St. Patrick Catholic Church
St. Mary Catholic Church



Pastorate Pastor's Pen

The Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time—I shared last week that I vacationed in Milan, Italy, with a seminary classmate. We were celebrating our 40th anniversary of ordination with an extraordinary journey. The original two of the four Latin Doctors of the Church are associated with Milan, they being St. Ambrose (c. 339-40-397 A.D) and St. Augustine. St. Augustin was baptized by St. Ambrose who was instrumental in Augustine's conversion to Christianity.

We visited the Basilica of St. Ambrose, where he is buried between two martyrs. Seeing his earthly remains and praying before him and viewing a likeness of him in a mosaic that is part of the church, his life took on a vivid hue for me. Ambrose wrote a lot in defense of the faith and was a great teacher. The Parable of the Ten Virgins, the subjects of today's gospel reading, didn't escape the eye of Ambrose. Hence, I would like to share his interpretation of the parable.

St. Ambrose interpreted the parable while offering a commentary on Psalm 119:105 which says, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path." He understands the word as Christ, who is the light that illumines the path of life. The world, he says, offers spiritual darkness, temptation and sin. Being a Christian means that we walk by the light of Christ rather than the darkness found in the world.

The lamp oil the virgins were to have is identified by Ambrose as God's mercy and grace. The oil is also humility as well as faith and prudence that guides the decisions we make. Ambrose also associated oil with what the Good Samaritan poured on the wounds of the injured man. He said that oil heals physical wounds and divine mercy heals the wounds of sin.

The Christian faith is to be exercised always and not superficially. One's faith is exercised not only on Sunday, but every day and everywhere. An individual may be excited about God's word, but then ignore it outside of church. That is like the sleeping virgins who let their oil supply run scarce.

Humility is very important to Ambrose. Christ is the supreme example of humility because he emptied himself to become a human being and on the cross when he died for our sins. Like we thought about last week when reflecting on the Beatitudes (Mt 5: 1-12a), Christians are to imitate Christ's humility rather than pursing pride, power, prestige and pleasure. When trials and sufferings eventuate, and they are endured while being faithful to Christ, they strengthen virtue. And that's what the wise virgins did. They were humble and persevered in faith and virtuous living. They made wise, prudent decisions influenced by their faith and the grace of God.

The wise virgins were ready for the bridegroom when at last he arrived in the middle of the night. The bridegroom is Christ and his arrival can be understood as his Second Coming. Through their faith and virtue, the wise virgins were ready to enter into the marriage banquet, a communion with Christ at the end of time. The foolish virgins were excluded because they were spiritually unprepared for the arrival of Christ.

St. Ambrose helps us with his interpretation of the parable. Believe in Christ and act on your faith always. Don't let your oil run out. Rather, turn to divine grace to support and sustain you. Be prudent, humble and merciful towards others in imitation of Christ, by whose word you live and who is the light that illumines the pathway of your life. Be prepared, for you know not the time or the hour of Christ's return or of your own death. Keep your lamp burning brightly!

St. Mary

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

Liturgical Ministers

November 12 – 8:30 a.m. Mass
Lector : Denise Sprain
Sacristan: Jim Wessels

Book Club

Read in November to discuss
November 30 at 5 p.m.
Soup and Side Supper
The Christmas Wish
by Ricard Siddow
Everyone is welcome to join! Great discussion and fellowship!

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays – 11:30 – 12:30
In the church

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



All Souls

"Remember Those Who Have Died In The Peace of Christ and All The Dead Whose Faith Is Known To You Alone."
(Fourth Eucharistic Prayer)

We will light a candle for the St. Mary parishioners who have passed away in the last year during the month of November

Gary Bonewitz
Kay King
Marlyn Nymeyer
David Deike



The Book of Remembrance is at the back of church

Confession Times

Webster City Saturday 3:30 to 4:30
Webster City Sunday 9:00 to 9:30
Clarion Sunday 8:00 to 8:30
Iowa Falls Saturday 4:00 to 4:30



If we draw near to Jesus, if we stay with him, what seems to be cold water, difficulty, sin, is changed into the new wine of friendship with him.

- Pope Francis, World Youth Day 2013,
- Homily at Aparecida, Brazil

Advent Communal Reconciliation

Sunday, November 29, St. Mark, Iowa Falls 1pm
Sunday, December 6, St John, Clarion, 1pm
Sunday, December 13, St Thomas Aquinas, Webster City, 1pm

Mark your calendars - **Cookie Walk** - December 12 at 9 a.m.
Coffee and rolls will be served starting at 8:45



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
For emergencies after hours call 641-513-0028.

Liturgical Ministries

Mass—November 15, 2026 9:00 a.m.

Lector: Gloria Lawler
Ushers: Greg Cavazos, Ryne Magner
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ann Patton, Ruth Ann Kelch, Dean & Samantha Markwardt
Money Counters: Madonna Weiland, Margy Suter
Altar Servers: Teegan Magner, Ivy Heilskov, Kael Sullivan
Sacristan: Lili & Joe Alonzo
Linens: Lili & Joe Alonzo

You are responsible for finding your own replacement.



UPCOMING MASS TIMES

Thanksgiving St. Patrick Hampton November 25th 5:30 PM – Bilingual
Immaculate Conception St. Patrick December 8th 6:00 PM – Bilingual
Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass December 12th Sacred Heart Rockwell 3:00 PM

SCRIP SALES

Scrip sales year to date have provided $2,491.31 for earnings to support our parish.
Scrip cards are gift cards that you can purchase after Mass. We have cards for all the things that you need: food, gas, and any gift ideas you might have for the upcoming holidays.
You can use cash or check to purchase the scrip cards, we have more than 200 companies available.
Contact Dick Nelson if you you'd like to purchase any of our cards that are available, or stop after church and check it out!



STEWARDSHIP TREASURY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2026

REGULAR	**$ 2,268.00**
OFFERTORY	**$ 99.00**
FOOD PANTRY	**$ 75.00**
ON-LINE & EFT GIVING OCTOBER	**$ 3,560.00**

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

Happenings Week of November 8, 2026

Tuesday/ Martes November 10th
7:00 PM AA/Al-Anon (RE Center)

Wednesday/ Miércoles – November 11th
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Food Pantry/Despensa de Alimentos (Social Hall)
6:30 – Faith Formation

Thursday/ Jueves – November 12th
1:00 – 3:00 PM Crafts – Social Hall
6:00 PM Adoration

Friday/ Viernes – November 13th
8:30 AM Mass

Sunday/ Domingo November 15th
8:00 AM – Reconciliation
9:00 AM Mass

ROLL BREAKFAST SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8th



Plan to join us for rolls, coffee and fellowship!

Journey in Faith
Trust. Transform. Together.

Journey in Faith: Keep Your Lamp Burning

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of ten women waiting for the bridegroom. They all brought lamps, but only five brought enough oil for the wait. When the bridegroom finally arrived, the five were ready. There is something in that story for us as we Journey in Faith together. We don't know exactly what the future will look like, but we do know God is asking us to be ready for what comes next. That means growing in our faith, getting to know one another, sharing our gifts, and being willing to step forward when there is a need.
So, what might being ready look like for you? Where is God asking you to get involved, reach out, or simply say yes? What can you do now instead of waiting for someone else to take the first step? Take these questions to prayer. Ask God to help you recognize where He is at work and to give you the courage to join Him there. Keep your lamp burning.

Confession Times

Webster City Saturay 3:30 to 4:30
Webster City Sunday 9:00 to 9:30
Clarion Sunday 8:00 to 8:30
Iowa Falls Saturday 4:00 to 4:30

Sign-up for Flocknote

St. Mary/St. Patrick will begin using the app Flocknote

Flocknote will be used to help inform our parishioners by text message. It would be used for notifying you of cancelations due to weather, funeral info, prayer chain, etc.
We are asking you to sign up for the app, to help us keep you informed.
St. Mary - Go to: stmaryackley.flocknote.com
St. Patrick – Go to: stpatrickhampton.flocknote.com
You will see a screen to enter your information, you will then go to the next screen there will be options of the notifications you would like to receive: Faith Formation - Prayer Chain (St. Mary only) - Parish
Pick which ones you would like to be notified for..... and that is all you have to do!!
If you need help signing up stop at the parish office and Jolene would be happy to help you!!



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

Confession times for the Mason City pastorate

- Sacred Heart, Manly—After the 8:00 AM Thursday Mass
- Epiphany Parish, Mason City—Saturdays from 8 AM to 9 AM
- Sacred Heart, Rockwell—Spanish or English at before the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Wednesday at 5 p.m.
- St. Patrick, Hampton—Before the 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday

Eucharistic Adoration

- Epiphany Parish, Mason City—The first Friday of the month after the 12:05 PM Mass until 8:00 AM on Saturday; The third Wednesday of the month after the 12:05 PM Mass until 4 PM.
- Sacred Heart, Rockwell—From 11:00 AM-11:50 AM on Sundays
- St. Patrick, Hampton—Thursdays at 6-8 PM
- St. Mary, Ackley – Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

GLOBES NEEDED

The St. Mary and St. Patrick Faith Formation classes are in need of a globe... if you have one that you would be willing to donate. Drop it off at the parish office.



Sale of Farmland

Sale of Farmland—For a great number of years, St. Joseph Parish, and then Epiphany Parish, owned farmland outside of town. It had been rented out for years to be farmed. The long-term tenant passed away recently and the Pastoral Council and Finance Council discussed the feasibility of continuing to rent the land or to sell it. After thoughtful discussion with both councils, it was determined that selling the land would allow the parish to make a greater return by investing the profit from the sale rather than renting the land. No sale of parish property can happen without the approval of the Archdiocese which has been obtained. Hence, the land will be put up for auction next month.

The profit from the sale will allow Epiphany Parish to establish an endowment for the parish, the corpus of which would be permanently invested. The interest from the corpus could be used as needed as well as the corpus can grow through wills, bequests and other donations. A portion of the profit would also be reserved in the parish savings account. The investment, along with all of the financial matters of the parish, is monitored and cared for by the Finance Council of the parish, our business manager and your pastor. And I am pleased to say that we have an excellent Finance Council and business manager who are very good at what they do.
The sale will occur on Friday, November 20, 2026, 10:00 AM, at the Rock Falls Community Center.

MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, November 12
8:30 a.m. St. Mary

Friday, November 13
8:30 a.m. Diane Fitzgerald Jay St. Patrick

Sunday, November 15
9:00 a.m. Doris Jones St. Patrick

Live stream of Mass
www.franklinhardincatholic.org/livestream
YouTube Channel: Franklin Hardin Catholic