

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, August 13

115: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Ps 85:9-14

Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Ken Croat

Monday, August 14

413: Dt 10:12-22 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20

Mt 17:22-27 see 620A: Wis 3:1-9 or 1 Jn 3:14-18

Jn 15:12-16

Tuesday, August 15

622: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Ps 45:10-12, 16

1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56

5:00 PM Adoration

5:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Mass

Mass intentions:

Wednesday, August 16

415: Dt 34:1-12 Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17 Mt 18:15-20

Thursday, August 17

416: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17 Ps 114:1-6 Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday, August 18

417: Jos 24:1-13 Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24

Mt 19:3-12

Saturday, August 19

418: Jos 24:14-29 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11

Mt 19:13-15

Sunday, August 20

118: Is 56:1, 6-7 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8

Rom 11:13-15, 29-32 Mt 15:21-28

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Jim Brommel



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

August 13, 2023



Pastor

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

111 Saint James St., Saint Marys, IA 50241

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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

There is a story that once a visitor came to St. Teresa of Avila and asked, "How should I picture God when I pray? What about him is most real?" And her answer was simply enough, "Picture him looking at you."

I don't know if the visitor was satisfied with that answer, but he should have been. Christ is indeed looking at us, at each one of us. His knowledge of each of us is personal, his concern for each of us is personal, and his call to each of us is personal. He can be found, recognized, and responded to.

This Gospel reading for this weekend, is an eloquent treatment of just that notion. In so many places in Scripture the sea, a stormy, unruly sea, is used as a symbol of the world, life, without God. The apostles have been separated from Christ, they are alone in their boat, and the sea, the world without Christ, is stormy and chaotic indeed. So much so that they are about to be overcome by it. Then Christ is pictured as mastering the storm. He literally walks over it.

Peter saw Christ looking at him through the storm, and became confident that together with Christ, he, too, would be able to overcome the chaos that seemed to surround him. Peter said, "Lord, tell me to come to you." And so he did, he held out his hand to Peter.

And here Matthew describes beautifully something at least of what St. Paul would later call the contradiction, the foolishness of Christianity. Before you can walk on the water, you gotta get out of the boat. Before Peter could benefit from Christ's power, he would have to step out of whatever had been holding him up until then, he would have to risk walking away from what seemed to be so safe and secure and reasonable.

And for us, too, that is the hard part. Getting out of the boat. Putting aside the false dependencies, the securities, all the ways that we think we can make ourselves immune from chaos. Materialism is a popular boat. What could be a better barrier against the chaos than money and the things and the power it can buy. Any number of dependencies can float us along for a while. Drugs, alcohol, pleasure, acceptance. Even the human relationships in our lives can be a dependency, an influence that keeps us from hearing Christ's call. So can laziness, the habits we build of not responding, not involving ourselves. So can fear, perhaps even more commonly.

Matthew's intricate symbolism this weekend is clear and eloquent. Christ is very near. He is standing at the edge of our own personal storm, calling us. But in order to respond we must ignore the storm, look down at the boat, name it, and climb out.

Excerpts taken from *Seasons in The Word*



Last Sunday, we sold over 800 meals and over 3,000 raffle tickets! Formal update to come.
Thanks to all who helped make this event possible!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Day Flowers

Today is the last day to pick up any Memorial Day decorations displayed in the cemetery. Any leftover decorations will be discarded after today

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 6:30 PM



Family Potluck | September 10th | 11:30 AM

More information to come

Pastoral Council Meeting | September 12th | 6:30 PM

Finance Council Meeting | September 20th | 5 PM

Coffee & Donut Social | October 8th | Immediately following Mass

Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting | October 24th | 6:30 PM

Parish Directory Pictures | October 24th & 25th | 2 PM - 8 PM

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

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, and Janice Gavin

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. Thank you!

MONEY COUNTERS

Aug 13: Kayla Keller (take to the night drop box) & Brenda Freeman

Aug 20: Mary Seibert (take to the night drop box) & Eddie Vonnahme

Collections Saturday, August 5

Tithes/Plate: \$584.00
ACH's: \$1,455.00

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS AUGUST 20

Lector: David Psotka

Gifts: Vonnahme Family

Euch. Min: Susan Matlage-Simms,

Katie Vonnahme, Erin Van Waus

Ushers: Tom Brommel & Larry

Bertrand

Servers: Haven Cassady, Damen Van

Waus, Brantley Brown

Band of the Month: Frank & Helen

Gavin

Celebrate!

August Birthdays

6th – Ben Schauf

9th – Jeff Thompson

August Anniversaries

17th – Jerome & Kathy Lippold