

NOVEMBER 26, 2023

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST-KING OF THE UNIVERSE

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PASTOR-FATHER LAZARUS KIRIGIA

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Mission Statement-Aware of our rich Catholic tradition we strive to keep Jesus as the center of our worship and life.

We are open to ongoing formation in faith through the sacraments, life experiences, and other opportunities for reflection.

We are committed to witnessing our faith by serving others and working for justice and peace.



MASSES – Sunday-8:30am

Saturday-5pm (2nd & 4th Saturday of the month)

Tuesday-8:30am Thursday-6pm Holydays-check bulletin

RECONCILIATION-Saturday-4:15pm-4:45pm (2nd & 4th Saturday of the month). Sunday (weekend with 1st Saturday Mass) 8am-8:15am

ADORATION-Tuesday 1am-10am,7pm-12am Wednesday 12am-11am, 6pm-10pm

SUNDAY COFFEE- after Mass most YFF Sundays YFF-9:45am-10:35am Sundays

Contact Father Lazarus: when a family member is in the hospital, when he needs to bring communion to the homebound or when someone is in need of anointing, to schedule a baptism and at least **6 months** before your

anticipated wedding date. **East bookcase:** Please sign our Guest Register. Feel free to take a brief parish history and/or a self-guided tour sheet. **Vestibule bulletin board**-If you would like to become a member of our faith family, please fill out a registration blank, drop it in the collection basket or mail to the church. **Tithe envelopes**-top shelf of east bookcase; put your name on the first few envelopes.

*****Livestream Masses: Tuesdays 8:30am, Sunday 8:30am*****

www.facebook.com/stpatrickimogeneiowa or **St. Patrick Church-Imogene, IA YouTube Channel**

Please join our faith community in kneeling at the end of Mass
and silently saying three Hail Marys for world peace and an end to abortion

	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday
	Nov. 25	Nov. 26	Dec. 3	Dec. 9	Dec. 10
Lector	Rick Dailey	Jake McGargill	Maria Blake	Rick Dailey	YFF
EME	Kathy Harbor	Amy Gutschenritter	John Martin	Jim Martin	Briget Campbell
EME		Jim Martin	Sarah Martin		Kent Owens
EME		John Martin	Tom Martin		Joe Cheney
Server	Ethan Laughlin	Caroline Campbell	Abby Martin	Nate Hughes	YFF
Server		John Martin	Henry Martin		YFF
Server		Caroline Gutschenritter	Ruthie Martin		YFF
Gifts	Bill & Pam Ditmars	Tom & Sarah Martin	Donnie & Tara Doyle	Kim & Becky Hughes	YFF
Usher	Donnie Doyle	Darwin Bugg	Jake McGargill	Donnie Doyle	YFF
Usher	Kim Hughes	Sandy Bugg	Aaron Molnar	Kim Hughes	YFF
Usher	Becky Hughes	James Doyle	Kent Owens	Becky Hughes	YFF
Usher	Kent Owens	Raphael Ekpai	Calbe Owens	George McGargill	YFF
Greeters	Kim & Becky Hughes	Hannah Forney	Rita & Maryanne Dailey	Zeb & Jenny Burkhiser	Rick & Maryanne Dailey
Streaming		Kari Kinsella	Rita Laughlin		Kari Kinsella
Sacristan	Tara Doyle	Aaron Molnar	Joe Cheney	Tara Doyle	Jake McGargill

Mass Intentions

Sun. Nov. 26: Members of the parish

Thurs. Nov. 30: +Margie Doyle and +Ann McDonald

Tues. Dec. 5: +Norma Leffingwell

Sat. Dec. 9: Members of the parish

Tues. Nov. 28: +Ray & Georgia Baker

Sun. Dec. 3: +Tom Breedlove

Thurs. Dec. 7: +Steve Fienup and +Betty Head

Sun. Dec. 10: Members of the parish

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR

One of the better slogans I've seen in recent years said, 'We talk about putting the 'Christ' back into Christmas, but how about putting the 'Christ' back into Christian?'

It seemed a particularly pertinent slogan for what we might call 'Internet Christianity' where an enormous amount of the life of faith is being lived out online. From my experience, Christianity online – much like in society more generally – tends to be pretty moralizing. The days of the dictatorship of relativism are gone and any infringement of the law is condemned and made as visible as possible.

Many of the things condemned I think are worthy of condemnation, even if I don't agree with the style and manner. But there are a great deal of issues which get called to our attention, many of them a long way from any sphere of influence we might have, and it can get pretty tiring condemning everything that needs condemning, and might not leave time for prayer or for action.

My main worry is that Online Christianity, or internet Christianity more generally, risks becoming a purely intellectual or notional Christianity, a species of Christianity which is essentially an assertion of the natural law under a different appellation. And this danger is not the exclusive preserve of 'left wing' or 'right wing' Catholics (objectionable as those terms are, they do describe a reality) it spans all of Catholicism. You can have people all around the world condemning Joe Biden's lamentable public stance on abortion (look I'm doing it now) or the travesty of the number of people on the streets in abject poverty, saying the government must do more in one of the world's richest countries (there I am, at it again)!

There is a very real danger that our faith loses its relational aspect and we forget that not only are we called to do good things, and not just to add our voices to the campaign for them, but that we also forget that we are called not just to be good, but to be holy. Christian morality is primarily relational, and it is about entering into an ever-deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, and about how this relationship transforms us. Prayer and the sacraments are essential for this work of God in us, and not just good deeds. But, in internet Christianity, it can be very easy to be stuck in one house all day, but with a mind all over the place, a mind that never stills to rest in God, and thus, does not allow God to rest in me and being to rule me.

But to be ruled by Christ is essential to the life of a Christian. One of the reasons we celebrate this great Solemnity of Christ the King at the end of the liturgical year is to remind us that Jesus Christ is the end of our lives. By baptism, Christians have been incorporated into His Body, and the task of our lives is to cooperate with His grace, such that it transforms our intellect, our will, and our passions: this is what it means for Christ to be truly King. It is not primarily about laws and statutes, or whether we can create a theocracy, but about each of us being ruled by Jesus, such that we become like Him.

It's easy to read today's Gospel as being simply about the duty of Christians to minister to the poor and to carry out the corporal works of mercy, and we can miss that it is phrased in profoundly relational terms. The importance of feeding the hungry or clothing the naked, in each instance, is because this action is being done to Christ. So it is not just about a general obligation to feed the poor, although you do not have to look far in the gospels to find that obligation, in fact, you don't even have to read past the Old Testament to find it. The importance in this Gospel is that it is being done, in each case, to Christ.

And this poses a question. Who are 'these least of my brethren'? Because whilst every human person is created in the image and likeness of God, not every person has been conformed to Christ, become an *alter Christus*, by baptism. And, furthermore, Jesus is speaking about the judgement of the 'nations' in this passage, and this term refers to the Gentiles, i.e. those who are not already part of the House of God.

And so it seems this passage is not about how Christians treat one another, although that should be better than it is. And it's not about how Christians treat all peoples, although we have room for improvement on that front too. It is about how the non-Christians treat the Christians.

And this has, at least, a couple of implications. First, it says something about the possibility of salvation outside the visible Church, as well as the very real possibility of hell. But, secondly, it poses the very real question to me, 'If I care about the salvation of others, am I helping them to see Christ in me?' So perhaps, our concern this Advent really should be about putting the 'Christ' back in 'Christian'.

Have a Blessed Week; Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.

Our Gifts to God 11/19

Plate: \$1400.00	Tithes: \$80.00
Children: \$12.11	Hall Rent: \$50.00
Second Collection: \$295.80	Donuts: \$82.25
Turkey Shoot	
Food: \$828.00	Bingo: \$968.00
Wheel: \$407.00	Raffle: \$65.00



**Church Cleaning
Dec. 16th at 9am
All help is appreciated.**



Have you given us your phone number and email for Flocknote? If not, we will be in the back of church after Mass and can get you signed up. With so much going on at the parish, we want to make sure everyone stays connected and up to date. If you are currently receiving the text messages and emails, there is no need to sign up again.

Christmas Poinsettias - \$20 Deadline is Dec. 17

The envelopes for the memorial Christmas poinsettias are on the table in the vestibule. Please complete the information on the outside of the envelope, put your payment inside the envelope and drop the envelope in the collection basket or give to Rita Laughlin or Maryanne Dailey.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Liturgical Assignments

A signup sheet is on the bulletin board for the liturgical assignments for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If you plan to attend either of these Masses and can help, please sign up.

Thank you

Ann Owens	Dec 2nd
Nick Laughlin	Dec 6th
Natalie Gutschenritter	Dec 7th
Darene Gutschenritter	Dec 15th
Lucy Martin	Dec 15th
Ava Forney	Dec 15th
Annie Burnison	Dec 16th
Kari Kinsella	Dec 16th
Patty Baran	Dec 17th
Gary Maher	Dec 21st
Linda Laughlin (Mike)	Dec 22nd
Kennedy Hughes	Dec 23rd
Paul Head	Dec 24th
Laurie McGargill	Dec 27th
Pat Doyle	Dec 28th
Jennifer Johnson	Dec 28th
Raphael Ekpai	Dec 31st



Annual Diocesan Appeal Goal:	\$24,581.00
Giving & Participation to Date	\$22,660.00
Remaining ADA Goal	\$1,921.00

Our parish is very close to our goal. If you have not yet given, please prayerfully consider making your gift before the end of the year. We would like to meet our goal before the end of 2023. Thank you to everyone who has already given.

How to give:

You can put your check in the collection basket and note ADA in the memo line. There are pledge cards on the table in the vestibule if you'd like to mail your check. And you can also give online: dmdiocese.org/giving.

Shenandoah Pregnancy and Resource Center (SPaRC)

The pregnancy center is very close to be completed, but there is still some work to be done. The center is looking for volunteers who have some carpentry experience to help with a few inside projects. Work is being done on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 9am at the new building (located behind the post office in Shenandoah). If you have any questions, please contact Laurie McGargill (712-215-0139).

The pregnancy center is running low on some sizes of diapers and pull ups. If you're able to help, there is a tub in the vestibule for the items you purchase.

- Size 4T-5T pull ups
- Size 5 diapers
- Size 6 diapers
- Newborn diapers
- Ziplock bags (quart size)

Westside Church (156& Dodge in Omaha) presents COMFORT & JOY 2023 Christmas Pageant

Christmas is the perfect time of the year...right? Fun, joy, peace, love! Not always! But there is hope. God sent His Son, Jesus. He came so we can have comfort and joy. No matter what's going on around you this Christmas...GOD IS and HAS everything you need.

Tickets available: westsidechristmas.org

Shows run the weekend of Dec. 9th & 10th and Dec. 16th & 17th

Dinner in December with Dr. David Anders Mass at St. Ambrose Cathedral 5:00 Cocktail hour at 6:00, Dinner at 7:00, Dr. David Anders at 8:00 Embassy Suites Downtown 101 E Locust Des Moines, IA 50309

Dr. David Anders brings a scholarly approach to his instruction on the Catholic Church. Born into a devout Protestant family, he developed a deep respect for the Bible. He attended a Protestant college and seminary, earning a Ph.D. in Reformation history and historical theology. Eventually, he was persuaded by the truth of the Catholic faith and converted to Catholicism. On his popular EWTN program, Called To Communion, he answers challenging viewer questions on matters of faith and the Church's teaching. – EWTN.com

Tickets available: iowacatholicradio.com



ADOPT A FAMILY

ST. PATRICK PARISH IS SPONSORING TWO LOCAL FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS.

PICK AN ORNAMENT(S) FROM THE CHRISTMAS TREE AND PURCHASE THE ITEM(S).

WE WILL TAKE CARE OF WRAPPING THE GIFTS, WE JUST ASK YOU TO KEEP THE ORNAMENTS WITH THE GIFTS YOU PURCHASED.



**PLEASE HAVE GIFTS BACK TO THE CHURCH BY
SUNDAY, DEC. 10TH**

**SPONSORED BY THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE OF
DIVINE RENOVATION**