

Father Tony's Corner *(continued from front page)*

us off in traffic or fails to invite us to a party. It can be in major ways, like a betrayal or a rejection. But when Christ says 'Go, and sin no more', he is saying that with his power we can truly forgive others. Christ forgives us, he lifts us up, and he tells us 'Go and sin no more'. We need to experience once again God's pure goodness. God always gives us another chance, but sometimes we do not give ourselves another chance; sometimes we do not even want another chance. We like to sweep things under the rug sometimes. Lent is a time when God invites us to pick up those rugs, bring them outside, and shake them out. We each need to ask ourselves if we have really accepted the chances God has given us. We may have given up on some part of our life or on some relationship. We may think we are not worthy of being truly happy, and truly forgiven. Was the adulterous woman worthy? Only God is worthy, and God is holding out his hand, ready to lift us up to a brand new start. If you and I are not saints yet, it is only because we still have some reluctance in our relationship with God. We may say with our lips that we believe in his mercy, but in our hearts we lack trust. There are some walls around our hearts still, and we have not let God in all the way. He wants to come in. He knows that only he can heal the wounds that we are hiding. He knows that only he can give us new life, a fresh start. Today, as we contemplate Jesus' encounter with the sinful woman, let us ask him for the grace to trust him more completely, and to accept his offer of another chance as often as we need to, in our own prayer and especially in the sacrament of confession. And as he comes to be with us again in Holy Communion, let us pray for all those people in the world who have never known Christ's forgiveness, and let us pray that Christ will never let us be like the self-righteous Pharisees, that we will always be faithful sons and daughters of our merciful Father.

Faith Formation Coordinator, Jill Gerling

SHADOW STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Presented by: Faith Formation 7th and 8th Graders

Wednesday, April 17th at 6:30pm

All are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is a great reflection, meditation, and prayer leading into the Paschal Triduum.



CATHOLIC JEWELRY SALES

Available now through April 28



All proceeds help to send our Faith Formation Youth to the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC), as well as, other items needed for the youth program.



All Saints Financial Partnership

April 7, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 2,543.00

Children's Offering: \$ 48.92

Catholic Relief Services: \$ 369.00

St. John Financial Partnership

April 7, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 362.00

Children's Offering: \$ 2.00

Catholic Relief Services: \$ 112.00

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew
Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)
E-mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net
Secretary/Bookkeeper: Tammy Doud
Email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com
Faith Formation Coordinator:
Jill Gerling – allsaintsff@outlook.com
Phone: 515-523-1943
Website: stuartallsaints.org
Website: adairstjohn.org



Office Hours

Tuesday: 8:30am - 3pm
Wednesday: 8:30am - 3pm
Thursday: 8:30am - 3pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Noon Wednesday



All Saints Mass Schedule

Tuesday: 6pm
Thursday: 9am (Care Center)
Friday: 8:30am
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 10am

St. John Mass Schedule

Wednesday: 8:30am
Sunday: 8am

Father Tony's Corner



Jesus is in the temple, and the Scribes and the Pharisees bring a woman who has been caught in the very act of adultery. In Jewish law, the three gravest sins were murder, idolatry, and adultery, and all three were punishable by death. The Pharisees, and the religious leaders of the time, know it. And the woman is expecting death by stoning even though in her heart, she is wishing for a second chance. The cruelty of the Pharisees must be terrible for her, and they really do not care about her. But worst of all must be the shame originating from her sin. We have all sinned. We have all experienced shame, that burning desire to crawl into the ground and disappear. And the crowd is mocking her. Jesus does not ignore or excuse her sin. He acknowledges it and actually tells her to 'go and sin no more'. He does not condemn her. He gives her another chance. Giving us another chance is one of God's main policies. It is called mercy. It is called forgiveness. It is called real love in a sinful, and fallen world. In this fallen world, we are confronted with sin and sinners every day. There are two wrong ways to react to this reality. First, it is wrong to ignore the reality of sin. This is the mistake made by today's popular culture, which considers tolerance the highest value. It is the common attitude that says everyone can do whatever they feel like, that there are no objectively evil actions. In other words, sin does not exist. If we accept that point of view, we end up condoning evil. That is tantamount to approving of people destroying themselves - because sin is always self-destructive. So it is wrong to ignore the reality of sin. In this gospel narrative, Christ clearly condemns the sin. He tells the adulterous woman: 'Go, and from now on do not sin anymore'. He did not ignore the sin. Second, it is wrong to condemn the sinner along with the sin. When a person commits evil, that person is not rejected by God. God still loves that person and wants that person to repent and be saved. As God's children we are called to have the same attitude. In fact, Christ actually gave his life for people who were sinners. He is the Good Shepherd who goes out to search for the lost sheep. He is the doctor of souls who comes to heal the spiritually sick. Only God can see the person's heart. Only God knows how responsible the person is for the evil choices one makes. Only God knows the person's whole history. And so, only God can judge people fairly. When Christ says 'Go and sin no more', it is an invitation to a new way of life. Lent is a time the Church gives us to enter into that new way of life. Let us make the most of the remainder of Lent to do exactly that. When our sins are forgiven, it brings us to want to live differently. It brings us to want to be saints. One very practical result is that it brings us to forgive others. It is very easy to hold rancor in our hearts when someone hurts us. It can be in little ways, like when someone cuts

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Sacraments:

Reconciliation: 3:30pm Saturday in Stuart; 7:30am Sunday in Adair; or by Appointment
Anointing of the Sick: Call Fr. Tony before/after hospitalization
Baptism: Call the office during pregnancy for preparation class
Marriage: Call the office at least nine months to one year ahead to plan marriage preparation. Wedding Date should not be set until preparations have begun
Annulment/ Marriage Validation: Call Fr. Tony to learn more about this process with Diocesan Tribunal if you are divorced and remarried or never married in the Catholic Church.
RCIA: Call Fr. Tony if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or the RCIA process.
Membership/Registration: If you are new, welcome to our parish. Please register by calling the office. If you are moving away, please contact the office to notify us before moving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Annual Diocesan Appeal 2019:** Each year, every member of our diocesan faith community is asked to participate in making a gift to support the work and ministry of Bishop Pates through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. We are part of a much larger church community – the Church of the Diocese of Des Moines which encompasses 23 counties of Iowa, with 81 parishes, 17 schools and more than 35,000 registered Catholic households. The appeal pays 100% of the priests' health care, retirement benefits and expenses which are not absorbed by our parish. The Diocese currently supports 112 priests; 37 of those priests are retired and 75 are active. The appeal covers the formation of our deacons, education of our 16 seminarians, administrative expenses for the staff of the diocese, and Bishop Pates' ministry, including housing, travel throughout the Diocese for meetings, special masses, and confirmations. Last, but not least, a portion of our ADA dollars support Catholic Charities in feeding and clothing those in need; providing shelter for homeless families; assisting victims of domestic violence; counseling thousands of individuals, and welcoming refugees who have fled their native lands as they settle in Iowa. Your gift has significant impact on the how we live out our faith. Thank you again for your ongoing and generous support.

All Saints, Stuart, Parish ADA Goal = \$30,035 Gifts Received: \$ 12,780.00
 St. John, Adair, ADA Goal = \$7,257 Gifts Received: \$2,570.00

- **Lenten Fish Fry at St. John, Adair:** Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a good fish fry meal on Friday, April 12th at St. John's Parish Hall in Adair from 5 pm to 7 pm. Volunteers are needed to help clean up after each event so lend a giving hand if you are able. Many hands make light work. Thank you!
- **All Saints Catholic Church Maintenance and Repair Projects:** I believe, by now every member of All Saints Catholic Church has received a letter from me inviting your partnership as we undertake three major maintenance projects that need our immediate attention. First, the windows by the front east double entry door, roof vents and pipes costing \$4,925. Second, the upper level parking area and broken sidewalk costing \$22,539, and finally, an additional 6 handicapped parking spots costing \$27,377. The success of this campaign will depend upon your commitment in prayer, involvement and sacrifice of God given treasure. Our success will not come from a small group of parishioners, but rather from the participation of 100% of the parish family. Fr. Tony

Gifts received - \$ 1,850.00 Parishioners Donated: 5

- **Holy Week Schedule:** May the Lord inspire us to make an extra effort to participate in the profound liturgies of the Holy week and grow in our life of discipleship.

Palm Sunday, April 14

Regular Mass schedule: 8:00 a.m. (St. John) 10:00 a.m. (All Saints)

Holy Thursday, April 18

Foot Washing and Mass of the Lord's Last Supper at 4:00 p.m. at St. John
 Foot Washing and Mass of the Lord's Last Supper at 6:00 p.m. at All Saints

Good Friday, April 19

Stations of the Cross/Passion Service at 4:00 p.m. at St. John
 Stations of the Cross/Passion Service/ at 6:00 p.m. at All Saints

Holy Saturday, April 20

Easter Vigil Service at 8:30 p.m. at All Saints

Easter Sunday, April 21

Mass at 8:00 a.m. at St. John Mass 10:00 a.m. at All Saints

- **Calvary Cemetery Annual Board Meeting:** The Calvary Cemetery Annual Board meeting will be held after 4:30 p.m. mass on Saturday, April 13. We will meet in the music room across from the parish hall. Please contact Tom Doud at 515-577-5670 for additional information or questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Knights of Columbus' Lenten Project:** Knights of Columbus will be collecting 40 cans of non-perishable items to be donated to our local food pantry for Lent from Ash Wednesday (March 6th) through Easter Sunday (April 21st).
- **Thank you for the healing prayer service:** We are indebted to all who had a role in the healing prayer service on Sunday, March 31, especially the presiders, organizer, pianist, violinist, cantor, lectors, those who provided refreshments, and all who came to the service. Thank you so much for making it a wonderful experience for everyone.
- **Thank you for the altar server appreciation party:** We want to thank Monica Fagan, and all those who assisted her for coordinating the altar server appreciation party on Sunday, March 31st at St. John, and all those who were present for the party. Thank you parents for bringing your children. Your collaboration, and sacrifice is appreciated by your parish family, and together we can grow as a wonderful parish family.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

<p>All Saints Saturday, April 13 Rosary: Frank Holle Ushers: Marty & Julie Doud Altar Server: Bailey & Zoey Dickson Lector: Jodi Bassett Commentator: Sharon Doud Greeters: Marty & Julie Doud EMHC: Brenda Wedemeyer, Maria Ladwig & Sister Andre</p>	<p>All Saints Sunday, April 14 Ushers: Bob Olson & Dennis Van Pelt Altar Servers: Gabe & Nate Gerling & Logan Moore Lector: Donna Olson Commentator: Amy Doud Greeters: Bob & Donna Olson EMHC: Joyce Van Pelt, Jill Gerling & Dave Tisl</p>	<p>St. John Sunday, April 14 Cross Bearer: Belle Fagan Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ludwig Lector: Barb Bachman Host: Elizabeth Moreland Cup: Sister Andre & Adella Vogl Altar Servers: Carley Fagan & Bailey Lillard Traveling Chalice: Francis & Deb Hollinrake</p>
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Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>Sunday 4/7</u>	<u>Sunday 4/7</u>	<u>Tuesday 4/9</u>	<u>Wednesday 4/10</u>	<u>Thursday 4/11</u>	<u>Friday 4/12</u>	<u>Saturday 4/13</u>
<u>Adair</u> 7:30am Adoration, Confession, Rosary 8am Mass for Leona Drees 4/14 Mass for Patricia Seilhan (health) <u>Stuart</u> 9am Choir Practice 10am Mass for Teresa Powell	BD: Viola Heins, Pat Cooper & Luke Brincks <u>Monday 4/8</u>	<u>Stuart</u> 6pm Mass for Karen Dupuy	<u>Adair</u> 8:30am Mass Eugene Seilhan (health) <u>Stuart</u> 5:30pm Mass & Stations of the Cross followed by Soup Supper sponsored by Sharon Doud & family BD: Alvina Thelen	<u>Stuart</u> 9am Mass (Stuart Care Center) for Ron Dupuy	<u>Stuart</u> 8:30am Mass for BD: Father Antony Mathew, Sam Kasap & Kinnick Witte	<u>Stuart</u> 3:30pm Confessions 4:05 Rosary 4:30pm Mass for the People

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, April 9th @ 1pm: Eric Tiernan, Gina James & Janet Bassett
 Tuesday, April 16th @1pm: Donna Olson & Gina Ocheltree