

SEPTEMBER 21st 2025

TWENTY~FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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FATHER LAZARUS KIRIGIA - PASTOR

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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.

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.



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 – 8am – 8:15am on Sunday after the first Saturday Mass of the month.

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 Mass: Sunday 8:30am**** www.facebook.com/stpatrickimogeneiowa

	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday
	Sept. 21	Sept. 27	Sept. 28
Lector	Madonna Smith	Jake McGargill	Rick Dailey
EME	Amy Gutschenritter	Kathy Harbor	John Martin
EME	Joe Cheney		Sarah Martin
EME	Aaron Molnar		Tom Martin
Server	Caroline Gutschenritter		Lillie Martin
Server	Caroline Campbell		Ellie Kinsella
Server	Finn Martin		Maia Forney
Gifts	Joe & JoAnn Cheney	Jeff & Jennifer Johnson	Raphael & Ida Ekpai
Usher	Andy Campbell	Bernie Hughes	Ken Forney
Usher	Joe Cheney	Tim Martin	Hannah Forney
Usher	James Doyle	George McGargill	Jim Gutschenritter
Usher	Raphael Ekpai	Aaron Molnar	Joe Gutschenritter
Greeters	James & Melonie Doyle	Bernie Hughes	Henry Martin
Streaming	Maryanne Dailey		Maryanne Dailey
Sacristan	Jim Martin	Genene Fienup	Tom Martin

Mass Intentions

Sun. Sept 21: +Travis Durfey

Tues. Sept. 23: +Eleanor McDonald Eller

Thurs. Sept. 25: +Maggie Maher

Sat. Sept. 27: +Steve Fienup

Sun. Sept. 28: Members of the parish

Tues. Sept. 30: +Tom Breedlove and +Theresa Hughes Kemp

THOUGHTS FROM FATHER LAZARUS

Our first reading for this weekend comes from the prophet Amos. He depicts the injustice of the sellers in the marketplace. The poor are treated unjustly, something God will not forget. In contrast to the actions in the marketplace, the responsorial psalm for today emphasizes what God does on behalf of the poor. God “raises the lowly from the dust; from the dunghill he lifts up the poor, to seat them with princes, with the princes of his own people”. The psalm expresses special love for the poor, for those who are mistreated.

Prophet Amos is often called the prophet of social justice. He is known for his passionate condemnation of economic and social injustice in ancient Israel. He preached that true religion involved caring for the poor, advocating for fairness, and holding leaders accountable for corrupt practices, setting a model for later social justice movements. Other prophets, such as Isaiah and Micah, also emphasized moral duties to the marginalized and fair treatment for all, contributing to a Western tradition of social conscience.

Amos is a prophet because he speaks in the name of God. He denounces what lies in the hearts of the greedy rich, their perverse intentions that they keep hidden while observing the rules of worship. Yes, they celebrate the Sabbath and other religious feasts like everyone else, but they resent the time taken when they could be making more money!. We could also apply that to our Sunday worship; there are a lot more interesting things to attend to than to spend an hour at Mass. Too many activities are competing with Sunday worship.

We ourselves know, from our own experiences, that the poor do not always have the same chance as others of experiencing true justice, and we know that the powerful who wish to oppress them can find the means to cover their exploitation with a legal cloak, through control of the courts. Amos reminds us that God is the pride, the Honor of the people, Defender of the voiceless, the weak, and the poor. He takes their part. He will not forget the evils done by the powerful and rich. He will have the last word, the supreme judge who gives justice.

Amos is not issuing a threat to us but calling us to conversion. The worst thing that could happen would be for God to be silent, for there no longer to arise, in the people and the church, prophets to denounce evil-doing and injustice. This is a frightening situation hinted at in Psalm 74:9: “Deeds on our behalf we do not see; there is no prophet now, and no one of us knows how long.”

The Gospels do rebuke dishonesty in the manipulation of money, as in everything else. But it is not, for all that, a mere elementary moral code. It is not content to repeat that one must use one’s money and conduct one’s affairs honestly. It teaches that there is only one prudent way of making use of it: sharing it with the poor, for no one is truly the master of what he or she owns. Jesus in our parable this Sunday says that hoarding money is inadmissible and leads to the loss of the only true good possession promised to us: the eternal inheritance.

In short, one must choose: God or the god Money. It is impossible to serve both at once. No compromise may be made between them. One is faced with an unavoidable choice. God would cease to be God if he were friendly to the servants and idolaters of money, with the wrongs they inflict on the poor and the humble, whose defender he is. Understood in this light, the parable of Jesus in today’s Gospel makes sense.

Have a blessed week, Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.

Our Gifts to God 9/13 & 9/14

Plate: \$1284.00 Tithes \$190.00
Children: \$6.00 Donuts: \$43.00
Wedding Stipend: \$100.00
Building Fund: \$200.00
Seminarian Collection: \$465.00
Kathleen Doyle Memorial: \$1150.00
Postage for books shipping to Kenya: \$275.00

Altar Society

The updated monthly committee list is on the table in the vestibule.

The Altar Society would like to send a care package to our current college students. If you have a college student in your family, please let us know their address. **The deadline for getting the names to Vickie is Sunday, Sept. 28th.** You can email their name and address to Vickie Williams: vckjs@yahoo.com
Thank you



Declan Martin	Sept 2nd
Tom Campin	Sept 3rd
Janie Brannen	Sept 4th
Tom Dinville	Sept 4th
Max Forney	Sept 6th
Conde Burkhiser	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
Doug Gipe	Sept 28th
Therese Sunderman	Sept 28th
Peggy Martin	Sept 30th

Special Collection for the people of Gaza September 27th & 28th

Archbishop Timothy Broglio, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has appealed to all of our nation's dioceses, urging support for a special collection for the people of Gaza. Funds gathered from this collection by our Diocese will be sent directly to support the work of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) as they continue to provide vital humanitarian relief to the sick, malnourished, and wounded. May our hope-fueled generosity bring some comfort and relief to our brothers and sisters suffering in Gaza.

OCIA – Order of Christian Initial of Adults is the process that helps you grow in awareness of God's call to conversion, provides opportunities to reflect on that call, and moves you towards full initiation through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

If you are interested or have questions about joining the Catholic church, please contact Fr. Lazarus (lkirigia@dmdiocese.org)

NCYC Breakfast - TODAY

Join us downstairs after Mass today for a breakfast hosted by the students who are attending the National Catholic Youth Conference. Please stop downstairs to help these students raise funds to attend the conference.

The NCYC students will also be selling raffle tickets for a few baskets during the breakfast this Sunday. The drawing will be during the October 12 NCYC breakfast.

Tickets are \$2 or 3/\$5.

Thank you to Kathy Regan for helping us secure Thrivent funds for our fall fundraising!

Priest Retreat – No daily Mass

Father will be away attending a priest retreat beginning after Mass on Sunday, Sept. 28th and returning the evening of Thursday, Oct. 2nd.

There is no daily Mass on Tuesday, Sept. 30th or Thursday, Oct. 2nd.