Fasting From Plastic

Young parishioner Chester Eich, pictured here with Care of Creation Team leader Shelley Hill, helped members of the team encourage parishioners to give up single-use plastics last weekend. The Creation Care Team showed off various eco-friendly products to inspire action.
**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Monday-Thursday**
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

**Friday**
6:20 a.m. & 8:15 a.m.

**Saturday**
8:15 a.m. (Communion Service)
Vigil 5:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday**
7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
10:30 a.m., Noon, 5:00 p.m.

**ST. COLUMBKILLE PARISH DIRECTORY**

**PRIESTS**

FR. DAVE REESEN, PASTOR
402-339-3285 ext. 103 | dreeson@saintcolumbkille.org

FR. TOM GREISEN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
402-339-3285 ext. 106 | tagreisen@archomaha.org

**PARISH STAFF**

Deacon Bill Hill,
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402-339-3285 | whill@saintcolumbkille.org

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Bill Heese,
Maintenance/Gardens Coordinator
402-616-4740 | bheese@saintcolumbkille.org

**ST. COLUMBKILLE GRADE SCHOOL | 402-339-8706**

Brandi Redburn,
Principal
402-339-8706 | bredburn@saintcolumbkilleschool.org

Sarah Foreman,
Assistant Principal
402-339-8706 | sforeman@saintcolumbkilleschool.org

Nicole Moline,
Secretary
nmoline@saintcolumbkilleschool.org

Heather Hixson,
Bookkeeper
hhixson@saintcolumbkilleschool.org

**ST. COLUMBKILLE RELIGIOUS FORMATION | 402-339-0990**

Lori Long,
Director
llong@saintcolumbkille.org

Nicole Cook,
Coordinator of Disciple Formation
ncook@saintcolumbkille.org

Judie O’Connor,
Office Manager
jocconnor@saintcolumbkille.org

** MASS, HOMILISTS, INTENTIONS & PRESIDERS**

Monday, March 2nd
8:15 a.m. †Bonnie Miller (Fr. Greisen)
5:30 p.m. †Sharon Piper (Fr. Greisen)

Tuesday, March 3rd
8:15 a.m. †Chuyen Tran and †Sen Nguyen (Fr. Greisen)
9:15 a.m. Communion Service (Hillcrest Shadow Lake)
(Dcn Graef)
5:30 p.m. Poor Souls (Fr. Reeson)

Wednesday, March 4th
8:15 a.m. †Abigail Whitford (Fr. Reeson)
5:30 p.m. Blessings for Joann Smith (Fr. Magnuson)

Thursday, March 5th
8:15 a.m. †Mary Ellen Kraneauss (Fr. Magnuson)
9:30 a.m. Communion Service (Papillion Manor)
(Dcn Graef)
5:30 p.m. †Mary Fuller (Fr. Reeson)

Friday, March 6th
6:20 a.m. †Margaret Beitenman (Fr. Reeson)
8:15 a.m. †Michael Mooney (Fr. Reeson)
6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Dcn Ortgies)

Saturday, March 7th
8:15 a.m. Communion Service (Dcn Perry)
5:00 p.m. Blessings for the Sweeney Family (Fr. Ike)
6:30 p.m. †Arlene Szolek (Fr. Ike)

Sunday, March 8th
7:30 a.m. †Bud Stranglen (Fr. Reeson)
9:00 a.m. Parish (Fr. Reeson)
10:30 a.m. †Br. Stan Sobczyk (Fr. Greisen)
Noon †James and Betty Hezel (Fr. Greisen)
5:00 p.m. †Verda Bland (Fr. Greisen)

**DEACONS**

Yano DiGiacomo | 402-515-7461
David Graef | 402-592-4741
Bill Hill | 402-250-3030
Steve Jordan | 402-290-4916
Robert Kellar | 402-321-4902
David Krueger | 402-680-3430
Eldon Lauber | 402-679-0604
Frank Mascarello | 402-650-2579
Tracy Ortgies | 402-630-4384

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptismal preparation classes are required for parents with children to be baptized. Call the Parish Office for information.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

The Archdiocese requires a minimum of six months notification for all who are to be married in order to arrange for and complete the various activities/programs associated with marriage preparation. Contact the Parish Office before setting a date.

**Bulletin Deadline**
Bulletin items are due 10 days before the issue date. Please email them to Anna Ferguson at aferguson@saintcolumbkille.org. We reserve the right to make any edits we deem necessary.
Lent is Here!

I can’t believe that Lent has begun! This year is going by so quickly. I feel like we were just celebrating Advent.

I think sometimes the Lenten season evokes feelings of dread, as many people associate it with giving something up, focusing on our sinfulness, and abstaining from meat on Fridays and other special days in Lent. When you think about it, though, there is a lot of good this season has to offer us—lots of opportunities to grow in our faith in a deeper, more intentional way, to grow in community with our fellow parishioners, and to learn about and participate in many wonderful forms of prayer and traditions. This Lent, St. Columbkille has lots of great liturgies, prayerful activities and gatherings to look forward to.

Every Friday of Lent, besides Good Friday, we hold our famous Fish Fries. I once heard about a woman and her family who had just moved back to Papillion after a few years of missionary work in Asia. Though she was not Catholic and did not attend St. Columbkille, she had heard about how good our Fish Fries are and had been bringing her family for years before they moved! She was excited to be able to go to them again now that they were back. I hope you’ll partake in the delicious food, great community and opportunity to welcome and serve your fellow parishioners and community members at our Fish Fries.

As you consider personal ways you would like to celebrate and grow this Lent, remember that just as you can give up something, you can also try doing something. We are called to incorporate forms of prayer, fasting and almsgiving into our Lenten practices, as guides for making the most out of our 40 days and preparing for Easter. Perhaps you might try attending Stations of the Cross, a form of communal prayer focused on Jesus’ passion and death. We host this every Friday of Lent in the Church. Or maybe you’d like to try out an hour of Eucharistic Adoration in our adoration chapel, or attend a Reconciliation Service. Lent is a great time to ask for and receive God’s forgiveness and mercy. We even celebrate that with a reception after one of our services!

When you consider fasting from something, this can actually tie into almsgiving and make that fasting a little more meaningful. For example, you might fast from alcohol or buying coffee at Starbucks. You could then take the money you would have spent on those and donate it to the church’s mission work. Catholic Relief Services has a really neat Lenten Rice Bowl activity you can use with your family that includes creative ways to fast and give alms intentionally. Just Google it. You might also think of almsgiving as giving of your time. Perhaps you’ll fast from binging Netflix and instead use that time to take Communion to the sick and homebound. Or maybe you can encourage your family and friends to fast from using technology for an hour or two each day and use that time, instead, for social time—board games, sharing a meal or drink, spending quality time together outside, etc. Fasting doesn’t just have to be about giving up sweets; almsgiving doesn’t just have to be about putting some extra money in the collection basket. I encourage you to get creative.

Finally, if you haven’t participated in any of the Triduum services during the three days leading up to Easter, including the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper, where we have a washing of the feet ceremony, the Good Friday service where we venerate the cross in a special way, and the Easter Vigil Mass—I hope you will consider attending! These services can help us to better visualize, feel, remember, and deeply celebrate all Jesus did for us. It’s like being able to put yourself in the scene and follow Jesus as one of his disciples, from his Last Supper to his Resurrection. However you celebrate Lent this year, I hope you will make it a good one! The Lenten Newsletter you should have received in the mail has some great ideas on ways to do just that.

Much peace,

Anna Ferguson, Director of Communication
Hygiene Drive for Heartland Hope Mission

We will be holding a Hygiene Donation Drive to support Heartland Hope Mission starting this weekend, February 29th/March 1st through March 8th. Most needed full-size items include body wash, shampoo, toothpaste and toilet paper. Baby diapers, size 5-6, and baby wipes also needed. Any unused hygiene item is welcome. Collection boxes will be in the Narthex and Social Level. Questions? Contact Marisol at 531-200-5578 or at stc.foodpantryhelp@gmail.com.

One Rose, One Life Campaign Thank You!

The Knights of Columbus thanks everyone for their overwhelming generosity to the recent One Rose, One Life campaign. We raised nearly four thousand dollars for the Culture of Life Foundation! A major objective of the Foundation is to place ultrasound machines in qualified pregnancy care centers throughout Nebraska. All funds collected will be used to support pro-life organizations and activities such as Nebraska Catholic Conference, local Right-To-Life and Birthright chapters, and crisis pregnancy help centers throughout Nebraska.

Essential Pregnancy Services Quilt Raffle

Essential Pregnancy Services (EPS) will be offering the chance to win a beautiful quilt by selling Quilt Donation Tickets at the upcoming Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, March 8th after the morning Masses. Please support this worthy cause by donating $5 per ticket, or $20 for 6 tickets.

Catholic Charities Irish Fest

All are invited to attend the Catholic Charities 28th Annual Irish Fest on March 14th at the Marriott Hotel Capitol District. All proceeds from this event will support Catholic Charities programs and services for our neighbors in need. Irish Fest has something for everyone, including a delicious menu, unique auction items, and live music. Please consider being a sponsor or purchasing a ticket. Online registration is now open at ccomaha.org.

March Fair Trade Sale

Stop by our next Fair Trade Sale on Sunday, March 8th from 8:00 a.m. to noon in the Social Level. Come see our great selection of Easter Eggs, chocolates, Equal Exchange coffee, teas and more.

Essential Pregnancy Services Baby Bottle Campaign

Fill bottles. Change lives. Essential Pregnancy Services (EPS), serving expectant women and parenting families, will be kicking off the Baby Bottle Campaign at St. Columbkille after all Masses the weekend of February 29th and March 1st. Please stop by to pick up a baby bottle after Mass and fill it with coins, cash or checks payable to Essential Pregnancy Services. Please return bottles by Sunday, April 19th. Thank you for helping women and families make life-affirming choices for themselves and their children!
Healing with Project Rachel
Is there an abortion in your past? Do you feel a sense of loss? Despair? Alienation and guilt? Do you feel distant from your Church? PROJECT RACHEL can help heal the wounds of abortion. For private, sensitive and confidential counseling and/or reconciliation, call 1-888-456-HOPE (4673). More information is available online at www.hopeafterabortion.com.

Seeking Truth Bible Study
Seeking Truth is a Bible study open to people of all backgrounds who are interested in studying God’s Word together. All are welcome to attend and bring a friend. For more information visit www.seekingtruth.net.

Moms of Faith
There will be a Faith and Fellowship meeting on March 5th at 9:15 a.m. in the Social Level. We will continue discussing the Works of Mercy Study. Childcare provided. All are welcome.

Parish Anointing of the Sick
Sunday, March 8th and March 22nd at the noon Mass

Grief Support Group
St. Columbkille provides help for all who need support after the death of a loved one. Our spring group will begin in April and all are welcome. It is a safe, confidential, peer-based, nonjudgmental and prayerful experience. Please call or text Mary Stuart at 402-957-5827.

Extra Special FORMED
If you have some time, we encourage you to check out the video “Knowing Giaquinta: Servant of God” on FORMED. The video was created by Greg Weiss, an Omaha native, and features St. Columbkille parishioners, Nick and Heidi Emanuel, in the cast! The video tells the story of Servant of God Bishop Giaquinta who started the Pro Sanctity movement, along with the Apostolic Oblates. There are Apostolic Oblates in Elkhorn. Many St. Columbkille girls attend Camp Fun and Faith held there each year. You can find the video here: www.watch.formed.org/knowing-giaquinta-servant-of-god.

Congratulations All Engaged Couples
We pray for all couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage this year. This is a beautiful time for you to grow closer to God and to one another. As an engaged couple, you discover more about the sacredness of marriage and the amazing plans God has for your marriage. The following are some wonderful resources to help you prepare:

Three to Get Married by Fulton Sheen, Just Married: The Catholic Guide to Surviving and Thriving in the First Five Years of Marriage by Greg Popcak, and Good News About Sex and Marriage by Christopher West.

A couple's engagement is also the perfect time to learn about Natural Family Planning (NFP). If you have any questions or would like information about NFP, please contact St. Columbkille NFP liaisons Mike and Lisa Brandon at ilovecocacola22@hotmail.com or 402-915-1533.

Women Mystics Presentation
Christ the King Parish, 654 S. 86th St., Omaha, invites all to attend a special presentation on Women Mystics on March 3rd from 7-8 p.m. Mrs. Kris McGregor will provide her insights into the female mystics highlighted during the Wednesday audiences of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. A presenter at the Vatican on the work of Adrienne von Speyer, Kris brings a wealth of knowledge to this subject. This event is free of charge. No registration is required.
Religious Education Office | 402-339-0990

Religious Education Class Information
Class: Monday, March 2nd
Class: Wednesday, March 4th

Summer Program Registration
Open to all students in Kindergarten through 8th grade. The four adult faith opportunities must be completed before registrations will be accepted. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Class sizes are limited and will close when the maximum number is reached. Please register now with the Religious Education Office, 402-339-0990.

St. Columbkille School
If you have a student who will be in grades 4-7 and have considered switching over to St. Columbkille, now is your chance! If you are interested, please contact the principal, Mrs. Redburn, at bredburn@saintcolumbkilleschool.org or by calling the School Office at 402-339-8706. We would love to meet you, tell you a little bit about our school, and take you on a tour! St. Columbkille students work every day to grow in spirit, mind and body as disciples of Christ.

Congratulations!
Congratulations to the winners of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest District competition. These winners will compete in the Regional event on March 15th.

- 9yr old girls: Sara Anthofer
- 9yr old boys: Max Sullivan
- 10yr old boys: Creighton Sidzyik
- 11yr old girls: Addison Rempe
- 11yr old boys: Griffen Pechar
- 12yr old girls: Anna Verdone
- 13yr old girls: Savana Sweeney
- 14yr old girls: Kaylee Epp
- 14yr old boys: Jack Miller

High School Youth Group: Teen Faith
Questions? Contact Nicole Cook at 402-339-0990 or ncook@saintcolumbkille.org.

Teen Faith Updates
Teen Faith Schedule At-a-Glance:
- March 4th—Large Group: Catholic in College
- March 11th—Small Group Faith Sharing
- March 15th—Stations of the Cross Prayer Walk at Cloisters on the Platte
- March 18th—No Meeting, PLV Spring Break
All events go from 7-8:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.
- Help serve at Fish Fries!
Fish Fry kicks off February 28th and runs each Friday through April 3rd. Volunteers are needed each week for various jobs. Youth are always needed to bus tables, and can work any 2-hour increment throughout the night that fits their schedule. Shifts for adults are from 4:30-6:30 p.m. or 6:30p.m–close. To sign up, email Erin at fishfrystc@gmail.com.

Teen Faith High School Parents: Stay up-to-date on all that’s happening with the high school youth group, Teen Faith! Receive short, weekly emails with all the information you need about ongoing Teen Faith events. To sign up, email your name, preferred email address, student’s name, grade, and school to Nicole Cook at ncook@saintcolumbkille.org.

St. Columbkille Youth Choir
YOUTH CHOIR (desperately) needs YOU! Without new members, we won’t survive. If you’re in 7th -12th grade and like to sing you’ll LOVE our group. Earn service hours and learn leadership skills that look GREAT on college applications. Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Church. For more info contact Tiffini at 402-315-7449 or TEAMCOVENEY@1791.com
ROOKIE T-BALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION
OPEN NOW!
Deadline to register is March 31st.
Open to boys and girls in preschool and kindergarten.
Practices/Games at the St. Columbkille Sports Complex.
Season runs May through June.
To register, visit the Athletics website:
https://www.saintcolumbkille.org/athletics

VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!
Registration is now open for Fall 2020 Volleyball.
Deadline to register is March 31st.
Open to girls 4th through 8th grade.
Season runs late August through October.
To register, visit the Athletics website:
https://www.saintcolumbkille.org/athletics

THIRD GRADE VOLLEYBALL SKILLS CAMP
2020
REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!
Deadline to register is March 31st.
Open to girl entering 3rd grade in Fall 2020.
Season runs September through October.
To register, visit the Athletics website:
https://www.saintcolumbkille.org/athletics
UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Calendar

| Monday, March 2nd | 9:15 a.m. Senior Exercise (SL) | 7:00 p.m. Teen Faith (SL) |
|                  | 11:30 a.m. Senior Luncheon (SHC) | 12:00 p.m. Alpha Leadership Meeting (PO) |
|                  | 3:00 p.m. Crusader Care (SL) | 3:00 p.m. Crusader Care (SL) |
|                  | 6:30 p.m. Alpha (C) (SHC) | 4:30 p.m. Fish Fry Prep (SL) |
|                  | 7:00 p.m. Respect Life Meeting (PO) | 7:00 a.m. Fish Fry Meeting (SL) |
|                  | 3:00 p.m. Crusader Care (SL) | 1:00 p.m. 2nd Grade Presentations (SHC) |
|                  | 6:30 p.m. Alpha (C) (SHC) | 3:00 p.m. RCIA Retreat Prep (SHC) |
|                  | 7:00 p.m. Women’s Guild (SL) | 3:00 p.m. Crusader Care (Ed C) |
|                  | 7:00 p.m. RCIA (SHC) | Saturday, March 7th RCIA Retreat (C) (SL) (SHC) |
|                  | 9:00 a.m. School Song Practice (C) | 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Ed C) |
|                  | 9:30 a.m. Tai Chi (SHC) | Sunday, March 8th |
|                  | 1:00 p.m. Bible Study (SHC) | 8:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Checks (SL) |
|                  | 1:30 p.m. Rosary Makers (SL) | 8:00 a.m. Fair Trade (SL) |
|                  | 3:00 p.m. Crusader Care (SL) | 8:00 a.m. Knights of Columbus Breakfast (SL) |
|                  | 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (SHC) | 3:00 p.m. Prayer Group (C) |
|                  | 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (SL) | 7:00 p.m. Respect Life Meeting (PO) |
|                  | 6:30 p.m. Youth Choir (C) | 7:15 p.m. Legion of Mary (PO) |

Lenten Fish Fries
Join us every Friday during Lent, except Good Friday, for a Fish Fry in the social Level from 5-8 p.m. We serve the area’s best fried and baked fish, along with all the trimmings.

- $9 Senior Citizens (age 60+)
- $10 Adults (age 15-59)
- $9 Children (age 5-14)
- $3 Children (age 4 and under)
- $30 per family

St. Columbkille 101
Are you new or interested in learning about the parish? To finish registering with St. Columbkille, please join us for St. Columbkille 101, a welcoming program, this Sunday, March 1st at 11:30 a.m. in the Sacred Heart Center, south of the church. There will be a 50-minute presentation, along with refreshments and childcare. If you’ve registered online or registered a while ago but have not yet attended St. Columbkille 101, please come to finish the registration process.

Serra Club for Vocations
Do you have a heart for vocations? Would you like to learn more about the work of the Serra Club of Omaha and their mission to foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Attend our Welcome Reception at the Archdiocese of Omaha Chancery, 2222 111th St., Omaha, NE 68164, on March 24th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Mike Knier at kniers@cox.net or call (402) 630-9630 for more details and to register. Registration due March 13th.

Young Catholic Professionals
The next Young Catholic Professionals event will be March 3rd and will include a panel discussion titled: "Charity: Having Compassion and Active Helping of Others." The event will take place at St. Barnabas Catholic Church, 129 N. 40th St., Omaha, with Mass starting at 6:15 p.m., followed by networking, the panel discussion and small groups.

St. John’s University Choir Concert
St. John’s University is hosting a choir concert, “In A Concert of Sacred and Secular Music,” on Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. at Christ the King Parish, 654 S. 86th St., Omaha. Free-will donations requested and welcome. For more information contact Laura Rau at 402-391-3606.
**Parish Gifts**
This report is for the Sunday Collection and does not represent all Parish financial income and expenses.

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**February 23rd**

**Budgeted Weekly Operating Income**

$48,869

- Sunday Tithe-Collections: 22,819
- Sunday Tithe-Online Donations (Weekly): 8,115
- Sunday Tithe-Automatic Withdrawal: 20,669
- Children’s Collection: 289

**Sunday Tithe-Total**: $51,892

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**Year-to-Date Budgeted Tithing**: 1,612,677

**Year-to-Date Total Tithing**: 1,674,923

**Year-to-Date Overage/(Shortfall)**: $62,246

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**Other Collections**

- Debt Reduction: 521
- Votive Lights: 405
- Building Rental: 75
- St. Columbkille Ed Trust: 420
- St. Vincent de Paul: 1,127
- Future Fund: 270
- Home & Foreign Mission (4 in 1): 35

**Benefits to parishioners for making your donations using our online giving option through Abundant.**

**Part 1**:

- No more writing checks
- It is safe, secure and confidential
- Use your checking account, savings, debit or credit card
- Allows you to contribute even when you are unable to attend parish services
- Use this link to start today: www.saintcolumbkille.org/give/online-giving

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**Special Stations of the Cross Concert**

All are invited to a special concert and video event hosted by St. Joan of Arc of Church, 3122 S. 74th St., Omaha, on **Friday, March 13th at 7 p.m.** The concert features Catholic recording artist Donna Cori, who will lead participants through the Stations of the Cross in a beautiful, unique way.

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**Welcome Ministry Meeting**

Did you know we have about 10-15 new families joining St. Columbkille each month? Would you like to be a part of the Welcoming Ministry whose mission it is to visit and welcome each new family? Join us for an info meeting about this important ministry on **Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Center.**

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**Magnificat-Omaha Event**

Magnificat-Omaha invites all women to a Brunch with guest speaker Teresa Tomeo on **March 7th, 9:30 a.m. at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, 11802 Pacific St., Omaha.** Teresa is the host of The Catholic View for Women on EWTN and will share how Jesus healed her marriage and changed her life forever. Reservations are Required: Go to: [http://www.magnificatomaha.org/ to RSVP.](http://www.magnificatomaha.org/)

Magnificat-Omaha is an archdiocesan-wide Catholic women’s organization focused on evangelization.

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**Respect Life Group**

St. Columbkille’s March Respect Life meeting will be **Monday, March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Office’s Conference Room.** Please come and help us in our mission of “Bringing Disciples to Life.” If you have any questions, please call Cathy Badura at 402-677-5688.

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**Welcome ALL Seniors**

Please come to the potluck luncheon at **11:30 a.m. on March 2nd, 2020, at the Sacred Heart Center.** Our guest speaker will be Officer Pat Nastase from the Papillion Police Department. He will speak on crime prevention and safety at home. Main course will be provided. Please bring a friend and a side dish to share.
Pictures from Inside the Parish Center

Have you seen our recent pictures from inside the Parish Center? A few are included below. To see more, visit our website or Facebook page. We’re so excited to see such great progress!