

WELCOME TO SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

We hope your visit here will be a prayerful time as you enjoy the lakes region.

Please consider St. Joseph's as your church away from home. Contact us at the Parish Office if we may serve you in any way.

We are committed to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ and invite you to join us! May the Holy Spirit lead us in living as a welcoming Catholic community.

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

1305 Okoboji Ave.
Milford, IA 51351
OFFICE: 712-338-2274
FAX: 712-338-2191
stjosephmilford.org
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Mon.- Thurs.:
7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fri.: 7:30 a.m. - 12 noon

RECONCILIATION:
30 minutes before each Mass
BULLETIN DEADLINE
Tuesday 12 noon

MASS SCHEDULE:

Winter

Saturday at 4:30 p.m.
Sunday at 8 and 10 a.m.

Summer

Saturday at 4 and 5:30 p.m.
Sunday at 7:30, 9 and 10:30 a.m.

Are you new to the community?
Would you like to join St. Joseph Parish? Just fill out the coupon below and return to the office or in the collection basket.

NAME: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Snook's
Of Okoboji
712-332-7530

DEC. 1-2, 2018

Once again our four weeks of Advent have been preceded by the early displays of Christmas decorations and holiday sale items within most stores. Nonetheless, our Advent Season—worthy of the deeper meanings of patience, expectation, and the coming of Christ—harkens us back to the essential grace of this season: the generosity of God's grace and healing in our daily lives. In our gospel passage this weekend we hear Jesus exclaim, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. . . ." Of the final tribulation only God knows, but during these few weeks of Advent we may be the sign of Christian patience while waiting in line at the stores, we may be the sign of Christian kindness while traveling, in the stores, with co-workers and family members alike, we may be the sign of Christian generosity, sharing our time and possessions however limited; we may be the sign of Christ by disregarding negative comments and remaining hope-filled in the words and actions we share. Advent Season this year is not much more than three weeks so we need to get busy and patiently wait for those moments we share our Christian faith by who we are. As Bishop Fulton Sheen reminds us these Advent days, "Patience is power. Patience is not an absence of action; rather it is 'timing'. It waits on the right time to act, for the right principles, and in the right way."

Next Sunday the St. Joseph Arts Council is sponsoring the Benson Family Singers at our church. Their love of music as a family and desire to share the meanings within the songs they sing will be a treat and blessing as we approach Christmas. All are welcome next Sunday, the ninth, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

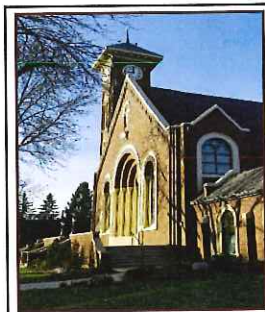
A warm, filling meal was served up on Thanksgiving Day in our parish for anyone without plans for the day. Turkey and all the trimmings were more than enough for those who shared in the meal, with the hospitality of the volunteers who prepared and cleaned up. Thank you for those who provided this considerate act of generosity.

Of all the symbols of Advent the wreath remains the most noticeable on the sanctuary. Most likely it originated in Germany sometime in the sixteenth century. As a symbol of the coming of Christ, the divine light in our midst and the harmony of God's creation, many churches began to adopt the present version of four candles within a wreath sometime in the 1900's. At each Mass the candles will be brought forward, visually reminding us of the light of Christ always coming forth into the world. If you as an individual or family would like to walk up the candles during one of the Advent Masses please let me know.

Bless You. *Fr. Tim*

OUR PARISH will consecrate gluten free hosts for communion on weekends, and the priest will hold the container of those hosts at each Mass.

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION for Advent is set for 1 p.m. Sun., Dec. 16.



By Fr. Tim Johnson

FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

December is here and that means it is Advent time; A time of preparation. What are you preparing for? Family members coming home for the holiday, children's Christmas programs, a trip perhaps, deliveries to friends and family of gifts of the season. I always enjoyed getting out my special Christmas books and stories to read to my kids. They only saw those books once a year and so we shared different stories and poems. We also have food traditions that we share and pass down. One of mine is actually a casserole dish passed down and used exclusively for sweet potatoes.

Whatever it is you are getting ready for it is all for good. This weekend, if you have one you set out your Advent wreath with a prayer to be said each week as we light the candles of the wreath. This week, it is the Prophets candle. People like Isaiah foretold that the light of God was coming and people should get ready to welcome him. John the Baptist also told people to prepare the way for the Messiah. God came to people in the most amazing way! Can he do it again? Of course.

The children of St. Joseph are also preparing. Last week the poster paper and entry forms went out to children who wish to enter the Knights of Columbus coloring contest. This can still be given out, but the completed posters need to be returned to me on Dec. 5th. We will do Christmas crafts, prepare for the annual Christmas program, share some treats and joy with each other. Family formation will meet on Dec. 6 and share a potluck of pizza and assorted sides. The Christmas program will be Dec. 16 at 4:00 pm followed by pizza and cookies in the parish center. We will have our last day of classes on Dec. 19 before the long break for the holiday.

I hope your holiday season is not "too busy" so that you can enjoy it. Time slips away from us so quickly.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Gracious Father, we pray to you for your Catholic Church.
Fill it with your truth. Keep it in your peace.

Where it is corrupt, reform it.
Where it is in error, correct it.

Where it is right, defend it.

Where it is in want, provide for it.

Where it is divided, reunite it; for the

sake of your Son, your Savior

Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Archbishop William Laud, 1573-1645)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Monday, Dec. 3

8 p.m.: AA in Nazareth Hall; Al-Anon in NW.

Tuesday, Dec. 4

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration.

5:15 p.m.: Mass

Wednesday, Dec. 5

3:40-5 p.m.: Religious Ed for grades K-6

5:45 p.m.: Family Formation

7-8 p.m.: Religious Ed for grades 7-12.

Thursday, Dec. 6

7:30 a.m.: Immaculate Conception Mass, Holy Day of Obligation.

Friday, Dec. 7

2-4 p.m.: Annual Christmas Open House at the Rectory. Refreshments. Fellowship.

4:30 p.m.: Benson Family Singers in concert, Church. Hosted by The Arts at St. Joseph.

ALL photos from the Remembrance Table can be picked up in the Parish Office. Thanks for your participation. We'll do it again. --CDA

DAA UPDATE:

Goal: \$49,533.00

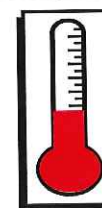
Rec'd this week: \$597.00

Total Pledged/Pd: \$20,909

% of Goal: 42.2%

Contributors: 166/680 or 24%

Remaining Amount: \$28,624.00



Remember a loved one or a friend with beautiful Christmas flowers on the St. Joseph altars during this holiday season. Poinsettias and other Christmas flowers will be purchased from Marcy Wittrock, owner of Red Roses & Ivy, in Milford, for \$13 each which includes foil wrap and satin bow. There is an envelope for this purpose in your packet or you can call the office. If you wish to contribute, the deadline for inclusion in the bulletin is Wed., Dec. 19 at 12 noon.

PLEASE return your DAA card/pledge.

THE ROSARY/ALTAR Society will host the annual Christmas Open House at the Rectory on Sun., Dec. 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. We are in need of three dozen holiday cookies and two dozen small sandwiches for this event. If you have time to bake, call the office.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Welcome to our visitors who are worshipping with us this weekend. May your time in the lakes region be special.

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, Dec. 8 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: (6) Jim Baumgard, Jeff Nelson, Pat and Susy Carr, Bonnie Duhn, Kathy Eilers

LECTOR: Nancy Crepeau

SERVERS: Will Anderson, Isabel Nelson

USHERS/GREETERS: Jeff and Pat Rolfes

GIFTS: Paul Skopec Family

Sunday, Dec. 9 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: (5) Chris and Connie Bjornstad, Tom and Jan Johnson, Loretta Halbur

LECTOR: Molly Mulqueen

SERVERS: Asher Knudtson, Aubrey Knudtson

USHERS/GREETERS: Linda Thiesen, Julie Reynolds, Ron and Carol Swartz

GIFTS: Volunteers

Sunday, Dec. 9 @ 10 a.m.

3rd Grade Class Mass

EMES: (6) Dori Lippon, Chad Harms, Denise Cole, Mike and Becky Wittrock, Aaron Hyatt

LECTOR: Susan Willette

SERVERS: Austin Harms, Dalton Kilgore

USHERS/GREETERS: Ray Heller, Doug Heller and students

GIFTS: Students

CHILDREN'S LIT: Sharon Mayer

The 'Arts at St. Joseph' presents The Benson Family Singers Christmas on Sunday, December 9, 2018, 4:30 p.m. The free Advent concert will feature the family music group from Faribault, Minnesota who will share their unique ministry consisting of barbershop, bluegrass, Christmas and gospel music. A reception will follow in the Parish Center. Doors will open at 4:00 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus are accepting non-perishable food donations up until December 18th for our Annual Christmas Box deliveries to those who need a little help at this time of year. Please bring and drop off in the blue tubs in the church lobby. The Council adds milk, bread, potatoes and meat. We have 12 turkeys already donated. We thank you.

"Be on guard," Jesus warns in today's Gospel, "lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence." Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.



Weekly budget needs are \$7,582

Nov. 24-25, 2018

Weekly: \$5,504.00

Kids: \$29.75

P & J Misc: \$760.53

Bells: \$500.00

Candles: \$31.94

Harvest Dinner: \$100.00

Loose: \$684.50

P & J 2nd: \$816.00

Haiti: \$5.00

Campaign Human Dev.: \$80.00

Rental: 165.00

Misc.: \$356.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec. 1

4:30 p +Rita Wuebker
+Tom Wuebker

Sunday, Dec. 2

8 a +Tal Anderson
10 a +Joy Walz
+Jim and +Phyllis Streit
+Dixie Wittrock

Monday, Dec. 3

7:30 a +Greg Deman

Tuesday, Dec. 4

5:15 p +Mardell Eilers

Wednesday, Dec. 5

7:30 a Halbur/Johnson Fam

Thursday, Dec. 6

7:30 a +Fr. Martin Nguyen Ngoc To

Friday, Dec. 7

7:30 a +Norma & +Fritz Thoma

10:30 a +Ralph Nordstrom

Saturday, Dec. 8

7:30 a +John Cain

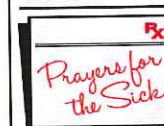
4:30 p +Leroy Wintz

Sunday, Dec. 9

8 a +Sara Jane Rolfes

10 a +M.L. & E. T. Northup

WE are in need of greeters at 8 a.m. on Sun., Dec. 23 and a family to bring up the gifts on Mon., Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. Please call the office if you are planning on attending these Masses and can help. Thanks in advance.



Please pray for these St. Joseph Parishioners:

Jerry Clark, Sharon Knudtson, Joan Langel, Jeff Langel, Irene Clark, Harlan Schumacher, Robert Rowland, Bill James, Jane Black, Marie Van Hofwegen, Ethel Wilson, Steve Painter, Ginny Yore, Gerald Cummins, LaDonna Jansen, Dale Langel, Finley Brunsfold, Dee Bryant, Cindy Rush, Phyllis Hintz, Harold Eilers, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker.

Other Special Persons: Leah Brevik, Colleen Mulder, Michael Langel, Jamie O'Neill, Carol Willette, Nancy Younie, Pat Juza, Kathy Reimers, Bea Reiter, Paula Bernardy, Peg Meyer, Mary Jones, Andy Bensman, Todd Clausen, Zach Budden, Lindsay Fry, Roman Schierholt, Jan James, Sharon Forsman, Aden Remme, Jeff Harbst, Esther Baxter, Melissa Hruby, David Smith, Jean Stilley and Howie Holden-ried Please call to add persons.