St. Patrick Catholic Church
St. Mary Catholic Church



Pastorate Pastor's Pen

The Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time—This week, two unlikely allies join together to entrap Jesus. The Pharisees and the Herodians definitely had opposite political views. They devised a trap for Jesus by asking him whether he thought it was lawful to pay taxes to the Caesar.

The Pharisees were Jews who strictly adhered to the Law and its precepts. Paying taxes to Caesar was repulsive because he was viewed as the conquering oppressor of the Jewish people. Caesar was not given the Promised Land as God had done to the Israelites of old. He took it through military conquest. Secondly, paying tax with the coin bearing Caesar's image was considered idolatrous. Were Jesus to answer the question as posed, he would give the Pharisees and religious leaders the material they needed to denounce and discredit Jesus as being unfaithful to Judaism.

On the other hand, the Herodians supported Roman rule and were sympathetic to King Herod, the puppet of the Romans in Judea. If Jesus said the tax shouldn't be paid, then the Herodians could charge him with treason by accusing him of leading a tax revolt against the Romans. These two unlikely allies thought they had Jesus between a rock and a hard place.

There was no rock or hard place for Jesus. His clever remark after being shown a coin with Caesar's image, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" was a passage through the dilemma the allies had presented.

What did he mean? He was saying that all the coins minted by Caesar belong to him, so give them back to him. When giving back to God, it means that everyone is created in the image and likeness of God and has a duty to give themselves back to God, even Caesar. Jesus also could have been implying that the Jews would not be under the yolk of Caesar at all had they been obedient to God. Finally, Jesus' response did affirm the appropriateness of fulfilling one's civil duties while saying that it was even more primary to serve God.

This passage is useful when considering the believer's duty to God and one's civic duty. My bulletin column is no match to the conversation to be had by the topic I just introduced. Suffice to say that our duty as human beings created in God's image and likeness and that of Christians is first to God with everything else following and flowing from that. While we are citizens of heaven, we also are citizens in the country, state and local community where we live. We have a duty to the governing authority and a responsibility to promote the common good and justice in our communities. Be careful, however, about how you interpret what I just stated. We learn what justice and the common good are from God, the Church and her authentic teachers. The latter are the pope and bishops. What they teach and preserve is the Magisterium of the Church, that is, the body of dogmas, doctrines, and creeds of the Church. It is there that we will find clarity regarding the nature of the common good and the source and nature of justice. Knowing is accompanied by praying. We relate to God who has revealed himself to us. Prayer is a primary vehicle whereby the articles of our faith are incorporated into our lives and the springboard to acting upon them.

Give to God what belongs to him and to Caesar what is his, rings true in our day. The greatest servants of the Kingdom of God who served God and were dutiful to Caesar are the ones who observe the corporal works of mercy wherever they lived and whatever government they had. Their words and deeds of justice, mercy and acting for the common good were powerful because they had their origin in God.

St. Mary

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

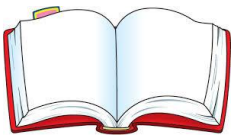
Liturgical Ministers

October 19 – 5:30 p.m. Mass
Lector: Kaitlyn Porter
Altar Servers: Lucas Mausser
Sacristan: Linda Sudtelgte

October 22 – 8:30 a.m. Mass
Lector: Cindy Richtsmeier
Sacristan: Jim Wessels

Book Club

Read and discuss



Read in October to
discuss on November 3rd
The Most Fun We Ever Had
by Claire Lombardo
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!

Anointing of the Sick

Will be administered at Monday Mass in Ackley on October 19 at 5:30 p.m.

In the Letter of James it is stated that the Anointing is to be administered to the sick in order to raise them up and save them. Therefore by every effort and diligence this Sacred Anointing is to be conferred on the faithful who because of sickness, upcoming surgeries, mental illness, or age are seriously ill. If a baptized non-Catholic meets these criteria and they don't have access to their own community, they can be anointed as well.

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



"It might sound obvious, but have you ever asked God for faith?." Take some time in silence today asking the Lord for the kind of faith that "flavors' every part of your life and gives you a sense of purpose and direction.

Journey in Faith:

Journey in Faith: Touchpoint Survey

As we approach three months together as a new pastorate, we want to hear about your experience. Beginning on October 3, parishioners will be invited to share what is going well and what needs improvement. Your feedback will help pastorate leaders set priorities and develop a proposal for a final weekend Mass schedule.

Every response matters. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey at

English: https://forms.gle/vwNr2qZewbDTHoaa9

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

Mass—October 25th, 2026 9:00 a.m.

Lector: John Heilskov
Ushers: Dwight Peterson, Trace Brocka
Eucharistic Ministers: Dean & Samantha Markwardt, Mary Ann Patton, Ruth Ann Kelch
Money Counters: Liz Carr, Linda Cassmann
Altar Servers: Ryan & Teegan Magner, Reed Heilskov
Sacristan: Millicent Fielding
Linens: Donna Devereux

You are responsible for finding your own replacement.

Confirmation October 18th, 2026



Congratulations to our Confirmation students being confirmed today at St. Patrick.
Please continue to pray for them
on their faith journey.



STEWARDSHIP TREASURY
SUNDAY OCTOBER 11, 2026

REGULAR	**$**	**645.00**
OFFERTORY	**$**	**139.05**

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

Happenings Week of October 18, 2026

Tuesday/ Martes October 20th
7:00 PM AA/Al-Anon (RE Center)

Wednesday/ Miércoles – October 21st
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Food Pantry/Despensa de Alimentos (Social Hall)
6:30 – Faith Formation

Thursday/ Jueves – October 22nd
1:00 – 3:00 PM Crafts – Social Hall
6:00 PM Adoration

Friday/ Viernes – October 23rd
8:30 AM Mass

Sunday/ Domingo October 25th
8:00 AM – Reconciliation
9:00 AM Mass



ARCHDIOCESE of DUBUQUE

Journey in Faith: Last Week to Share Your Input in the Touchpoint Survey

This is the final week to complete our *Journey in Faith* Touchpoint Survey. If you haven't responded yet, please take a few minutes to tell us what is going well and where our pastorate can grow. Your input will help pastorate leaders set priorities and develop a proposal for a final weekend Mass schedule.

Complete the survey by October 25 using the QR code above or this linkhttps://forms.gle/TuC4JVPQncQLs4eBA
Thank you for helping shape our future together!

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

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!!

Sacred Heart Parish Rockwell will be having their Annual Turkey Dinner on Sunday October 18, 2026, as a take-out drive thru only. They will serve from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm or until all is gone. The menu will be Turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, corn, cranberries, tea biscuit and apple or pumpkin pie. The cost is $15.00 a meal. Please enter through the parking lot. Come and enjoy a great meal!

October is Respect Life Month—Please consider this from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. …But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. …The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation."

Pope Saint John Paul II, Evangelium vitae, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria

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.

Out of the Office—Father Dave O'Connor will be on vacation from Sunday, October 11th through Saturday, October 24th. The vicars of our pastorate will be here to attend to the pastorate while I am away.



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, October 19 5:30 p.m.	St. Mary
Thursday, October 22 8:30 a.m.	St. Mary
Friday, October 23 8:30 a.m	St. Patrick
Sunday, October 25 9:00 a.m. Harold & Peg Gallagher	St. Patrick

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