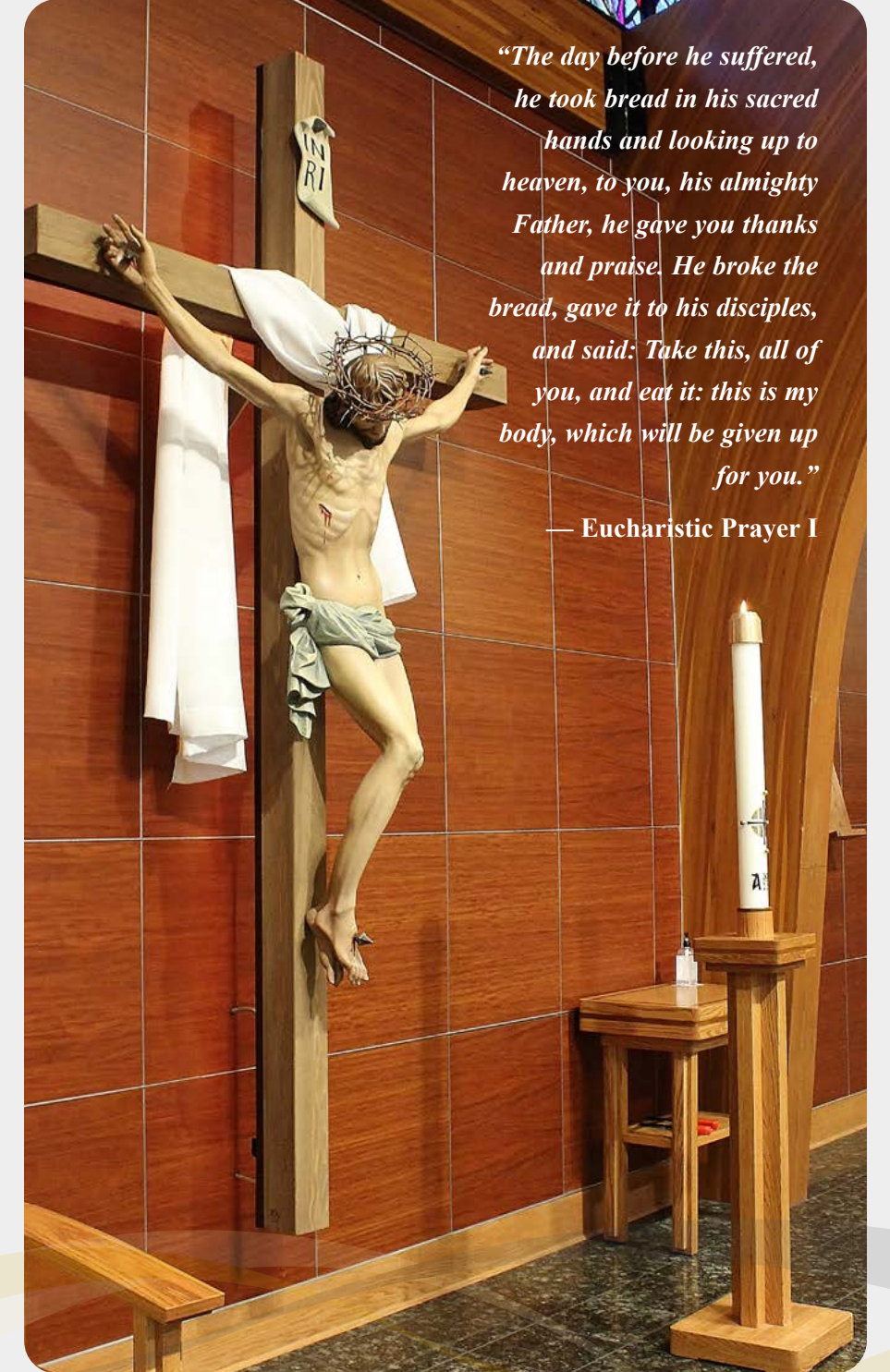


# *Take, Bless, Break, Give*

2023 STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL



*Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church*



*“The day before he suffered,  
he took bread in his sacred  
hands and looking up to  
heaven, to you, his almighty  
Father, he gave you thanks  
and praise. He broke the  
bread, gave it to his disciples,  
and said: Take this, all of  
you, and eat it: this is my  
body, which will be given up  
for you.”*

— Eucharistic Prayer I

# Take, Bless, Break, Give.

## The Eucharistic Cycle of Stewardship

---

As Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, we are called to give of ourselves. With grateful hearts, we receive God's gifts, prayerfully nurture them, and share them with others.

### STEWARDSHIP AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

#### *Becoming Eucharistic People*

At the last supper, Jesus gave us His Body and Blood, telling us, "Love one another as I have loved you." Then just a few hours later, He made the ultimate sacrifice of love on the cross. The invitation is clear: if Jesus laid down His life for us, we are called to give our lives to others. At Blessed Sacrament, we call this lifestyle stewardship.

This year, during our annual Stewardship Renewal, we have an opportunity to reflect deeply on the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church. We at Blessed Sacrament are truly striving to become a Eucharistic People, which is reflected in our stewardship theme: *Take, Bless, Break, Give*. As Christ gave Himself to us, so we give ourselves to others.

All families are asked to use their Commitment Card to make commitments of time, talent, and treasure, then bring the completed card to Mass on **August 26/27**.







## *Stewardship of Time*

**Worshipping Christ in the Eucharist**

---

**A**s Catholics, the Eucharist is the center of our prayer lives. While we are all called to pray daily — on the way to work, with our family, before bedtime — the heart of our spirituality is celebrating the Eucharist, during which we receive Jesus in Communion. This year we are placing special emphasis on attending Mass each Sunday, which is not only an obligation, but also a great privilege. On your Commitment Card are listed several other ways to put Jesus at the center of our lives through regular prayer.

### ***Action Steps for Spiritual Growth:***

- Make Mass your top priority on Sunday
- Spend time each day in personal prayer
- Make an extra effort to pray before the Blessed Sacrament

# Stewardship of Talent

Being Christ to Others

---

Every week, there are many activities occurring at Blessed Sacrament. Various ministries pray together, groups minister to other parishioners, and some groups reach out to the community. Part of being an active member of our parish is to find your niche — the ministry where your personal talents can best be used. This is what St. Peter meant when he wrote, “As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Peter 4:10).

## *Action Steps to Increase Your Involvement:*

- Re-commit yourself to your current parish ministries
- Choose one new ministry to join
- Plan to attend parish-wide events



# Stewardship of Treasure

Putting God First in Finances

---

When Jesus observed a poor widow giving a small contribution to the temple, He remarked to His apostles, “This poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.” In this touching scene, we learn that our gifts should be proportionate: if your income is low, your gift will be small; for those who have more, more is expected. Moreover, we learn from this parable that Christ honors our sacrifice; He cherishes the sacrifice we make when we give from our substance rather than from our surplus.

While the Church doesn’t have any hard-and-fast rules for financial support, in Scripture we find that the Israelites were asked to give God 10 percent of their harvest. Thus, the tithe has become a standard for most Christian communities, including Blessed Sacrament. We ask that each family apportion their tithe as follows:

**5% to Blessed Sacrament**  
**1% to the diocese**  
**4% to other charities**

Action **steps to for** financial generosity:

- Strive to give 5% to Blessed Sacrament
- Commit to a specific gift each week or month
- Use your offertory envelopes or direct deposit



# 2023 Ministry Catalog

## *Faith Formation*

Contact: Deb Wetzel,  
308-395-8521,  
*unless otherwise noted.*

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Volunteers, including older youth through grandparents, lead children ages 3 through sixth grade in a Liturgy of the Word for Children at the 10 a.m. Mass twice a month. This includes 30 minutes of age-appropriate study, prayer, and crafts based on the Sunday readings.

### **Preschool through Grade 8 Religious Education**

Classes are offered on Wednesday evenings from September through Easter. This includes sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Volunteers who have a desire to pass on the faith to our youth are needed. Training and support are offered.



### **High School Religious Education**

We use the Godparent Program Model for our high school religious formation program. This model includes theological discussion, practical applications, social activities, and prayer. Godparent couples or teams need to be able to relate to teen issues. Godparents stay with their group two and a half years, from freshman year until preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which begins during the junior year.

## **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA formerly RCIA)**

This is a faith formation process that includes doctrinal understandings and growth in relationship with Christ and the Church. It is for those who wish to become Catholic and for Catholics who wish to understand their faith better. A team of volunteers leads the process from September until just after Easter.

## **Adult Enrichment**

Short programs for adults are led by volunteers, clergy, and persons in consecrated life, to deepen the theological and scriptural understandings and faith life. A committee is helpful for finding both topics of interest and good speakers.

*Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202*

## *Pastoral Care*

### **BeFriender Ministries**

This ministry extends the pastoral care the parish can provide to those who need it or could use an added connection to the Church because they are homebound or in a care center. Volunteers are trained and supported so they can listen well to others, and through listening, help those they visit find their own inner wisdom.

*Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202*





### **Visiting Homebound**

One of the things the homebound often talk about missing is Mass and receiving Holy Communion. This ministry provides an opportunity for the homebound to receive Communion on a regular basis. Volunteers are trained and accountable to Fr. Marty or Sr. Bernadette.

*Contact: Fr. Marty Egging, 308-384-0532, ext. 206; Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202*

### **Funeral Dinners**

As a parish we provide a dinner to grieving families right after the funeral service and burial. Many volunteers prepare, serve and clean up after the meal.

*Contact: Parish Office/Teri Puncochar, 308-384-0532*

### **Cookie Ministry**

Volunteers provide and serve cookies after vigil services to the bereaved giving them time to visit.

*Contact: Sandie Czarnick, 308-380-8158*

### *Liturgical Ministries*

These ministries serve one purpose: the celebration of the Eucharist which is the “source and summit of our faith” (Vatican II).

*Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202, unless otherwise noted.*

### **Lectors**

Those who proclaim the Word of God and lead the Prayers of the Faithful.

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC)**

Help distribute Communion during Mass, set up for Mass, and clean the Communion vessels after Mass.

### **Hospitality Ministers**

Those who help create a warm and welcoming environment by greeting people as they enter our church. Additional responsibilities include taking up the collection, distributing bulletins and picking up the church after Mass. Four people are needed for each Mass and children are welcome to serve with their family.

## **Altar Servers**

Assist the priest at Mass. Servers range in age from fourth grade through adult. Parents may serve with their children.

## **Music Ministers**

Accompanists, cantors, choir members, and soloists enhance the Liturgy with their music and by leading the congregation in raising their voices in sung praise of God.

## **Technology Ministers**

Livestream Masses weekly, and run the soundboard when needed.

*Contact: Clay Pfeifer,  
308-390-3332*

## **Art & Environment Ministers**

Enhance our liturgical celebrations by decorating the church and gathering area in ways that reflect the liturgical season.

*Contact: Barb Binfield,  
308-379-1671*

## *Hospitality/Outreach*

### **Coffee and Rolls**

Volunteers set up and serve coffee and donuts each Sunday after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses.

*Contact: Parish Office/Teri Puncochar, 308-384-0532*

### **Welcome Committee**

Members of this committee call on people who are newly registered in the parish to welcome them, share information about the parish and give them a welcome gift bag.

*Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202*

### **Parish Nurse Program**

The parish nurse, and volunteers working with her, focus on both healing ministry and on wellness of mind, body and spirit.

*Contact: Mary Anne Hinchey, R.N.,  
308-384-0532, ext. 211*

## **Parish Thrift Store**

The Thrift Store has a Christian mission of helping those with limited incomes live dignified lives by providing clothing, furniture, household appliances and more at an affordable price. The Thrift Store needs volunteers on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*Contact: Anne Coffey or Betty Aalborg at the Thrift Store, 308-398-3443 on the above days of the week; Or at home — Anne, 308-390-2131; Betty, 402-631-3577*

## **Food Pantry**

The parish Food Pantry lives up to the work of mercy: “Feed the hungry.” Volunteers come to help with stocking shelves, rotating stock, being aware of expiration dates, and setting up the grocery bags that would be given to those in need.

*Contact: Teri Puncochar, 308-384-0532*



## **Habitat for Humanity**

Working with people from all walks of life, Habitat for Humanity builds homes for the working poor. Volunteer work can be as little as one hour a month or a full eight-hour day.

*Contact: Julie Markvicka, 402-440-5254; Marty Markvicka, 308-390-3988*

## **Compass**

Compass Nebraska is a statewide Christian Ministry which focuses on keeping struggling, local families intact by meeting their basic financial and material needs. Volunteers help decide which needs we will fulfill and recruit the finances to fill those needs.

*Contact: Mary Anne Hinchey, R.N., 308-384-0532, ext. 211*

## *Social Activities*

### **Fall Fest**

This annual parish festival celebrates the parish and community, with dinner, games and raffles for everyone. Many volunteers are needed.

*Contact: Teri Puncochar,  
308-384-0532, ext. 201;  
Fr. Martin Egging,  
308-384-0532, ext. 206*

### **Prime Time Group**

Prime Time Group offers an opportunity for those age 50+ to share some time together. The group meets the third Wednesday of each month. Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, decorate the Jubilee Center, clean up afterwards, and help plan for the education and entertainment offered.

*Contact: Sr. Bernadette  
Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532,  
ext. 202*

### **Quilting Group**

Hand quilts the Fall Fest raffle quilt and hand quilts for individuals on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. No experience is necessary, we will teach you.

*Contact: JoAnn Sok,  
308-379-5618*

### **Women's Spring-A-Ling**

Volunteers meet for four one-hour sessions to plan, decorate, and set up for this fun, inspirational evening of fellowship.

*Contact: Catherine Osborn,  
308-379-1046*

## *Facilities Environment*

### **Courtyard Gardening**

Volunteer to come play in the dirt. Plant and maintain the courtyard for a beautiful place for prayer and contemplation.

*Contact: Deb Kobza,  
402-200-0774*



## **Landscaping, Lawn Care, and Snow Removal Ministry**

Volunteer to help keep the church property mowed and picked up of trash and maintain safety during the snowy times.

*Contact: Scott Hiatt,  
308-379-9666*

## *Small Groups and Organizations*

### **Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

Join this group of faithful, loving women dedicated to promoting justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and dignity for all. Meets the third Thursday of the month from September through June.

*Contact: Mary Phelan,  
308-382-0311*



## **Knights of Columbus**

This Catholic men's organization promotes social and intellectual fellowship through educational, charitable and religious service to the Church, country and others. New members are always welcome.

*Contact: Mike Jarosz,  
308-379-9791*

## **Centering Prayer Group**

The Centering Prayer Group meets the first and third Mondays of the month. One Monday focuses on praying and the other on learning about centering prayer.

*Contact: Dee Brabander,  
308-380-7217*

## **Charismatic Prayer Group**

A weekly gathering for prayer including some members speaking in tongues, song, and Scripture sharing, with Mass once a month.

*Contact: Dean and Anita Graf,  
308-384-8855*

## *School Ministries*

### **Blessed Sacrament Preschool**

Volunteers and grandparents may be classroom assistants preparing young children to move on to kindergarten once background checks are complete.

*Contact: Barb Seier,  
308-384-2086*

### **Central Catholic Schools**

Volunteer opportunities abound at GICC. We encourage your involvement in their academic and athletic endeavors.

*Contact: Parish  
Representative Rob  
Czaplewski, 308-370-1372;  
Mr. Jordan Engle, Principal,  
308-384-2440*



## *Parish Councils and Committees*

*The positions on these councils are either elected or appointed, but it is helpful to know who might be interested in them.*

### **Finance Council**

Works with the pastor for the financial well-being of the parish. These members include the two directors of the parish and others at the invitation of the pastor.

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

This council is advisory to the pastor and looks at the total welfare of the parish. Members are elected in the months of May and/or June.

### **Stewardship Committee**

This is an appointed committee whose focus is developing a stewardship culture in the parish. We will continue to add those who wish to join until the committee is full.

*Contact: Matthew Farrell,  
308-391-1321*



# Your Commitment to Stewardship

In the end, stewardship is about following Jesus, not just with our hearts and minds, but with concrete actions. Yet, it's difficult to give God any percentage of our time, talent, or treasure if we do not first give Him 100 percent of our hearts. For this reason, our Stewardship Renewal is a time for conversion above all else. It is a time to make God our top priority, and then express this conversion through written commitments.

Please bring your Commitment Card to Mass on **August 26/27**, mail it using the envelope provided, or fill one out online at **www.blsachurch.net**. Completing your card is an important part of being an active member of Blessed Sacrament.



*Take, Bless, Break, Give*

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
2023 COMMITMENT CARD  
*My Offering of Time, Talent & Treasure*

#1. First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

#2. Spouse: First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse: Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse: Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

#3. Child: First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
#4. Child: First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
#5. Child: First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring this card to Mass on **August 26/27**, or mail using the envelope provided. Thank you and God bless you!

## Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

518 W. State Street • Grand Island, NE 68801 • (308) 384-0532

[www.blsachurch.net](http://www.blsachurch.net)

*Please keep until Fall 2024*