

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Neola, IA

Parish Office:

712.485.2750

office@stpatricksneola.com

Priest Office:

712.485.2753

priest@stpatricksneola.com

Faith Formation:

712.485.2754

dre@stpatricksneola.com

Parish Hall:

712.485.2433

Website:

www.stpatricksneola.com



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

August 1/2, 2026 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING I 1 Isaiah 55:1-3

PSALM 145: The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

READING II Romans 8:35, 37-39

GOSPEL Matthew 14:13-21

August 8/9, 2026 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING I 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

PSALM 85: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

READING II Romans 9:1-5

GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-33

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

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

Jesus takes us outside again today, to a deserted place where thousands of people followed him. Despite having only five loaves and two fish, Jesus is able to feed the entire crowd. We gather here every Sunday, a crowd perhaps only in the dozens or hundreds, but where we can all be fed, now with Jesus' own body, offered and multiplied to satisfy us all. We can imagine that we are here with Jesus as he speaks to us and feeds us as he did on that wonderful day, for indeed this is what he does.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

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

"The hand of the Lord feeds us," we sing in the responsorial psalm, which serves as an appropriate bridge between the first reading and the Gospel. Through Isaiah, God invites everyone to come eat and drink their fill. In the Gospel, Jesus feeds thousands with but five loaves and two fish. In between, Saint Paul boasts that nothing can separate us from the love of our extravagantly generous God. Before we come to share in Christ's body at the eucharistic table, let us feast on God's word.

We all have times when we feel the need to be alone. We may be depressed, or grouchy, or overwhelmed, or just plain tired. In the Gospel today, Jesus was grieving when he sought a deserted spot to be by himself. But when seeing the crowds following him, "his heart was moved with pity for them" (Matthew 14:14). The Greek word Matthew uses is perhaps closer in meaning to guts; either way, this implies that the feeling comes from deep inside him and is as physical as mental. This visceral feeling drives Jesus to change his plans, teach the vast number of pilgrims, cure those who were sick, and, his heart still moved with pity, feed the entire crowd. Let us pray that when we see others in need even when we wish to be left alone, our hearts will be moved to help, and in our guts we will know we should reach out.

Question of the Week

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

How can I feed others this week without discriminating, literally or figuratively?



Weekday Masses

Aug 3 - No Mass
Aug 4 - St Patrick - Mary Baker 8:30 AM
Aug 5 - St Columbanus 6:00 PM
Aug 6 - St Patrick - Leo & Pauline Fischer 8:30 AM
Aug 7 - No Mass

Weekend Masses

Aug 8 - St Patrick - Tony Olofson 5:30 PM
Aug 9 - St Columbanus 8:00 AM
Aug 9 - St Patrick - Carol Rath 9:30 AM

AUGUST 8, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Ashley Lopez
Servers - None

EME - Andrea Bolte
Travis Bolte
Maureen Mann

AUGUST 9, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Lynette Oberdorfer
Servers - Joseph Gerken
Kaden Kozeal

EME - Geri Bjorling
Angie Kozeal
Max Kozeal

AUGUST 15, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Mary Fischer
Servers - Grace Shively
Noah Wollenhaupt
EME - Norm Baker
Roberta Morse
Eric Busch

AUGUST 16, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Corey Hough
Servers - Emma Sweeney
Thomas Sweeney
EME - Shannon Nye
Samantha Nye
Rhea Gross

AUGUST 22, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Lectors - Max Michels
Servers - Joseph Gerken
Charles Williams
EME - Bonnie Wredt
Travis Bolte
Andrea Bolte

AUGUST 23, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Lectors - Matt Brummett
Servers - Elena Brummett
Jordan Harder
EME - Chad Harder
Kristen Carlson
Eric Busch

TITHE COUNTERS

Aug 2 - Kevin Nye	Mark Pogge	Peggy Thielen
Aug 9 - Cecilia Powell	Sue Stenlund	Dani Baxter
Aug 16 - Kevin Nye	Diane Rodenburg	Rita Heinen
Aug 23 - Anne Brummett	Jim Mahlberg	Mark Pogge

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

Aug 2 - Samantha Nye	Shannon Nye
Aug 8 - Liz Lyons	Carolyn McDermott
Aug 16 - Samantha Nye	Shannon Nye
Aug 23 - Carolyn McDermott	Norm Baker

BAPTISMS: Through the holy waters of Baptism, the following were baptized into the Catholic Faith and our parish communities. We welcome them to our family with great joy! May the Spirit of God be their guide.

- 1) Tana Louise Flowers, daughter of Sam & T.Jo (Kozol) Flowers
- 2) Abel Edson Wells, son of Chase & Annabelle (Schwery) Wells

VENEZUELAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS COLLECTION: This weekend, we take up a special collection for the victims of the recent Venezuelan earthquake. This collection is your opportunity to join Catholics around the world in providing vital humanitarian relief to those affected in the Archdiocese of Caracas and throughout Venezuela. Please be generous.

PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico began an international tour with a Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe as part of the preparation for the 500th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary to St. Juan Diego. The goal is for the Pilgrim Mother to visit every Diocese in the United States before 2031. She will be in the following parishes for prayer, veneration, and as an opportunity to encounter Christ and deepen our relationship with him through her.

Our Lady of the Americas: July 25-Aug. 4, 1271 E 9th St., DM
Our Lady's Immaculate Heart: Aug 6- 13, 510 E. 1st St., Ankeny
St Boniface in Waukee: Aug. 15-21, 1200 S. Warrior Lane, Waukee
St. Bernard in Osceola: Aug. 23 – Sept. 2, 222 E. Pearl St., Osceola
Corpus Christi in CB: Sept. 4–11, 3304 4th Ave., Council Bluffs

Calendar of Events:

Aug 4 - Deacon Scott's Ordination Anniversary
Aug 6 - First Thursday Reconciliation & Adoration, 6:30-7:30 pm
Aug 15 - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass, 8:30 am
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
Aug 30 - Catechist back to class meeting, after 9:30 am Mass
Sept 3 - First Thursday Reconciliation & Adoration, 6:30-7:30 pm
Sept 5 - Fr. Julius' 17th Ordination Anniversary: Mass at 8:30, followed by coffee & rolls & then decorate Hoo Doo Float
Reconciliation, 4:30-5:15 PM
Sept 7 - Labor Day / Hoo Doo Days - 8:30 am Mass
Sept 8 - Pastoral Council Meeting, St Patrick, 7:00 pm
Sept 12/13 - Seminarian Special Collection
Sept 13 - Children's Mass
Back to Class Parents Meeting, in church, after Mass

Offering Report

	Last Weeks	Fiscal Year to Date
Sunday Envelopes	\$ 2,620.00	\$ 8,385.98
Open Offering	\$ 203.00	\$ 662.00
Children's Offering	\$ 8.00	\$ 42.00

Memorial Calendar

Aug 4 - Memorial of St. John Vianney
Aug 5 - Memorial of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
Aug 6 - Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
Hiroshima Memorial Day
Aug 7 - Memorial of St. Sixtus II & Companions
Memorial of St. Cajetan
Purple Heart Day
Aug 8 - Memorial of St. Dominic



HOO DOO PARADE FLOAT: Exciting news! St. Patrick will be submitting a float in the parade again this year. We are looking for help to decorate the float on Saturday, September 5th. We will begin with Mass at 8:30, then celebrate Father Julius' 17th ordination anniversary with coffee & rolls in the parish hall, then decorate the float. And we need people to ride the float or walk along side the float. If you are able to help, please contact Shannon at 712-485-2754 or dre@stpatricksneola.com. It is important to let people of Neola know we support them & are here for them!

BANK PHISHING & SCAM: Please be aware that a real-time bank phishing and scam phone call is currently going around. If someone claiming to be from your bank calls about a potential fraudulent transaction, hang up immediately. You should then call the bank directly using their official, known phone number. If you stay on the phone with the scammer, they will eventually send an email containing a link to a site that looks almost identical to the bank's legitimate login page. Entering your information on this page will allow them to steal your credentials. As a reminder, always hover over links before clicking them to verify the actual destination URL (web address). If the URL looks suspicious or if you are unsure of the correct URL, do not click it.

EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION: The annual diocesan Eucharistic procession will begin with 9:00 am Mass on August 15th at St. Joseph Church in Earling. After Mass will be a procession, adoration & Benediction.

TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST reunion is coming & we'd love to see you !

WHEN: Saturday, Aug 8, 2026, 2:00-6:30 pm

WHERE: Lake Anita State Park, Shelter #5 (55111 750th St; Anita, IA)

Come and hear what's new with TEC, meet old friends, make new friends and share in a potluck dinner and music. Any questions? Email Amy Peterson, youthministry@stpatrickcb.org.

This Week on Formed

Week of August 02, 2026



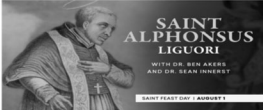
The Transfiguration | Sacred Art

Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp sit down with Raffaello Sanzio's painting, "The Transfiguration," to discuss its theological meaning and how it can speak to us today.



The Curé of Ars: St. John Vianney

The Church investigates the life of the Curé of Ars to see if he should become a saint. Will the evidence of his holiness pass the test?



St. Alphonsus Liguori | Catholic Saints

Born to a noble Italian family and known as the "Prince of Moral Theologians", St. Alphonsus Liguori was a great preacher, lawyer, bishop, theologian, and Doctor of the Church. In this episode of Catholic Saints, Augustine Institute professors Dr. Sean Innerst and Dr. Ben Akers discuss this holy man, drawing wisdom from his life and works to aid Catholics today.

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When: September 26 & 27, 2026

Where: Casey's Center Des Moines

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How: Attend in person or livestream

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

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE STREETS

AUGUST — THE HIDDEN WORK OF LOVE

"Love proves
itself by deeds."
— ST. THERESA OF LISIEUX,
Story of a Soul

Most acts of charity
are done in hiddenness.
They happen in homes,
parishes, classrooms,
hospitals, food pantries,
and shelters. The Kingdom
of God is often built through
ordinary faithful acts often
with extraordinary love.



THIS MONTH'S INVITATION:
Perform one hidden act of
charity this month without
seeking recognition.

Let your love be known by
what it does, not by who notices.

LEARN MORE
Scan the QR code to
learn how you can
support Catholic
Charities Food Pantry.



RECEIVE CHRIST. BE CHRIST. SERVE CHRIST IN OTHERS.

August Birthdays

Russ Eckmann	1
Andrew Oberdorfer	1
Daniel Fischer	1
Addison Hough	1
Alyssa McDermott	1
Mary Lee Ravlin	3
Linda Scott	3
Ryan Fletcher	3
John Hurd	4
Samantha Nye	4
Rob Huebner	5
Jean Casson	6
David Mann	6
Reese Johnsen	6
Andree Smith	7
James Taylor	7
Robert Pauley	7
Michelle Bolgar	8
Becky Baker	8
Greg Ring	9
Jesus Barajas	9
Gary Larson	10
Corey Hough	10
Julie McDonough	12
Michael Bladt	12
Kaitlin Harman	12
Ted Denning	14
Meya Wingert	14
Bonnie Wredt	16
Allison Andersen	17
Cassandra Probst	17
Cailey Watson	17
Nancy Casson	18
Mitchell Anderson	18
Tracy Wellman	18
Curt Gross	19
Ashton McDermott	19
Sutton Baragary	19
Trisha Alfars	20
Merridy Larsen	20
Ryan Tiarks	21
James Schroeder	21
Ross Schroeder	21
Donna Ausdemore	22

Presley Pogge	22
Peyton Pogge	22
John David Fischer	22
Clinton Reid	23
Deb Schierbrock	24
Tyler Hazen	24
Maureen Mann	25
James Katzer	26
Pat Winship	26
Brock Gross	26
Kristen Bladt	27
Erin Venteicher	27
Joyce Gray	28
Randy Schroeder	28
Kevin Ring	29
Brian Safarik	29
Jeremy McDermott	29
Jozie Payne	29
Zohie Payne	29
John Masker	30
Diane Wellman	30
Kaden Kozeal	30
Evan Zabel	31

August Anniversaries

Randy & Heather Schroeder	2
Rob & Sandi Pauley	3
Samuel & Theresa Flowers	4
Brad & LeAnne Payne	7
Joseph & Renee Williams	8
Scott & Jaime Konz	9
Wayne & Mary Beth Bladt	12
Joe & Crissy Masker	12
Eric & Amy Wingert	13
Francisco & Fani Barajas	14
David & Donna Ausdemore	16
Joe & Bonnie Wredt	18
Rob & Merridy Larsen	19
Andrew & Michaela Berg	20
Jason & Diane Pierce	21
Dean & Kelly Alfars	22
David & Maureen Mann	22
Marion & Bonnie Ausdemore	26
Tony & Heather Ausdemore	29
Brian & Terri Safarik	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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August 2026

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

Rev. Julius Itamid, Administrator

One Minute Meditations

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Although born into wealth, St. Bernard desired a life of simplicity, holiness, and austerity. Born in 1090 in Fontaines, France, he entered the monastery at Cîteaux in his twenties, followed by most of his family. Recognizing his holiness and noting the overcrowding of the monastery, the abbot sent St. Bernard to establish a new monastery in Clairvaux. St. Bernard went on to found monasteries for nuns, worked for the Holy See, and preached the Second Crusade.

More than the mission

No matter our age, we all need to hear these words: "I love you without measure." At the Transfiguration, the Father declared of Jesus, "*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased*" (Matthew 17:5). He means those words for us as well. Before all else, we are God's beloved children.

Significantly, the Father speaks these words before Jesus goes to the Cross, before His saving mission is complete. We often reverse that order, allowing our identity to depend on our accomplishments or faithfulness. We assume God will love us once we have fulfilled our mission. But the Gospel reveals the opposite. God's love is not earned but freely **given**. Our mission flows from our identity, not the other way around.

"For I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine" (Isaiah 43:1).

Be Like Christ. Love Like Christ.

What does it mean to "be like Christ" in the context of our everyday lives? The key is to love as He loves. Here are five practical ways to love like Jesus.

Learn His pattern. The Gospels show us how Jesus responded to the sick, the brokenhearted, the marginalized, and even His enemies. Scripture provides the pattern, while prayer and the Sacraments provide the grace to live it. The more we immerse ourselves in Christ's life, the more naturally His way of loving becomes our own.

Cultivate His heart. Jesus describes Himself as "*gentle and humble of heart*" (Matthew 11:29). His humility comes from His complete obedience to the Father's will. His gentleness is strength under perfect self-control, expressed in His patience, mercy, and compassion, even toward those who rejected Him. As we imitate His way of love, our own hearts are slowly transformed as His.

Show genuine interest. Jesus often asked open-ended questions, not because He lacked the answers, but to draw people out. "*What do you seek?*" (John 1:38). "*What are you discussing*

with each other?" (Luke 24:17) Genuine love begins with genuine interest. Asking thoughtful questions communicates that people are seen, heard, and valued.

Choose the charitable interpretation. St. Theresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart wrote, "If the actions of our neighbors have a hundred sides, we ought always to look at them on the best side." Love resists rushing to judgment and gives others the benefit of the doubt, creating space for understanding rather than

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:29).

suspicion.

Always act out of love. St. Paul exhorts us, "*Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God*" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Jesus lived every moment in perfect love for His Father and for us. Love was not merely one aspect of His life; it was the motive behind everything He did. Following Christ means allowing love to shape not only our greatest sacrifices but also our smallest daily actions.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Formula prayers are not a substitute for personal prayer but a time-tested way of entering into it and deepening it. When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, He gave them the Our Father (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4), a prayer to be prayed repeatedly. Scripture also contains many communal prayers, especially the Psalms, which

Why do Catholics pray formula prayers?

served as Israel's prayer book and remain the Church's today. By praying these inspired words, Catholics join generations of believers in worship. Whether at Mass or beside a hospital bed, formula prayers unite the faithful, expressing not only personal devotion but also the shared faith of the whole Church.

What to do when you don't feel like praying

Not feeling like praying is something even faithful Christians experience. In fact, seasons of dryness can be a normal part of spiritual growth. While they may have different causes, they do not necessarily mean something is wrong. Here are three ways to respond:

Pray about not wanting to pray. Bring your reluctance to God. You don't have to overcome your feelings before coming to Him. Honest prayer is still prayer, and God meets you with love exactly where you are.

Keep it simple. We value brief messages from those we love: "I love you," "Good luck today," or "Thinking of you."

Prayer can be that simple. The goal is relationship, not length. A heartfelt "God, help me," "Jesus, I trust in You," or "Come, Holy Spirit" is enough.

Choose presence over performance. Approach prayer the way you would spending time with a close friend. We don't cancel plans with someone we love simply because we're tired.

In the same way, keep showing up. God delights in your company (Proverbs 8:31). He is not looking for a perfect performance but for a heart that continues to seek Him, even when prayer feels dry or difficult.

from Scripture

Matthew 16:21-27, God's ways are not our ways

At first glance, this passage seems like bad news. Jesus predicts His own death, a revelation that must have stunned the disciples. They had just come to recognize Him as the long-awaited Messiah. Instead of leading a triumphant victory over Rome, Jesus spoke of suffering, rejection, and execution. To them, it looked like failure, not triumph.

Peter responded as many of us do when faced with suffering: he resisted the Cross. He wanted Jesus to avoid it and was sharply rebuked. Yet had Jesus turned aside, we would have remained

in our sins, separated from God. Instead, He freely embraced the Cross. He chose us. From the perspective of the Resurrection, what appeared to be defeat was in fact Christ's decisive victory over sin and death.

God desires our happiness, not merely our temporary comfort. He desires our eternal joy. The Christian life is not about avoiding the crosses God permits but embracing them with trust, as Jesus did. And we never carry them alone. Christ walks beside us, bearing the heavier end of every cross.

Q & A Can the Pope make mistakes if he's infallible?

Yes. The pope is human and, like anyone else, can make mistakes in his personal opinions, decisions, or everyday statements. Papal infallibility does not mean the pope is incapable of error. Rather, it means that, under specific conditions, the Holy Spirit preserves him from definitively teaching error in matters of faith and morals (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 891).

Papal infallibility applies only when the pope is:

Defining a doctrine of faith or morals. The teaching must concern divine revelation or truths closely connected to it. It does not apply to scientific claims, political views, interviews, homilies, or personal opinions. For example, in 1950, Pope Pius XII infallibly defined the dogma of Mary's Assumption into heaven.

Speaking ex cathedra ("from the chair"). The pope must speak in his official capacity as the successor of St. Peter and clearly intend to proclaim a doctrine that is binding on the entire Church. In *Munificentissimus Deus*, Pope Pius XII explicitly invoked his apostolic authority to "pronounce, declare, and define" the Assumption as a divinely revealed dogma.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 7—St. Cajetan (1547). St. Cajetan was born in Italy to a noble family. He went on to study civil and canon (Church) law at the University of Padua. He worked to reform the Church by founding the Theatines, a religious order modeled on the teachings of the Apostles.

August 9—St. Edith Stein (1942). Formerly Jewish, she was an atheist intellectual in Germany. After studying St. Teresa of Ávila, she converted to Catholicism, and became a Carmelite nun. Although her order tried to shelter her from the Nazis, she was taken to and executed at Auschwitz.

August 15—The Assumption of Mary. Declared a dogma of faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary's being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life. This feast highlights the Church's respect for the dignity of the body in view of our future resurrection. Note: This year, it is not a holy day of obligation.

August 24—St. Bartholomew (First Century). One of the Twelve Apostles and the son of Tolomai, Bartholomew is thought by some scholars to be the apostle, Nathanael, who went with Philip to see Jesus. After Jesus's Ascension, Nathanael spread Christianity to India and in Armenia, where he was martyred. He is the patron saint of Armenia and Belgium.

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