

## Benedict: A Saint for July

Saint Benedict is considered the father of Western monasticism and a model for all Christians. He authored the famous Rule of St. Benedict, a handbook of daily Christian living that emphasizes exercising stewardship over prayer, work, and community.

Born in central Italy in the town of Nursia around 480, Benedict studied in Rome as a young man. He was so distressed by the chaos and incivility he found there that he left the city and traveled to Subiaco, Italy to become a hermit. He soon attracted followers who wanted to join him in his simple way of living; imitating his style of prayer and work while respecting the rhythms of the day. Benedict stayed there for 25 years before taking a small group of his monks to Monte Cassino, near Naples, where he wrote the final version of his Rule.

The Rule of St. Benedict started a simple, spiritual tradition that exists to this day. It was meant to "...establish a school for the lord's service." It is a set of Christian principles around which the members of the community were to organize their daily lives, focusing on the most important Christian values that would direct their daily actions and help them cultivate habits that would ensure good stewardship of their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

A hallmark of Christian stewardship is hospitality, making room for others. St. Benedict found this aspect of the Christian life especially important for his communities. In his Rule, St. Benedict writes: "let all guests who arrive be received like Christ, for he is going to say: 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Mt. 25:35).' 'And to all let due honor be shown, especially to those who share our faith' (Gal. 6:10) and to pilgrims...In welcoming the poor and pilgrims the greatest care and solicitude should be shown, because it is especially in them that Christ is received" (Rule of St. Benedict 53:1-2, 15).

The Rule of St. Benedict was meant to stand on the shoulders of the Gospels and many spiritual writers throughout the ages attest to its transforming power to change lives. It teaches the principles of stewardship, shows one how to live in a way that is uniquely countercultural and invites its adherents to enter into a deeper and more joyful relationship with the lord.

St. Benedict died in approximately 550. He is the patron saint of monks and farm workers. In 1964 Pope Paul VI declared him to be the patron saint of Europe. His feast day is July 11.

<b>Ashland Stir-Up Days</b> July 11-13, 2008	<b>BARN DOOR</b> Restaurant & Lounge <i>Eat In - Carry Out</i> <i>7 Days a week!</i> 440 East Elm Ceresco NE <b>402-665-2500</b> <i>Catholic Owners</i>	<b>Thomas</b> <b>Dredging &amp; Excavating</b> Lake Development & Restoration 944-7852 Cell: 432-7852 www.thomasdredging.com
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# St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Churches

## Ashland



**1625 Adams Street, Ashland NE 68003**  
**Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM**  
**Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM**

Pastor: Father Gary Coulter

### Welcome to new parishioners,

please call the rectory to register or for information on any of our parish activities and organizations.

CCD & Youth Group each Wed. 7:15 PM

## Greenwood



**7 Oak Street, Greenwood**  
**Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM**

Rectory & Fax: 944-3554, CCD/Hall: 944-7509  
 Cell: 202-3782, stmaryashland@alltel.net

### Confessions a half hour before Masses

Saturday 4:00-4:50 PM St. Mary  
 Sunday 8:00-8:20 AM St. Mary  
 10:00-10:20 AM St. Joseph

Any time by calling the rectory.

Mass Schedule for this week				
Sat.	July 12	5:00 PM	Ashland	+ Dorothy Lococo
Sun.	July 13	8:30 AM	Ashland	+ Wanda Tesmer
		10:30 AM	Greenwood	For the People
Mon. July 14—Fri. July 19			No Daily Mass	
Sat.	July 19	5:00 PM	Ashland	Ed Survil
Sun.	July 20	8:30 AM	Ashland	For the People
		10:30 AM	Greenwood	+ Boy Scout

**July 13, 2008**

**15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Ministries for next weekend**

Sat. July 19 - 5:00 PM  
 Servers: Campbell, Stilles  
 Acolyte: Gerald Fudge  
 Lector: Kathy Broz

Sun. July 20 - 8:30 AM  
 Servers: McGinley, Zobel  
 Acolyte: Tim Kirkpatrick  
 Lector: Rod Reisen

Sun. July 20 - 10:30 AM  
 Lector: Kevin Hofferber  
 Offertory: F. Ortiz

**Our Return to the Lord, July 5-6**

	<u>St. Mary</u>	<u>St. Joseph</u>
Adult:	\$ 1,127.00	\$ 249.00
Plate:	\$ 126.40	\$ 22.20
Children:	\$ 2.00	
Peter's Pence:	\$ 350.00	\$ 20.00
New Weekly Budget:	\$ 1,587.49	\$ 390.59

**Thank You for all your prayers for our Seminarians.**

**Readings and Celebrations this week:**

14 Mon Is 1:10-17 / Mt 10:34-11:1  
 Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin

15 Tue Is 7:1-9 / Mt 11:20-24  
 St Bonaventure, bishop and doctor

16 Wed Is 10:5-7, 13b-16 / Mt 11:25-27  
 [Our Lady of Mount Carmel]

17 Thu Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 / Mt 11:28-30

18 Fri Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 / Mt 12:1-8  
 [Saint Camillus de Lellis, priest]

19 Sat Mi 2:1-5 / Mt 12:14-21  
 [Blessed Virgin Mary]

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Wis 12:13, 16-19 / Rom 8:26-27 /  
 Mt 13:24-43

**Stewardship Thought**

**15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The parable of the sower has much to offer about our willingness to listen and our openness to understanding God's call to us. Ours is a busy world and we are constantly preoccupied with getting things done, finishing a project, making the appointment or meeting the deadline.

The Lord is the sower, planting seeds of wisdom, healing, faith, communion and joy within us. Stewardship includes pausing to listen and to make space for God; allowing those seeds to grow deep within our hearts. How are we preparing the ground for the sower to plant his seeds?

**Congratulations**

Anniversaries: Dave & Deb Hoffman 7/13  
 Kevin & Dian Hofferber 7/13  
 Joe & Colleen Crnkovich 7/14  
 George & Winnie von Rentzell 7/16  
 Lucille & Earl Brauckmuller 7/18

Birthdays: Maddie Egeberg 7/14  
 Tom Lindhorst 7/14  
 Karen Roth 7/14  
 Kevin Fuller 7/15  
 Charissa Kenny 7/15  
 Heather Pease 7/15  
 Nicole Starns 7/15  
 Francis Reinke 7/16  
 Bev Ziegenbein 7/16  
 Tim Ortiz 7/17  
 Jared Novotny 7/19

**Calendar for This Week**

Sun. July 13, 7:00 PM St. Mary **Finance Council**

July 14-28, **No Daily Masses**

Plan Ahead: Sat. July 26, 6:00 PM  
**World Youth Day Celebration and Potluck**

**Parish Announcements**

The **Knights of Columbus** invite everyone to attend Bingo at the Stir-Up Days on Sat. July 12, 7:00 PM near the Dairy Cone.

Our **World Youth Day** pilgrims safely arrived in Auckland, New Zealand. Please keep them in your prayers on their pilgrimage to see the Holy Father, Pope Benedict in Australia.

Thank you to all who have begun to donate to the **Peter's Pence Collection**. Please pray for the Holy Father, and consider a gift to help the Holy Father respond to those most in need. It is an active expression of Christ's love for the poor or our solidarity with Catholics worldwide.

Our two parishes Summer School CCD (VBS) was largely paid for by a grant from the **Catholic Foundation** of the Diocese of Lincoln, which awarded over \$33,000 to parishes for religious education programs through the Religious Education Endowment. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for the Catholic Foundation.

Fr. Coulter will pray for the parish while he is on a family vacation July 14-29. There will be no daily Masses during that time.

**Community Announcements**

**In His Hands World Market** will feature handmade products from around the world. All money goes back to the artisans. During Stir-up Sat. at F&M Bank, Sun. at American Lutheran.

Red Cross **Blood Drive** at Gretna Resurrection Lutheran Church, Mon. July 21, 12:30-6:30 PM; visit [www.givebloodgivelife.org](http://www.givebloodgivelife.org).

**Diocesan Announcements**

**Natural Family Planning** Introductory Session on Tues. July 22, 7 PM. 488-2040.

**Diocesan Canoe Trip** on the Niobrara for last-year's High School students. Aug. 3-5 or 5-7. Search YouTube for "Lincoln Canoe Trip" for a video. Registration forms at the rectory.

**One Book-One Diocese.** Read a book with fellow Catholics: "A Miracle for St. Cecilia's" by Katherine Valentine. A novel about a poor but good-hearted parish in a small New England town. Available at Catholic bookstores or online.

**A Lifeline for Marriage - Retrouvaille** helps couples through difficult times, providing tools to help get your marriage back on track, and rediscover each other. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulties at all levels. For confidential info about the Aug. 8-10 weekend, call 1-888-317-5654 or [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

Save the dates: the **Catholic Social Services** annual golf tournament is Fri. Aug. 8, 1:00 PM at Firethorn. The CSS annual Sporting Clay Tourney is Sat. Sept. 20 at Brainard. Talk to Fr. Coulter or see [www.cssisus.org](http://www.cssisus.org) for more info.

**Nebraska Respite Network** helps caregivers deal with their task and stress by providing them a needed break and time for themselves. If you are a caregiver in need of services, or an individual who like to make a real difference in your neighborhood, call toll free 1-866-737-7483.

**Pilgrimage to Rome** and Italy for the Year of St. Paul - with Fr. Chris Barak, Oct 5-17. Call Jeannie at 421-1730 for information.

Interested in a full-time, faith-based volunteer opportunity? **Response 2008** is a guide to thousands of volunteer opportunities in programs worldwide. Access on the web at [www.cnvs.org](http://www.cnvs.org).

**Know someone who's pregnant** and doesn't know what to do? There are options - call the **Option Line** at 1-800-395-HELP.

<b>Midwest Physical Therapy &amp; Sports Center</b>	Karen Stille, PT, MA, CSCS <i>Physical Therapist</i>
	1502 Silver St, Ashland 402-944-3505
	<a href="http://www.MidwestPhysicalTherapy.com">www.MidwestPhysicalTherapy.com</a>
	<b>St. Mary Parishioner</b>