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 backet :NA

in the concetion basket.	
NAME:	
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# ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK Birthright

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In conversation the other day a parishioner brought up the subject of her First Holy Communion. Remembering aspects of the day and of the prayer book she received that day many years agoand still has in her possession. Most everyone remembers some aspect of the day they received their First Holy Communion regardless of



By Fr. Tim Johnson

their age or the years that have passed. How did the Church arrive at the common age of "second grade" or seven years old to be 'eligible' to receive this particular Sacrament? Actually there isn't a specific age requirement. Since the twelfth century our Church has been guided by the following: "Children may not be admitted to the Blessed Eucharist until they have attained to years of discretion, but when this period is reached then they are bound to receive this Sacrament. 'Age of discretion' is not the attainment of a definite number of years but rather the arrival at a certain stage of mental development, when children become able to discern the Eucharistic from ordinary bread, to realize in some measure the dignity of the Sacrament, to believe in the Real Presence." Thus in terms of practicality most diocese have used the age of seven as the 'natural' age of discretion enabling children to begin receiving this

Personally, I wish we adults had the 'innocence' and 'child-like faith' to believe in the wonder and grace of the real presence uninhibited by our logic or distractions, our struggles or willfulness. We can remember that precious day so many years ago, but do we have the appropriate discretion to believe with the wonder and awe and expectation of a child? Congratulations to those families whose son or daughter received their First Holy Communion this Sunday. Truly a gift for family and as a parish. Children have a creative instinct to simply believe. Jesus praises children for their willingness to accept the presence and existence of God. even if they don't understand everything (Luke 18:16-17). Understanding isn't a requirement to follow Jesus: simple faith is.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." (Martin Luther King, Jr).

Fr. Tim



The Peace & Justice Committee meets Wed.. May 1, Nazareth.

All are

welcome.

VOLUNTEER(S) sought to operate closed circuit system in Parish Center for the 4 p.m. Mass this summer. Free training. Not difficult just need be sure someone will be there if overflow is needed at this Mass. Call the parish office if this is a job for you!

THE NEXT Anointing of the Sick Mass will be Thurs., May 2, 7:30 a.m. CDA will provide refreshments following in the Parish Center.

### **FAITH FORMATION**

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

By Sharon Mayer

It was a beautiful start to our Faster season. Masses were very nice and many people attended. I enjoyed singing again after a long absence. I wasn't sure my voice would hold out but it did until Sunday then it said "enough". My favorite Mass of them all is the Saturday vigil. Both last year and this I was proud to sponsor someone joining our faith. This year it was Angela Matthews. She and her husband have a wonderful family and I was happy to watch her kids while she attended RCIA. Welcome to her. This weekend her son will make his First Communion. Welcome also to Adam Clausen. I worked with his son Brady and sponsor toward Confirmation and daughter Katelyn who will also be making her First Communion. Welcome Adam and family. Also welcome to Braxton who joined our church last weekend. What keeps me in this job? Rewarding moments of faith like these and there are several every year.

This Sunday, 24 children will experience receiving Jesus for the first time. To me this is one of the biggest milestones in a Catholic's life. They may not fully realize it at their age, but they do know a "big deal" when they experience it. Thank you to their families and their Catechist Faith Garcia for all of the guidance given toward this moment.

Also this weekend. Prom Mass happens for our Catholic youth which is a nice way to begin their special evening. It doesn't cost anything to invite our Lord! I wish them a safe and memorable night.

This Wednesday is our last day with students. We will begin at 3:45 with a May Crowning procession and prayers with the help of the CDA. Immediately following will be closing Mass and lunch in the parish center. Families are invited to attend. That evening, our 7-12 grades have closing Mass and grilled burgers to close their year. I will be handing out attendance awards that day as well.

On Sunday May 5 we will say farewell to our seniors at the 10 a.m. Mass. This will be followed by a breakfast in their honor for their families in the parish center. That will close my year. It has been eventful and rewarding and I look forward to the next.

I am accepting offers from volunteers if you would like to teach or help with one of our many group events next year please let me know. The more adults we can involve the more our children will know their parish family and that is important as they grow.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



5:30 p.m.: Rosary/Altar meets in PC.

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

Tuesday, April 30

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration.

#### Wednesday, May 1

8 a.m.: Peace & Justice Meets, Nazareth. 3:40-5 p.m.: Final Rel. Ed for grades K-6 7-8 p.m.: Final Rel. Ed for grades 7-12

# Thursday, May 2

8 a.m.: Bible Study, Nazareth 5:30 p.m.: Praise Band rehearsal

### Friday, May 3

10:30 a.m.: Mass at Milford Care Center.

### Saturday, May 4

11 a.m.: CDA Salad luncheon and Style Show AT All Masses: Rosary/Altar dues collection.

#### Sunday, May 5

AT All Masses: Rosary/Altar dues collection. 10 a.m.: Senior Mass.

11 a.m.: Senior Breakfast, Parish Center

THANK YOU to Funeral Group #8 for handling the luncheon for +Kathleen Johnson on Sat., April 27. Funeral Group #1 will handle the +Sharon Knudtson funeral on Mon., April 29. Funeral Group #2 will be in charge of the next funeral luncheon. Your assistance to a family in their time of need is truly appreciated.

THE ALTAR/ROSARY will meet for their quarterly meeting Mon., April 29, 5:30 p.m., parish center. Wine, cheese, short business meeting and fun and games.

"Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed," Jesus says in today's Gos-

our Stewardship Offering pel. For those who have not seen to believe, however, we must be good stewards of our faith, living it joyfully and sharing it generously. Then, in our time too, "men and women in great numbers" will be "added to the Lord."

Weekly budget needs are \$7,582

#### April 20-21, 2019

Weekly: \$6,919.00 Kids: \$115.50 Loose: \$2,224.67 Flowers: \$1,146,00 Rental: \$200.00 Rice Bowl: \$303.00 Holy Thurs.: \$303.00 P & J: \$ 170.00 Haiti: \$150.00 Misc: \$82.61 Easter Gift: \$1,929.00 Retired Priests: \$2,391.25 Youth Group: \$175.00 Good Friday: \$1,000.00

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

#### **Third Sunday of Easter** Saturday, May 4 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: (6) Bonnie Duhn, Jerilyn Streit, Chris and Connie Biornstad, Mary Dunleavy, Bernie Kramer

**GREETERS:** Volunteers **LECTOR:** Kathy Eilers

SERVERS: Kaleb Peschong, Oliver Miller

**USHERS:** Kraninger Family

**GIFTS:** Volunteers

#### Sunday, May 5 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: (5) Deb Travis. Tom and Terri Rierson. Mark

and Deb Johnson **GREETERS:** Volunteers **LECTOR:** Teresa Place

SERVERS: Logan Heller, Jerron Heller **USHERS:** Julie Reynolds, Pat & Jeff Rolfes

**GIFTS:** Volunteers

#### Sunday, May 5 at 10 a.m. **SENIOR MASS and Praise Band**

EMES: (6) Connie Lange, Donna Clark, Marlys Nolan, Jean Petitti, Chad Harms, Susan Willette

GREETERS: Jack and Julie Kliegl, Seniors

**LECTOR:** Students

**SERVERS:** Tyler and Alissa Wittrock **USHERS:** Jim and Irene McCov

**GIFTS:** Students

CHILDREN'S LIT: Heidi Wittrock

CDA Annual Salad Luncheon and Style Show Sat., May 4 11 a.m. Parish Center Tickets \$10 from CDA Members, parish office or at the door.

Styles by Sara at Elegance

"Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially through my lord Brother Sun, who brings the day; and you give light through him. And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor! Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; in the heavens you have made them precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air, and clouds and storms, and all the weather, through which you give your creatures suste-

Be praised, My Lord, through Sister Water; she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure. Be praised, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom you brighten the night. He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth, who feeds us and rules us, and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Be praised, my Lord, through those who forgive for love of you; through those who endure sickness and trial. Happy those who endure in peace, for they will be crowned." — St. Francis of Assisi

#### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, April 27

4:30 p +Rita Wuebker +Tom Wuebker

#### +Bo Schnetter Sunday, April 28

8 a +Norma & +Fritz Thoma 10 a +Floyd Sporrer +John Berg

#### Monday, April 29

7:30 a +Roseanna Titterington Tuesday, April 30

5:15 p +Jerome DeMuth

### Wednesday, May 1

7:30 a +Halbur/Johnson +Georgia Sheley 7:05 p +Joy Sheley

#### Thursday, May 2 7:30 a +John Cain

Friday, May 3 7:30 a +Bill & +Elvera Kane

#### 10:30 a Special Int. (JLW) Saturday, May 4

4:30 p +Tony Hawn

### Sunday, May 5

8 a + Betty Fortin 10 a +Jim & +Phyllis Streit

Monday, May 6 8 a.m.





Please pray for these St. Joseph Parishioners:

Dennis and Alma Klute, Bill Ruml, Jerry Clark, Joan Langel, Irene Clark, Harlan Schumacher, Robert Rowland, Bill James, Marie Van Hofwegen, Ethel Wilson, Steve Painter, Ginny Yore, LaDonna Jansen, Dale Langel, Finley Brunsvold, Dee Bryant, Cindy Rush, Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker.

Other Special Persons: Kami Svoboda, Darrel Wedeking, Dan Mulder, Pam Mever, Patricia Zweibahmer, Peri & Vern Hughes, Dan Donovan, Leah Brevik, Colleen Mulder, Jamie O'Neill, Carol Willette, Nancy Younie, Pat Juza, Kathy Reimers, Bea Reiter, Paula Bernardy, Mary Jones, Andy Bensman, Todd Clausen, Zach Budden, Roman Schierholt, Jan James, Sharon Forsman, Aden Remme, Jeff Harbst, Esther Baxter, Melissa Hruby, David Smith, Jean Stilley and Howie Holdenried. Please call to add persons.