



Christ in the Wilderness by Ivan Kramskoi 1872

**March 9, 2025**

***First Sunday of Lent***

Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

*Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.*

After his baptism by John, Jesus was led from the Jordan by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days. We hear then that it was the Holy Spirit who was guiding and accompanying Jesus, providing all the positive support for his person that we would hope that God would give, but at the same time we hear that there was some force of evil, communicated in the figure of the devil, that was pulling him in a more rebellious direction. Jesus is portrayed in this episode for 40 days in the Judean desert as one who wrestles with the same temptations with which we humans typically wrestle. He would have been tempted to take the spiritedness within him and turn it inward in a way that would be contrary to the divine plan. This episode tells us that these temptations are going to arise simply because of our humanity. Fasting has its place, but so does feasting. How do we find the right middle point where we are using God's gifts as God intended? This necessity of discerning and making good judgments arises not only in serious events but also in quiet daily ones. We hope to find that "sweet spot" where balance comes into our daily lives and into our persons.

The reading from the book of Deuteronomy talks about the expectation that the Israelites take the first-fruits of their harvest and bring them to the sanctuary and offer them to God the Gift-Giver. This offering of thanksgiving is a recognition that all that we have—even our individual lives—is a gift from God. This attitude puts us in the right place to assess the ways we are to use our energies.

As we move into the season of Lent, we are alerted to the fact that the forms of discipline put before us—fasting, prayer, and charity toward others—are ways of acting that aim to bring us back into right relationship with God the Gift-Giver, which in turn will move us toward right relationship with our neighbors and ourselves.

*-Dale Lauderdale, OSB*

Next Week's Readings:

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36

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School Website:

[www.tinyurl.com/ndcschool](http://www.tinyurl.com/ndcschool)

# MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday, Mar. 10 | No Mass**  
+Pray for Sacred Marriages

**Tuesday, Mar. 11 | Mass**  
5:15 p.m. +Don Gebel  
Sacristan: Sherry Sherfy

**Wednesday, Mar. 12 | Mass**  
9:00 a.m. +Michaelen and Darrell Riehle  
Sacristan: Jerry & Barb O'Donnell  
Music: Jed Becker

**Thursday, Mar. 13 | Mass**  
9:00 a.m. +Tom Herold and John Gosch  
Sacristan: Joyce Jirak

**Friday, Mar. 14 | Mass**  
8:00 a.m. +Robert, Rita, Gary, and Becky  
McCabe  
Sacristan: Donna Ryant

**Saturday, Mar. 15 | Mass**  
4:00 p.m. +Leonard and Viola Ferrie;  
Helen Graves; Norma Cutsforth  
EMHCs: Don and Kris Dietzenbach  
Lectors: Brian and Michelle Midthun  
Servers: Luke Fisk, Emeryn Teeling, Ada  
and Teddy Munkel  
Music: Good News Singers  
Greeters: Jim and Val Rink  
Hosts: Finnegan Donlan, Caleb Holzer,  
Nathan Mahr  
Ushers: Dave, Robin, and Cody Sobolik;  
Jim Murphy  
Sacristan: Brian McGee

**Sunday, Mar. 16 | Mass**  
8:00 a.m. +Joyce Scharnweber  
EMHCs: Frank and Donna Ryant, Patti  
Guyer  
Lectors: Roger Kleve, Ken Hubka  
Servers: Cora Kach, Cali Schwickerath  
Music: LuAnn McCormick, Jamie Fisk  
Greeters: Mike and Rachel Gooder  
Hosts: Mike and Rachel Gooder  
Ushers: Jordan Guyer, Dick Jones, David  
and Shannon Andera  
Sacristan: Frank and Donna Ryant

**Sunday, Mar. 16 | Mass**  
10:00 a.m. +Vern Walker  
EMHCs: Jerry O'Donnell, Sue Runyan,  
Jodi Dull  
Lectors: Jerry and Barb O'Donnell  
Servers: Marian and Claire Elsbernd  
Music: Joe Wacha, Polly Jones  
Greeters: Jim and Val Rink  
Hosts: Brad and Jodi Dull  
Ushers: Brad and Jodi Dull, Matt Daley  
Family  
Sacristan: Jerry and Barb O'Donnell



**Bread: Tom Kleve**  
**Missalettes: Elsie Busta and Joe Busta Jr.**  
**Wine: For the People**

## Stewardship of Prayer

Please pray for the sick of our parish, including the following and those listed in the Book of Petitions.

|                 |               |                 |            |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| CONNIE FRANA    | MATT DUERRE   | JERRY SMITH     | TONY WICKS |
| JODENE VAN DYKE | JOYCE KAPLER  | BETTE SULLIVAN  |            |
| ETHAN PEPERA    | DEB WILKINS   | BRENT NEWMAN    |            |
| LISA PETER      | DIANE KOVARIK | KENNY HRUSKA    |            |
| CLARE STEJSKAL  | CHARLENE RYAN | DENNY PENTECOST |            |
| STU GORDON      | PAULA GROWDEN | MALISSA KAPPES  |            |

## Lenten Prayer Practice

*Breathe in the Spirit and breathe out the world as you say these short prayers:*

**March 10 -**

**Breathe In:** *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*

**Breathe Out:** *As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**March 11-**

**Breathe In:** *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,*

**Breathe Out:** *have mercy on me a sinner.*

**March 12-**

**Breathe In:** *I do believe,*

**Breathe Out:** *help me overcome my unbelief.*

**March 13-**

**Breathe In:** *Be strong and take heart,*

**Breathe Out:** *wait for the Lord.*

**March 14-**

**Breathe In:** *Make Your face shine on us,*

**Breathe Out:** *and we shall be saved.*

## Save the Date

CIRCLES OF FAITH MEETING

March 17th at 5:30 p.m.  
Parish Hall

If you are a chairperson of a committee or circle, please plan to attend this meeting.  
*St. Patrick's Day refreshments will be provided.*

## Stewardship of Offering

MARCH 2, 2025

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income |              |
| Needed each week:                                | \$ 10,827.00 |
| Last week's Envelope Contribution Income:        | \$ 4,747.50  |
| Last week's ACH Contribution Income:             | \$ 5,267.00  |
| Last week's offertory income:                    | \$ 905.00    |

*Today's first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today's Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?*

## TAKE NOTE:



### Contribution Tax Letters

If you would like a contribution letter for tax purposes, please let Mindy Jones know by calling the Parish Office (ext. 3) or emailing her at [m.jones@dbqarch.org](mailto:m.jones@dbqarch.org).

### Easter Flowers

Donations are being accepted for Easter Flowers. Please put your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" with your name and the name(s) of those you wish to remember.



### Liturgical Ministry Schedule for April - September is being made.

Email [m.vobr@dbqarch.org](mailto:m.vobr@dbqarch.org) with dates you are not available.

## Our Sympathy

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of

## Kenny Hebrink

brother-in-law of Sadie Thraenert

St. Patrick Circle

# BREAKFAST



Notre Dame Church Hall

March 30, 2025 | 8:30 a.m. - Noon

Serving:

Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Applesauce, Cookies, Juice, Coffee



Carryouts available

Free Will Donation

Notre Dame Catholic Parish  
Saint Blasé Circle

ALL YOU CAN EAT

McAllisters  
229 3rd Ave. West  
Cresco, IA 52136

# Fish Fry

## Friday, April 4th

at Heritage Event Center  
4:00 PM - 8:00PM

\$20

Ages 5-10: \$10  
Age 4 and Under: Free

Dinner includes: Cod, Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Assorted Salads, Coffee, Pop, Water

Homemade Desserts furnished by Saint Blasé Circle Members!

Take-Out available for \$20/ea.

## Coming up

**Card Party** will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 10th, in the parish hall. All are welcome to join.

**Grieving with Great Hope** begins on Tuesday, March 11th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please register using the parish website or the forms in the back of church by Monday, March 10th.

**Catholic School Board** will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12th, in the Parish Office.

**Confirmation Mass** is scheduled for March 15th at 4 p.m.

**St. Bridget Oratory** will have a Mass celebrated at 7:00 p.m. on March 15th, and a dance will be held following the Mass.

**Catholic Charities Appeal** - Did you know that Catholic Charities is the largest provider of social services in the United States, second only to the federal government? There are approximately 160 Catholic Charities agencies across the United States, 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 [www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org).

## FIND YOUR ADVENTURE Vocations Fair



Notre Dame Parish Hall

223 2nd Ave E. Cresco

March 23rd

9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Loading ...

## In the Community

**Public Card Parties** are held at Kessel Lodge each Tuesday and Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. On Tuesdays they play 500 and on Wednesdays they play Euchre. All are welcome to attend.

**Lidtko Mill Bingo** every Monday night at Family, Fun, + Fitness Center (411 N. Miller St, Lime Springs) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. Food available to purchase. Proceeds donated to six organizations in the Lime Springs area!

**VFW Breakfast** held every 3rd Sunday at the VFW Hall serving from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Menu includes regular, blueberry, and chocolate chip pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, and beverage. Donations to the "Roof Fund" are appreciated. Upcoming dates are: March 16, April 13 (not Easter), and May 18th.

**St. Bernard's Annual Pork Chop Supper** will be held on Sun., Mar. 16th from 3-6 p.m. Drive thru only at the Alta Vista Municipal Hall. Menu includes: grilled pork chop, dressing, corn, potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, pie. Adults and children tickets are \$16 in advance and \$17 the day of. Tickets can be purchased from parishioners or at New Hampton Fareway, AV Express, Alta Vista Security State Bank, NH & Elma. Raffle tickets are also available. Raffle is sponsored by Catholic Order of Foresters St. Joseph's Court #878.

**"Best of the Best" Art and Writing Show & Omelet Breakfast** will be held on Mar. 30th from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at Protivin Community Center. Serving create your own omelet with ham, cheese, onions, green peppers or mushrooms. Breakfast includes: rolls, toast, juice, coffee and milk. Adults \$10, Ages 6-12 \$7, Ages 5 & under are free. Proceeds to Trinity Catholic School Boosters.

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