

## 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 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

### Monday, July 31

401: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Ps 106:19-23 Mt 13:31-35  
*see 609: 1 Cor 10:31-11:1 Lk 14:25-33*

### Tuesday, August 1

402: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Ps 103:6-13  
Mt 13:36-43 *see 610: Rom 8:1-4 Mt 5:13-19*

5:00 PM Adoration

5:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Mass

Mass intentions: †Ken Croat

### Wednesday, August 2

403: Ex 34:29-35 Ps 99:5-7, 9 Mt 13:44-46

### Thursday, August 3

404: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11  
Mt 13:47-53

### Friday, August 4

405: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37  
Ps 81:3-6, 10-11 Mt 13:54-58  
*see 612: Ez 3:17-21 Mt 9:35--10:1*

### Saturday, August 5

406: Lv 25:1, 8-17 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Mt 14:1-12  
4:00 PM Mass

### Sunday, August 6

614: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9  
2 Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass

Mass intentions: †Jim Brommel



# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

July 30, 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

Storytelling was a common way of teaching at the time of Christ. Very few people could read and write, so learning of any kind was largely a matter of memorizing vast amounts of information, and the story form with concrete images made that a lot easier to do.

The images used by Christ this weekend mean to tell us just one thing really about the Kingdom, and that is that it is good. It is valuable, we should be striving for it. So much so that we should be willing, if need be, to sacrifice everything to become a part of it.

To seek the Kingdom means to accept God's design in place of our own, even without understanding why, even when that design seems not to make life very satisfying but instead seems to make it pretty frustrating.

And it is perfectly true that some of God's design just doesn't seem very satisfying at first glance. When we find ourselves offended, it is hard to see how turning the other cheek could be very satisfying.

Common sense would seem to indicate that finding some way to clobber him back would be infinitely more satisfying. It is hard to see how taking one more job, one more responsibility, could be more satisfying than saying something like, "I've done more than my share. It's time for some of those lazy bums out there to shoulder some of the burden." It is hard to see how doing with less materially could possibly be more satisfying than gaining more. It is hard to see how the practice of self-discipline could be more satisfying than giving in to every impulse that is felt. And on and on.

The value of a gigantic pearl is self-evident. It can be measured and weighed, and once a person has seen the possibility of owning it, it is not too difficult for him to convince himself of the wisdom of sacrificing some smaller goods in order to get hold of the big one. That, after all, is just common sense. Well, the Kingdom of God is not self-evident. It cannot be measured and weighed. It has little enough to do with common sense. That is why God's invitation is called revelation, and our response is called faith. A share in the Kingdom of God is not built in a laboratory, where effect always follows cause, where precise technique yields precise results. Rather, that share is pieced together in a very confusing world where the virtues of trust, faithfulness, forgiveness, and love are the only techniques that really work.

We may not understand God's design, but we can act on it. And if we do, we have found the pearl of great price in the Gospel. And the satisfaction that comes with being in possession of that final good, the best that life has to offer, will be ours.

*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

**Pastoral Council Meeting | August 8<sup>th</sup> | Immediately following Mass**

**Finance Council Meeting | August 9<sup>th</sup> | 5PM**

**An Evening with Sarah Heart | August 26<sup>th</sup> | 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 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

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

As always, the success of our Chicken Dinner depends on all of us. **It takes a lot of help at Set-Up on Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5PM.** This is the time for the first person listed on each job to ensure the preparation is done for that job. This includes setting up stands and making sure everything is in the right area to be all ready for Sunday.

**Please reach out to one of the Chicken Dinner Committee members if you have a pop-up tent you are willing to set up for shade during the Dinner!**

### 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 [dmidiocese.org/giving](http://dmidiocese.org/giving). Thank you!

### MONEY COUNTERS

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

**Aug 6:** Susan Matlage-Simms (take to the night drop box) & Mary Seibert

### Collections Sunday, July 23

Tithes/Plate: \$811.00  
ACH's: \$1,655.00

### LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS AUGUST 6

**Lector:** Larry Bertrand

**Gifts:** Linda & Thelma Bussanmas

**Euch. Min:** Tom Brommel, Max Schauf, Jill Gavin

**Ushers:** Garrett & Lance Thompson

**Servers:** Camille Edwards & Brantley Brown

**Band of the Month:** Frank & Helen Gavin

## Celebrate!

### July Birthdays

3rd – Susan Thompson

8th – Joanne Gavin

11th – Lee Dentlinger

27th – Hannah Dentlinger