

The Parishes of

St. Patrick's
903 Central Avenue
Estherville, Iowa

+

www.stpatstmary.com

St. Mary's
404 5th Avenue
Armstrong, Iowa

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

Ash Wednesday March 6th

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - March 3rd, 2019

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From the Desk of Fr. Merlin

March 3, 2019 The 8th Sunday of Ordinary Time

The first reading today uses the example of a sieve to show how grain (good fruit) is separated from the husks (the dead shell). Tribulation and difficulties are sieves in our own lives – and when we are shaken, the real fruit of who we are will be revealed in both our speech and actions.

Lent Begins This Week

“Remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return.” These are the words that you will hear when the ashes are put on your forehead this coming Wednesday---Ash Wednesday and Lent 2019 will begin. Our theme this year at St. Mary’s and St. Patrick’s will be **Turn Away From Sin and Turn Toward God**. The words when the ashes are put on our foreheads and the words of our theme are obvious, but will we do anything to grow closer to God this Lent? Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the usual things that people do during the Lenten season. At the entrances of the church at both parishes you will find **The Word Among**, a book that contains the readings of the day and also daily reflection. They are there for the taking and will provide good spiritual materials. As we did last year, we will have the **Stations of the Cross on Friday’s** starting at 7:00 pm. This week they will be at St. Mary’s and next week St. Patrick’s at 7:00 pm and will alternate throughout the season of Lent. There will also be **communal penance services** in both of our parishes and all of the surrounding parishes. The time and places will be in next week’s bulletin. Finally, and most important there will be morning Mass at one of the parishes each day or at the nursing homes. Check the bulletin each week for times and place. Let us together grow in our faith and turn away from sin.

Ash Wednesday Masses

There will be three Masses offered this week for Ash Wednesday as we start the Lenten Season. At **7:00 am Mass will be at St. Patrick’s and the 5:30 pm at St. Mary’s (for religious Education classes) and 7:00 pm at St. Patrick’s**. Students at St. Patrick’s will receive their ashes during the class time but are also invited to join their parents for the 7:00 pm Mass.

New Schedule for Almsgiving

For many years there have been a variety of collections throughout the year that often gave the feeling that all we were doing is taking up second collections. The Presbyterate Council has been working on this concern and starting this year a number of the collections will be grouped together. The first of these group collections comes next weekend---The First Sunday of Lent---It will be called **Aid to Global Churches**. This collection includes the following collections of the past: Central and Eastern Europe Collection, Latin America Collection, Africa Collection and Catholic Relief Services Collection. This one-time collection will be divided at the Diocesan Level to support all these causes.

Calendar Year Financial Reports

The 2018 Calendar Year Financial Reports were found in your bulletins last weekend. If you were not at Mass this past week, extra reports are found in the gathering area at St. Mary’s and at the entrances at St. Patrick’s. I want to thank everyone who shared their treasure with your parish and helping us meet our expenses. The St. Mary’s expenses may appear a little higher than the income but the majority of the heating and air conditioning expenses came out of the Campaign money that was raised the year before. **Over 70%** of our registered parishioners in both parishes shared their financial gifts and returned to God a portion of their income. I know we always have expenses that were not planned or budgeted but we have been able to meet those needs. I also want to thank all those who shared their time and talents in various ways with either of our parishes. I know our Bishop continues to look at the parishes to see if they are viable and provide good liturgies and I think we do, in both parishes, because of all of you. May God continue to bless our parishes and if you have any questions about the report feel free to call the office and ask for Dawn.

Donations for our Fish

Both parishes are preparing for their Fish Dinners. To help with the expenses St. Mary’s has the tradition of donations to the Fisherman’s Club. Place your donations in the collection basket. **At St. Patrick’s** we will use the second collection **this week---March 2nd and 3rd** for that purpose. If you were not prepared to make a donation this week you can do that in the weeks ahead. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You Cody and Courtney

This past Friday, we had an awesome Soup and Pie Supper. Thanks to volunteers, 5 kinds of soup were available to enjoy along with many kinds of pies and other various desserts. A BIG thank you goes out to Cody and Courtney Newgard for organizing this event to help kick off our future campaign to replace the pipes in the tunnel. A big thank you to the many volunteers for serving the food, collecting the money, doing the dishes, setting up and tearing down the gym and, of course, those who made the food. A fun time was had by all and I am sure will be done again in the future. God Bless you all.

March - Month of St. Joseph

First Fish Fry- St. Patrick's

Friday, March 8th – Duhigg Center
From 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Adults \$9 - Kids five & under \$5
Take Out Dinners Available
Silent Auction – ends April 12th

Catholic Daughters will meet Tuesday evening, **March 12th** beginning with the Rosary at 7:00 pm followed by meeting and desserts. Committee: Kathy Jasper, Teresa Allen & Mary Sicard.

St. Patrick's Choir Practice will begin before Mass on Ash Wed. at 6:00 pm and continue Sunday's throughout Lent before Mass at 9:15 am. All are welcome!

Estherville/Armstrong KC's 2019 Scholarship Program

The Knights of Columbus will offer a scholarship to graduating seniors from St. Patrick's and St. Mary's parishes. The scholarship application and information sheet can be picked up at the parish office or downloaded from the KC section of the church website at www.stpatstmary.com. The application deadline is April 8th.

Lenten Regulations

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence. This means that all the faithful between the ages of 18 – 59, who are otherwise in good health, should eat only one full meal on Ash Wednesday. Two lighter meals are also permitted. In addition, the law of abstinence requires that all of those who are 14 years of age or over, no meat is to be eaten on Ash Wednesday.

Fridays of Lent are to be observed as days of abstinence. For those 14 years of age and over, no meat is to be eaten on those days.

Each individual Catholic should resolve to engage in other activities of **prayer, fasting, almsgiving and mortification during the 40 days of Lent.** The celebration of Mass, sacramental reconciliation, generous assistance to the poor and religious/charitable causes should be a part of everyone's Lent.

Lenten Activities

Weekday Masses will be celebrated on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** at 8:00 am at St. Mary's and on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** at 7:30 am at St. Patrick's.

We have **Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament every **Wednesday morning** from the end of Mass until noon at St. Patrick's. We pray the Angelus and have Benediction at 12:00 noon each Wednesday.

We will pray the **Stations of the Cross** each **Friday** at **7 pm**. They will be at St. Mary's on **March 8th, March 22nd and April 5th** and at St. Patrick's on **March 15th, March 29th and April 12th**.

Lenten Collections for almsgiving throughout Lent include Aid to Global Churches, Holy Land, and Retired & Infirm Priests. Envelopes are in your Mar. & Apr. packets. Monthly Food Drive- 2nd Sunday of each the month.

St. Mary's Fish Supper

Friday, **March 15th**
From 4:30 to 7:00 pm.
Adults: \$9, Kids 5 to 10- \$5, 4 and under- Free

Please Pray For

Kim Frank, Aurora Mulgrew, Tom Umscheid, Marita Kenyon, Dennis Smith, Kristy Funston, Gaye Rasmussen, Rebecca Bermer, Delbert Petersen, Diane Elling

Sponsor of the Week: **Knights of Columbus**

Parish Financial Blessings **Year-to-Date Giving Information** **July 1st - February 25th, 2019**

St. Patrick's

Total Income	\$ 201,503.11
Total Expenses	\$ 192,428.80

Difference + **9,074.31**

Sunday Collection: Feb. 23– 24th \$ **1,815.00**

Automatic (ACH) Deposits	\$ 100.00
Children's Collection	\$ 5.00
Spanish Mass	\$ (No Mass)
Loose Collection	\$ 146.00
2nd Collection	\$ 140.00
Neighbor to Neighbor Fund	\$ 220.00
Building Fund	\$ 15.00
Briar Cliff	\$ 20.00
Soup Supper	\$ 861.00

Bills

Telephone/Internet	\$ 404.11
Supplies: Altar/Printing/Education	\$ 501.84
Computer/Copier	\$ 1,211.31
Hospitality	\$ 180.03
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 6,018.15

St. Mary's

Total Income	\$ 42,929.58
Total Expenses	\$ 35,018.98

Difference + **7,910.60**

Sunday Collection: Feb. 24th \$ **(No Mass)**

Other Events

Respite Angels Soup Luncheon this Sunday, March 3rd, 11 am – 1 pm, Estherville Masonic Lodge. Cost: \$7.00

1st Presbyterian All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast Tuesday, March 5th, 5 - 7 pm, 723 1st Ave S. Estherville. Freewill Offering.

Animal Shelter Taco Dinner – Bingo – Silent Auction Saturday, **March 9th** at Estherville VFW. Dinner 5-7 pm, Bingo following. Silent Auction & 50/50 Raffle too!

Daylight Savings Time Begins next Sunday **March 10th**. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead when you go to bed next Saturday!!!

Liturgies and Events This Week

Saturday, March 2nd

4:30 pm Mass at St. Patrick's
+ Ron Heinrichs

Sunday, March 3rd

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's
Living & Deceased of our Parishes
+Maxine Crouch

10:30 am Mass at St. Patrick's
+ Andy Hoffman

11:30 am Coffee & Rolls

12:00 pm Mass in Spanish (SP)
+ Leonard family

Monday, March 4th

1:00 pm Mission Quilting (DC Gym)

Tuesday, March 5th

8:00 am NO Mass

Wednesday, March 6th (Ash Wednesday)

7:00 am Mass at St. Patrick's
Living & Deceased of our Parishes

8:00 am Adoration at St. Patrick's (until noon)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Mary's
+Madeline Gerlach

6:00 pm Rel Ed (K-10) SP

6:30 pm Rel Ed (1-10) SM Parish Center

7:00 pm Mass at St. Patrick's
+Marlys Sheridan

Thursday, March 7th

8:00 am Mass at St. Mary's
+Leonard family

10:15 am Mass at Pearl Valley
+Ed Boucher

5:30 pm Respect Life Rosary at St. Patrick's

6:30 pm RCIA (DC)

Friday, March 8th

7:30 am Mass at St. Patrick's
+Maxine Leonard

5:00 pm SP Fish Fry (DC) until 7 pm

7:00 pm Stations at St. Mary's

Saturday, March 9th

4:30 pm Mass at St. Patrick's
Living & Deceased of our Parishes

Monthly Food Drive weekend

Sunday, March 10th

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's
+Darrel Walsh

10:30 am Mass at St. Patrick's
+Floyd & Mert Yackle

12:00 pm Mass in Spanish (SP)
(Fr. Kelly's Intention)

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

	St. Patrick's Saturday, 4:30 pm March 9th	St. Mary's Sunday, 8:30 am March 10th	St. Patrick's Sunday, 10:30 am March 10th
Ministers of the Altar	Saige Hengeveld Marsha Hengeveld Elle Houseman	Amanda Brickner Aidan Giddings	Students
Ministers of the Word	Cathy Beaver	Children's Mass	Students
Ministers of the Eucharist	Keith Moffitt Helen Moffitt Pauline Schwiesow Chuck Tostenson Theresa Bose Carol Pluth Gerald Pluth Evelyn Prentice	Suzanne Bonnickson Karen Fisher Mike Rezac Jean Thackery	Sandy Mann Laura Lapka Maggie McDermott Larry Walthart Earl Erickson Stacie Inman Morgan Matthews Marlene Walthart
Ministers of Hospitality	Chris & Dale Snyder Aiden White Jenell White	Children's Mass	Ushers Donna Mart Linda & Craig Neppl Christopher Schmaus
Door Keepers		Fisher's	Greeters & Gift Bearers Students
Music Ministers Cantors	Arnie Schilling Karen Reardon	Deb Rudd Children's Mass	Joyce Schultz Mary Moorman

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