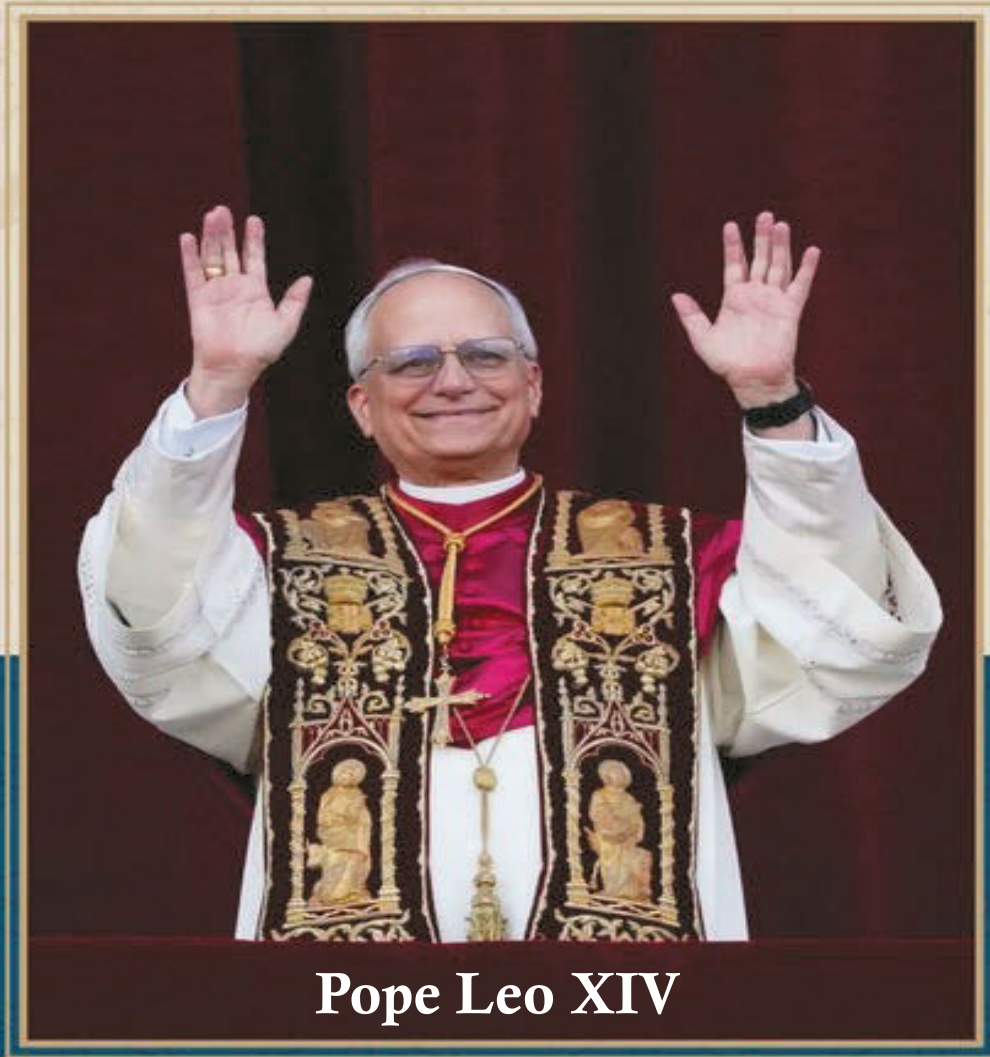


# IMMACULATE — CATHOLIC CHURCH — CONCEPTION

5th Sunday of Easter

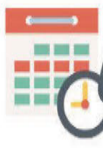
Sunday, May 18th, 2025



Pope Leo XIV

## HABEMUS PAPAM

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH



## Weekly Schedule

©LPI

### MONDAY, MAY 19TH

Easter Weekday

Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

.....No Mass

### TUESDAY, MAY 20TH

St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest

Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

5:15 PM Mass.....The Steimel Family

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST

St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions,  
Martyrs

Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

9:15 AM Mass.....Lisa Witte

### THURSDAY, MAY 22ND

St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

5:15 PM Mass.....The Bjelica Family

### FRIDAY, MAY 23RD

Easter Weekday

Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17

8:00 AM Mass.....Bob Hrdlicka

### SATURDAY, MAY 24TH

Easter Weekday

Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

4:30 PM Mass.....The Blong Family

6:30 PM.....Mass at St. Michael in Nashua

### SUNDAY, MAY 25TH

6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

8:00 AM Mass.....Fr. Dennis Conway

10:30 AM Mass.....Mary Beth Koch



## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

*this week is in loving memory  
of Javier Ruiz.*

### POPE LEO XIV and our

#### Call to Build Bridges

Just as Paul and Barnabas appointed leaders to continue Christ's mission, Pope Leo XIV calls us to build bridges of love and peace.

Pope Leo reminds us,

*"Humanity needs Christ as the bridge to allow it to be reached by God and by his love."*

As we celebrate the newness of Pope Leo, let us also open ourselves to helping God to bring about a new earth through the love we share with one another as Christ's church - through dialogue, presence and faithful action.

## Let Us Pray:

*Jesus, you call us to love one another as you have loved us. Help us take your words to heart. Guide us to build bridges, welcome others, and live as true disciples. May your love renew the world through us . Amen.*

*Our Deepest Sympathy & Prayers  
are extended to the family and friends of  
Christie Robinson, sister of Laurie Field,  
who passed away recently.  
May God grant her eternal peace.*



**+++ Holy Baptism +++**

*Ripley Grace DeLeeuw,  
daughter of Beau & Ashley DeLeeuw,  
was Baptized at Immaculate Conception  
on Saturday, May 10th 2025.  
Congratulations to Ripley and her family!*

## We Remember . . .

*Plan to gather for our Memorial Day Mass  
at Calvary Cemetery (weather permitting)  
on Monday, May 26th, at 9:00 a.m.  
(Please remember to bring your own lawn chairs.)*

**The Parish Office will be CLOSED  
on Monday, May 26th, 2025,  
in observance of Memorial Day!**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION -  
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

May 18th, 2025

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

John 13:31-35

I've always found it amazing that Jesus never says to his disciples the straightforward and bumper stickery words "I love you" or "I will always love you" (a la Dolly Parton's song). Why doesn't Jesus say, "I love you"? Well, actually he does, but in particular ways. He says, "**As the Father loves me, so I love you**" (John 15:9) thereby rooting his love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week he commands, "**Love one another as I have loved you**" (John 13:34). He presents his love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How *has* he loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and finally giving his life for us in his suffering on the cross. We weren't there when he did that, but neither were his Apostles (except one). Still, that action is his great "I love you" to us.

His love is also hedged in a command: "**Love one another.**" So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: "Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it." The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII's practical method of following Jesus' great commandment of love. It's a splendid way to say, "I love you." — *Father John Muir*

### **OUR CALL TO SHARE - SPRING COLLECTION**

#### **A Call to Support the Broader Church**

As Catholics, we're all called to not only support our local parishes and ministries, but also the broader diocesan, national and global ministries of the Catholic Church. In the coming few weeks, we will take up the **Our Call to Share - Spring Collection**. This is a 4-in-1 collection that supports four important regional and national ministries. By giving to ministries beyond our local parish, we respond to Christ's call to be as one body - united in faith and mission - through our support of the broader Catholic Church.

**The spring's collection will benefit the following four ministries:**

**The Catholic Campaign for Human Development;  
The Retirement Fund for Religious; The Hispanic Ministry Collection;  
and The Catholic Communications Campaign.**

The bi-annual **Our Call to Share** collections provide us with an easy opportunity to live out our collective call to be as one body in Christ through our support of these ministries. Thank you in advance for your support of the ministries that make up the **Our Call to Share - Spring Collection!**

*(This will be our Outreach Collection for May.)*

### **Congratulations,**

**to the I.C. School Graduates  
(Preschool and 6th Graders)  
and the C.C. High School  
Senior Graduates**



**Congratulations, also, to all  
who "made headlines" in  
recent C.C. Press articles!  
And to the parishioners  
who were honored at the  
yearly Community Volunteer  
Recognition Awards.  
Check out the bulletin  
boards for pictures.**



### **33 Day Consecration to Mary**

Join Father Tom and Joanne Robinson on a **33 Day Consecration to Mary** retreat starting **this Thursday, May 22nd through June 26th**. We will meet **every Thursday evening in the social hall at 6:15 p.m.** Books may be purchased by calling the parish office or by calling Joanne at 402-871-8484. **Everyone is welcome to attend!**

**St. Bernadette  
Circle Members  
are getting together  
this Thursday,  
May 22nd, at 1 p.m.  
at Dave's Restaurant.**

***"Hope you can join us!"***



## Canticle of the Creatures

*by St. Francis of Assisi*

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord,  
Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing,  
To You alone, Most High, do they belong,  
and no human is worthy to mention Your name.  
Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,  
especially Sir Brother Sun,  
Who is the day and through whom You give us light.  
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor;  
and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,  
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,  
and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather,  
through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,  
who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,  
through whom You light the night,  
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth,  
who sustains and governs us,  
and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord,  
through those who give pardon for Your love,  
and bear infirmity and tribulation.  
Blessed are those who endure in peace  
for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,  
from whom no one living can escape.  
Woe to those who die in mortal sin.  
Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will,  
for the second death shall do them no harm.  
Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks  
and serve Him with great humility.





### Baby Bottle Campaign 2025

Please take one of the **Baby Bottles** at the church entrances to support our local **HOPE Family Resource Center** by adding loose change or other donations between now and their return on Father's Day, Sunday, June 15th. It's that easy! Pray for the unborn, our center in Charles City and its effort to expand its services to surrounding counties by building healthy families. Thank you!

Our **TABLE OF PLENTY** is ready for our 2025 harvesting of the fruits of our earth. Our first donations of asparagus appeared this past weekend! Feel free to bring what you have to share so others can enjoy fresh produce. Thank you!



### Thank You!

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love, prayers, cards, calls, visits, messages, food and gifts at the time of our beloved son, Tom's, passing. We appreciated all the love and compassion we received from our beautiful church family and friends.  
~ Gary & Ann Fisher and Family



### 5th Sunday of Easter May 18th, 2025

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives His disciples - and us - a new commandment: **"Love one another."** Good stewards who spend their time and talents in service to others are well on their way to fulfilling this commandment.

### CHURCH SUPPORT

May 10th & 11th, 2025

Attendance: 612

Budget Envelopes...118.....\$ 6,541.00  
 Offertory.....\$ 896.92  
 Easter.....\$ 100.00  
 Bldg., Grds. & Maint.....\$ 481.00  
 2024-2025 fiscal year, an average of \$12,761 is needed each weekend in budget contributions.

	AMOUNT	LONG/SHORT	YTD
	<u>RECEIVED</u>	<u>WEEKEND TOTAL</u>	<u>LONGSHORT TOTAL</u>
04/20	21,446.56	8,685.56	(55,749.19)
04/27	6,606.00	(6,155.00)	(61,904.19)
05/04	9,907.00	(2,854.00)	(64,758.19)
05/11	6,541.00	(6,220.00)	(70,978.19)

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Loving as New Creations

*"There's something different about you."*

Think about the times in your life when this has been said to you. Maybe it was after someone complimented you on a job well done, and you realized that you were walking through life with a little more confidence. Maybe it was after meeting someone special, as you carried the glow of that relationship wherever you went. Chances are, if someone has noticed something different about you, it's because, inwardly, you've been changed by the loving or respectful actions of another person.

Love, you see, can make us into new creations. From the love of God flows the grace to tackle any challenge, including the biggest challenge of all: loving each other well. Christ knows what a big request this is. He was human, too. He came and lived among us. He knew intimately what it was to love people in the chaos of their own flaws. He knew what he was asking of us when he said, *"As I have loved you, so you should also love one another."*

In essence, this is the call to stewardship: loving as Christ loves, amidst the messiness of everyday reality. Loving with accountability, challenging ourselves and our brothers and sisters to be faithful even when it is hard. Loving with an unflinching sense of hospitality that welcomes even those we do not agree with or understand. Loving with gratitude, giving thanks for the great variety of ways that Christ can make himself known to us through others.

It isn't easy — we all know that. But if we ask God for the grace to remain steadfast in this greatest commandment, we will be given what we need to live as new creations.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

**It's Only a Week Away! May 23rd-27th, 2025**

### **The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage!**

The **National Eucharistic Pilgrimage** will be in the Archdiocese of Dubuque in just one week! Welcome the Perpetual Pilgrims arriving by boat on Friday evening and participate in the public Eucharistic Procession led by Archbishop Zinkula. Then welcome the Blessed Sacrament to the Cathedral for Vespers and Adoration throughout the night. Saturday, join the Pilgrims at the Basilica in Dyersville, and participate in the 5.9 mile Eucharistic Procession from New Vienna to Petersburg. Pray with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at Immaculate Conception in Cedar Rapids on Sunday morning, then attend a Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service at St. Patrick Parish in Tama. Then, take a short trek to Marshalltown for a lively, bilingual celebration of music, cultures and faith.

To plan your schedule, visit: [dbqarch.org/eucharistic-pilgrimage](http://dbqarch.org/eucharistic-pilgrimage).

**The celebration closest to Charles City is in Marshalltown, IA, on Sunday, May 25th:**

**3:00 PM - Benediction; Monstrance transported to St. Henry Church,  
St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Marshalltown**

**3:45 PM - Holy Hour with Witness Talks (English), St. Henry Church,  
St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Marshalltown**

**5:00 PM - Bilingual Mass at St. Henry Church, Marshalltown**

**6:00 PM - Holy Hour with Witness Talks (Spanish)**

**6:30 PM - Praise and Worship Service w/Hispanic community**

## JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

As we celebrate the Jubilee of Hope, the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' "*Laudato Si*", and the 800th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi's "*Canticle of the Creatures*", we hear a Spirit-filled call to renew our relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. Between May 24th and 31st, we are invited to reflect on the earth as our common home, where we give praise for God's blessings in all of creation and care for our brothers and sisters who are in greatest needs.

Gather for a "**Birthday Party**" after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 31st, in the Social Hall with refreshments and a Celebration of our Earth, Our Common Home.





### MISSION STATEMENT

Immaculate Conception is a Catholic Eucharistic Community called by God to be faithful, welcoming, and serving all with love and compassion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Please contact the parish office.  
(641) 228-1071

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30-4:15 PM  
Thursday 5:45-6:15 PM  
Friday 7:00-7:45 AM

Please call to schedule an appointment. (641) 228-1071  
**BAPTISM - MARRIAGE**  
**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**  
Please contact the  
Parish Office (641) 228-1071

### WORSHIP LOCATION

106 Chapel Lane  
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### WEEKEND MASSES

are Broadcast on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/iccharlescity](http://www.facebook.com/iccharlescity)  
TIMES: Please see calendar inside.



This month, The Knights of Columbus recognize the following:

*Sara Hrdlicka* as the Knight of the Month in honor of her service to the parish.  
And the *Mike Thome Family* as the Knight Family of the Month.

*Thanks to the Knights who keep Calvary Cemetery beautiful!*



### DID YOU KNOW?

I.C. Church has an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) located outside the Family Room in church. They are portable, life-saving devices designed to treat people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It was provided by the Knights of Columbus.

*Thank you for your generosity!*



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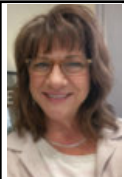
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