

Contacts

Nursing Home Chaplain

Fr. Eze Venantius Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp.

Finance Council

Sara Hawk, Kayla Keller, Pat Van Dyke, David Psotka,
Max Schauf & Jeff Thompson

Trustees

Pat Van Dyke & David Psotka

Pastoral Council

Rebecca Albers, Jill Gavin, Krisha Schauf, Eddie
Vonnahme, Gary Van Dyke & Lee Dentlinger

Safety Committee

Amy McCasland, Steve Gehringer & Frank Hawk Jr.

Inspections & Facility Maintenance

Gary Van Dyke: (515) 238-4691 grvandy@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Lesla Dembinski, Mary Seibert, Lyle Schwery, & Helen
Gavin

Altar & Rosary

Knights of Columbus

Larry Bertrand: (254) 396-9551,
larry_bertrand@yahoo.com

RE Director

Michelle Fick: (641) 297-2223, joro23@juno.com

STAT Leader

Alex Miller: (515) 961-3026

Liturgy Schedule

Jill Gavin: (515) 979-3196, jill44gavin@gmail.com

Funeral Dinner Coordinators

Margie Gehringer & JoEllyn Gavin

Cemetery


Joan Psotka (641) 297-2216


Hall Rental

Kayla Keller (515) 238-2944, keller.kayla.m@gmail.com

Welcome Spokesperson

Gary Van Dyke: (515) 238-4691 grvandy@gmail.com

 Immaculate Conception Catholic Church – St. Marys, IA

 www.immaculateconceptionstmarys.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday, July 23

106: Wis 12:13, 16-19 Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Rom 8:26-27 Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Dale Gavin

Monday, July 24

395: Ex 14:5-18 (Ps) Ex 15:1b-6 Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday, July 25

605: 2 Cor 4:7-15 Ps 126:16-6 Mt 20:20-28

5:00 PM Adoration

5:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Mass

Mass intentions: †Ken Croat

Wednesday, July 26

397: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15 Ps 78:18-19, 23-28
Mt 13:1-9
see 606: Sir 44:1, 10-15 Mt 13:16-17

Thursday, July 27

398: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b (Ps) Dn 3:52-56
Mt 13:10-17

Friday, July 28

399: Ex 20:1-17 Ps 19:8-11 Mt 13:18-23

Saturday, July 29

400: Ex 24:3-8 Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15

607: Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

see 607: 1 Jn 4:7-16

Sunday, July 30

109: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130
Rom 8:28-30 Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Ken Croat



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

July 23, 2023



Pastor

Rev. Fr. Eze Venantius Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp.
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Office

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
121 Saint James St., PO Box 88, St. Mary's, IA 50241

Church

101 Saint James St., Saint Marys, IA 50241

Tuesdays

Adoration at 5:00 PM
Rosary at 5:30 PM
Mass at 6:00 PM

Sundays

Reconciliation at 7:30 AM
Mass at 8:00 AM

WEEKEND HOMILIES

In this Gospel passage, Christ speaks to one of the most perplexing mysteries of human living, the mystery of evil. All of us base our sense of the purposefulness of life on the fundamental moral assumption that the good are rewarded and the evil are punished.

When we look around us and see that so many times, in the imagery of the Gospel, the weeds seem to be doing better than the wheat, that can be a very threatening thing.

Today's Gospel is the answer to the mystery of evil, even if not yet a very satisfying one. The mystery of the tension between good and evil in our world, how the two can exist side by side in a divinely created world, like the weeds and the wheat in the Gospel, is really the mystery of creation. The tension between good and evil is not yet resolved because, simply enough, creation is not yet finished. It is not really true to say that God has created a good world. It is much truer to say that God is creating a good world, that right now the process of creation is going on.

The moral challenge of Christianity is to learn to live lovingly in a world that is, right now, very often illogical, unjust, even evil, not only because of what it is now, but because of what it is meant to, and will, become.

And this Gospel passage, as well as any number of others, is pretty insistent on the fact that it is God who is the author of this final justice. He will perfect what he has begun. So it is not up to us to combat evil or to punish sinners. We are just not very good at that, really. Every time Christianity has set out to actively fight evil, it has made a horrible mess of things.

From the suffocating moral censorship of Puritanism to the carnage of the Crusades and the Inquisition to the bitter hatred of the Counter-Reformation, all of our best efforts at actively eliminating evil in the world have proven to be more of an obstacle than an aid to God's creative process.

Ours is an unfinished world, a world that is still being made. Since the moment God first said, "Let there be light," he has never stopped saying it. The process of creation goes on, and it sweeps us with it. If we struggle against that sweep, if we set our own designs in place of God's, the outcome will inevitably be tragic. No one of us, no whole society of us, has more creative power than God. But if we cooperate with the sweep of creation, if we simply be as God has meant us to be, it will be a joy, and the final justice of God will be well begun in us.

Excerpts taken from *Seasons in The Word*

Request:

Parishioners, thank you for your generous giving each week. We kindly ask you to consider signing up for ACH payments rather than tithing via cash or check. We currently have several families utilizing this feature already. Parishioners can choose the amount to be given, and the frequency in which it occurs, without ever having to remember to bring their wallet or checkbook to church.

What is ACH? ACH transfers are electronic, bank-to-bank money transfers processed through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) Network.

How Can I Get Started? Pick up an ACH form at the back of the church and return to the parish office or drop it in the tithing basket. Sarah Gehringer will process the paperwork.

Please contact Sarah with any questions!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

18th Annual Warren County Corn Growers Tractor Ride | Monday, July 24th

The ride will leave the Warren Co. fairgrounds at 8 AM with three stops along the way.

Route: West from the fairgrounds on Hwy 92, over Interstate 35 through Bevington, turning south on Bevington Park Road to St Charles. At St Charles turn left onto West Market Street to St Charles Lions Hall for the first Hy Vee Cookie sponsored stop. Then head East on G50 toward St Mary's. View the full route here:

<https://www.warrencofair.com/p/participate/tractorrider>

Tom Brommel has kindly invited anyone interested to sit in his front yard to view the ride!



An Evening with Sarah Heart | August 26th | 5:30 PM | St. Thomas Aquinas

St. Thomas Aquinas in Indianola will be hosting *An Evening with Sarah Hart* on Saturday, August 26th. Dinner will be served (free-will donation) directly following Mass around 5:30 PM. Sarah Hart will be leading a night of faith-filled music and fellowship starting at 6:30PM



ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER

August 6th | 12:30 - 5:30 PM

Doors open at 12 PM

Mass on Saturday, August 5th @ 4:00 PM

Adults \$15 | Children \$5 | Takeout Available

Flyers: The pink flyers in the back of the church can be picked up for those wishing to help distribute and place in businesses around the surrounding communities. Individual letters will be sent to surrounding churches. Thank you for helping us spread the word about this event!

Please, keep them in your prayers:

Jolene Schwery, AJ, Sean, & Jason Wiegert, Cindy Robison, Joyce Smith, Herb Moore, Doug Hollands, Charlotte Banks, Doug George, Mike Hraha, Brian Lippold, Mary Long, Chase Sanders, Jim Kahler, Ellen Pontolilo, Phil & Crystal Finck, and Janice Gavin

Annual Diocesan Appeal:

Thank you to the 28 families who have already given or pledged \$12,610 to the Annual Diocesan Appeal! We are still \$13,398 dollars away from our parish goal of \$26,008. Your help is needed. Please prayerfully consider supporting the Catholic Church in Southwest Iowa by pledging to the Appeal. A gift in any amount will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated. Your contribution card can be placed in the collection basket, brought or mailed to the parish office, or mailed directly to the Diocese. Or you can give directly online at dmidiose.org/giving. Thank you!

MONEY COUNTERS

July 23: Mary Seibert (take to night drop box) & Brenda Freeman

July 30: Eddie Vonnahme & Kayla Keller (take to the night drop box)

Collections Sunday, July 16

Tithes/Plate: \$265.00

ACH's: \$145.00

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS JULY 30

Lector: Max Schauf

Gifts: Matlage Family

Euch. Min: Lee & Sharon

Dentlinger, Jill Gavin

Ushers: Brock & Jeff Thompson

Servers: Laura, Justin, & Violet
Knedler

Band of the Month: Ron & Brenda
Freeman

Celebrate!

July Birthdays

3rd – Susan Thompson

8th – Joanne Gavin

11th – Lee Dentlinger

27th – Hannah Dentlinger