



St. Mary Catholic Church  
&  
St. Patrick Catholic Church  
April 19, 2026  
Third Sunday of Easter

**April 19, 2026: Seek the Lord, Seek Understanding, Seek Possibility**

With many changes with Mass times and locations to come, I know there have been a variety of emotions. That is ok. Any change means there are things that will be lost, even good things. And those things have to be grieved. Give yourself time and space for that.

But as your process that, over these coming days I encourage you to also do three things

**1) Seek the Lord:** Go to the Lord with your grief. We can simply wallow in our emotions, but when we actually bring them to the Lord, it makes a difference. He will compassionately receive whatever you bring to Him. But then also listen. Allow the Lord to speak His living words into your sadness, your fears. Furthermore, a temptation in all of this is simply to abandon the Lord. To walk away from Him and His Church. To leave Christ's Presence in the Eucharist. To not go to Mass anymore. To not go to the Catholic Church anymore. Our faith also challenges us, to not simply take the easy path, but sometimes calls us to sacrifice and "go the extra mile" (literally) for the Lord. We must remember that this is a faith passed down to us by the sacrifice and suffering of our faithful ancestors.

**2) Seek Understanding:** It's ok to not like the decisions that were made. But I encourage you to seek understanding: what are the reasons for these changes? The steady decline in priests and number of Catholics in our Archdiocese for the last twenty years, as inspired the Archdiocese to be proactive...not to allow our churches to slowly wither and die ... but to make some hard decisions now...to do some "pruning" so new life can grow and flourish in our churches. Not only is it part of a bigger vision of fostering to create healthier parishes and priests into the future, but also part of the bigger vision of a more "mission-focused" Catholic Church. This is a time when the Archbishop is trying to "rally the troops," for us to "pull together" to more effectively proclaim the Gospel, to invite non-Catholics into the fullness of our beautiful faith.

**3) Seek Possibility:** With every ending comes new beginnings and new possibilities of what could be. New friendships with those whose communities we will be joining. What ways can our community that we love so much be a blessing to this new community? What gifts can we bring? Even though our church building may not have Sunday Mass, in what other creative ways can it be used as a place of prayer, of mission, of outreach throughout the week. Maybe you form prayer groups, to meet during the week to pray together before the Blessed Sacrament. Perhaps you will gather each week to offer a rosary together for your community. Maybe you will gather to pray with and reflect on the upcoming Sunday Scripture readings. Or are there other creative ways we can reach out to non-Catholics and invite them in to teach them about the Catholic faith? Be a part of the creative solutions.

Peace,  
-Fr. Kevin

**19 de abril: Busca al Señor, busca comprensión, busca una oportunidad**

Reconozco la variedad de emociones que sienten debido a los próximos cambios en horarios y lugares de la Misa. Está bien. Los cambios traen pérdidas, incluso de cosas buenas, y aquellas deben lamentarse. Date tiempo y espacio para aquello.

Pero mientras lo procesas en estos próximos días, te animo a que también hagas tres cosas:

**1) Busca al Señor:** Acude al Señor con tu pena. Podemos revolcarnos en nuestras emociones, pero ofrecérselas al Señor, hace la diferencia. Él recibirá con compasión todo lo que le traigas; pero también escucha. Permite que el Señor pronuncie Sus palabras vivas en tu tristeza, tus miedos. Por otra parte, una tentación es simplemente abandonar al Señor. Alejarse de Él y de Su Iglesia. Abandonar la presencia de Cristo en la Eucaristía. Dejar de ir a Misa o abandonar la Iglesia Católica. Nuestra fe también nos desafía a no tomar el camino fácil, pero a veces nos llama a sacrificarnos y a "ir más allá" (literalmente) por el Señor. Debemos recordar que ésta es una fe que nos ha transmitido a través del sacrificio y sufrimiento de nuestros fieles antepasados.

**2) Busca comprensión:** Está bien que no te gusten las decisiones que se tomaron, pero te animo a que las comprendas: ¿Cuáles son las razones de estos cambios? La constante disminución de sacerdotes y católicos en nuestra arquidiócesis durante los últimos veinte años ha inspirado a la arquidiócesis a ser proactiva ... para evitar que nuestras iglesias se marchiten y mueran de a poco ... y a tomar decisiones difíciles ahora ... "podar" para que una nueva vida crezca y florezca en nuestras iglesias. No sólo como parte de una visión más amplia para fomentar la creación de parroquias y sacerdotes más saludables en el futuro; pero también, de la visión más amplia de una Iglesia Católica más "centrada en la misión". Este es un momento en el que el arzobispo intenta "reunir a las tropas", para que nos unamos y proclamemos el Evangelio más eficazmente, e invitar a los no católicos a la plenitud de nuestra hermosa fe.

**3) Busca una oportunidad:** Con cada fin llegan nuevos comienzos y nuevas posibilidades de lo que podría ser. Nuevas amistades con las comunidades a las que nos uniremos. ¿De qué manera puede nuestra comunidad, que tanto amamos, ser una bendición para la nueva? ¿Qué regalos podemos llevar? Aunque nuestra iglesia no tenga Misa dominical, ¿de qué otra forma creativa puede usarse como lugar de oración, de misión y de alcance durante toda la semana? Quizá formes grupos de oración, para reunirse durante la semana y rezar juntos ante el Santísimo Sacramento. Quizá se reúnan cada semana a ofrecer un Rosario por tu comunidad, o para orar y reflexionar sobre las próximas lecturas bíblicas del domingo. ¿Hay otras formas creativas de acercarnos a no católicos e invitarlos a enseñarles sobre la fe católica?

Sé parte de las soluciones creativas.  
Paz  
— Padre Kevin

# St. Mary

611 Sherman, Ackley, 641-847-2329  
stmaryspatrick@gmail.com

## Book Club



Read and discuss  
May 12 @ 5:30pm will discuss  
"the Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife"  
by Anna Johnston  
June 9th @ 5:30pm will discuss  
"The Shadows We Hide" by Allen Eskens  
Everyone is welcome to join! Great discussion and fellowship!

## Liturgical Ministers

April 26 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – First Communion

Lector: Doug Lindaman, Denise Sprain  
Ushers: Levi Harms, Kurt Sperfslage, Alex Harms,  
Jorge Montes  
Eucharistic Ministers; Scott O'Brien, Janet DeBerg  
Money Counters: Jessica Schipper, Pat Klingaman  
Altar Servers: Lucas Mausser, Sergio Rogel  
Sacristan: Linda Sudtelgte

Please remember to find your own replacements

Rosary in Spanish on  
Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.  
*Everyone is welcome!*

## Hanging Flower Basket Sale

The Faith Formation will holding their annual flower basket sale. The proceeds from the sale will be used to help support the faith formation programs, and NCCY. Order forms will be at the back of church or stop at the parish office. Thank you in advance for your support!



Mark your calendar  
**BIBLE SCHOOL**  
June 1-4  
9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



## Thank you

*Thank you to Bev, Marcia, Jodi, Barb and Carolyn for bringing soup, bread and hosting the Ecumenical Luncheon. Thank you to Doug and Rosie for helping clean-up.*

**Coffee and Rolls – May 3**  
**Everyone is welcome!**

## Stewardship - Treasure

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Adult Envelopes	\$1050
Offertory	\$86
Rice Bowl	\$464

Give Online [www.FranklinHardinCatholic.org/online-giving](http://www.FranklinHardinCatholic.org/online-giving)



"You were made in the  
image of God.  
Act accordingly!"  
Matthew Kelly

# St. Patrick

1405 N. Federal, Hampton 641-456-4857  
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday  
9:00 AM-1:00 PM, excluding holidays.  
dbq097sec@dbqarch.org

## Liturgical Ministries

April 26th, 2026 -Abril 26th, 2026

### Mass—April 26th 2026 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Mary Ann Patton  
Ushers: April Schoning, Phil O'Connor  
Eucharistic Ministers: Dean Markwardt, April Schoning  
Money Counters: April Schoning, Ryan & Monica Winters  
Altar Servers: Drew Horton, Yamilla Fuentes, Ruby Alonzo  
Sacristan: April Schoning  
Linens: Sue Basye

### Spanish Mass— Abril 26th, 2025 5:30 p.m

Lectors: Janeth Mateo, Blas Gonzalez  
Ministros de Eucarísticos: Geovany Marquez, Sheyla Soto  
Contador es de Dinero: Rafael Garcia, Gabriela Garcia  
Monaguillo: Ayleen Rodriguez, Ariste Ramirez, Adan Rodriguez  
Sacristan: TBD

You are esponsible to find your own replacement.  
Usted es responsable de encontrar su propio reemplazo.



First Communion April 26th  
Last Day of Faith Formation April 29th  
Graduation Mass May 17th



### HAMPTON COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE



APRIL 27, 2026

12:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Hampton Church of Christ | 811 4th St. NE | Hampton

WALK INS WELCOME

call: 800.287.4903  
visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org  
text: LIFESERVE to 515.815.7242



### STEWARDSHIP TREASURY

SUNDAY APRIL 12th, 2026

REGULAR	\$ 1,631.00
OFFERTORY	\$ 768.00

Give On-Line at [www.franklinhardincatholic.org](http://www.franklinhardincatholic.org) online-giving.  
Dona en línea para [www.franklinhardincatholic.org](http://www.franklinhardincatholic.org) donaciones en línea.

## Happenings Week of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### Tuesday/ Martes April 21st/ Abril 21st

8:30 AM Mass  
7:00 PM AA/Al-Anon (RE Center)

### Wednesday/ Miercoles – April 22nd / Abril 22nd

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Food Pantry/Despensa de Alimentos (Social Hall)  
6:30 PM Faith Formation

### Thursday/ Jueves – April 23rd/ Abril 23rd

1:00 – 3:00 PM Crafts – Social Hall  
5:30 PM Mass  
6:00 PM Adoration

### Sunday/ Domingo April 24th/ Abril 24th

10:30 AM Mass  
5:30 PM Mass Spanish

**EPIPHANY PARISH**  
LIGHT THE WAY

Come and be part of an unforgettable **Spiritual** experience

ITINERARY

**Saturday**  
May 16  
**6:00AM**  
HOLY FAMILY  
PARKING LOT  
**\$20.00**

**SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Don't miss your chance to connect with our faith!

For more information: ☎ 641-251-4875

Reserve Now

### Journey in Faith Prayer

Lord Jesus,  
You accompanied your disciples on the way to Emmaus.  
As we journey in faith,  
we trust in your Spirit  
to open our eyes  
to set our hearts on fire  
and to transform our parishes.  
Make yourself known to us  
through breaking open word and bread,  
that we may travel together on mission;  
to grow disciples, cultivate leaders, and unify parishes,  
with our journey ending in You,  
who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.



# Operation Rice Bowl



Thank you to everyone who donated to Operation Rice Bowl.

**BINGO PRIZES** St. Patrick is need of Bingo prizes for the religious education classes... if you would be willing to donate leave them at the parish office. Ex: bags of candy, coloring books, bubbles, frisbees, balls, lotion, chap stick, gift cards, prayer books, crosses, microwave popcorn. Thanks in advance for your help!!

## Confirmed in the Spirit

Welcome to Casey  
Heilskov



he was confirmed on  
Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

We are looking to expand our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atriums. If you would be interested in taking the training or have some questions let Father or Jolene know.

“Treat every person you ever meet like the second coming of Jesus in disguise.” – Matthew Kelly

## First Communion April 26

*Please keep all the First Communicants in your prayers!*



Please make use of your parish's prayer chain:

St. Mary, Ackley:

Jolene Harms at [stmaryspatrick@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspatrick@gmail.com)

St. Patrick, Hampton:

Mary Ann Patton at [thepattons4@gmail.com](mailto:thepattons4@gmail.com)

## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, April 20

8:30 a.m. Franciscans of the Eucharist  
St. Mary

Tuesday, April 21

8:30 a.m. Lydia Berger St. Patrick

Wednesday, April 22

8:30 a.m. Linda Werger St. Mary

Thursday, April 23

5:30 p.m. Harold & Peg Gallagher  
St. Patrick

Sunday, April 26 – First Communion

8:00 a.m. Msgr. Russell Bleich St. Mary  
10:30 a.m. Duane Kelch St. Patrick  
5:30 p.m. For the people St. Patrick  
Spanish

Live stream of Mass

[www.franklinhardincatholic.org/livestream](http://www.franklinhardincatholic.org/livestream)

YouTube Channel: Franklin Hardin Catholic

Father Kevin Earleywine [k.earleywine@dbqarch.org](mailto:k.earleywine@dbqarch.org) Hampton-Ackley