



St. Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1510 HIGHLAND AVE., RED OAK, IOWA 51566



September 27, 2020 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PARISH STAFF

Fr. Lazarus Kirigia, Pastor of Red Oak & Imogene

Parish Office: 712-623-2744

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stmarysrosecretary@gmail.com

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stmarysrohispanic@gmail.com

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St. Mary's Parish Website:

www.stmarysredoak.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Closed

Jean -Tuesday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m..

Cindy-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Please call the office or Fr. Lazarus prior to visiting the staff so we may assist you best.

PARISH LEADERSHIP

PARISH TRUSTEES

Tom Stamets 623-9797

Connie Sampers 623-2369

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Charla Schmid (*Secretary*) 623-4675

Joe Nealon 623-9642

Matt Ross 623-8956

Jeff Grebin, Chair (*Social Justice*) 621-6954

Nancy Nealon (*Arts & Environment*) 623-9642

Charla Schmid (*Music & Liturgy*) 623-4675

Hank Latus (*Property & Grounds*) 712-829-2404

Ken Podliska (*Property & Grounds*) 623-3622

Kerry & Elaine Carlson (*Stewardship*) 623-4122

Pat Jensen (*Health & Wellness*) 712-370-2511

Nancy Nealon: Coordinator, Saturday Mass

Tim Schmid: Coordinator, Sunday AM Mass

David Bueno: Coordinator, Spanish Mass

Kim Roberts: Coordinator, RCIA

Vocations: www.vocationsonline.com

Des Moines Diocese Info: www.dmdiocese.org

Catholic Charities: www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org
515-244-3761

ST. MARY'S MISSION STATEMENT

"Our vision is to see Christ in others and to treat others as Christ, because this is what we believe."

As a Catholic community, we gather and celebrate the presence of Christ in sacrifice and sacrament.

"Our mission is to support our community by meeting the spiritual, faith formation and other needs of our parishioners."

Welcome! *It is our hope that you feel at home and among friends here. If you are a visitor for the day, we pray God's blessings on your journey. If you are looking for a parish community, we would be delighted to welcome you into our parish family. Please join us at the beginning of each mass before the opening song to pray three "Hail Mary's" and a "Glory Be" to end abortion in our country.*



Musings From The Pastor.

When you come down to it there are only two moments in our lives that matter: the present, now, and the final moment, the hour of our death. We acknowledge that every time we say the *Hail Mary*, "Pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen."

The prophet Ezekiel says as much in today's first reading. "When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die." In other words, just because you are doing pretty good right now, don't get overconfident. St. Paul warns against presumption, "I work out my salvation in fear and trembling, lest after having preached to others, I myself be lost." Those are sobering words; they make us recognize we have to rely constantly on God's grace. As a priest I have always tried to keep that in my mind. I am not just preaching to the congregation but to myself too.

However, if it is possible to forfeit everything at the very last, the opposite is also true. Ezekiel says, "But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life." As a priest I have seen many end of life conversions. It is one of the most beautiful things about being a priest. A family was once gathered around the bed of their dying father. All his life he had mocked the faith. His wife endured it years and prayed quietly for her husband. As he was slipping away, she placed a small crucifix in his hand. To the astonishment of the family he grasped it and lifted it to his lips. Touching that crucifix to his lips was his last conscious act.

Now to some people this can seem unfair. How can a person ignore God and be saved by a deathbed conversion while someone else does good all his life, then loses everything by committing a serious sin? But God turns the question around, "Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?" We can be sure of one thing: God is completely just and fair. But he never allows us to peer into another man's heart. We can only see our own. Some worry about the people who have never heard about Christ. How are they saved? That is a legitimate question; our Catechism addresses it. (#1260, see also #161ff.) But worrying about other people can be a way of avoiding a much more important and immediate question: what about you? You and I do know about Jesus and our salvation will depend on how we respond to him.

Regarding salvation Jesus tells us today about two sons. The first was told to get into the vineyard and work. He said, "no," but later changed his mind. The second said, "yes," but then never went. Jesus asks a simple question, "Which one did his father's will?" Which one will be saved? You can hear Jesus' listeners swallow hard, "The first." The one who got into the vineyard.

The point is almost identical to last Sunday - the parable of the workers in the vineyard. What counts is not necessarily all the good work you've done, but where you are at the end of the day. Those who came at the last hour get the

same pay as those who worked all day. God does not operate on the "equal pay for equal work" principle. God is generous. He is also fair, but in a deeper way than our ordinary standard of justice.

So what is the moral of this story? I am afraid for many people it is, "Enjoy now, repent later." I'll stop swearing and drinking, but not now. I'll start getting serious about praying and going to Mass - when I'm older. Surely God won't send me to hell just because I do a little messing around. That way of thinking is fatal. When a person makes a deathbed conversion, I am convinced it was not only an act of God's grace, but there was something which all along prepared the person. The same with the apparently good man who trips at the end. Remember the saying, "As you live, so shall you die." When that moment arrives, what will count is not your good intentions, "I was planning on repenting, but when I turned seventy." God is not interested in a lot of lovely promises. He wants action. Are you in the vineyard or not? Sure, the Church has a lot of imperfections. It's composed of imperfect people, like you and me. But what will endure forever is Jesus and his bride the Church. When our time comes, may we be found working in the vineyard.

Have a Blessed week: Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL UPDATE-9/11/2020

Pledges	\$2,525.00	Total # of Pledges	5
Pledge Payments	\$2,325.00	Total # Pledges	
		With Balance	3
Pledge Balance	\$ 200.00	# of Donors	45
Gifts	\$17,135.00		

Parish ADA Goal \$28,121.00

Current Amount Due/Refund Due) \$ 8,661.00

Parish ADA Goal	\$28,121.00
-Pledges	\$ 2,525.00
-Gifts	\$17,135.00

Expected Shortfall (Overage) \$ 8,461.00

EVERY FAMILY EVERY MONTH

The Catholic Mirror diocesan newspaper is mailed to every registered Catholic household every month. Our paper has been instrumental in sharing guidelines, stories of hope and spiritual guidance during this unprecedented time of pandemic. Please consider taking a subscription to The Catholic Mirror to support our work of keeping you up to date on what's going on in our diocesan faith community: dmdiocese.org/giving.

FROM THE BISHOP

Bishop William Joensen shares his gratitude to the faithful for their patience and prayers when public worship was suspended in a video. He also explains the changes they'll see when they come back to church. The changes are intended to minimize the spread of the coronavirus. Please watch this video if you have the time. Thank you. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSUrDA82m5l&feature=youtu.be>

HEAR THE BISHOP

Bishop William Joensen's weekly radio show airs on Fridays at 9 a.m. on Iowa Catholic Radio and the Spirit Catholic Radio Network. Tune in to hear "Making it Personal With Bishop Joensen."



**FAITH FORMATION
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR
Blessings to all!!**

Thanks to all who attended and helped with our Confirmation, YDisciple, and Family Formation meetings!

I realize much is changed but these are real opportunities to improve our programs. Please know that the St. Mary's staff, volunteers, and especially myself will always be there to help!

I am putting information on Facebook, including schedules and plans. Please look at our Facebook page. You do not have to belong to Facebook to look at the page. Any questions please call Alan @ 712-303-2680.

Alan Vonnahme, St. Mary's Catholic Church
Director of Religious Education; stmarysrodre@gmail.com

HOLY LAND OLIVE ART

St. Mary's once again has the opportunity to have Holy Land Olive Art for sale at our church. They will be here October 11 and set up in the front of the church with items for sale. You may preview at www.holylandoliveart.com and see the beautiful items they have for sale. The olive tree is an ancient symbol of peace, wisdom, glory, power and pureness. Please see the letter on the board. Holy Land Catholics are known worldwide for their olive wood carvings. Families have taught their children to carve religious figures from olive wood by hand for two centuries, and been able to support their families by selling these unique carvings to pilgrims who visit. But with all of the conflicts in the Middle East and fewer people visiting they are now blessed to be selling hand carved olive wood items to Catholics worldwide. Thank you for your generosity.

FACEBOOK

Please remember to "LIKE" the St. Mary's Church Facebook page. If you have anything for Facebook please give us a call! Thank you for sharing!! Our page is: St. Mary's Catholic Church-Red Oak. We are unable to stream mass until we have updated our equipment and will let you know as soon as we can. You can watch Imogene Mass on Facebook if you wish until we can get up and going. Thank you.



FLOCKNOTE

Please remember to sign up for flocknote so that you may stay informed of all the changes in our masses, our meetings, and any pertinent information we need to pass along at this time. With school starting, so do our Faith Formation and projects. We pray all of you and your families stay safe. If you need any help please call the office.

ST.MARY'S CHURCH BULLETIN SPONSORS

We continue to thank all of our sponsors for their ad space. As a reminder, we ask that all of our parishioners utilize these advertisers whenever possible. Now more than ever, we need to continue to support our small businesses, and remember them in the future when we are able to do more.

Readings for the week of September 27, 2020

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [6a]/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32; St. Vincent de Paul
Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7 [6]/Lk 9:46-50; St. Wenceslaus
Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51; Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael
Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15 [3]/Lk 9:57-62; St. Jerome
Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 [13]/Lk 10:1-12; St. Therese of Lisieux
Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11 [11]/Mt 18:1-5, 10; Feast of the Guardian Angels
Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130 [135]/Lk 10:17-24; St. Theodora Guerin
Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 [Is 5:7a]/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



CATHOLIC RADIO STATIONS AVAILABLE

lowacatholicradio.com
Iowa Catholic Radio
1150 AM
88.5 FM and 94.5 FM
Omaha Stations:
Spiritcatholicradio.com
Spirit 102.7 FM

BRING YOUR MASK

If you're coming to Mass, please bring your mask. While you may not fear getting sick, it's an act of charity and love to do what we can to prevent others from getting sick. Thank you for doing all you can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.



UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Oct. 6-Knights of Columbus Meeting
- Oct. 10-11—Tootsie Roll Drive
- Oct. 11-Holy Land Art Sales

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Knights of Columbus would like to thank the people who helped us meet our goal with donations to the Seminarians. We were able to raise enough money (with our Council match) to support 5 Seminarians to help them continue their studies.

We will be having our Tootsie Roll Drive October 10-11. Sign up sheets are in the front of the church. We appreciate all the help we can get. COVID guidelines will be enforced.

We would also like your input, opinions and thoughts about how to handle the Annual Pork Loin Dinner. With the COVID guidelines we have to figure whether we can even have the dinner, have dine-in, or drive thru, or take out only. Please help and tell us what you would like to see happen. Thank you to everyone for your support in the past, present and future projects.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Saturday-October 3

Lector: Pete Crawford
Altar Servers: Xavier & Brie Ross
Min. of Communion: John Willms
Greeter/Usher: Joe & Nancy Nealon / Matt Ross / Kevin Naser
Musician/Singers: Charla Schmid / Ann Ross & Jim Kearney
Sacristan: Nancy Nealon

Sunday-October 4

Lector: Jim Kearney
Altar Servers: Liah Wemhoff / Quinn McDonald
Min. of Communion: Richard Sampers
Homebound: Richard Sampers
Greeter/Usher: Tim Schmid / John McDonald / Mike Portz
Musician/Singers: Charla Schmid / Kerry & Elaine Carlson
Sacristan: Tim Schmid
Money Counters: Jim Kearney / Steve Gray

A ceremony honoring the Holy Eucharist is available on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. on Channel 6, WOW TV, Omaha.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Dan Bruning Josh Watson
Homebound Parishioners Patricia Menendez
Noe' Sanchez Flores Len & Fran Ross
Margarita Vasquez Ken Steffen



If you or someone you know would like to be on the prayer list, please call the office so that we may add their name in the bulletin

IOWA LEGAL AID'S FARMWORKER POLICY

Attached to the bulletin in the front of the church is information on Free Legal Services for Eligible Individuals/Servicios Legales Gratuitos Para Personas Elegibles. 1-800-532-1275 There is also information regarding Flood Recovery from Iowa Legal Aid in English and Spanish if someone is needing help.

RESOURCES FOR HISPANIC COMMUNITY

If you have families that have lost their employment and their source of income and they need some assistance, they can call the 211 hotline, text your zip code to 898211, or visit www.211iowa.org.

HISPANIC MINISTRY-IOWA PBS

Get health and safety news in Spanish during the COVID-19 crisis through Iowa PBS. Iowa PBS to offer Spanish language safety information amidst COVID-19 pandemic.

BAPTISM: Please call the office to schedule the Baptism. A class is required for first-time parents.

RCIA: Each Fall the parish forms a group of adults who are interested in becoming Catholic, or in leaning about the faith. Contact the Parish Office or Fr. Lazarus.

CARE OF THE SICK: Please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Lazarus to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, or if you would like a visit while in the hospital or Communion brought to your home.

MARRIAGE: Couples planning a wedding at St. Mary's should contact Fr. Lazarus at least 6 months prior to the wedding to begin the preparation process.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday, September 26

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Grounds
- 5:00 p.m. Mass in Imogene

Sunday, September 27— HOLY LAND COLLECTION

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Imogene
- 10:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak-Bernard Bruning
- 1:00 a.m. Mass in Spanish-Roger Kirby

Monday, September 28-Office Closed

Tuesday, September 29

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Imogene

Wednesday, September 30

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak-Fr. Tom Kunnel
- Pastoral Council

Thursday, October 1

- 6:00 a.m. Adoration Begins
- 5:15 p.m. Rosary
- 6:00 p.m. Mass in Imogene
- 8:00 p.m. Spanish Rosary

Friday, October 2

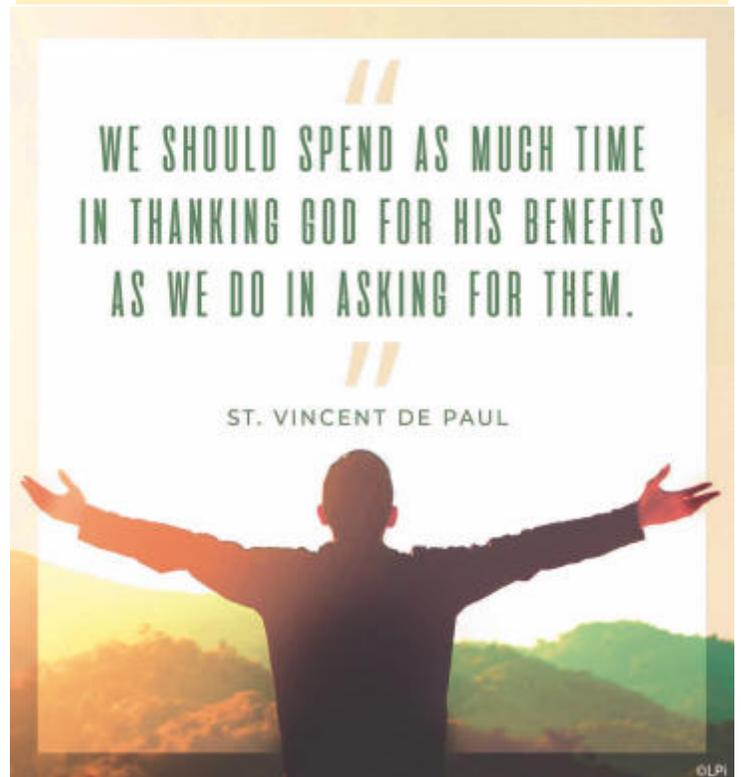
- 6:00 a.m. Adoration Ends
- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak-Members of the Parish

Saturday, October 3

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Grounds
- 5:00 p.m. Mass in Red Oak-Vera Kusleika+

Sunday, October 4

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Imogene
- 10:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak-Lois Schmid+
- 1:00 a.m. Mass in Spanish-Fr. Tom Kunnel+



Be safe this harvest season! Watch out for all of our husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, moms, dads, grandparents and all of our harvest workers driving ALL equipment on the roads! Thanks!

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Wednesday & Thursday: 8:30 AM to 6 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM to 3 PM*
*Pediatric hours 7 AM to 5 PM

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