

Mother Church of the Catholic Archdiocese of Omaha

Where our mission is to bring all to the beauty, truth, and joy of Christ.

SAINT CECILIA  
CATHEDRAL

INTENTIONALLY CATHOLIC

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

LENT 2026

UNITED WITH CHRIST IN SACRIFICE

UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF SACRIFICE IN LENT

Mar 2026

15

701 N 40th Street, Omaha NE 68131 | [StCeciliaCathedral.org](http://StCeciliaCathedral.org)

Weekend Holy Mass: Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am & 5:30 pm vigil Saturday



WHOEVER DRINKS THE WATER  
I SHALL GIVE WILL NEVER  
THIRST; THE WATER I SHALL  
GIVE WILL BECOME IN HIM A  
SPRING OF WATER WELLING  
UP TO ETERNAL LIFE.



## Saint Cecilia Cathedral Spiritual Leadership

**Most Rev. Michael McGovern**  
Archbishop

**Rev. Jeremy Hans**  
Parish Pastor/Cathedral Rector  
jjhans@archomaha.org

**Rev. Zach Eischeid**, Associate Pastor  
zpeischeid@archomaha.org


**Rev. Georges Sokpo**, Associate Pastor  
gksokpo@archomaha.org

**Tim Bloomingdale**, Deacon  
timbloomingdale@skuttcatholic.com



### Laetare Sunday

Today's theme comes from the entrance antiphon: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast. "Laetare is the first word – meaning "rejoice" – in the Latin text. On Laetare Sunday (as similarly with the Third Sunday of Advent's Gaudete Sunday) the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. Call it pink – or, more fittingly, rose – this change in color indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter into the somber days of Passiontide. Laetare Sunday is the Church's way of giving us a "shot in the arm" as we approach the darkness and horror of the days through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. **It's an opportunity to savor and keep in the back of our minds what awaits us on Easter Sunday** – the reality that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and that our hearts will always be filled with joy!

**Saint Cecilia Cathedral**  
hosts a Lenten choir event  
Sunday, March 15  
"The Seven Last Words of Christ"  
by Theodore Dubois

## Masses and Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 7:30 am 5:30 pm	<b>March 14</b> Violet Nordby + Leo & Rosemary Batenhorst + Fr. Hans
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b>March 15</b> Jayden Moore Saint Cecilia Parishioners Fr. Hans Fr. Eischeid
<b>Monday</b> 11:15 am	<b>March 16</b> Maria Lanh Nguyen +
<b>Tuesday</b> 11:15 am	<b>March 17</b> Phyllis Etringer +
<b>Wednesday</b> 11:15 am	<b>March 18</b> Richard (Dick) Mitchell +
<b>Thursday</b> 11:15 am	<b>March 19</b> Mary Koch +
<b>Friday</b> 11:15 am	<b>March 20</b> Phyllis Etringer + (B)
<b>Saturday</b> 7:30 am 5:30 pm	<b>March 21</b> Ray Swiercek + Frank and Betty Wees + Fr. Sokpo
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b>March 22</b> Paul Halbur + Saint Cecilia Parishioners Fr. Sokpo Fr. Hans



**Stations of the Cross**  
**Fridays 6:00 pm**  
**Good Friday Noon**

## A History of the Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross in the form most American Catholics know best are of comparatively recent vintage in Church terms, dating back to the year the U.S. Constitution was ratified. However, their history goes back well before that, to the days when pilgrims were first openly able to go to Jerusalem and walk in the footsteps of Jesus on Good Friday.

The emperor Constantine permitted Christians to legally worship in the Roman Empire in 313 after 250 years of persecution. In 335, he erected the Church of the Holy Sepulcher at the site where Jesus' tomb was believed to have been. Processions of pilgrims to the church, especially during Holy Week, began soon after its completion.

Devotions to the Way of the Cross began in earnest after 1342, when the Franciscan friars were given custody of the holy sites in the Holy Land. The Franciscans have been closely identified with the devotion ever since.

The term "stations" in describing the Way of the Cross was first used in the narrative of an English pilgrim, William Wey, who visited the Holy Land twice in the 15th century.

**Catholic Cemeteries** invites you to pray and walk the Stations of the Cross each Wednesday during Lent in Holy Angels Mausoleum in Resurrection Cemetery at 6:00 pm. This prayer and walk are a remembrance for those who have travelled this journey before us and are still very much a part of who we are today. This reflection of our respective journeys leads us to the joy of resurrection that awaits each of us. We will have **Good Friday Stations of the Cross, April 3**, at 3:00 pm in Calvary Cemetery.

## Lent at Cathedral

### Holy Mass

Saturdays 5:30 pm (vigil)  
 Sundays 8:30 am and 10:30 am (choir)  
 Weekdays 11:15 am  
 Saturdays 7:30 am  
 Palm Sunday 5:30 pm, 8:30 am and 10:30 am with Archbishop McGovern [March 28/29]  
 Chrism Mass 11:00 am with Abp McGovern [March 30]  
 Holy Thursday 7:00 pm with Archbishop McGovern [April 2]  
 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm with Abp McGovern [April 3]  
 Easter Vigil with Archbishop McGovern 8:30 pm [April 4]  
 Easter Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am [April 5]

### Confessions

Weekdays 11:50 am to 12:10 pm [February 19 - April 1]  
 Saturdays 4:00 to 5:00 pm [February 21 - April 4]  
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of Holy Week 5:00 to 6:00 pm [March 30 - April 1]  
 Good Friday 12:45 pm [April 3]  
 Holy Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 pm [April 4]

### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays Noon to 6:00 pm [March 19 and 26]  
 Holy Thursday after Mass to Midnight [April 2]

### Stations of the Cross

Fridays 6:00 pm [February 20 - March 27]  
 Good Friday Noon [April 3]



## Campus Events

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 15</b>	
Noon	Catholic Daughters Meeting	PCCR
3:00 pm	"7 Last Words" Choir Event	NAVE
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 19</b>	
Noon	Eucharistic Adoration	OLNC
6:30 pm	Faith Formation Classes	SCHOOL
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 20</b>	
6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	NAVE
6:00 pm	Mac & Cheese Event	CAFE
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 22</b>	
3:00 pm	Bach Concert	NAVE

# MISSION



### Meeting Topics: March 15

- Collection of new pillows for the Golden Manor Assisted Living Community
- Plan for city-wide CDA Sunday Mass, luncheon and speaker on Sunday, October 18, 2026
- Discuss plans for St. Cecilia parish 8th grade girl scholarship
- Planning for Easter Vigil reception for OCIA members

Contact Mary Wendl, Regent, to join Catholic Daughters: marypuella@gmail.com.

### Family Salmon Bake

Friday, March 27 | 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
Cathedral Cafeteria



\$25 Salmon on Cedar Plank with Rice Pilaf



\$25 Shrimp Scampi  
\$5 Mac & Cheese



Bring the whole family.  
Take outs available.



**Knights of Columbus**

Father Flanagan of Boys Town Council #652  
Saint Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha NE

## Serra Club Honors Servers

These servers have been selected to receive the 2026 Serra Club Altar Server Award, an honor that is given to only six of our 8th grade servers each year: **Emmi Lehn; Annelies Anderson; Dominic McLaughlin; Kalliope Knoble; and Daniel Reh.** Not pictured: **Olivia Herrman.**

Some of the selection criteria given by the Serra Club:

Appearance: neat and clean

Initiative: sees what needs to be done and does it

Attitude: sense of service, sacrifice, goodwill

Participation: joins in the praying and singing

Cooperation: able to work with others

Reverence: love of God, His people, and the Eucharist

Dependability: present and on-time

Graceful: sense of dignity of movement

Sense of Humor: flexible, able to handle mistakes and learn from them.



## Know Our Parish

Saint Cecilia parish is the home, heart, and foundation of the Omaha Archdiocese. This is a unique parish. We are EVERYONE's parish throughout the Archdiocese!

Our parish consists of over 950 registered households. Our Mass attendees number many more than only our families. Our famous church towers beckon visitors from all over to come to know God in the Mass at this beautiful church. All of us play a role in sharing God's message with these visitors as we encounter them. We must and do share the grace of God in all our liturgies and ministries. **Join us in our mission from God!**

Our parish cannot exist and grow as a separate entity without the active ongoing relationship among those who compose it. When registering with a parish, a person is entering into a live faith community and like any other relationships, if it is to be viable and healthy and participatory, there must be mutual commitment with its members.

**We say that our heart is where our hope is. Then the hope for our beloved parish is in the heart of each one of us.** In some way we each use that hope to make this a sacred, honored home for Our Lord where He is loved, worshipped and witnessed to. We thank you for that.

# Receive Our Communications

Sheila Graham, Communications Director  
Every Wednesday we produce and send a "Big Picture" email that includes any special notifications, interesting news, upcoming event reminders, fun campus pictures, inspirational items, alumni notes, and spiritual events throughout the Archdiocese.

On Thursdays there is a special **prayer email** sent to our parishioners, school & childcare families, and staff members to pray for the ministers and ministries of Cathedral.

Every Friday the bulletin is sent in the "Tower Talk" email which is filled with information for the weekend, special notifications, interesting news, upcoming event reminders, and anything that is Cathedral related.


If you do not receive these emails and wish to, contact Sheila Graham at the Administration Office: 402-551-2313 or [sgraham@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:sgraham@stceciliacathedral.org).

If you would like to receive our **bulletins mailed** to you each week, we are happy to accommodate you. Contact Sheila to be put on our mailing list.

When you are not able to attend Sunday Mass, we offer our 10:30 am **Mass live streamed** on our YouTube channel: Omaha Cathedral. Special events/liturgies are live streamed.

The Cathedral website is filled with information on current events and activities, history of the Cathedral, parish organizations and ministries, gift opportunities, and more: [StCeciliaCathedral.org](http://StCeciliaCathedral.org).

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FOR SACRED LITURGY, MUSIC AND THE ARTS  
AND CATHEDRAL ARTS PROJECT




## The Contemplative J.S. Bach

IN COUNTERPOINT WITH GOD

Featuring works by the great Baroque composer, with insightful introductory reflections from guest lecturer Dr. Michael Bauer, Emeritus Professor of Organ and Church Music at the University of Kansas.

Marie Rubis Bauer (organ)  
Lisamarie Vana (violin)  
Michael Bauer (organ)  
on the Op. 14 Dual Temperament Organ  
by Martin Pasi

Free Concert on Sunday, March 22, 2026  
at 3:00 PM in St. Cecilia Cathedral



# VISION

## Development: School Fund Raiser

Theresa Lehn, Development Director

### Why do we have Comedy & Cuisine?

There are four sources of funding for our grade school: tuition, the Education Endowment, parish support and Comedy & Cuisine. Comedy & Cuisine began as a way to fund new curriculum in the school and grew to fund special projects, like the renovation of the art wing in the old grade school. In 2011, money raised at the annual school fundraiser also started to go towards the operating budget of the school. The operating budget includes teachers' salaries. This school fundraiser accounts for about 20% of that budget.

The priority of Comedy & Cuisine funds is the operating budget; secondary is the special project. Last year's chairs, myself included, decided to approach this double effort of raising money for two "buckets" by having one bucket. We knew what was expected to go towards the operating budget and what was needed for our special project. We knew our goal and were transparent in our attempts.

**This year's special project is putting air conditioning in the gym. New windows and masonry work around the window openings are necessary and included in the plans.** This is a big endeavor and will benefit everyone who uses the gym, from CathedralFest attendees to grandparents at Songfest to pickleball players and more.

These special projects are not frills. The facilities improvements they provide are vital to making the parish's apostolate a more desirable and safe place to attend. Those who contribute in a myriad of ways, see their impact. A heartfelt thank you to our generous supporters.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

# VALUES



## Family Honored

The **JJ and Jessie Stoffel** family were honored as the Knights of Columbus March Family of the Month.



## Fundraiser for School

**Al Khoun** of the Karenni Community and **Ben Gonzales** of the Knights of Columbus present principal Mrs. Stoffel a check for the school from the fundraising breakfast held in January.



## Personal Prayer

The Cathedral is open for visits/personal prayer:

Sundays 7:30 am to 5:30 pm

Saturdays 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:00 am to 5:30 pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am to 5:30 pm

## Intentional Giving

**Tithing: March 1**

Budget \$21,568

Actual \$15,969

Difference (\$5,599)

Revised Offertory Goal for FY 2025-26

\$1,100,000

Year-to-Date (July-June) Actual

\$640,860

## School Operetta



Wednesday March 25 | 1:30

Thursday March 26 | 7:00

Friday March 27 | Grandparent's Day | 10:30

\$7.00 Admission

Scan the QR Code to purchase tickets



Getcha Head In the Game... and buy your tickets!



ST. CECILIA HOME AND SCHOOL'S  
**2ND ANNUAL  
MAC &  
CHEESE  
COOKOFF**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026 - 6-8PM**  
CAFETERIA - ST. CECILIA CATHEDRAL  
(ENTER THROUGH GYM DOORS)

- Price includes taste-testing & either 1 full bowl of mac n' cheese, **OR** slice of cheese pizza, and drink.
- Additional slices of pizza and drinks will be available for purchase.
- Who will take the "BEST MAC & CHEESE" title home?
- **Compete For Free OR Buy Dinner Tickets**

**\$10** per person  
**OR**  
**\$50** per family



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**Used Uniform Drive**

- Get a head start on your spring cleaning!
- Drop your gently used uniform items at the event or into the school office c/o Home and School.



- **ACCEPTING:** Skorts, Jumpers, Skirts, Sweaters, Quarter Zip Sweatshirts, Jumpers, Skorts, Skirts, Pants, & Shorts
- **Next Used Uniform Sale - April 29, 2026**

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**St. Cecilia's White Elephant Sale**

- One person's junk is another's treasure!
- White Elephant Sale will be taking place at the same time!



## Sacraments at Saint Cecilia Cathedral

### Holy Mass

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am (choir)

Monday-Friday 11:15 am

Saturday 7:30 am and 5:30 pm (vigil)

### Confession

Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Monday-Friday 11:50 am - 12:10 pm

Or call 402-551-2313 to make an appointment

### Baptism Classes

Contact Kay Garfield at [kgarfield@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:kgarfield@stceciliacathedral.org) to sign up for the class and set the baptism date.

### Marriage Preparation

Parishioners registered & active a minimum of 6 months are eligible to set a date. Then at least 6 months of marriage preparation as required by the Archdiocese.

Email: [kgarfield@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:kgarfield@stceciliacathedral.org).



## Sacraments at Saint Margaret Mary

### Holy Mass

Sunday 7:30 am and 10:00 am

Monday-Friday 6:30 am

Saturday 8:30 am and 5:00 pm (vigil)

Holy Days 6:30 am, Noon, and 5:30 pm

### Confession

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Monday-Friday 7:00 - 7:20 am



## Cathedral Administration 402-551-2313

**Rev. Jeremy Hans:** Parish Pastor/Cathedral Rector

**Gerard Alemdjrodo:** Campus Business Manager  
[gerardalem@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:gerardalem@stceciliacathedral.org)

**Kay Garfield:** Sacraments/Scheduling/Business Office  
[kgarfield@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:kgarfield@stceciliacathedral.org)

**Sheila Graham:** Messaging/Membership/Ministry  
[sgraham@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:sgraham@stceciliacathedral.org)

**Kelly Hickey:** Campus Technology Director  
[khickey@stcecilia.net](mailto:khickey@stcecilia.net)

**Theresa Lehn:** Campus Development Director  
[tlehn@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:tlehr@stceciliacathedral.org)

**Denise Leibert:** Childcare Director  
[dleibert@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:dleibert@stceciliacathedral.org)

**Kjia Meduna:** Children's Faith Formation Director  
[kmeduna@stceciliacathedral.org](mailto:kmeduna@stceciliacathedral.org)

**Marie Rubis Bauer:** Music Director/Cathedral Organist  
[merubisbauer@archomaha.org](mailto:merubisbauer@archomaha.org)

**Jessie Stoffel:** Grade School Principal  
[jstoffel@stcecilia.net](mailto:jstoffel@stcecilia.net)