

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:larry_bertrand@yahoo.com)

### RE Director

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

### STAT Leader

Alex Miller: (515) 961-3026

### Liturgy Schedule

Jill Gavin: (515) 979-3196, [jill44gavin@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:keller.kayla.m@gmail.com)

### Welcome Spokesperson

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

 Immaculate Conception Catholic Church – St. Marys, IA

 [www.immaculateconceptionstmarys.org](http://www.immaculateconceptionstmarys.org)

## Worship Schedule

### Sunday, August 27

121: Is 22:19-23 Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8 Rom 11:33-36  
Mt 16:13-20

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Ken Croat

### Monday, August 28

425: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Ps 149:1-6, 9 Mt 23:13-22  
*see 633: 1 Jn 4:7-16 Mt 23:8-12*

*(Cf. Augustine's Confessions, Book 6, no. 2)*

### Tuesday, August 29

426:1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-6 634: Mk 6:17-29  
*see 634: Jer 1:17-19 Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6b, 15ab, 17*

5:00 PM Adoration

5:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Mass

Mass intentions:

### Wednesday, August 30

427: 1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-126 Mt 23:27-32

### Thursday, August 31

428: 1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5, 12-14, 17 Mt 24:42-51

### Friday, September 1

429: 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 10-12 Mt 25:1-13

### Saturday, September 2

430: 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Mt 25:14-30

### Sunday, September 3

124: Jer 20:7-9 Ps 63:2-6, 8-9 Rom 12:1-2  
Mt 16:21-27

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Ken Croat



# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

August 27, 2023



## Pastor

Rev. Fr. Eze Venantius Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp.  
111 Saint James St., Saint Marys, IA 50241

Rectory Phone: (641) 297-2267

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## Office

Sarah Gehringer, Office Manager

Phone: (641) 297-2359 | Email: [immacula@myomnitel.com](mailto:immacula@myomnitel.com)

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

The first reading and the Gospel for today are pretty similar. Isaiah says what God's appointed shall shut, no one shall open, what he shall open, no one shall shut. In the Gospel, Matthew says of God's appointed, "You are the Rock. You have the keys to the Kingdom. Whatever you close shall be closed, whatever you open shall be opened."

And when those of us who hear those words ask, as we certainly do, "Why? Why would the Lord choose to put a simple and imperfect human being in such a position of power and responsibility?" the second reading offers a very unsatisfying answer. And that is simply, "The Lord has his own ways. He alone can see the final purpose to his unfolding plan."

The Gospel reading is one of the passages that is traditionally used to establish and to demonstrate the role of the papacy in the Catholic Church. Peter, in his response to Christ's questioning, demonstrates the clearest understanding of who Christ is and what he has come to accomplish. And based on this Christ commissions Peter to fill his role, to be for the people, as much as he could, what Christ had shown himself to be. Peter, like Christ, was to be the center point of God's people, to form the people around himself, to give them a cohesiveness, a direction, a real history, much as Moses and Abraham had been called to form the history of the people of Israel around themselves.

And this is what gives a living meaning to the word "sacrament," the enfleshing of the working of grace in human beings, the things that they use, the things that they do. It is an emphasis that is made itself felt in every aspect of our lives as Catholics, from papal teaching to the role of the bishop, the administration of sacraments, the formation of a Christian atmosphere in the community and in the home, the righting of whatever wrongs there may be in the social order, and so on. The emphasis on the fact that God's work, if it is to be done, is to be done by human beings.

Why listen when the pope teaches? Why come together, surround ourselves with other people, as we do this morning to worship in this formal, ritualized way? Why confess to a human being? Why work at building up a sense of moral responsibility in our dealing with other human beings? Why try to save the world, or even make it just a little better? Why not just admit that ultimately these are things that only God can handle? Because that is true. Only God can. And he will. The challenge for us is to grasp how he has chosen to handle them. And the answer is clear. Through human beings. Through us, through our human abilities, human efforts. Christ has said it. "I entrust to you the keys of the Kingdom."

Excerpts taken from *Seasons in The Word*

### 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, Mary Long, Chase Sanders, Jim Kahler, Ellen Pontolilo, Phil & Crystal Finck, Janice Gavin, and Mel Stills.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**Carter Chedester & Caylin Brommel Wedding | September 2<sup>nd</sup> | 4:00 PM**

Celebrant: Fr. Chris Fontanini

**Family Potluck | September 10<sup>th</sup> | 11:30 AM**

Let's share a meal and have some fun! Kickball, cornhole, and delicious food. We will eat inside the hall and then move outside for games. In the event of rain, we will have indoor games.

Please bring your own:

Table service

Drinks

Lawn chairs

Gloves/bat/ball for those that would like to play baseball

Please bring a dish to share according to your Band of the Month:

January-March: Meat

April-June: Veggies/Potato

July-September: Fruit/Side salad

October-December: Dessert

**Pastoral Council Meeting | September 12<sup>th</sup> | 6:30 PM**

**Richard Allen Gonzalez & Emily Elizabeth Hill Wedding | September 16<sup>th</sup> | 2:00 PM**

Celebrant: Fr. Ray Higgins

**Finance Council Meeting | September 20<sup>th</sup> | 5 PM**

**Coffee & Donut Social | October 8<sup>th</sup> | Immediately following Mass**

**Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting | October 24<sup>th</sup> | 6:30 PM**

**Parish Directory Pictures | October 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> | 2 PM - 8 PM**

We will have a professional photographer set up in the hall on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> to take directory photos. This is a complimentary service and all families will receive a free directory and 8x10 portrait. More information to come!

### Annual Diocesan Appeal:

Thank you to the 32 families who have already given or pledged \$13,310 to the Annual Diocesan Appeal! We are still \$12,698 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 [dmdiocese.org/giving](http://dmdiocese.org/giving). Thank you!

### MONEY COUNTERS

**Aug 27:** Rebecca Albers (take to the night drop box) Max & Krisha Schauf

**Sept 3:** Susan Matlage-Simms (take to the night drop box) & Kayla Keller

**Collections Saturday, August 20**

Tithes/Plate: \$283.00

ACH's: \$1,595.00

### LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS SEPTEMBER 3

**Lector:** Larry Bertrand

**Gifts:** Knedler Family

**Euch. Min:** Tom Brommel, Lee & Sharon Dentlinger

**Ushers:** John Cassady & Jeff Thompson

**Servers:** Laura, Justin, & Violet Knedler

**Band of the Month:** Mark & Lesa Dembinski

*Celebrate!*

*August Birthdays*

6<sup>th</sup> – Ben Schauf

9<sup>th</sup> – Jeff Thompson

*August Anniversaries*

17<sup>th</sup> – Jerome & Kathy Lippold