

April 2019

Itinerary for anniversary event

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All, Sorry don't have time to condense and do a cheat sheet like promised

1. **Tomorrow's prayer service attached – this is the more detailed version.**
2. **Day's logistics below.**
3. **list of folks to be interviewed/background**
4. **Statement from Harkin**
5. Sen. Grassley, Rep. Steve King, and Sen. Rand Paul will all be in Cedar Rapids on Friday

Day of Event Logistics

Questions and Assistance? For assistance or questions on the day of the event, look for volunteers wearing an Immaculate Conception name tag. You may also call the church office at 319-362-8689.

Buses: All buses and vans are asked to drop people off at the Federal Court House (111 7th Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa) and park at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church nearby until time for pick up (1224 5th Street SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401). At the end of the event, pick up on 3rd Ave access in front of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (857 3rd Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa).

We ask that all bus drivers send their cell numbers to our church secretary Denise Coates who will call them back after the service to let them know it is time for pick up. She can be reached at 319-362-7181 or dbq027sec@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us

Restroom locations: Restrooms will be available at Immaculate Conception Church. Two restrooms will be available in the church Grotto, two in the church basement (Scotus Hall), and 4 port potties on the side lawn of the church.

Refreshments: there will be 2 stations available at Immaculate Conception Church, one on the church lawn and another one in the church basement (Scotus Hall).

First Aid station located in Scotus Hall (church basement) Immaculate Room. You may take the elevator down to the basement and it is the first room on the left. There will be signs directing from many entrances as well as ushers and greeters to help with info.

Handicap and elevator access on the 10th street side of the church.

Flowers 389 flowers will represent all those detained at the time of the raid. As you arrive at the court house, please listen for instructions to receive one of the flowers and raise them at the appropriate time. Carry them with you during the walk as you think of the individuals who were detained. When arriving at the church, there will be a vase flower cart placed at the front of the church for all the flowers being brought in. We ask that you process in and place flowers in the vases provided and then find a seat.

A letter to Senator Grassley: As we gather at the Court House, everyone will be invited to sign a "letter" (a symbolic letter written on a large poster board) to Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley, who serves on the Judiciary Committee (currently reviewing immigration legislation) and has an office in the same building as the Court House. We will deliver the letter to him as the walk begins.

Signs All people carrying signs are asked not to hold up signs until they begin the walk towards Immaculate Conception.

Make your Voice Heard: This is the time for action and for your voice to be heard. Information tables will be available at Immaculate Conception to learn about ways to stay involved in the conversation (2 in the Grotto and 1 in the church basemen in Scotus Hall). Be sure to stop by!

Media Contact: direct all media questions on the day of the event to Father Greg Bahl 563-880-5361

Potential people to interview:

Erik Camayd-Freixas **Director of Translation & Interpretation Program at Florida International University served as one of the interpreters for the hearings at the Cattle Congress in Waterloo, following Raid. he spoke out about the injustices he saw and experienced during these hearings.**

Rockne Cole Attorney at Law - invited to be a part of the legal team involved in the Cattle Congress proceedings immediately following the raid. refused this invitation believing that the proposed process would not follow the guidelines for due process and the arrested person would not receive a fair or just hearing. His focus is immigration law hence he has represented many immigrants in Iowa.

Sister Mary McCauley, BVM c: (563) 581.6877

Former Pastoral Administrator of St. Bridget's. Mary: *"Tell anyone who is afraid or alone to come to St. Bridget's"* served as a sign of hope and consolation for innumerable immigrants and families as by 7:00 that evening over 400 men, women and children poured into St. Bridget's to receive comfort, guidance and support. Mary describes this day as the most exhausting, challenging, frightening and transformative day of her life. From that moment on she has become an untiring advocate for comprehensive immigration reform.

Rev. Paul Ouderkirk (608) 663 6969 (cell)

member of the pastoral staff at St. Bridget's parish at the time of the raid. He had been pastor there until his retirement in 2002. When the raid occurred he "came out of retirement" and served courageously and tirelessly the needs of the members of the Hispanic Community. He continues to be a strong advocate for immigration reform.

Sonia Parras Attorney - known as one of the outstanding immigration lawyers. She represented innumerable people at the time of the Raid and has been instrumental in obtaining many U VISAS for the persons who were arrested. In turn she has assisted with the reunification of many families as allowed through a U Visa.

David Vasquez Campus Pastor Luther College – cell?

advocate for all immigrants and very knowledgeable about immigration proceedings. He came to St. Bridget's immediately following raid and assisted the pastoral staff for 3 mo. directly involved with the reunification of families and with the establishment of a loan fund to assist families with documentation expenses. He has taken a leadership role in all events related to the Postville Raid.

Pedro Lopez – 7th grader at time "I am sad because they have taken my mother away" senior in hs now and will be a part of prayer service – making a statement. And will deliver letter to Grassley w/Luis

Luis Argueta documentary filmmaker – AbUSed Presents the devastating effects of US Enforcement Immigration policies on communities, families and children. The film tells the gripping personal stories of the individuals, the families and the town that survived the most brutal, most expensive and largest immigration raid in the history of the United States and serves as a cautionary tale of government abuses.

Father Greg Bahl c: 563-880-5361 Current priest of St. Bridgets

Pastor Steven Brackett

St. Paul's Lutheran, postville – 563.

??Jewish priest
Rabbi
Rosenthal – from MN

Statement of Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA)

*On the Five-Year Anniversary of the Raid on the
Agriprocessors, Inc. Plant in Postville*

“Sunday marks the five-year anniversary of the mass arrests at Agriprocessors, Inc., in Postville. The tragedy at Postville has highlighted the harsh reality that our current immigration system is unworkable and unacceptable. The status quo has trapped some 11 million undocumented immigrants in a lawless limbo, and has allowed unscrupulous employers to operate a shadow economy based on exploitation and law-breaking. Postville exemplified a system that is broken and in need of urgent reform.

“I am pleased that President Obama has demonstrated a strong commitment to accountable, comprehensive immigration reform and that a group of my colleagues responded by proposing legislation to do that. I hope to work constructively with my colleagues and improve this proposal so we can create a new immigration system that is fair to American workers and taxpayers and offers a practical, humane solution to the reality that millions of undocumented immigrants and their families are within our borders.

“I also salute the Obama Administration and the Department of Homeland Security for implementing deferred action for childhood arrivals, better known as DACA. In a time of increasingly tight budgets, it is necessary to put our resources where they're actually needed rather than punishing children and pushing undocumented immigrants further into the shadows.”

This is really amazing. Sen. Grassley, Rep. Steve King, and Sen. Rand Paul will all be in Cedar Rapids on Friday (tomorrow) for an, Iowa GOP fundraising dinner. This makes the Postville event even more relevant to the national conversation -- especially in the press.

<http://iowagopreagandinner.eventbrite.com/>

Rand Paul will be a major character in shaping the immigration debate -- especially on in the Republican party. This event is also one of the first 2016 campaign events of the cycle.

Rand Paul, like all of the potential Republican candidates running for president in 2016, is waiting to see how Iowans respond to the immigration debate as he calculates the politics of the Iowa caucuses. They know they need to win Iowa's caucus and many are afraid to stand strong on immigration because of Steve King and Chuck Grassley. Sen. Rand Paul has recently lurched to the [right on immigration](#). We all saw last election how this worked out for Mitt Romney.

A few things to keep in mind regarding the politics of immigration in Iowa, in light of the GOP Fundraiser on Friday.

- Mitt Romney followed Steve King's lead on immigration and it [cost him the election](#)
- We'll see if Sen. Rand Paul makes the same mistake
- Mitt Romney [promised to veto the DREAM Act](#) at a campaign event in La Mars, Iowa and lost the Latino vote by historic numbers

- Postville has given Iowans a deeper understanding of immigration
- We have seen first hand the harm caused by anti-immigrant policies promoted by members of Congress like Steve King, [in 2011](#), only 25% of caucus goers supported mass deportation

If possible, I think it would be great if we could get 20 or so people outside of the hotel at 5pm with rally signs. Do you all think that would be possible? The address is 7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. This also means that Senator Grassley might be at his office in Cedar Rapids -- his office is near the courthouse and federal court.