

Notre Dame Parish

Cresco, Iowa

St. Agnes Oratory, Plymouth Rock and St. Bridget Oratory, Bluffton

*"My soul proclaims
the greatness of
the Lord;*

*my spirit rejoices
in God my savior."*

Luke 1.46-47



Rev. Jacob Rouse Pastor

Notre Dame Church
223 2nd Ave. E.

Parish Office:

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday

116 East Third Street

Phone: 563 547-3565

Fax: 563 547-3835

Hall: 563 547-4652

Parish Website:

notredamecresco.com

Jodi Dull, Business Manager
Connie Frana, Office Manager
Melanie Vobr,
Coordinator of Faith Formation
LeRoy Webb, Pastoral Minister
Katie Schmitt, Principal
563 547-4513

School Website:

www.ndcschool.weebly.com

Celebration of Sacraments

Baptism Please contact the parish office to register for the required Baptism class, to schedule a Baptism or for more information. Next Baptism preparation class is scheduled for **Aug. 1, 2022**, 7:00 p.m. (Note date is subject to change).

Reconciliation Saturday 3:15—3:50 p.m.; Sunday 9:15—9:50 a.m. or contact the parish office or email Fr. Jacob at: dbqrhouse@dbqarch.org to schedule an appointment to celebrate this Sacrament of God's forgiveness.

Marriage Contact the parish office at least six months before intended wedding date.

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35

The transforming power of the risen Jesus happens in the Church. And through the Church happens in the world.

What does this transformation power do? One of the major results of Jesus' love power is the creation of unity from diversity. It is important to note here that unity is not uniformity. The very diverse group of 12 that he chose as apostles slowly become one in their love and dedication to the Lord, but they always remained their unique selves.

In the book of the Acts of the Apostles we get just a glimpse of this reality of unity in diversity. All through the Easter season we hear how the early Church spread out and grew, even taking in Gentile converts. We only hear about a very few of the apostles' work—but the message is clear.

As one commentator states it: "The Acts of the Apostles gives a model for what the Church is supposed to be. It is a diverse community for all people in the world. The church is also one."

The power that enables such to happen is the selfless love Jesus bids his disciples to have for each other, as we hear in today's gospel. As long as the church lives this bidding, Jesus' transforming power continues to work in the Church and in the world.

Next week's readings:

Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29

Alleluia! Happiness is contagious—be a carrier. Alleluia!

Monday, May 16—No Mass. Pray for vocations.

Tuesday, May 17—Mass in church

Rosary at 4:55 p.m.

5:15 p.m. +Sheri Conlan

Sacristan: Janet Andera

Wednesday, May 18—Mass in church

8:00 a.m. +Mabel Balk

Sacristan: Inez Kruse

Thursday, May 19 Mass in church

Last day of school—Note Mass time

10:00 a.m. +Adrian and Betty Schatz

Sacristan: Jessica Kapler

2:00 p.m. Accura Mass +Larry Baumler

Friday, May 20 Mass in church

8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Jerry and Barb O'Donnell

Saturday, May 21 Mass in church and livestreamed*

4:00 p.m. +Orvie and Fran Herold; Randy Bacchus III;
and Zach Stapelkamp

EMHCs: Mary Larson, Lisa Kimball, Marlene Ferrie

Lector: Mary Larson

Servers: Caleb and Dawson Holzer

Music: Harlan Larson, Wendy Schatz

Greeters: Gretchen Laub and Carver Munkel

Hosts: Gretchen Laub and Carver Munkel

Ushers: Gretchen Laub, Carver Munkel, Steve Duerre
Jim Murphy

Sacristan: Harlan and Mary Larson

Sunday, May 22 Mass in church

8:00 a.m. +Syl and Janette Opat

EMHCs: Barb Martinek, Wayne and Kelly Mashek

Lectors: Ken Hubka, Roger Kleve

Servers: Mason Regan, Lincoln Manske

Music: Dee Hosek, Jamie Fisk

Greeters: Wayne and Kelly Mashek

Hosts: Quentin and Darlene Vsetecka

Ushers: Quentin and Darlene Vsetecka, Tom Mullen
Richard Neubauer

Sacristan: Janet Andera

10:00 a.m. Mass in church

+Urban and Lucy Dietzenbach

EMHCs: Jed and Joyce Becker, Tracy Hart

Lectors: Tracy Hart, Jed Becker

Servers: Madelyn Opprieht, Eleanor Ellingson

Music: Joe Wacha, Wendy Schatz

Greeters: Marjette Fitzgerald, Jerry Wilson

Hosts: Brian and Jill McConnell

Ushers: Brian McConnell, Jerry Wilson,
Matt Daley Family

Sacristan: Jerry and Wanda Reicks

Alleluia! Do not look to your hope, but to Christ, the source of your hope. Alleluia!

***Note:** Daily and 8:00 and 10:00 Sunday masses will no longer be livestreamed. 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass will be livestreamed on: <https://tinyurl.com/ndcresco>
Or by going to the parish website and clicking on the YouTube icon. You may access the 4:00 p.m. mass on Sunday and during the week.

In Memory

Joe and Peggy Rouchka

Sanctuary Candle

Jim Kuennen

Altar Wine

Dell and Monica Reicks

Missalettes (May)

Stewardship of Prayer

Please pray for the sick of our parish, including the following and those listed in the Book of Petitions.

Parker Byrnes

Dianne Kovarik

Makiah Pierce

Dean Dietzenbach

Dorothy Barnes

JoDene Van Dyke

Arlene Kuennen

Joyce Kapler

Don Neubauer

Bill Smith

Deanne Webb

Steve Slifka

Marilyn Novak

Marian Wiltgen

Magnus Forland

Debbie Wolf Wilkens

Paula Growden

Pat Smith

Randy Smith

Beverly Koshatka

Janice Ries

Lavon Hyberger

Liz Yount

Ann Burgess

Craig Church

Gladie Church

Tom Kleve

Art Kuhn

Thom Mahr

Alice Zubrod

Our sympathy. . .

*Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Denis D. Reicks**. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.*

We clear the prayer list quarterly. Please contact the office at that time to have a name put on again if desired.

*We are pleased to pray for the sick, if you would like to add a name, please call the parish office after receiving permission from the person to have their name published; however, to preserve space if a person has sufficiently recovered and can be removed from the prayer list, also please contact the parish office. **Ministry of Prayer Network:** If you would like to serve on this Prayer Network, please email the office at: DBQ047S1@dbqarch.org. When a request is received, you will receive an email asking for your prayers for the immediate need. If you have an urgent need for prayer, call the office at 563 547-3565 to activate the prayer network.*

Stewardship of Offering

May 8, 2022

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income

Needed each week: \$10,817.00

Last week's Envelope Contribution Income: \$ 3,500.00

Last week's ACH Contribution Income: \$ 672.00

Last week's offertory income: \$ 489.00

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.

Liturgical ministry schedule through September is available on the parish website. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the parish office. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with your Notre Dame Parish family.

Join us for the Easter Series on Sun., May 15 and 22, 7:00 p.m., Notre Dame Church. Theme for May 15: *Our Response: Giving thanks is one of the most profoundly human acts that one can do. In this talk, we will learn how we can give thanks to God for the Eucharist. Everyone is welcome!*

Circles of Faith will meet on Mon., May 16, 5:30 p.m., Joseph Room.

Knights of Columbus will meet on Tues., May 17, 7:00 p.m., KC Room.

Rolicky Making for the Notre Dame Food Stand at the Howard County Fair will be done on Mon., May 23, 8:00 a.m., Notre Dame Church Hall. Many hands make light work! Your help will be appreciated!!

Notre Dame Food Stand at the Howard County Fair Sign Up Sheets have been mailed! If you did not receive a copy, please contact the parish office. Please sign up to help with this worthwhile project! Please return the sheet to the parish office by May 29.

Scrip Program includes Dollar Fresh, HyVee, Pinter's, Ruppert's Ace Hardware, Fareway, Fisk's, Subway, Casey's, A & W, Long John Silvers, Sue-Z-Q, Atomic Pizza and Kwik Star. Cards are available at the parish office. Cards will be available in church the weekend of **June 4-5**.

Bible Study is held on Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. in the parish office. Each Wednesday we review the upcoming Readings for the following weekend. No need to register and no fees, just show up and bring a friend.

NE IA Pro Lifers Baby bottle money holders are available in the front entrance of the church. Please take a bottle and put in a donation and return the bottle by Father's Day, June 19. Thank you!

Notre Dame Parish Pictorial Directory! We will be doing a new pictorial directory this summer! More information to follow! Photography sessions will be held July 12-15; Aug. 2-6 and Aug. 16-20. If you would like to schedule your family photography session now, go online to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **ia164** in the church code field and enter **photos** in the church password field. *Plan to be a part of this new parish directory!*

Notre Dame Catholic School is seeking an Administrative Assistant. Please send resume, cover letter, and references to: Notre Dame Catholic School, Mrs. Katie Schmitt, 221 2nd Avenue East Cresco, Iowa by May 25, 2022.

Accepting New Counseling Clients via Telehealth

If you know of anyone struggling with their brain health during this time, our Catholic Charities Counselors are accepting new clients from any location in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. The telehealth process allows our counselors to meet with clients remotely via computer or other devices. Counseling provides individuals, couples, and families the ability to work out their challenges before they become a crisis, helping to maintain emotional health and strengthen relationships. Contact us at [563-588-0558](tel:563-588-0558) to be connected to one of our licensed professionals.

Thank You

We are grateful for all the volunteers who offer their time and talent as good stewards for the betterment of the parish. This week we thank those who help with parish mailings.



Notre Dame School Activity Corner: Notre Dame Grades 2nd, 3rd and 4th Grades concert on Mon., May 16, 6:30 p.m., Cresco Theater.

We welcome Ezekiel Robert Bohr, son of Nicholas and Lindsey Bohr, who was baptized at Notre Dame on May 7.



ArchdioceseOne is here! After hearing about ArchdioceseOne these past two years, the special appeal kicked off in our parish last weekend. Our ArchdioceseOne fundraising goal for the Archdiocese is \$48 million, and we are confident that Catholic households across our Archdiocese will step up to help. In addition to supporting our financial beneficiaries, we pray this appeal results in the following spiritual benefits:

- *to strengthen unity in our Archdiocese
- *to deepen our practice of stewardship as a way of life, and
- *to heal the Church with the medicine of charity.

We cannot hope to bring this appeal to a successful completion without God's inspiration or His help. Towards that end, over the course of the next ten weeks, we invite you to pray our ArchdioceseOne prayer:

God, come to our assistance. Lord, make haste to help us. Amen.

Knights of Columbus Council #1571 NEWS FLASH!!! The online promotion to join us for free has been extended to June 30, 2022. Visit www.kofc.org/joinus using promo code MCGIVNEY 2020. Questions call 563 581-2239.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Prayer Shawls are available at the front entrance of the church and front porch of the parish office to anyone who is ill or going through a hard time and needs to know that someone cares about them. Volunteers are needed to make the shawls. Patterns (crochet or knit) are available in the brochure stand in church and at the parish office. We have yarn available to pick up at the parish office for those who would like to make the shawls. Thank you.

Take 1 Simple Step, Become A Mentor! By supporting a youth for a minimum of four hours per month you can make a positive impact. Be of service to others in your neighborhood. Be a friend! Become a mentor! Get Involved! Contact Kathy or Colinne at 563-387-1720 or mentoring@helpingservices.org.

The Northeast Iowa Peace & Justice Center presents an opportunity to change the lives of young women in Liberia, West Africa.

Come to the Northeast Iowa Peace & Justice Center and learn how you can help change girls' lives in Liberia, West Africa. Presenter, student, and non-profit leader, Junita Sangare, will share her project bringing sexual reproductive health education to young women in Liberia on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7pm

Memorials/Bequests We are working to assure that Notre Dame Parish remains healthy and available to our children and grandchildren. You can help by remembering Notre Dame Parish in your estate plans and wills. It is a simple step, but one that will perpetuate the values and faith commitments we share. Also Notre Dame Parish and School accept memorials given in memory of a loved one. Thank you!

Prayer for graduates:

To students from Mother Teresa:

I pray that all those young people who have graduated, do not carry just a piece of paper with them but that they carry with them love, peace and joy.

That they become the sunshine of God's love to our people, the hope of eternal happiness, and the burning flame of love wherever they go. That they become carriers of God's love.

That they be able to give what they have received. For they have received not to keep but to share.

NOTRE DAME PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES – APRIL 28, 2022

The April 28, 2022 meeting of the Notre Dame Pastoral Council was called to order by Jim Truka. Father Jacob led the group in prayer and the group joined in reciting the Parish Mission Statement. Present were: Fr. Jacob Rouse, Jim Truka, Maryln Shores, Tom Kleve, Keith Wherry, Patti Guyer, Holly Manske, Brian McConnell, Joe Wacha, Mary Larson and Joye Meyer.

The minutes of the January 27, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Mary Larson made motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve as presented, seconded by Tom Kleve. Motion approved by consensus. The agenda was reviewed. Marlyn Shores made motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Patti Guyer. Motion approved by consensus.

Joe Wacha reported on the Liturgy Committee meetings held February 3 and April 7, 2022. Decorations for Lent and Easter were discussed. Thank you to those who cleaned all the cabinets on both sides of the sacristy. Melanie Vobr and Father Jacob are working on the upcoming third year of Cornerstone now that classes for this year ended in April. Helpers are needed as ushers, lectors, pianists and song leaders at mass. Old vestments have been sorted and those no longer needed will be sent to missions. Father Jacob will send list of New Life Choir members to the funeral homes so their family will not be charged a fee for the choir to sing at their funeral. It was discussed that an extra set of stoles, one of each color, should be available for visiting priests. Next meeting June 2nd at 3:30 pm.

Tom Kleve reported on the Social Justice Committee meeting on February 1. Food pantry donations have been very good. Volunteers visit parishioners at nursing homes and homebound. Meals on Wheels sign up was offered at weekend masses for delivery of meals in March. October is Respect Life month. Next meeting is June 7th at 4 pm.

Joye Meyer reported on the Circles of Faith meeting on March 21, 2022. Future projects and funeral committees were discussed. Baccalaureate will be held May 8th. St. Patrick Circle had approximately 145 carry outs and 40 dine in meals served with a profit of \$2,125.32. St. Catherine's Circle served a swiss steak dinner on April 7th. Bootie is updating instructions for Altar Care. Connie is checking to see if Notre Dame will be donating a quilt to the Hospital Auxiliary Quilt Auction. Maintenance items were discussed. Next meeting is May 16th at 5:30 pm.

Mary Larson reported on Faith Formation Commission meetings from March 24th and April 21st. Notre Dame School's theme for Lent was "Lenten Promises" and the school implemented prayer-fasting-almsgiving-reflection. Students took turns presenting the Stations of the Cross and the Passion Play was presented on Holy Thursday, April 14th by 3rd and 4th graders. Melanie reported the focus of Cornerstone is on how Jesus is the ultimate example of love. She said the evaluations back from the parents and teachers on Cornerstone showed overall many were pleased with the program although she will be making some adjustments to next year's program. Wee Families and Into the Deep met March 20th and discussed the Passover and the Last Supper. The Daddy Daughter Dance will be scheduled later due to scheduling conflicts. Totus Tuus will be held July 24-July 29. The Mary Retreat, Women's Conference and Men's Conference all had good attendance. John Paul Derryberry will be speaking in the church on May 4th about mental health. The public school will have him speak to the students during the school day as well. Divine Mercy Sundaes were enjoyed April 24th. May 1st will be second grade First Communion Mass at 10 a.m. May 5th will be May Crowning Mass for the second graders. School Mass on May 19th will be the 6th grade graduation mass and last day of school. Adult Bible Study continues to go well, along with Moving with Mission, Divine Mercy Sunday prayer service at 3 pm in the church. Also, an Easter Series is scheduled from 7-8 pm with either Father Jacob or Melanie speaking. The dates and topics are: May 1 – Covid-19 and the Eucharist; May 8 – The Body of Christ; May 15 – Our Response and May 22 – Sent Forth. The next meeting is June 16th at 5:30 pm.

Holly Manske reported on the Catholic School Board February 9, March 9 and April 13 meetings. Financial reports were reviewed. Alumni appeal went well. Kids Club is looking for more people to help in order to keep the program going. Currently Katie Schmitt and staff help volunteer after school. Jodi reported Lasagna Supper auction brought in \$21,551.87 and supper brought in \$6,365 with a net income of \$28,425.64 after expenses. Natalie has started updating and promoting the Notre Dame Facebook page. The group discussed Kwik Star Scrip cards. Currently we purchase cards at a 5% discount and receive 10% rebate on in-store purchases. They're changing to 5% rebate on fuel and gift cards and 15% rebate on new grocery cards. The committee decided not to get involved with the grocery card. They're looking to promote the Scrip video. Katie Schmitt shared the Fall/Winter 21-22 Fast data. Overall Notre Dame School students, grade one to six, scored very well in reading and math. School Board is currently looking for three teachers. All full-time certified staff will receive a \$1,000 Retention Bonus from the State. Board approved \$600 Retention Bonus to certified non full-time staff. Lots of parents have signed up for which fundraiser they would like to help with next year. The Committee has decided to have three fund raisers next year: Lasagna Supper, Golf Tournament and Fair Day and will drop the 5K fundraiser. Jim Truka asked all Parish Members in favor of this decision to respond by saying aye. All 11 members responded aye. No nays. Motion carried. ND Catholic School is paying the fee of \$36 to fill out the STO application. There are 37 applications (65 students) who have started or completed their STO application online as of April 13 with a deadline of April 15. Fire Marshall Inspection Report: Fire alarm and sprinklers need to be tested every 6 months. No longer able to use our current style of Barracudas in the classroom. May 11 and 12 the Strategic Planning In-Person Workshop Days are being held at the Hilton Hotel in Cedar Falls. School Board elections will be held May 14 and 15th. The next meeting is May 11th at 7 pm.

A report on the Stewardship Committee meetings on February 21 and April 18 was given by Patti Guyer. Rylee Kapler organized a fund raiser and raised money for the Dixon family. Rylee belongs to a Christian youth group that

meets in Decorah. The reverse collection is going well with the next one in June. A Fair Stand mailing will go out in May. The next Stewardship mailing will be in July and will include Time and Talent information. The committee discussed ways to get parishioners to volunteer for all the ministries. It was suggested each committee ask individuals to serve on their committee as personal contact is most effective. The committee decided to place a variety of information/brochures in the pews periodically explaining each ministry, explaining the commitment level for each ministry, including pictures of parishioners performing the different ministries and asking for volunteers. The July letter will explain this new approach and will also include pictures of recent activities. Melanie reported a grant to cover the cost of Totus Tuus was received so students will only be charged a minimal cost to cover expenses. Mailings were sent to all parish high school junior parents regarding college campus ministries in Iowa for those students to visit and possibly choose. A high school senior spotlight will be on Instagram and Facebook highlighting one of our parish seniors each day. Moving with Mission has 10-11 small groups. Duane Heit held a Seder Meal for members of his Bible Study groups. A diaper drive was held in connection with the March for Life which will be held in Decorah on April 30. The Don Davis Good Samaritan Fund has a balance of \$81 as money was sent to the Salvation Army Funds at CUSB and some gas only cards have been purchased and delivered to the law center. The next meeting will be September 19th at 5 pm.

The Finance Committee April 12 meeting minutes were reviewed by MaryIn Shores. We are 75% into the fiscal year. The parish income is at 76.92% of the budgeted income and 78.93% of expenses. The school is at 76.9% of income and 74.28% of budgeted expenses. The 2022-23 school and parish budgets were reviewed. In order to balance the school budget, money from the Fran Barnes Fund was used to help pay the wage of the librarian as library use is what the fund was set up for. Tom Kleve made motion to approve the school and parish budgets for 2022-23, seconded by Father Jacob. Motion approved by consensus. The lasagna supper and auction was a huge success in January. They only did presale dinner tickets and that went well. STO applications are coming in for the next school year, the deadline is April 15th. The board approved 14.6 FTE certified staff for school year 2022-23. Preschool registrations are at 25 for next year, 17 four year olds and 8 five year olds. There are 14 children signed up for playgroup. Will need one certified staff and one para to staff playground. Twenty five tables for the church hall have been ordered at a cost of \$13,020. Donations have been received to cover the cost of these tables. The tables should arrive in 6-8 weeks. Father Jacob attended the Chrism Mass today and brought back oils for the year. The next meeting will be July 12, 2022 at 7 pm.

Jim reported on the Building and Grounds Committee March 3 meeting. The elevator, which was installed in 2010, has obsolete mechanisms which must be replaced. Cost will be approximately \$19,000. Tom Barnes is looking into this further as we are under contract with the company who installed the elevator. Tables for the church hall have been ordered. Phil reported the coils in the walk-in cooler were pitted and need replacing. This will be done after school is out at a cost of \$2900. Stained glass window above the east glass entry doors is unrepairable according to O'Brien Stained Glass. Kevin O'Brien will design a new window, he will install it and will also put storm windows on the windows that currently do not have any. Discussion of the oven involved the need for a higher volume of gas to make it work properly. Black Hills could increase the gas pressure to the building as long as we have regulators on all appliances. This is more cost effective than installing larger gas lines or replacing ovens. After school is out, Gosch Plumbing will check the regulators. Committee suggested buying padded folding chairs for the Joseph Room rather than trying to revamp the current chairs. Shingles were repaired by Al & Tim's after the storm. They feel the current shingles will last another 4-5 years before replacing. Father reported the rectory is in need of new windows and rain gutters. Frank Ryant purchased and installed a mirror in the east sacristy for servers and others per request. Phil will get estimate from Spahn and Rose in the spring to repair/replace the preschool fence. Jim Truka mentioned if something happens or a parishioner notices something in need of repair, to please notify a committee member who will then notify the office and then a decision will be made as to what needs to be done. The Building and Grounds Committee will meet next on May 4, 2022 at 7 pm.

Father Jacob mentioned the new stained glass window that will replace the one above the east entry is going to have a beautiful design of the Virgin Mother with her child.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Weekend of May 14-15 School Board and Parish Council elections

Archdiocese One begins May 7-8 for 10 weeks

Fair Stand will be June 20-26

Totus Tuus July 24-29

Notre Dame Pictorial Directory will be done July 12-15, August 2-6 and August 16-20

The next Parish Council meeting will be July 28, 2022 at 7 pm.

Mary Larson made motion to adjourn, seconded by Marlyn Shores. Motion approved by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Joye Meyer
Executive Secretary
Notre Dame Parish Council

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