

OCTOBER 26, 2025

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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FATHER LAZARUS KIRIGIA - PASTOR

1510 Highland Red Oak, Iowa 712-623-2744 (Office) 515-724-4754 (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.

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

	Saturday Oct. 25th	Sunday Oct. 26	Sunday Nov. 2	Saturday Nov. 8	Sunday Nov. 9
Lector	Jake McGargill	YFF	Tom Martin	Rick Dailey	Madonna Smith
EME	Kathy Harbor	Dan Kinsella	A. Gutschenritter	Genene Fienup	John Martin
EME		Jim Martin	Joe Cheney		Sarah Martin
EME		Bridget Campbell	Aaron Molnar		Tom Martin
Server		YFF	Lillie Martin		Ruthie Martin
Server		YFF	Jonathan Ekpai		Devon Gutschenritter
Server		YFF	Maddie Ekpai		Maia Forney
Gifts	Tim & Sarah Martin	YFF	Dan & Kari Kinsella	Kim & Becky Hughes	Jim Martin Family
Usher	Bernie Hughes	YFF	Andy Campbell	Bill Ditmars	Ken Forney
Usher	Tim Martin	YFF	Joe Cheney	Donnie Doyle	Hannah Forney
Usher	George McGargill	YFF	James Doyle	Kim Hughes	Jim Gutschenritter
Usher	Aaron Molnar	YFF	Raphael Ekpai	Becky Hughes	Joe Gutschenritter
Greeters	Zeb & Jenny Burkhiser	YFF	Dan & Kari Kinsella	Bill & Pam Ditmars	Jerry Laughlin
Streaming		Rita Laughlin	Maryanne Dailey		Kari Kinsella
Sacristan	Genene Fienup	Jim Martin	Tom Martin	Tara Doyle	Aaron Molnar

Mass Intentions

Sat. Oct. 25: Members of the parish **Sun. Oct. 26:** +Marty & +Margaret Laughlin

Tues. Oct. 28: +Ann McDonald and +Jerry & +Pat Head **Thurs. Oct. 30:** +Justin Owens and +Linda & +Michelle Laughlin

Sun. Nov. 2: +Justin Owens **Tues. Nov. 4:** +Thomas P and +Catherine Maher **Thurs. Nov. 6:** +Jerry & +Pat Head

Sat. Nov. 8: +Rod Greiner and +Austin Clayton **Sun. Nov. 9:** Pat & Kathy Doyle and Family

THOUGHTS FROM FATHER LAZARUS

We continue to explore the theme of prayer this Sunday, like last Sunday. In the first reading today, we hear about the people whose prayers are heard by the Lord. It states clearly that those who serve God willingly are listened to, but beyond this general statement, the people mentioned are the weak, the oppressed, the orphan, the widow, and the lowly. The reason these people will have their prayers heard is that they have learned to depend on the Lord.

It is a sad thing about our human nature, but unless we find ourselves in a situation we know we cannot deal with, we think we can rely on ourselves. We might ask God for help, but we really do not count on Him because we fully intend to be in control and do what we think needs to be done and in the way we think it ought to be done. Often, the poor, the weak, and the lowly know from experience that they cannot control much, and they are more apt to allow the Lord to be in control.

When we realize that it is often easier to trust God when we are in difficult circumstances, then we begin to understand why the Saints would tell us that it is a great blessing to be poor, weak, lowly, etc. I do not know very many people who aspire to such things; most do not even want to be widowed or orphaned, even if they are well off in their circumstances.

There certainly are people who are able, by God's grace, to be trusting and rely on God for everything, even when there would seem to be sufficient ability to do the task on their own. Most of us, however, are more like St. Paul, who had to have the pride and the self-reliance squeezed out of him. It was only by being crushed that he learned to rely solely on God. Look at the second reading, where he tells us of God's fidelity, which he learned only after being abandoned by everyone else.

St. Paul had served the Lord faithfully, but he wanted to love the Lord more. God gave him the grace to do this through a series of hardships and seemingly impossible situations. Finally, in his desperation, St. Paul, frustrated with being weak, cried out to God, who answered that in weakness, power reaches its perfection. After that, St. Paul boasted in his weakness. He understood, after all the trials, that these crosses were the greatest blessings.

We have the bad habit of assuming that people who have easy lives are the ones God has blessed. A look at today's readings and a quick scan of the writings of the Saints would tell us just the opposite. Of course, most of us, when we read what the Saints say, think they are kind of crazy. How could someone call blessed those who are suffering rather than those who are not? It is because they know the good that God will bring out of the struggles.

Each of us can test ourselves by asking where we would see ourselves in today's Gospel. While we probably would not try to tell the Lord how lucky He is that He created us, nor would most of us go so far as to suggest that we are better than this other person who is praying at church, we still have to look at the dispositions of the two characters in the Gospel, and wonder to which of them we are most similar.

Do you find yourself more like the Pharisee who thinks he has done enough to please the Lord by the things he has done? Do we think we are deserving of God's blessing because we have served Him so well? Do we think we are above being able to fall into certain types of sins? Do we hold others in contempt because of their situation in life, their country of origin, their skin color, their appearance, or anything else?

On the other hand, do we see ourselves as weak, broken, sinners? Do we remember that at best we are useless servants who have only done what we were commanded to do? Do we remind ourselves, like St. Augustine, that were it not for the grace of God, I would be in that person's shoes, or worse? We need this perspective because on judgment day, our hope is in Jesus, not in ourselves.

A Pharisee and a tax collector come into the Temple. Both are there to pray. Only one is humble enough to recognize his need for the healing hand of God. Only one prays because only one realizes that he really needs God. And that one leaves in the embrace of the Lord's love.

Have a Blessed Week, Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.

Our Gifts to God 10/19

Plate: \$404.00 Tithes: \$70.00
 Children: \$6.00 Donuts: \$101.00
 World Mission: \$419.00
 NCYC Breakfast: \$760.00
 Building Fund: \$200.00



Maureen Campin	Nov 1st
Mary Maher	Nov 4th
Bernie Hughes	Nov 4th
Aaron Molnar	Nov 4th
Michael Mahoney	Nov 4th
Shay Berglund	Nov 4th
Jim Head	Nov 6th
Jared Blake	Nov 9th
Sawyer Doyle	Nov 9th
Emily McGargill	Nov 11th
Janice Doyle	Nov 12th
Logan Forney	Nov 13th
Caroline Gutschenritter	Nov 16th
Charles Hughes	Nov 17th
Mairin Allen	Nov 19th
Dave Sunderman	Nov 21st
Nora Martin	Nov 23rd
Genene Fienup	Nov 24th
Amy Gutschenritter	Nov 24th
Cash Smith	Nov 25th
Gerard Brannen	Nov 27th
Mary Harbor	Nov 29th
Kelsey Owens	Nov 29th
Oliver Christensen	Nov 29th
Vince Martin	Nov 29th

YFF All Saints Day Parade – TODAY

The parade begins at 10:10am in the church hall.

ALTAR SOCIETY PIE BAKERS NEEDED

The Altar Society will be auctioning pies at the Turkey Shoot on November 23 to raise funds. We are asking members to go to the online sign up at bit.ly/AltarSociety or scan the QR code below to sign up. Please note, it will show you a "preview link" and then take you to the sign up after 5 seconds. Please sign up by November 1. If there's a pie you're KNOWN for -- consider sharing your talents to this fundraiser. Please see Mary Speichinger for questions.



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:

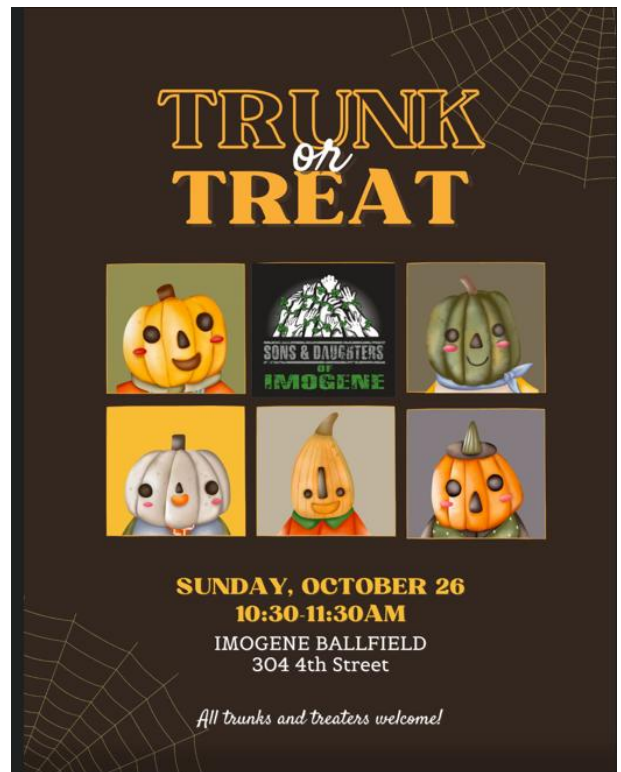
- Light a candle
- Place a framed picture on the altar rail
- Write their name in our Book of Remembrance

The next Altar Society meeting is Nov. 2nd.
 November Altar Society Committee

November 2025	
CH-Karen Gutschenritter	712-370-6903
Sarah F Martin	712-215-5577
Anne McDonald	712-386-2177
Jenny Burkheiser	712-215-2640
Stephanie Martin	712-215-5442
Donuts - 9th, 16th, 23rd	
Turkey Shoot - Nov 23	
Knights Breakfast: Nov 2 (no donuts)	

SPaRC Baby Bottle Fundraiser

If you took a baby bottle, today is the deadline for returning it to the church. If you forgot the bottle at home, please try to return it next weekend.
 Thank you for your support.



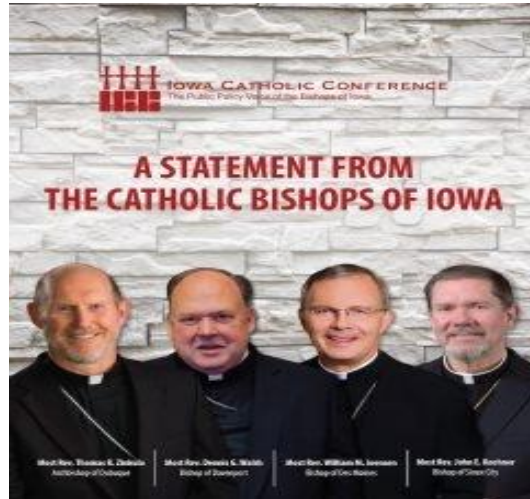
Staley's Broasted Chicken Dinner! Come to the Corpus Christi Parish's Annual Staley's Broasted Chicken Dinner on Sunday, November 2, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The dinner will be held at St. Albert Catholic School, 400 Gleason Avenue, Council Bluffs. \$15 per dinner for ages 9 and up. Ages 4 to 8 - \$10. Ages 3 and under are free. Dinner includes: Staley's Broasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Stuffing, Green Beans, Corn, Coleslaw, Dinner Roll and Dessert. Dine in and take out available. \$3,000 Grand Prize raffle! Silent auction. Theme baskets, crafts and more will be available for purchase too. Dinner tickets and Grand Prize raffle tickets can be purchased at the parish office, 3304 4th Avenue, Council Bluffs (712) 323-2916 or at the door on the day of the event.

SEEDS FOR SEMINARIANS

Thank you to Jake McGargill, George McGargill, Dave McGargill, Kenny McGargill and Donnie Doyle for planting and harvesting the Seeds for Seminarians plot. Because of their time and generosity, **\$1590.93** will be sent to the Diocese for our Seminarians.

Knights of Columbus Winter Coat Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Coats for Kids clothing drive accepting new and gently used coats of all sizes along with new gloves, mittens, and socks. A collection box will be at the bottom of the steps to the church hall from now until January.



The Catholic bishops of Iowa have released a pastoral reflection on the Church's teaching on immigration and the dignity of the human person. Entitled "[Pilgrims of Hope: A Pastoral Reflection on Immigration](#)," the letter asks the People of God to uphold the dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God, "by welcoming the stranger, defending the oppressed, and standing in solidarity with those who are displaced."

While acknowledging the right of our nation to regulate its borders for the sake of the common good, the letter asserts that "the security of a nation can never be used as an excuse to violate the dignity and human rights of migrants, including the right to due process by law."

The bishops also pledge that Catholic institutions be places of welcome and accompaniment for migrants and refugees. This includes providing legal aid, pastoral support, and material assistance where possible.

Finally, the bishops emphasize that the Eucharist, as the Sacrament of unity and charity, "offers us the ultimate model of Christian hospitality. In the breaking of the bread, we are reminded that we are one Body in Christ, called to reconciliation and to make room at the table for our sisters and brothers, especially the poor and the marginalized. The same Christ who gives himself to us in the Eucharist is present in the immigrant seeking shelter, the refugee longing for peace, and the displaced family searching for security."

The diocesan bishops of Iowa are Archbishop Thomas Zinkula of Dubuque; Bishop William Joensen of Des Moines; Bishop Dennis Walsh of Davenport; and Bishop John Keehner of Sioux City.

Have you heard people talk about Alpha, but you just don't know what it is? Well, now you have an opportunity to find out what it's all about!

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 12th in the church hall from 6pm – 8pm as the participants currently in Alpha share what Alpha is and how it has impacted their faith and relationship with Jesus.

All are welcome to join us, but please be sure to RSVP because there will be a meal provided.

