

## Catholic Parishes of the Emmaus Pastorate

St. Patrick  
708 Delaware  
Colesburg, IA 52035  
PO Box 365  
Edgewood, IA 52042  
563-928-7200

St. Mark  
203 S Locust  
PO Box 365  
Edgewood, IA 52042  
563-928-7200

St. Mary  
314 W Mission  
PO Box 437  
Strawberry Pt, IA 52076  
563-933-6166

St. Joseph  
330 1st St SW  
PO Box 626  
Elkader, IA 52043  
563-245-2548

Sacred Heart  
306 White  
PO Box 135  
Volga, IA 52077  
563-928-7200

### March 29, 2020 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

#### Weekly Readings for Week of March 30

##### Monday, March 23

**Rdgs:** Dn 13:1-62; Ps 23; Jn 8:1-11

##### Tuesday, March 31

**Rdgs:** Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102; Jn 8:21-30

##### Wednesday, April 1

**Rdgs:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-95; Dn 3:52-56;  
Jn 8:31-42

##### Thursday, April 2

St. Francis of Paola, Hermit  
**Rdgs:** Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105; Jn 8:51-59

##### Friday, April 3

**Rdgs:** Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18; Jn 10:31-42

##### Saturday, April 4

St. Isidore, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

**Rdgs:** Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10-13;  
Jn 11:45-56

##### Sunday, April 5

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

**Rdgs:** Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22;  
Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14—27:66



Lent in the EMMAUS PASTORATE

## Important Notice

All Masses, programs, and meetings in the Emmaus Pastorate are cancelled until further notice.

Church offices are closed to the public. Please call your parish office if you need assistance or have an emergency.

St. Mark/St. Patrick/Sacred Heart—563-928-7200  
St. Mary—563-9336166  
St. Joseph—563-245-2548

*Worship  
With Us*

Mass is not “**cancelled**” but **suspended**. Please make every attempt to make weekend worship a part of your routine since there should be no distractions. This is the time for serious fasting and prayer. Being Massless is not being Faithless!

### Go to [www.vibrantcatholic.com](http://www.vibrantcatholic.com) for:

- ♦ Daily Mass with Bishop Barron
- ♦ Wednesday, Midweek Message with Father John
- ♦ Wednesday Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- ♦ Friday Rosary and Adoration, 7:00 p.m.
- ♦ Saturday Weekend Liturgy of the Word, 4:00 p.m., Father John
- ♦ Sunday Eucharist 9:00 a.m., Archbishop Jackels
- ♦ Tara and Jerry Ketoff will be hosting a small group Bible study using Zoom meetings on your phone/tablet/computer. The study began March 22, at 6:30 p.m. To sign up:
  - 1.) Send an e-mail to [taraketoff@gmail.com](mailto:taraketoff@gmail.com)
  - 2.) Instructions for setting up your free Zoom account, along with a link to the meeting, will be sent to your e-mail. You can click on this link each week at the appropriate time.

**Communications with Pastorate**—If someone you know is not getting communications from the Pastorate via Flocknote or text messages, e-mail Sandy Klaus at [dbq072bm@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq072bm@dbqarch.org) or call her at 563-543-0566 (cell)) with their name, phone number, and email. Please stay in touch with questions. We want to help!

## Salt for the Week

I’m wondering if you’re feeling like Lazarus? I mean, while it’s not quite that bad, do you feel like you’ve been in a tomb for a few days? Our familiar patterns and routines of people, places and activities have all but ceased. Families are struggling with the kids all home and even those who live alone are feeling the effects. The ripple effect of businesses closed and hours being cut are having a deadly impact on what we called our normal living... And, like both Mary and Martha in the gospel, we wonder about Jesus’ presence...

But it is precisely Jesus that is the answer—but it depends whether or not we have a “tomb-view” of the vision of Christ. Now Lazarus was placed in the tomb, whereas most of us place ourselves in a tomb... Tombs of despair and dead-end thinking wear us down and are not life-giving. We start to get short with each other, negative and overly fearful—all of which takes us deeper into the tomb and it’s darkness. And Martha reminds us “there will be a stench!”

What to do? Christ calls each of us out by name—out of our darkness and fears. Faith and our daily prayer and devotions help to untie us and let us go forward. And while it is a time for “social distancing” it is not a time for isolationism. Being “Mass-less” is not faithless! Ask Christ to change your perspective, that your vision not be a “tomb with a view” but rather, a view of the hope and power of the resurrection. His spirit is dwelling in us. He will open our self-imposed graves and raise us up, calling each of us by name. That’s a vision you can depend on.

*Fr. John*



### Gospel & Homily Reflections March 29—Fifth Sunday of Lent

- ♦ How would you respond with someone coming out of a grave at a cemetery? Why?
- ♦ How do we know Jesus really loved Lazarus?
- ♦ Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb to new life—in what ways does Jesus call us out? Of what? Into what?
- ♦ A tomb/grave is a place of death. What are places of death in our lives?
- ♦ How can “2020” vision get us out of our graves?
- ♦ Jesus said: “Untie him and let him go.” How does Jesus untie us? Do we have the vision to see what holds us bound?

**Abstaining from Meat**—The Catholic faithful in the Archdiocese of Dubuque are **dispensed from the obligation to abstain from meat on Friday, April 3**. This dispensation does not apply to Good Friday, April 10. This dispensation is granted in view of the difficulty people might have in finding meal alternatives to meat, or to go out for grocery shopping.

**2020 Prayer for Lent**

“Be thou my vision.”  
O Lord, that’s easy to say,  
but much more challenging to live.

“Be thou my vision.”  
But at times there are things I  
do not want to see:  
those who look, think, pray  
or live differently than I do  
the issues, people, conflicts  
that I would rather avoid  
and the sins, inconsistencies  
and failings in myself.  
These are easier NOT to see.

“Be thou my vision”  
Lord Jesus, you know all and see all.  
You know me and still love me.  
You see all my sins and blind spots  
and still forgive me.  
In these Lenten days,  
deepen my faith to see as you see.  
Enlarge my heart to love as you love.  
Strengthen my hands to do  
as you would have me do.

“Be thou my vision.”  
May your vision be my vision.  
AMEN.

Haugen, 2020

***Our Sympathy and Prayers to~***

- ♦ *Tom and Lori Bunting on the death of Tom’s mother Velma Bunting, who passed away on March 20 in Edgewood..*

**An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**Prayer for Medical and Emergency Personnel—**

Please be with all of the emergency responders, doctors and nurses who are exposing their own health to save others. Protect them from exposure, both physical and emotional. Guide their hands and give them wisdom. Protect their families as they spend extended time away from home. Amen

**Pastorate Tithing**—During the pandemic, we will be “gathering” in non-physical ways via phone or online options. During this time, your continued commitment in making offerings and generosity with financial gifts will make it possible for us to keep doing ministry together and will be welcomed through the mail, direct deposits through your bank, or other online banking options. Call your local bank to make arrangements. Mailing addresses for the Pastorate parishes are as follows:  
St. Mark/St. Patrick; PO Box 365, Edgewood, 52042  
St. Mary; PO Box 437, Strawberry Point, 52076  
St. Joseph; PO Box 636, Elkader, 52043  
Sacred Heart; PO Box 135, Volga 52077

**COVID-19 HOPE 2020**—As the number of deaths and infections increase, are you feeling more fearful and discouraged? What are things we can do to overcome our fear? There are three theological virtues, faith, hope and love. These virtues are infused in our soul by God to help believers live as God’s children and merit eternal life. We touched on Faith last week and look at Hope today.

Do you know the story of our pastorate name, Emmaus? Pull out your Bible and read Luke 24:13-35. Cleophas and his wife are walking on the road to a village, Emmaus, near Jerusalem. A man joins them and they share the last few days with Him, Jesus was crucified, died and was buried. They are fearful for their lives. Their hope was in Jesus. When they arrive home, they invite the man into their home. After dinner, He took the bread, blessed it, broke it and handed it to them. Their eyes were opened and they knew it was Jesus. Their hearts were burning as He walked with them.

Jesus is walking with us. God placed a search for happiness into our hearts. Hope responds to this desire. It frees us from our discouragement and leads us to happiness. Through hope we seek heaven, place our trust in Christ and rely on the Holy Spirit. Jesus proclaims hope through the beatitudes, proclaiming that those who suffer trials on earth are blessed in heaven. You might want to check them out in Matthew 5:3-1. The church prays for “all people to be saved” (1 Tim 2:4). “Hope O my soul, hope. Watch carefully. Dream that the more you struggle, the more you will rejoice one day with your Beloved.” (St. Teresa of Avila).

**Please Pray for~**

Father Richard Gaul  
Cyrilla Haugen  
**St. Mary**  
Pat Farmer  
Karen Nemecek  
LaVerne Lentz  
**St. Joseph**  
Jean Dougherty  
Abby Folsom  
Ruth & Don Hamilton  
Jerry Kessler  
Shelley Long  
Kathy Pfeiffer  
Sherry Westemeier

**Sacred Heart**  
Patti Dillon  
Jerry O’Brien  
Jill Sparrgrove  
**St. Mark**  
Steve Brown  
Bob Fishel  
Zach Fisher  
Rosie Helle  
Tryce Sperflage  
Joe Weigel  
Tiny Weigel  
James Willenbring