Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 2nd, 2020

Special Ceremony Honoring Fr. Dave

Congratulations to Fr. Dave, who recently celebrated his 40th anniversary of serving as a priest, as well as 30 years of service in the Air Force. The Knights of Columbus held a small ceremony last Sunday to recognize him (more details inside!).
PUBLIC & LIVE STREAMED MASSES

Monday-Thursday
Public Mass: at 8:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Live streamed at 8:15 a.m. on the St. Columbkille Parish YouTube channel and via the link to it at the top of our website.
Friday: 6:20 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. Live streamed at 8:15 a.m.
Saturday: Communion Service, 8:15 a.m., Sunday Vigil Public Mass & Live streamed on parish YouTube channel at 5 p.m.
Sunday
Public Masses at 9 a.m. and noon
Mass & Live streamed on parish YouTube channel at 5 p.m.

ST. COLUMBKILLE PARISH DIRECTORY

PRIESTS
FR. DAVE REESON, 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, Marriage Coordinator
402-339-3285 | whill@saintcolumbkille.org
David Batter, Director of Music & Liturgy
402-339-3285 ext. 107 | dbatter@saintcolumbkille.org
Anna Ferguson, Director of Communication/Bulletin Editor
402-339-3285 ext. 104 | aferguson@saintcolumbkille.org
Phil LaSala, Director of Pastoral Services
402-339-3285 ext. 105 | pjlasala@saintcolumbkille.org
Carmen McCartney, Secretary
402-339-3285 ext. 100 | cmcmccartney@saintcolumbkille.org
Sarah Yarpe, Athletics
402-592-1533 | sayarpe@saintcolumbkille.org
Debbie Armentrout, Business Manager
402-592-8494 | dkarmentrout@saintcolumbkille.org
Bill Heese, Maintenance/Grounds 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
hhixon@saintcolumbkilleschool.org

ST. COLUMBKILLE RELIGIOUS FORMATION | 402-339-0990
Lori Long, Director
llong@saintcolumbkille.org
Nicole Cook, Coordinator of Disciple Formation
nccook@saintcolumbkille.org
Judie O’Connor, Office Manager
joconnor@saintcolumbkille.org

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.

ST. COLUMBKILLE GRADE SCHOOL

Heather Hixson, Assistant Principal
402-339-8706 | sforeman@saintcolumbkilleschool.org

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Lori Long, Director
llong@saintcolumbkille.org
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RECONCILIATION

Monday-Thursday
5:00-5:20 p.m.
Saturday
3:30-4:30 p.m.

MASS, HOMILISTS, INTENTIONS & PRESIDERS

Monday, August 3rd
8:15 a.m. +Beverly Lane and Denise Lane
5:30 p.m. + Carol Bukovics (Fr. Greisen)
Tuesday, August 4th
8:15 a.m. +Leni Weil (Fr. Tom Magnuson)
5:00 p.m. + Mildred and Chester Crail
Wednesday, August 5th
8:15 a.m. Blessings for Angelica Gomez (Fr. Greisen)
5:30 p.m. + Mildred and Chester Crail
(8 Fr. Ron Wasikowski)
Thursday, August 6th
8:15 a.m. + Rich Kriegler and + Cliff Swertzic
5:30 p.m. + Larry and Eleanor Gresk
(8 Fr. Ron Wasikowski)
Friday, August 7th
6:20 a.m. CANCELLED
8:15 a.m. + Max Gradl (Fr. Tom Magnuson)
Saturday, August 8th
8:15 a.m. FULL MASS (Fr. Magnuson)
5:00 p.m. Blessings for Stephanie Cripe
(8 Fr. Greisen)
Sunday, August 9th
9:00 a.m. + John MacNamara (Fr. Reeson)
12:00 p.m. + Kyron Bogacz (Fr. Reeson)

DEACONS
Yana DiGiacomo | 402-515-7461
David Graef | 402-592-4741
Bill Hill | 402-250-3030
Steve Jordan | 402-290-4916
Robert Kellar | 402-614-7640
David Krueger | 402-630-4384
Eric Vande Berg | 402-290-4916
Russ Perry | 402-651-8451
Frank Mascarello | 402-650-2579
Tracy Ortgies | 402-630-4384
Jen Overkamp | 402-339-2998
Steve Jordan | 402-250-3030
Steve Jordan | 402-250-3030
Bob Stier | 402-614-7640
Bob Stier | 402-614-7640
Bob Stier | 402-614-7640
Bob Stier | 402-614-7640

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.
THERE’S NO OPTION FOR ME BUT TO CHERISH ALL HUMAN LIFE
FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH

While I was in high school I took a speech course and was asked to prepare a talk that presented a case in favor of legalized abortion, and another one that was against legalized abortion. I did a lot of homework on the topic, which was unusual for me in high school. By the time I finished my preparation, I was not able to present a case that favored abortion. I may not have gotten a good grade in the course since I was only able to do half of the assignment, but I simply could not deny that abortion ends a human life that begins at conception. People might say that I was pro-life just because I was Catholic, but the fact is that I was not very engaged in the Church at that time, and my stance was based much more on facts than on faith. Over the years I have tried to listen carefully to people who self-identify as “pro-choice” so I can better understand their position, but I have become totally convinced that each and every human life is a gift from God and must be cherished.

As Catholics, our pro-life stance applies throughout each and every person’s life, from conception to natural death. We are all made in the image and likeness of God. We all have value simply because God created us, and because God loves us. In God’s eyes, it doesn’t matter what our ethnicity is, or our skin color, or our economic status, or how smart or capable we are. It doesn’t even matter what football team people cheer for, although I think Mary the Mother of Jesus prefers the Huskers. :) Every human being is precious in the eyes of God. Each of us has dignity, and each of us is an essential member of the Body of Christ.

I know of people in every political party, race, faith background and economic status who are with me in being pro-life, because we treasure all human life. The Gospels are full of stories of how Jesus loved God and how he loved everyone, and he commands us to do the same. None of us is perfect, and we all slip up from time to time. But I know God is calling on us to love one another, and I’m sure that’s the right starting point for each of us to take our next step to be more like Jesus.

Fr. Dave

David J. Reeson

P.S.: In other pro-life good news, the Nebraska Legislature recently voted to pull LB814 out of committee, 30-8, and send it to the floor for a debate session. This is one step closer to ending dismemberment abortion in Nebraska. Praise God!
Someone once said that if Christians really understood the full extent of the power we have available through prayer, we might be speechless. Did you know that during World War II there was an advisor to Prime Minister Winston Churchill who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every day, at a prescribed hour, for one minute of collective prayer for the safety of England, it’s people and peace? There is now a group of people organizing the same thing in America. If you would like to participate:

Every evening at 8:00 p.m. CT, stop what you are doing and spend one minute in prayer for the safety of people in the United States and around the world. Include any of your special intentions. Set your smart phone to remind you to pray each day from 8:00 p.m. until 8:01 p.m. Our prayers are the most powerful asset that we have.

Open Teacher’s Aide Positions

St. Columbkille School is looking for two Teacher’s Aides, one for kindergarten and one for 1st grade. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Sarah Foreman at sforeman@saintcolumbkilleschool.org or call 402-339-8706.
Celebrating Fr. Dave
By Anna Ferguson, Director of Communication

Last Sunday, the Knights of Columbus held a small, quiet ceremony celebrating Fr. Dave’s 40th anniversary of his ordination as well as 30 years well-served in the Air Force. Due to the Coronavirus, there was not going to be a safe way to hold a big, parish-wide celebration for Fr. Dave, but parishioner and Marine, John Jurgensen, still felt it was important to recognize Fr. Dave’s many faithful years of service and leadership. With all the pomp and circumstance that goes along with the military and Marine Corps, John went above and beyond the call of duty to organize the event. He poured personal time and resources into creating the shadow box, which includes a cross, chalice, Bronze Star award, military regalia and a recognition plaque. He then enlisted his fellow Knights of Columbus to honor Fr. Dave in a special way, and ensured that seemingly small details, like having a United States flag along with the Knights of Columbus flag flanking the podium, were taken care of. Though a small event, the time and resources John spent to make it happen are deeply appreciated. About thirty parishioners, mainly the Knights of Columbus and their family members, as well as Fr. Tom, attended in honor of Fr. Dave.

The Knights of Columbus Grand Knight, Wes Thibodeaux, presented the shadow box to Fr. Dave to acknowledge, show appreciation and celebrate with him his 40th year of service to God as pastor of St. Columbkille. In addition to the 40 years of service to his vocation of the priesthood, Fr. Dave also served as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force for 30 years, obtaining the rank of Colonel. He was also awarded the Bronze Star, the 4th highest ranking award a service person can receive, for a heroic and meritorious deed performed in an armed conflict. While we are unable to celebrate as a parish this joyous occasion with Fr. Dave, personally the Knights felt that Fr. Dave’s combined 70 years of service to God and country needed to be recognized, though of course Fr. Dave humbly declined this at first.

As we cannot collectively gather to show our appreciation, the Knights and John encourage you to consider donating to our Parish Center project by giving online through Abundant. Simply go to our parish website, click on the “Give” tab, then “Online giving” and click on the “Capital Campaign” button. You can text to give from that page, too. You are also welcome to drop off envelopes to the Parish Office.
Parish Gifts
This report is for the Sunday Collection and does not represent all Parish financial income and expenses.

July 26th
Budgeted Weekly Operating Income.............$50,238
Sunday Tithe-Collections..................................18,929
Sunday Tithe-Online Donations (Weekly).............3,688
Sunday Tithe-Automatic Withdrawal..................17,125
Sunday Tithe-Retirement Fund Donation.............4,610
Sunday Tithe-Total........................................$44,352

Year-to-Date Budgeted Tithing ..................200,952
Year-to-Date Total Tithing..............................173,643
Year-to-Date Overage/(Shortfall)...................(27,309)

Other Collections:
Debt Reduction..............................................210
Votive Lights..................................................218
Building Rental..............................................125
St. Columbkille Ed Trust.................................175
St. Vincent de Paul.........................................825
Future Fund..................................................2,120
Peter’s pence...............................................10
Abundant/Vanco Processing Fee Donation.........71

American Heritage Girls Troop 1877
Chartered by St. Columbkille Parish

American Heritage Girls (AHG) is a Christ-centered character and leadership development program for girls 5 to 18 years of age. AHG is dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. Join the troop and make new friends as you explore everything from engineering to rock climbing and support your community through food drives or making welcome home signs for Habitat for Humanity. Take advantage of opportunities to lead, mentor or learn as all units work together and independently during the month. We know you will make memories to last a lifetime!

Meeting Time: All units meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Meeting Location: St. Columbkille and Zoom meetings
Who: Kindergarteners to 12th graders

For more information or to join, please send an email to ahg1877@gmail.com or check out the AHG website https://americanheritagegirls.org/.

Help Needed Sanitizing the Church
We continue to need your help sanitizing the church between each Mass, particularly on weekends, so as to ensure everyone’s safety. Together, it only takes about 15-20 minutes and all supplies will be provided. The job includes spraying down pews, door handles and bathrooms. The disinfectant does not need to be wiped off, making sanitizing a fast process. If you would like to help, please sign up here:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4a6c2ba5f49-church
Beware!

Every so often a conartist sends out a scam email in Fr. Dave's name, asking for a favor or money. Recently, another such email went out to parishioners.

Please, before you click on anything contained in these emails or send money, double-check the sender's email address. If it is not dreeson@saintcolumbkille.org then it is not from Fr. Dave.

If you are ever unsure of whether the email is legitimate, feel free to call the Parish Office, 402-339-3285.

Volunteer with Essential Pregnancy Services

Someone once said, “Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”

Here is an opportunity to influence the community you live in: Join Essential Pregnancy Services (EPS) in supporting women struggling with an unplanned pregnancy. Volunteer receptionists are especially needed, but also volunteers in the areas of nursing, client mentoring and advocacy, sorting donations, working in the clothing boutique, landscaping/yard work, painting, planning baby showers and helping with events. If you have a skill or are simply available, EPS would appreciate your help! Volunteer every week or four hours a month—whatever works with your schedule.

Please contact Susie Diercks at susied@essentialps.org or call (531) 213-1133 to arrange a tour and see how you can put hands and feet to supporting mothers who choose life for their children!

Fair Trade Items Still for Sale

You can still safely purchase your favorite fair trade items—chocolates, coffee, etc.—through St. Columbkille. Contact either Sheila Holloway at baskfan@cox.net, 210-508-4559, or Sr. Jean Marie, jfaultus754@cox.net, 402-593-9214. Items will be delivered to customers.

In Loving Memory of

Felomino Valera

"They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve baskets full."

IS THAT WHERE THOSE ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT RESTAURANTS GOT THE IDEA?
Athletics Updates

MICROSOCCER FALL 2020 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
Deadline to register is August 28th.
Open to boys and girls
3-Year-Old, Preschool and Kindergarten
Season runs September through October
To register, visit the Athletics website:
https://www.saintcolumbkille.org/athletics

*NEW ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE*
REGISTRATION OPENS 8/1!
Deadline to register is August 31st.
Open to St. Columbkille parishioners (21 and older)
Sunday Nights 7 p.m. in the new Doug and Judy McWilliams Parish Center
Cost per team: $200
Season runs September through October.
To register, visit the Athletics website:
https://www.saintcolumbkille.org/athletics

CRUSADERS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
Register now for 2020-2021 Crusaders Basketball!
Deadline to register is August 31st
Open to boys and girls 2nd-8th grade
Season runs November to March
To register, visit the Athletics website
www.saintcolumbkille.org/athletics.

ST. COLUMBKILLE SELECT BASEBALL TRYOUTS
Date: August 3rd at 6:30 p.m.
Make-up Date: August 6th at 6:30 p.m.
Location: St. Columbkille Sports Complex
8U-14U Divisions Available
To register and for more information,
contact Jim Horacek at crus8rbaseball@gmail.com.
You Are Invited to Join the Hospitality Ministry at St. Columbkille!

The Hospitality Ministry is open to individuals and/or families that want to share Jesus’ love with our St. Columbkille community and visitors, in a variety of ways and places, through radical hospitality. What is radical hospitality? It is the intentional invitation and welcome of all people. It goes beyond greeting people at the door; it is the act of welcoming every person as an honored guest, as if you are welcoming them into your own home.

The Hospitality Ministry is pivotal in making all those coming into our parish feel loved, known, safe, and welcomed, as well as helping provide safety precautions as we gather in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are certain this is what our parish community is seeking during this time of uncertainty and for years to come.

The Hospitality Ministers are hopeful that you will prayerfully consider the Hospitality Ministry for you or your family. "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." -Hebrews 13:2

Please reach out to Marlo Monico with your response to this invitation or with any questions at mmmonico@gmail.com and/or contact the Parish Office (402) 339-3285.

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**Online Healing Mass**

His Global Love Prayer Communities present an online Healing Mass, due to COVID-19, on **Wednesday, August 12th at 8:30 p.m.** Fr. Kevin Joyce, from His Global Love, and Fr. Michael Voithofer, from Ablaze Worship Ministry, will be leading and presiding. Mass will be available online by 8:30 p.m. To view please go to: www.youtube.com, then type “His Global Love” into the search bar and from there click on “Healing Mass - August 12th, 2020.”

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**Stations of the Cross Reopening at The Cloisters on the Platte**

The Stations of the Cross at The Cloisters on the Platte will reopen to the public beginning **Monday, August 3rd.** Precautions will be taken to implement social distancing and to sanitize audio equipment and indoor areas to prevent spreading COVID-19. Plan to wear a mask for your shuttle ride and gift shop visit.

Experience the 2,500 foot long walking tour of the Stations of the Cross, comprised of fourteen sculptures depicting Christ’s trial through his burial. Visitors are encouraged to donate at least $10. With each donation, visitors will receive a complimentary audio tour.

The new expanded visiting hours are **Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Visitors may remain at the Stations of the Cross for up to an hour after closing time. For groups of twenty or more, please contact Darla Koch at darlakoch@cloistersontheplatte.com.

**Address:** 23332 Fishery Road, Gretna, NE 68028. For more information visit cloistersontheplatte.com.
St. Columbkille Catholic School

WE ARE HIRING!

Crusader Care Director
Crusader Care is an established before and after school program with DHHS licensure. This is a part time position with 4-5 hours per day. Hours are approximately 6:30-7:45 AM and 3:00-6:00 PM on days when school is in session.

If interested or for more information, please email Sarah Foreman
sforeman@saintcolumbkilleschool.org
or call 402-339-8706