St. Patrick Catholic Church & St. Mary Catholic Church

August 2, 2026 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mason City Area Pastorate—Volume 1, Issue 3
Bulletin Announcements—2 August 2026—The Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Pastorate Pastor's Pen

The Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time—Jesus had high expectations of his disciples. We learn by the end of this Sunday's gospel passage that there were over five thousand people who had gone to the deserted place Jesus was located to seek healing from him. He had pity on the crowd recognizing that they were like sheep without a shepherd. So, he healed them. The problem developed that there was no food for the multitude and it had grown late which lessened the prospects of people being able to buy food at the neighboring villages. Jesus' solution was simple. He told the disciples to feed the crowd themselves. That was impossible. They had five loaves and two fish, a miniscule amount of food to feed the hungry crowd. They hadn't the money to purchase the food to feed the multitudes. He had high expectations of his disciples. The easy way out was to dismiss the crowds and have them fend for themselves. No, it was going to be the hard way, to do the impossible, but with Jesus' help. He didn't ever intend to ask his disciples to do the impossible without helping them substantially to carry out his will.

We have an old saying that goes: Give an inch and a person will take a mile. It is usually said as a negative connotation of being used by another. God isn't that way. The miracle story of the multiplication of the loaves and fish could be summarized like this: Give God what little you have and he will take care of the rest. Give him a few loaves and a couple of fish and he will multiply them to feed over five thousand people. Give him bread and wine and he will transubstantiate it into his body and blood, soul and divinity. Our "less," our poverty before God, is an invitation for him to work superabundantly.

The multiplication miracle foreshadows the gift of the Eucharist. Give God your sins and he will forgive you by obliterating them. Give him your sinful condition, your inability to earn the forgiveness of your sins and he will die for you, obtaining forgiveness and reconciliation for you. Give Jesus the fact that you are going to die because of your human condition, and he will die and then rise from the dead. The curse of death is healed by Jesus' superabundant acts as only God can act. You will die, but if you die believing in him, you will rise to everlasting life.

One of the lessons we could take from this gospel is that even if we give God a little, or let him into our lives even just a little bit, he can do wonders with the little we give him. What if each of us surrendered to God the challenges we have been having with the transition that is occurring because of the Journey in Faith pastoral planning? If we give God just a little, he can do a lot. What would happen if we did?

What Do You Treasure?-- The changes brought about with Journey in Faith have been substantial. Some parishes and communities have been affected more than others. But everyone is affected. When change occurs and especially if people are being asked to sacrifice the old for the new, people can lose sight of the treasure of our faith. Mass times, where Mass is celebrated, comparing one parish to another, strong feelings, for example, congeal together in a way that disorients one from the treasure. This may be a time when people discover that something else was their treasure rather than faith in Christ.

There are lots of things Journey in Faith was intended to do. One of them is for us to renew or deepen our appreciation and participation in the Mass. This is where we, earthen vessels meet the treasure, Jesus, and commune with him. He feeds us with his word and sacrament and sends us on our way to be his disciples in the world. We're being shown that we don't simply attend Mass, but are to pray it in whatever language it is celebrated. You don't attend a treasure. That would make it a museum piece that you read about and view. You pray the Mass with the priest leading you. That's engagement between you and God with the worshipping community. You pray the Mass with the priest leading you. That's engagement between you and God with the worshipping community. It is engagement with Jesus as he takes the initiative to engage with us.

I encourage you to consider how King Solomon prayed as he became king of Israel. He asked God in a dream to give him an understanding heart to judge his people and the ability to distinguish right from wrong. Let our prayer be for an understanding heart as we continue to live our journey in faith. May we make right judgements and distinguish right from wrong as God inspires and helps us to do so. All things work for good for those who love God. Prayer and inspiration will help us to treasure the Lord, the Christ.

Mensaje del Párroco del Pastorado

Decimoctavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario — Jesús tenía grandes expectativas de sus discípulos. Al final del pasaje del evangelio de este domingo nos enteramos de que más de cinco mil personas habían ido donde estaba Jesús para que los sanara. Jesús sintió lástima por la multitud al reconocer que eran como ovejas sin pastor; así que los curó. El problema surgió al no haber comida para la gran multitud. Ya se había hecho tarde, lo que reducía las posibilidades de que la gente comprara comida en las aldeas vecinas. La solución de Jesús fue sencilla; le dijo a los discípulos que alimentaran a la multitud ellos mismos.

Era imposible, Jesús esperaba mucho de sus discípulos. Tenían cinco panes y dos peces, cantidad minúscula para alimentar a la muchedumbre hambrienta. No tenían dinero para comprar comida que los alimentara a todos. La salida fácil era despedir a la multitud y dejar que se valieran por sí mismos. Pero no, sería la vía difícil — hacer lo imposible con la ayuda de Jesús. Su intención nunca fue que sus discípulos hicieran lo imposible sin ayudarles.

Tenemos un viejo dicho que dice: Ofrécele a alguien el brazo y se tomara el codo. Normalmente se dice con una connotación negativa, o cuando alguien utiliza a otro. Dios no es así. La historia milagrosa de la multiplicación de los panes y los peces podría resumirse de esta manera: Dale a Dios lo poco que tienes y Él se encargará del resto. Dale unos panes y un par de peces y Él los multiplicará para alimentar a más de cinco mil personas. Dale pan y vino y lo transubstanciará en su cuerpo y sangre, alma y divinidad. Nuestra "insignificancia", nuestra pobreza ante Dios es una invitación para que Él trabaje en abundancia.

El milagro de la multiplicación presagia el don de la Eucaristía. Entrégale a Dios tus pecados y Él te perdonará aniquilándolos. Dale tu condición pecaminosa, tu incapacidad para ganar el perdón de tus pecados y Él morirá por ti, obteniendo el perdón y la reconciliación. Dale a Jesús el hecho de que vas a morir por tu condición humana, y Él morirá y luego resucitará. La maldición de la muerte se sana con los actos sobreabundantes de Jesús, como sólo Dios puede hacer. Morirás, pero si mueres creyendo en Él, te levantarás a la vida eterna.

Una de las lecciones que podríamos extraer de este evangelio es que, aunque le demos un poco a Dios, o lo dejemos entrar en nuestras vidas solo un poco, Él puede hacer maravillas ello. ¿Y si cada uno le entregara a Dios los desafíos que enfrentamos con la transición pastoral de Journey in Faith? Si le damos a Dios solo un poco, puede hacer mucho. ¿Qué pasaría si lo hiciéramos?

¿Qué valoras? Los cambios que ha traído Journey in Faith han sido sustanciales. Algunas parroquias y comunidades se han visto más afectadas que otras. Pero todos se ven afectados. Cuando ocurre un cambio y especialmente si se pide a la gente sacrificar lo viejo por lo nuevo, la gente puede perder de vista el tesoro de nuestra fe. Por ejemplo, el horario de Misas, dónde se celebra, comparar una parroquia con otra; sentimientos intensos que se consolidan de una manera que hacen perder de vista al tesoro. Puede ser que en este momento algunos descubren que su tesoro era otra cosa, no su fe en Cristo.

Journey in Faith pretende hacer muchas cosas. Una de ellas es renovar y profundizar nuestra apreciación y participación en la Misa. Ahí es donde nosotros, vasijas de barro, nos encontramos con el tesoro, Jesús, y nos comunicamos con Él. Nos alimenta con su palabra y sacramento y nos envía a ser sus discípulos en el mundo. Nos muestra que no sólo debemos asistir a Misa, sino que además rezarla en el idioma que se celebre. No asistes a un tesoro; eso la convertiría en una obra de museo que lees y ves. Rezas la Misa guiada por el sacerdote. Ese es tu compromiso con Dios y con la comunidad de adoración. Es el compromiso con Jesús mientras toma la iniciativa de relacionarse con nosotros.

Te animo a rezar como Salomón al convertirse en rey de Israel. Le pidió a Dios en un sueño que le diera un corazón comprensivo para juzgar a su pueblo, y poder distinguir el bien del mal. Que nuestra oración sea por un corazón comprensivo al vivir nuestro camino con fe. Que hagamos juicios correctos y distingamos el bien del mal según Dios nos inspire y nos ayude a hacerlo. Todo funciona bien para quienes aman a Dios. La oración y la inspiración nos ayudarán a atesorar al Señor, a Cristo.

St. Mary

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

Book Club

Read and discuss

Tuesday, August 4 @ 5:30 p.m.

"Something in the Water" by Catherine Steadman

Tuesday, September 1 @ 5:30 p.m.

"Angel Falls" by Kristin Hannah

Tuesday, October 6 @ 5:30 p.m.

"This Book Made Me Think of You" by Libby Page

Everyone is welcome to join! Great discussion and fellowship!

Don't forget to turn in your Social Assistance Offering Envelopes!

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped with Father Kevin's farewell reception. Thank you to the ladies that made the pies, to the grilling crew, to everyone who helped serve and clean-up. It was a great way to send him on to his new assignment!

Amazing

St. Mary had many trees blown down during the storm last week. An email and some text and we had over 25 people show up for clean-up Tuesday evening. Many hands definitely made light work. Thank you everyone. That is what makes St. Mary's an amazing community!

Liturgical Ministers

August 6 - 8:30 a.m. Mass

Lector: Denise Sprain

Sacristan: Jim Wessels

Please remember to find your own replacements

May God Bless her washed in the waters of baptism

June Charlotte Schumacher

Parents Katelyn Baltes and Lucas Schumacher

Baptized at St. Mary July 12, 2026

Congratulations!

Rosary in Spanish on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays – 11:30 – 12:30

In the church

ACKLEY FOOD PANTRY

Ackley Food Pantry needs a few items: toilet paper, paper towels and vegetable oil. If you can help out leave the items in the basket at the back of church

Coffee and treats

August 6 after 8:30 a.m. Mass

St. Patrick

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

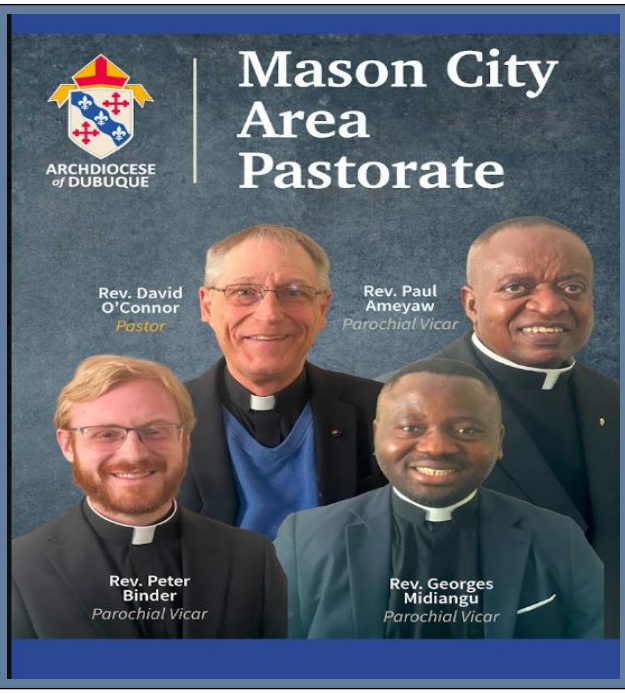
Liturgical Ministries

August 9th, 2026

Mass—August 2nd, 2026 9:00 a.m.

Lector: Denielle Conlon
Ushers: Madonna Weiland, Bridget Brocka
Eucharistic Ministers: Dean & Samantha Markwardt
Money Counters: Steve Pearson, Brenda Johansen
Altar Servers: Ryne & Teegan Magner, Reed Heilskov
Sacristan: Judy Nelson
Linens: Sue Garrett

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



ST. PATRICK FOOD PANTRY

Did you know St. Patrick has a food pantry? The food pantry is open every Wednesday from 10 am – 12 pm. We partner with the Food Bank of Iowa and provide food to families in the Hampton area. If you would like to help support this mission, please contact the parish office!

STEWARDSHIP TREASURY

SUNDAY JULY 26, 2026

REGULAR	**$ 4,500.00**
OFFERTORY	**$ 131.00**

Give On-Line at www.franklinhardincatholic.org online-giving.

Happenings Week of August 2nd, 2026

Tuesday/ Martes August 4th
7:00 PM AA/Al-Anon (RE Center)

Wednesday/ Miercoles – August 5th
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Food Pantry/Despensa de Alimentos (Social Hall)

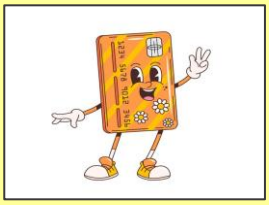
Thursday/ Jueves – August 6th
1:00 – 3:00 PM Crafts – Social Hall
6:00 PM Adoration

Friday/ Viernes – August 7th
8:30 AM Mass

Sunday/ Domingo August 9th
9:00 AM Mass

UPCOMING ROLL BREAKFASTS

Roll Breakfasts will be held on, August 2nd and August 9th as we welcome those new to St. Patrick and our new priests:
Rev. Dave O' Connor
Rev. Paul Ameyaw
Rev. Peter Binder
Rev. Georges Midiangu
Please join us as we welcome everyone to St. Patrick!



SCRIP INFORMATION

Scrip sales year to date have been $41,575.00 with earnings (profit) to St. Patrick of $1,628.95.
This fundraiser is the most successful fundraiser that St. Patrick has.
WHAT ARE SCRIP CARDS AND HOW DO THEY WORK?
Scrip cards are actual gift cards that you purchase after Mass on Sunday morning. We have them for Fareway, Dollar Fresh, Kwik Star and sooo many more. We buy them at a discount, you pay full price and the difference is credited to your donation records each week.
We take cash or check to purchase Scrip cards you do not need to be a member of St. Patrick to purchase them.

Please contact Dick Nelson should you have questions. Cards can be purchased anytime, or he will take special orders.

The Mason City Area Pastorate News

- Care facilities, hospice and home visits
  - Based on the information gathered from the parishes in the pastorate, we have a current list as of July 1, 2026, of parishioners in care facilities and homebound. We will be organizing visitation of these individuals on a rotating basis.
  - I have received some requests of care facility Masses. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- Emergency calls requiring the presence of a priest.
  - An emergency means
    - That there has been a serious trauma or accident where the ministry of a priest is essential.
    - That a person is in danger of death, imminently dying or is on the verge of death and a priest is needed to administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and bestow the Apostolic Pardon.
  - When an emergency occurs and meets the above criteria, please call the Epiphany Parish office (641-423-5001). When you call, you will either speak to someone in the office or be given the opportunity to leave a message. It would be helpful if you had this information ready when you call
    - The caller's name
    - The caller's phone number or the best number to reach someone when the priest returns the call
    - The address of the location where the priest is needed
    - The name(s) of the person(s) who are involved with the emergency, and in particular, the name of the person who needs to be anointed.
    - General information about the situation in which the priest will be offering his ministry (the person is dying; the person is able or unable to receive Holy Communion, etc.) and anything else you would want him to know

MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 6
8:30 a.m. St. Mary

Friday, August 7
8:30 a.m. St. Patrick

Sunday, August 9
9:00 a.m. Duane Kelch St. Patrick

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 thepattons 4@gmail.com

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick—If you are seriously or chronically ill, or will be having a serious surgery, you are a candidate to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Those who are advanced in age even without a noticeable decline in heath may be anointed as well.
Please call the parish office well in advance of a surgery you will be having to schedule a time to be anointed. You will be offered the opportunity to go to confession as well.
Hospital Visits—As of this writing and to my knowledge, MercyOne has not resolved the issue of clergy access to the names of parishioners who are hospitalized. We can always call the hospital and ask for the room number or to speak of a hospitalized parishioner, but we have to know who is hospitalized in order to do so. Hence, we can't call and inquire about someone we don't know is in the hospital.
I would encourage making a call to the office if you or a loved one is or will be hospitalized at MercyOne. The priests are accustomed to visiting the hospital and we would be happy to do so if we know who is hospitalized.

Explore Your Gifts and Discover Your Call

All Christians received spiritual gifts, or charisms, from the Holy Spirit at baptism to use in service to others. Called & Gifted, a program designed by Catherine of Siena Institute, covers 23 of the most common charisms and guides participants through a discernment process to help them discover their unique purpose.
The next local session will start September 14 and conclude December 7 at Epiphany Parish in Mason City. The first five classes will meet weekly. Then, participants will sign up for a personal consultation with local interviewers trained by Catherine of Siena Institute to help determine which charism each might want to explore. The second part of the course, Discernment in Depth, includes small group discussion and meets every other week.

Classes meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, 722 N. Adams Ave., Mason City.
Class dates are September 14, 21, 28; October 5, 12, 26; November 9, 23; December 7. Additional information and registration forms are available online at Epiphany Parish's website; www.epiphanyparish.org and in the Parish office, 300 5th St. SE, Mason City. The $25 registration fee covers all materials.
If you have questions, please contact: Karen Knudson 641-423-5001 k.knudson@dbqarch.org,
Rollie Knudson 641-420-0022 rolandknudson@mchsi.com;
Christie Curtis 605-545-3529 cecurtis@gmail.com; Jane Wageman 641.530.5018 tom-janewageman@mchsi.com.