

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

223 Harmony St., Council Bluffs, IA 51503 [www.saintpatschurch.org](http://www.saintpatschurch.org)

(Service hour opportunities for students are available on-line.)

## HOLY DOOR hours

Saturdays 9 — 11 AM

Adoration, Prayer & Reconciliation.

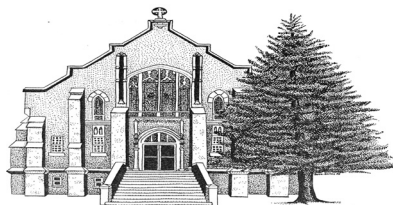
## Mass Schedule

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Sunday, 7:30, 9 & 11 AM

Confessions 3:30-4:30 PM, Saturdays

Weekend Masses at St. Albert H.S.



## Pastor

Fr. Glen Wilwerding 712-323-1484 [frglen223@gmail.com](mailto:frglen223@gmail.com)

## Parish Staff

### Parish Manager

Rev. Mr. Emmet Tinley 712-323-1484 [etinley3@gmail.com](mailto:etinley3@gmail.com)

### Director of Faith Formation

LuAnn Baumker 712-323-1484 [luannb223@gmail.com](mailto:luannb223@gmail.com)

### Parish Secretary

Beth Wilson 712-323-1484 [stpatrickscb@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickscb@gmail.com)

## Office Information

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 AM—3 PM

Phone: 712-323-1484

Parish Office E-Mail

[stpatrickscb@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickscb@gmail.com)

## DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Charles Hannan 712-323-6923

Rev. Mr. James Mason 402-639-6965

Rev. Mr. Emmet Tinley 712-256-7271

## IWCC Campus Ministry

Shari Cortney 913-683-8172

[sharimcortney@mail.com](mailto:sharimcortney@mail.com) Face book:  
[reivercatholicnewmanconnection.com](http://reivercatholicnewmanconnection.com)

RCIA John Pfenning 712-322-2887

[pfenfam@cox.net](mailto:pfenfam@cox.net)

RCIA is for non-Catholics wishing to be Catholic and for adult Catholics desiring 1st Holy Communion and/or Confirmation.

Music Lyn Stuntz 712-322-7410

## Marriage Preparations

Rick & Laural Ronk 712-322-4656

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: If engaged, 6 months notice is required by the diocese before the anticipated wedding date. If a prior marriage is involved; one year notice may be necessary. Please plan accordingly.

## Knights of Columbus

Brian Hunter 712-323-2615

## Prayer Chain Requests

Mary Ann Wager 712-322-6718

## Parish Nurse

Margie Graeve 712-323-3582

Elaine Fenner 712-328-2481

## Hospital & Care Center Chaplain

Fr. Tan Tran 712-309-5742

## Bereavement Ministry

Vickie Rule 712-325-0772

**Year of Mercy:** "Faith, received from God as a supernatural gift, becomes a light for our way, guiding our journey through time."

Pope Francis 3-30-13

**December 20, 2015**

**4th Sunday/Week of Advent**

**Mon. December 21 — Scripture: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45**

8 AM Communion Service

**Tues. December 22 — Scripture: 1Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56**

8 AM Mass for Eileen C. Koch

**Wed. December 23 — Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4,23-24; Luke 1:57-66**

8 AM Mass for Colleen Thomas

**Thurs. December 24 — Scripture: (morning) 2Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Luke 1:67-79**

3:45 PM Mass for the Tinley & Ternus Families

6:30 PM Mass for Jackie Stroud

10:00 PM Mass for St. Patrick Parish

**Fri. December 25 — Scripture: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Matthew 1:1-25**

8 AM Mass for a Special Intention

10 AM Mass for Ginny Berger

**Sat. December 26 — Feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr**

**Scripture: Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22**

3:30 — 4:30 PM Reconciliation

**Sunday, December 26 — Feast of the Holy Family**

**Scripture: 1Samuel 1:20-22,24-28; 1John 3:1-2,21-24; Luke 2:41-52**

**Mass Intentions for the Masses:**

**5 PM for Rose Vergamini**

**7:30 AM for St. Patrick Parish**

**9 AM for Greg Friedrichsen**

**11 AM for Kathleen Rew**

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** will be held at **St. Albert High School gym**. Those times are:

Christmas Eve **3:45 PM (note time change)** 6:30 PM 10 PM

Christmas Day 8 AM 10 AM

Please encourage many families to attend the 3:45 PM Mass. We'll have room for up to 700 & parking too! So, remember to invite your extended family and spread the news.

Since Christmas is on a Friday, remember, we have our regular Mass schedule (Saturday, 5 PM, Sunday 7:30, 9 & 11 AM) for the weekend of the December 27th/28th, Feast of the Holy Family.

Week of December 28th—30th we will have our normal times: Monday, 8 AM Communion Service: Tuesday—Wednesday, 8 AM daily Mass and these will be at the church.

**Mary, Mother of God (holy day of obligation) Masses will be:**

Thursday, December 31st, 4 PM Friday, January 1st, 9 AM Masses at St. Albert Auditorium

The weekend of January 2nd/3rd, Epiphany, regular Mass schedule (Saturday, 5 PM, Sunday, 7:30, 9 & 11 AM) and Masses, as usual at St. Albert Auditorium

Week of January 4th—8th there will be 8 AM Communion Services for the whole week, NO Masses and these will be at the church.

\*\*\*\*Wednesday, January 6th we will have Adoration from 9 — 11 AM at the church.\*\*\*\*

**The Holiday spirit and tithing.** The parish has had great success with the first Capital Campaign for the new church. The parish continues its various ministry activities with a lower budget, but unfortunately, tithing is 10% short. You may recall that a “catch up” second collection was taken a few weekends ago. In past years tithing has been short, but bequests and investment income made up the difference. With a new church such unexpected gifts must go into the new church. In order to avoid “catch up” weekends, for normal expenses, normal tithing must rise.

In the spirit of holiday cheer I ask you to review your weekly tithing, change to automated giving if applicable, and increase your tithing by 10%, whatever your normal tithing happens to be. If you give \$2,000, \$1,000 or \$500 a year, then that would be an extra \$200, \$100 or \$50 spread throughout the year, \$16,\$18,\$4 each month respectively. A thoughtful increase is necessary for the short-term and long-term well being of the parish.

A letter to this effect will be sent to everyone in the parish and reminders placed in the bulletin. Thank you for your continued excitement for the parish and generosity of spirit shown in so many ways through the ministerial life of our parish. God's blessings to you this holiday season. *Fr. Glen*

**Help is needed to set up and clean up for the Christmas Masses. Come to St. Albert on the 22nd at 5:45 PM and at 5 PM on the 27th to help. THANK YOU, *Fr. Glen***

**FYI—we will to our “Catch up” 2nd collection at the Christmas Masses.**

*Reflection on Mercy*  
Pope Francis says, “Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive.”  
What holds you back from asking for God's mercy?

<b>Parish Stewardship/Tithing</b>			
DATE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
YTD <small>11/29/15</small>	213,101	228,800	(15,699)
12-06-15	16,000	10,400	5,600
12-13-15	15,389	10,400	4,989
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>244,490</b>	<b>249,600</b>	<b>( 5,110)</b>

**Help the Parish through automated giving. Complete the EFT form in the bulletin or On-Line Giving on the Parish website.**

**THANK YOU** to those who baked cookies, set up, cleaned up, helped keep trays filled, and/or purchased a bucket or two at the Annual Cookie Walk! A very special “Thank You” to the *Knights* who baked dozens of cookies and to *Teresa Koch, Margie Graeve* and all the ladies who made dough for the Knights to bake for this annual event. The Cookie Walk would not be the success that it is without each and everyone of you! The Altar & Rosary Society raised \$1,063 from this event.

**THANK YOU** to all who donated items for the annual Christmas Basket project!!!! We had another successful year! It is wonderful see how generous you all were! Again, thank you.

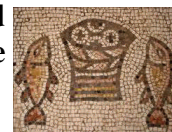
## AREA-WIDE NEWS

**4thSunday** — for all parish high school teens (Freshmen—Seniors) the next 4thSunday event, **Sunday, December 27th**, 10 AM—2 PM is a service opportunity at the *Open Door Mission* assisting with lunch prep and serving meals. We will meet at Queen of Apostles at 10 AM and carpool over to *Open Door Mission*. To have an accurate count and have plenty of drivers, all teens are asked to **sign up by Saturday, December 26th**. Contact Jill Faust, high school faith formation coordinator at 402-699-3919 or jrfaust1@cox.net

**We are looking for** coloring, books, crayons, children’s books (new and/or used in good condition) and also magazines (please make sure they are current, a month or two old) for different organizations around Council Bluffs. You may drop off these items at the Parish Office Center. Thank you.



**Romans & Christians will be Sunday evening, January 24th.** Parents and older children (5th—12th grade) are all invited for this fun evening!! Service hours offered, too, to those attending!



# dear Padre

December 27, 2015

## Did Mary experience labor pains or not?

I was taught that Mary didn’t have labor pains when she gave birth to Jesus because she didn’t have original sin. My son’s theology teacher says that’s not true. Which is it?

The Church hasn’t made a dogmatic statement on this question, so there’s lots of debate around it. Although the Church teaches that Christ’s birth was a virgin birth, the details of the delivery are open to speculation.

Early Church teachings suggest that Mary did not experience labor pains. In the mid-thirteenth century, St. Thomas Aquinas said Mary had no pain when she gave birth (*Summa Theologica*, part III, 35.6). In the sixteenth century, the Council of Trent said the same thing (*Catechism of the Council of Trent*, Article III).

Much of this discussion is rooted in Genesis, when God says to Eve, “in pain you shall bring forth children” (3:16). If labor pains are punishment for original sin and Mary was born without it, she should have been spared. In fact, regardless of her state, God could have granted her this special privilege.

However, some theologians dispute this logic. First, if baptism “erases original sin” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 405), shouldn’t all baptized women be free from labor pains? Secondly, equating labor pains with sinfulness implies that women with difficult labors are more sinful than those with easier ones. This clearly does not agree with Catholic teaching.

Painful or not, Mary accepted her role in bringing Christ to us. This we know.

FR. PAUL BOROWSKI, CSsR  
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