

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

THIRTY~FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

304 3rd Street Imogene, IA 51645 Mailing address: PO Box 375 Shenandoah, IA 51601-0375

stpatsimogene@gmail.com www.stpatrickimogene.com

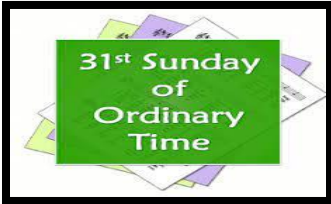
PASTOR-FATHER LAZARUS KIRIGIA

1510 Highland Red Oak, Iowa 712-623-2744 (Office) 515-770-9064 (Emergencies) Email: lkirigia@dmdiocese.org

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

	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
	Nov. 5	Nov. 11	Nov. 12	Nov. 19
Lector	Chelsey Nicholas	Tom Dinville	Danny Kinsella	Sarah Martin
EME	Jim Martin	Jim Martin	Tom Martin	Bridget Campbell
EME	John Martin		Kent Owens	Kathy Harbor
EME	Sarah Martin		Dan Kinsella	Joe Cheney
Server	Ava Forney	Owen Laughlin	Ellie Kinsella	Lillie Martin
Server	Ruthie Martin		Henry Martin	Nora Martin
Server	Danny Kinsella		Abby Martin	Levi McDonald
Gifts	Paul & Maria Blake	Tim & Sarah Martin	Andy & Bridget Campbell	Joe & Amy Gutschenritter
Usher	Paul Blake	Bernie Hughes	Wes Nicholas	Joe Gutschentitter
Usher	Gerard Brannen	Kenny Hughes	Sam McGargill	Dan Kinsella
Usher	Andy Campbell	Tim Martin	Tom Martin	Jared Speichenger
Usher	Henry Martin	Bill Ditmars	Jim Martin	Trevor Christensen
Greeters	Carol Ann Gutschenritter	Bernie Hughes	Rick & Maryanne Dailey	Dwight & Madonna Smith
Streaming	Kari Kinsella		Maryanne Dailey	Rita Laughlin
Sacristan	Jim Martin	Genene Fienup	Tom Martin	Jake McGargill

Mass Intentions

Sun. Nov. 5: +Gary Campin

Thurs. Nov. 9: +Michael David Connors and +Steve Fienup

Sun. Nov. 12: Members of the parish

Thurs. Nov. 16: +Dan & Betty Head

Tues. Nov.7: +Barb & Tim Kinsella

Sat. Nov. 11: +Angie Smith and +Maureen Burke

Tues. Nov. 14: +Tom Breedlove and +Margie Doyle

Sun. Nov. 19: +Margie Doyle

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR

Priests take a beating in today's readings. First, the prophet Malachi has strong words regarding our failures to give proper instruction. Then in the Gospel, Jesus says to call no man "father." Other Christians sometimes ask why we use that title for priests when Jesus seems to rule it out. Before answering that question, I would like address the basic message of today's Gospel:

In a dramatic language Jesus teaches that our value comes from God alone. He is our goal, the purpose of our existence. He says to call no man "Rabbi" or "Teacher" or "Father." We have only one Master, one Teacher, one Father - God himself. Jesus is speaking against idolatry, which is the basic, the form of all other sins. Idolatry means to place the creature above the Creator. Idolatry can involve objects such as cars, homes and bank accounts. And, as Jesus indicates, we can make idols out of human beings: rabbis, teachers, fathers (not to mention sports stars, actresses, politicians & scientists).

To explain idolatry, let me use an illustration. I did not invent it. It comes from St. Augustine. He uses the example of a girl whose fiancé gives her an engagement ring. The ring is gorgeous and the boy is happy that his girl likes it so much. She of course is dying to show it to her friends. Well, she starts to love the ring so much that it becomes more important to her than the one who gave it! When the boy discovers that his girl loves the ring more than him, he is not so happy. And if he finds out she is using the ring to make her girlfriends envious and show her superiority over them, he might be more than unhappy. He might become furious. "I gave you the ring as a sign of our love - not to look down on others."

St. Augustine says that something similar applies to our relationship with God. He has given us gifts, tokens of his love. For sure, He wants us to love his gifts and to be grateful for them. He does not give the gifts, however, for their own sake - or to make us think we are better than others. Like an engagement ring, he wants the gifts to signify a relationship - and to lead us to him. Anything less involves some degree of idolatry.

Idolatry can include not just things, but - as Jesus makes clear - it can involve persons. If I make some person more important than God, I am treating him as an idol. To use Jesus' example, someone might be a very good teacher. You feel like you could listen to him all day. But the question is: Does the teacher lead you to himself or beyond? A good teacher does not make a student dependent. Rather, he teaches the student habits of study, methods of inquiry and a sense of wonder. Those things can lead a student to a love of learning. And that love of learning can eventually bring a person to God.

So, if Jesus warns us not to make anything or person into an idol, what can we say about titles of respect? Should we teach our children to call everyone - including their parents - by their first name? I don't think so. Jesus himself used titles of respect. For example, he refers to "father Abraham." Moreover, his great apostle, Saint Paul, told the Corinthians, "I am your father." And he referred to Timothy as his "son." Would Timothy have hesitated to say, "my father Paul"?

Titles of respect are good. I call my physician "doctor." And even though in every Mass, I pray for "our bishop, William," I have no plans to call him anything but "bishop." Bishop means overseer and I realize that ultimately we all have only one Overseer - God. Nevertheless, I am glad God has given us a human being to represent him in that role.

And each one of us has a human father. Even the best dad is only a shadow of the one Father. But we have a commandment that says, "Honor your father - and your mother." I find it significant that the father figure in Jesus' own life was not his biological father (he had none), but his guardian St. Joseph. And St. Joseph of course sets the gold standard for all fathers - natural and spiritual. There's a good movie called "Courageous" that depicts the importance of human fathers. They certainly deserve their title, "dad." A really good father is one who leads his children to our common Father.

What I am saying about biological and adoptive fathers, also applies to spiritual fathers. From earliest times Christians designated certain men as, "father." Obviously, St. Paul but soon other celibate men with no children of their own became spiritual fathers. The desert monks were often called, "Abbas" - fathers. They read Matthew's Gospel including 23:9 - "call no man father." But they got Jesus' point: Not to do away with titles of respect, but not to make any person into an idol. And that those with roles of spiritual responsibility would lead people not to themselves - but to the one Father.

Have a Blessed Week; Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.

Our Gifts to God 10/28 & 10/29

Plate: \$1007.00 Tithes: \$70.00
 Children: \$9.00 Donuts: \$93.72
 NCYC Donation: \$200.00 Mass: \$5.00
 Turkey Shoot Meat Donation: \$100.00
 Refund Flag Pole Lights: \$378.19

Turkey Shoot
Sunday, Nov. 19th

Last name begins with A - L - Please bring a dessert
 Last name begins with M - Z - Please bring a salad

Knights of Columbus

Breakfast - Today

Downstairs after Mass. The proceeds will go to the Food Pantry. Come support a great cause.

Coats for Kids

We are asking for new or gently used clean coats of all sizes for children and adults. Coats can be dropped off in the box in the vestibule.



Maureen Campin	Nov 1st
Genevieve Doyle	Nov 2nd
Mary Maher	Nov 4th
Bernie Hughes	Nov 4th
Aaron Molnar	Nov 4th
Jim Head	Nov 6th
Chelsey Nicholas	Nov 8th
Jared Blake	Nov 9th
Emily McGargill	Nov 11th
Janice Doyle	Nov 12th
Caroline Gutschenritter	Nov 16th
Mairin Allen	Nov 19th
Dave Sunderman	Nov 21st
Nora Martin	Nov 23rd
Patricia Head	Nov 24th
Genevieve Fienup	Nov 24th
Amy Gutschenritter	Nov 24th
Cash Smith	Nov 25th
Gerard Brannen	Nov 27th
Kelsey Owens	Nov 29th
Oliver Christensen	Nov 29th



During the month of November, the Church traditionally remembers those whom God has called through death to eternal life. We can remember our loved ones who are no longer with us in a special way this month:

- + Light a candle
- + Place a framed picture on the altar rail
- + Write their name in our Book of Remembrance



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

The ADA allows us to prepare disciples for the domestic church, invite and welcome people into communion, cultivate a culture of servant leadership and draw young people into a deeper communion.

For more information or giving online, visit:
dmdiocese.org/giving



Ministry Fair
Nov. 11th & 12th

Do you know there are over 25 different ministries here at St. Patrick Parish?
That means there are over 25 different ways for you to get involved in your parish community!

Stop downstairs after Mass on Sat. Nov. 11th or Sunday Nov. 12th and learn about all the different ways you can get involved in the parish. There will be people available to talk to about the ministries, so you can find the one that is right for you. God has blessed each of us with unique talents. Visit the Ministry Fair and find out how you can use the talent God has given you to serve your parish community and truly move our parish from maintenance to mission!

**Refreshments
provided**

Bring a friend

GAME NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8TH
6PM – 10PM in the church basement

- ❖ Come early, stay late or anytime that fits your schedule.
- ❖ Games will be provided or bring your favorite game to share.

Fun for the whole family

Altar Society

- Meeting today will be downstairs and will begin at 9:55am
- The Altar Society would like to show our college students that we are thinking about them. If you have a loved one currently attending college, please email their name and address to: stpatsimogene@gmail.com.