

SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 15, 2018

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

DEAR PARISHIONERS

Spring, hopefully starting soon, brings new beginnings and I want to make you aware of two new Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters who have joined our Sisters in Adair.

Perhaps you have met them already, but I wanted to introduce them formally by way of the bulletin and the pulpit.

Sr. M. Nkiruka

(Pronounced Key-rue)
Okafor, a member of the Religious Institute of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ. I made my first profession in 1998 and final profession in 2007. I am a clinician and a theologian researching on the narratives of women. Cell Phone: 763-587-8052.

Man-Up Event May 8

All men are invited to meet up for Man-Up's next event, "Don't Stop Believin: Keeping the Faith Through FOCUS," on Tuesday, May 8, at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church in Ankeny. We'll

Email: nkiruka-daeze@gmail.com

Sr. Gloria Mariette

Okpara, from the Religious Institution of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ, Nigeria. Finally professed on September 3rd., 2012, at St Michael's Catholic Church in Nigeria. I came from Immaculate Heart Convent Freeport, IL., to join our Sisters in Adair on March 17th, 2018. Here is my email address, srgloriamariette2016@gmail.com. The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ, also known as "The Sisters of IHM" or "The Blue Nuns," have not only served St. Gregory's Retreat Center in Adair and Bayard, Iowa but they

also have a new ministry to help women in need located in Freeport, Illinois. The **Madonna Renewal Center** is a safe haven for adult pregnant women and their infants. The center serves women who face unplanned motherhood and need support. In order for this mission to continue, the Sisters of IHM need financial, volunteer and prayer support. The Sisters are currently renovating a school building to serve as a home for women in need. To make it a reality, they need your help.

Please welcome our new Sisters: Sr. M. Nkiruka (Pronounce Key-rue) Okafor and Sr. Gloria Mariette Okpara and help make the renovation of the Madonna Center a reality.

start with a 5:20pm Rosary followed by 5:45pm Mass and 6:30pm dinner and program. Hear how other men are keeping the faith in this engaging panel discussion featuring Dea-



con Tom Bradley, Fr. Jon Seda, Fr. Mark Owusu, and Addie Magruder with students from ISU, Drake, and DCHS. Register at IowaCatholicRadio.com, or call 515-223-1150.

CONTACT US:

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

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Are Sanctifying and Actual Graces the Same?

-Submitted by David Witkowski

If you took your parish's catechism classes when you were growing up, you at least remember that there are two kinds of grace, sanctifying and actual. That may be all you recall. The names being so similar, you might have the impression sanctifying grace is nearly identical to actual grace. Not so.

Sanctifying grace stays in the soul. It's what makes the soul holy; it gives the soul supernatural life. More properly, it is a supernatural life.

Actual grace, by contrast, is a supernatural push or encouragement. It's transient. It doesn't live in the soul, but acts on the soul from the outside, so to speak. It's a supernatural kick in the pants. It gets the will and intellect moving so we can seek out and keep sanctifying grace.

Imagine yourself transported instantaneously to the bottom of the ocean. What's the very first thing you'll do? That's right: die. You'll die because you aren't equipped to live underwater. You don't have the right breathing apparatus.

If you want to live in the deep blue sea, you need equipment you aren't provided with naturally; you need something that will elevate you above your nature, something super- (that is, "above") natural, such as oxygen tanks.

It's much the same with your soul. In its natural state, it isn't fit for heaven. It doesn't have the right equipment, and if you die with your soul in its natural state, heaven won't be for you. What you need to live there is supernatural life, not just natural life. That supernatural life is called sanctifying grace. The reason you need

sanctifying grace to be able to live in heaven is because you will need to be in perfect and absolute union with God, the source of all life (cf. Gal. 2:19, 1 Pet. 3:18).

If sanctifying grace dwells in your soul when you die, then you have the equipment you need, and you can live in heaven (though you may need to be purified first in purgatory; cf. 1 Cor. 3:12-16). If it doesn't dwell in your soul when you die—in other words, if your soul is spiritually dead by being in the state of mortal sin (Gal. 5:19-21)—you cannot live in heaven. You then must face an eternity of spiritual death: the utter separation of your spirit from God (Eph. 2:1, 2:5, 4:18).

The worst part of this eternal separation will be that you yourself would have caused it to be that way.

PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ The St. John's Men's Group is thanking the Altar Servers by taking them to the **Get Air Trampoline Park** on Sunday, April 22. **Please meet at the Church at 1:00 pm.** Supper will be provided at Pizza Ranch.
- ◆ After all expenses and additional income from the Turkey Dinner, a check for \$1,447.00 has been issued to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Thank you for all the hard work from the ladies of the parish!
- ◆ *To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Adella Vogl at 641-742-5277, or email: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com*

Liturgical Ministers Sunday April 22

Cross Bearer: Cody Moreland
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ludwig
Lector: Theresa Elgin
Host: Les Elgin
Cup: Adella Vogl & Sr. Chinweze
Servers: Cash Suhr & Belle Fagan
Traveling Chalice:
Les & Theresa Elgin

PARISH BUSINESS & FINANCE REPORT

April 8th Collection \$372.00 **Kids:** \$28.50

Building Fund Balance as of 4/12: \$1,225.05

Building Fund Donation From Easter Flowers (net): \$975.71

This Week's Income: \$400.50

This Week's Expenses: **\$0.00**

ADA 2018 Goal: \$7,029 Balance Due As Of 3/29: \$3,709

Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin

Council Members: John Fagan, Monica Fagan, Larry Drees,
Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler

Financial Secretary: Rita Rilea

HIGHLIGHTS FROM: “THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL” BY POPE FRANCIS

- The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus
- The great danger in today’s world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience
- I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting Him encounter them
- The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk: whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that He is already there, waiting for us with open arms
- Let me say this once more: God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking His mercy
- Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire more than His life, which impels us onwards!
- This is the joy which we experience daily, amid the little things of life, as a response to the loving invitation of God our Father: “My child, treat yourself well, according to your means...Do not deprive yourself of the day’s enjoyment” (*Sirach 14:11,14*)
- Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.
- I never tire of repeating those words of Benedict XVI which take us to the very heart of the Gospel: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.”

Pastoral Center Open House Announced



Celebrating the renovation of the Catholic Pastoral Center *(Historic Home Federal Savings and Loan Building)*

Ribbon Cutting

Tuesday, May 8, 2018 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tours of the site provided and ribbon cutting at 5:30 p.m.

Celebration Dinner Tuesday, May 15, 2018 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Tours 5:00 p.m. and Dinner 6:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE...

- ♦ **Faith Formation final class days: April 22nd and May 6th.**
- ♦ **May 6th — May Crowning Faith Formation students will be taking part in the event**

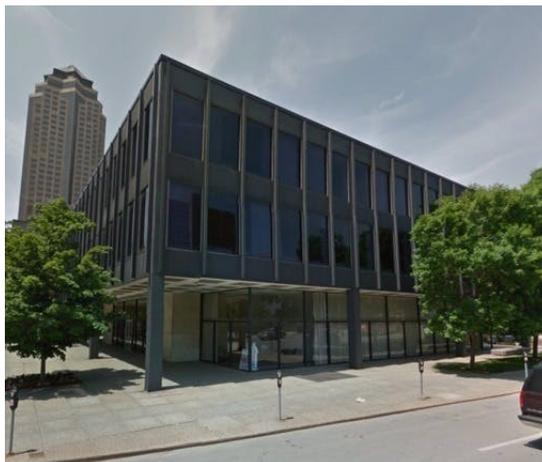
Diocese of Des Moines Community Celebration Open House

Sunday, June 3, 2018

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Events located at Catholic Pastoral Center All are welcome—fun for the family!

601 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa



Visit our Website:
adairstjohn.org

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