



ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
APRIL 5, 2026
EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2026- "Exalt, let us exalt!" Christ is Risen!

While at times it may seem we're living in a world immersed in "death" or at least the danger of it, that should not minimize our rejoicing on this day! For it is this day that we remember Christ is the VICTOR over Death, Christ has CONQUERED Death! And that is what we celebrate, that He has come ultimately to liberate us from sin and death. Even though we struggle against such things in this world, Christ is Risen and that is our great hope!

One of my favorite parts of the Easter Liturgy is the Service of Light at the beginning of Easter Vigil Saturday Night. When the Church is all in darkness, and the single light of the Paschal Candle, the symbol of the light of Christ breaking into the darkness of our world, the darkness of sin and death, and that light is used to light all the other candles. Then after this great illumination we sing the Exultet. It is an ancient hymn of Christianity. While its exact origin is uncertain, there is evidence it has existed since the fourth or fifth century.

It is always very moving to me to be able to sing the Exultet. The joy in it that is chanted out of the darkness is striking to me every year! It would be a good spiritual practice to look up the words of this beautiful triumphant hymn and to meditate on some of the words. I could write a whole series of columns just on this hymn alone! For this hymn speaks to the depth of the triumph and the joy in Christ's victory, of His Resurrection. That His saving work far surpasses the Original Sin. It even goes on to refer to the sin of Adam and Eve as "O happy fault" because it brought about "so great, so glorious a Redeemer" that the sin of Adam was "destroyed completely in the Death of Christ." The Tremendous hope, that our sins, our faults, our failure, our failure is infinitesimal is NOTHING in comparison to Christ and the saving work He has wrought! That even the darkest of darkness, in the end shall pass and shall be swallowed up in the Victory of Christ!

To close, here are a few words from the text of the Exultet

"This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace and joining them to his holy ones...

...O wonder of your humble care for us! O love, O charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!...

...This is the night of which it is written: The night shall be as bright as day, dazzling is the night for me, and full of gladness....

...The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord...

Happy Easter! Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

-Fr. Kevin

5 de abril – "Enaltecemos, Exaltemos!" ¡Cristo ha Resucitado!

Aunque a veces pareciese que estamos viviendo en un mundo inmerso en la "muerte" o en los peligros de ella, ¡no debe minimizarse el regocijo de este día! Ya que recordamos que ¡Cristo es la VICTORIA sobre la muerte, Cristo ha TRIUNFADO sobre la muerte! Y eso es lo que celebramos, que ha venido para liberarnos del pecado y de la muerte. Aunque luchemos contra tales cosas en este mundo, ¡Cristo ha Resucitado y eso es nuestra gran esperanza!

Una de mis partes favoritas de la Liturgia Pascual es la Misa de Luz al comienzo de la Vigilia Pascual del sábado por la noche. Cuando la iglesia está en total oscuridad y la única luz es la del Cirio Pascual – símbolo de la luz de Cristo irrumpiendo en la oscuridad de nuestro mundo, en la oscuridad del pecado y la muerte, y esa luz se usa para encender todos los otros cirios. Luego, después de esa gran iluminación, cantamos el Exultet, también llamado Pregón Pascual. Que es un antiguo himno del cristianismo. Si bien su origen exacto es incierto, hay evidencia de que ha existido desde el siglo cuarto o quinto. Siempre me ha emocionado mucho cantar el Pregón Pascual. ¡La alegría de cantarlo en la oscuridad me sorprende cada año! Sería una buena práctica espiritual buscar el texto de este hermoso himno triunfante y meditar en algunas de sus palabras. Podría escribir una serie completa de columnas relacionadas ¡sólo a ese himno! Porque habla de la profundidad del triunfo y gozo en la victoria de Cristo, de su Resurrección. Que su obra salvadora supera con creces el pecado original. Incluso, continúa refiriéndose al pecado de Adán y Eva como "¡Oh feliz la culpa!" que mereció "tan grande, tan glorioso Redentor" que necesario fue el pecado de Adán "que ha sido borrado por la muerte de Cristo". La tremenda esperanza que nuestro pecado, nuestras culpas, nuestro fracaso, es infinitesimal, no es NADA en comparación a Cristo y a las obras salvadoras que ¡ha traído! Que incluso a más oscura de las tinieblas, al final pasará y ¡será tragado en la Victoria de Cristo! Para cerrar, acá algunas palabras del texto del Pregón Pascual:

Esta es la noche en la que por toda la tierra, los que confiesan su fe en Cristo, son arrancados de los vicios del mundo y de la oscuridad del pecado, son restituidos a la gracia y son agregados a los santos...

... ¡Qué asombroso beneficio de tu amor por nosotros! ¡Qué incomparable ternura y caridad! ¡Para rescatar al esclavo, entregaste al Hijo!

... Esta es la noche de que estaba escrito: Será la noche clara como el día, la noche iluminada por mi gozo....

...Y así, esta noche santa ahuyenta los pecados, lava las culpas, devuelve la inocencia a los caídos, la alegría a los tristes, expulsa el odio, trae la concordia, doblega a los potentes...

¡Feliz Pascua! Cristo ha Resucitado! ¡Aleluya!

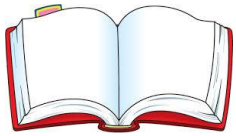
– Padre Kevin

St. Mary

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

NO Coffee and Rolls April 5

Book Club



Read and discuss
April 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Small Mercies

by Dennis LeHane

Everyone is welcome to join! Great discussion and fellowship!

Liturgical Ministers

April 12 – Divine Mercy Sunday
(2nd Sunday of Easter)

Lector: Barb Keninger, Jim Wessels

Ushers: Shawn Loughren, Bob Burkle,

Kurt Sperflage, Jacob Harms

Eucharistic Ministers: Janet DeBerg, Lisa Kielty

Money Counters: Denise Sprain, Jeff Frazier

Altar Servers: Sergio Rogel

Sacristan: Patti Harms

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!



METAL CABINET NEEDED

We are looking for a tall metal cabinet, to use for storage. If you have one you would like to donate let Jolene know.

Dubuque Franciscan Sisters Come & See

The Dubuque Franciscan Sisters are hosting several Come & See weekends for women, the next being April 24-26, 2026. Those who are interested are invited to contact Sister Janet May at mayj@osfdbq.org or go to www.osfdbq.org. Please promote these weekends with the provided flyer.

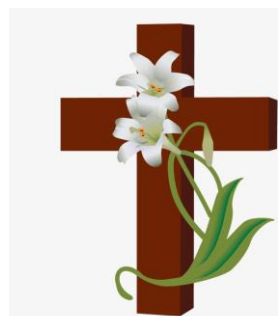
Stewardship - Treasure

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Adult Envelopes	\$1070
Offertory	\$156.93
Second Collection	\$337
Easter Flowers	\$150

Give Online www.FranklinHardinCatholic.org/online-giving

"It is time to do our part - to renew
our commitment to walking with



God, to create
Holy Moments, to
become the
best-version-
of-ourselves.:
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 12th, 2026 -April 12th, 2026

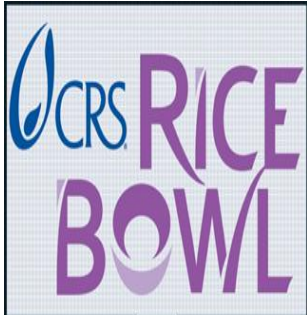
Mass—April 12th 2026 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Maggie Pearson
 Ushers: Sue Basye, Trace Brocka
 Eucharistic Ministers: Joe & Lili Alonzo
 Money Counters: Donna Devereux, Vicki Naber
 Altar Servers: Drew & Cameron Horton, Rhiannon Prestidge
 Sacristan: April Schoning
 Linens: Sue Basye

Spanish Mass— April 12th, 2025 5:30 p.m

Lectors: Anabel Ramirez, Sheyla Soto
 Ministros de Eucarísticos: Lina Vallejos, Jesus Andrade
 Contador es de Dinero: Anabel Ramirez, Sheyla Soto
 Monaguillo: Maylin Contreras, Adan Rodriguez, Juan Hernandez
 Sacristan: TBD

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



Please return ALL Rice Bowls this week!
If giving by check please make the check to St. Patrick, with Rice Bowl in the memo.
Thank you for your generous giving and support of this project!

JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND ROLLS & A SOCIAL

After Masses on April 12th



The Journey in Faith Announcement will also be at Mass Sunday April 12th!
Let's get together as a parish to celebrate and encourage each other as we move forward.

STEWARDSHIP TREASURY SUNDAY MARCH 29, 2026

REGULAR	\$	863.00
OFFERTORY	\$	423.00
FOOD PANTRY	\$	250.00

Give On-Line at www.franklinhardincatholic.org online-giving.
 Dona en línea para www.franklinhardincatholic.org donaciones en línea.

Happenings Week of April 5th, 2026

Tuesday/ Martes April 7th/ Abril 7th

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

Wednesday/ Miercoles – April 8th / Abril 8th

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

Thursday/ Jueves – April 9th/ Abril 9th

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

Sunday/ Domingo April 12th/ Abril 12th

10:30 AM Mass
 5:30 PM Mass Spanish

EASTER FLOWERS



Thank you for all who donated flowers for the Altar:

- Jose & Maria Alonzo
- Millicent & Terry Fielding
 In Memory of Eric Fielding
- Mary Ann Patton
 In Memory of The Patton, Curran & Ibeling Families
- Margy Suter
 In Memory of Dave & Betty Flint
- Leon & Linda Kuehner
 In Memory of Carl & Teresa Kuehner, Eugene Kuehner, Lauren Kuehner, Jim & Norma Currie, Julie Stavneak
- Dwight & Sherry Peterson
 In Memory of Albert & Mable Lambertson, Dave & Bernita Peterson
- Steve & Maggie Pearson
 In Memory of Summer Jo Pearson, Jerry Miller, Mary & Carol Pearson Alice & Walter Miller

WHY HOPE??



APRIL 7, 2026
 6:30 PM



WINDSOR THEATRE
 ALL ARE WELCOME

JOIN THE PASTORS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION FOR A PANEL DISCUSSION. COME WITH QUESTIONS:

Leave your Rice
Bowls in the
basket at the
back of church.



Operation Rice Bowl

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

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

Catholic Social Teaching & Responding to Today's Political Challenges - April 22, 6:30-8:00 pm at Shalom or via Zoom - FREE

Catholic social teaching will be explored as a lens to understand and respond to political challenges. The session, led by Dr. David Cochran, is free and open to the public, with virtual and in-person and options at Shalom Spirituality Center in Dubuque, IA. RSVP required; Please call 563-582-3592 or visit shalomretreats.org.

Thank you

Thank you to Donna Speedy for sewing costumes and sewing the banner for the atrium. It is great to have people that are so willing to help!

To the kitchen help serving the meal before the Lenten play..... great job and thank you so much...your willingness to help is very much appreciated!!! Thank you!!

Thank you to Ivy Heilskov and family for providing sack lunches for the First Communion retreat. They were fantastic... thank you!

Thank you to the Gibson family for the donation of items for the Level I Atrium.

Please make use of your parish's prayer chain:

St. Mary, Ackley:

Jolene Harms at stmarystpatrick@gmail.com

St. Patrick, Hampton:

Mary Ann Patton at thepattons4@gmail.com

Journey in Faith: Hope for Renewal

Journey in Faith: New Life, Renewal, and Hope

As we celebrate the joy of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are reminded that God is always at work bringing new life, renewal, and hope. This same spirit guides our *Journey in Faith* pastoral planning process which is focused on strengthening our parishes through collaboration and shared resources, deepening our encounter with Christ through a focus on evangelization, and preparing our communities for the future both in structure and leadership formation.

Over the past year, much prayer, listening, and discernment have taken place as we seek to respond faithfully to the needs of our Church today. This work is rooted in trust- trust in the Holy Spirit, one another, and in the path God is calling us to walk together.

A significant update regarding this process will be shared the weekend of April 11. We encourage all parishioners to stay engaged, continue praying for this journey, and take time to review the announcement when it is released.



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, April 6

8:30 a.m. NO MASS

Tuesday, April 7

8:30 a.m. Peg Gallagher St. Patrick

Wednesday, April 8

8:30 a.m. Glen Green St. Mary

Thursday, April 9

8:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory St. Patrick

Sunday, April 12

8:00 a.m. Linda Werger St. Mary

10:30 a.m. Lyle & Beulah Patton St. Patrick

5:30 p.m. For the People St. Patrick Spanish

Live stream of Mass

www.franklinhardincatholic.org/livestream

YouTube Channel: Franklin Hardin Catholic

Father Kevin Earleywine k.earleywine@dbqarch.org Hampton-Ackley