



ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter



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OCTOBER 2024



ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

GET READY FOR THIS YEAR'S TRUNK OR TREAT

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS' ANNUAL EVENT DRAWS HUNDREDS FOR FAMILY-FRIENDLY GATHERING

Save the date for the Knights of Columbus annual Trunk or Treat event, which will again be a fun event that draws hundreds to our parish!

St. Peter's Knights of Columbus Council 10510 exists to raise funds for our parish and area organizations while promoting fraternity among men in our parish, to name a few goals. The group also puts in a lot of effort in organizing the annual Trunk or Treat event, which is just a feel-good, family-friendly gathering. This year the event will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25.

While the Knights organize this event, much of the work is done by the people who bring their trunks. All 27 who attended last year provided treats and decorated their trunks for the approximately 700 children who attended.

Gary Bouc helps organize the event as a Knight. He's always impressed by how much work and time people put into their trunks.

"We've had a person with a replica space shuttle in the back of a truck, to our pastors dressed as the three amigos," Gary says. "It's so fun to see what everyone does."

For Gary, it's wonderful to see the community take part in this display of creativity. And it truly is a community-wide event, not just for families of our parish. Gary hopes that this event gives non-parishioners a little taste of our parish.

"This is such a fun event for families to come experience," he says. "We appreciate all those who put so much work into their trunks and the treats."

The Knights also hand out Tootsie Rolls and hot chocolate.

"This event just builds some overall goodwill," Gary says. "I enjoy seeing the kids having fun and laughing. There's nothing serious about it — it's all for fun."



Events like the Trunk or Treat are Gary's favorite. He appreciates all the service opportunities that are taken on by the Knights of Columbus.

"I am proud of all the work that the Knights do worldwide," Gary says.

He particularly appreciates the work of bringing ultrasounds to pregnancy support centers.

Our parish chapter also donated a lot of funds toward the parish restoration project. Gary is proud of everything the council has been able to support. They have many fundraisers throughout the year, including fish fries on the Fridays of Lent.

"I love knowing we can make a difference for organizations," Gary says. "The big and small projects we do through the Knights are all important."



To learn more about the Trunk or Treat event or to join the Knights of Columbus, contact Gary Bouc at 402-420-7478.

A Letter from Our Pastor

HONORING OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we enter the month of October, our thoughts and prayers turn to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, celebrated on Oct. 7. This feast, rich in history and spiritual significance, invites us to deepen our devotion to Mary and to reflect on the power of the Rosary in our lives.

The origins of this feast date back to 1571, when Pope Pius V instituted it in thanksgiving for the decisive victory of the Christian fleet over the Ottoman Empire at the Battle of Lepanto. This victory was attributed to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, invoked through the praying of the Rosary by Christians throughout Europe. The triumph was seen as a powerful reminder of the efficacy of the Rosary and the protection of Our Lady.

The Rosary is not merely a series of prayers but a profound meditation on the mysteries of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. As we recite the familiar prayers — the Apostles' Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be — we are invited to enter into the sacred mysteries of our faith. Each decade brings us closer to the heart of Jesus through the loving intercession of His mother, Mary.

In our daily lives, the Rosary serves as a source of comfort, guidance, and strength. It is a prayer that we can turn to in times of joy and sorrow, in moments of



gratitude and need. The repetitive nature of the prayers can bring a sense of peace and stillness, allowing us to focus our minds and hearts on the divine.

During this month of October, I encourage you to make the Rosary a part of your daily routine. Whether you pray it alone, with your family, or in a group, let it be a moment to pause and reconnect with God. Consider setting aside a specific time each day to pray the Rosary, perhaps in the morning as you begin your day or in the evening as you pre-

pare for rest.

As we honor Our Lady of the Rosary, let us also remember the many intentions we hold in our hearts and the needs of our parish community. Let us pray for peace in our world, for the healing of the sick, for the comfort of the grieving, and for the strength to live out our faith with courage and conviction.

May Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary, intercede for us and guide us ever closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.

In His Mercy,

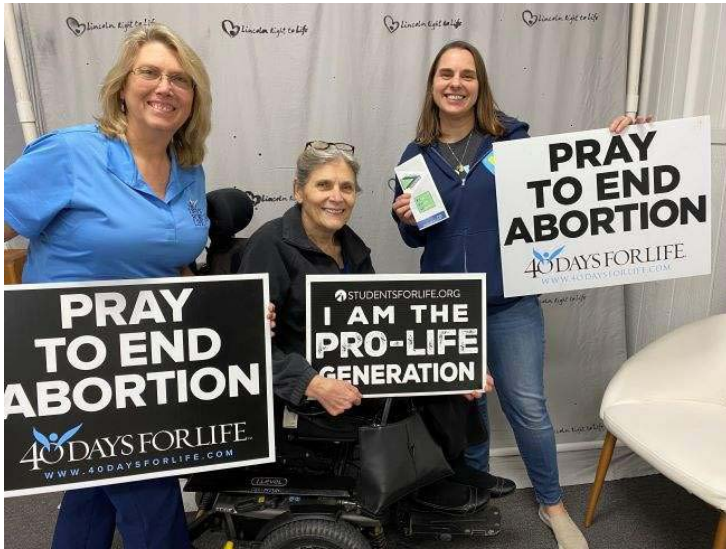
Fr. Eric Clark

Fr. Eric Clark,
Pastor





ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH



ALL ARE INVITED TO 40 DAYS SERVING AS A VOICE

“The campaign is 40 days because it is biblical,” Rich says. “40 Days for Life (40 DFL) was started by a group in Texas and has been growing ever since.”

Though whole groups and churches like St. Peter’s Catholic Church coordinate and promote 40 DFL, volunteering for vigils happens on an individual basis using the website – www.40daysforlife.com/lincoln.

With all the different groups of individuals coming together, the event has become very ecumenical as we put our faith into action.

“Participating in 40 DFL is giving of our time, a little bit of talent and little bit of treasure,” Rich says. “It is both a spiritual and physical work of mercy. Sacrificing our time going to pray on location, fast from food for an hour, giving witness to life, we are doing what the Lord had indicated what is needed – to pray and fast.

Every human person is created in the image and likeness of God. There are many different ways to defend, protect, and pray for an increase in society’s view of the sanctity of life from conception until natural death.

Parishioner Rich Horner has been dedicated to participating in the 40 Days for Life campaign for some time, and he seeks to bring an awareness to the importance of standing up and fighting for the unborn and their mothers.



TO PARTICIPATE IN FOR LIFE FOR THE VOICELESS

“Those who are veterans to 40 DFL know their presence can change the hearts and minds of abortion-minded people with the help of our Heavenly Father,” he adds. “We need to continue standing for life so the favor and graces from the Father will make abortion ‘unthinkable.’”

With announcements and reminders in the bulletin, 40 DFL has become a regular event happening every fall and spring. The fall campaign started Sept. 25 and continues to Nov. 3. Sign-ups are accepted anytime throughout the 40 days.

For newcomers, Rich can be reached anytime and is available after most Masses on Sundays to assist those who would like to join the peaceful and prayerful vigil.

Rich has witnessed the fruit of 40 Days for Life.

“We see more people coming from year to year to the spring and fall campaigns,” he says.

“As more individuals over time get involved with the 40 Days for Life, they tend to become involved with other pro-life ministries and events across the board,” he adds.

Furthermore, 40 DFL has been impactful in another way.

“Not as many people have been showing up at the local



abortion facility over the last two years,” Rich says. “Numbers have gone down dramatically.”

Even the resources available to women and families has grown in both Lincoln and Omaha. This growth has been noticeable and encouraging for us and especially for the women who have been referred for help.

All this progress, though, is now being threatened by the dangerous, deceitful, and deceptive abortion ballot initiative 439. This fall campaign of 40 DFL is positioned perfectly to spiritually be a spoiler come voting time this Nov. 5. Truly, our prayers are essential to this cause!



For those interested in participating in 40 Days for Life, contact Rich Horner at 402-413-6339.



EMBRACING THE CALL TO EVANGELIZATION

As Pope Benedict XVI once said, “The Church is missionary by nature and her principal task is evangelization, which aims to proclaim and to witness to Christ and to promote His Gospel of peace and love in every environment and culture.” This reminds us that it is not just up to “special” people – priests, deacons, or those with theology degrees – to evangelize and lead others to Christ.

The work of evangelization is something that we are all called to do. This may look different at various points in our lives. Often, though, we feel that we may not know how to do it. We may fear that there are barriers that keep us from sharing Christ with others. Often, we put up our own obstacles that stop us. Usually, all we need is to gain a new perspective. That is where the parish felt called to offer the program Reach One More.

This past summer, a pilot group at the parish went through the classes. The participants were “sent” away feeling equipped and ready to share the Gospel. This month as a parish, we will all have the opportunity to be trained in our parish mission, which is to make disciples.

“When people think of evangelization, they often think of door-to-door missionaries,” says Blake Vajgrt, Parish Catechist. “Evangelization can be door to door. On a daily basis, though, it is often living a holy life and inviting others to encounter Jesus. This the high call of discipleship. Abiding in Christ, we can trust that when we engage in conversation with others, doors can be opened for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of others.”

In this six-week program, parishioners have the opportunity to grow in confidence and ability to engage in meaningful conversation.

“It doesn’t make evangelism easy, but it shifts your perspective to help you realize that you can do this,” Blake says. “The very first week teaches us that while our culture is very secular in nature, people are really searching

for meaning. People may be religiously disaffiliated, but that doesn’t mean that they aren’t open to spiritual conversations. The series really helps you to learn how to break down those barriers to fruitful conversation and ask good questions.”

The series helps build an evangelization toolbox. Here are some of the tools that the series covers:

- Week 1 – How evangelism is joining with God in work He is already doing.
- Week 2 – How to develop and foster authentic friendships.
- Week 3 – What to do when you don’t know all the answers and why that is okay.
- Week 4 – How to ask good questions that can lead to spiritual conversations.
- Week 5 – How to tell stories that draw people into faith and understanding.
- Week 6 – How to make effective invitations to help another person encounter Jesus or grow in relationship with Him.

“What we are ultimately doing here is equipping our people with the tools necessary to follow the Lord’s Great Commission,” Blake says. “Go therefore, making disciples of all

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Reach One More - Information
(Registration Form)



REACH ONE MORE *continued from page 6*

nations... Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded of you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.' These were the last words of our Lord to His apostles and they extend to each and every one of us. Jesus is sending us to take our experiences and live a missional way of life. It is our job as the parish to support our parishioners and nourish our flock."

The hope for Reach One More is to equip parishioners with the tools and the confidence to live their everyday lives open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit so they can give those around them that moment of encounter with Jesus Christ. A person isn't converted in an instant – rather, they are given many moments where the Holy Spirit has the opportunity to stir their hearts and lead

them to the truth. We hope and pray that many will join us on this journey to lead others to deeper relationship with our Heavenly Father who loves each and every one of us – the same Heavenly Father who has willed each of us into existence and longs for each person to know Him. Let us embrace the opportunity to lead others into the most meaningful relationship of their lives.

Reach One More will be held each Wednesday from Oct. 9 to Nov. 13, in the St. Paul Outside the Walls Room, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. All are invited to attend.

EVANGELIZATION WORKSHOP



**EVERY WEDNESDAY
FOR 6 WEEKS,
FROM 6:30-8:00PM
STARTING OCTOBER 9.**

contact Blake Vajgrt with questions -
Blake-Vajgrt@cdolinc.net



ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH



4500 Duxhall Dr. | Lincoln, NE 68516
402-423-1239 | www.saintpeterlincoln.com

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8:15 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:15 a.m.

CONFESSION

Monday: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 30 minutes before each Mass



St. Peter K of C
Council 10510

TRUNK OR TREAT



OCTOBER 25

scan the code to
volunteer or provide
a trunk & treats



set up from
5 - 6 PM

4500 DUXHALL DR.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH PARKING LOT

6:00 - 7:30 PM