

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

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass

Livestreamed at:

<https://youtube.com/@notredamecresco>

Mindy Jones, Bookkeeper

Connie Frana, Office Manager

Melanie Vobr,

Coordinator of Faith Formation

m.vobr@dbqarch.org

Brian McGee,

Coordinator of Family & Youth Ministry

b.mcgee@dbqarch.org

LeRoy Webb, Pastoral Minister

Katie Schmitt, Principal

563 547-4513

School Website: [https://](https://sites.google.com/nd.pvt.k12.ia.us/ndschoo/home?authuser=0)

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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 6, 2024**.

7:00 p.m. (Note date is subject to change).

Reconciliation Contact the parish office 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.

February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

"The Spirit sent Jesus out toward the desert.

He stayed . . . forty days.

The words from Mark's gospel speak to us of Jesus' "Lenten experience" as we enter into another Lent of our own. We, too, have 40 days to let the Spirit work on us—to cleanse us, purify us, to shape us into the very image of Christ, whose desert experience brought Him closer to God.

The way the physical desert works on the inner spirit is pretty simple: In the desert we are not in charge, God is. We depend on God more while in a barren and forsaken place. The Jews had to find that out in their exodus journey through the desert. Jesus found that out in his own desert experience. God ministered to Him through angels, Mark tells us.

We need, at times, to be led into barren and, what seems to be, God forsaken times precisely so God can break into our lives. Death in a family, sickness, financial loss, personal setbacks: all these occasions can be desert experiences—and can, in their own way, if we're open, lead us to God.

Lent is not meant to be a contrived experience of the desert. Rather, through those ways we die to self by fasting, penance, almsgiving and extra time for prayer, we "walk into the desert, led there by the Spirit," so that we can be drawn closer to our God.

Next week's readings:

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10

Following Jesus means taking up your cross and enduring every hardship for him and his glory.

Monday, Feb. 19—No Mass. Pray for vocations.

Tuesday, Feb. 20—Mass

5:15 p.m. +Robert and Rita McCabe; Gary McCabe

Sacristan: Terry Duerre

Stations of the Cross: Jed Becker

Wednesday, Feb. 21—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Robert Sindelar

Music: Jed Becker

Sacristan: Roger and Elaine Kleve

Thursday, Feb. 22—school mass

9:00 a.m. +Steve Slifka

Sacristan: Joyce Jirak

2:00 p.m. Mass at Assisted Living +Lester Schmitt

Friday, Feb. 23—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Betty Shea

Sacristan: Jerry and Barb O'Donnell

Saturday, Feb. 24—Mass in church and livestreamed

4:00 p.m. +Earl Sexton

EMHCs: Lisa Kimball, Alanda Meyer, Vicki McGee

Lector: Brian McGee

Servers: Sam Meyer

Music: Dee Hosek, Deb Moellers

Greeters: Don and Lois Recker

Hosts: Don and Lois Recker

Ushers: Dave, Robin and Cody Sobolik, Joey Reinhart

Sacristan: Karen Hyke and Joey Reinhart

Sunday, Feb. 25—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Lam Voong

EMHCs: Boyd Turnbull, Jim Truka, Barb Martinek

Lectors: Boyd Turnbull, Jim Truka

Servers: Claire and James Kach

Music: LuAnn McCormick, Deb Moellers

Greeters: Dale and Lynette Andera

Hosts: Bart and Julie Wilson

Ushers: Bart and Julie Wilson, Dale and Lynette Andera

Sacristan: Boyd Turnbull

10:00 a.m. +Martin and Emma Jean Koudelka

EMHCs: Jessica Kapler, Gary and Janel Langreck

Lectors: Gary Langreck, Tracy Hart

Servers: Carley and Danny Kapler

Music: Joe Wacha, Deb Moellers

Greeters: Jolene Trachta, Kathy McCarville

Hosts: Kathy McCarville

Ushers: Kathy McCarville, Matt Daley Family, Sue Sovereign

Sacristan: Jessica Kapler

We often enter into wild times in our lives when we are weak. But Christ will strengthen us.

The Saint Brigid of Kildare Saint Family at Notre Dame School has organized a coin collection drive to honor Saint Brigid's generosity. The students at Notre Dame Catholic School have collected coins to be donated to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The Saint Brigid Saint Family has invited the congregation to participate in this coin collection drive on Sunday, February 25 at the 10:00 am Mass. A collection container will also be available at the 4:00 and 8:00 masses next weekend.

Word Among Us Booklets are available for you to use during Lent.

In Memory

Ronald and Marie Kreitzer **Sanctuary Candle**

Ed and Joyce Barloon **Missalettes (Feb.)**

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
Tom Rouchka	JoDene Van Dyke
Arlene Kuennen	Joyce Kapler
Bill Smith	Don Neubauer
Ann Burgess	Liz Yount
Dan Pahl	Connie Frana
Luther Govern	Kevin Neuzil
Mary Stejskal	John Gossman
Paula Growden	Pat Smith
Randy Smith	Brenda Anding
Janice Ries	Shelly McAllister
Stu Gordon	Ethan Pepera
Lisa Peter	Colleen Voves
Ellie Lorenzo	Leona Herold
Deb Wilkins	Dick Franks
Betty Linderman	Marinus Mlady
Lonnie Dishinger	Bill Rink
Audrey Grinhaus	Ken Hruska
Matt Duerre	Axel Heller
Roger Malli	Ron Scanlan

Our sympathy...

*Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of **Marty (Pat) Minnick**; sister-in-law of Colleen Voves; and **Frances Kovarik Langham**, cousin of Dianne Kovarik. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.*

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 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: DBQ047SI@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

February 11, 2024

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income

Needed each week: \$ 10,750.00

Last week's Envelope Contribution Income: \$ 22,784.00

Last week's ACH Contribution Income: \$ 787.00

Last week's offertory income: \$ 519.00

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism. . . that people place their gifts, their resources— their selves—at God's service in and through the Church."

40 Items—40 Days Lenten Challenge Instead of giving something up for Lent this year, why not try the 40 items—40 days challenge? Each day of Lent, remove one gently used item from your house, which you don't use or wear anymore and place it in a bag. At the end of Lent, donate these items to those in need. (This is a personal challenge, and you can personally decide where to donate your items. **Please do NOT drop them off at the Parish Office or in church.**)

Middle School Youth Ministry (all students in grades 6-8) will meet on Mon., Feb. 19, 6:00 p.m., Notre Dame Church Hall. Join us for an evening of games, pizza and fellowship. This is not a class session and participants do not need to be parishioners to attend! For more information, contact Brian McGee at b.mcgee@dbqarch.org

Stewardship Committee will meet on Mon., Feb. 19, 5:00 p.m., Joseph Room.

Knights of Columbus will meet on Tues., Feb. 20, 7:00 p.m., KC Room.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule A new schedule for April through September is being compiled. If you would like to start a ministry or discontinue one, please contact the parish office.

"Daddy Daughter Dance—Calling all fathers and father figures! On Sunday, March 10th the Family Ministry Committee will be hosting our Daddy Daughter Dance from 5:00-7:00 PM in the Parish Hall! Join us for an evening of music, dining, pictures, and crafts. Open to all girls 12 and under. Please RSVP at <https://notredamecresco.com/family-ministry>

Wee Families and **Into the Deep** are available online.

Weather related mass schedule information: If school is delayed or cancelled, daily morning mass is cancelled. If school is dismissed early or cancelled, Tuesday afternoon mass will be cancelled. If school is delayed, Tuesday afternoon mass will be held.

Meals on Wheels Sign Up Sheet to deliver meals in March is available this weekend. Please sign up to help with this worthwhile project. Thank you!

Scrip Program (includes Dollar Fresh, HyVee, Pinter's, Ruppert's Ace Hardware, Fareway, Fisk's, Subway, Casey's, A & W, Sue-Z-Q, Atomic Pizza, Plantpeddler and Kwik Star.) Cards available at the parish office and in church March 2-3.

A big Thank You to all our advertisers listed on the back of the bulletin for their generous support. Please show your appreciation by patronizing these businesses.

Lenten practices: *Prayer:* Catholics are encouraged to pray more during Lent, especially with Scripture. Lent is also an ideal time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. *Almsgiving:* Moved by the sacrifice of Christ, many Christians combine almsgiving with fasting, giving to the poor the money they saved by eating, drinking or buying less as they rely more upon God's abundant grace.

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 Lectors.

We welcome Lochlan James Herold, son of Tony and Tracy Herold, who was baptized at Notre Dame on Feb. 11.



2024-2025 Notre Dame Preschool/Playgroup Open House Registration Tuesday, March 5, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Preschool (must be 4 yrs. old by Sept. 15): AM Session M-T-Th-F 8:10-11:10; PM Session M-T-Th-F 12:10-3:10 Free Tuition funded by the State of Iowa Voluntary Preschool Program. 5th Day Option: Wed. 8:10-11:10 \$52/month tuition Playgroup (must be 3 yrs. old by Sept. 15 and toilet trained): M-W 8:15-10:30; T-Th 8:15-10:30 \$80/month tuition. Curriculum presented in a Christian learning environment. All denominations welcome! Transportation offered through NEICAC for a fee. For more information call 563 547-4513 or www.tinyurl.com/ndcschool

Save the Date for the 2024 Archdiocese of Dubuque Men's Conference! Each year, men from throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque gather to learn, pray, share and build relationships. The 2024 Men's Conference will feature John Edwards from Just A Guy in the Pew as the keynote speaker, Archbishop Thomas Zinkula as the celebrant at Mass, Breakout Sessions and more. The conference will take place on Sat., March 9 from 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m. at St. Pius X Catholic Church (4949 Council St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402). Notre Dame Parish will host a virtual viewing of the conference the week after on March 16th from 9-1:30 in the hall. For more information and to register, go to <https://notredamecresco.com/mens-conference>

Support the Local Ministry of Catholic Charities: Did you know that your donation to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque stays in the 30 counties of the Archdiocese of Dubuque and serves the most poor and vulnerable in our local communities? Since its founding in 1931, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque has continuously evolved to respond to the ever-changing needs of people in our communities. Through these changes, Catholic Charities remains a leader in providing direct social services to families right here in Northeast Iowa. Join our community of salt & light today at <http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org/annualappeal>

Holy Family Soup Festival, Sunday, February 25, 4:30-6:30 pm at Holy Family Hynes Hall 202 N Broadway, New Hampton, IA. We will be serving Chili, Chicken Noodle and Cheese soup, with sandwiches, bars, and cookies. Tickets for dine in are \$12 per person and can be purchased at the door or the Holy Family Pastoral Office. Children 5 and under are free. Pre-ordered carryout will be available and must be **ordered by February 20**. Pre-order \$25. which includes 32 oz of soup, 2 sandwiches and 2 cookies/bars.

BINGO Sun., Feb. 25 at the Calmar Lutheran Church. \$20 for your first card; each add'l card \$5; 20 games. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. with BINGO starting at 3:00 p.m. Concession items available for purchase.

VFW Breakfast will be served Feb. 18, 8:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall, Cresco. Free will offering. Proceeds to be used for Roof Fund. Sponsored by VFW Post and Auxiliary 4561.

Trinity Catholic School "Best of the Best" Art & Writing Show & Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast Sun, March 3, 8:30 a.m. —12:30 p.m. Protivin Comm. Center.

Prayer for Lent

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you into the desert of Lent so that we might confront the powers of evil and, with your assistance, overcome them.

Give us the courage to face the truth about our lives, both the blessings we have received and the failures we have experienced. May these forty days of prayerful observance strengthen us in faith, renew us in hope and fill us with love to share with our brothers and sisters, especially those most in need. Amen.

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