

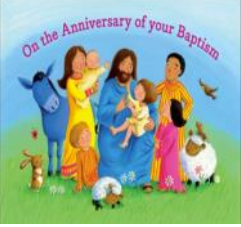


March Wedding Anniversaries  
 Mike and Shelly Wood 3/9  
 Keegan and Lindsey Porter 3/19

March Birthdays  
 Olivia Bell 3/4  
 Grace Brown 3/5  
 Aidrik Osterhaus 3/9  
 Brooke Dross 3/11  
 Alexis Dross 3/11  
 Chloe Muck 3/12  
 Arianna Sitzmann 3/12  
 Peggy Dvorak 3/15  
 Santo Miranda (3/18  
 James Webb 3/18  
 Kyle Wood 3/18  
 Bill Hill 3/21  
 Miguel Miranda 3/27  
 Joe Dvorak 3/28  
 Vince Sitzmann 3/30

**Landscaping Project Update**  
 Our project will begin this spring, exact date TBD.  
 Have you had an opportunity to support the project? If not, there's still time.  
 Please put our contribution in an envelope marked "Landscaping Project" or use the Capital Improvement envelope in your packet. Just put it in the collection basket.

March Baptismal Birthdays  
 Rylan Edgington 3/01  
 Iris Osterhaus 3/21  
 Aidrik Osterhaus 3/21  
 Olivia Bell 3/22



Join Us For a Little Irish Food and Fellowship  
 You are Invited to  
**MULLIGAN STEW**  
 Sat., March 16th  
 5:00-7:00 P.M.  
 Immaculate Conception Church  
 305 E. Howard St., Colfax  
 Meal Includes: Stew, Salad, Soda Bread, Drink, & Dessert  
 Cost: Free Will Offering  
 To Go Containers Available  
 For more information, call Karen at 315-689-0329



The Easter Bunny is planning to visit us again and leave a lot of eggs for the kids. The egg hunt will be right after Mass on Easter Sunday morning. However, Easter Bunny needs a bit of help. Donations of candy (must be individually wrapped) would be appreciated. There is a big basket in the gathering space to put them in. We'll need the candy donations by Sunday, March 17.



**Do you feel behind in filling your rice bowl? Here are some ideas...**

1. put .05 in your RB for every pair of shoes in your house
2. put \$1 in your RB for every vehicle your family owns
3. put .25 in your RB for every cell phone in your family
4. put .25 in your RB for every bed in your house
5. put .50 in your RB for every TV in your house/man or she cave
6. put .75 in your RB for every computer/tablet in your family
7. put .05 in your RB for every hot meal you've had this week

**Liturgical Ministers**  
 Sunday, March 17, 2024, 5th Sunday of Lent  
 Greeters: Dave and Liz Birkenholtz  
 Servers: Sharon Jones  
 Delilah Miranda  
 Readers: Brad Haggarty  
 Mary Dell Flattery  
 Gift Bearers: Michele Holmes, Shelbee Stier  
 EMHC: Karen VanDusseldorp  
 Irma Bell

↓

# Immaculate Conception Church of Colfax

We want to say a very special, "Thank You!" to the Hagarty family who generously donated the rose vestments we will wear on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. Thank you for your kindness!

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**Laetare Sunday**

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## Our Staff

**Reverend Ron Hodges**, Pastor, hodgesr@diodav.org  
**Deacon Joe Dvorak**, Deacon, Business Manager  
Joe\_Dvorakia@msn.com  
**Brad Hagarty, Sharon Jones**, Lay Directors  
**Lisa Bussan**, Office Manager, imcolfax@msn.com  
**Nora Borts**, Housekeeping  
**Peggy Dvorak**, Organist/Director of Music

## Our Organization Chairs

**Pastoral Council**, Tom Wilson, 720.939.2294  
**Administration & Finance Council**, Brad Hagarty  
**Parish Life**, *sede vacante*  
**Faith Formation**, contact Fr. Ron Hodges  
**Liturgy**, Sharon Jones, 515.975.8580  
**Social Action**, Tracy Spry, 515.971.2292  
**Buildings and Grounds Committee**,  
Karen VanDusseldorp, 515.669.0529  
**Altar & Rosary Society**, Peggy Dvorak, 515.490.6886

## Prayer Chain

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain or if you have something you'd like us to pray for you can:  
1) Email Deacon Joe at imcolfax@msn.com, 2) Email

## **Immaculate Conception Church of Colfax**

302 E Howard Street; Colfax, Iowa 50054  
515.674.3711

Parish E-Mail: imcolfax@msn.com  
Parish Website: immaculateconceptioncolfax.org  
Parish Facebook Page: Immaculate Conception Colfax

## Mass Schedule

Sunday 9:00 AM

**NO MASS ON MONDAY**

Tuesday—Friday 8:00 AM

Confessions by appointment, call 515-674-3711

## Baptisms and Weddings

For information concerning or to schedule a baptism or wedding contact the parish office. Weddings must be scheduled at least six months in advance.

## Religious Education

Religious Education Classes are held September through May. If you have questions please contact the parish Office at 515-674-3711.

## Bulletin Available Online

The bulletin and a calendar of events is available at our website: [www.immaculateconceptioncolfax.org](http://www.immaculateconceptioncolfax.org) and on our Facebook page.

## Announcements for Bulletin

If you have something for the bulletin, email the information to the office by noon on Thursday. imcolfax@msn.com.



**Diane Wood**  
**Carol Swift**  
**David Shepley**, son of Deloris Shepley, Cancer  
**Raegan Lester**: niece of Tracey Wilson, Cancer  
**Leland Braun**: husband of Dody Braun, Good Health  
**George Ernst**

**Jamie Coady**, cousin of Fr. Ron, cancer  
**Peggy Lester**, sister of Tracey Wilson, Cancer  
**Bruce** (Dementia) and **Mary Jo** (Continued Health) **Stephenson**,  
**Michelle Rebelsky**, friend and former parishioner of Fr. Ron, Cancer  
**Matt Bell**, son of Irma Bell, Recovery from Infection  
**Michael John Holmes**, husband of Michelle Holmes, Cancer  
**Charlene Montgomery**, mother of Lisa Bussan, suffering a fall  
**Michael John Nelson**  
**Terry Hilker**, husband of Lori Colister Hilker  
**David McDowell**, former parishioner of Fr. Ron, lymphoma  
**JoAnn Bessler**, sister of Karen VanDusseldorp, cancer  
**Jen Scheetz**, cousin of Karen VanDusseldorp, cancer  
**Suzie Hansen**, former parishioner of Fr. Ron, colon cancer  
**Baby Grace Parker**, newborn granddaughter of Ed and Kathleen Parker  
**Karen VanDusseldorp's Mother**

HELP NEEDED FOR OUR ANNUAL PARISH MULLIGAN STEW DINNER!

What Do We Need?

**WE NEED BODIES TO HELP IN THE KITCHEN, SETTING UP, DOING DISHES, CLEANING UP, MOVING TABLES**

**\*\*\*NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE NEEDED\*\*\***

**THIS IS A PARISH EVENT AND WE NEED THE ENTIRE PARISH TO HELP**

**We need the whole parish to help. Yes, that means you! Sign up in the gathering space.**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MASS INTENTIONS MARCH 10, 2024—MARCH 16, 2024

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024, LAETARE SUNDAY FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

2 CHRON. 36:14-16, 19-23 ; EPH. 2:4-10; JOHN 3:14-21  
• 9:00AM (+*PRO POPULO*)

### MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024 LENTEN WEEKDAY (4)

ISAIAH 65:17-21; JOHN 4:43-54

### TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 LENTEN WEEKDAY (4)

EZEKIEL 47:1-9, 12; JOHN 5:1-16  
• 8:00 AM (+*RICHARD ERICKSEN, BY LINDA ERICKSEN*)

### Wednesday, MARCH 13, 2024 LENTEN WEEKDAY (4)

ISAIAH 49:8-15; JOHN 5:17-30  
• 8:00 AM (+*MIKE BELL BY IRMA BELL*)

### THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024 LENTEN WEEKDAY (4)

EZEKIAL 32:7-14; JOHN 5:31-47  
• 8:00 AM (+*MAGGIE CLARK, BY MARY JO HOSTETTER*)

### FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024 LENTEN WEEKDAY (4)

WISDOM 2:1A, 12-22; JOHN 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
• 8:00 AM (*MICHAEL J. HOLMES, BY MARY HOLMES*)

### SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 LENTEN WEEKDAY (4)

JEREMIAH 11:18-20; JOHN 7:40-53

### SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024, LAETARE SUNDAY FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 ; HEBREWS 5:7-9; JOHN 12:20-33  
• 9:00AM (+*PRO POPULO*)

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Monday, March 11-Friday March 15 SPRING BREAK  
NO RELIGIOUS ED

Tuesday, March 12 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Liturgy Committee 2:00 PM  
K of C Meeting in Newton, 7PM

Wednesday, March 13 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Confessions 6:00-7:30 PM

Thursday, March 14 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
BINGO 6:30 PM

Friday, March 15 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Adoration, 6:00 PM  
Stations of the Cross, 6:30 PM  
followed by soup supper  
Mulligan Stew Dinner 5:00-7:00

Sunday, March 17 5th Sunday of Lent, 9:00 AM

Tuesday, March 19 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Deanery Meeting 11:00 AM  
Social Action Comm. 6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 20 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Religious Ed. 6:15 PM

Thursday, March 21 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Finance Council, 6:00 PM

Friday, March 22 Daily Mass: 8:00 AM  
Adoration, 6:00 PM  
Stations of the Cross, 6:30 PM  
followed by soup supper

Holy Week Begins with Palm Sunday on Sunday

## CHURCH COUNCIL

### Leadership Team

Tom Wilson  
President

Natalie Owen  
Vice President

Marcia Grimm  
Secretary

Ex-Officio  
Fr. Ron Hodges  
Deacon Joe Dvorak

### Elected Members

1<sup>st</sup> Term, 1<sup>st</sup> Year,  
Natalie Owen (3)  
Tom Wilson (3)

1<sup>st</sup> Term, 1<sup>st</sup> Year  
Marcia Grimm (2)  
Giovanna Rodriguez  
(2)

1<sup>st</sup> Term, 1<sup>st</sup> Year,  
David Birkenholtz

### Commission Chairs

Altar & Rosary  
Peggy Dvorak

Buildings & Grounds  
Karen VanDusseldorp

Faith Formation

Finance Council  
Brad Hagarty

Social Action  
Tracy Spry

Technology  
Liturgy  
Sharon Jones

Online Giving  
THROUGH  
**VANCO**  
FAITH





*Pilgrimage to France*

**with Fr. Marty Goetz**

**Including Lourdes, Lisieux, Normandy Beaches,  
and Mont-Saint Michel, and Paris**

**September 30-October 11, 2024**



**For More Information contact:**  
Ceci Triska

**email [ceci.triska@gmail.com](mailto:ceci.triska@gmail.com)**

**Phone-979-543-8575**

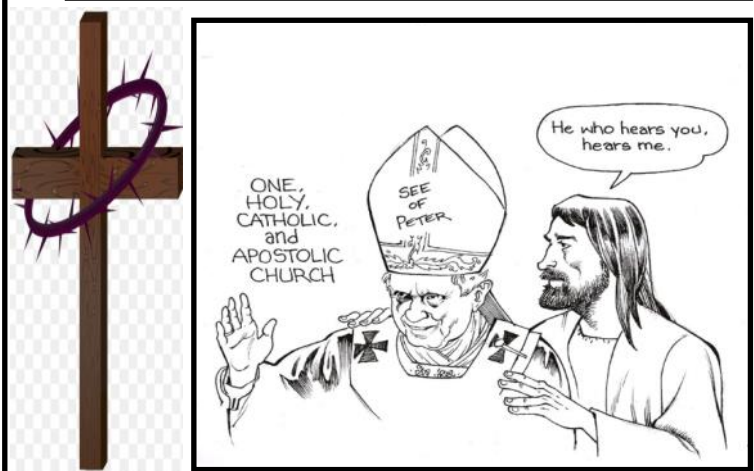


**SHRINES OF FRANCE PILGRIMAGE:**

Come along Nov. 4-14, 2024, to some of the most beautiful sites in all of France. We'll visit the holy Shrine of Lourdes, the home of St. Martin of Tours, the grand Chartres Cathedral, the monastery of Mont St. Michel, Normandy Beach along with both an American Cemetery and a German Cemetery, the home of St. Therese the Little Flower in Lisieux and the wonderful city of Paris! Mass each day in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. Cost is \$4,299 with departure from Omaha. For a brochure and more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, 307 - 4th St. N., Humboldt, Iowa 50548 or call 712-899-6870 or email [fdanguenther@gmail.com](mailto:fdanguenther@gmail.com) Fr. Guenther has been leading these pilgrimages for over 25 years!

**Lent is For Loving**

**Spirit of God, fill me with Jesus' life**





# Lenten Reconciliation Service



## Ottumwa Deanery Communal Penance Services

Feb. 25 St. Mary, Albia, 4pm  
 Mar. 3 St. Patrick, Brooklyn,  
 Mar. 3 St. Mary, Grinnell,  
 Mar. 10 Sacred Heart, Melcher, 2  
 pm  
 Mar. 10 St. Anthony, Knoxville, 4 pm  
 Mar. 11 St. Mary, Pella, 6:30 pm  
 Mar. 17 Sacred Heart, Newton, 2 pm  
 Mar. 19 St. Mary, Oskaloosa, 6:30 pm

Immaculate Conception Confessions

Immaculate Conception, Colfax, will not have a communal penance service, but we will have expanded hours/days for individual reconciliation.



## Our Lenten Calendar

March 15 6 PM Adoration  
 6:30 PM Stations  
 Soup Supper  
 March 17 5th Sunday, Lent  
 March 20 6-7:30 Confessions  
 March 22 6 PM Adoration  
 6:30 PM Stations  
 Soup Supper  
 March 23 1-3 PM Confessions

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday**  
 March 24 9:00 AM  
**Tenebrae**  
 March 27 7 PM  
**Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
 March 28 6:30 PM  
**Good Friday Service**  
 March 29 6:30 PM  
**Easter Vigil**  
 March 30 8:30 PM  
  
**Easter Sunday**  
 March 31 9:00 AM



The Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus  
 Are Havin' Fish Frys!


Every Friday during Lent!

Immaculate Conception folks, remember that since our council closed last year, our memberships were transferred to the Newton Council. We should support our new council by offerin' our help and eatin' their fish! Here's a note from their financial secretary. Let's help out!

*Lent is here, so that means the KofC fish fries are here as well. We will be setting up McCann Center this Thursday at 5:30 p.m. This entails taking out all tables and chairs so that we will be ready to serve dinner Friday. The more people that we get there Thursday night, the sooner we get done. If you have a few minutes, please stop by and help.*

*If you would like to help with the fish fry on Friday, just stop on by between 4:00 and 4:30. We will find you a spot on our food line. Whether it is frying up fish in the garage, serving meals at the kitchen counter or cleaning up afterwards, this will be a great time to show your stewardship for our parish. If you cannot make it that early, stop by after 5 and we can always use helpers washing dishes and cleaning up the center when we are done. We will be doing this every Friday until easter.*

*Thanks, and God Bless,  
 Jeff Hoebelheinrich  
 Financial Secretary  
 Feel free to call me at 641-521-3439 if you ever have any questions about the Knights.*



**I was asked a question a while ago and I thought I'd do a Q&A. Anyone else have a question?**

**Q:** I was asked why I don't give the sign of peace to the congregation but only to the ministers during Mass.

**A:** The answer to this one is pretty easy. Because I've already given the sign of peace to everyone when I say "The peace of the Lord be with you." Then Deacon Joe invites everyone to share the peace.

# IN LOVING Memory

In recent months, parishioners have asked what may be done, for the parish, in the way of memorial gifts given in memory of loved ones. After some thought we've composed a list of idea.

1. Due to some deaths and canceled pledges fulfilling our capital campaign pledges is going to fall \$3,200 short. A gift to decrease or eliminate that shortfall could be given.
2. A gift could be given toward the completion of the landscaping project.
3. Our holy water bucket and aspergillum need to be replaced.
4. We have a number of candlesticks and candelabra that need to be replated.
5. Our white cope and humeral veil need to be replaced. A good deal of the color of the applique is gone and the stains around the neckline no longer come out.

Future items:

1. Installation of a hearing loop system might be useful as as our parish continues to age
2. At some point we will need to look at the stabilization of our stained glass windows.
3. It would be nice to have an automated bell ringing system like the Baptists have.

These are just some things we've thought about as a starting place. If you are interested in providing a memorial for a loved one and have other ideas, please speak to Fr. Ron.



"Remind me never to ask the Youth Group to help fold the church bulletins again."



Jeff gives it up for Lent.

**One of our Lenten obligations is almsgiving. Regardless how little we have, there is always someone with less. We might not see them, and we might not know them (or we might, without knowing their situation) but they deserve the same as we do. Please help our brothers and sisters by participating in CRS's Operation Rice Bowl. Let's fill all our boxes by the end of Lent.**

**We can make a difference!**



We had so many rice bowl boxes left after Mass last week I was afraid that not everyone had a chance to get one, so this week I will put in the bulletin. That way everyone gets one for sure.



## We Need Liturgical Ministers, Please Help.

As much as we need funds to operate the parish we need people to fill the needed liturgical roles in the liturgy.

- We have 3 altar servers that serve most of the time. Two of them are over 70.
- We have 6 readers
- We have 5 Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
- We need 19 ministers each Mass not counting the priest, deacon, and choir.

We need your help. We don't really have the luxury of "retiring" from ministry. S T R E T C H yourself. It's entirely possible you find a gift or talent you didn't even know you had!

Answer, YES, when asked!