

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Neola, IA

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St. Patrick Catholic Church
310 Avon Street
P.O. Box 127
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



May 2/3, 2026 Fifth Sunday of Easter

READING I Acts 6:1-7
PSLAM 33: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.
READING II 1 Peter 2:4-9
GOSPEL John 14:1-12

May 9/10, 2026 Sixth Sunday of Easter

READING I Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
PSLAM 66: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
READING II 1 Peter 3:15-18
GOSPEL John 14:15-21

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

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

On the night before he died, Jesus assured his disciples that "in my Father's house there are many dwelling places.... I am going to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2). Jesus knew that their faith would be severely tested and their hope would be dashed in the coming days. Our faith and hope waver as well. May the words of our Lord in today's Gospel reassure us through our doubts and despair about our future. God's house has a place for each of us.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

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

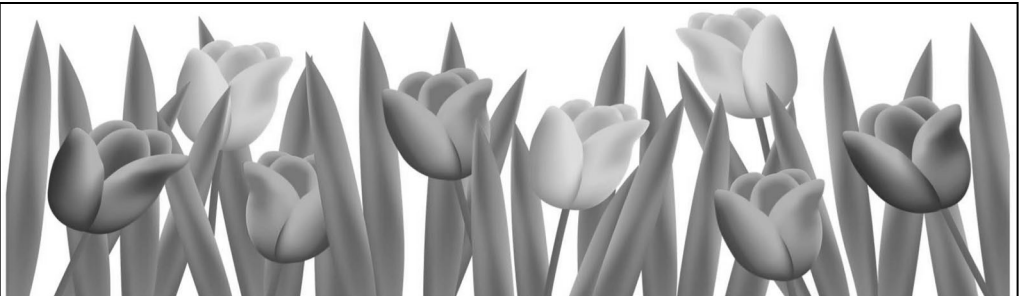
A challenging issue we face today was also faced by the early church: not enough ministers to serve all the people. We hear in the first reading that the Twelve needed more disciples willing to bring food to the needy. Peter uses the image of living stones to describe the spiritual house that is the growing church, with Christ as the cornerstone. Jesus tells his disciples of our lasting spiritual house in heaven with the Father. May the words we hear of our spiritual homes on earth and in heaven inspire us this Easter season.

"Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me?" Jesus asks Philip in today's Gospel (John 14:9). The same could be asked of us today. Jesus has been with us since we were baptized. He had only been with his disciples for three years; he's accompanied us for much longer. Do we still not know him? We have written eyewitness testimony about him. We have two thousand years of writings about him, from Saint Paul's letters to books and essays from contemporary theologians and spiritual writers. We have our own personal experiences through prayer. Jesus assures us that to know the Son is to know the Father. Twenty centuries later, we still have every opportunity to know God.

Question of the Week

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

What can I do this week to know Jesus better, to serve those who are overlooked, and to prepare my spiritual home?



Weekday Masses

- May 4 - No Mass
- May 5 - St Patrick - Irmgard Vaiskunas 8:30 AM
- May 6 - St Columbanus 6:00 PM
- May 7 - No Mass
- May 8 - St Patrick - Richard Corrin 8:30 AM

Weekend Masses

- May 9 - St Patrick - Ray Allred 5:30 PM
- May 10 - St Columbanus 8:00 AM
- May 10 - St Patrick - Louis & Charlotte Ring family. 9:30 AM

MAY 9, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - David Mann
Servers - None

EME - Scott Brooks
Travis Bolte
Andrea Bolte

MAY 10 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Hadyn Ausdemore
Servers - Kaden Kozeal
Maysen Lausen
EME - Scott Brooks
Angie Kozeal
Max Kozeal

MAY 16, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Travis Bolte
Servers - Grace Konz
Grace Shively
EME - David Mann
Maureen Mann
Norm Baker

MAY 17, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Jenny Hall
Servers - Ali Leaders
Weston Bladt
EME - Jenny Hall
Geri Bjorling
Emily Leaders

MAY 23, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Mary Fischer
Servers - Charles Williams
Noah Wollenhaupt
EME - Bonnie Wredt
David Mann
Maureen Mann

MAY 24, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Matt Brummett
Servers - Elena Brummett
Jordan Harder
EME - Chad Harder
Liz Lyons
Eric Busch

TITHE COUNTERS

May 3 - Dani Baxter	Anne Brummett	Roberta Morse
May 10 - Rita Heinen	Jim Mahlberg	Roger Hall
May 17 - Kevin Nye	Mark Pogge	Cecilia Powell
May 24 - Diane Rodenburg	Sue Stenlund	Dani Baxter

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

May 3 - Samantha Nye	Jennifer Fischer
May 10 - Norm Baker	Liz Lyons
May 17 - Samantha Nye	Carolyn McDermott
May 24 - Roberta Morse	Norm Baker

Congratulations to our 2026 Confirmation Candidates!



We are blessed to announce and congratulate our 2026 Confirmation Class from St. Columbanus and St. Patrick. Please say a prayer for our Confirmation Candidates as they continue their faith journey.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| <i>Charles Brummett</i> | <i>Isabella Buckholdt</i> |
| <i>Cameron Cook</i> | <i>Keegan Cook</i> |
| <i>Vivian Gross</i> | <i>Carson Harris</i> |
| <i>Ainsley Huebner</i> | <i>Ali Leaders</i> |
| <i>Ryan Fletcher (celebrating at St Patrick CB)</i> | |

FAITH FORMATION: Three teaching positions have opened up for the 26/27 school year. We need help from both parishes to fill these positions, obtain substitute teachers, and help with VBS. If interested or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shannon at 712-485-2754

Calendar of Events:

- May 5 - Pastoral Council Meeting, St Patrick, 7:00 pm
- May 7 - First Thursday Adoration & Reconciliation, 6:30-7:30 pm
- May 9/10 - Catholic Charities Special Collection
- May 10 - Happy Mother's Day
Children's Mass
- May 17 - Fr Julius' Birthday, lunch after 9:30 am Mass, parish hall
- May 19 - Finance Council Meeting, St Patrick, 6:00 pm
- May 20 - Pastoral/Finance Council Meeting, St Columbanus, after Mass
- May 24 - Pentecost Sunday
Blessing of Graduating Seniors at 9:30 am Mass
- May 25 - Memorial Day Mass at the Cemetery, 10:00 am
- June 1-4 - No morning Mass, Father at Priest Retreat
- June 6/7 - Catholic Communications Campaign
- June 6 - Reconciliation, 4:30 to 5:15 pm

Offering Report

	Last Weeks	Fiscal Year to Date
Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,510.00	\$ 85,733.24
Open Offering	\$ 192.00	\$ 8,174.00
Children's Offering	\$ 11.00	\$ 793.61

Memorial Calendar

- May 3 - International Bereaved Mother's Day
- May 5 - Cinco de Mayo
- May 7 - National Day of Prayer



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING has been rescheduled to August 23, 2026. Please watch the bulletin for more information.

LENT PROJECT: We were able to raise \$1,010 for the Kramer Family and \$1,180 for the Legacy Grove Senior Veterans Apartments. Thank you to everyone that donated to these wonderful causes.

MEMORIAL DAY MASS will be at the Neola Cemetery on Monday, May 26th at 10:00 am. Please bring your lawn chairs or you will have to stand. If it rains, Mass will be in church.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank everybody for their birthday cards, prayers, gifts and best wishes for my birthday. I appreciate it very much. During my Mass, my Deacon friend John Kroll from Minnesota had a Eucharistic vision. He saw a white light in the form of a V over the altar and angels coming down around the four priests. It brought tears to his eyes and he said it was so real. The veil was lifted slightly and this was indeed a gift to me. I wanted to share this with everyone as this happens at every holy Mass. God bless you all.

-Kathy Graeve

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN: Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). This campaign represents a mission of love to share the gospel message of hope with people in the United States using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money we collect remains here in the Diocese of Des Moines to fund local communications efforts. The other half supports the communication activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other projects across the United States. Your help spreads the gospel message! Please be generous.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT: St Patrick's parish community extends prayerful sympathy to the family of Pat Nelson, whose funeral Mass of Resurrection was celebrated here at St Patrick on Monday. May she rest in peace.

A CATHOLIC CONFERENCE FOR OUR SEARCHING SOULS

CHRIST OUR LIFE

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— 26TH ANNUAL —

Midwest
CATHOLIC
Family Conference

JULY 31 - AUG 2, 2026 | WICHITA, KS

You Are Invited To

Fr Julius' Birthday Lunch

Sunday, May 17, 2026
after 9:30 am Mass

St Patrick Neola, Parish Hall

Parish Directory

St Patrick & St Columbanus Parishes are putting together a new Parish Directory

WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS

Family Photos can be emailed to the parish office at office@stpatricksneola.com or Cecilia Thomas has agreed to take photos at the Parish Picnic on June 14th. Please click on the QR Code below to indicate how your photos will be submitted. Please include your current address & phone number with your submission. All photos need be received by June 30, 2026.

You Are Invited To

VACATION Bible School

June 15-19 | 2026

9:00 am to Noon

St Patrick Parish Hall
309 3rd St
Neola, IA 51559

More info: call Shannon
712-485-2754

NCYC

Garage Sale

Come and find furniture, clothes, toys, kitchen finds, books, décor & more!

June 25-27

THURSDAY: 5 TO 8 PM
FRIDAY: 8 AM TO 8 PM
SATURDAY: 8 AM TO NOON

St Patrick Parish Hall, 309 3rd St, Neola

To donate, please contact Shannon at 712-485-2754

Please no large furniture, tv's, mattresses, or underwear.

May Birthdays							
Hadyn Ausdemore	1	Cael Jensen	10	Trent Wollenhaupt	20	Madeline Pierce	30
Braxton Leonard	1	Corrine Minahan	11	Lynn Stenlund	22	Ty Ungrad	31
Kyle Clark	2	Jennifer Kuehn	11	Angeline Oberdorfer	22	David Wellman	31
Bernadette Koch	3	Gavin Dempsey	11	Madison Leaders	22	Dean Grote	31
Kylynn Tigges	3	Mary Rowe	12	Clementine Ortman	22	Lucas Dempsey	31
Craig Corrin	4	Bryan Weidner	12	Joyce Zimmerman	23		
Tabitha Kuehn	4	Clay McGargill	12	Avery Reed	23	May Anniversaries	
Norm Baker	5	Lynette Grobe	13	James Jensen	24	Mark & Stacy Hazen	3
Denise Ring	5	Jared Ausdemore	13	Shiloh Corrin	24	Tom & Deb Minahan	4
Stephanie Blum	5	Brenna Rodenburg	13	Andrew Greiner	24	Austin & Allison Ehlers	4
Carsyn Ausdemore	5	Aaron Daniel	13	Thomas Shipp	25	Fred & Annette Grote	8
Lois Flemming	6	Jeanette Masker	14	Eric Jensen	25	Eric & Mary Rowe	9
Dan Schnitker	6	Larry Ring	14	Jennifer McDermott	25	Mike & Heather Dempsey	10
Heather Russell-Schroeder	6	Peter Scriven	14	Beatrice Williams	26	David & Linda Minahan	10
Brad Payne	6	Chuck Esser	15	Andrew Scriven	26	Dan & Rita Schnitker	14
Clinton Parish	7	David Ausdemore	15	Blake Scherer	27	Heath & Angie Rodenburg	15
Ava Scherer	7	Michelle Ferguson	15	Mark Haverkamp	28	Tom & Michelle Bolgar	15
Gary Ausdemore	8	Brady Huebner	16	Grace Denning	28	Mike & Corrine Minahan	16
Mary Jo Ring	9	Conor Carlson	16	Vivian Gross	28	Tim & Marsha Slobodnik	16
Jennifer Smith	9	Roger Pearson	17	John Ungrad	28	Jeff & Jane Whannell	16
Shirley Masker	10	Curt Wellman	17	Jody Cook	29	Kevin & Shannon Nye	17
Jeff Lefebber	10	Brock McDonough	17	Kaitlin Kozeal	29	Jim & Jody Cook	18
Jack Killpack	10	Brenda Anderson	18	John Fischer	30	Curt & Rhea Gross	23
Charles Ortman	10	Kaden McDermott	19	David Casson	30	Mike & Kristen Bladt	25
		Greg Fischer	20	Ella Pierce	30	Lynn & Sue Stenlund	27
						Jim & Dani Petersen	31

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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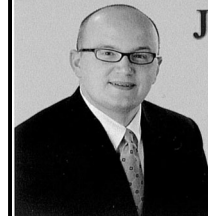
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May 2026

St. Patrick's Church, Neola and St. Columbanus Church, Weston

Rev. Julius Itamid, Administrator

One Minute Meditations

St. Rita of Cascia

Born in 1381 near Spoleto, Italy, St. Rita was known for her holiness and charity from a young age. She wanted to be a nun but was forced into marrying when she was twelve. Unfortunately, her husband was cruel and violent. After eighteen years, she was widowed. Following the deaths of her sons, she finally entered the convent, where she became known for her piety, kindness, and humility. She is the patron saint of impossible causes.

"Come, Holy Spirit!"

On the Feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles and ignited their mission to baptize and preach. For this reason, Pentecost is considered the birthday of the Church. This same Spirit, who empowered twelve frightened men to travel, preach, baptize, and labor for the Kingdom of God, also comes to our aid in our struggle for holiness, even in our prayer (Romans 8:26). This month, keep with you this short yet powerful prayer: "Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love!"

"Jesus answered him, 'If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him'" (John 14:23).

Who is my neighbor?

This question matters. In the Two Greatest Commandments, Jesus calls us to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. But that raises a real, practical question: who is our neighbor? Our Lady offers a clear answer. Through her example, we begin to see that our neighbors include:

Family: Mary's first thought after the Annunciation was for her cousin Elizabeth. Despite the immense honor Mary had just received, she went in haste to serve Elizabeth. That sets the pattern. The first neighbors we're called to love are the ones closest to us: those in our own home and family.

Friends: Tradition holds that Mary and Jesus were close to the couple at the wedding in Cana. When the wine ran out, Mary didn't draw attention to herself. She noticed the need and acted, gently guiding things toward a solution. Loving our friends often looks the same—paying attention, stepping in quietly, and serving without needing

recognition.

Those who suffer: At the Cross, Jesus entrusted His mother to St. John. In that moment of deep loss, Mary and John were given to each other, able

"If you want to change the world, go home and love your family."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

to share a bond shaped by suffering. When someone in your life is hurting, that person is your neighbor. Who is carrying something heavy right now? How can you stand with them?

Each person we meet: As Queen of Heaven and Mother of the Church, Mary cares for all of us, especially through her prayers. To love God is to love those He loves—which means everyone. Sometimes the most meaningful act of love we can offer is also the simplest: to pray for them, asking that they come to know her Son more deeply.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Mary our Mother?

Mary's role in salvation history is to lead people to her Son. As the Church teaches, "The Virgin Mary... is the mother of the members of Christ" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 963). Her motherhood extends to all who belong to Him. At the Cross, in the Gospel of John, Jesus says, "Behold

your mother" (John 19:27), entrusting Mary not only to St. John but to every disciple. From that moment, her care became personal. Because of her unique closeness to Jesus, she intercedes for us, always guiding us toward Him and helping us follow His will more faithfully.

St. Joseph - the quiet strength behind May

Though May is traditionally dedicated to Mary, it fittingly begins with the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. The Church invites us to honor St. Joseph and entrust our lives to his care, just as Jesus did during His hidden life on earth.

He protects. St. Joseph safeguarded Mary when her pregnancy placed her at risk (Matthew 1:19) and led the Holy Family to safety in their flight from Herod (Matthew 2:14-15). We can place ourselves under that same protection—formally through consecration or simply through daily prayer—entrusting our families, homes, and

responsibilities to his care.

He provides. As a carpenter, St. Joseph faithfully provided for Jesus and Mary. Christians have long trusted in his continued help. St. Teresa of Ávila famously wrote that she never asked anything of him without receiving help. We can confidently bring him our needs, work, and concerns.

The saints became holy by being open to God's grace. In St. Joseph, we're given a quiet but steady guide—one who helps us, step by step, follow God more faithfully on the path to heaven.

from **S**cripture

John 3:16-18, Jesus' sacrifice reveals God's love

"For God so loved the world..." When doubt sets in—when God seems distant or silent—the Church directs our attention to the Cross. In the Crucifix, we don't see a contradiction of God's love, but its clearest expression. Christ does not stand apart from human suffering; He enters into it. What looks like defeat becomes the place where divine mercy is most fully revealed—a love that holds nothing back.

"He sent His only begotten Son." Faced with suffering and evil, we naturally look for solutions we can measure and manage—strategies, systems, progress. God's response is not a method but a

gift: He gives Himself. Evil, which is a distortion or absence of the good, cannot ultimately be overcome by partial fixes. It yields only to perfect goodness, just as darkness gives way to light.

"That all who believe in Him might not perish but have eternal life." This life is not the destination but the path. Its trials, uncertainties, and even its sufferings are not meaningless when lived with Christ. If we remain close to Him—whether in darkness, in turmoil, or at the foot of the Cross—we are not off course. We are being led, step by step, toward the life that does not end.

Feasts & Celebrations

May 14 - The Ascension of the Lord. This solemnity marks the completion of Jesus' mission of salvation and His triumphant entry into Heaven.
Note: In many dioceses, observance of Ascension has been moved to the following Sunday.

May 14 - St. Matthias (1st century). When the Apostles met to choose Judas' successor, Peter said that the new Apostle must have followed Jesus from His Baptism to His Ascension and witnessed His Resurrection. St. Matthias was chosen by lots to fill Judas' place.

May 18 - Pope St. John I (526). Born in Tuscany, Italy, John was elected pope in 523 while still a deacon. During his

pontificate, he battled the Arian heresy, and worked to improve diplomatic relations with the East. He was the first pope to visit Constantinople, during which he restored peace with the Eastern Church yet raised political suspicions. Arrested by King Theodoric, St. John I died in prison.

May 25 - Mary, Mother of the Church (2018). On the Cross, Jesus gave us His mother to be our mother (John 19:27). Now in Heaven, she prays and cares for us as our spiritual mother until we are safely home with God. We can look to her motherly care with confidence since she always leads us to her Son by the shortest, safest, and fastest route. This memorial highlights one central truth: Mary is not only the Mother of Jesus, but the Mother of all who belong to Him—the Church.

Q & A How can the Church be holy if her members aren't?

First, Jesus was aware of the failures within religious life. In the Gospel of Matthew, He strongly rebuked the Pharisees—the religious leaders of His time—for not practicing what they taught (Matthew 23:3). Among His own disciples, there were moments of division, betrayal, and abandonment (John 6:66). Yet the redemption He offers is not reserved for the perfect, but for all who place their faith in Him.

Second, the Church's holiness does not depend on the virtue of each individual member, but on the holiness of her Founder, Jesus Christ. A church building remains sacred even when its physical condition is imperfect because it is dedicated to God. In the same way, the Church, as the Mystical Body of Christ, remains holy even as her members continue to struggle and grow.

Third, history shows that God raises up saints precisely in times of difficulty. St. Athanasius, St. Catherine of Siena, and St. Thomas More each responded to periods of division and crisis with prayer, sacrifice, witness, and fidelity to the truth. Their example reminds us that holiness is always possible—and that we are called to live it, even now.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)