



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

October 6, 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

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM

Submit requests to Rachel at r.cooley@stephen.org.



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

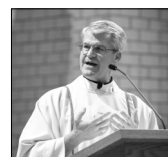
He said to them in reply,
"What did Moses command you?"
They replied, "Moses permitted a
husband to write a bill of divorce
and dismiss her." But Jesus told
them, "Because of the hardness
of your hearts he wrote you this
commandment. But from the
beginning of creation, God
made them male and female."
- Mk 10:3-6

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

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Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

When he brought her to the man, the man said: "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken." That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one flesh.

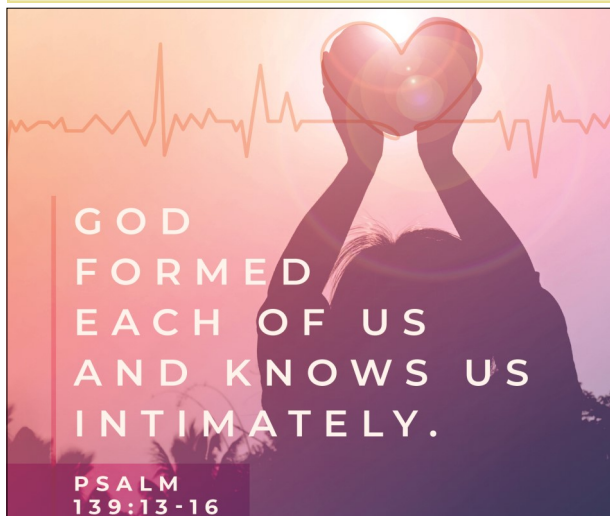


Our readings this weekend remind us of the permanence of Marriage. We hear from the Book of Genesis, which teaches that man and woman are suitable partners for each other, and that woman is a part of the man's flesh and bones. When a man and woman are joined in the Sacrament of Marriage, they make a commitment to live as one person. The way that they live, the way that they communicate and make decisions must build their relationship into a stronger union.

Today we give thanks that God has called people among us to live the vocation of Marriage. It is through their love, through their fidelity in good times and in bad, and through their welcoming of children into their home that we learn about the love, faithfulness, and life-giving power of God.

"To love someone deeply gives you strength. Being loved by someone deeply gives you courage." - Lao Tzu

*In Christ,
Father Dave*



Respect Life Sunday

Respect Life Sunday, observed each year on the first Sunday in October, is a day to observe our responsibility as Catholics to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. *Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!*



Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

Charlotte Rae Hauptman, daughter of Richard and Emily
Vivian Elizabeth Cannatella, daughter of Jeffrey and Natalie
Timus Benjamin Chung, son of SikTat and Sara
Kevin Michael Silva, son of Jordan and Chelsea
Claire Marie Harper, daughter of Blake and Abbie



Congratulations, Newly Married!

Samuel Kennedy and Marti Brohman
Our faith community wishes you many blessings!

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 & 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.

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 9/24-9/30, 2024:

Actual:	\$61,565
Budget:	\$46,558
FYTD Actual:	\$628,047
FYTD Budget:	\$602,681

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.



School News

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

- ⇒ **Martyr Marathon Thank You:** Martyr Marathon was a huge success thanks to our generous families, corporate sponsors and volunteers. Our students had a wonderful time celebrating St. Stephen the Martyr!
- ⇒ **Fall Family Frolic:** Join us at Vala's Pumpkin Patch on Monday, October 14th from 11 – 4 PM for our annual Fall Family Frolic, hosted by our Home & School Association. Your family is responsible for admission at the door, no advanced ticket purchase is required. We have the Jack O' Lantern Party Barn reserved for a SSM meet-up space and we'll provide s'mores from 1 – 3 PM! Wear your SSM spirit or Martyr Marathon shirt, grab your friends and join us for lots of St. Stephen family fun!
- ⇒ **Volunteer in the School Library:** Are you looking for a fun way to volunteer? Mrs. Tessari is looking for volunteers to help in the library with check-out times in grades K-2 and a few volunteers to shelf books. Kids love seeing their parents or grandparents volunteering in the school! You must be Safe Environment trained to volunteer in the library. Use the QR Code to sign up.



Religious Education

- ⇒ **Family Mass This Week:** All parents are asked to join their child for Rel. Ed. Family Mass at 5:30 PM on October 8th or 9th. This will replace the regular scheduled classes in the classrooms. You may attend Mass on either night, it does not need to be the night the students regularly attend class. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!
- ⇒ **Cookie Dough Fundraiser:** Our annual fundraiser runs through October 16th. Please help support our fundraiser by purchasing frozen cookie dough from a Religious Education student or by using the QR code. The Cookie Company-Westroads frozen cookie dough will sell for \$18/tub. We will also have the frozen cookie dough on hand to sell at the Knights of Columbus Breakfast on October 6th. We are at 300 tubs and would love to top 500! Thank you for your support!
- ⇒ **RE Office Volunteer Needed:** We need an office volunteer during the 4 PM classes on Wednesdays! Tuition discount applies. Please contact our office at 402-896-5683 for more information.



Youth Ministry

- ⇒ **Witness Wednesdays for Highschoolers:** Join us on Oct. 9th for a special guest speaker! Fr. Padraic Stack will present "Spiritual Warfare: Bringing Christ into Spooky Season" in the Parish Center from 8-9:30 PM. All 9-12th graders are welcome to join us every Wednesday. Snacks and drinks are provided. View our updated October schedule stephen.org/witness-wednesdays.



"So out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name." Genesis 2:19
The creation story reminds us of two important points. First, since the start, God has put the entire world into our care. Second, stewardship has been around since the beginning of mankind, it isn't something recently invented by the Church. Just as past generations built our Church, it is now our responsibility to continue to nurture and develop these gifts for future generations.

#stewardshipreflection

Religious Education Family Mass

October 8th or 9th
5:30 PM

Pizza & Potluck* Reception
Following Mass in Dining Room

**Potluck items may be dropped
off in the Dining Room before Mass*



Sign up using the QR code for the potluck or to be an altar server, greeter, or reader at Mass.





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

2024 PARISH RETREAT

Unfolding the Journey

December 6th & 7th

Friday: 6-10 PM | Saturday: 8 AM-3:30 PM

All adult parishioners – men and women – are invited to
join us to meet Jesus in community and learn more about our faith.



Registration Now Open!

stephen.org/parish-retreat
Questions: a.ybarra@stephen.org

Scout Achieves Eagle with Project Completed at St. Stephen the Martyr

A young parishioner, Cale Peterson, recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Cale's Eagle Project benefitted the St. Stephen the Martyr parish grounds. The chiller area outside of the school kitchen cafeteria was an area of gravel and dirt with overgrown weeds. In late April, Cale and scouts from Troop 366 removed the gravel and dirt and transported to the storm drain located south of the GPC to fill in the big hole near the storm drain. A month later he oversaw the laying of the concrete by Stovie Construction. Cale raised money for his project and gave it to the parish to help pay for the concrete.



Thank you to Cale, his parents Jason and Anne Peterson, to Troop 366 and Stovie Construction for improving the the St. Stephen the Martyr parish grounds.

Congratulations to Cale for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout!



CCW
Council of Catholic Women

Join us for Social Night on October 17th

Want to learn about cookie decorating with royal icing and enjoy the company of your fellow Catholic women? **Join us Thursday, October 17th from 7-9 PM in the Parish Center for CCW Social Night!** We will host a beginners cookie course to make a beautiful Fall-themed cookie set. You will walk away with recipes, knowledge, and four decorated cookies made by YOU!

Class fee is \$20, all supplies provided. RSVP required before October 10th to Stacia Kennedy at staciakennedy@yahoo.com or Corene Faltin at rcfaltin@cox.net.

SEEK 2025 Scholarships Available

The Council of Catholic Women will be offering four \$450 scholarships for college students to attend the SEEK Conference this year in Salt Lake City. These scholarships are available to any college-age St. Stephen the Martyr parishioners. For more information on the conference, visit seek.focus.org. Please contact Stacia Kennedy 402-651-3776 for more information or to apply. Application deadline is Nov. 5th.



ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR

TRUNK OR TREAT

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF HALLOWEEN FUN!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
5:30-7:30PM
SOUTH PARKING LOT

\$100 BEST TRUNK PRIZE
THE CHEESE LIFE FOOD TRUCK • DJ • DANCING

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
SSM HOME & SCHOOL PARISH OUTREACH
SSM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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 a.ybarra@stephen.org.



October is Respect Life Month

Oct. 7th: Respect Life Holy Hour

Join us for Adoration from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space to pray for a greater respect for life from conception to death.

Oct. 22-30: Respect Life Novena

Pray for the protection of human life from conception to natural death with Catholics across the country. Each day of the novena features a different pro-life prayer intention, accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Scan the QR Code to pray this novena.



"O Jesus, you came that we might have life and have it in abundance."



St. Stephen the Martyr
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For more details on all Respect Life Month activities, visit stephen.org/respect-life.

Vote for Life this November

This November, two initiatives will appear on the ballot in the State of Nebraska regarding life issues. Initiative Measure 439 would make abortion a right, erasing decades of laws protecting mothers and children in the womb. **The pro-life alternative proposal will appear as Initiative Measure 434.** It would constitutionally protect babies in the womb during the second and third trimesters and allow the Legislature to pass laws to further protect infants during the first trimester. It has been reviewed by the three Bishops of Nebraska and by authorities in Rome who have deemed it morally permissible. Visit archomaha.org for more information.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS.

Initiative Measure 434	Initiative Measure 439
<p>Except when a woman seeks an abortion necessitated by a medical emergency or when the pregnancy results from sexual assault or incest, unborn children shall be protected from abortion in the second and third trimester.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against </p>	<p>All persons shall have a fundamental right to abortion until fetal viability, or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient, without interference from the state or its political subdivisions. Fetal viability means the point in pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the patient's treating health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against </p>

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: I read in the catechism that marriage is indissoluble. Why then does the Church issue annulments?

Answer: Sacramental marriage is indeed indissoluble. You can find this in several places in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Indissolubility is foundational to the union of marriage (CCC 1646) and required by spousal love (CCC 1644). This quality of marriage draws its meaning from the fidelity of Jesus to his Bride, the Church (CCC 1647). Spouses give themselves forever to each other. Through the vows and their consummation, the spouses form a covenantal bond that binds them as one. Indissolubility presumes and depends on this sacramental bond between the spouses.

Sometimes, however, there are impediments to marriage that are overlooked, poorly understood, or unknown. It is possible that at the time of the vows, something was either present or absent that made the consent invalid. The ceremony itself does not bring about the sacrament. The priest is the official witness of the Church, but he is not the minister of the sacrament. The husband and wife are the ministers of the sacrament to each other. Without the full, free, and able consent of the man and the woman, no sacrament takes place. An annulment does not destroy the marriage bond. It is an acknowledgement that the sacramental bond did not form in the first place. ©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*.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Oct. 9th | 9:15 AM

Gather, pray and make Prayer Shawls/ Blankets to be given to persons experiencing crisis in their life. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month from 9:15 to 11 AM in the Parish Center.

Questions? Contact: Kathy Stodola at (402) 981-1592. If you would like to help but can't knit, tie or crochet—this group is seeking donations of yarn, fleece, or gift cards from JoAnn Fabric or Hobby Lobby.

Donations can be dropped off to Colleen in the Parish Center.



Join us for Upcoming Events!

- ⇒ **Celebrate Oktoberfest** with the Primetimers! Join us at Local Beer Patio & Kitchen (135th and Millard Ave.) on Thursday, October 17th at 3 PM. Please RSVP by text to Peg at 402-880-8224 by Monday, October 14th.
- ⇒ **All Souls Mass for Primetimers:** Join us at Mass for all PrimeTimers—past and present—on Wednesday, November 6th. Join us for Mass at 8:15 AM followed by coffee and donuts in the Parish Center. Father Matthew will be our guest speaker!
- ⇒ **Cards and Games Thursdays:** Join us 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.



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

That is why a man leaves his father and mother
and clings to his wife,
and the two of them become one flesh. (Gn 2:24)

Psalm:

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives. (Ps 128)

Second Reading:

He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated
all have one origin. (Heb 9:11)

Gospel:

"Therefore what God has joined together,
no human being must separate." (Mk 10:9)

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

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

To follow Jesus, we must cast off all illusions of importance and wisdom. We must embrace our own smallness, rejoice in our own weakness. In doing that, we become like true children, and discover the saving strength of our God.

Observances for the week of October 6, 2024

Sunday: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Our Lady of the Rosary

Wednesday: St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs;
St. John Leonardi, Priest

Friday: St. John XXIII, Pope

Next Sunday: 28th 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 or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 5

8:15 am † Dean Rempe (DB)
5:00 pm † Rich McCormick (MP)

Sunday, October 6

7:30 am † Mary Ann Drelicharz (MP)
9:00 am SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)
10:30 am † Gerald Moseke (DB)
6:00 pm † Marian Brinks (DH)

Monday, October 7

6:30 am † Allan & Hannah Perdue (MP)
8:15 am SI The Stessman Family (MP)

Tuesday, October 8

6:30 am SI Carley, Keith & Zoe, Maisie Spargo (DB)
8:15 am † Deceased Members of the Schumacher Family (MP)

Wednesday, October 9

6:30 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr (DB)
8:15 am SI Steve & Connie Cinnamon (MP)

Thursday, October 10

6:30 am † Robert O'Donnell (DB)
8:15 am † Jane Schuyler (DB)

Friday, October 11

6:30 am † William Hosier (DB)
8:15 am † Zach Fochek (DB)

Saturday, October 12

8:15 am SI James Gninefou & Adaku Esther Gninefou (MP)
5:00 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)

Sunday, October 13

7:30 am † Jim Brazda (DB)
9:00 am † Rich Johns (MP)
10:30 am † Bob Menard (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.



Pray For...

Pray for deceased souls of our parish:

Gloria Urbina, wife of Victor, mother of Kateryn
Marilyn Stenger, mother of Debra
Richard Dethlefs, brother of Deacon Denny and Janice Dethlefs

Pray for those who are sick/injured/healing:

Matt Kelly, son of Billie Watsabaugh
Christopher Widseth, husband of Kimberly
Betty Pfeiffer, mother of Cheri Johnson
Larry Comer, husband of Janie
Larry Boettcher, husband of Judith
Rod Heng, husband of Carol
Betty Brinster, wife of Jerry
Nick Skar, son of A.J. & Kim
Molly Felker, daughter of Mike and Stacy
Michael Bazant, husband of Patricia
Ryan Huebner, son of Cheryl and Marty

Community News

MASS TO PRAY FOR THE CANONIZATION OF FR. MICHAEL J. MCGIVNY: Join area Knights of Columbus Councils on October 12 at 5 PM at Christ the King Church for a special Mass to pray for the canonization of the Venerable Servant of God Fr. Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. Special prayer card for canonization provided! Refreshments will be served following Mass. For more information, contact Jack at 402-812-2552.

CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE ETHICS CONFERENCE: Health care professionals are invited to the first annual Converging Roads Health Care Ethics Conference on October 19th from 8 AM - 5:45 PM at Creighton University. Presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation, the Archdiocese of Omaha, The Fr. Edward J. Flanagan Guild, and Creighton University. For more info, please visit convergingroads.com or email alexandra@forlifeandfamily.org.

GENERATIONAL HEALING MASS: His Global Love Prayer Communities invite you to a Generational Healing Mass on Friday, October 11th at Mary Our Queen Catholic Church. Rosary and praise & worship at 6:15 PM. Mass at 7:00 PM Fr. Kevin Joyce from His Global Love Ministry will be presiding. Contact Frances 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) 330-0304

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

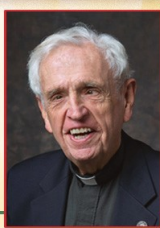
Sat: 9 AM until line ends; 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

anytime by appointment

Omaha Ignatian Volunteer Corps Evening of Gratitude



Presenting the
**Madonna Della Strada
Award to honor
Fr. Larry Gillick, SJ and
Fr. Gregory Carlson, SJ**



Fr. L. Gillick, SJ

Fr. G. Carlson, SJ



**Sunday, October 20, 2024
4:00 - 6:00 PM CT**

**Creighton Preparatory High School
7400 Western Avenue, Omaha, NE 68114**

**Registration Now Open:
ivcusa.org/Omaha2024**

**Questions? Email Joanne Fisher at
jfisher@ivcusa.org**



Serra Club of West Omaha invites you to ADOPT-A-PRIEST

Participate in our Adopt-a-Priest prayer ministry to offer prayers, sacrifices, and spiritual support for our Catholic priests in the Archdiocese of Omaha! All are invited to sign-up and engage in this important prayer ministry to help pastors fulfill their priestly office and to support them in their lives of daily sacrifice.

*"There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as
there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist."*

- Letter of the Holy Father Pope John Paul II TO PRIESTS for Holy Thursday, 2004



**Serra Club
of West Omaha**

**Learn more and
sign up here!**



Are you looking for a way to help
the priests at your parish?

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Women of the Archdiocese of Omaha (and surrounding dioceses) are invited to join Janette Howe and other Seven Sisters for a night of fellowship as they share about the mission of their apostolate. A meal will be provided.



**St. Bonaventure Parish Center
1565 18th Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601**



6:30-8:30 pm | Thursday October 10, 2024



**For any questions please email Katie at
sevensistersomaha@gmail.com**



**Janette Howe
Founder**

**Scan
here to
RSVP**



*"In strengthening the priest you strengthen the whole Church."
— Fr. Gerald Fitzgerald, S.P.*

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Susan & Michael Leahy - Parishioners

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