

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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 Holy Days-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 4am-10am, 6pm-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
	Sept. 8	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Sept. 22nd
Lector	Maria Blake	Rick Dailey	YFF	Peggy Martin
EME	Dan Kinsella	Genene Fienup	Joe Cheney	Sarah Martin
EME	Jim Martin		John Martin	Tom Martin
EME	Amy Gutschenritter		Kathy Harbor	Bridget Campbell
Server	Lillie Martin		YFF	Ellie Kinsella
Server	Ruthie Martin		YFF	Jonathan Ekpai
Server	Ava Forney		YFF	Nora Martin
Gifts	Joe & Amy Gutschenritter	Bill & Pam Ditmars	YFF	Dan & Kari Kinsella
Usher	Jared Speichinger	Kenny Hughes	YFF	Darwin Bugg
Usher	Trevor Christensen	George McGargill	YFF	Sandy Bugg
Usher	Paul Blake	Jake McGargill	YFF	Andy Campbell
Usher	Gerard Brannen	Aaron Molnar	YFF	Joe Cheney
Greeters	Jim & Karen Gutschenritter	Zeb & Jenny Burkhisier	YFF	Joe & JoAnn Cheney
Streaming	Maryanne Dailey		Kari Kinsella	Rita Laughlin
Sacristan	Jim Martin	Genene Fienup	Tom Martin	Aaron Molnar

Mass Intentions

Sun. Sept. 8: Members of the parish

Tues. Sept. 10: +Dwight Smith

Thurs. Sept. 12: +Michael David Connors

Sat. Sept. 14: +Mary Stannard

Sun. Sept. 15: +Dwight Smith

Tues. Sept. 17: +Ann McDonald

Thurs. Sept. 19: +Charlotte Dailey

Sun. Sept. 22: Members of the parish

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR

Getting out of bed in the morning is a risky business. I mean, there's just no telling what will happen. It's probably why several people I know postpone it for as long as possible!

In this Sunday's Gospel passage, Jesus is faced with a risk. It is the risk that when he heals the deaf and dumb man, people will tell of his miracle cure and this will play into the hands of his enemies. That's why he acts in private out of public view and charges the disciples to tell no one.

It's not just the mere act of curing the man like some wandering witch doctor but what it signified. The clue to the significance of what he performed lies in the first reading from the prophet, Isaiah. He foretells of a coming Messiah who will make the deaf hear, the blind see, the silent given voice, and the lame leap like a deer. All of this, his Galilean onlookers would have known well. In this way, Jesus' mighty deeds fulfill what was promised in a way that cannot be contained. So he ushers in the Kingdom of God and reveals his true identity.

Why does Jesus apparently put caution to the wind and continue to heal the deaf and dumb man? Out of compassion; out of love. Charity comes before his own interests. It trumps everything. He knows the risks of playing into the hands of his enemies and does it anyway!

We too should look to act out of compassion and not worry too much about the consequences. We should acknowledge the risks and do it anyway. Love carries a certain abandon, which is why we talk about "Abandonment to Divine Providence". We love first and entrust the rest to God. In this sense, becoming a catholic priest is one of the most reckless things that I've done! I knew the risks of failure and humiliation but I trusted God and did it anyway!

There's another subtle risk in the Gospel: touch. St. Mark retells the physicality of how the miracle is performed: a certain tactile quality emerges. Even if using spittle on another and putting fingers in the ears of another might strike us as irksome today, we must read what is going on in these gestures. Compassion is felt, not spoken. But it carries a risk of rebuke, dismissal perhaps. He knows the risk and does it anyway.

Touch is important for those who are poor according to the world about whom we heard in the Second Reading. Anyone who has ever been to Lourdes or anyone who has comforted a baby or visited a friend in hospital will know something of the importance of human contact, of touch. It might be the holding of a hand, an embrace, or just a reassuring pat. These actions help to convey that which words only signal; our compassion, our love. These physical gestures are certainly risky – they might be misunderstood and might make us feel uncomfortable but, in the appropriate context, we do it anyway.

Compassion and human contact make us God's instruments if we act in his service. But that requires something beforehand, the biggest risk of all: discipleship.

To encounter Jesus is to be transformed. This transformation can be in the form of an exterior miracle, as in today's Gospel, or much more commonly a change of heart, a conversion. This is not a one-off event but a constant process of sanctification.

Ephphatha – be opened. Jesus opens the ears of the deaf, and the mouth of the dumb. And he opens the hearts of the wicked. Open wide the doors to Christ! In what respects are we too deaf to hear the Word of the Lord, too tongue-tied to tell the Good News? When was the last time our hearts of stone were prised open by an encounter with Jesus in his Word, through his Sacraments, in his Spirit?

How do we react to such an encounter? As with the disciples, we respond with unbounded admiration: thanksgiving and worship. We are not told what first words were uttered by the cured man. I'd like to think that he responded similarly with gratitude and praise. This is what we do at Mass, and that's certainly worth getting out of bed for!

When we feel like lying in, when we're uncertain about what to do, when we feel distant from God, don't let that voice of risk put you off from loving Jesus and neighbor. Of course it's risky. Each day let's pick up our cross and follow His path of love. This is the human experience, life's adventure, and one that by his grace will take us to heaven.

Have a Blessed Week: Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.

Our Gifts to God 9/1

Plate: \$826.00 Tithes: \$190.00
Children: \$6.00 Church in Africa: \$50.00
Building Fund Memorial: \$25.00
Cemetery Plot: \$250.00

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

NCYC Breakfast – Sept. 15th

The first NCYC breakfast of the season is Sunday, Sept. 15th. Make plans to stop downstairs after Mass and enjoy a great breakfast and help the NCYC students.



Seminarian Special Collection - Today

The Seminarian Fund provides support for the education of the men who are discerning priesthood within the Diocese of Des Moines. Contributing to the Seminarian Fund helps form our faith leaders of the next generation. Thank you for your generosity.

Christ Our Life Catholic Conference

Christ Our Life Catholic Conference will be held on Sept. 28 & 29 at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. There will be excellent speakers that revitalize our faith. The cost is \$30 all weekend pass. No charge to children and youth. There is a special program for high school and college students. Get your tickets at christourlifeiowa.com

Flyers are in the back of church with a list of the speakers and more details.



Declan Martin	Sept 2nd
Janie Brannen	Sept 4th
Tom Dinville	Sept 4th
Max Forney	Sept 6th
Conde Burkhisser	Sept 8th
Marge McDonald	Sept 9th
Rita Semmons	Sept 11th
Adrian Gutschenritter	Sept 12th
Bryson Williams	Sept 12th
Karoline Carnes	Sept 13th
Maia Forney	Sept 14th
Pam Ditmars	Sept 18th
Ava Mahoney	Sept 21st
Jocelyn Kirk	Sept 23rd
Doug Gipe	Sept 28th
Therese Sunderman	Sept 28th
Peggy Martin	Sept 30th

YFF begins
today.



Have a great
year students
and teachers.

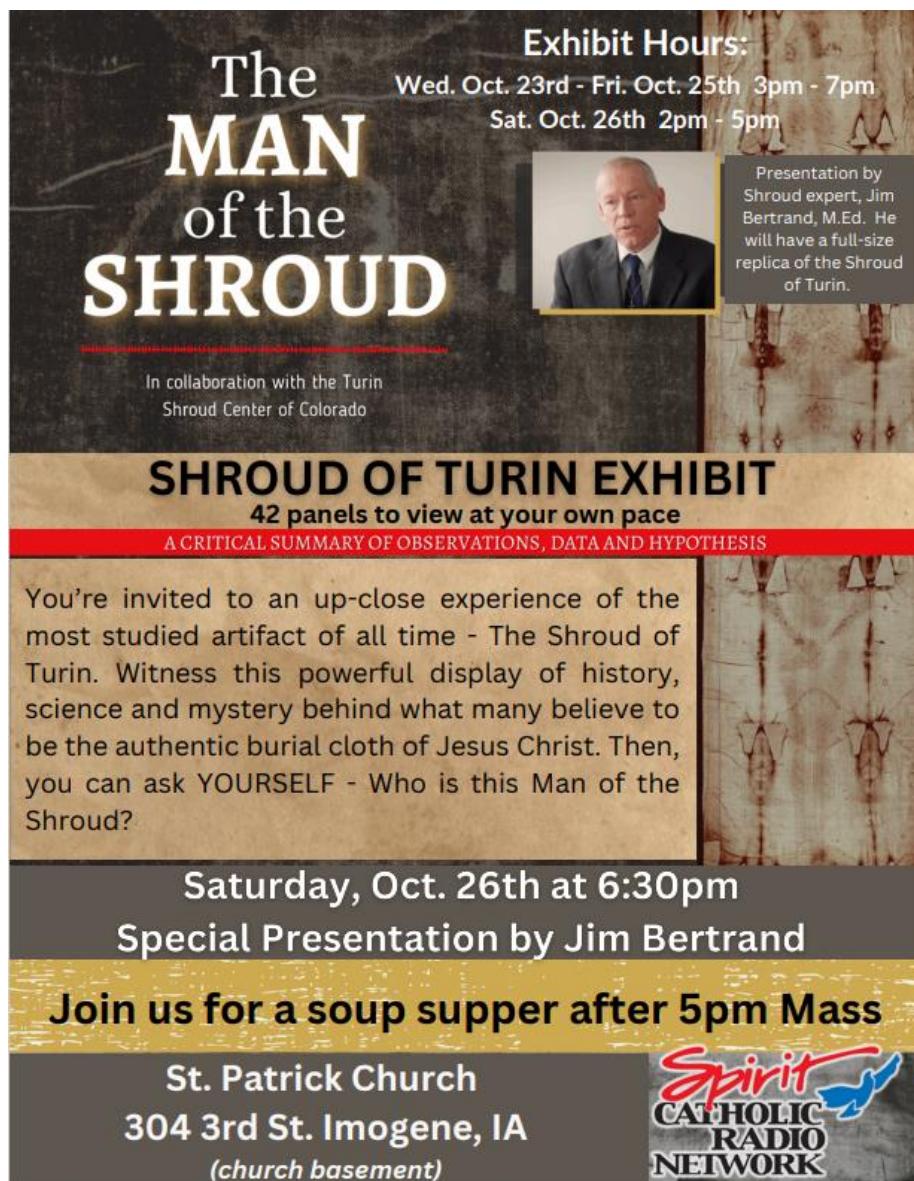
Class time is 9:45am – 10:30am

- The first Youth Mass is next Sunday, Sept. 15th. Youth should meet in the basement by 8:15am to process in with their class.
- Copies of the YFF calendar are on the table in the vestibule.

Mark your calendars for this exciting exhibit coming to our parish
Oct. 23rd – Oct. 26th

You will have an up-close experience of the most studied artifact of all time – The Shroud of Turin, what many believe to be the authentic burial cloth of Christ. **The Man of the Shroud** exhibit will include 42 beautifully-designed panels on display in the church basement Oct. 23rd – Oct. 26th. This exhibit will raise the questions, “*Could the Shroud be the most important archaeological artifact ever found? Does it provide clues to what happened during the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus?*”

On Sat. Oct 26th at 6:30pm, Shroud expert, Jim Bertrand, M.Ed. of the American Confraternity of the Holy Shroud, will give a special presentation about the Shroud and provide a rare viewing of a Shroud replica.



There will be a soup supper after Mass on Sat. Oct. 26th and the special Shroud presentation will begin at 6:30pm.

There is a volunteer sign up sheet on the table in the vestibule for people to sit at the information table during the exhibit hours and also for people to bring a soup for the soup supper.