

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

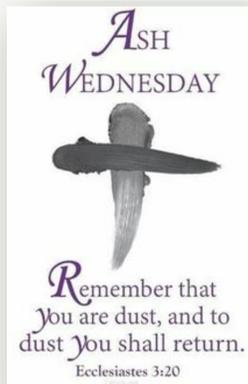
FEBRUARY 11, 2018

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest



A New Season Begins



MASS AT ADAIR:
5:30PM
MASS AT STUART:
7:00PM

This week ahead brings to us the beginning of the season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday, this year, happens to be the

same day as St. Valentine's Day and, oddly enough, Easter is on April 1st—a day we also know as "April Fool's Day." A random comment on the internet referred to these coincidences as "*an odd year for Catholics.*"

Actually, the love that we traditionally celebrate on February 14th for our sweethearts can only happen because of the Love that was given to us at Christmas. Jesus Christ was born and given to us to save us. The

epitome of God's love for us.

In reference to "April Fool's Day", Scripture tells us in Psalm 14:1-3, "*The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'*"

What better day to celebrate the fact that there IS a God than the very day that is the largest feast day in the Church year?

Will you be celebrating Easter this year...or April Fool's Day?

Special Events During Lent

There are a few adjustments to our regular Mass times to be considered this week beginning with Ash Wednesday. Mass will be at 5:30pm at St. John's in Adair (this replaces the regular 8:30am Mas time) will begin at 7pm at All Saints in Stuart.

Father has added a 6:30pm Mass on Thursdays at Adair during Lent which will be followed by the Stations of the Cross.

Friday morning Mass at Stuart is being moved to

6pm, also followed by the Stations of the Cross.

Fish Fry Fridays are scheduled for February 23rd, March 9th, and March 23rd at St. John's. Free will offering.

The All Saints Knights of Columbus will be hosting a spaghetti supper on Saturday, Feb. 24th from 5:30-7pm and a spaghetti luncheon on Sunday, Feb. 25th, 11am-1pm. Free will donation with all proceeds going to the LC Clinic.

Please help the Knights again this year with the 40 Cans for Lent project. We will be accepting donations for the Stuart Food Pantry from Sunday Feb. 11-Saturday March 31st. Any non-perishable food items are welcome. Look for the donation table at the entrance of the church.

The Adair Ministerial Association Ecumenical Lenten service will be at St. John at 7pm on Wednesday March 7th. Free will offering.

CONTACT US:

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Dear Parishioners,

I hope that everyone is weathering the recent snowstorms without too much difficulty! It has been more than two years since we've seen these conditions, so please remember to check on family, friends, and neighbors who may be having weather or health-related problems. With the flu outbreak at an epidemic level, this is also a concern, so please take care.

Something else that has come to our attention during the recent extreme weather conditions is the cost of our utilities in keeping our church environment comfortable. Even with keeping room temperatures low, keeping non-necessary lighting shut off, and other measures, our utility bills—like yours—were tremendous for the month of January.

The electric bill for All Saints was \$2,080.15, the average bill is just over \$1,000. St. John's electricity bill was \$185.46 compared to the December amount of \$89.41. The gas bill for All Saints was \$2,090.64, but is normally around half that amount. St. John's natural gas bill is on "even pay" and that amount is \$127/month.

As you can see, our finances are being stretched just as are yours at home. But, if at all possible, please consider offering up a little extra with your tithes. This is income tax season, so maybe if God blesses you with a nice return, you might want to consider sharing some of your blessings.

There are always projects going on in and around our parish buildings and grounds. St. John's is working on replacing the sanctuary furnishings and the All Saints building is beginning to show some age as well. Anything you can do to help support the work of our local faith communities is very much appreciated. And don't forget the option of bequeathing a gift to your parish. "You can't take it (your money) with you," as they say, but what you do for the Lord lasts for eternity!

Thank you!

PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ Please pray for Barb Marnin; those who are suffering with the flu; and those experiencing weather-related issues
- ◆ *To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Viola Heins at 515-789-2029, or email: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com*

Liturgical Ministers—Saturday February 17

Rosary Leader: Frank Holle

Ushers: Matt & Jen Dickson

Cross Bearer: Matt Dickson

Altar Servers: Zoey & Bailey Dickson

Lector: Carol Smith

Commentator: Sharon Doud

Greeters & Gifts: Matt & Jen Dickson

EMHC: Sr. Nesta, Sr. Andre, Jodi Bassett

Liturgical Ministers—Sunday February 18

Ushers: John & Patrick Gulbranson

Cross Bearer: Jason Tigges

Altar Servers: Jack & Jenna Doyle, Cam Tigges

Lector: Harriet Gulbranson

Commentator: Gary Riordan

Greeters & Gifts: Jason & Jennifer Tigges

EMHC: Harriet Gulbranson, Linda Lee O'Neel, Amy Doud

Please contact Joyce Van Pelt regarding scheduling questions:

joyceavp@yahoo.com

CALENDAR & DAILY READINGS

Sunday 2-11

9am Choir/
Adoration

10am Mass for
the Living & De-
ceased Members
of the Parish

BDs: Lori Baudler,
Bailey Dickson

**Leviticus 13:1-2,
44-46; 1 Corin-
thians 10:31-
11:1; Mark 1:40-
45**

*Sin separates us
from God.*

In the same way
that leprosy sep-
arated people
from their com-
munities until
they were
healed, sin sepa-
rates us from
God until we ask
for forgiveness
and healing. Let
us have the faith
of the leper in
today's Gospel,
and believe in
the healing
words and touch
of Jesus when it
is our time to
need for-
giveness.

Monday 2-12

ANN: Leo & Jeri
Pieper 1977

BD: Sophia Pieper

**James 1:1-11;
Mark 8:11-13**

*Seek the wisdom
of God.*

Sometimes
things happen in
our lives that
cause us to won-
der about how,
exactly, God is
caring for us.
When we think
we know what is
in our best inter-
est and life does
not play out that
way, it can be
difficult to un-
derstand why. In
times like these,
more than any
other, we are
encouraged to
have faith, and
to seek the wis-
dom of God in
prayer, so that
we might see
ourselves, and
our lives, as God
does.

Tuesday 2-13

6pm Mass for
Bob Griffin

6:30pm Adult Ed

ANN: Jeff & Gina
Ocheltree 1993

BD: Jason Tigges

**James 1:12-18;
Mark 8:14-21**

*Only good gifts
come from God.*

Our personal
desires and the
powers of the
world lead us to
sin, but God's
gifts are always
good. Let us use
our God-given
gifts to build up,
not to tear
down; let us
used them in
service to others,
not for our own
gain.

Wednesday 2-14

7pm ASH WED.
Mass for
Maynard
Witkowski

ANN: Jerry & Janet
Dickson 1976

BDs: Dennis Don-
nelly, Julie Doud

**Joel 2:12-18; 2
Corinthians 5:20
-6:2; Matthew
6:1-6, 16-18**

*God is calling us
now to repent-
ance, as we
begin the jour-
ney of Lent.*

Whatever spir-
itual state we are
I, no mater how
much we suc-
ceeded or failed
in our Lenten
journeys of the
past, God is call-
ing us now to
begin this period
of repentance
and love. Jesus
faced Jerusalem
and His impend-
ing death with
steadfast cour-
age. May we
enter this period
of prayer,
fasting, and char-
ity with the cour-
age to answer
whatever it is
God asks of us.

Thursday 2-15

9am Mass for
Martin G. Lydon
(at the Stuart
Community Care
Center)

BD: Aiden Lewis

**Deuteronomy
30:15-20; Luke
9:22-25**

*Sacrifice can be
life-giving.*

For our financial,
health, or social
benefit, we are
usually willing to
make sacrifices.
Should we not
do the same for
our spiritual
health and bene-
fit? Sacrifice for
the greater good
of ourselves is
life-giving, and
Lent is a remind-
er of this in its
preparation for
the greatest life-
giving sacrifice.

Friday 2-16

6pm Mass for
Maynard
Witkowski with
Stations of the
Cross

ANN:
Paul & Sharon
Pieper 1963

BD:
Tom McFarland

**Isaiah 58:1-9a;
Matthew 9:14-
15**

*God desires true
fasting.*

Fasting plays an
important part in
many of the
world's major
religions. Today's
Scripture read-
ings teach us
that while there
are appropriate
times to fast, this
external act
needs to be
practiced with
love and sincerity
to be accepta-
ble to the Lord.
True fasting in-
volves perform-
ing acts of mer-
cy.

Saturday 2-17

3:30pm
Confessions

4:30pm Mass for
Maxine Carey

**Isaiah 58:9b-14;
Luke 5:27-32**

*Jesus came in
order to heal and
forgive.*

In today's Gos-
pel, Jesus ex-
plains that His
mission is to heal
those who are
spiritually sick.
He says He is
there for those
who need His
help, but in or-
der for Jesus to
help us, we must
recognize our
need. Let us
spend some time
in prayer today
opening our
hearts to His
Word.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

▪ CATHY HICKS, DRE

Each Lenten season the Faith Formation students and their families participate in the CRS Rice Bowl program (Catholic Relief Service). CRS is a Lenten faith-interaction program that offer the students and families to engage in the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is also an opportunity for families to come together and reflect on what it means to live out the Gospel by helping those most in need, especially in countries like India, Mexico, and Ethiopia. Over 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States participate in CRS each year.

On Wednesday, February 21, the rice bowls and instructions will be handed out at Faith

Formation. Each student will get a rice bowl to use during Lent to donate money to the project. This could be loose change, a dollar or two, or maybe a goal of how much one wants to contribute during this time. If someone cannot donate money, prayers are always welcomed! The rice bowls will be turned in at the end of Lent and the money counted and given to CRS. Anyone in the parish may participate. Rice bowls will be available in the gathering space starting the weekend of February 24th/25th. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me (cabinmn@gmail.com) or call the church. Thank you for supporting this very worthy program.

As a reminder, this Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. Faith Formation **WILL** meet from 6:30- 7:00, then we will go to Mass. I invite all parents to join us in this service.

May God be always at your side and hold you in the palm of His hand.



Thoughts from Jodi

-Jodi Bassett, Altar & Rosary Society President

Leprosy is practically unheard of in the United States. In fact, most mentions are biblical in nature.

But imagine someone with a bad case of acne or plaque psoriasis being shunned to isolation, being identified as unclean.

I'm sure persons with those conditions are embarrassed, and may even be picked on or teased, but at least they don't have to announce themselves, saying "I've got zits," or "I have psoriasis". Those conditions are common in our country in 2018, and aren't contagious like leprosy is.

Fortunately, there are medications in this day and age for those and many other conditions.

How do we isolate people these days?

Social media is rampant and anything goes. Public shaming can be done anonymously...no need to take responsibility for one's actions or words. Bullying is a hot topic in our society and is another way people are segregated. Threats, blackmail and lies can keep people subdued, and can even drive the victims of bullying to do unthinkable acts.

This isn't exactly fair— but

what about singling people out is fair?

Jesus was approached by a leper, who asked Jesus to make him clean. Jesus touched the leper, and the man became clean again.

Jesus will touch us and remove the scars from our souls, if we just ask.

And like the leper that Jesus made clean, we should share the good news of his healing power.

Parish Business & Finance Report

February 4th Collection

Sat/Sun: \$2,569.92

Kids: \$10.06

Building Fund: \$539.00

Special Collection: \$0.00

This Week's Income:

\$2,579.98

This Week's Expenses:

\$4,215.69

2017 ADA Balance

As of 1/5/22018:

\$5,076.00

Trustees:

Janis Gilman, Robert Bird

Council Members:

Wayne Nosbisch, Brenna

Bird, Dave & Barb Boss,

Eric Tiernan, Tom Doud

Rita Rilea, Bookkeeping

Mission Statement: "Rejoicing with gratitude in God's blessings, we invite and welcome all to share in the fullness of the Catholic faith. We live our baptismal call through worship, teaching, and serving one another."