



**Pastor: Father David Nkrumah**

**Phone: 712.304.5966 (cell)**

**Email: fr.nkrumah@yahoo.com**

**Secretary: Kathy Kerkhoff, Jennifer Mosinski**

**Business Mgr: Linda Blomme**

**Dir. of Religious Education: April Brand**

**Office Hours**

**Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Office E-mail: spht@iowatelecom.net**

**Website: www.stpatrickholytrinity.org**

**Suggestion Box: spht\_feedback@outlook.com**



**St. Patrick's Church**

**116 E Division St**

**Audubon, IA 50025**

**Office 712-563-2283**

**St. Patrick's Parish Ctr**

**712-563-3300**

**Holy Trinity Church**

**218 Kilworth St N**

**Exira, IA 50076**

**Office 712-563-2283**

**Holy Trinity Hall**

**712-268-5466**

**ST. PATRICK'S / HOLY TRINITY MISSION STATEMENT**

*To share the good news of Jesus in word and deed; to gather in prayer, worship, and the celebration of the Eucharist; to facilitate life-long faith formation; to serve the larger community especially the poor and marginalized; and to sustain parish ministry through the stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.*

**SACRAMENTS**

**RECONCILIATION**

**ST. PATRICK'S:**

**4:30 PM SATURDAYS**

**HOLY TRINITY:**

**8:00-8:15 AM**

**2ND & 4TH SUNDAYS**

**ALSO BY APPOINTMENT**

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

**CALL THE OFFICE IF POSSIBLE WHEN HOSPITALIZED.**

**BAPTISM**

**CALL THE OFFICE DURING PREGNANCY FOR PREPARATION CLASS.**

**MARRIAGE**

**CALL THE OFFICE AT LEAST NINE MONTHS TO ONE YEAR AHEAD TO PLAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION. WEDDING DATE SHOULD NOT BE SET UNTIL PREPARATIONS HAVE BEGUN.**

**ANNULMENT/**

**MARRIAGE VALIDATION**

**CALL THE OFFICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS PROCESS WITH DIOCESAN TRIBUNAL IF YOU ARE DIVORCED AND REMARRIED OR NEVER MARRIED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

**RCIA**

**CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OR THE RCIA PROCESS.**

**MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION**

**IF YOU ARE NEW, WELCOME TO OUR PARISH. PLEASE REGISTER BY CALLING THE OFFICE. IF YOU ARE MOVING AWAY, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO NOTIFY US BEFORE MOVING.**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:**

**WEDNESDAY NOON**



**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**December 28, 2025**

The words Ben Sira and Saint Paul use sound too good to be possible: honor, reverence, consideration, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience. Yes, these are ideals and sometimes we fall short. Therefore, Paul writes that we must bear with one another and forgive one another, as the Lord has forgiven us again and again. Try as we might, we can become inconsiderate, impatient, or unkind to a family member. Or they may do to us. Forgiveness restores our relationships, no matter who's at fault or more to blame. Our love for each other can make forgiveness easier and more desirable, leading to reconciliation more easily. Further, having the peace of Christ in our hearts can give us the serenity we need to accept or request forgiveness without rancor or recriminations.

By recalling the words of Hosea - "Out of Egypt I called my son" (Matthew 2:15) - Matthew connects the Holy Family's departure from Egypt with the Israelites' flight from Egypt centuries before. In both cases, God leads those in danger to safety. God's care over us is a constant, whether in Moses' time, Jesus's time, or our own era. This does not mean that nothing bad will ever happen. Some of the Chosen People did not survive the years in the desert. Many innocent babies died at Herod's hands. But God is there with us always, guiding us, ensuring that our path to salvation is clear.

Think of it: the Holy Family (with Jesus still in his mother's womb) are required to leave their home in Nazareth, in Galilee, to travel to Bethlehem, in Judea, at the orders of the Roman emperor. Then, soon after Jesus was born they need to flee to Egypt in the middle of the night due to the murderous intent of the Judean king. Joseph, Mary and their newborn baby become refugees in a foreign land, owning nothing but the clothes on their back; with no job or money; living among people with a different culture, religion, ethnicity, and language; reliant on God and their new neighbors for food, shelter, and mercy. This is not something they or anyone else would ever choose. But circumstances and political authorities left them no choice. As an adult, Jesus would tell his disciples that those who welcome strangers will inherit the kingdom of heaven. He knows of what he speaks. When he was an infant, he and his family were the strangers in need of welcome. These are the conditions that God chose to be born into. May God be with us in this reality today.

**Question of the Week:** As this tumultuous year comes to an end, what can I do for those who are strangers in a strange land?

**DAILY READINGS:**

**Monday**

**December 29**

**1 Jn 2:3-11**

**Lk 2:22-35**

**Tuesday**

**December 30**

**1 Jn 2:12-17**

**Lk 2:36-40**

**Wednesday**

**December 31**

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

**1 Jn 2:18-21**

**Jn 1:1-18**

**Thursday**

**January 1**

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

**Nm 6:22-27**

**Gal 4:4-7**

**Lk 2:16-21**

**Friday**

**January 2**

**St. Basil & Gregory**

**1 Jn 2:22-28**

**Jn 1:19-28**

**Saturday**

**January 3**

**1 Jn 2:29-3:6**

**Jn 1:29-34**

**Epiphany of the Lord**

**January 4**

**Is 60:1-6**

**Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6**

**Mt 2:1-12**

Mass Schedule

**Monday, December 29:**

9:00 a.m.—Cup of Grace  
12:00 p.m.—Bloodmobile

**Tuesday, December 30:**

7:30 a.m.—Mass at SP [Marjorie Schultes]

**Wednesday, December 31: Solemnity of Mary**

4:00 p.m.—Mass at SP [Lucille Wittrock]  
6:00 p.m.—Mass at HT [Peggy Venteicher]

**Thursday, January 1: Solemnity of Mary**

8:30 a.m.—Mass at SP [Gary Simatovich]

**Friday, January 2:**

7:30 a.m.—Mass at SP [Madsen Family]  
8:30 a.m.—Mass at HT [For The People]

**Saturday, January 3:**

4:30 p.m.—Reconciliation  
5:00 p.m.—Encounter Mass with Adoration at SP  
[Randy Tasler]

**Epiphany of the Lord, January 4:**

8:30 a.m.—Mass at SP [David Brader]  
9:30 a.m.—Coffee & Rolls served by the youth  
10:30 a.m.—Mass at HT  
[Robert & Bernice Robinson and  
Frank & Elizabeth Kommes]  
8:00 p.m.—RE 11-12 Grades



*Happy Birthday*

- 28th - Zoey Rasmussen
- 29th - Russ Crawford
- 30th - Kory Lauridsen
- 1st - Ben Kerkhoff  
Don Heller  
Kate Hansen
- 3rd - Charlotte Fett  
Skyla Rasmussen



*Happy Anniversary*

- Scott & April Brand*  
19 Yrs ~ December 29, 2006
- Cole & Sarah Bruch*  
9 Yrs. ~ December 31, 2016
- Gary & Rosemary Williamson*  
66 Yrs. ~ January 2, 1960
- Darrell & Nancy Wittrock*  
50 Yrs. ~ January 3, 1976



2025 ANNUAL  
DIOCESAN APPEAL 

**St. Pat's Goal: \$32,292.00** Donor Yet to  
Pledges & Gifts: \$30,863.75 Households Donate  
Payments Rec'd: \$30,438.75 58 75  
**Needed: \$1,428.25**

**Holy Trinity's Goal: \$9,138.00** Donor Yet to  
Pledges & Gifts: \$9,182.25 Households Donate  
Payments Rec'd: \$9,182.25 20 20

**GOAL MET!!**

December 21 Giving		
	St. Patrick's	Holy Trinity
Tithes	\$1,572.00	\$1,360.00
Plate	\$128.00	\$75.00
Building Fund	\$90.00	
Cemetery	\$300.00	
2nd Collection-Relig. Retirement	10.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,100.00</b>	<b>\$1,435.00</b>

	<b>Holy Trinity's goal \$40,000.00</b>	Donor	Yet to
Pledges & Gifts	\$30,936.00	Households	Donate
Payments Rec'd	\$26,435.98	19	20
<b>Needed</b>	<b>\$9,064.00</b>		

### BECOMING THE BEST DISCIPLE

The quote for this week that also appears on the whiteboard in the front of the church is:

*"God's Love is the greatest gift on Earth!"*

Take time this week to sit quietly, or perhaps as you drive to your destination, to reflect on this message. REMEMBER TO LISTEN FOR GOD'S RESPONSE.



✠ All those involved in serving our country in any capacity. Special prayers to those on our prayer chain: Caleb Deist, Kellen Hemmingsen, LeAnn Hoffman, Ivan Blocker, Bill Ryan, Tina Madsen, Ellie Bennett,

Rosemary Hess, Joe Schulte, Lauren Bock, Larry Petersen, Jared Schliecher, Dawson Truitt, Lilly Hankemeier, Eleanor, Emilin & Enastatia Clark, Robbi Wittrock, Jenny Brabham, Oliver Turnbull, Vern Wagner, Ava Weitl, Fred Miller, Dash Burr, Randy Clausen, Connie (Fox) Hawthorne, Sheri Jo Porsch, Don Heller, Leonard Baumhover, Larry O'Tool, Joey Wanninger, Fred Muhr, Nick Swanson, Linda Kerkhoff, Deacon Fred Cornwell, Wade Wilson, Father Gubbels, Helen Jorgensen, Dreva Rutherford, Marcia Hanson, Cindy Petersen and all those who are facing very difficult situations and suffer in silence.

All those who are suffering and their families remain in our thoughts and prayers. Please contact the office if your loved one's status changes.

Dinner auction is soon approaching and we would like all committee heads to attend and **anyone interested in helping** are welcome!!

**Saturday January 10th 4:00 p.m.  
(before Mass)**



### Postmarks and Postal Possession Clarification:

Effective December 24, 2025, the United States Postal Service (USPS) clarified the Postmark and Postal Possession rule which may affect how the timing of mailed charitable gifts is determined.

**A donation mailed on December 31st will not necessarily be postmarked December 31st.**

Under this rule, **machine applied postmarks are now generated at regional USPS processing centers rather than at a local post office.** Historically, a postmark served as proof of when a gift was mailed. With this change, the postmark date may be applied several days after mail is dropped off locally and is no longer a reliable indicator of the mailing date.

**As a result, this change could impact whether certain mailed gifts qualify for a 2025 income tax deduction.**

**Donors intending to make a 2025 charitable gift should visit a USPS counter and request one of the following:**

- A Postage Validation Imprint (PVI)
- A Manual Postmark
- A Certificate of Mailing, Registered Mail or Certified Mail.

**Please note that self-service kiosks and third-party mailing services do not guarantee compliance for charitable contributions.**

~Renny Crawford, Annual Giving Coordinator, Stewardship, Diocese of Des Moines

### Mass Stipends to increase from \$5 to \$10

*Starting January 1, 2026*

-Any Mass Intentions received before January 1, 2026 will be honored at the \$5.00 amount.

-If any Mass offerings of \$5.00 have been received but not assigned until after January 1, 2026, they will be honored at the \$5.00 amount.



## Blood Drive

**Audubon Community  
St. Patrick's Parish Center**

**Monday, December 29, 2025  
12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Come give blood Dec. 19-Jan. 4 and get an exclusive long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, Ltd. qty!

For an appointment, please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code: Audubon

Or call Kathy at (712) 563-2424.



**Schedule your blood donation appointment today!**

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2025 The American National Red Cross | 504301-3

Gospel Reflection: This passage from Matthew offers a unique account of the Holy Family's early days. Here we see them flee to Egypt and return to Nazareth. Both migrations, according to Matthew, were anticipated in the Old Testament. Therefore, the Holy Family reflects households of their ancestors. Abraham and Sarah as well as Isaac and Rebecca migrated to Egypt only to return to the Promised Land.

Notably, Matthew's gospel highlights Joseph's role in the Holy Family. Like his namesake from Genesis, Joseph receives messages from God in dreams. Moreover, like the same patriarch, Joseph rightly interprets the meaning of those heavenly promptings. And yet, while Joseph leads his family into Egypt by God's promptings just as Jacob's son Joseph did many generations prior, thus Joseph does not bring any overt division into his family. Instead, the dream-prompted movements of the Holy Family under Joseph's charge only result in care and protection. The Holy Family's flight to Egypt protects the child Jesus from being murdered by Herod's royal mandate, which will result in the death of innocent Judean male children who were Jesus' contemporaries. And the return to Nazareth in Galilee comes from a warning that Joseph receives in a dream that cautions against returning to the territory governed by Archelaus, Herod's son. As the Judean royal family proves to be an on going threat to the Holy Family, God instructs them to reside further north, in a less hostile region.

Remarkably, Matthew never identifies Jesus or Mary by name here. He refers to them only by their roles in the family. He calls them simply "child" and "mother". Despite the saving work that Jesus will accomplish later in his life, here he is shown totally embracing human lowliness and vulnerability. And beside him always is Mary. Yet, together with Joseph, his family remains quietly obedient to the promptings of God, whose angelic guidance routinely protects them from threats. Accordingly, the Holy Family exemplifies the obedience that is to characterize the behavior of all in God's family

E.W.

## ST. PATRICK'S RAFFLE: WIN \$1,000.00

We invite you to participate in a **Building Fund** fundraising initiative with the potential to raise over \$45,000.

Each participant will receive an envelope containing a calendar on the front and a donor registration form on the back. We kindly encourage you to invite friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues to sponsor one or more days on your calendar. For example, if a donor selects days 1, 3, and 5, their total contribution will be \$9.00; selecting day 22 will require a donation of \$22.00. Every dollar donated qualifies as one entry into a drawing for a \$1,000.00 prize.

All collected donations should be placed in your envelope. Once your calendar is complete, please submit it to the church office. Envelopes can be obtained at the church office if you need another or did not receive one. Please note that purchasers must be at least 18 years of age to participate.

**RCIA:** If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please call the church office. You do not have to make a commitment to join the church in order to attend. We have just started a new group. We are also looking for more members on the RCIA team.



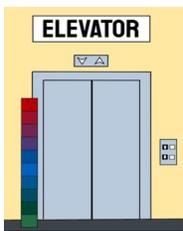
**PRAY FOR THEIR SERVICE:**

Several of our members and relatives of members are currently serving in the military. Please pray for them and their families. We pray for their safety and when on a mission, their quick return home to

family and friends.

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Chance McLaughlin    | Daniel Buser    |
| Hayden McLaughlin    | Rusty Dixon     |
| Cole & Mary Turnbull | Taylor Kerkhoff |
| Robert Hjuler        | Mason Hjuler    |
| Zachary Kirkpatrick  | Mark Otte       |
| Madeline Bintner     |                 |

\*Please contact the office with any other names.



**St. Patrick's Elevator UPDATE!**

Reminder: this project includes solving a long-standing water issue on the west side of the church building, plus removal of the crumbling north steps/landscaping as well as an elevator/interior stairs.

When donating, please be sure to note on your donation that it is for "Building Fund" or "Elevator Project" (It's the same fund either way you label it). On the front of the yellow pew prayer cards, there is a QR code for super easy donations.

- St. Patrick's Finance Council :**
- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Annette Bruch   | Charlotte Fett |
| Alice Lauridsen | Marty Hanson   |
| Alex Lopez      | Don Mosinski   |
| Kevin Wittrock  |                |

- Holy Trinity Finance Council:**
- |                  |
|------------------|
| Paul Christensen |
| Anita Hansen     |
| Riann Hansen     |
| Jean Madsen      |
| Hugh Rossell     |

- Corpus Christi Pastoral Council:**
- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Cole Bruch     | Jennifer Brabham |
| Aaron Kerkhoff | Ben Hansen       |
| Brooke Klocke  | Susan Osvald     |

### St. Patrick's January Liturgy Schedule

Date	Ushers	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	Servers
New Year's Day Thursday, Jan. 1 8:30 a.m.		Volunteer	Volunteers	Volunteers	Izik, Jocelyn & Jordyn Sorensen
Saturday, Jan. 3 5:00 p.m.		Jennifer Mosinski	Jon & Alice Lauridsen Don Mosinski	Gary Keller Aaron Kerkhoff	Brayden, Camden & Trinden Sporrer
Sunday, Jan. 4 8:30 a.m.	Paxton Beane	Lucy Stanerson	Virginia Mennenoh April Brand Lora Anthofer	Tom Mennenoh	Marie Brand, Evan & Sadie Nelson
Saturday, Jan. 10 5:00 p.m.		Nancy Wittrock	Darrell & Nancy Wittrock Volunteer	Jo Beane	Paxton Beane Lucy & Ella Stanerson
Sunday, Jan. 11 10:30 a.m.		Ann Carter	Aaron Kerkhoff Sara Kerkhoff April Brand	Linda Blomme Deanna Kerkhoff	Marie, Mason & Grace Brand
Saturday, Jan. 17 5:00 p.m.		Judy Wagner	Kathy Kerkhoff Volunteers	Gary Keller Blane Kerkhoff	Autumn & Kara Klocke Gavin Carter
Sunday, Jan. 18 8:30 a.m.		Virginia Mennenoh	Ann Carter, Virginia Mennenoh Lora Anthofer	Tom Mennenoh	Alex, Karleigh & Wyatt Henkle
Saturday, Jan. 24 5:00 p.m.		Volunteer	Matt Wilder Sara Kerkhoff Volunteer	Gary Keller Rosemary Williamson	McKenna & Avery Wilder Huxley Gross
Sunday, Jan. 25 10:30 a.m.		April Brand	Aaron Kerkhoff Lora Anthofer Volunteer	Blane Kerkhoff	Jocelyn & Jordyn Sorensen Claire Kerkhoff
Sacristans: Saturday— Darrell Wittrock      Sunday— Brian Klocke					

### Holy Trinity's January Liturgy Schedule

Date	Ushers	Reader	Eucharist Minister	ECC	Song Leader	Servers
Sunday, Jan. 4 10:30 a.m.	Joe & Weston Rasmussen	Russ Crawford	Abby Rasmussen	Jenny Brabham	Jean Madsen	Brooklyn Brabham Zoey Rasmussen
Sunday, Jan. 11 8:30 a.m.	Vernie Venteicher Mark Richards	Gary Smouse	Vicki Richards	Mike Bintner	Judy Bintner	Gavin & Ryleigh Anthofer
No Coffee & Donuts.....Soup Lunch: 11:00-1:30 p.m.						
Sunday, Jan. 18 10:30 a.m.	Leonard Hansen Volunteer	Susan Osvold	Joe Rasmussen	Jenny Brabham	Jane Beckendorf	Zoey & Harper Rasmussen
Sunday, Jan. 25 8:30 a.m.	Joe & Weston Rasmussen	Jenny Brabham	Ben Hansen	Judy Bintner	Riann Hansen	Jack Hansen Austin Rasmussen

# January 2026 St Patrick-Audubon and Holy Trinity-Exira

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><b>4</b> 8:30 Mass @ SP - Heaven Cent 9:30 Coffee &amp; Rolls @ S.P. - Youth 10:30 Mass @ HT 8:00p RE (11-12 Grades)</p>	<p><b>5</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace</p>	<p><b>6</b> 10:30 Mass @ Friendship Home</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice 7:00p RE (9-10 grades)</p>	<p><b>1</b> Solemnity of Mary 8:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>2</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT</p>	<p><b>3</b> 4:30p Encounter Night with Adoration and Reconciliation 5:00p Mass @ SP</p>
<p><b>11</b> 8:30 Mass @ HT - Heaven Cent 10:30 Mass @ SP 11:00 HT Soup Dinner 8:00p RE (11-12 Grades)</p>	<p><b>12</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace</p>	<p><b>13</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>14</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice 7:00p RE (9-10 grades)</p>	<p><b>15</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>16</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT</p>	<p><b>17</b> 4:30p Reconciliation @ SP 5:00p Mass @ SP</p>
<p><b>18</b> 8:30 Mass @ SP 9:30 SPCW Meeting 9:30 Coffee &amp; Rolls @ SP 10:30 Mass @ HT 5:00p KC Soup Challenge @ PC 8:00p RE (11-12 Grades)</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace 7:30p Knights of Columbus Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice 7:00p RE (9-10 grades)</p>	<p><b>22</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>23</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT</p>	<p><b>24</b> 4:30p Reconciliation @ SP 5:00p Mass @ SP</p>
<p><b>25</b> 8:30 Mass @ HT 9:00 SPCW Waffle Breakfast 10:30 Mass @ SP 8:00p RE (11-12 Grades)</p>	<p><b>26</b> 9:00 Cup of Grace</p>	<p><b>27</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>28</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT 4:30p RE (K-8 grades) 7:00p Choir Practice 7:00p RE (9-10 grades)</p>	<p><b>29</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP</p>	<p><b>30</b> 7:30 Mass @ SP 8:30 Mass @ HT</p>	<p><b>31</b> 4:30p Reconciliation @ SP 5:00p Mass @ SP</p>