



# St. Mary's

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

1510 HIGHLAND AVE., RED OAK, IOWA 51566



**Aug. 21-22, 2021**

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**



### 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

### 21<sup>ER</sup> DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Entonces Jesús les dijo a los Doce: "¿También ustedes quieren dejarme?" Simón Pedro le respondió: "Señor, ¿a quién iremos? Tú tienes palabras de vida eterna; y nosotros creemos y sabemos que tú eres el Santo de Dios". - Jn 6, 67-69

### 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.

#### PARISH STAFF

**Fr. Lazarus Kirigia, Pastor of Red Oak & Imogene**

**Parish Office:** 712-623-2744

**Cell:** 515-770-9064

**Email:** kirigia32@hotmail.com

**Jean Anderson, Secretary,**  
stmarysrosecretary@gmail.com

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stmarysrohispanic@gmail.com

**Alan Vonnahme, DRE**  
stmarysrodre@gmail.com

**St. Mary's Parish Website:**

www.stmarysredoak.com

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Closed

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

Peyton-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 712-789-0591

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

Mike Connolly (*Property & Grounds*) 370-9022

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



### *Musings From The Pastor.*

You may have heard of the Spanish explorer, Francisco Pizarro. In 1530 he commanded a small fleet that mapped the Pacific Coast of South America. Pizarro had no formal education (he could neither read nor write) but he quickly realized that he had touched the edges of a great civilization, and even though he was fifty - quite old for an explorer back in the sixteenth century - he decided to lead an expedition to the heart of the empire.

His soldiers thought he was crazy and said they would not go. Standing on a beach, Pizarro drew a line in the sand. He said, "Those who want to go with me, cross this line. I cannot promise you anything but hardships - and possibly death. Those who wish comfort can return to Europe. But you will lose a great adventure - and maybe great riches." Well, 169 crossed the line. And they did conquer a vast, brilliant civilization - the Inca Empire. Pizarro had many faults, some we would judge harshly today. But he also had something we often lack: courage, decisiveness.

In today's first reading Joshua asks the Israelites to cross a line: "Decide today whom you will serve." Do you want to serve the gods of the culture - or the Lord? Then Joshua says, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Jesus asks us to make an even greater decision. With patience and graphic detail, he explains the kind of relationship he desires with us: "If you want eternal life, if you want my life," he says, "you must eat my flesh and drink my blood." The people balk and many walk away. Jesus does not say to them, "Come back, I was only speaking symbolically. I am just talking about a nice, friendly meal." No Jesus turns to his disciples and asks, "Do you also want to leave?"

Jesus is drawing a line in the sand - and inviting us to cross it, to come with him. The choice is dramatic - and total. There is no room for waffling, for picking and choosing. You either cross the line or turn back.

Jesus has clearly upped the ante. He is like a poker player who pushes everything into the center of the table. If we think he's bluffing, we can bet against him. But most people, especially today, just fold their hand and walk away. But there is a third option. Jesus actually invites us to bet everything on his hand. We can say, "I am so confident you are the Son of God I stake everything on You." That is what Peter did, "Lord, where can we go? You have the words of everlasting life." To follow Jesus means to recognize nothing else in this life will really satisfy us.

To receive Communion we cross a line - make a commitment to stand with Jesus, no matter what. In the "Guidelines for Reception of Communion," the bishops underscore this commitment. Communion involves (quote) "oneness of faith, life and worship." In other words, Communion involves our total being, our entire lives.

When we come to Communion, we can't offer Jesus a part of our selves. We offer him everything. In a beautiful prayer, St. Ignatius Loyola describes this complete offering:

*Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my*

*understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess You have given me I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace; with these I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more.*

I have seen this total giving in Evangelicals who have crossed the line and entered the Catholic Church. I asked some of them going through RCIA classes why they did it. After all, they had been members of dynamic, high-power congregations. In comparison our parish may seem somewhat bland and trouble-ridden. Moreover they were changing relationships with people they deeply treasured. Why did they do it? Inevitably they gave me this answer: They crossed the line, they became Catholics for one reason: to receive the Eucharist, the true Body and Blood of Christ. Everything else seemed like small potatoes in comparison.

These Evangelical converts to Catholicism challenge us. When we come to Communion, are we making a total commitment or are we holding something back? Maybe some area in my life where I don't want to let Jesus direct me. Some area where I don't want to hear the teaching of his Church.

I do invite you to cross that line this Sunday. I cannot promise you a soothing solution for your problems. But I can promise you this: a great adventure, the greatest adventure one can take. I can also tell you that anything you surrender to Christ, he will give back in a purified and enduring form. Jesus promises a hundred-fold in this life - and eternal life in the world to come if we faithfully follow him, he has promised that he will raise them up on the Last Day.

I am not saying this is easy. Each time we receive Communion, we ask forgiveness for our failings. And we ask Jesus for the strength to make a self-offering. We know that without his grace we can do nothing. Communion itself gives us strength and grace.

So, this Sunday - Jesus draws a line in the sand. He offers us everything - not just his spiritual being, but his physical reality. He makes this offer through the Church which, as St. Paul teaches, is his Body. And he invites a response from us. In the end, he will only settle for a total response. "Do you also want to leave?" He asks. May we have the grace - and courage - to respond with Peter, the head of the apostle: "*Master, to whom shall we go? You have to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.*" the words of eternal life. We have come to believe you're the holy one of God.

*Have a Blessed week; Fr. Lazarus Kirigia.*

### **ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL**

Ongoing commitments to the Annual Diocesan Appeal work in quiet, unheralded ways to sustain the Catholic Church in south-west Iowa. We empower others to encounter Christ; we help parish leaders to shepherd the faithful, support local communities of faith, and help people in need as one diocesan family committed to serve and protect one another and bring each other to Christ.

### **ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL 2021**

<b>Parish ADA Goal</b>	<b>\$ 26,573.00</b>
<b>Amount Paid</b>	<b>\$ 19,117.00</b>
<b>Outstanding pledges (\$ 808.00)</b>	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ 7,456.00</b>



## **FAITH FORMATION** **2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR**

Thank you to the Confirmation students for the help in the garden and the grounds. We will continue working to furnish produce to the food pantry. If anyone else is interested in helping, please call Alan. This is a great service project for those needing service hours. Many hands make light work.

Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysfaith> if you have not done so for any updates or information that may be of interest to you.

**We are looking for 7-8th grade YDISCIPLE and K-6 Family Formation leaders and helpers. Please call Alan at 712-303-2680 if you will help us!**

There will be a Catechist Meeting for grades k-6 August 25th. There will be an Ice Cream Social Kickoff on September 1. Following the Ice Cream Social YDisciple, grades 7-12 leaders will having a meeting from 7-8:15 p.m. Please see the schedules in the back of the church for both YDisciple and Faith Formation.

Blessings to All! Alan Vonnahme, St. Mary's Catholic Church Director of Religious Education; [stmarysrodre@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysrodre@gmail.com)

### **YOU ARE INVITED**

Bishop William Joensen invites you to join him for a Holy Hour every Monday at 5 p.m. at St. Ambrose Cathedral, or you can join him virtually at [Facebook.com/dmdiocese](https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/bishopinitatives/eucharistic-renewal/holy-hours). Find a list of reflections for prayer here: <https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/bishopinitatives/eucharistic-renewal/holy-hours>.

### **SPIRITUAL EXERCISES IN EVERYDAY LIFE**

Take some time for you this fall by taking part in spiritual exercises compiled by St. Ignatius Loyola. The 32-week transformative journey begins in September through Emmaus House. Go to [theemmaushouse.org/spiritual-exercises](https://theemmaushouse.org/spiritual-exercises) for more information.

### **NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULES EMAILED OUT**

Many people have requested that the ministry schedules be emailed out instead of printed and set out, so this week I have emailed to everyone that I have email addresses for. If you did not get one please call the office so that I can check to see that I have the correct email. For those that do not have email, I have mailed your schedules to you. There were only 2, so be sure to let me know if you didn't get one, or if I need to correct your email. Thank you for helping me get these out. Jean

### **JUST FAITH REGISTRATION OPEN**

The Center for Social Ministry is excited to be offering the following JustFaith Ministries programming locally this fall.

Faith and Racial Equity: Exploring Power and Privilege

Faith and Racial Healing: Embracing Truth, Justice, and Restoration

JustEngagement: The Power to Change

View our full online catalog at [csm.coursesform.com](https://csm.coursesform.com). Here you can register for any classes, simulations, or other events. We believe that you will find classes for everyone, so take a look and find something new to learn.

## **Readings for the week of August 22, 2021**

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69; Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22; St. Rose of Lima

Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51; St. Bartholomew

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32; St. Louis of France

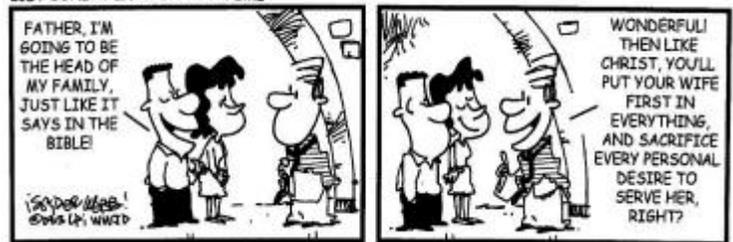
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mt 24:42-51; St. Joseph Calasanz

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13; St. Monica

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30; St. Augustine of Hippo

Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## **CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Domestic violence (also referred to as intimate partner violence (IPV), dating abuse or relationship abuse) is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship. Domestic violence doesn't discriminate. People of any race, age, gender, sexuality, religion, education level or economic status can be a victim — or person who harms — of domestic violence. That includes behaviors that physically harm, intimidate, manipulate or control a partner or otherwise force them to behave in ways they don't want to, including through physical violence, threats, emotional abuse or financial control.

Everyone has the capacity to change, but doing so requires meaningful commitment to all aspects of change. Unfortunately, most people with abusive behaviors are unwilling to make these changes. Many factors behind abusive behaviors are learned attitudes and feelings of entitlement, which can be difficult to unlearn. A person who harms is/was often a survivor of intimate partner violence themselves. Everyone deserves a healthy relationship free from abuse — both a survivor and a person who harms — but the choice to change unsafe behaviors has to be the decision of the individual who is perpetrating power and control onto their partner.

Some content repurposed from resources/materials provided by the National Domestic Violence Hotline

## **CAREERS: JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES TEAM**

Catholic Charities has an array of job openings! Executive assistant, refugee case manager, therapist and more in Des Moines. In Council Bluffs: Program manager, shelter and housing coordinator, Domestic Violence coordinator and more. Several part-time openings are available as well.

Visit <https://catholiccharitiesdm.bamboohr.com/jobs/> and apply today!

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

### Saturday-August 28-No Mass

### Sunday-August 29

Lector: Richard Sampers

Altar Servers: Jonah Wemhoff / Gabi Grebin

Min. of Communion: Cindee Hays

Homebound: Jim & Kim Laughlin

Greeter/Usher: Richard & Connie Sampers / Bill Drey / Ken Podliska

Musician/Singers: Kimberly Vonnahme / Alan Vonnahme

Sacristan: Tim Schmid

Money Counters: Kevin Britten / Matt Ross

**We are now streaming Mass from St. Mary's on Facebook.  
You do NOT need to have an account to watch.**

### THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE PICNIC

Next week we will be showing some pictures from the picnic of eating, playing and visiting. Good food and good fellowship was had by all. Thank you to all who donated their time, money, food and efforts in making this such a fun event. We have a really nice family and you should be proud!

### BULLETIN INFORMATION DUE EARLY

Bulleting information for Sept. 5 and Sept. 12 is due Tuesday, August 31st. Thank you in advance.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Dan Bruning

Josh Watson

Homebound Parishioners Patricia Menendez

Len & Fran Ross

Teresa Navarro Bueno

Easton Koelker

Teresa Williams

Maggie Abbuhl

Lydia Paulsen



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

### 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](http://www.211iowa.org)

### IOWA LEGAL AID'S FARMWORKER POLICY

There is Free Legal Services for Eligible Individuals/Servicios Legales Gratuitos Para Personas Elegibles. Call 1-800-532-1275 if interested.

### HISPANIC MINISTRY-IOWA PBS

Get health and safety news in Spanish during the COVID-19 crisis through [Iowa PBS](http://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-August 21-Collection for the Church in Africa**

- 5:00 p.m. Mass in Red Oak-Easton Koelker

### **Sunday-August 22-Collection for the Church in Africa**

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Imogene
- 10:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak-Ernest Mutschler+

### **Monday-August 23-Office Closed**

- 7:00 p.m. Holy Grounds-Church Hall

### **Tuesday- August 24**

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Imogene

### **Wednesday-August 25**

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak

### **Thursday-August 26**

- 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-August 27**

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

### **Saturday-August 28**

- 5:00 p.m. Mass in Imogene

### **Sunday-August 29**

- 8:30 a.m. Mass in Imogene
- 10:30 a.m. Mass in Red Oak-Paul Lydon+

Happy Belated Birthday to Fr. Lazarus, whose birthday was Friday, August 20th. Hope you had a great day!

I have been here for close to 2 months and have enjoyed your hospitality and your friendships. Thank you for your greatest support and I promise to implement the water projects as soon as possible. I assure you my prayers and please pray for me and my Parish as I will be praying for you. May you be blessed and I look forward to seeing you in the future. If you desire to come to Kenya please feel free to come and visit us. We would be pleased to have you. God bless you, Fr. Eliud



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