (402) 861-4507 or [a.ybarra@stephen.org](mailto:a.ybarra@stephen.org).





You are invited to

# Gather:

A Dinner Group for  
Widows & Widowers

Join us for our first dinner on  
Sept. 19th at 6 PM at Olive Garden,  
16929 Lakeside Hills Plaza, Omaha

Questions? Contact Colleen,  
St. Stephen Pastoral Care  
Coordinator,  
at (402) 861-4538.

Scan to  
join our  
email  
group!

## Book & Bible Studies

Many Bible/Book Studies are available to our parishioners as a way to encounter, know, and proclaim Christ. Additional opportunities will be announced in the coming weeks! Scan the QR code to see the latest information.



- ⇒ **Seeking Truth Bible Study on Genesis:** Everyone is welcome to join the 2024-2025 season of Seeking Truth Bible Study. This year, we will study the Book of Genesis. The study begins August 27th and meets every Tuesday from 9:15-10:45 AM in the Parish Center. The study has a winter break from December 3rd-January 7th. Questions? Please contact Connie at [ccinnamon47@gmail.com](mailto:ccinnamon47@gmail.com).
- ⇒ **Acts of the Apostles Bible Study with Deacon Marty:** Deacon Marty will be offering study on the Acts of Apostles. The group will meet on Wednesdays starting September 4th from 9:30-11 AM in the Parish Center. The textbooks will be the Bible and the Shepherd's Notes book on "Acts". For more information or to register, email Deacon Marty at [mwarwick3@cox.net](mailto:mwarwick3@cox.net).
- ⇒ **Women's Bible Study on 2nd Saturday Mornings:** Join other women of St. Stephen the Martyr parish once per month as we journey together through "Psalms II Praying With Jesus" by Kevin Perrotta. We will meet on the second Saturday of the month from 9 - 11 AM beginning September 14th. To register and reserve your book, contact Janice Dethlefs 402-651-0153.
- ⇒ **Lectio Divina:** Come and learn the Lectio Divina way to pray! Lectio Divina means "Divine Reading". Our women's group invites you to learn the practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. We meet the First Thursday of each month from 9:15 - 10:30 AM, beginning September 5th in the Parish Center. Questions? Contact Nancy at [wiederholtncancy@hotmail.com](mailto:wiederholtncancy@hotmail.com).
- ⇒ **Friday Faith & Fellowship:** Join us this semester as we study "When You Pray" by Edward Sri and "The Women of Christmas" by Liz Curtis Higgs. We meet Fridays from 9:30 - 11 AM, beginning Sept. 6th in the Parish Center. Questions? Contact Christie at [czhinton@mac.com](mailto:czhinton@mac.com).



Join Council of Catholic Women for our  
First Meeting on September 3rd,  
7-8 PM in the Parish Center

Help us kick off a new season with our new officers, Corene Faltin and Stacia Kennedy, at our Monthly Meeting! All confirmed Catholic women are welcome to attend! Our council members are looking forward to meeting YOU (daughters, granddaughters, grandmothers, aunts, nieces and friends)! By attending a meeting you will discover the blessings and opportunities provided within your parish, community, and internationally. Members say the best parts of meeting are the affirmations and the fellowship. We also host a Bunco Night on the second Thursday monthly, just for fun!

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

**Question:** I've heard that gratitude is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. What does that mean?

**Answer:** In St. Paul's letter to the Galatians, he talks about the "fruits of the Holy Spirit." He is referencing an idea that Jesus talks about frequently in the Gospels. "By their fruits you will know them" (Matthew 7:16). He uses the example of a plant. If the plant is healthy, it will bear good fruit. If the plant is unhealthy, it will bear rotten fruit or none at all. Jesus echoes this idea at the Last Supper, when he says that if we remain close to him we will "bear much fruit" (John 15:8). If we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives, we will bear the fruits of the Spirit!

Technically, gratitude is not one of the fruits St. Paul lists. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). But doesn't that sound like the response of a grateful heart? When we're grateful, we experience a sense of joy and peace that makes it easier to love. We can be kind, patient, generous, and gentle with others rather than possessive or competitive. When we're grateful, we don't need to grasp at what we don't have. We practice self-control. Gratitude helps us to be faithful, knowing God will always be with us. Sounds like good fruit to me! ©LPi

## ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



Join us in the quiet to worship Jesus  
in the Blessed Sacrament.

**Mondays | 7 PM | Worship Space**

Please join us in the Adoration Chapel  
24/7. The code for access is 9675\*.

## Brain Health: A Discussion about Alzheimer's and Dementia

**Presented by Rosalyn Trumm**  
**Hosted by Respect Life Committee**  
August 25<sup>th</sup> | 3 PM | Parish Center

You're invited to come learn from Rosalyn Trumm and her husband, who have been on a 7 year journey learning how to live with Alzheimer's and Dementia. She will share her personal experiences of being a caretaker for her husband who lives with this awful disease along with research and help available to others. Because of lessons learned and lifestyle changes made and implemented, her husband more independent and functional.



## Weekly Prayer

### Sunday's Readings

#### First Reading:

"Come, eat of my food,  
and drink of the wine I have mixed!" (Prv 9:5)

#### Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

#### Second Reading:

Therefore, do not continue in ignorance,  
but try to understand what is the will of the Lord.  
(Eph 5:17)

#### Gospel:

"For my flesh is true food,  
and my blood is true drink." (Jn 6:55)

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### Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus warns us that unless we eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, we do not have life within us. The Eucharist is the wellspring of our Christian life, in every place and in every moment. Let us always remember that where there is no Eucharist, there is no life.

### Observances for the week of August 18, 2024

- Sunday:** 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Monday:** St. John Eudes, Priest  
**Tuesday:** St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
**Wednesday:** St. Pius X, Pope  
**Thursday:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Friday :** St. Rose of Lima, Virgin  
**Saturday:** St. Bartholomew, Apostle  
**Next Sunday:** 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



#### 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](mailto:stephen.org/prayer-line) or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, August 17

- 8:15 am † Bob & Sue Mathine (MP)  
5:00 pm † Erin Doll (DB)

#### Sunday, August 18

- 7:30 am † Lewis Storm (DB)  
9:00 am SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)  
10:30 am SI Bob & Eva Cockson (MP)  
6:00 pm † Jerry Goldsberry (MP)

#### Monday, August 19

- 6:30 am † Daniel Higgins (MP)  
8:15 am † Patty Greving (MP)

#### Tuesday, August 20

- 6:30 am † Daniel Higgins (DB)  
8:15 am † Patricia Whipple (MP)

#### Wednesday, August 21

- 6:30 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (DB)  
8:15 am † Leonard Kruse (MP)

#### Thursday, August 22

- 6:30 am † Napoleon Ramiro (DB)  
8:15 am † Lorraine Schlautman (DB)

#### Friday, August 23

- 6:30 am † Jeanette Peterson (DB)  
8:15 am † Patrick Gottsch (MP)

#### Saturday, August 24

- 8:15 am † Joel Zounda Sitti &  
Alice Kokovi Atayi (MP)  
5:00 pm † Michael Strehle (DH)

#### Sunday, August 25

- 7:30 am SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)  
9:00 am † Patricia Fields (DB)  
10:30 am † Cathy Greise (MP)  
6:00 pm † Margaret Klein (MP)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; MP = Fr. Matthew Pohlman;  
DH = Fr. Denny Hanneman

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](mailto:m.kane@stephen.org).



## Pray For...

#### *Please pray for the deceased:*

**Leann Keller**, sister of Seri Letak

#### *Pray for those who are sick/injured/healing:*

**Larry Comer**, husband of Janie  
**Matt Kelly**, son of Billie Watsabaugh  
**Larry Boettcher**, husband of Judith  
**Rod Heng**, husband of Carol  
**Marie Stibbs**  
**Richard Bloom**  
**Betty Brinster**, wife of Jerry  
**Nick Skar**, son of A.J. & Kim  
**Max Rocha**, husband of Kelly, father of Jayden, KK, Trinity and Xander  
**Molly Felker**, daughter of Mike and Stacy  
**Michael Bazant**, husband of Patricia  
**Yvonne Kamphaus**, wife of Mike  
**Ryan Huebner**, son of Cheryl & Marty



**Join us for Cards & Games Thursdays**  
Join members of our parish who are 55+ for events throughout the year!

Stop by and see what's happening on Cards and Games Thursdays on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at 1PM in the Parish Center. Meet some new friends and have a fun afternoon. You will feel welcomed! Bring a friend and a snack to share! Questions? Email us at [stephens.primetimers@gmail.com](mailto:stephens.primetimers@gmail.com).



## Annual Golf Outing September 15 at 2 PM Tiburon Golf Club

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a 9-hole scramble golf event at Tiburon Golf Club on Sunday, September 15th beginning at 2 PM.

- Sign up as a single, double, three or foursome
- Registration fee is \$50: includes a cart, golf, and appetizers
- Afternoon will include Tee Box Events, Raffle and Auction Items
- Proceeds will benefit a Veteran "Stand Down" event, Wreaths Across America, Holy Family Ranch, and St Jude Marathon.
- If you are interested in supporting the event or have questions Steve Cinnamon at 402-669-3441.



**Register after Masses on  
Sundays from August 3rd-18th**

### Community News

**OMAHA COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN CONVENTION:** The 100th Convention of the Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) will be held on Monday, September 16, 2024 at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 2301 W. Madison Avenue, Norfolk, NE. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with a light breakfast, Rosary at 8:00, opening session at 9:00. Mass with Archbishop Lucas at 11:00, Noon Lunch, 1:00-4:00 p.m. afternoon session with our special guest speakers Nebraska Catholic Conference: Amanda and Scarlett Radke, Mitchell, SD. Their talk: "Your Will, Not Mine". For their full bio review, refer to the [oacccw.org](http://oacccw.org) website. For planning purposes, pre-register by September 2nd. Registration form and \$25 registration fee are mailed to Deb Warren, POB 324, Elgin, NE 68636. Forms available online at [oacccw.org](http://oacccw.org) or through your local parish office. Checks are payable to RC Deanery CCW.

**OPENING ON PRAGUE & DANUBE RIVER CRUISE WITH FR. DAVE AVAILABLE:** One person who purchased a ticket to Prague & Danube River Cruise with Father Dave on Oct. 15-26, 2024 is now unable to attend. There is now an opening for one or two people for this incredible travel opportunity with Magi Travel! The individual or couple would take over the trip reservation for a double room on the river boat. For more info, please contact Jo Marsicek 402-981-1254 or [marsicekj@aol.com](mailto:marsicekj@aol.com).

**GENERATIONAL HEALING MASS ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 23RD:** All are welcome for a Healing Mass with His Global Love Prayer Communities 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. Questions contact Frances Mignon at 402-515-8000.

### 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., 11 a.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

## Golf Fore IPF

September 9, 2024

Miracle Hill Golf Course  
Omaha, Nebraska

Use the QR Code  
to Register!



12:00 p.m. Shotgun Start; Dinner to follow at the 19th Hole  
(the IPF Office at 11626 Nicholas Street)

Questions? Call Dawn Sledge at 531-272-8498 or send her an email at [dsledge@priestlyformation.org](mailto:dsledge@priestlyformation.org).





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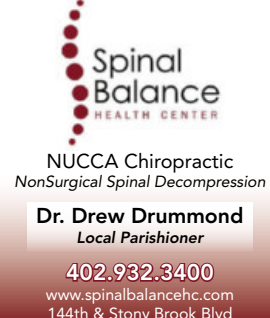
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