

ern Nebraska, we offer the ideal atmosphere for a peaceful & fruitful time of recollection & deep prayer. Just as Jesus instructs His disciples to escape the noise of the world & "come away to a deserted place & rest

The Power of a Praying Mother

April 17 - 19

April 25

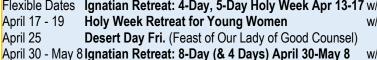
May 9-10



return to your daily life refreshed & spiritually strengthened. If you have any questions/ to register: https://goodcounselretreat.org/. Phone: 402-786-2705. Email: office@olgcretreat.org. 7303 N. 112th Street, Waverawhile," (Mk. 6:31) so, too, does He invite you to retreat in a ly NE 68462. See below to find the best option for you!

Flexible Dates Ignatian Retreat: 4-Day, 5-Day Holy Week Apr 13-17 w/ Fr. Gary Coulter & Matt Simmons Holy Week Retreat for Young Women w/ Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln Desert Day Fri. (Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel)

> w/ Fr. Gary Coulter & Fr. Christopher Barak Women at the Well Apostolate



### I DO BELIEVE, HELP MY UNBELIEF.

We waver between belief & unbelief. When all is right with our life, belief is so easy. When difficulties surround us, unbelief crowds into our soul. Then the questions come: 'Why didn't you answer me? How could you let this happen? If you love me, you would help me.'

This last plea is not a question, but a demand. 'Prove to me that you really love me! I don't want what you want, but what I want!' Which translates into 'I know better what's good for me than you do'. This is unbelief fully taking hold of us. If all of this is addressed to another person in our relationships, we can certainly, in a human way, understand the questions & demands; but consider the implications if you are talking to God! Do these thoughts enter our heads even then?

Look to the Passion of Jesus & His questions & demands of His Father. As God, he knew the physical suffering ahead of Him, & the overwhelming pain of the mental agony He would experience in His acceptance, in the place of all humanity, 'to become sin, even though He was sinless'. His humanity spoke to His Father: "Abba, Father, all things are possible to Thee. Remove this cup from Me...' *My* Father if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it....; *My* God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 26:39,42,46)

It seems, on appearance, that Jesus had the same inclinations as we do, to question what was happening to Him, & to want to know why, as if the answers made any difference in what He might experience; but He fully knew that as the Son of God, He was born onto this earth to die for all those encumbered with sin in a sinful world, offering Himself as sacrifice to save us for His Father. He also knew what humans might do in similar situations, expecting the great pardon & a change of outcome to our sufferings....because we prayed for it.

Look again to Matthew 26. These quotes, in full this time, exempli-

## Make your reservations for the JUBILEE OF TEENAGERS: April 25-27, 2025

MAGNIFICAT SPRING PRAYER In anticipation of the Jubilee of Teenagers, set within a year-MEAL- Sat., 4/26, 9:30 am at Dawson long celebration of hope, we remember the words of St. Hall, John XXIII Center, 3700 Sheridan Pope John Paul II in his message to young people for the 12<sup>th</sup> World Youth Day:

Blvd, Linc. Guest speaker Anna Sullivan. From a small town in central Nebraska, Anna was Baptized & Confirmed in the Catholic Church, but left when she was 10 years old going with her maternal grandmother to the Presbyterian Church. When she was a Freshman at UNL Anna attended a non-denominational church with a popular youth program & committed her life to the Lord. She was baptized in the Holy Spirit, but the Lord had more for her. Come hear Anna's inspiring testimony of her journey back to Christ's Holy Catholic Church. Invite other women to join you in Catholic link: https://www.osvhub.com/ sullian. \$22 for adults. Students \$15. leave a message. (Dawson Hall is som." handicap accessible through the east doors of the Chapel.)

We are living in an era of great changes: the rapid decline of ideologies that seemed to promise a long resistance to the wear and tear of time; the tracing out on the planet of new confines and frontiers. Humanity often finds itself uncertain, bewildered and anxious (cf. Mt 9:36). But the word of God knows no decline; throughout history and among changing events, it You are not alone. We invite you to An Evening for the Separated

remains firm and gives light (cf. Mt 24:35). The faith of the Church is founded on Jesus Christ, the one Savior of the world, yesterday and today and forever (cf. Heb 13:8). It gives Christ as reference for an answer to the questions rising up from the human heart in the face of the mystery of life and death. Only from Christ, indeed, can there be answers that do not

deceive nor disappoint. Do not be afraid! Read more ...

https://www.usccb.org/resources/jubilee-teenagers-usccb-resource-packetenglish#:~:text=The%20Jubilee%20of%20Teenagers%20will%20be%20held% 20from,packet%20is%20for%20anyone%20who%20finds%20it%20beneficial.

#### **CHRIST THE KING PRAYER**

Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, to you we turn in humble fellowship. Register at the following prayer. Look with favor upon all young adults, bearers of hope for the Church and the world.

Jesus Christ, companion of young adults, bless the paths of magnificatmorningstarchapter/forms/ discovery and discernment, through times of joy and experiences of april-prayer-meal-featuring-anna-hardship, with the constant love and support of your Church. Jesus Christ, alive in the hearts of all your people, grant that we Deadline is 4/19. For more info text may "journey together, young and old... to nourish our enthusiasm, Rhonda L. at 402.525.6396 or call & cause dreams to emerge, awaken prophesies and enable hope to blos-

> Jesus Christ, Redeemer of all humankind, open our hearts to encounter all young adults, to accompany and be in community together, and as one Church, embark upon our holy mission. Amen.

**Thank you, Lord**, for the **moisture** you have given us & for **protection from storm damage**. Please grant us the moisture we need & safety from storms. We trust you Lord that you are all good & all powerful & that you know what is best for us. All glory to you. Amen.

fy the fine line between belief & unbelief, trust & uncertainty, faith & doubt; and what our Lord Jesus Christ did in showing us obedience & trust in the loving Father of us all: "Abba, Father, all things are possible to Thee. Remove this cup from me; yet, not what I will, but what Thou willest." "My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it, Thy will be done." "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" Jesus, not questioning, but calling out the words prophesying His suffering from Psalm 22 of the Old Testament.

A simple statement from Mark 9:24, shows the contrariness of our desires: "I do believe, help my unbelief! "...the believer is choked by the salt water of doubt constantly washed into his mouth by the ocean of uncertainty....It is the basic pattern of man's destiny, only to be allowed to find the finality of his existence, in this unceasing rivalry between doubt & belief, temptation & certainty." (Pope Benedict XVI)

**PRAYER BEFORE A CRUCIFIX** Look down upon me, good & gentle Jesus, While before your face I humbly kneel; And with burning soul, pray & beseech thee, To fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, & charity;

True contrition for my sins, & a firm purpose of amendment. While I contemplate, with great love & tender pity, Thy five most precious wounds, pondering over them within me, And calling to mind the words which David Thy prophet said of Thee, My Jesus,

"They have pierced my hands & my feet, they have numbered all my bones.' Amen

> Love in the Spirit. Holy Triduum week. Diana -Parish Eucharistic Revival Point Person



 Carolyn Klika, Catholic Divorce Healing Coach, Abounding Joy Ministry
Coping with anger, guilt, shame, loneliness, fear, identity & more · Bob Babecka, Witness to Marriage

Topics Include:

Healing spiritually & emotionally

**REGISTER TODAY** Sign up at: www.aboundingjoyministry.com/events ve the Zoom link or access recording after

For questions, contact Carolyn@AboundingJoyMinistry.com Co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Witness to Marriage & Abounding Joy Ministry

Living Way of the Cross, Good Friday, 4/18, 5-6 pm at Cathedral of the Risen Christ is in its 5th year . Begin on the Southeast corner at 5 pm, 5:15, 5:30, & 5:45. Begun as an outdoor observance of Good Friday when church liturgies were suspended, it is a very moving portrayal of the betrayal, condemnation, crucifixion, & burial of Jesus. Please join us for a memorable Good Friday tradition! Questions, contact Emilyvilla1999@gmail.com.

**HEALING HEARTS:** A 6-week session helping **Catholics** navigate thru the grieving process after experiencing the loss of a loved one will be held Apr. 22 thru May 27. Sessions led by Sandy Danek & family therapist Holly Burns, who both have many years' experience assisting individuals. Contact the Office of Family Life to register at 402-473-0620. (Sugg. \$25 donation covers materials costs.)

# **AROUND OUR PARISH**

PARISH WEEKLY ACTIVITIES: <u>https://stjamescortland.com/</u>								
Tuesday	Apr	15	7:30 pm	Young Adult Bible Study (Call Renae at 402-419-4491)	Parish Hall			
Wednesday	Apr	16	7:00pm	Knights of Columbus Mtg—Rosary at 7pm; meeting at 7:30pm	Parish Hall			
Friday	Apr	18	8:00 pm	AA—Hall Reserved	Parish Hall			
Saturday	Apr	19	6:30 am	That Man is You	Parish Hall			
Each week, we choose what will be done w/the 168 hours we have available to us. Good stewardship of time means								

we will share some of that time w/God in prayer, praise & thanksgiving, & some time caring for the needs of others.

AUDIO MEDITATION ON THE PASSION OF CHRIST on Good Friday at Noon in St. James Church. Confessions will be available.

**CONFESSIONAL RENOVATION** is completed except for a threshold & sweep. You can remain anonymous kneeling as in the past. You can sit by the new screen & go face to face. You can also move the chair towards the kneeler & confess anonymously. **Come trust God who is Mercy**.

<u>ACOLYTES, ALTAR SERVERS, FOR HOLY WEEK</u> & <u>EASTER</u>- sign up in the vestibule of the Church for Holy Week. Thank you to those who have.

**EASTER LILY DONATION** envelopes are at the back of the church. \$10 donation to help decorate our church for Easter. You may indicate 'In honor of" or "In memory of" someone.

**<u>REMINDER</u>**– All ladies of the parish are members of our *PCCW*. Please give \$10 if you haven't . The money goes to pay for a variety of expenses for the church & our CCD students. Thanks!

Young Adult BIBLE Study: Tue. evenings. For location call Renae M. (402) 419-4491.

**EASTER MEAL BASKETS:** Thank you to the parishioners who signed up to provide 10 baskets this year for needy families thru the *Shepherd of the Hills Church Food Pantry*. Drop off baskets at *SOTH* on Sat., 4/19, from 8a to Noon.

<u>KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICA-</u> <u>TIONS</u> are due to Mike Mitchell by 4/15.

**PCCW Scholarships applications** are being reviewed. Thank you to those who applied.!

**<u>THANK YOU</u>** to all who helped support the PCCW Scholarship Breakfast.

<u>THANK YOU</u> to all who helped clean our church for Easter.

<u>THANK YOU</u> to all who made the Pilgrimage to St. Anthony Catholic Church in Steinauer, NE for the Jubilee of Hope 2025 last Sunday.

The **Passover type meal** in *St. James Parish Hall* is cancelled.

## God is good! All the time! Holy is His name!

<u>ST. JAMES BUILDING EXPANSION PLANNING</u>-Check out the posters on the wall in the *Parish Hall* summarizing **ideas** submitted & **prioritized** by parishioners with stickers.

**DONATE FOR ST. JAMES BUILDING EXPANSION** through the *Nebraska Catholic Day of Giving* 



## Stewardship of Treasure

As each one has received a **gift**, use it to serve one another as good **<u>stewards</u> of** 

God's varied grace. (1Pt 4:10)							
Parish Offering 4/6/25							
Adult Envelopes	\$1,050.00						
Plate	\$3,697.29						
Catholic Fnd Grant—CCD	\$1,061.50						
Catholic Fnd Grant—Rel Ed	\$770.00						
Total Deposit	\$6,578.79						

Online Giving to our parish is easy. During Lent we are reminded to develop a more conscious spiritual life & share what we have with those in need. One practical way to achieve this goal is to make the change to *eGiving* for your parish support. You can use our parish's online giving platform, *Faith Direct*, to deepen your commitment to the church & the ministries you care about most. Your recurring gifts will sustain our mission month after month. You will also help our parish cut costs for envelopes & paper & allow our staff to spend less time processing cash & checks & more time on ministries. Sign up today at faith.direct/NE1020 or call FD Customer Service team- 866-507-8757. See our website at www.stjamecortland.com.



Liturgical Ministers for Sundays & Holy Week									
		April 12-13 <u>Palm Sunday</u>	April 17 HOLY THURSDAY 7:00pm	April 19 8:30pm Easter Vigil	April 26-27				
	Reader	Ron Eisenbarth/Diana McCown	Reader: Amy Larkins	Michelle Milke/Diana McCown	Ron Eisenbarth				
Saturday 5:00 pm	Acolyte	(Volunteer)/(Volunteer)	Acolyte: Kurt Larkins/Joe Vinton	Chris Hytrek/Volunteer	(volunteer)				
	Server 1	(Volunteer)	Acolyte: <i>Volunteer / Volunteer</i>	Logan Wilken/Brooks Wilken	Braxton Skillett				
	Server 2	(Volunteer)	Server: Carter Stieb/Asher Stieb	Ryder Wilken	Easton Schilbitzki				
			Server: Volunteer / Volunteer	April 20 Easter Sunday					
Sunday 8:00 am	Reader	Jerry Lentfer/Joe Vinton		Ginger Jelinek	Michelle Milke				
	Acolyte	Chris Hytrek/ Volunteer		<i>Volunteer / Volunteer</i>	Joe Vinton				
	Server 1	Brayden Kuhlman		Volunteer	Sam Robinson				
	Server 2	Hudson Kuhlman		Volunteer	Sawyer Robinson				
	Server 3	Volunteer		Volunteer					
	Server 4	Volunteer							
			April 18 GOOD FRIDAY 7:00pm						
	Reader	Chris Hytrek/Larry Etmund	Reader: Diana McCown/Shirley Yates	Shirley Yates	Larry Etmund				
	Acolyte	Ron Boden/Theron Troxel	Acolyte: Rod Boden/Pat Milke	Myron Heusinkvelt / Rod Boden	Ron Boden				
Sunday 10:30 am	Server 1	Brady Troxel	Server: Rylan Hochstein	Volunteer	Sam Troxel				
	Server 2	Ty Troxel	Server: Reid Hochstein	Volunteer	Mason Henn				
	Server 3	(Volunteer)		Volunteer					
	Server 4	(Volunteer)							
	Commentator	Paige Anderson		Volunteer	Lydia Dominy				
	Collection Counters	Jim Fuhrman/ Theron Troxel		Kassie Ebbers/ Amy Argo	Julie Pfingsten/ Laureen Ehmen				