

DEC. 16, 2018

# SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

## 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

**Great Lakes Motor Company**  
\*Service \*Parts \*Sales  
Spirit Lake 336-2277

"Holiness does not consist in not making mistakes or never sinning. Holiness grows with capacity for conversion, repentance, willingness to begin again, and above all with the capacity for reconciliation and forgiveness." Pope Benedict XVI expresses a crucial aspect of our faith: healing. Whether physical or spiritual, mentally or emotionally, our faith can be the path towards reconciliation, the grace of healing as only Christ Jesus can offer. Within our failures, our hurts, lies the opening and possibility for acceptance of who we are, our humanity, in the light of God's forgiveness and unconditional love. Holiness is less a personal elevation and more a perception, an awareness of God's grace tinged within all of nature and in each human life.

Such grace flows from the Sacrament of Reconciliation, regardless of how when you have last received it. Such grace of Reconciliation is the peace and path that enables us to find meaning in our celebration of Christmas. Our parish Advent Reconciliation Service will be this Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. We also offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to each weekend Mass and before the daily Masses.

Today (Sunday) we host our children's Christmas Pageant in the church beginning at 4 p.m. Our children have been practicing and with a bit of 'show biz' anxiety, they will make the production meaningful with a human touch. Such was the gift of the Nativity of the infant Jesus, Mary and Joseph, their utter humanity within the dim light of that stable. And so our children will likewise bring forth, a simple yet thoughtful enactment of the story of the birth of our Savior. Please feel welcome, and at their reception following in the parish hall.

In our second reading today St. Paul encourages the Christians in Philippi, "Your kindness should be known to all." As we prepare for Christmas in eight short days, may we prioritize the light of our faith as gift. In the words of the late President H.W. Bush, may our faith impact lives of others, the country we call home: "Don't confuse being 'soft' with seeing the other guy's point of view." We as a people have such a purpose. . . . to make kinder the face of the nation and gentler the face of the world."

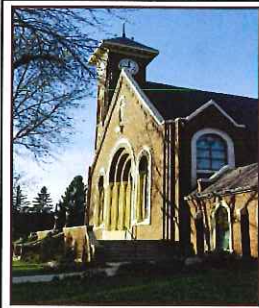
God Bless. *Fr. Tim*

**WATCH** for the 2019 religious calendars arriving soon in the church lobby. They are free to all thanks to the generosity of the +Dick Notestine Family.

**THANK YOU** to the bakers and sandwich makers who provided food for the annual Christmas Open House at the Rectory on Sun., Dec. 9. Your kindness is appreciated.

**Mon., Dec. 17** is the deadline for news items for the Dec. 23 and Dec. 29 bulletins. Thank you.

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



By Fr. Tim Johnson

## FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

Is your tree trimmed yet? How about all the holiday baking that is usually done? The stockings hung in hopes that St. Nicholas will find you. All of the preparations for the holiday or company can make you crazy if you have people coming to your house. I have people coming but they have to take it as it is. I have done my decorating and the first thing that went up were the stockings. When my kids were small, I saved the stocking stuffer shopping for Christmas Eve day. I also took my kids to wherever the little bubble gum or trinket machines were that take quarters. I must have started a good tradition because at the ages of 31,28,23 and 21 they still enjoy putting a quarter into a machine when they come across one!

For me, it is busy on many fronts. The children's Christmas program is this Sunday at 4 p.m. All are welcome. They work hard to make it nice and I am ready for anything. Additionally, we have done deliveries to the shut-ins and the Campus Women are preparing to help Santa deliver his Christmas gifts to some of the children in the area. The Knights are accepting donations for their food baskets and are busy judging Christmas posters. We had many and I wish them luck. This Wednesday our students will celebrate Christmas together. K-6 will enjoy it with their classes, Catechists will gather together and in the evening, older students will have an anonymous gift exchange, sing some carols and enjoy holiday treats.

Christmas is a major feast day in the Christian faith. Many who do not regularly attend church during the year will do so that day. There are many other feast days within the week between Christmas and New Years for us to bring in the New Year in good company. If you come to the offices take a look at my bulletin board as I have highlighted some of those for Advent. Our classes will not resume until January 9 and then we will be starting out with the celebration of Epiphany.

I know some of you are celebrating Christmas at different times and locations. I hope you all stay safe and have a wonderful holiday.

## DAA UPDATE:

Goal: \$49,533.00

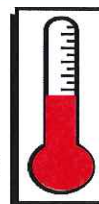
Rec'd this week: \$1,010.00

Total Pledged/Pd: \$23,084

% of Goal: 46.6%

# Contributors: 179/680 or 26.3%

Remaining Amount: \$26,449.00



## UPCOMING EVENTS



Monday, Dec. 17

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

Tuesday, Dec. 18

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

5:15 p.m.: Mass

6:15 p.m.: Choir Practice

Wednesday, Dec. 19

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

4-8 p.m.: CDA/KC Christmas Party, PC

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

Thursday, Dec. 20

8 a.m.: Bible Study, Nazareth Hall.

Saturday, Dec. 22

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Private Christmas Party in bsmt.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Tues., Dec. 25 and Tues., Jan. 1.

**COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION** for Advent is set for 1 p.m. Sun., Dec. 16. Note the time!

**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES:** Just updating our parishioners that we are moving from boxed stewardship envelopes in 2019 to a new program where envelopes will be mailed to you on a bi-monthly basis. Envelopes for January and February 2019 should arrive in your mailbox about Dec. 24. Please be on the lookout. Most parishioners will receive envelopes for January/February use except persons who are on ach status.\* Those persons who contribute one time each year will not receive additional envelopes until November. From then on, all parishioners who have a contributing history, will receive envelopes bi-monthly. At any time, parishioners may drop their contribution into the weekend collection in a regular envelope with their name on the outside. As with any other new system, there may be a bug or two hiding. Please be patient with the implementation of this system. It is expected to save the church a substantial amount of money. Last year, nearly 400 families did not pick up their envelopes. (\*St. Joseph offers an automatic payment program where a specific contribution can be electronically transferred from your account each week or month. If you are interested in this program, please call the office to set-up or for additional information. We currently have 15 parishioners on this system.)

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, Dec. 22 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: Mark and Deb Johnson, Jean Faulkner, Eldon

Kraninger, Steve Eral, Marlyn Nolan

GREETERS: Ted and Joanne Lyons, Lois Koelder

LECTOR: David Johnson

SERVERS: Jaden Heller, Brianna Swenson

USHERS: Jim and Kathleen Baumgard

GIFTS: Kirby Berhow Family

Sunday, December 23 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: Jeff Knudtson, Jean Petitti, Sujatha Marneui,

Anathasia Marneui, Mary Lack

GREETERS: Need Volunteers here!

LECTOR: Teresa Place

SERVERS: Jay Garcia, Andrew Frerichs

USHERS: Jim and Irene McCoy

GIFTS: Volunteers

Sunday, December 23 @ 10 a.m.

EMES: Connie and Dick Mataloni, Susan Willette,

Patti Scott, Mick and Jeanette Baack

GREETERS: Tom and Jan Johnson

LECTOR: Roger Moss

SERVERS: Jack Laven, Oliver Miller

USHERS: Wayne and Barb Woodley

GIFTS: Laven Family

CHILDREN'S LIT: Sharon Mayer

We will be singing again this year at the midnight Christmas Eve Mass. Practices will be held Tuesday, December 18 @ 6:15 p.m. We will meet on Christmas Eve at 11:00 p.m. If you've never been a part of the choir before, now is the perfect time to join. Contact Cain Junkman, Director of Music, with any questions at junkman.cain@gmail.com.

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 and 300 pounds of ground beef already donated by parishioners. We thank you.

**MITTEN** Tree deadline is Mon., Dec. 17. All items will be distributed to less fortunate children this week.

Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

Weekly budget needs are \$7,582

Dec. 8-9, 2018

Weekly: \$9,528.00

Loose: \$915.00

Candles: \$46.00

Haiti: \$720.00

Bells: \$4800.00

Building: \$591.00

Poor Box: \$24.00

Benson Concert: \$994.05

Peace & Justice: \$64.99

Imaculate Concept: \$192.00

Garage sale: 22.00

Children: \$33.50

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec. 15

4:30 p +Don Kruse

Sunday, Dec. 16

8 a +Paul Delaney

10 a +Lynn Knudtson

+Ken Knudtson

+Joy Walz

+Bo Schnetter

Monday, Dec. 17

7:30 a +Bud Brooks

Tuesday, Dec. 18

5:15 p +John Cain

Wednesday, Dec. 19

7:30 a Halbur/Johnson Fam.

Thursday, Dec. 20

7:30 a +Dorothy Cranston

Friday, Dec. 21

7:30 a +Jerry & +Norma Schmitz

10:30 a +Barney Reiman

Saturday, Dec. 22

4:30 p +Charles James

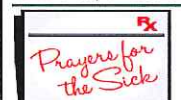
Sunday, Dec. 23

8 a +Art Reiser

10 a +Floyd Sporrer

Russel Drown

**JUST A REMINDER...** there is still time to get a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. Poinsettias are \$13 each. There is an envelope 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 pray for these St. Joseph Parishioners:

Jean Kennedy, 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 Brunsvold, Dee Bryant, Cindy Rush, Phyllis Hintz, Harold Eilers, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker.

**Other Special Persons:** Peri & Vern Hughes, Dan Donovan, 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 Stillely and Howie Holden-ried Please call to add persons.

