

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
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Coordinator of Family & Youth Ministry
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LeRoy Webb, Pastoral Minister
Katie Schmitt, Principal
563 547-4513
School Website: [https://
sites.google.com/nd.pvt.k12.ia.us/
ndschooll/home?authuser=0](https://sites.google.com/nd.pvt.k12.ia.us/ndschooll/home?authuser=0)

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.

April 7, 2024

Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31

We love pleasant surprises. There may be times when we act embarrassed as when friends throw a really big surprise birthday or anniversary party for us. But having positive surprises in our life give us life.

No people were more surprised than the followers of Jesus—first to find an empty tomb, then to have him appear to them. I think it's hard for us who are 2000 years removed from those events to feel the impact of the surprise—the shock, even—when Jesus suddenly came into a locked room. It's no wonder the first words from his lips were, "Peace be with you." It was, as it were, his assurance to them they were not seeing a ghost; and that he was not going to belittle or scold them.

The story told today is our story. Were we in Thomas' shoes we would just as likely be doubtful and skeptical. The news of Jesus' appearance was just "too good to be true." What is surprising as anything is how quickly Thomas admitted his fault and turned to the Lord with deep faith and trust.

The church gives us many Sundays to reflect on the surprising, amazing wonder-full story of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Each story refreshes our life in the One who gives life.

Next week's readings:

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48

Alleluia! He is risen! Alleluia!

Monday, April 8 - No Mass. Pray for vocations.

Tuesday, April 9-Mass

5:15 p.m. +Isaac Wiltgen; Marian Wiltgen

Sacristan: Ken and Maryln Shores

Wednesday, April 10-Mass

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

Music: Jed Becker

Sacristan: Jed and Joyce Becker

Thursday, April 11—School Mass

9:00 a.m. +Wilmer Hubka

Sacristan: Inez Kruse

Friday, April 12—Mass

8:00 a.m. +Ron Kreitzer

Sacristan: Sherry Sherfy/Stan and Connie Kepros

Saturday, April 13

9:30—11:00 a.m. Visitation for Vi Roman in church

11:00 a.m. Funeral for Vi Roman

4:00 p.m. +Jodi Kappes

EMHCs: Duane Heit, Lisa Kimball, Vicki McGee

Lector: Duane Heit

Servers: Cora Johnson, Axton Langreck

Music: Pam Daley, Wendy Schatz

Greeters: Grace Lienhard, Rita Shea

Hosts: Bootie Kapler, Barb Prochaska

Ushers: Jim Murphy, Adam, Aidan and Awnan Skoda

Sacristan: Carol Stoker and Mindy Jones

Sunday, April 14—Mass

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

EMHCs: Boyd Turnbull, Barb Martinek, Connie Sindelar

Lectors: Bill and Connie Sindelar

Servers: Claire and Cora Kach

Music: Katie Ferrie, Wendy Schatz

Greeters: Kenny and Jeri Andera

Hosts: Kenny and Jeri Andera

Ushers: Alisha Carolan, Nick and Ava Ferrie, Ken Hruska

Sacristan: Bill and Connie Sindelar

10:00 a.m. +Tom Kleve

EMHCs: Jed and Joyce Becker, Sue Runyan

Lectors: Tracy Hart, Sue Runyan

Servers: Carley and Danny Kapler, Charlie Klimesh

Music: Joe Wacha, Wendy Schatz

Greeters: Audrey Hyke, Jerry Wilson

Hosts: Jerry and Wanda Reicks

Ushers: Don and Kris Dietzenbach, Jerry and Wanda Reicks

Sacristan: Sheila Slifka

Give thanks to the Lord for his is good, his love is everlasting.

Candidates are needed for Notre Dame Pastoral Council and Notre Dame Catholic School Board. If you are willing to offer your time and talent on these committees, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

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

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, Plantpeddlar and Kwik Star.)

Cards available at parish office and church **April 6-7.**

In Memory

Mary Jane Hudson Sanctuary Candle

Ed and Joyce Barloon Altar Bread

Karen Hageman Missalettes (April)

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 Grinhaug	Ken Hruska
Matt Duerre	Axel Heller
Roger Malli	Ron Scanlan
Raymond Beachy	Camilla Schmitt

Our sympathy. . .

*Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of **Elsie Busta; Shirley Rethamel; Viola Roman;***

***Dennis Gerleman**, brother of Elizabeth Gerleman and Mary Ann Neuzil; and **Gary Ryant**, brother of Frank Ryant and Pat Pinter. 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: 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 31, 2024

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income	
Needed each week:	\$ 10,750.00
Last week's Envelope Contribution Income:	\$ 3,224.00
Last week's ACH Contribution Income:	\$ 5,359.00
Last week's offertory income:	\$ 1,403.56
Easter:	\$ 7,235.00

The Christian community described in Acts understood and practiced total stewardship. St. Paul reports that the believers did not claim anything as their own, but held everything in common, and distributed to each whatever was needed.

Divine Mercy Sunday April 7. All are invited to join us in the Parish Hall from 2:30—3:00 p.m. for Divine Mercy (Ice Cream) Sundaes! Following, at 3:00 p.m., there will be the parish Divine Mercy service with adoration, praying of the chaplet, reflection and Reconciliation. The parish hall will remain open with overflow audio and cameras turned on so families can remain downstairs if they would like but everyone is welcome to attend the service in the church.

Card Party on Mon., April 8, 1:30 p.m., Notre Dame Church Hall.

Notre Dame School K-2 Spring Concert will be held on Mon., April 8, 6:30 p.m., Cresco Theatre.

Finance Council will meet on Tues., April 9, 7:00 p.m., Joseph Room.

Catholic School Board will meet on Wed., April 10, 7:00 p.m., Joseph Room.

Confirmation Practice will be held on Sun., April 14, 9:00 a.m., in the church.

April Youth Gathering! All students in grades 5-12 are invited to the Notre Dame Church Hall on April 21st from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. for food, games and fun. Participants are free to come and go and are not obligated to stay for the entire event. Non-parishioners welcome!

Noodle Making Thank you to everyone who helped with noodle making this weekend! It is greatly appreciated!

EASTER SERIES 2024 Join us in the Church from 7-8pm on Thursdays April 11, 18, 25, May 2 and 9. This year's series presented by Father Jacob and Melanie Vobr will focus on prayer! What is it? Why should I pray? Does God even listen? There are so many questions about this practice that seems so one-sided. We can see God working all around us, often because someone is on their knees in prayer. Through this Easter Series, we will learn about the traditions, forms, and disciplines of prayer. Prayer can and does change us and allows us to communicate with our Father and discover how his overflowing love is always active in our lives. *April 11 topic: "Prayer and Scripture"*

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

Eucharistic Pilgrimage Event in Waterloo - April 21, 2024 Please plan to attend the Eucharistic Pilgrimage Event at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Waterloo! All are welcome! The event will include: 1:00 PM Reconciliation & Eucharistic Adoration 2:00 PM Celebration of Holy Mass (Fulfills the Sunday Obligation) 3:00 PM Thanksgiving Eucharistic Adoration The afternoon will conclude with a social and light refreshments More information can be found at www.dbqarch.org/eucharistic-pilgrimage. Seating is limited for this free event. Please RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/NWJDFEjvp2RAhCS98>. This event is sponsored by Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW).

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 Rosaries. If you would like to help with this ministry, contact the parish office.

We welcome David Godman; Riley McCarville; and Jacob Zobeck who were received into the Church on March 30; and **Callen Ray Meirick**, son of Greg and Nicole Meirick, who was baptized on March 31.

We welcome Riley McCarville and Jacob Zobeck who joined Notre Dame Parish in March. If you are new to the area or have graduated from high school and have not registered in a parish, please contact the parish office to join Notre Dame Parish

Rosary Program - Our Lady (*Notre Dame*) is asking each of us to pray the rosary every day. The rosary is so powerful, and carries with it so many graces. 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. Monthly totals will be published in the bulletin. **Rosaries prayed in March: 852.** *Notre Dame, pray for us!*

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.

Baccalaureate 2024 will be held on Sun., May 5 at the 10:00 mass with brunch to follow. If you are a parishioner and a senior in high school and did not receive an invitation to Baccalaureate, please contact the parish office.

Cresco Area Blood Drive at the United Methodist Church on Thurs., April 11, 12:00—5:00 p.m. To make an appointment please call Pat at 563 547-5839. Appointments preferred. You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass for more information. Make an impact—give blood 4/8-4/28 for a \$10 gift card by email to a merchant of choice.

Everybody Hurts Non Profit Presents Run, Walk & Ride 5K Run Friday, April 26 at Mikkelson Park in New Hampton. Free will meal, silent auction and speaker. Registration opens at 4:30 p.m., race at 6:00 p.m., Shelters 2 & 5. Early registration \$25/after April 8 \$35. See facebook.com/EverybodyHurtsCCIA

Maifest at Pivo: Sponsored by Pivo Brewery and the German-American Museum of St, Lucas. Saturday, May 4th. Open at 11:00 am. Dinner served beginning at noon: Pork Loin/Turkey Casserole, Hot German Potato Salad and fixings. Free Music from 1:00 to 4:00

To pray so as to grow and become more like Christ is the challenge of every Christian. To spread the gospel message of Christ in its fullness is the mission that accompanies baptism.

You cannot give what you do not have. God is calling you to turn on the tap of your spiritual life. Not full blast, but just to a steady drip. If you put a bucket under a dripping tap eventually it will fill and once it is full it has to overflow. There is nowhere else for the water to go. The tap is our interior lives. The drops of water are the peace, joy, love and happiness that are the fruits of prayer. The bucket is our hearts and souls.

Drop by drop, through prayer and the sacraments, we are filled with this peace, joy, love and happiness and once full we too will overflow. It is then that every place we go, every person we are with, begins to benefit from the overflowing of this peace, joy, love and happiness, that we allow to flow from Christ through our words, actions, and even by our mere presence.

When we love God, the conversion of society and the people around us will not be premeditated, it will be natural.

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