

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)

[sites.google.com/nd.pvt.k12.ia.us/](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.

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

*"Every time I look up at Jesus on the cross,
I know he is healing another person."*

This lovely quote is from one of the commentaries on today's readings. It obviously puts a very different perspective on the crucifixes that are in our churches and our homes.

The image of Jesus crucified has been used as a way of impressing upon us our sinfulness and guilt. If we weren't so bad, this horrible event would never have happened. We—all of us, and each one of us—have helped nail Jesus to the cross. On and on this kind of reasoning can go. Many of us are very familiar with it.

Today's gospel presents Jesus being lifted up on the cross as a source of healing and forgiveness. In their desert sojourn the Israelites were unfaithful, and many died from a scourge of poisonous serpents. Then Moses pleaded with God for mercy; and the very serpent that had been a source of death was mounted on a pole—those who looked on it were healed.

And so it is that Jesus promises the very worst instrument of death—the cross—will be a source of healing when he is mounted on it. We can never comprehend this powerful mystery—how God can reverse a source of death and make it a source of infinite grace and mercy. We can only say with Paul: "God is rich in mercy; because of his great love for us he brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin."

Praise God for his love and mercy to us!

Next week's readings:

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. King of endless glory!

Monday, March 11—No Mass. Pray for vocations.

Tuesday, March 12—Mass

5:15 p.m. +Wilmer Hubka

Sacristan: Stan and Connie Kepros

Stations of the Cross: Terry Duerre

Wednesday, March 13—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Greg Kuennen

Sacristan: Donna Ryant

Thursday, March 14—School Mass

9:00 a.m. +Joe Busta

Sacristan: Stan and Connie Kepros

Friday, March 15—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Bud and Mary Ann Billmyer

Sacristan: Bill and Connie Sindelar

Saturday, March 16—Mass in church and livestreamed

4:00 p.m. +Gene Murphy

EMHCs: Angie Kappes, Lisa Kimball, Brian McGee

Lector: Brian McGee

Servers: Sam Meyer

Music: Harlan and Mary Larson

Greeters: Brian McGee, Pat Korsmo

Hosts: Bootie Kapler, Barb Prochaska

Ushers: Gretchen Laub, Carver Munkel, Brian McGee,
Ray Schwarzhoff

Sacristan: Carol Stoker and Mindy Jones

7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Bridget, Bluffton

+Patricia Hauber and all deceased members of O'Shea Family

Sunday, March 17—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Dell, Monica and Pat Reicks

EMHCs: Frank and Donna Ryant, Julie Wilson

Lectors: Julie Wilson, Roger Kleve

Servers: Cali Schwickerath, Raelynn Fortney

Music: Pam Daley, Darlene Vsetecka

Greeters: Roger and Elaine Kleve

Hosts: Bart and Julie Wilson

Ushers: Cody Kerian, Dale Lickteig,

David and Shannon Andera

Sacristan: Frank and Donna Ryant

10:00 a.m. +Tom Kleve

EMHCs: Sheila Slifka, Don and Kris Dietzenbach

Lectors: Sue Runyan, Nita Hackman

Servers: Eleanor Ellingson, Braelyn McCarville

Music: Joe Wacha, Darlene Vsetecka

Greeters: Jim and Val Rink

Hosts: Don Dietzenbach Family

Ushers: Don Dietzenbach Family, Jerry and Wanda Reicks

Sacristan: Sheila Slifka

Jesus heals the sickness of our sins through his forgiveness and saves room at his table for us.

Bible Study Bible Study resumes on Wednesdays discussing the upcoming weekend Mass readings. Bible Study meets every Wednesday in the Joseph Room in the parish office. All are welcome to attend either the 8:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. session. No need to preregister, no required homework.

Reverse Collection will be held this weekend, March 9-10. Take a tag, buy the item, return it for the food pantry.

In Memory

Ed and Joyce Barloon Altar Bread

Darrell and Michaelleen Riehle Altar Wine

Leoba Dotzler Sanctuary Candle

Tom Kleve Missalettes (March)

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
Raymond Beachy	

Our sympathy...

*Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Very Rev. Jerry Kopacek**. Eternal rest grant unto him, 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: 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

March 3, 2024

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income	
Needed each week:	\$ 10,750.00
Last week's Envelope Contribution Income:	\$ 3,785.00
Last week's ACH Contribution Income:	\$ 787.00
Last week's offertory income:	\$ 497.25

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. "We are truly his handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus to lead the life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance."

40 Items—40 Days Lenten Challenge Each day of Lent, remove one gently used item from your house, 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).**

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>

Card Party March 11, 1:30 p.m., Notre Dame Church Hall.

Catholic School Board will meet on Wed., March 13, 7:00 p.m., Joseph Room.

Notre Dame Youth Group St. Patrick Day Celebration! Sun., March 17, all youth in grades 5-12 are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, games, and food in the parish hall from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. There is no cost to attend and this is not a class session. Contact Brian McGee for more information at b.mcgee@dbqarch.org

St. Bridget, Bluffton St. Patrick's Celebration on Sat., March 16. Mass at 7:00 p.m. followed by a dance in the hall.

Wee Families will meet on Sun., March 17, 4:30 p.m. Notre Dame Church. Short and sweet faith formation for young families. Ideal for children ages 1-5. Milk and cookies following.

Into the Deep will meet on Sun., March 17, 7:00 p.m. Notre Dame Church. This month's theme: "What happens when I die?"

Noodle Making for Notre Dame Food Stand at the Howard Co. Fair will be done April 6, 8:00 a.m. and April 7 at 9:00 a.m. Notre Dame Church Hall. Please call the parish office to volunteer. Thank you!

Save the Date! Grandparents' Bingo! The Notre Dame Family Ministry Committee would like to invite all grandparents and grandchildren to join us for Grandparents' Bingo on Saturday, April 13th from 2:15-3:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome!

Providing Help & Creating Hope: Did you know that Catholic Charities is the largest provider of social services in the U.S., second only to the federal government? There are approximately 160 Catholic Charities agencies across the U.S., all working independently to reduce poverty and help the most poor and vulnerable among us. Your local Catholic Charities agency offers life-changing ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque, including Mental Health Counseling, Affordable Housing, Immigration Legal Services, Jail & Prison Reentry Services, Case Management, Post-Adoption Search and Crisis Pregnancy Counseling. Learn more about these services at: <http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org/annualappeal>

Memorials/Bequests 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.

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 make prayer shawls.

We welcome Nova Violette Rodemaker, daughter of Kayla Reinhart; **Oliver Hugo Ashbacher**, son of Aaron and Candice Ashbacher; and **Chase Alexander Holmstrom**, son of Alexander and Kaitlin Homstrom, who were baptized at Notre Dame on the weekend of March 2-3.



Save the Date! Trivia Night 2 Friday, April 26, 6:30—8:30 p.m., Notre Dame Parish Hall. Teams must have a minimum of 4 players and a maximum of 8 players. Fee: \$20 per team. Doubles and mulligans available for \$5 apiece. Bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. All proceeds will benefit the Notre Dame Youth Ministry Program. Sign up on the parish website or contact b.mcgee@dbqarch.org for more information.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule for April through September is available on the parish website. If we do not have an email address for you or if you have asked for a paper copy, there is a copy with your name on it in the front entrance of the church. If you would like to serve as a liturgical minister, please contact the parish office. Thank you to all who share their time and talent with Notre Dame Parish.

Take a virtual tour of Notre Dame Church led by Fr. Jacob and Fr. Tony Kruse. See link on parish website and Facebook.

VFW Breakfast will be served March 17 8:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall, Cresco. Free will offering. Donations to Roof Fund appreciated. Sponsored by VFW Post and Auxiliary 4561.

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>

Growing Families Meal Ministry—Is your family growing by two feet? This ministry will coordinate volunteers and growing families to provide six meals for the family throughout the first two weeks of being home. You can sign-up by calling the Parish Office 563 547-3565, or email b.mcgee@dbqarch.org.

Waucoma Vendor Show to be held Sunday March 10 from 9 to 2 at the Waucoma Event Center.

St. Bernard's Church, Alta Vista Municipal Hall St. Patrick's 38th Drive thru Supper on Sun., March 10 from 3:00—6:00 p.m.

Spring Card Party Sunday March 10th at 1:30 p.m. in the Assumption Catholic Church basement, Little Turkey, IA. Admission is \$5 and includes lunch. Everyone is welcome!

KCs Spring Dinner Sun., March 17, 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m., St. Benedict Church, Decorah serving Yankee Pot Roast Dinner. Adults \$15; ages 6-12 \$8.00; 5 and under free. Dine in or carry out.

Protivin Legion Post 605 Fish Fry at McAllister's in Cresco on Good Friday, March 29 serving 4—8 p.m. \$16. 3 pc. Cod, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, asst. salads and desserts, roll, butter, beverage, extra drink. Auxiliary bake sale at same time.

Protivin Knights of Columbus Auction March 24, 10:30 a.m., Protivin Community Center. Proceeds go to Vocations and Special Needs.

The Father greets with open arms all who come to him repentant of their sins.



ARCHDIOCESE
of DUBUQUE

28TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 16, 2024

NOTRE DAME PARISH
VIRTUAL HOST SITE

9AM-1:30PM | \$20/PERSON

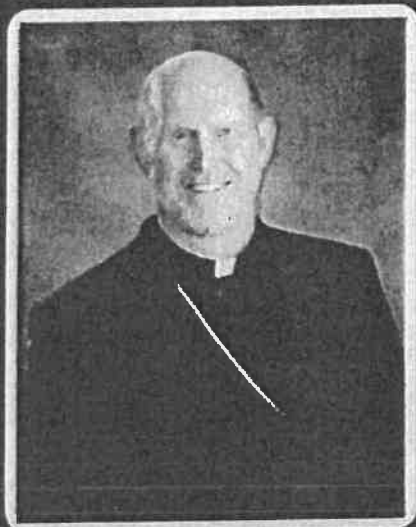
Join us in the parish hall for all or part of the day. If you are unable to attend in person for all/any of the day but still want access to the recording/live-stream, register and receive log-in information.



Contact Melanie Vobr for more information.
563-547-3565 | m.vobr@dbqarch.org

<https://notredamecresco.com/mens-confere>

**Archbishop
Thomas Zinkula**
Archbishop of
Dubuque



**Mass Celebrant
and Homilist**



John Edwards
Keynote Speaker

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Food | Drinks | Community | Follow-Up Recordings

Notre Dame Youth Group St. Patrick's Day Celebration!

Sunday, March 17th, All youth in grades 5-12 are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, games, and food in the Parish Hall from 11:30 AM-1:00 PM.

There is no cost to attend and this is
NOT a class session!

Contact Brian McGee for more information at
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March 17, 2024

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