

# MARCH 8, 2026

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

[stpatsimogene@gmail.com](mailto:stpatsimogene@gmail.com) [www.stpatrickimogene.com](http://www.stpatrickimogene.com)

#### FATHER LAZARUS KIRIGIA - PASTOR

1510 Highland Red Oak, Iowa 712-623-2744 (Office) 515-724-4754 (Emergencies) Email: [lkirigia@dmdiocese.org](mailto: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 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month) Tuesday-8:30am, Thursday-6pm

Holydays-check bulletin

**RECONCILIATION**-Saturday-4:15pm-4:45pm (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.facebook.com/stpatrickimogeneiowa)

	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday 10am	Sunday
	March 8	March 14	March 15	March 22
<b>Lector</b>	Peggy Martin	Rick Dailey	Maria Blake	A. Gutschenritter
<b>EME</b>	A. Gutschenritter	Kathy Harbor	John Martin	Bridget Campbell
<b>EME</b>	Joe Cheney		Sarah Martin	Dan Kinsella
<b>EME</b>	Aaron Molnar		Tom Martin	Jim Martin
<b>Server</b>	Lillie Martin		Ethan Laughlin	Caroline Campbell
<b>Server</b>	Ethan Nelson		Addy Christensen	Jonathan Ekpai
<b>Server</b>	Devon Gutschenritter		Finn Martin	Madeleine Ekpai
<b>Gifts</b>	Marge McDonald	Kim & Becky Hughes	Zeb & Jenny Burkhiser	Dan & Stephanie Martin
<b>Usher</b>	Andy Campbell	Donnie Doyle	Hannah Forney	Trevor Christensen
<b>Usher</b>	Joe Cheney	Kim Hughes	Sam McGargill	Dan Kinsella
<b>Usher</b>	James Doyle	Becky Hughes	Joe Gutschenritter	Jim Martin
<b>Usher</b>	Raphael Ekpai	Bill Ditmars	Ken Forney	Tom Martin
<b>Greeters</b>	Jim Martin Family	Kim & Becky Hughes	Dan & Kari Kisella	James & Melonie Doyle
<b>Streaming</b>	Kari Kinsella		Rita Laughlin	Nora Martin
<b>Sacristan</b>	Joe Cheney	Tara Doyle	Jim Martin	Tom Martin

#### Mass Intention

**Sun. Mar. 8:** +Linda and +Michelle Laughlin **Tues. Mar. 10:** +Tom Breedlove and +Michael David Conners  
**Tues. Mar. 12:** +Phillip Gillette **Sat. Mar. 14:** +Travis Durfey **Sun. Mar. 15:** +Members of the parish  
**Tues. Mar. 17:** Deceased members of the parish **Thurs. Mar. 19:** +Michelle & +Linda Laughlin  
**Sun. Mar. 22:** +Justin Owens **Tues. Mar. 24:** +Tom Breedlove and +Michael Davis Conners

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

March 8, 2026  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent  
John 4:5-42

Recently I received a note from a teenager I met years ago. He wrote, “Dear Father Muir, you probably do not remember me, but I wanted to thank you for your inspiring and humorous homilies at the parish. They helped me appreciate the beauty of Catholicism, which I have now embraced in a personal way.” That small note moved me more than he probably imagined. I had no idea my words had taken root in him. I was simply sowing seeds — week by week, Mass by Mass. Someone else — his parents, a youth minister, or God Himself — was doing the deeper work. Now this young man is joyfully reaping a harvest of faith.

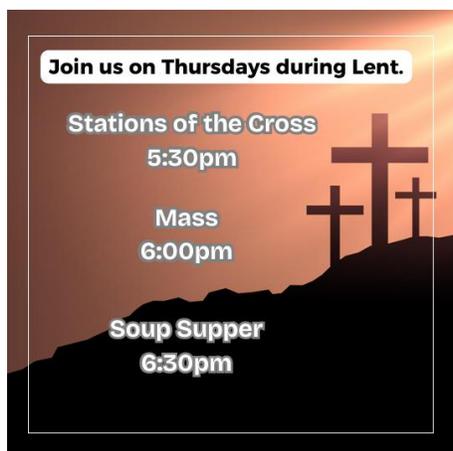
In today’s Gospel, Jesus offers living water to a Samaritan woman whose life had been full of searching and disappointment. By the end of their encounter, she becomes a bold and joyful evangelist. Then Jesus turns to his disciples and says something easily overlooked: “**One sows and another reaps**” (John 4:37). He is helping them — and us — understand how evangelization works. Often, the one who sows the seeds of faith is not the one who sees the fruit.

This Lent, ask yourself: Are you in a sowing phase or a reaping phase? If you are sowing — raising children, praying for someone, mentoring — be patient. Your work matters. If you are reaping — seeing someone come alive in faith — be grateful. You are standing on sacred ground, tilled and watered by others.

**Lenten challenge:** Thank someone who once sowed faith into your life. And keep sowing, even when the harvest is unseen.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi



### Annual Diocesan Appeal 2026

The Annual Diocesan Appeal gives us the opportunity to Cultivate Connections in Christ and support the ministries and services in this Diocese from which you and our parish benefit. Every gift, regardless of the size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Please visit [www.DMDiocese.org/giving](http://www.DMDiocese.org/giving) to make an online gift today!

**Our ADA goal for 2026 = \$26,821**

### Thank you

Thank you to all who contributed to the Annual Diocesan Appeal in 2025. Because of your generosity, our parish reached their goal.

### Hosting the Soup Supper

March 12 – Finance Council  
March 19 – NCYC  
March 26 – Volunteers

**Our Gifts to God: 3/1**

Plate: \$2103.00	Tithes: \$175.00
Children: \$23.00	Masses: \$236.00
Hall Rent: \$50.00	Books: \$45.00
Votives: \$281.87	Donuts: \$38.00



Shirley Leahy	Mar 3rd
Cassidy Molnar	Mar 3rd
John Martin	Mar 3rd
Madeleine Ekpai	Mar 3rd
Brynn Berglund	Mar 3rd
Joe Doyle	Mar 4th
Regina Forney	Mar 5th
Kathy Harbor	Mar 5th
George McGargill	Mar 6th
Logan Mahoney	Mar 9th
Tonya Maher (Blaine)	Mar 11th
Rose Dailey	Mar 13th
Roger Dailey	Mar 15th
Darlene Laughlin	Mar 16th
Bill Ditmars	Mar 17th
Ethan Laughlin	Mar 18th
Kayla Mahoney	Mar 21st
Brianna Blake	Mar 25th
Steve Laughlin	Mar 26th
Vicki Smith	Mar 29th
Sandy Bugg	Mar 31st
Owen Laughlin	Mar 31st

**Imogene St. Patrick's Day Parade  
Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 3pm**

We would like to get a large group of people to walk in the parade to represent our parish. Father Lazarus will be there too. Please meet in front of the church at 2:30pm next Saturday.

**Easter Lilies**

The deadline for the memorial Easter lilies is next Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The envelopes are on the table in the vestibule.

**Homebound/Nurshing Home Parishioners**

As Father mentioned last Sunday, it's important he is aware of any parishioner who is currently in a nursing home or homebound. Father would like to make sure these parishioners are receiving the sacraments.

If you know of someone, please send an email to Father: [lkirigia@dmdiocese.org](mailto:lkirigia@dmdiocese.org)

**Inside Church Cleaning March 28 at 9am**

Please plan to help us clean the inside of the church in preparation for Easter. We will be cleaning on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Active Threat Safety Talk  
Sunday, March 22nd**

Join us at 9:45am in the church hall for a presentation by the Red Oak Police Chief; Justin Rhamy. This presentation will last approximately 30 minutes.



**Special Collection  
March 14 & 15  
Catholic Relief Services**

The CRS Collection is one of the twelve national collections established by the bishops of the United States so that, by combining resources, we can more effectively carry out the global mission of the Church. It offers Catholics a convenient opportunity to help more than 110 million people at home and abroad through a charitable contribution during Mass.

**Des Moines Council of Catholic Women  
Spring Conference – April 11<sup>th</sup> in Atlantic**

- There is a flyer with more details about the conference on the table in the vestibule.
- There are also nomination forms for honoring a woman in the parish for their outstanding service.



**St. Patrick Church  
Imogene  
Church Hall**

**Lenten  
Fish  
Fry**



**Friday, March 13  
5pm - 7pm**

- Fried Pollock
- Baked Cod
- Cole Slaw
- Mac & Cheese
- Potato Rounds
- Dessert
- Tea & Lemonade

**Adults - \$15  
5yr to 10yr - \$5  
Under 5yr - Free**

*The price for any one family will not exceed \$40.*



**Saint  
PATRICK'S  
WEEKEND**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 13**

**NORTH BAR POP UP**  
5PM-MIDNIGHT--105 N. RAILROAD

**FISH FRY**  
5PM-7PM--ST. PATRICK CHURCH HALL

**KING & QUEEN OF CEILI CROWNING**  
8PM--105 N. RAILROAD TERRY & KATHY REGAN

**GUINNESS CHUG CONTEST**  
8:30PM--105 N. RAILROAD

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

**NORTH BAR POP UP**  
NOON-MIDNIGHT--105 N. RAILROAD

**MOBILE GRACE FOOD TRUCK**  
1PM-7PM--DOWNTOWN IMOGENE

**SNAKE TOSS**  
1PM--SHAMROCK

**LITTLE LEPRECHAUN CONTEST**  
1:15PM--SHAMROCK

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
1:30PM--NORTH BAR POP UP

**PARADE**  
3PM--DOWNTOWN IMOGENE

**TWO DOLLAR PISTOLS**  
2PM & 4PM--SHAMROCK THEATER

**MASS**  
5PM--ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

**MASS**  
10AM--ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

**IRISH BRUNCH**  
11AM-1PM--ST. PATRICK CHURCH HALL

**DICE ROLL**  
1PM--ST. PATRICK CHURCH HALL

**ST. PATRICK'S MARCH 17  
NORTH BAR**  
5PM-10PM

### Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

The Pastoral Council met on Thursday, February 18th, in the church rectory. Meeting opened with the Our Father led by Father Lazurus at 7:00PM. Present was Father Lazurus and all Council Members.

The date for the church picnic will be Saturday August 22nd, at the Sports Complex in Shenandoah. Mass will be at 4PM.

Menu was finalized for the Irish Breakfast Brunch on March 15th. Mass will be at 10AM with the brunch following from 11-1.

Knights of Columbus are hosting a fish fry in Imogene on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Community Reconciliation will be on March 22nd in Imogene from 3-4 pm. Reconciliation in Red Oak will be March 15th from 3-4pm.

Next meeting will be held Thursday March 19h, at 6:35 P.M.

Aaron moved to adjourn. Jerry seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M. Father closed the meeting by leading Glory Be.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susie McDonald

## Altar Society March Meeting | Church Hall| 3.1.26

Officers in Attendance: Kathy Harbor, President | Vickie Williams, Vice-President

Members in Attendance: Karen Clark and Patty Baran

Minutes Recorded:

February 2026 minutes reviewed. Patty moved and Vickie seconded to approve minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking - 2/26/26 \$2537.17 previous \$2417.71

Savings - 2/26/26 \$9964.55 previous \$9962.78

Vickie moved to accept treasurer report Patty seconded.

Correspondence:

Received announcement from the Des Moines Diocese Council of Catholic Women conference at SS Peter and Paul Parish Center in Atlantic from 9am to 2:30pm on April 11, 2026.

Old Business:

Memorial Easter Lily envelopes are in the vestibule. \$25.00 each. March 15th is the cut off date.

Requests for homebound parishioners are due by March 15th

Sarah Martin (Tom) will be at the church for Easter lily delivery.

New Business:

The date for Easter church cleaning has been set for **March 28th at 9am**. Kathy will contact Maryanne for an announcement in the bulletin.

Kathy received a request to move the Altar Society meetings to the church hall after the children leave for YFF. We will try it this Sunday to see if the background noise level is too high.

Start plans for Senior Recognition Sunday May 3rd. Kathy will contact May chairperson, Maria Blake, to see if they will need additional help.

Applications for the Senior Altar Society Scholarships need to be distributed soon. The scholarship amount is \$200.00 each. Kathy will contact Mary Speichinger to see if she has an application form in her document file. The scholarship amount is \$200.00 each. The cut off date for applications will be April 19, 2026. This allows checks to be processed so they can be presented at Senior Recognition on Sunday May 3rd.

The Des Moines Diocese Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) has requested a donation of \$50 for the April 11, 2026 conference. With a \$100.00 donation they will include two tickets to the conference. Patty moved to donate \$100 and Vickie seconded. The two included tickets will be given on a first come first serve basis by contacting Kathy Harbor. Additional tickets are \$30.00 each.

Kathy will send the DCCW conference flyer to Maryanne to be published in the bulletin. DCCW also honors outstanding women of the parish by nomination. We will make those nomination forms available in the bulletin or in the vestibule.

Patty moved and Karen seconded to adjourn.

Next Meeting: Easter Sunday is April 5, the next Altar Society meeting will be Sunday April 12th in the church basement.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Harbor (for Mary Speichinger)



Please help us spread the word that Mass on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> is at 10am instead of 8:30am.

**Desserts Needed:**

- We are asking members of the parish to bring an Irish dessert for our Irish Brunch.
- We are asking for Irish bread, soda bread or scones.
- Please be sure the dessert is ready to serve.
- Please bring your desserts to the kitchen by 11am on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Volunteers Needed For Set Up**

- We will be setting up the tables for the Irish Brunch after the Soup Supper this Thursday.
- The more people that can help the quicker it will go!



**DIOCESE OF DES MOINES**  
CULTIVATING CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

March 3, 2026  
For Immediate Release  
Contact: [Anne Marie Cox](#)  
515-237-5057

## **BISHOP WILLIAM JOENSEN STATEMENT ON IRAN**

We are struck and sobered by the initiative and scale of United States military operations in recent days in Iran. As Catholics, we look to our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, for moral and spiritual guidance. At his public audience this past Sunday, one day after the initial U.S. attacks in Iran, Pope Leo XIV offered this exhortation:

Faced with the possibility of a tragedy of immense proportions, I make a heartfelt appeal to all the parties involved to assume the moral responsibility of halting the spiral of violence before it becomes an unbridgeable chasm. May diplomacy regain its proper role, and may the well-being of people, who yearn for peaceful existence founded on justice, be upheld. And let us continue to pray for peace.

Further, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, spoke on behalf of all our nation's bishops and echoed the Holy Father's remarks: "All nations, international bodies, and partners committed to peace must exert every effort to prevent further escalation." Archbishop Coakley continued:

At this critical moment, I invite Catholics and all people of goodwill to continue our ardent prayers for peace in the Middle East, for the safety of our troops and the innocent, that leaders may seek dialogue over destruction, and pursue the common good over the tragedy of war. We implore the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Mary, Queen of Peace, to pray for our troubled world and for a lasting peace.

Learn what the [Catechism of the Catholic Church](#) teaches about conditions necessary for legitimate defense using military force (CCC #2309 & 2310).

In this Lenten season of repentance and renewed humility of heart, and mindful of the scriptural admonition, "When they sow the wind, they will reap the whirlwind" (Hosea 8:7), part of our prayer imitates Azariah's prayer in the Book of Daniel, Chapter 3: 37-45:

We are reduced, O Lord, beyond any other nation, brought low everywhere in the world this day because of our sins. We have in our day no prince, prophet, or leader, no burnt offering, sacrifice, oblation, or incense, no place to offer first fruits, to find favor with you. But with contrite heart and humble spirit let us be received. . . . So let our sacrifice be in your presence today and find favor before you; for those who trust in you cannot be put to shame. And now we follow you with our whole heart, we fear you and we seek your face. Do not put us to shame, but deal with us in your kindness and great mercy.

May the God who stands over all nations convict us, convert us, and draw us together as sisters and brothers united on the path leading to the peace only Jesus Christ can give. I commend you in this Lenten season of repentance to offer one additional day of fasting for peace.