

# 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](http://notredamecresco.com)

Jodi Dull, Business Manager  
Connie Frana, Office Manager  
Melanie Vobr,  
Coordinator of Faith Formation  
LeRoy Webb, Pastoral Minister  
Katie Schmitt, Principal  
563 547-4513

School Website:  
[www.ndcschool.weebly.com](http://www.ndcschool.weebly.com)

### *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 3, 2021**, 7:00 p.m. (*Note date is subject to change*).

**Reconciliation** Saturday 3:15—3:50 p.m.; Sunday 9:15—9:50 a.m. or contact the parish office or email Fr. Jacob at: [dbqrouse@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbqrouse@dbqarch.org) 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 14, 2021**

**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 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*

Place all your needs in God, your refuge.

Fr. Jacob will continue to live stream all weekday and weekend masses on his YouTube.

You can access it by logging into our parish website:  
[notredamecresco.com](http://notredamecresco.com)

scroll down on the home page and click on the YouTube icon  
Please keep in mind that the Archbishop has continued the dispensation from attendance at mass until further notice so if you have any concern (including age, health, etc.) about attending mass in church, please stay home!

**Monday, March 15 No Mass**

Pray for everyone affected by Covid.

**Tuesday, March 16 Mass in church and livestreamed**

Rosary at 4:55 p.m.

**5:15 p. m. +John Reiss**

**5:45 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Jed Becker)**

**Wednesday, March 17 Mass in church and livestreamed**

**8:00 a.m. +Agnes McGee**

**Thursday, March 18- School Mass**

School personnel and students only in church.

*Public is invited to watch the livestream*

**9:00 a.m. +Jenna Simon**

**Friday, March 19 –Mass in church and livestreamed**

**8:00 a.m. +James and Pat Fisher**

**Saturday, March 20- Mass in church and livestreamed**

**4:00 p.m. +Ireaneus and Catherine Moellers**

**EMs:** Margaret Ward, Marcie Huhe, Lisa Kimball

**Lector:** Ethan Rice

**Servers:** Cody Sobolik, Awnan Skoda

**Music:** Pam Daley, Deb Moellers

**Ushers:** Dave and Robin Sobolik, Adam and Aidan Skoda

**Sunday, March 21- Mass in church and livestreamed**

**8:00 a.m. +Monica Reicks**

**EMs:** Wayne and Kelly Mashek, Jim Truka

**Lector:** Jim Truka

**Servers:** Claire Kach, Mason Regan

**Music:** Carol Foley, Deb Moellers

**Ushers:** Art Schwarzhoff, Warren Steffen, Ken Hubka  
Cody Kerian

**10:00 a.m. Mass in church and livestreamed**

+Dec'd members of J.B. "Bud" and Phyllis Mullen Family

**EMs:** Tom and Connie Frana, Tracy Hart

**Lector:** Tracy Hart

**Servers:** Hadley Riehle, Noah Dietzenbach

**Music:** Joe Wacha, Deb Moellers

**Ushers:** Don and Kris Dietzenbach Family

*These should never be given up for Lent:  
Faith, Hope and Love.*

**Decorah Deanery ACCW Stations of the Cross** by Msgr.

Cletus Hawes, along with Fr. Sean Smith. See link below or available under the ACCW heading on the Dubuque Archdiocesan website, : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjhzCrqfzcg>

**Easter Flowers** If you would like to donate towards Easter flowers, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" with you name and the name(s) of those you would like remembered. Thank you.

**Reverse Collection** was held on the last weekend. Remember to return the item to church to be donated to the local food pantry.

### In Memory

Joe and Peggy Rouchka Sanctuary Candle

Dale Webb Altar Bread

John Gosch Altar Wine

Arkie and Joan 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
Dorothy Barnes	Debra Winsell
Steve McCarville	Tom McGee
Arlene Kuennen	Bill Rink
Marian Wiltgen	Lori Schmitt
Leona Herold	Bill Smith
Pat Smith	Randy Smith
Paula Growden	Cole Christopher
Bob Stoker	Nancy Pecinovskiy
Monica McGee Newman	Liz Yount
Lavon Hyberger	Jim Dietzenbach
Don Neubauer	Al Reicks

*We clear the prayer list quarterly. Please contact the office at that time to have a name put on again if desired.*

*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 sufficiently 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: [DBQ047S@dbqarch.org](mailto:DBQ047S@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 7, 2021**

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income

Needed each week:	\$10,923.00
Last week's Envelope Contribution Income:	\$ 5,452.00
Last week's ACH Contribution Income:	\$ 696.00
Last week's offertory income:	\$ 282.00

*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."*

**Catholic Charities Asks You to Help** Did you know that Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque holds no government contracts for funding, as compared to similar agencies across the U.S., which rely on budgets comprised of two-thirds public funding. This makes your contribution to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal all the more critical! Support this important work, and much more with your gift. Learn more at [www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org)

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule:** There is a liturgical schedule for the months of March and April available on the parish website. *If you are willing to serve as an EM, Usher, Lector, Server or Musician during the upcoming months, please contact the parish office, 563 547-3565*

**Circles of Faith** will meet on Mon., March 15, 5:30 p.m., Notre Dame Church Hall.

**Knights of Columbus** will meet on Tues., March 16, 7:00 p.m., KC Room.

**Faith Formation Commission** will meet on Thurs., March 18, 5:30 p.m. Joseph Room.

**"Jungle Book Fair"** from March 13 - 18 Notre Dame School Saturday, March 13 - after 4:00p.m. Mass; Sunday, March 14 - after 8:00 & 10:00 o'clock Masses; Monday, March 15 - 8:15 a.m.—8:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 16 - 8:15 a.m. - 8:00p.m.; Wednesday, March 17 8:15 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Thursday, March 18 - 8:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please wear your mask.

**Custodian Position Available** Full time custodial position available at Notre Dame. For more information, contact the parish office, 563 547-3565.

**Knights of Columbus:** Every knight joins for a reason whether to grow in faith, to serve our communities or to protect those most in need. There is much work to be done in our world. Faith and Service are the reasons Knights of Columbus exists. We invite you to join us putting our Faith in Action. Visit [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) now till June 30th for free online. Use promo code McGivney2020.

**Knights of Columbus:** Catholic men come join us March 21st after the 10:00 a.m. mass for the Exemplification into the Knights of Columbus. 1st Degrees with this Exemplification receive 3rd Degree status.

**The Dubuque Franciscan Sister Water Project (SWP) Committee** Invites Participants to "Walk for Sister Water" from March 12 - March 22 (World Water Day) to raise awareness of global water issues and raise funds for SWP. 1. Dedicate time (March 12-22) to walk 5K (3.1 miles). While you walk, consider this is the distance some people have to walk daily for clean water. 2. From March 12-22, follow the Sisters of St. Francis on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/dubuquefranciscans/>) and Twitter (@DBQFranciscans) to see why others are walking and how villagers in Honduras and Tanzania have been helped by the Sister Water Project. Take photos of yourself walking and post on social media with #WalkForSisterWater or email to [communications@osfdbq.org](mailto:communications@osfdbq.org) 3. After your walk, consider making a donation to the Sister Water Project at 3390 Windsor Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 or online at <https://www.osfdbq.org/swpdonate>. For more information, contact Sister Maureen Leach at (563) 583-9786/ [leach@osfdbq.org](mailto:leach@osfdbq.org)

**CASA Volunteers Needed:** Spread the love by volunteering with children in your local area who need extra support. For more information about becoming a Court Appointed Support Advocate, email [kerry.brennan@dia.iowa.gov](mailto:kerry.brennan@dia.iowa.gov)

**Notre Dame Preschool registration** has started for the 2021-2022 school year. Preschool is for children 4 years old by September 15. We have two sessions available M,T,Th, F AM 8:10-11:10 or M,T,Th, F PM 12:10-3:10 free of charge. You can also add a 5th Day session Wed. 8:10-11:10 for \$48/mon. A registration form can be found on the school website : [www.ndcschool.weebly.com](http://www.ndcschool.weebly.com) or call 563-547-4513

### **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 the Baptismal Bibs.*

**Food for Thought** Join Father Jacob on March 17th at 6:15 pm for a journey through just the tip of the iceberg of his long list of friends...The Saints!! Our brothers and sisters who have died and gone before us and have been canonized by the Church are in Heaven praying to God for us. Learning about how their lives and how they tried to be like Jesus can inspire and help us in our quest to live holy lives and reach Heaven! Join us in the Church in person or on this livestream link and maybe you can make some new friends too! <https://tinyurl.com/fatherjacobyoutube>

**We welcome Elowyn Sue Reicks**, daughter of Taylor Reicks and Natasha Ryan, who was baptized on March 7.



### **Congratulations to our Confirmation Class:**

Landen Bergan	Kayla Burke	Kelsey Burke
Cole Butikofer	Carter Courtney	Hannah Crouch
Nathaniel Dietzenbach	Carter Drees	Drew Earles
Allison Ferrie	Britain Ferrie	Sierra Hansmeier
Domanick Henry	Drew Jackson	Grady Juelsgaard
Allison Kalvelage	Rylee Kapler	Cade Korsmo
Tara Koshatka	Joey Kriener	Dylin Kuhn
Vincent Mahr	Zachary Mehmert	Cameran Moellers
Alex Moser	Kathryn Pinter	Grace Prochaska
Mariah Regan	Ethan Rice	Riley Roberts
Hannah Schmitt	Saydey Scholbrock	
Daniel Schwickerath	Ryan Wilson	

**St. Aloysius DRIVE THRU ONLY Fish Fry** will be Friday March 19th serving from 4-7:30pm. Serving Cod Fish fried by Mike Reicks, homemade tartar sauce, coleslaw, potato salad, dinner roll, and a cookie. Tickets are \$13. There will be town deliveries to Spillville, Festina, Fort Atkinson, Ossian, and Decorah with home deliveries in Calmar. Please call 563-277-7386 to order your delivery. Dinner tickets and raffle chances sold at Klimesh Motor Sales and Fidelity Bank in Calmar. If you have any questions, contact Diane Luzum, Laura Lechtenberg, Joni Styve, Sheryl Sievert, Jadie Gehling or Jena Elsbernd

**St. Bernard's, Alta Vista Pork Chop Supper** March 14 (snow date March 21) 3:00—6:00 p.m. Drive thru. Adults \$12 advance; \$13 day of. Menu: Grilled pork chop, dressing, potatoes, gravy, green beans, coleslaw and pie. Raffle sponsored by Catholic Order of Foresters, St. Joseph's Court 878

**Drive Thru Swiss Steak Dinner**, Immaculate Conception, North Washington on March 28, 11:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m. \$12; raffles.

**VFW Breakfast** will be served March 21, 8:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall, Cresco. Free will offering. Menu: Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs and Beverage. Proceeds to be used for all local VFW Functions. Sponsored by VFW Post and Auxiliary 4561.

### **A Family Prayer for Lent**

God of love and care,

We know that Jesus came to bring us closer to You and to one another. May who we are, and what we give to others this Lent, truly help to make the world a better place.

God of reconciliation,

During Lent, teach us to be true friends of one another and especially those who are in need.

Guide us in being generous and forgiving.

May we follow faithfully, speak courageously, and live joyfully the Good News of Jesus Christ who brings peace to our world.

As we journey through the Lenten season, help us to let go of our personal wants and needs.

Help us to change our selfishness into generosity.

Turn our unkind words into gentle, thankful words.

May our thoughts and actions reveal your love.

Help us to welcome others and be a source of life-giving energy.

May we follow, speak, and live the way of Jesus Christ as we look forward to the promise of the Resurrection.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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