

# SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 8, 2018

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

## IN HIS PRESENCE

*(The following excerpts come from an "E-Book" written by Father Benedict J. Groeschell, CFR, and James Monti, published by Our Sunday Visitor)*

*"Once, the (Divine Mercy) image was being exhibited over the altar during the Corpus Christi procession...When the priest exposed the Blessed Sacrament, and the choir began to sing, the rays from the image pierced the Sacred Host and spread out all over the world. Then I heard these words: These rays of mercy will pass through you, just as they have passed through this Host, and they will go out through all the world. At these words, profound joy invaded my soul." (Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, 441)*

Adoration has been a central Catholic devotion for centuries, beloved by saints, popes, and countless devout men, women, and children.

Among them was St. Faustina—who added

"of the Blessed Sacrament" to her religious name:

*"One hour spent at the foot of the altar in the greatest dryness of spirit is dearer to me than a hundred years of worldly pleasure." (Diary, 254)*

Striving to be in constant union with Jesus, she visited the Blessed Sacrament throughout her day as much as possible, sometimes if only to quickly genuflect at the chapel's door as she passed by, smiling to Our Lord.

### What did she learn?

There's a Polish proverb that goes: "You become the one you befriend."

When St. Faustina knelt in front of the tabernacle, she prayed fervently, gazing radiantly at the altar. Jesus in the Eucharist was to her a living person with whom she wanted to talk at every moment. All the basic forms of prayer—adoration, petition, intercession, and thanksgiving—were part of

those visits.

She wept in front of our Lord in the Eucharist, interceded for others, shared her joys with Him, and acknowledged her weaknesses. She obtained self-knowledge, asked for healing, adored, loved, listened, thanked, and rested in Him.

As St. Faustina's soul united with Jesus, the fruit of her adoration was an image of Divine Mercy and a deeper and deeper relationship with the living Host. It gave her nourishment to confront her many challenges, as from that source sprang a fountain of love for all.

St. Faustina had a peace that radiated to all. She offered faith, hope, and charity—and love, compassion, and healing, as she went about doing good, as she left the chapel and went back to the world, herself becoming a "living host."

**(Continued on the back page)**

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**MASS TIMES**  
**8AM SUNDAY**  
**8:30AM WEDNESDAY**  
**CONFESSION:**  
**7:30AM SUNDAY**

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# What Does the Church say about Guardian Angels?

-Submitted by David Witkowski

That every individual soul has a guardian angel has never been defined by the Church, and is, consequently, not an article of faith; but it is the "mind of the Church." As St. Jerome expressed it: "How great the dignity of the soul, since each one has from his birth an angel commissioned to guard it." (*Comm. in Matt., xviii, lib. II*)

This belief in guardian angels can be traced throughout all antiquity: pagans, like Menander and Plutarch (*cf. Euseb., "Praep. Evang.", xii*), and Neo-Platonists, like Plotinus, held it. It was also the belief of the Babylonians and Assyrians, as their monuments testify, for a figure of a guardian angel-now in the British Museum -once decorated an Assyrian palace, and might well serve for a modern representation; while Nabopolassar, father of Nebuchadnezzar the Great, says: "He (Marduk) sent a tutelary deity (cherub) of grace to go at my side; in everything that I

did, he made my work to succeed."

In the Bible, this doctrine is clearly discernible and its development is well marked. In Gen., xviii-xix, angels not only act as the executors of God's wrath against the cities of the plain, but they deliver Lot from danger; in Ex., xii-xiii, an angel is the appointed leader of the host of Israel, and in xxxii, 34, God says to Moses: "my angel shall go before thee."

At a much later period we have the story of Tobias, which might serve as a commentary on the words of Ps., xc, 11: "For he hath given his angels charge over thee; to keep thee in all thy ways." (*Cf. Ps., xxxiii, 8; and xxxiv, 5.*) Lastly, in Dan., x, angels are entrusted with the care of particular districts; one is called "prince of the kingdom of the Persians", and Michael is termed "one of the chief princes". (*Cf. Deut., xxxii, 8 (Sept.); and Eccclus., xvii, 17 (Sept.)*)

## NEW CHRISM OILS PRESENTED FOR 2018

Bishop Pates presented the Holy Oils to be used this year during the Chrism Mass March 23 at St. Ambrose.



The **Oil of the Sick** will be used in pastoral care of those who are ill or infirm from illness of mind or body, accidents, or advanced age. This is made with olive oil.

The **Oil of the Catechumens** will be used to anoint the Elect as well as infants just before their baptism and is also olive oil.

The **Sacred Chrism** is used primarily for baptisms, confirmations, and ordinations, and is made with olive oil and mixed with balsam.

## PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ Please keep Bishop Pates in your prayers as he has just undergone hip surgery.
- ◆ To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Adella Vogl at 641-742-5277, or email: [stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

### Liturgical Ministers Sunday April 15

**Cross Bearer:** Belle Fagan

**Greeters:** Mr. & Mrs. Cleon Klemish

**Lector:** Brian Richter

**Host:** Scott Suhr

**Cup:** Sr. Andre & Elizabeth Moreland

**Servers:** Addy Richter & Cole Plowman

**Traveling Chalice:**

Phyllis O'Brien

## PARISH BUSINESS & FINANCE REPORT

**Holy Week & April 1st Collection** \$1,041.00 Kids: \$65.00

**Building Fund Balance as of 4/3:** \$433.05

**Building Fund:** \$50.00

**This Week's Income:** \$1,106.00

**This Week's Expenses:** **\$437.56**

**ADA 2018 Goal: \$7,029 Balance Due As Of 3/29: \$4,884**

**Trustees:** Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin

**Council Members:** John Fagan, Monica Fagan, Larry Drees,

Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler

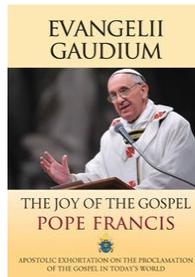
**Financial Secretary:** Rita Rilea

## CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 4-8</u>	<u>Monday 4-9</u>	<u>Tuesday 4-10</u>	<u>Wednesday 4-11</u>	<u>Thursday 4-12</u>	<u>Friday 4-13</u>	<u>Saturday 4-14</u>
<p><b>Divine Mercy</b> <b>SUNDAY</b></p> <p><b>7:30am</b> Confession/ Adoration/ Rosary</p> <p><b>8am Mass</b> for John W. Brincks</p>		<p><b>6pm Mass</b> for <i>Clair</i> &amp; <i>Pat Dickey</i> (<i>Stuart</i>)</p> <p><b>6:30pm Adult Ed</b> <i>Class—Stuart</i></p> <p><b>BD:</b> Brant Irlmeier</p>	<p><b>8:30am Mass</b> for Joseph Vogl</p>			<p><b>3:30pm</b> <b>Confessions at</b> <b>Stuart</b></p> <p><b>4:30pm Mass</b> at <b>Stuart</b> for <b>Bill &amp;</b> <b>Anna Holle</b></p>

## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL READ & SHARE SPACE

To help facilitate our reading of *“The Joy of the Gospel”* and to encourage us to share with one another, this space is meant for us to use as a study aid. Each paragraph throughout the book is numbered consecutively, to make it easier to reference any spot in the book that we may want to discuss further or ask questions about. Feel free to offer any thoughts or questions that you may want published in the bulletin—others may have the same thoughts or questions.



**Chapter One: *The Church’s Missionary Transformation***

**Section I. A Church Which Goes Forth** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Section II. Pastoral Activity and Conversion** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Section III. From the Heart of the Gospel** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Section IV. A Mission Embodies Within Human Limits** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Section V. A Mother With an Open Heart** \_\_\_\_\_  
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# ST. FAUSTINA - IN HIS PRESENCE

*(Continued from the front page)*

*"Jesus said to her: 'I delight in you as in a living host; let nothing terrify you; I am with you.'" (Diary, 923)*

St. Faustina immersed herself in the fire of His love and the abyss of His mercy, and she came to know herself and her God. It was adoration that called her forth to go out and help others, and adoration empowered her to share Jesus' compassion to everyone she encountered.

Jesus was her teacher. He taught her to treat trials as a positive opportunity to learn love of neighbor. She had grudges but she took them to Jesus, and He erased the memory from her soul, transforming it into overwhelming kindness and concern

for others. Simply put, He taught her not to judge others.

This is how she became holy, how she became a saint.

## What can you learn by adoration?

Just as He patiently waited for St. Faustina, Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament waits for you. Just as she grew more like Him, so can you. You can become a "living host." You can come to better know yourself and your God, and apply that knowledge, that truth, in all facets of your life.

## What is adoration?

Here's how the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains it:

Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the "King of Glory," respectful silence in the presence of the "ever greater" God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications. (2628)

**Adoration time is scheduled each Sunday morning from 7:30-7:50 at St. John.**

For more FREE e-books, visit:

[www.osvcatholicbookstore.com/free](http://www.osvcatholicbookstore.com/free)

## Scripture for Eucharistic Meditation

Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy.  
—*Psalms 43:4*

Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."  
—*Matthew 26:26-28*

For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a pure offering."  
—*Malachi 1:11*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies nev-

er come to an end; they are new every morning.  
—*Lamentations 3:22-23*

I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh.  
—*John 6:51*

As a hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for thee, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
—*Psalms 42:1-2*

My Lord and my God!  
—*John 20:28*

And walk in Love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.  
—*Ephesians 5:2*

I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you.  
—*John 14:18*

Remain here, and watch with me.  
—*Matthew 26:38*

Could you not watch one hour?  
—*Mark 14:37*

I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.  
—*John 15:5*

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.  
—*Matthew 18:20*

Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.  
—*Matthew 28:20*

## SAVE THE DATE...

- ◆ **Faith Formation** final class days: April 8th & 22nd and May 6th.
- ◆ **May 2nd — May Crowning & Procession** at All Saints 6:30pm

Visit our Website:  
[adairstjohn.org](http://adairstjohn.org)

- Bulletins
- Daily Readings
- Children's Bulletins
- Mass Intentions
  - Calendar
  - ...and more!