

**ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Neola, IA

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Neola, IA 51559

Administrator: Rev. Julius Itamid
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Scott Brooks
Faith Formation Director: Shannon Nye
Business Manager: RaeShelle Jensen

MASS TIMES:
Weekdays: See page 2 for schedule
Saturday Evening: 5:30 PM (April to September)
4:00 PM (October to March)
Sunday Morning: 9:30 AM
Holidays: As announced in the bulletin
Reconciliation: First Saturday evening before Mass

**ST. COLUMBANUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Weston, IA



St. Columbanus Catholic Church
22720 Weston Ave
Underwood, IA 51576-3920
Served from Neola

MASS TIMES:
Sunday Morning: 8:00 AM
Holidays: As announced in the bulletin
Reconciliation by appointment

July 4/5, 2026
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING I Zechariah 9:9-10
PSLAM 145: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.
READING II Romans 8:9, 11-13
GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30

July 11/12, 2026
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING I Isaiah 55:10-11
PSLAM 65: The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.
READING II Romans 8:18-23
GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-23

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

Taken from "Pastoral Patterns" by GIA Publications, Inc.

Jesus knows that our lives are difficult. The mission he left for us is challenging. Additionally, we have dozens of day-to-day responsibilities and concerns. He's just told his disciples that they must carry their crosses. But he also promises that he will be with us to carry our crosses when we are overwhelmed. Therefore, he is able to assure everyone who labors and is burdened that he will give them rest. His yoke is easy, and his burden light. Gathered here today, let us put our concerns and anxieties in the Lord's hands and allow him to lift our burdens from our shoulders.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

Taken from "Pastoral Patterns" by GIA Publications, Inc.

The king shall come, Zechariah prophesied, not in a chariot with weapons drawn, but on a lowly ass, proclaiming peace. He anticipates Jesus telling his disciples that he is meek and humble of heart, as we hear today. Christ is the king the Father sent: gracious and merciful—as we sing in the psalm—slow to anger, greatly kind, and compassionate toward us all. Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord, in whom we can always find rest.

Even though the messianic oracle we hear in the first reading foreshadows Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, which we celebrate on Palm Sunday, let us not conclude that Zechariah could predict the future or received a secret message from God. No, but he could read the signs of the times. Prophesying in the postexilic period, he looked back on many of the final monarchs of Judah before it fell and saw arrogant men who lorded their power over the people, failed to honor the covenant, and sinned grievously. Zechariah wisely foresaw that a Messiah would need to be the opposite: meek, obedient to God, and respectful of the covenant. He could say that Jerusalem could rejoice, for their new king would be just, meek, and peaceful.

Question of the Week

Taken from "Pastoral Patterns" by GIA Publications, Inc.

Do I consider myself meek? How can I be less resentful and more peaceful and patient with family, friends, and colleagues?

Happy
INDEPENDENCE
Day!

Weekday Masses

July 6 - No Mass
 July 7 - St Patrick - Leo & Pauline Fischer 8:30 AM
 July 8 - St Columbanus 8:30 AM
 July 9 - No Mass
 July 10 - St Patrick - Fritz & Vel Wellman 8:30 AM

Weekend Masses

July 11 - St Patrick - Osbahr & McDonald Family 5:30 PM
 July 12 - St Columbanus 8:00 AM
 July 12 - St Patrick - Vincent & Shirley Kenealy 9:30 AM

JULY 11, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - David Mann
 Servers - None

 EME - Maureen Mann
 Bonnie Wredt
 Norm Baker

JULY 12, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Rhea Gross
 Servers - Jordan Harder
 Noah Wollenhaupt
 EME - Liz Lyons
 Chad Harder
 Samantha Nye

JULY 18, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Max Michels
 Servers - Noah Wollenhaupt
 Grace Konz
 EME - Andrea Bolte
 Travis Bolte
 Bonnie Wredt

JULY 19, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Rita Heinen
 Servers - Maysen Lausen
 Jack Murphy
 EME - Geri Bjorling
 Kristen Carlson
 Chad Harder

JULY 25, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Travis Bolte
 Servers - Weston Bladt
 Joseph Gerken
 EME - Maureen Mann
 David Mann
 Bonnie Wredt

JULY 26, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Samantha Nye
 Servers - Emma Sweeney
 Thomas Sweeney
 EME - Emily Leaders
 Liz Lyons
 Roberta Morse

TITHE COUNTERS

July 5 - Anne Brummett	Jim Mahlberg	Cecilia Powell
July 12 - Mark Pogge	Diane Rodenburg	Dani Baxter
July 19 - Peggy Thielen	Sue Stenlund	Rita Heinen
July 26 - Anne Brummett	Jim Mahlberg	Roberta Morse

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

July 5 - Norm Baker	Jennifer Fischer
July 12 - Roberta Morse	Jennifer Fischer
July 19 - Jennifer Fischer	Roberta Morse
July 26 - Norm Baker	Carolyn McDermott

PILGRIMS OF HOPE: We have received small books titled "Pilgrims of Hope: A Pastoral Reflection on Immigration" from the Iowa Catholic Conference. This book is a statement from the Catholic Bishops of Iowa. If you would like to take a copy, they are located in the church entrances.

AD ASTRA CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE: We are excited to invite our students to the **Ad Astra Catholic Youth Conference** this summer, Friday, July 17th and Saturday, July 18th at Grandview University, Rasmussen Center, 2800 East 14th Street, Des Moines, IA. 50316. Discover your desire for greatness this summer at Serva Fidem's first Catholic youth conference, Ad Astra. We're excited to share our tentative schedule filled with inspiring speakers, fellowship, and opportunity to encounter Christ.

Big News: Father Max will be a keynote speaker!

Every moment given to the Lord is worth it. Why not give Him one weekend this summer and see the incredible things He can do? You won't regret it.

Sign up here:

<https://www.dmdiocese.org/events/ad-astra-catholic-youth-conference?event=5e64f4a8-81f7-4f68-9f00-64153d4fcbf1>

How Much? \$50 - If you or anyone you plan to go with needs financial assistance or scholarship - please let Miss Katie Hopping (hoppingk@saintalbertschools.org) or Father Max know!

Calendar of Events:

July 11/12 - Land of Peace selling goods from the Holy Land
 July 20-24 - No Masses as Father will be at the ACCCRUS Conference
 Aug 1 - Reconciliation, 4:30-5:15 pm
 Aug 2 - Children's Mass
 Aug 4 - Deacon Scott's Ordination Anniversary
 Aug 6 - First Thursday Reconciliation & Adoration, 6:30-7:30 pm
 Aug 15/16 - Collection for the Church in Africa
 Aug 23 - Back to School Blessing for students & teachers
 Aug 24-28 - No Masses as Father will be on Vacation

Offering Report

Last Weeks

Fiscal Year to Date

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,840.00	\$ 103,930.20
Open Offering	\$ 115.00	\$ 10,076.90
Children's Offering	\$ 21.00	\$ 958.61
Peter's Pence	\$ 100.00	\$ 492.00
St Thomas, Virgin Islands	\$ 1,862.00	\$ 1,862.00

Memorial Calendar

July 6 - Memorial of St. Maria Goretti
 July 9 - Memorial of St. Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions
 July 11 - Memorial of St. Benedict

NCYC GARAGE SALE: Thank you to everyone that donated or purchased items from the NCYC Garage Sale this past weekend. The group earned over \$3,000 for their trip to Indianapolis in November of 2027. Thank you again for all of your support!

CHILDREN'S COLLECTION: As in the past, the Children's Collection is being used to support Mary's Meals. Mary's Meals is a registered charity which sets up school feeding programs in some of the world's poorest communities, where hunger and poverty prevent children from gaining an education. Their vision is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things. This year, we are sending \$958.61. Thank you to all the children that donated to this wonderful organization. Let's try to make it even bigger in 2027.

LAND OF PEACE: Next weekend, July 11/12, our brothers and sisters representing the Land of Peace mission, a nonprofit organization, will be with us speaking about the Christian situation in the Holy Land and selling Crucifixes, religious art work, and rosaries all made of olive wood which is native to Israel and Bethlehem. Since tourism has greatly depleted, Christian families in the holy land, who depend on tourists, have been greatly affected. The goal of this mission is to help the poor and needy families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Sale of these goods will help them very much and also give you the opportunity to have "something" authentic from the holy land. Please browse and buy some articles. It is for a good cause and also a help to your personal devotion.

FINDING GOD: This summer, don't take a vacation from Mass. Wherever you are, you can find the nearest church and Mass by going to MassTimes.org.



Want to experience the beauty of the Midwest Catholic Family Conference, July 31-August 2, 2026, in Wichita, KS, for free? We have an opportunity for those who are interested in teaching and/or volunteering for the children's program. Volunteer for a full day in the program and receive free registration for your family to the conference as well as a free t-shirt or mp3 download of the talks! High school and middle school students can get service hours and have fun doing it. Please email for questions and to sign up at cfc4children@gmail.com.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

The ADA provides more than ⅓ of the funding needed to support the parishes in the Diocese of Des Moines. Your gift makes a difference!



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DMDIOCESE.ORG/GIVING

FROM THE
ALTAR
TO THE
STREETS

JULY — THE STRANGER AT THE DOOR

“Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ.”

— Pope Benedict XVI, Message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (2013)

The Gospel challenges us to see beyond labels and first impressions. In welcoming the stranger, we discover that Christ often arrives in unexpected ways.

THIS MONTH'S INVITATION:
Look for an opportunity this month to welcome someone who is new, overlooked, or alone.
Small acts of hospitality often become the deepest acts of love.

SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE

LEARN MORE

Scan the QR code to discover how Catholic Charities' Community Resource Coordination program helps individuals and families connect with the support they need to thrive.

RECEIVE CHRIST. BE CHRIST. SERVE CHRIST IN OTHERS.

Christ Our Life Catholic Conference

When: September 26 & 27, 2026
Where: Casey's Center Des Moines
Why: To hear world-class speakers, learn more about our faith, be inspired, worship and praise God in community with thousands and experience the joy of His presence!
How: Attend in person or livestream
Cost: \$30 for the entire weekend 23 and under FREE!



Scan the QR code to purchase tickets

For more information, go to:
ChristOurLifelowa.com

Let's Believe...Live...and Celebrate Our Faith!

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GOLF
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July 11, 2026 | Dodge Riverside Golf Course
\$400 - Foursome

All proceeds from our upcoming golf tournament will be directed towards scholarships at Saint Albert Catholic

Register at:
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or scan the QR code
Registration closes Sunday, July 5th

Questions please contact Kate Gaul at
gaulk@saintalbertschools.org

July Birthdays			July Anniversaries
Bill Schierbrock	1	Becky Martens	12
Regan Ausdemore	3	Hadlee Busch	12
Mary King	4	Eric Ausdemore	13
Joe Minear	4	Fran Minear	15
Rylan Ring	4	AJ Harder	15
Gene Meyerring	5	Richard Ravlin	16
Sheryl Genereux	7	Shannon Nye	17
Courtney Clark	8	Cary Cochran	17
Scott Konz	8	John Wellman	18
Jolene Hulsing	9	Zach Baxter	18
Bonnie Reid	9	Joshua Michels	18
Kane Daughenbaugh	10	Max Michels	19
David Lefebber	11	E.J. Fischer	20
Penny Anderson	11	Mike Genereux	20
Dee Fischer	11	Leo Baragary	20
Heather Turner	11	Lorraine Grote	20
Michael Dempsey	11	Terryl Greiner	21
Fred Smith	12	Traci Huebner	21
Jason Cook	12	Ali Leaders	21
		Tom Minahan	22
		Paulina McGargill	22
		Kynsley Clark	22
		Jaime Konz	25
		Bailey Kuehl	25
		Carol Schnitker	26
		Theresa Corrin	26
		Dan Ryan	26
		Cael Corrin	26
		Jaymie Larrison	27
		Mick Carlson	28
		Connor Fox	28
		Walter Koch	29
		Bonnie Ausdemore	29
		Elizabeth Thielen	29
		Tanner Ausdemore	29
		Steve & RaeShelle Jensen	1
		John & Deb Masker	2
		Curt & Diane Wellman	5
		Clay & Paulina McGargill	7
		David & Bonnie Kramer	8
		Ron & Mary King	9
		Daniel & Anne Fischer	9
		Brett & Wendy Lausen	11
		Ben & Katie Ausdemore	12
		John & Marsha Wellman	16
		Joe & Fran Minear	18
		Kelly&Paige Daughenbaugh	22
		Dean & Jessie Grote	23
		Chad & Jennifer Harder	23
		Patrick & Amy Andersen	25
		Bill & Babetta Lucke	26
		Clinton & Denise Parish	26
		Max & Angie Kozeal	27
		Brent & Corey Hough	30

We welcome you into God's family! If you are interested in learning more about our church, or would like to join, please pick up a registration form at one of the entrances of the church, stop by the parish office, or call Father Julius for an appointment.

For information about Baptism, Sacrament of the Sick, Pastoral Visitations, Reconciliation, RCIA, Marriage, Adoration, or the Prayer Chain, please visit our website at <https://stpatricksneola.com/> or contact the Parish Office at 712.485.2750.

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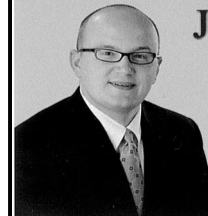
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One Minute Meditations

St. Lawrence of Brindisi

Born in Brindisi, Naples, Cesare de Rossi entered the Capuchin Order when he was sixteen, taking the name Lawrence. In addition to Italian, he was fluent in many languages. His knowledge of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew made him a great Biblical scholar, but his knowledge of German, French, and Spanish made Him a good preacher and diplomat. As minister general of the Capuchins, he spread the influence of the Order, establishing monasteries in Germany, Austria, and Spain.

The indispensability of prayer

St. Martha is often criticized for her busyness while her sister Mary is praised for sitting at Jesus' feet. Yet Martha's fault was not her service itself, but for allowing productivity to take precedence over prayerful attentiveness to the Lord. Scripture does not call us to perpetual activity; God commands us to rest (Exodus 20:10-11) and to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17), while still fulfilling our responsibilities. Prayer enables us to live out our vocations, especially our fundamental vocation to love.

"That [Precious] blood inebriates the soul. It clothes her in the fire of divine charity. It gives her the food of the sacrament that I have set up for you in the hostel of the mystic body of holy Church, the body and the blood of my Son..." – God to St. Catherine of Siena

Your summer soul-care checklist

Summer brings a welcome change of pace. While routines may take a break, our faith doesn't have to. Here are seven simple ways to stay rooted in God's presence and make this summer spiritually fruitful:

- 1. Begin every journey with prayer.** Before heading out, take a moment to entrust your plans to God. Pray the Guardian Angel prayer and ask for protection, wisdom, and peace throughout your travels and activities.
- 2. Wear reminders of your faith.** A crucifix, Miraculous Medal, scapular, or Rosary bracelet can do more than complete an outfit. These sacramentals serve as quiet reminders of who you belong to and what you value.
- 3. Adopt a saint for summer.** Choose a saint to be your spiritual companion for the season. You may discover that the saint you choose has something to teach you exactly when you need it.
- 4. Let creation lead you to the Creator.** A brilliant sunset, a mountain view, or even flowers blooming in a neighbor's garden can become moments of prayer. When beauty captures your attention, let it lift your heart and mind to God, the source of all

- beauty and goodness.
- 5. Look for opportunities to serve.** Summer may offer additional flexibility. Use it to love your neighbor in practical ways. Help with yardwork, spend time with someone who appears lonely, offer encouragement to a colleague.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge" (Psalm 19:1-2).

- 6. Keep your soul in training.** Athletes know that strength comes through discipline. Spiritual strength is no different. Choose a sacrifice or habit that challenges you. Limit social media, wake up earlier for prayer, or attend an extra Mass during the week. Even small acts build up the heart for greater things.
- 7. Remember the 1-1-1 Rule.** A simple rhythm can keep you faithful throughout the summer: *Pray (at least) once a day. Attend Mass once a week. Go to Confession once a month.* These three practices provide a steady anchor, even amidst the looser structure of summer.

Why Do Catholics Do That? Why do Catholics call Rome "home?"

Throughout the Gospels, Peter takes up a leadership role among the Apostles – a role Jesus confirmed when, in Matthew 16, He names Peter "the Rock" upon which Jesus would build His Church (Matthew 16:17-18). After the Ascension, St. Peter traveled to Rome with the Gospel and became the bishop

of the Christian community there. He was martyred and buried in Rome, and his successors became the next popes. Historically, the church in Rome became a source of unity, strength, and faithfulness in adversity. Today, Catholics everywhere call Rome – the resting place of St. Peter – "home."

The secret to balance isn't to do more

Do you struggle to find balance in life? As founder and abbot of an entire Order, St. Benedict of Nursia knew the challenge of balancing prayer, work, community, and service. His wisdom for cultivating balance, order, and peace remains remarkably practical today:

Keep a daily rhythm: Few of us are called to a monk's strict schedule, but we can establish healthy routines, make time for rest and meals, and safeguard time for prayer. Structure creates freedom by helping us focus on what matters most rather than constantly reacting to demands. You, and those around you, will benefit.

Be punctual: "On hearing the signal for an hour of the

divine office, the monk will immediately set aside what he has in hand and go with utmost speed" (Rule of St. Benedict, Ch. 43). A balanced life depends on moving promptly to what is most important at the proper time. Punctuality is not merely efficiency; it is a way of honoring both our commitments and the people around us.

Make peace before sunset: Peace of mind requires letting go of anger and forgiving quickly. When a busy day leads to conflict, St. Benedict urges us to "make peace before the setting of the sun." Resentment drains our energy and disrupts our relationships, while reconciliation restores the peace needed to live and work well.

from **S**cripture

Matthew 13:44-52, The value of the Kingdom

Jesus used the parables in this Gospel passage to emphasize the life-changing value of the Kingdom. In the first parable, a man discovers – seemingly by accident – a treasure buried in a field. Recognizing its value, he sells everything he has to buy the field. In the second scenario, a merchant finds a valuable pearl after diligent searching. He also sells everything to possess the precious pearl.

By these parables, Jesus taught that being part of God's Kingdom – accepting His love for us and loving others as He loves – is the only thing

that completely fulfills our hearts. God's unconditional love is the only thing that is worthy of everything we have. If we accept His invitation (He forces no one), our lives will change as our hearts change.

Finally, Jesus compared the separation between the evil and righteous to the sifting that happens when a large catch of fish is brought ashore. When we put our whole life in service to God's love, then the individual pieces fall into place around that love, and anything contrary to it falls away.

Q & A Who are the incorrupt Saints?

"Incorrupt" saints are those whose bodies have been found to resist normal decomposition, either wholly or in part, without deliberate human preservation. Some, such as St. Bernadette Soubirous, appear remarkably well preserved, while in other cases only certain parts of the body, such as St. Vincent de Paul's heart, remain incorrupt.

The Church regards incorruptibility not as proof of sainthood, but as a possible sign of a person's holiness. These extraordinary cases also serve as reminders of the future glory promised to all believers. The human body possesses a unique dignity and is destined to share in God's glory through the resurrection of the dead (CCC 997). Mary's bodily Assumption into heaven offers a glimpse of the destiny to which all the faithful are called.

For this reason, the Church has long venerated the bodies and relics of the saints. Such veneration, including that of incorrupt bodies, is intended to be reverent and prayerful. By encountering these remarkable witnesses of faith, we are inspired to imitate their virtue and draw closer to Christ. When we honor the saints, we ultimately honor the God whose grace transformed their lives.

Feasts & Celebrations

July 6 – St. Maria Goretti (1902). Twelve-year-old Maria was attacked by a neighbor who tried to assault her. When she fought rather than submit, he stabbed her repeatedly. She forgave him before dying shortly after. Her attacker dreamed of Maria while in prison and his first act when released 27 years later was to beg Maria's mother's forgiveness. He wept tears of joy when he attended Maria's canonization.

July 22 – St. Mary Magdalene (1st century). Jesus expelled seven demons from Mary (Luke 8:2) and she financially supported His ministry. She stood by His Cross with His mother and was the one who informed the

Apostles of His Resurrection.

July 26 – Saints Joachim and Ann (1st century). Little is known about Jesus' grandparents, but Mary's unshakeable faith, her devotion to the laws of her religion, and her steadiness in crises indicate the values with which she was raised. Today, pray for your grandparents.

July 30 – St. Peter Chrysologus (c.450). Born in Imola around the year 400, St. Peter converted to Christianity and was ordained deacon. For a while he lived ascetically as a monk. He was ordained Bishop of Ravenna and spent his office defending his see against heresies. His preaching style was so impactful and articulate he was given the title of "golden-tongued." He produced about one hundred seventy-six homilies.

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