

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Staff:

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Parish Office Hours
Tues. – Thur. 9:00AM - 3:00PM

Heart of the Plains Cemetery
Linda Epple
970-347-7597

Religious Education
Deacon Ed Green (SH)
Christina Workman (HF)

8.23.2026

Twenty-first Sunday

Parish Information

Mass Times

Saturday: 5:00 PM Holy Family
Sunday: 8:00 AM SH; 10:30 AM HF; 12 PM HF Spanish
Tues: 6:00 PM SH preceded by Adoration & Confessions
Wed - Fri: 8:30 AM Sacred Heart
First Saturday of each Month: 8:30 AM Holy Family

Confessions

30 minutes before Weekend and Weekday Masses
Tuesday: 5:00 - 6:00 PM at Sacred Heart
Or by appointment

Baptism: Call Deacon Ed Green 720-550-0356.

Marriage: Call six months prior to wedding date.

Pearls of Wisdom!

Treasures inspire. Treasure hunters search the ends of the earth to find the hidden pearls, uncovering secrets and mysteries. Treasures empower and the sacrifices that people make to have that power astound and astonish the onlookers. Yet, as Jesus warns us, (Matt 6:19)

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Treasures create dreams, but all treasure less one are vainglory. The only treasure worth sacrificing for is the heavenly treasure of Wisdom which moth, nor rust, nor time, nor suffering, and most importantly, evil cannot destroy.

This heavenly treasure demands the greatest sacrifice for it is the greatest treasure: the Pearl of greatest value. Because it is so precious, for it is Jesus Christ Himself, it demands the greatest perseverance.

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him (Jm 1:12).

Status of Operating Fund

(July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)	Sacred Heart		Holy Family	
Weekly Budgeted (Aug 16)	\$2,307.69	\$240.38	\$1,538.46	\$67.30
Actual Collection	\$1,567.00	\$232.00	\$1,236.00	\$46.00
Over/<Under> Weekly Budget	(\$740.69)	(\$8.38)	(\$302.46)	(\$21.30)
Year-to-Date Budgeted	\$16,153.83	Capitol	\$10,769.22	Capitol
Year-to-Date Actual Collections	\$11,275.00	Funds	\$8,917.75	Funds
Over/<Under> Yearly Budget	(\$4,878.83)		(\$1,851.47)	
Expenses Budgeted for the year	\$20,396.95		\$15,422.89	
Expenses for the year to date	\$15,057.52		\$12,523.61	
Over/<Under> Yearly Budget	(\$5,339.43)		(\$2,899.28)	

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways!

Perfection consists in doing the will of GOD, not in understanding his designs.

**Who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor?
Who has given the Lord anything that he be repaid?**

August 23, 2026

**“The power to ‘bind and loose’
connotes the authority to
absolve sins, to pronounce
doctrinal judgments, and to make
disciplinary decisions in the
Church. Jesus entrusted this
authority to the Church through
the ministry of Peter.”
— CCC 553**

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat. Aug 22 Holy Family	5:00 PM: Chantel Rupp by Parish
Sun. Aug 23 Sacred Heart	8:00 AM: James Simpson Family by T. Simpson
Sun. Aug 23 Holy Family	10:30 AM: Sarah Dwyer by Parish
Sun. Aug 23 Holy Family	12:00 PM: Parish Family
Mon. Aug 24	No Mass Here
Tue. Aug 25 Sacred Heart	6:00 PM: Bruce Klausner by Parish
Tue. Aug 25 Holy Family	7:00 PM: Maria de Jesus Jimenez† by Maria Lechuga
Wed. Aug 26 Sacred Heart	8:30 AM: Floyd Bloom† by Ed Green
Thu. Aug 27 Sacred Heart	8:30 AM: Charlie & Lauri Klausner by Ed Green
Fri. Aug 28 Sacred Heart	8:30 AM: Lawrence Rezac†
Sat. Aug 29 Holy Family	5:00 PM: Parish Family

† indicates Memorial Mass



Aug 25 Catechist Training, 6-9 PM, Ft. Morgan

Aug 29 Holy Family Fiesta, 11-7 PM, Brighton

****We need helpers to set up from 9-12 PM****

Sep 2 Homeschool Co-op meeting, 6:30 PM, HF

Sep 3-11 Fr. Tom out of town

Sep 5 First Saturday Devotions, 8:30 Mass, H. Family

Sep 13 CCD Classes begin at both churches, 9 AM

Sep 14 Homeschool Co-op gathering, 9-12 PM, HF

Sep 14 Catechesis 8-9 PM, Holy Family Hall

Sep 17 Youth Group begins, 7-8 PM, Holy Family Hall

Sep 22 OCIA begins, 7 PM, Sacred Heart

Pray for Them

Janet Klausner, Don Bratrsovsky, Jason Klausner, Bailey Navarro, Fr. John Shedlock, Barb Marty, Robert McMillion, Sally Bratrsovsky, Fr. Peter Dinh, Jeanette Neuhaufen, Mary Ockenfels, Bowman Family, Bill Epple, Theresa Schindedecker, Leticia Paz, Easton Vigil, Rick Gerkin, Geri Green, Dennis Buchholz, for the repose of the souls of David Koldeway† & Luster Vanover†

(Please let the parish office know if you or someone you know needs to be added or removed from the prayer list.)

My Church

21st century thinking believes in self-autonomy and self-actualization. “Do it my way” is the mantra. In this light, Christians are taught to read Scriptures privately and follow their private interpretation.

This sense of scriptural interpretation works for a time, but when the difficult moral issues combat the teachings of Jesus and his Church, we easily wax and wane with the cycles of human thought. Abortion, contraception, homosexuality, divorce, genetic engineering are just a few of the very complicated and problematic moral issues that we face today.

Scripture seldom explains explicitly with precise and exacting language and we are left to ourselves to investigate the rightness or wrongness of a particularly difficult issue.

Left in our own quandary we vacillate as to what we ought to do. Looking to sources for answers, we have to look beyond the Scriptures and look to the Catholic Church, Who has authority to bind and loose, decide and determine what is forbidden and what is permitted. The Church teaches,

“for it is through Christ’s Catholic Church alone, which is the universal help toward salvation, that the fullness of the means of salvation can be obtained” (#815).

Only the Catholic Church, out of many Christian Churches, claims to have that ability to decide for herself exactly what the will of God is. The Catholic Church founds this teaching on Jesus’ statement to Peter at Caesarea Philippi.

“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the nether-world shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Matt 16: 18)

Jesus adheres to the customs of the Jewish faith, offering Peter the keys of the kingdom, just as the King of Israel did at the time of Eliakim.

Keys go back far into Jewish history and go deep into the future of our history. Keys open locked doors, but they also have the power to control the opening and the locking of those very same doors.

The one who receives the keys has the power to open and lock. He is a person of honor and authority, yet he does not have sole authority but depends upon the king’s authority.

Jesus is King and places Peter in charge. No one can just claim this authority. He has to be elected. This is the role and position of the Church who chooses the pope.

Jesus entrusts Peter with the keys, but He also promises Peter the guidance of the Holy Spirit to ensure that the gates of hell will not prevail against him, for Jesus knows how weak he is.

“But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you” (Jn 16:13).

The Church belongs to God and the authority of the Church comes not from Scripture, nor Peter, but from the Holy Spirit Himself, who reveals all things to us.

Not Everyone Who claims to be Pope Is the Pope

THE CHURCH IS APOSTOLIC



The Catholic Church is APOSTOLIC because it was founded by Christ on the Apostles and has been governed by their lawful successors. If a church cannot trace back its history lawfully in an unbroken line step by step to the Apostles, it is **not the True Church**.

Those denominations that broke away from the Church thus lost their connection with the Apostles. They were all begun by individuals who could never have had any authority from either Christ or the Apostles.

If one wishes to locate the true Church founded by Jesus, then he needs to look for its four (4) chief marks:

First, that Church must be **ONE**. Jesus established only one, not a collection of churches, because "in Christ we, though many, form one body," (Roman 12:5). Second, it must be **HOLY**, not because all its members are holy, but because it was founded by God Himself—that is Jesus—who is all-holy, and not by mere men. Third, it must be **CATHOLIC**, or universal, because it is Jesus' gift to all people: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19-20).

Finally, it must be **APOSTOLIC**, which means that it must have an uninterrupted history that goes all the way back to the apostles, and from the apostles, directly to Jesus Himself.

The Catholic Church does have all the four marks.

Every denomination has its pope to decide what the congregation will believe. Many have theologians, elected officers, and some have self-appointed preachers. Yet, all have one thing in common, someone's in charge.

For most denominations the way a person reaches that position of authority is through knowledge and experience. Still, every church claims to have this key to definitively decide what the truth is.

In other words, every church has an infallible, POPE, who teaches the congregation his truth.

The authority to determine the Christian faith, however, is not private interpretation of Scripture where one personally decides what is true or not. Authority is not given to just any person who claims to have knowledge of the Bible. Jesus chose his successor and gives him the Spirit of Truth to interpret Scripture. Jesus declares,

"So I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the nether-world shall not prevail against it" (Matt 16:18).

Because Peter recognized Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus recognized him. However, this does not mean that just anyone who claims to be Christian can receive the keys of Jesus' Church. In fact all 12 Apostles received authority to bind and loose (Matt 18:18), however, only one person has the ultimate authority to determine which is true or erroneous to our faith. This person is the POPE.

The Riches of Wisdom

Oh Divine Providence,
I ask not for more riches but
more wisdom with which to use
the riches you gave me at birth
in the form of power to control
and direct my mind to whatever
ends I desire.

Decisions teach wisdom and every decision we make ought to be made under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. He pours forth gifts for those who pray and seek wisdom.

Many today, however, do not seek Divine Wisdom, but earthly wisdom, applauding politics, social media, and

entertainment. These, as important as they seem, will veer off course if they are not rooted in Divine Wisdom.

Corruption comes from decisions that focus on the horizontal plane instead of combining the horizontal along with the vertical plane, creating a whole view.

For us to treasure Divine Wisdom, we realize every decision that begins with the self, earthly wisdom, leads to sin. Every decision that starts with the Holy Spirit leads to holiness because we obey Christ and his Church, not just our own interpretation. Paul teaches this, telling the Romans,

"For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all. Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!" (Rom 11:32).

Paul counsels us to have the mind of Christ. Putting on the mind of Christ, we have Divine Wisdom. This mindset comes through the Catholic Church. Each wise decision adheres to the Church and her teachings.

Adhering to the Church's teaching, we discern each decision, knowing it leads us deeper into relationship with Christ and his ways—not ours. The spirit of the world tests our faith, but with the mindset of Christ, we focus on God's wisdom, giving us counsel and courage to live his will.

Dress for Mass

Dress for Success popularized how important dress is to excel in life. The same principle applies to Mass, the most sacred act of the week.

Dress displays character and integrity. It speaks volumes concerning our self-worth.

At Mass, dress ought to be an expression of our self-worth, but also respects who we have come to worship. Dressing for Mass then is not common day attire, but attire that honors God, self, and others.



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