

Contacts

Rectory Phone: (641) 297-2267

Hall/Office Phone: (641) 297-2359

Nursing Home Chaplain

Fr. Eze Venantius Ummunnakwe, 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

Lesia 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

Collections Sunday, May 14

Tithes/Plate: \$802.00

ACH's: \$345.00

Worship Schedule

Sunday, May 21

58: Acts 1:1-11 Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 Eph 1:17-23
Mt 28:16-20

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass at Immaculate Conception

Mass intentions: John Brommel

9:30am Mass at St. Augustine, Milo

Monday, May 22

297: Acts 19:1-8 Ps 68:2-7 Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday, May 23

298: Acts 20:17-27 Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 Jn 17:1-11a

5:00 – 6:00 PM – Adoration

5:30 PM Rosary & 6:00 PM Mass at Immaculate Conception

Mass intentions:

Wednesday, May 24

299: Acts 20:28-38 Ps 68:29-30, 33-36b Jn 17:11b-19

8:00 am Mass – Adoration after Mass until 9:00 am at
St Mary of the Assumption, Lacona

Thursday, May 25

300: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11
Jn 17:20-26

8:00 am Mass - Adoration after Mass until 9:00am at
St. Augustine, Milo

Friday, May 26

301: Acts 25:13b-21 Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20b
Jn 21:15-19

Saturday, May 27

302: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Ps 11:4-5, 7 Jn 21:20-25
5:30 pm Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption, Lacona

Sunday, May 28

63: Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 Jn 20:19-23

7:30 AM Reconciliation

8:00 AM Mass at Immaculate Conception

Mass intentions: Ken Croat

9:30am Mass at St. Augustine, Milo



May 21, 2023

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

101 Saint James St., PO Box 88, Saint Marys, IA 502411

Rev. Fr. Eze Venantius Ummunnakwe, C.S.Sp., Pastor

Email: eponvu@yahoo.com | Mobile (*emergency only*): (660) 215-0757

Mass: Sunday 8:00 AM & Tuesday 6:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday 7:30 AM

Rosary: Tuesday 5:30 PM

Adoration: Tuesday 5:00 PM, followed by a 6:00 PM Mass

Parish Office

Sarah Gehringer, Office Manager

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

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ; 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

121 Saint James St., PO Box 88, St. Mary's, IA 50241

WEEKEND HOMILIES

The rest of Jesus' prayer in John 17 gives reasons for the need for God's protection and for Christian unity. The former is needed because Christ's followers may face hostility "in the world" (17:14-16), and the latter because it functions as an essential Christian witness (17:23). There also is a close connection between God's protection and the Christian unity that John emphasizes. Christian unity is itself a form of divine protection (see John 13). This is, in a sense, what the disciples are doing in Acts 1 when they huddle together in prayer in the upper room. After Jesus' ascension, they may be feeling a sense of loss again; however, they are able to take up the mission of the Church through unity and mutual support.

First Peter gives a similar message. Written metaphorically to "aliens" and "sojourners" (1:1, 17; 2:11) who have left the lawless ways of their Gentile ancestors and neighbors (1:18; 4:1-4), they have become vulnerable, troubled, and unsettled, as the verses we read today show. The letter begins and closes, however, by affirming that they, as strangers in their land and oppressed by kings and governors (2:13-14, 17), have found a new family with each other and anyone who has chosen to follow Jesus (1:1, 3-5; 5:9, 12-13). With the love and support of each other, they too can express confidence in God's protection in the midst of trials and fear.

Certainly, today's disapproval of Christian values doesn't take nearly as extreme a form as it did in the early Church, but we do face persecution through being laughed at, ridiculed, or ignored for openly choosing Christ's way. Christian values in a secular society can be difficult, so, as with the apostles, we must find within ourselves the strength on which to rely and persevere, rather than rely on the acceptance and approval of those around us. This can be done through prayer. Like the disciples in the upper room, who remained strong through prayer, we come to more fully know God and to be strengthened to live as Christian people in the world.

Excerpts taken from *2023 Sourcebook* and *Seasons in the Word*

MEMORIAL DAY MASS

Monday, May 29 | 10:30 AM
St. Marys Cemetery
Mass will be in the Church in case of inclement weather



ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER



Sunday, August 6th
Doors open at 12 PM
Food is served 12:30 - 5:30 PM
We are looking for additional help this year!
Please contact Jill Gavin with inquiries
jill44gavin@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebration of Life for Lewis McLaughlin | May 28th | Mass at 11:30 AM with lunch to follow @ St. Patricks Catholic Church, Irish Settlement

We would like to help celebrate our parishioners' birthdays and anniversaries! You can help us by filling out your name and special date on the provided sheet in the back of the church.

DMD Business Officers Forum Meeting | May 25th | 9 AM – 12 PM | Pastoral Center, Des Moines

New Virginia Methodist Memorial Day Picnic | May 29th | Serving 11 AM – 1 PM

DMD Priests' Annual Retreat | June 4th – 8th | Conception Abbey, Missouri

Ordination of Transitional Deacons | June 9th | 5 PM | Christ the King Parish, Des Moines

Father's Day | June 18th

Pastoral Council Meeting | June 20th | Immediately following 6PM Mass

Marriage Ceremony for Bill Yount and Annette Smith | June 23rd @ 3 PM | St. Marys

Annual Spiritans' Retreat | June 12th – 16th | Passionist Retreat Center, Texas

DMD Priestly Ordination | June 23rd | 5 PM | St. Ambrose Cathedral, Des Moines

Mission Co-Operative Appeal | July 1st & 2nd | St. Marys, Milo, and Lacona during our regularly scheduled weekend Masses

Chicken Dinner | August 6th | 12:30 – 5:30 PM at St. Marys
Mass on Saturday, August 5th @ 4:00 PM

Please, keep them in your prayers:

Jolene Schwery, Kim Kubik, 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 26 families who have already given or pledged \$11,285 to the Annual Diocesan Appeal! We are still \$14,723 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

May 21: Kayla Keller (take to the night drop box) and Brenda Freeman

May 28: No Money Counters, Memorial Day

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS MAY 21

Lector: Larry Bertrand
Gifts: Knedler Family
Euch. Min: Susan Matlage-Simms, Tom Brommel, Jill Gavin
Ushers: Larry Bertrand & Jim Donohue
Servers: Laura, Justin, & Violet Knedler
Band of the Month: Larry & Becky Bertrand

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT YEAR ROUND

LACONA: Weekly, after 8:00 AM
Mass until 9:00 AM
MILO: Weekly, after 8:00 AM
Mass until 9:00 AM
ST. MARYS: Tuesdays @ 5:00 PM
followed by 6:00 PM Mass