



November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

*“Show us Lord, your love;
and grant us your salvation.”*

As we near the end of another liturgical year, the scriptures stir our imagination to ponder the end times for the entire world. What will it be like? Perhaps some encounter the Journey in Faith as “the end times,” as our parishes are realigned and some of our churches are no longer utilized for Sunday Mass.

In the gospel for today, Jesus remarks that a day will come when the Temple would no longer have a stone upon another stone. They all would be thrown down. That magnificent structure, beautifully decorated, that served as the focus for Hebrew worship, would be demolished and destroyed.

We may wonder about the future of our churches, especially if they won't be used for Sunday worship. Will we still pray there? Will we continue to utilize other facilities at our parish, such as a hall, rectory, or former school?

The Journey in Faith process stirs us to consider how our structures could still help to facilitate evangelization through formation events, prayer, and devotions. Every parish must consider how its buildings foster prayer, worship, charity and lifelong learning. Malachi promises that even in the midst of destruction among evildoers, those who remain faithful and revere God will enjoy the healing rays of the sun of justice. Although life holds uncertainty, our continued effort can lead to a powerful demonstration of faith.

Next Week's Readings:
Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

PARISH OFFICE

116 3rd St E
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday

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Katie Schmitt, School
Principal

563.547.4513

School Website:

www.tinyurl.com/ndcschool

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 1 | No Mass

+Pray for Vocations to the Priesthood

Tuesday, December 2 | Mass

5:15 p.m. +JBud and Mary Ann Billmyer
Sacristan: Duane Heit

Wednesday, December 3 | Mass

8:00 a.m. +Wilmer Hubka
Sacristan: Jed & Joyce Becker
Music: Jed Becker

Thursday, December 4 | Mass

9:00 a.m. +Sheri Conlan
Sacristan: Inez Kruse

Friday, December 5 | Mass

8:00 a.m. +Elsie Busta and Joe Busta Jr.
Sacristan: Jerry & Barb O'Donnell

Saturday, December 6 | Mass

4:00 p.m. +James Kuennen
EMHCs: Duane Heit; Jim & Anne Ott
Lectors: Duane Heit
Servers: Sam & Jameson Meyer
Music: Pam Daley & Polly Jones
Greeters: Don & Lois Recker; Rita Shea
Hosts: Jim & Anne Ott
Ushers: Jim Murphy; Ray Schwarzhoff;
Gretchen Laub; Carver Munkel
Sacristan: Carol Stoker; Mindy Jones

Sunday, December 7 | Mass

8:00 a.m. +Nancy Lou Hruska
EMHCs: Julie Wilson; Julie Haskovec; Patti Guyer
Lectors: Julie Wilson; Boyd Turnbull
Servers: Oakley Vobr; Raelynn Fortney
Music: Katie Ferrie; Deb Moellers
Greeters: Pat & Mar Ollendieck; Jim & Val Rink
Hosts: Jordan & Patti Guyer
Ushers: Bart Wilson; Jordan Guyer; Joe & Julie Haskovec
Sacristan: Boyd Turnbull

Sunday, December 7 | Mass

10:00 a.m. +Colby Fye
EMHCs: Don & Kris Dietzenbach; Jodi Dull
Lectors: Kayla Head
Servers: Ellie Sajdak; Sebastian Gourley
Music: Good News Singers
Greeters: Don & Kris Dietzenbach; Kathy McCarville
Hosts: Brad & Jodi Dull
Ushers: Don & Kris Dietzenbach; Brad & Jodi Dull
Sacristan: Sheila Slifka



Missalettes: Deanne Webb
Candle: Deanne Webb
Bread: Nancy Lou Hruska
Wine: Nancy Lou Hruska

Stewardship of Prayer

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

JODENE VAN DYKE	MATT DUERRE	JERRY SMITH	TONY WICKS
ETHAN PEPERA	JOYCE KAPLER	BETTE SULLIVAN	TESS SHEEHY
LISA PETER	DIANE KOVARIK	BRENT NEWMAN	WAYNE SCRABECK
CLARE STEJSKAL	MARY STEVENSON	MALISSA KAPPES	ED KOVARIK
STU GORDON	MARIA LARSON	MARK TIESKOTTER	RICK SCHOLBROCK
JIM MURPHY	MARY GANSEN	SARAH FRANKLIN	KYLE SLIFKA
BEV BINA	AUDREY HYKE	BILL SINDELAR	BETTY WENTHOLD
SHARON BOYD	MICHELLE FUNKE	DEB WILKINS	HEATHER KANIK

Advent Week 1 Reflection: Hope and the Journey in Faith

As we light the first candle of Advent—the Prophecy Candle, the Candle of Hope—we step into a season centered on God’s promises. The prophets spoke words of light into the darkness, reminding God’s people that a Savior was coming. Their hope was not wishful thinking, but deep trust in God’s unfailing plan for redemption.

This same spirit of hope is at the heart of our Archdiocese’s Journey in Faith mission, vision, and values.

Advent reminds us that God’s promises are always unfolding. And Journey in Faith invites us to participate in that unfolding—to become joyful missionary disciples, rooted in the Eucharist, confident that Christ is at work in our lives and our parishes.

- The Hope candle points us toward mission: sharing the Gospel, just as the prophets prepared the way for Christ.
- It speaks to the vision of a united community, strengthened by faith, centered on Jesus, and committed to bringing His light to others.
- It echoes the values of Journey in Faith: prayerful listening, intentional worship, acts of charity, and ongoing formation in the faith.

In a world hungry for reassurance, the Hope candle proclaims that God is faithful—and that He continues to lead His Church forward. As we enter this holy season, we pray for the grace to embrace hope not only as a theme, but as a way of living: trusting in God’s providence, opening our hearts to His mission, and working together to build a vibrant future for our parishes.

May this first candle remind us that Christ is our light, our promise, and our hope—and that we are called to carry that hope into our communities as disciples on the Journey in Faith.

Stewardship of Offering

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income

Needed each week:	\$ 10,837.00
Last week’s Envelope Contribution Income:	\$ 6,490.50
Last week’s ACH Contribution Income:	\$ 825.00
Last week’s offertory income:	\$ 609.75

The Son of Man will come at an hour you do not expect. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all they have and are, and they strive to live in readiness for His coming.

LOST SOMETHING?

WE CAN HELP YOU FIND IT!

Did you lose an item at Mass recently? Did you accidentally leave something behind after Mass? Did you know we have two 'lost and found' places in the Church? This is your reminder to check them out to see if your lost item is there.



Elevator Lobby

Other items are placed on the shelf on top of the table at the bottom of the stairs to the elevator entrance.

Brochure Stand

Some small items get left on the Brochure Stand in the gathering space.

Learn to Make Rosaries

December 10th | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

At this come and go event, you will have a chance to learn one-on-one how to make rosaries for your friends, family members, and the missions.

Contact the parish office for more information.



ADULT WINTER Dance

Saturday, January 17th

Heritage Event Center Cresco, IA
229 3rd Ave. W, Cresco, IA 52136

5:00-10:00 PM

Tickets required for entry-\$25 per person available at the Parish Office!
Open to everyone age 18 and older. Catered meal included in ticket price!

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Wherever you are with money, FPU is for you.

Whether you're at rock bottom or just want to do better, there's hope.
Take the first step to financial peace. Sign up today!

Sign up for this Financial Peace University class today!

Ever feel like no matter what you do, you can't get ahead with money? You're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time to make a change! Join our Financial Peace University class at 6:00 p.m. starting on January 14th and learn to pay off debt, save money, and build lasting wealth. Each household pays \$79 to attend. The registration cost includes a hardcopy workbook, access to Ramsey+ for an entire year, and the classes that are weekly from January 14-March 11th.

QR Code



YOU'RE INVITED

NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRESENTS

THE CHRISTMAS CALL

A Christmas Concert
featuring Kindergarten through Fifth Grade
Thursday, December 11th, 1:30pm and 6:30pm
at the Notre Dame Catholic Church

This Week at Notre Dame

Sewing Circle will meet on Monday, December 1st, at 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend. If you have a serger at home, help is needed making diapers for the missions.

Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office to go over the upcoming weekend's readings. All are welcome to attend either session.

Liturgy Committee will meet on Thursday, December 4th, at 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Office.

Buildings and Grounds will meet on Thursday, December 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions can no longer be scheduled at this time. We will begin moving Mass intentions previously scheduled after July 1st to the current open daily Mass times.

SCRIP will be sold at all Masses next weekend.

Notre Dame Parish and Immanuel Lutheran Church present:

DRIVE THROUGH

Living Nativity

Celebrate the Christmas Season with a Living Nativity featuring real people and animals without leaving the comfort of your car!

SUNDAY,
JANUARY 4TH | 5:00-7:30 PM

Notre Dame Parish Parking Lot:
223 2nd Ave. E Cresco, IA 52136

In the Community

Fish Fry & Chicken Feast sponsored by Protivin Legion Post 605 will be held at McAllister's on Dec. 5th from 4-7:30 p.m. in the lower level. Dine in or carryout for \$20/person. Legion Auxiliary Bake Sale will be held during that time as well. Proceeds used to support the many Legion functions and donations. Thank you for your support.

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assoc will have their annual Christmas potluck and meeting on Sunday, December 7th, at the Spillville Library (201 Oak St) beginning at 11:30 a.m. Refreshments, meat, and place settings provided. All members and their families are welcome.

Holiday Cookie & Candy Fundraiser for Regional Health Services of Howard County Hospital Auxiliary will be held on Friday, Dec. 12th, from 9 a.m. - Noon (or until sold out) at the Cresco United Methodist Church (310 N Elm). Questions or to volunteer contact: Barb Franklin 563-203-8077 or Elaine Brookings 563-203-0815.

Toys for All Toy Giveaway will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Sat. Dec 20th from 9 a.m. - Noon. Families must not already be adopted by another CARE or COMMUNITY ACTION adoption program. Donations collected by The Mint & The Place of Protivin, The Drift Runners Organization, and other local agencies - We thank them ALL for their support! For questions, call Cindy at 719-237-6102.

Blue Christmas Service sponsored by the Cresco Ministerium will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Sun., Dec. 21st at 7:00 p.m. with comforting prayers, music, & more. The holidays are a time of joy, however, that isn't always the case for those experiencing loss and grief. If you find yourself struggling, join us in worship as we acknowledge the realities of loss and grief and as we remember Christ's light that shines even through the darkness. All are welcome.

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