

## Contacts

### Nursing Home Chaplain

Fr. Eze Venantius Umnunakwe, 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

Lesia 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, July 2

97: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a Ps 89:2-3, 16-19  
Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 Mt 10:37-42

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Dale Gavin and †Ken Croat

### Monday, July 3

593: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 117:1b-2 Jn 20:24-29

### Tuesday, July 4

378: Gn 19:15-29 Ps 26:2-3, 9-12 Mt 8:23-27

5:00 PM Adoration

5:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Mass

Mass intentions:

### Wednesday, July 5

379: Gn 21:5, 8-20a Ps 34:7-8, 10-13 Mt 8:28-34

### Thursday, July 6

380: Gn 22:1b-19 Ps 115:1-6, 8-9 Mt 9:1-8

### Friday, July 7

381: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67

Ps 106:1-5 Mt 9:9-13

### Saturday, July 8

382: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29 Ps 135:1b-6 Mt 9:14-17

### Sunday, July 9

100: Zec 9:9-10 Ps 145:1-2, 8-11 13-14

Rom 8:9, 11-13 Mt 11:25-30

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Dale Gavin and †John George



# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

July 2, 2023



## Pastor

Rev. Fr. Eze Venantius Umnunakwe, C.S.Sp.

111 Saint James St., Saint Marys, IA 50241

Rectory Phone: (641) 297-2267

Cell Phone: (*emergency only*): (660) 215-0757

Email: [eponvu@yahoo.com](mailto:eponvu@yahoo.com)

## 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

In today's Gospel, the opening line is almost harsh sounding. "Anyone who loves father or mother, son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." It almost sounds as though Christ were proposing some sort of conflict or opposition between our relationship with God and our human relationships, even those closest and most significant in our lives.

But certainly, there is no necessary conflict between our human relationships and our relationship with God. In fact, the quality that marks our relationships with other people is, in fact, the quality that marks our relationship with God. There is a very sacred nature to the bonds of family and friendship, and we must very carefully nurture the strength and intimacy of those bonds.

I think the point that Christ is urging on us here, as he does so many other places in the Gospel, is a true sense of proportion. The ability to distinguish accurately between what matters and what doesn't. For any number of reasons, perhaps even quite unconsciously, we can find ourselves attaching tremendous weight to very unimportant things.

Part of the process of avoiding such distortion is learning to recognize the difference between one's needs and one's wants. Needs must be met. That is every human being's natural right, and for anyone to refuse to even try to meet the real needs of another human being is, of course, seriously immoral. That is true not only toward relatives and friends, but toward anyone. The first reading today underscores how seriously Mosaic Law taught the moral obligation of hospitality. It was not simply charity to feed and house a passing stranger, it was one's duty. No one's rightful needs can be morally ignored.

Wants are a different matter. Wants don't have to be met. Most of the time life would be more pleasant and enjoyable if they were, and it is a good thing, a loving thing, to meet the wants of other people. But if they are not met, nothing really terrible happens.

Ultimately there is only one real need in life. Salvation. It is the only thing that can ever really last. Everything else, even our deepest and most satisfying human relationships, in comparison, become less important. Not unimportant, but less important.

So, by no means at all is Christ calling us to leave behind or turn our back on family and friends. By no means does following Christ mean resigning ourselves to an earthly life of emotionally empty and sterile human relationships. Christ is calling us to a right view of our lives, a balanced view, an honest perspective. He is calling us to the realization that nothing is more important than our relationship with him. Simply because it is on that, that everything else that is good ultimately depends, and anything that endangers that is simply not worth doing.

Excerpts taken from *Seasons in The Word*

### A Note from the Catholic Tuition Organization

We are half way through the year and with only six months left to reach our goal of \$4.5 million again, we need your help! The mission of CTO is to provide essential tuition assistance to families right here in the Diocese of Des Moines. CTO helped a little over 2,000 kids last year, and the financial need has increased drastically this year for families. **As an Iowa taxpayer, you can receive an Iowa tax credit equal to 75 percent of your donation! A portion of the amount you contribute also qualifies as a charitable deduction when you itemize on your Federal tax return.**

If you've already contributed or pledged this year, thank you so much! Please share the amazing tax benefits you'll receive with friends and family!

If you haven't made your gift, please do so now! Donations can be made online at [www.CTOiowa.org](http://www.CTOiowa.org). Or mail your check or credit card info with a donation form to CTO at 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309. Stock instructions can be found here: <https://ctodsmdiocese.org/pdf/2022/2022TransferInstructions.pdf>



Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July! What a blessing it is to pause this holiday and enjoy the freedoms we too often take for granted. May God bless you and keep you safe while celebrating our freedom.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Mission Co-Operative Appeal TODAY!

Fr. John Brobbey is joining us to do Mission Appeals on behalf of his home diocese of Techiman in Ghana. His Bishop's name is the Most Rev. Dominic Yeboah Nyarko. Fr. John Brobbey has been living and working as an Associate Pastor at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, West Des Moines, for a couple of years now. He will be celebrating the week-end Masses for and at our three locations and talk about his diocese and their project. Please, let us receive him very well and help his bishop and diocese to effectively execute their diocesan project with our generous donations.

For those of you generously donating, checks can be made out to:

Catholic Diocese of Techiman

Pastoral Council Meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup> following Mass | Finance Council Meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup> at 5PM



**ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER** August 6<sup>th</sup> | 12:30 - 5:30 PM  
Doors open at 12 PM  
Mass on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 PM

### Chicken Dinner Raffle:

If you have items to donate for the Chicken Dinner raffle, please let **Brenda Freeman** ([ronbrendafreeman@gmail.com](mailto:ronbrendafreeman@gmail.com)) or **Jonna Mitchell** ([mitchell15470@gmail.com](mailto:mitchell15470@gmail.com)) know as soon as possible. Thank you!

### 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 Finck, and Janice Gavin

### Annual Diocesan Appeal:

Thank you to the 28 families who have already given or pledged \$12,360 to the Annual Diocesan Appeal! We are still \$13,648 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

**July 2:** Mary Seibert (take to night drop box) & Eddie Vonnahme

**July 9:** Rebecca Albers (take to night drop box), Max & Krisha Schauf

### Collections Sunday, June 25

Tithes/Plate: \$300.00

ACH's: \$580.00

### LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS JULY 9

**Lector:** Eddie Vonnahme

**Gifts:** Vonnahme Family

**Euch. Min:** Katie Vonnahme,

Johnnie Cassidy, Nicole Kindley

**Ushers:** Louis Vonnahme & Ethan Nelson

**Servers:** Lucy & Ben Vonnahme, Camille Edwards

**Band of the Month:** Rob & Brenda Freeman

*Celebrate!*

*July Birthdays*

3rd – Susan Thompson

8th – Joanne Gavin

11th – Lee Dentlinger

27th – Hannah Dentlinger