

# 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](http://notredamecresco.com)

Jodi Dull, Business Manager

Connie Frana, Office Manager

Melanie Vobr,

Coordinator of Faith Formation

LeRoy Webb, Pastoral Minister

Randy Greenfield, Facilities Manager

512 718-4634

Katie Schmitt, Principal

563 547-4513

School Website:

[www.ndcschool.weebly.com](http://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 **May 3, 2021**, 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: [dbqrouse@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbqrouse@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.

March 7, 2021

**Third Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

"Prove it!"

How often do we hesitate to take someone's word to be true and ask for "proof". In a so-called scientific age, like ours, we are even more inclined not to take someone's word at face value. We're pretty skeptical folks; at least about some things.

A degree of skepticism is not bad, indeed, may be healthy. There are lots of scam artists around who delight in pulling the wool over our eyes to make a quick dollar.

It's not hard for us to understand, then, why the people of Jesus' time were hesitant to accept His preaching of "a new way." It's easy to see why, when he cleared out the temple precincts with a fury, they would ask some proof of His authority to do thus.

In the second reading today we see that St. Paul had the same problem. Jews demanded signs and Greeks wanted proof that his message was worth listening to, much less worth following.

Both Jesus and Paul pointed to a "sign," both offered a "proof." "Christ crucified," is Paul's blunt answer. But Jesus and Paul also know this answer is no answer except to those who have the mind of God. This Lenten time is meant to help us enter into the very mind of God, difficult as that task might be.

Next week's readings:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

Where possible, work toward reconciliation with others this Lent.

Fr. Jacob will continue to live stream all weekday and weekend masses on his YouTube. You can access it by logging into our new parish website: [notredamecresco.com](http://notredamecresco.com) and scroll down on the home page and click on the YouTube icon

Please keep in mind that the Archbishop has continued the dispensation from attendance at mass until further notice so if you have any concern (including age, health, etc.) about attending mass in church, please stay home!

**Monday, March 8 No Mass**  
Pray for everyone affected by Covid.

**Tuesday, March 9 Mass in church and livestreamed**  
Rosary at 4:55 p.m.

**5:15 p. m.** +Jerry Simon  
**5:45 p.m. Stations of the Cross** (Jed Becker)

**Wednesday, March 10 Mass in church and livestreamed**  
**8:00 a.m.** +Larry Scrabeck

**Thursday, March 11- School Mass**  
School personnel and students only in church.  
*Public is invited to watch the livestream*  
**9:00 a.m.** +Virgil Baumler

**Friday, March 12 –Mass in church and livestreamed**  
**8:00 a.m.** +Betty Moen

**Saturday, March 13- Mass in church and livestreamed**  
**4:00 p.m.** +Harold and Dorothy Grube  
**EMs:** Lisa Kimball, Becky McGee, Marlene Quinn  
**Lector:** Marlene Quinn  
**Servers:** Carver Munkel, Awnan Skoda  
**Music:** Dee Hosek, Wendy Schatz  
**Ushers:** Jim Murphy, Gretchen Laub, Steve & Terry Duerre

**7:00 p.m.** Mass at St. Bridget, Bluffton  
+For the People of the Oratory

**Sunday, March 14- Mass in church and livestreamed**  
**8:00 a.m.** +Stan and Kathleen Humpal  
**EMs:** Frank and Donna Ryant, Joyce Kapler  
**Lector:** Ken Hubka  
**Servers:** Jordyn and Julianne Fisk  
**Music:** Katie Ferrie, Jamie Fisk  
**Ushers:** Nick, Ava and Audrey Ferrie, Tony Roberts

**10:00 a.m. Mass in church and livestreamed -Confirmation**  
+Vern Walker

**Music:** Melanie Vobr, Polly Jones  
*Other ministers from families of Confirmandi*  
If you are not involved with the Confirmation class, please consider going to another mass or watching online. Thank you.

*Be willing to serve without reward, acknowledgement or credit.*

**Easter Flowers** If you would like to donate towards Easter flowers, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" with you name and the name(s) of those you would like remembered. Thank you.

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule:** There is a liturgical schedule for the months of March and April available on the parish website. *If you are willing to serve as an EM, Usher, Lector, Server or Musician during the upcoming months, please contact the parish office, 563 547-3565.*

**Reverse Collection** will be held on the weekend of March 6-7. Take a tag, buy the item and return it to church to be donated to the local food pantry.

### In Memory

Don Gooder	Sanctuary Candle
Louie and Mabel Balk	Altar Bread and Wine
Arkie and Joan Kleve	Missalettes (March)

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### 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	Debra Winsell
Steve McCarville	Tom McGee
Arlene Kuennen	Marcia Murray
Marian Wiltgen	Lori Schmitt
Leona Herold	Bill Smith
Pat Smith	Randy Smith
Paula Growden	Cole Christopher
Bob Stoker	Bill Rink
Monica McGee Newman	Liz Yount
Lavon Hyberger	Jim Dietzenbach
Don Neubauer	Al Reicks
Nancy Pecinovsky	

### Our sympathy. . .

*Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of **Michaeleen Riehle; Susan Shaver**, sister of Patty Shaver; and **Juliana Blaylock**, sister of Mary Gansen. Eternal rest grant unto them, 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: [DBQ047S@dbqarch.org](mailto:DBQ047S@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.*

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### Stewardship of Offering

**Feb. 28, 2021**

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income	
Needed each week:	\$10,923.00
Last week's Envelope Contribution Income:	\$ 5,732.00
Last week's ACH Contribution Income:	\$ 5,331.00
Last week's offertory income:	\$ 266.00

*"You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. May this understanding that all is gift help us be less resentful of the gifts of others.*

**Catholic Charities Jail and Prison Ministries Program** Did you know that 78% of clients in Catholic Charities' Jail & Prison Ministry program were successful in not re-offending compared to the state's average rate? This work saves taxpayer money, decreases the strain on our law enforcement and most importantly improves the quality of life for those in the program and their families. Support this important work, and much more with your gift to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. Learn more at [www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org)

**Sewing Circle** will meet on Monday, March 8, 2:00 p.m., Notre Dame Church Hall.

**Finance Committee** will meet on Tues., March 9, 7:00 p.m., Joseph Room.

**Catholic School Board** will meet on Wed., March 10, Notre Dame School Media Center.

"**Jungle Book Fair**" from March 13 - 18 Notre Dame School Saturday, March 13 - after 4:00p.m. Mass; Sunday, March 14 - after 8:00 & 10:00 o'clock Masses; Monday, March 15 - 8:15 a.m.—8:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 16 - 8:15 a.m. - 8:00p.m.; Wednesday, March 17 8:15 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Thursday, March 18 - 8:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please wear your mask. See bulletin insert for more details.

**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 and Kwik Star.** Gift cards are available for purchase at the parish office. Please call to order, 563 547-3565. *Scrip will be available in church the weekend of March 6-7.*

**Knights of Columbus:** Every knight joins for a reason whether to grow in faith, to serve our communities or to protect those most in need. There is much work to be done in our world. Faith and Service are the reasons Knights of Columbus exists. We invite you to join us putting our Faith in Action. Visit [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) now till June 30th for free online. Use promo code McGivney2020.

**Knights of Columbus:** Catholic men come join us March 21st after the 10:00 a.m. mass for the Exemplification into the Knights of Columbus. 1st Degrees with this Exemplification receive 3rd Degree status.

**Rosary Program** - Our Lady (*Notre Dame*) is asking each of us to pray the rosary daily. Continue to tally the number of rosaries prayed on any piece of paper and drop the results in the collection basket as part of your offering. Rosaries prayed during February: **424.** *Notre Dame, pray for us.*

**The Dubuque Franciscan Sister Water Project (SWP) Committee Invites Participants to "Walk for Sister Water" from March 12 - March 22 (World Water Day) to raise awareness of global water issues and raise funds for SWP.** How the walk works: 1. Dedicate time (March 12-22) to walk the distance of 5K (3.1 miles). While you walk, consider that this is the distance some people have to walk daily to obtain clean water. 2. From March 12-22, follow the Sisters of St. Francis on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/dubuquefranciscans/>) and Twitter (@DBQFranciscans) to see why others are walking and how villagers in Honduras and Tanzania have been helped by the Sister Water Project. Take photos of yourself walking and post on social media with #WalkForSisterWater or email to [communications@osfdbq.org](mailto:communications@osfdbq.org) 3. After your walk, consider making a donation to the Sister Water Project at 3390 Windsor Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 or online at <https://www.osfdbq.org/swpdonate>. For more information, contact Sister Maureen Leach at (563) 583-9786/ [leach@osfdbq.org](mailto:leach@osfdbq.org)

**The 2021 Men's Conference** to be held on March 13 with keynote speaker Patrick Madrid. Participants can join in-person at Xavier High School (Cedar Rapids), or virtually. For more details and registration, visit: [www.ArchMensConference.org](http://www.ArchMensConference.org)

### **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 the Altar Servers.*

**Note from Randy Greenfield:** I just wanted to let everyone know that my last day as Facilities Manager at Notre Dame will be March 12, 2021. I've enjoyed working with you all for almost 3 years and it's been an honor and privilege. Paula and I have sold our home and will be heading to Key West, FL where we are planning on retiring within the next 3 years. We have had a great life in Cresco and couldn't have found so many welcoming and caring people. I look forward to watching Father and Leonard's activities on YouTube.

*Blessings to all, Randy (Santa) and Paula (Mrs. Claus) Greenfield*

**St. Patrick's Day Dance and Fundraiser** St. Bridget Oratory, Sat., March 13. Mass at 7:00 p.m. with dance to follow. Music by Sandy Christopher and the Country Cousins. Silent Auction.

**Food for Thought** Join Father Jacob on March 17th at 6:15 pm for a journey through just the tip of the iceberg of his long list of friends...The Saints!! Our brothers and sisters who have died and gone before us and have been canonized by the Church are in Heaven praying to God for us. Learning about how their lives and how they tried to be like Jesus can inspire and help us in our quest to live holy lives and reach Heaven! Join us in the Church in person or on this livestream link and maybe you can make some new friends too! <https://tinyurl.com/fatherjacobyoutube>

**ACCW Corner:** Archdiocesan Council for Catholic Women (ACCW) has as officers for the 2020-2022 year, President Joanne Pohland from Peosta, President-elect Monica Fulton from Marshalltown, Vice President Mary Esther Pullin from Waterloo, Secretary Christine Leichsenring from Clarion, Treasurer Lisa Hemesath from State Center. Rev. Daniel Knipper is the spiritual advisor for ACCW. For the Decorah Deanery, our spiritual advisor is Rev. Msgr. Cletus Hawes. Our Decorah Deanery has as President, Julie Vulk from St. Ben's, Decorah. Our Archdiocesan Mission Priorities are: *Strengthening programs for the on-going education in the faith.* "All that we do as a Church rises or falls on the strength of our efforts to educate people in our Catholic faith." *Enhancing the Sunday assembly for Holy Mass.* "We participate in Holy Mass on Sunday with our community, not only to offer worship to God, but also to be transformed, and to be agents of transformation." *Teaching stewardship as a way of life.* "We do not own anything; rather, everything we have is on loan to us, entrusted by the owner, namely God." *Promoting vocations, and priesthood in particular.* "Seminarians are like garlic in cooking, and incense at Mass: MORE IS BETTER!"

**Back by popular demand!** "Paychecks and Playchecks" which features many highlights about retirement planning. The Bormann Agency will be hosting Tom Hegna March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM on ZOOM. Use this Link to Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtcuivpzovGdEvEt\\_HuHzs44AunE5inpCG](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtcuivpzovGdEvEt_HuHzs44AunE5inpCG) Feel free to register by contacting Walter Witt at 563-419-0400 or [walter.witt@kofc.org](mailto:walter.witt@kofc.org)

**Cresco Head Start Registration** Tues., March 9, 3:30—4:00 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church. Free full day preschool for 3 & 4 yr. olds. Inclusive environment. Nutritious meals & snacks. Extended day services for those who qualify. Transportation where available. Income guidelines apply—please bring proof of income and proof of child's birthdate. For more information or to apply for Head Start, please call NEICAC Family services at 563 547-4413 or visit [www.neicac.org](http://www.neicac.org)

*At the end of our lives we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made or how many great things we have done.*

*We will be judged by: I was hungry and you gave me to eat. I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in.*

## NOTRE DAME PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES – February 25, 2021

The February 25, 2021 meeting of the Notre Dame Pastoral Council was called to order by Frank Ryant. The group joined in reciting the Prayer and Parish Mission Statement. Present were: Fr. Jacob Rouse, Frank Ryant, Jim Truka, Tom Kleve, Maryln Shores, Keith Wherry and Joye Meyer. Absent Duane Heit, Brian McConnell, Mike Drees, and Patti Guyer.

The minutes of the January 28, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Maryln Shores made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve as presented, seconded by Tom Kleve. Motion approved by consensus. The agenda was reviewed. Jim Truka made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Joye Meyer. Motion approved by consensus.

Liturgy Committee did not meet in February due to weather. Next meeting is April 1.

Social Justice Committee: The next meeting will be held in June. Tom Kleve did report that legislature is being discussed to ban abortions in Iowa.

Community Life Committee: Next meeting will be March 15.

Fr. Jacob reported on the Faith Formation Commission meeting held on February 18. Katie Schmitt reported for the school. Masks are still being mandated when students cannot maintain the six foot distancing. Most of the staff has had their first vaccine shot. Students celebrated Mardi Gras with a celebration "Burying the Alleluia". Lenten theme and prayer activities were reported. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are preparing the Passion Play. Lasagna Supper and auction went well. Melanie Vobr reported for Faith Formation. Cornerstone February theme is "Perfect Love." First Communion and Confirmation preparation continues to be done at home except for the Confirmation retreat which was on Jan. 10 and First Communion parent/student meeting on Jan. 27. Cornerstone will meet on March 3 and will also include the safe environment training. "Word Among Us" books are available for parishioners to use during Lent.

The Catholic School Board February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were reviewed. Lasagna supper and auction went well. Alumni appeal has not yet reached its goal of \$13,000 but letters returned due to incorrect address have been re-sent. SCRIP continues to look into adding additional local businesses. Principal evaluation guidelines were received. Lenten theme and prayer activities were discussed. Individual and class needs for additional educational assistance were discussed. Professional development provided by Keystone AEA was reported. STO enrollment fee is being waived. The Board will review and update the School Board Constitution. The Board reviewed the 2021-2022 proposed budget items.

Stewardship Committee meeting will be on April 19, 2021.

Maryln Shores reported for Finance Committee. The Council reviewed the financial statement for January. The lasagna supper went well with 512 meals sold as a drive through and was sold out. Online auction also went well. Profit details will be reported after all the expenses have been paid. Playgroup will not be held for the first semester in the fall of 2021 but will be reviewed prior to second semester. Assistance to help students with their math and reading as needed is a priority. The school continues to require masks. Parish and School finances are on target with the budget. It was noted 16% of the parishioners are using ACH to contribute to the parish. A second PPP loan has been received. It was reported the rectory and boiler notes have been paid off to the Archdiocese. Fr. Jacob reported on the guidelines for distributing ashes on Ash Wed. this year which was the sprinkling on heads rather than the cross on the forehead.

Buildings and Grounds Committee met on Feb. 16 and reviewed and prioritized maintenance items. Items to be completed include security school front door print transformations; shade sails for outdoor classroom; exterior thermometer for walk in cooler in church hall; replace 12'x9' damaged concrete in parking lot; replace parish office roof; 2 more door closers and 3 more magnetic door hold opens at school. Other items will be addressed as needed and as funds are available.

Emergency Management Committee (EMC) – No report.

Fr. Jacob reported that he has received a letter of resignation from Randy Greenfield effective March 12 as Randy has accepted a different position in Florida. Fr. Jacob has attended meetings for the Priests' Council and Deanery. Decision has not yet been made as to when the church can open up completely. There will not be a Communal Penance during Lent. Individual Reconciliation is available 45 minutes before each Mass.

The next Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled for March 25 and will meet in the Joseph Room. Jim Truka made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Maryln Shores. Motion approved by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Frana,  
Recording Secretary

# Notre Dame Catholic School



**Located in the Thomson Library/Media Center**

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**Saturday, March 13th after 4:00 Mass**

**Sunday, March 14th after 8:00 and 10:00 Masses**

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**Monday, March 15, 8:15 - 8:00**

**Tuesday, March 16, 8:15 - 8:00**

**Wednesday, March 17, 8:15 - 7:00**

**Thursday, March 18, 8:15 - 2:00**

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**You can also shop online to order books starting Mar.12**

**<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/notredamecatholicschool3>**

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