



St. Mary St. Patrick

February 2, 2025

Presentation of the Lord

Feb. 2, 2025 – An inspiring story of Faith in Japan

On Feb. 6, we celebrate the Feast of Saint Paul Miki and Companions. In the late 1500s the Catholic Faith in Nagasaki, Japan, had grown to as many as 300,000 Catholics. However, Japan rulers tried to destroy the Catholic Church in Japan seeing it as a threat to their power. Saint Paul Miki and 25 other leaders of the Catholic faith were publicly executed through crucifixion. Persecution continued and by 1630 it seemed the Catholic Church of Japan was completely destroyed. 250 years later, when Catholic missionaries returned to Japan, they were surprised to find that the faith had not been destroyed, but a faithful remnant had secretly preserved and passed on the Catholic faith for all those years! The Catholic faith continued to grow again and Nagasaki became the heart of Catholic Christianity in Japan. Some even began to call it the “Rome of Japan.”

In 1931 the Franciscan priest Saint Maximilian Kolbe traveled to Nagasaki and built a monastery there, to continue to help built up the faith there. On August 9, 1945, when the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Kolbe’s Franciscan monastery seemingly miraculously survived the bomb, as the mountain next to it shielded it from the main force of the blast. The Franciscan friars then served an important role of ministering to both the physical and spiritual needs of all the survivors after the atomic blast. It seemed that Maximilian Kolbe was acting on Divine inspiration when he was deciding where to place the monastery.

For the survivors of the atomic bomb, there were many questions: Why did Nagasaki and its tiny Christian community have to endure the bomb? Was there meaning in all that pain? One person who asked these questions was a Nagasaki doctor Takashi Nagai. As a leader in the local Catholic community, he was asked to speak at a special Mass for those killed in the atomic bomb. What he said was astonishing:

“I believe...God’s providence chose [Nagasaki]...Is there not a profound relationship between the annihilation of Nagasaki and the end of the war? Was not Nagasaki the chosen victim, the lamb without blemish, slain as a whole-burnt offering on an altar of sacrifice, atoning for the sins of all the nations during World War II? Only this holocaust in Nagasaki sufficed and at that moment God inspired the Emperor to issue the sacred proclamation that ended the war. The Christian flock of Nagasaki was true to the faith through three centuries of persecution. During the recent war it prayed ceaselessly for a lasting peace. Here was the one pure lamb that had to be sacrificed as a holocaust on His altar ... so that many millions of lives might be saved.” Nagai spent the rest of his life reflecting on the notion of redemptive suffering which is at the heart of Christian life.

Japanese Archbishop Mitsuaki Takami (Archbishop from 2003 – 2021) said, “Our Christian ancestors were oppressed and monitored, and then suffered from the atomic attack. This all made me think, ‘What is it supposed to mean?’ Perhaps the followers in Nagasaki have been given a mission to convey peace.”

Peace,
-Fr. Kevin

2 de febrero, 2025 – Una Historia Inspiradora de Fe en Japón

El 6 de febrero, celebraremos la Fiesta de San Pablo Miki y Compañeros. A finales del siglo XVI, la fe católica en Nagasaki, Japón, había crecido hasta 300.000 católicos. Sin embargo, gobernantes de Japón intentaron destruir la Iglesia Católica y la fe en Japón ya que la veían como una amenaza a su poder. San Pablo Miki y 25 otros líderes de la fe Católica fueron crucificados públicamente. La persecución continuó, y para 1630 se creía que la Iglesia Católica en Japón estaba completamente destruida.

Doscientos cincuenta años después, cuando misioneros Católicos volvieron a Japón, se sorprendieron al encontrar que la fe no se había destruido, sino que ¡un resto de fieles habían preservado y pasado secretamente la fe católica durante todos esos años!

La fe católica continuó creciendo nuevamente y Nagasaki se convirtió en el corazón del Cristianismo Católico en Japón. Algunos, incluso comenzaron a llamarla “la Roma de Japón”.

En 1931 el sacerdote franciscano San Maximiliano Kolbe viajó a Nagasaki y construyó allí un monasterio para continuar edificando la fe. El 9 de agosto de 1945, cuando la bomba atómica cayó sobre Nagasaki, el monasterio franciscano de Kolbe aparentemente sobrevivió milagrosamente a la bomba, ya que una montaña lo protegió de la fuerza central de la explosión. Los frailes franciscanos, entonces, desempeñaron un papel importante al atender las necesidades físicas y espirituales de todos los sobrevivientes de la explosión atómica. Parecía que Maximiliano Kolbe había actuado por inspiración Divina al decidir dónde instalar el monasterio.

Para los sobrevivientes de la bomba atómica quedaban muchas preguntas: ¿Por qué Nagasaki y su pequeña comunidad cristiana tuvieron que soportar la bomba? ¿Había significado en todo ese dolor? Una persona que hizo estas preguntas fue un médico de Nagasaki, Takashi Nagai. Como líder de la comunidad católica local, se le pidió que hablara en una misa especial por los muertos en la bomba atómica. Lo que dijo que asombroso:

“Creo ... que la providencia de Dios escogió [a Nagasaki] ... ¿No hay acaso una profunda relación entre la aniquilación de Nagasaki y el fin de la guerra? ¿No fue Nagasaki la víctima escogida, el cordero sin mancha muerto como una ofrenda quemada en un altar de sacrificio, expiada por los pecados de todas las naciones durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial? Sólo bastó este holocausto en Nagasaki; y en ese momento, Dios inspiró al Emperador a emitir la sagrada proclama que puso fin a la guerra. El rebaño cristiano de Nagasaki fue fiel a la fe durante tres siglos de persecución. Durante la guerra reciente oró sin cesar por una paz duradera. Allí estaba el único cordero puro que tenía que ser sacrificado como holocausto en Su altar ... para que miles de millones de vidas se salvaran”. Nagai pasó el resto de su vida reflexionando sobre la noción del sufrimiento redentor, que está en el corazón de la vida cristiana.

El Arzobispo Japonés Mitsuaki Takami (Arzobispo desde 2003–2021) dijo, “Nuestros antepasados cristianos fueron oprimidos y vigilados, y luego sufrieron el ataque atómico. Todo esto me hizo pensar, ‘¿Qué significa eso?’ Quizá a los seguidores en Nagasaki se les ha entregado la misión de transmitir paz”.

Paz,
– Fr. Kevin

St. Mary

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

Book Club

February 3 at 6 p.m.

The Wedding People

By Allison Espach

March 3 at 6 p.m.

The God of the Woods

By Liz Moore

Everyone is welcome to join! Great discussion and fellowship!



Presentation of the Lord

The "Presentation of the Lord" is a Christian feast day that commemorates the moment when Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the Jerusalem Temple to present him to God, 40 days after his birth, following Jewish law which required the purification of the mother and the dedication of the firstborn male child to the Lord; this event is also sometimes called "Candlemas" due to the tradition of blessing candles during the celebration.

Stewardship - Treasure

Sunday, January 26, 2024

Adult Envelopes	\$950
Offertory	\$94
Building Fund	\$565
Second Collection	\$478

Give Online www.FranklinHardinCatholic.org/online-giving

Liturgical Ministers

February 9 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lector: Cindy Richtsmeier, Scott O'Brien

Ushers: Richard Bloom, Jim Wessels,

Mike Bonewitz, Jaxon Schipper

Eucharistic Ministers: Denise Sprain,

Mary Schumacher

Altar Servers: Sergio Rogel

Money Counters: Marilyn O'Brien, Jessica Schipper

Sacristan: Jo DeVries

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

Everyone is welcome!

Thank you

St. Mary 5th graders:

On behalf of Operation Santa Claus, thank you so much for your kind donations of t-shirts and sweatshirts. Because of all of these generous donations, we were able to help 25 families. Thank you so much for your generosity! We wish you a blessed New Year!

Sheryl Arends and Emily Schipper

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution Statements will be going out the first part of January. If you think your statement is incorrect or if you did not receive a statement and think you should have, contact Barb Keninger.

Find at least one good point in the other person and build from there. In the family, you should thank each other, mentioning the good you have seen others do. In short, an understanding love – a love that sees the good in others – will be our goal.

Thirsting for God – Mother Teresa

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

February 9th, 2025 – Febrero 9th, 2025

Mass—February 9th, 2025 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Denielle Conlon
Ushers: April Schoning, Brody Strother
Eucharistic Ministers; Joe & Lili Alonzo
Money Counters: Sherry Peterson, Marilyn Brocka
Altar Servers: James & Joseph Conlon, Dorian Harper
Sacristan: Sherry Peterson
Linens: Sue Garrett

Spanish Mass—Febrero 9th, 2025 5:30 p.m.

Lector: Esther Garcia, Carmen Garcia
Ministros de Eucarísticos: Estenia Madrid, Jose Franco
Contador es de Dinero: Anabel Ramirez, Amber Lopez
Monaguillos: America Dominguez, Ayleen Rodriguez, Thalia Coloriano
Sacristan: Anabel Alanis

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

Happenings Week of February 2nd, 2025

Tuesday/ Martes February 4th/ Febrero 4th, 2025

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

Wednesday/ Miercoles –February 5th / Febrero 5th

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

Thursday/ Jueves – February 6th / Febrero 6th

8:30 AM Mass
1:00 – 3:00 PM Crafts (Social Hall)
6:00-8:00 PM Adoration/Adoración

Sunday/ Domingo February 9th/ Febrero 9th

10:30 AM – Mass
5:30 PM – Mass- Spanish

MEN'S GRIEF GROUP

If you are a male who is experiencing grief over the death of a loved one. St. Patrick will be hosting a men's grief group.

The first meeting will be
FEBRUARY 3rd at 6:00 PM

St. Patrick Church Parish Library
For More Information

Contact Steve Pearson at 641-425-1662 or contact the Parish Office at 641-456-4857



Do you follow us on
Social Media?
¿Nos sigues en las redes
sociales?

St. Patrick, St. Mary and Franklin-Hardin Catholic Hispanic Ministries all have active Facebook pages. Please "like and "follow us on these pages. This is a great way to get weather announcements, the weekly Homily and stay up to date on what is happening in our parishes.

Los Ministerios Católicos Hispanos de San Patricio, Santa María y Franklin-Hardin tienen páginas activas en Facebook. Por favor, "me gusta" y "síguenos en estas páginas. Esta es una excelente manera de obtener anuncios sobre el clima, la homilía semanal y mantenerse al día sobre lo que está sucediendo en nuestras parroquias.

ROLL BREAKFAST & SOCIAL / ROLL DESAYUNO & SOCIAL

FEBRUARY 2nd

Roll Breakfast after
10:30 AM Mass

Social Time after 5:30 PM Mass
Please stay after and join in the fellowship.



2 DE FEBRERO

Roll Desayuno después
Misa a las 10:30 AM

Tiempo social después de la misa de las 5:30 p.m.
Por favor, quédate después y únete a la comunión.

STEWARDSHIP TREASURY SUNDAY JANUARY 26, 2025

REGULAR	\$	880.00
OFFERTORY	\$	276.25
COLLECTION WILDFIRES	\$	985.00

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



PICTURES

There are pictures in the Social Hall that are from Baptisms, church events etc. Please check it out and see if there are any that you would like to keep!
LAST CHANCE this weekend!

Heating Cost Assistance for Low-Income Households

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally-funded program designed to assist low-income families in Iowa to meet the cost of home heating by providing a one-time payment to the heating utility. Homeowners and renters are eligible within the federal poverty guidelines. Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis from November 1 - April 30 of each year. **Individuals may apply for the program at the local Community Action Agency in your county.**

North Iowa Community Action

123 1st Ave SW
Hampton, IA
641-456-3431

Mid Iowa Community Action

637 Oak St.
Iowa Falls, IA
641-648-5036



National Marriage Week and World Marriage Day

The annual observances of National Marriage Week (February 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 9) are an opportunity to focus on supporting and promoting the vocation of marriage and family life. The USCCB's theme for 2025 is "Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal. Pursue a Lasting Love!" For resources from the USCCB go to <https://www.foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week/>.

California Wildfire Relief

Multiple fast-moving wildfires, fueled by high winds, engulfed whole neighborhoods in Los Angeles County and have killed at least 10 people, with more than 180,000 under evacuation orders. Your donation today will help their recovery tomorrow.

Visit <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/> to make an emergency donation to help provide lifesaving resources. 100% of your gift supports wildfire relief efforts.

Pray for...

Cathy Kuper, Darwin Wikert,
Megan (Keninger) Hesnard,
Jacob Sudtelgte



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

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 3

8:30 a.m. Jim Leach St. Mary

Tuesday, February 4

8:30 a.m. Father Phil Recker St. Patrick

Wednesday, February 5

8:30 a.m. Carol Keninger St. Mary

Thursday, February 6

8:30 a.m. Duane Kelch St. Patrick

Sunday, February 9

8:00 a.m. Sharon Ubben St. Mary
10:30 a.m. Father Carl Schmitt 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