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:	
	Zip:

### ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK Covote Motor Co.

Sales & Service Milford 338-2506

Our church reflected the holiness and grace of Christmas, the birth of our Savior, with the sanctuary bearing the decorated trees, the poinsettias, and the traditional Nativity scene; likewise, the music and readings and participation within the various ministries reflected the hope of this Season. Whether parishioners or By Fr. Tim Johnson



visitors, individuals or families who shared their faith and presence at the various Masses, may we be grateful for God's trust in our parish as a welcoming place for young and old.

We celebrate The Epiphany of the Lord this weekend, reminiscing of the travels of the three wisemen and their humble offering of gifts before the infant Jesus. To this day, scripture scholars have not pinpointed where exactly they came from, and likewise the star that led them to the newborn Messiah cannot be explained scientifically. What we try to emulate on this particular Sunday is their humility, their graciousness, and their decision to be present regardless of the sacrifice. Knowing of the temptation to receive a special reward from King Herod with the information pertaining to the exact location of the Holy Family, they quietly departed—without any hesitation—with peace in their hearts and integrity intact. May their example give guidance to us as we begin this new year, holding fast to our Christian principles in this changing world." On this Epiphany Sunday, the revelation of the Light, Abraham Lincoln's words ring true: "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what light I have."

In cooperation with Sacred Heart in Spencer, St. Mary's in Spirit Lake and St. Patrick's in Estherville, we hope to sponsor a CHRP (Christ Renews His Parish) retreat here in February. A team of volunteers who have participated in the retreat will direct it. CHRP is a national Catholic Retreat Program that is reflective of the old Cursillo retreats, bringing together men and in women on separate weekends (Saturday morning thru early Sunday afternoon) that inspires personal faith and parish participation. More information forthcoming. Presently, Bill Kersting of Spencer is coordinating the details. There is no cost to the weekend.

Ten more weeks of blessed winter. "He who marvels at the beauty of the world in summer will find equal cause for wonder and admiration in winter." (John Burroughs)

Please hold Fr. Tom in your prayers during his recovery from his recent surgery.

Blessings upon you as begin this New Year,

Our parish will offer gluten free 'consecrated' hosts at each weekend Mass, with the priest holding the container during Communion.

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

By Sharon Mayer

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our families in the parish! I trust you have had a nice break with your children and have had a chance to reconnect with each other. Some were here during break while others were gone, hopefully to a sunny spot. I drove to sunny Florida where Rob lives to see the bowl game that Iowa State was in. Lucky in my case that I didn't have to pay to stay anywhere or park at the stadium. After putting four kids through Iowa State I really felt compelled to see the game since it was played where my oldest lived and he was and is so active with the college.

Thank you to our families in the Family Formation program who participated in the Mass ministries Saturday night. They do this as a family unit as they will when we have the Lenten soup suppers. It is the Epiphany of the Lord. The magi were looking for Baby Jesus and found Him guided by that marvelous star. They brought gifts that had significant meaning at the time to fulfill prophecy. Although they probably did not have to fight snow and ice, they had other issues, knowing Herod did not want Jesus to live, they had to be careful to avoid him.

Personally, I am not keen on snow and ice either and will tread lightly so as not to fall this winter. Once we get through January, I can see the light at the end of the tunnel as I begin to look forward to an early golf season. The last two years it has been super wet and hard to get work done to open. I missed working on the course most of last summer so my drive to get going is strong.

The only other class Mass we will have in January will be the 7th/9th grades. This is rescheduled from October and December. We hope to have full participation in this endeavor. Hopefully our weather will cooperate in February as we have many things going on.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



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

#### Tuesday, Jan. 7

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration RCIA at Spirit Lake.

#### Wednesday, Jan. 8

3:40-5 p.m.: Rel. Ed grades K-4 5:30 p.m.: Choir Practice 6:45 p.m.: Family Formation 7-8 p.m.: Rel. Ed for grades 5-12

#### Thursday, Jan. 9

8 a.m.: Bible Study in Nazareth Hall. 9 a.m.: Soup Kitchen Ministry, Sioux City.

#### Friday, Jan. 10

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

JUST A REMINDER...\*Friday morning mass at Milford Care Center @ 10:30 a.m.



PLAN To attend the **Annual Spaghetti** Dinner Sunday, Jan. 19

Sign-up sheet on lobby windows. Parishioners are asked to bring the following: A-H a bag of lettuce I-P: a loaf of French Bread

Q-Z: a pan of bars. \$8 for adults; \$5 for children In-Milford delivery available by calling 338-2274.

THANK you to everyone that was involved in the music ministries this past Christmas. It was a meaningful time for all who attended Mass at St. Joseph. Dir. of Music-Cain

# I will sing and make melody to the LORD. Psalm 27:6

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



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

#### The Baptism of the Lord Saturday, Jan. 11 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: (6) Bonnie Duhn, Paul and Holly Skopec,

Laurie and Jim Murray, Eldon Kraninger

**LECTOR:** Joseph Schmidt

SERVERS: John Garcia, Brianna Swenson

**USHERS:** Jim and Sharon Metzger **GREETERS:** Bonnie Duhn, Kathy Eilers

**GIFTS:** Jim Murray Family

## Sunday, Jan. 12 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: (5) Deb Travis, Steve and Kris Feld, Jeff

Nelson, Mary Dunleavy **LECTOR:** Chris Bjornstad

SERVERS: Natalie Kollasch, Kayla Kollasch

**USHERS:** Barb and Wayne Woodly

**GREETERS:** Volunteers

**GIFTS:** Zane Knudtson Family

Sunday, Jan. 12 @ 10 a.m.

EMES: (6) Connie Lange, Aaron and Erin Lorch,

Beth Lorch, Roger and Cheryl Moss

**LECTOR:** Sara Laven

**SERVERS:** Tyler Wittrock, Rick Wittrock

**USHERS:** Donna Clark, Jay Scott

**GIFTS:** Volunteers

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Heidi Wittrock

A NOTE ABOUT FR. TOM - Once Fr. Tom is discharged from the hospital, his sister, Darlene Meier, will be caring for him. Please call her at 717-440-2547 before stopping at the house or bringing food.

THANK YOU to all who donated mittens, hat, gloves, scarves, etc. to the annual Mitten Tree. Thanks to organizers Merlin Wuebker and Mark Kollasch for delivering 38 pairs of gloves, 19 hat and glove sets, and 29 hats to Upper Des Moines Opportunity, in

Spirit Lake, and 25 pairs of gloves, eight hats and glove sets and 15 hats for distribution thru our clothing room. A total of 135 items were collected.



PLEASE remember to pick up your bowls and pans. They are located both in the kitchen, under the steel tables.

Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bringing him rich gifts of gold, frankincense,



and myrrh. The gifts we bring -- our time and ser vice and some share of what we earn for the world we do -- are equally precious in His sight.

Weekly budget needs are \$7,582 Dec. 28-29, 2019

Kids: \$10.00 Loose: \$1,017.50 Weekly: \$8,778.33 Candles: \$26.75 Peace & Justice: \$776.69 Bldg: \$1,000.00 Christmas: \$500.00 Haiti Children: \$500.00 Rental: \$350.00 Catholic Charities: \$115.00 Misc.: \$577.44

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, Jan. 4 **4:30 p** +Cindy Rush

Sunday, Jan. 5

8 a +Vivian Herbster 10 a +Lorraine Kenney +Jim & + +Phyllis Streit

Monday, Jan. 6

7:30 a +Jeffery Eggers Tuesday, Jan. 7

5:15 p +Steve Jones

Wednesday, Jan. 8 7:30 a +Halbur/Johnson

Thursday, Jan. 9

7:30 a +Frances Connors Friday, Jan. 10

7:30 a +Bud Brooks 10:30 a Special Int. (JLW)

Saturday, Jan. 11 4:30 p +Helen & +Daryl Miller

Sunday, Jan. 12

8 a +Greg Deman 10 a +Fritz & +Norma Thoma

**Count Your Blessings!** Not your trouble.....



Please pray for these St. Joseph Parishioners:

Connie Jackson, Fr. Tom Flanagan, Bev Sporrer, Gordy Graves, Glatha Langel, Linda Higgins, Mary Ann Sigler, Dennis and Alma Klute, Jerry Clark, Joan Langel, Robert Rowland, Bill James, Marie Van Hofwegen, Ethel Wilson, Steve Painter, Ginny Yore, La-Donna Jansen, Dale Langel, Finlev Brunsvold. Dee Bryant. Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker. Other Special Persons: Peg-

gy O'Brien Riet, Charlotte Tiesler. Tailen Sturtz, Carrissa Mulder, Aimee Wallrich, Sara Springer, Betty Taylor, Mary Vogel, Diane De Vries, Marilyn Mertz, Jan Wolf, Peggy Price, Joan Mertz, John Bruening, Joene Edwards, Ann Willette, Ashlyn Clark, Jerry Wolford, Harvey Baxter, Jr., Kami Svoboda, Darrel Wedeking, Dan Mulder, Pam Meyer, Peri & Vern Hughes, Leah Brevik, Colleen Mulder, Jamie O'Neill, Carol Willette, Pat Juza, Bea Reiter, Paula Bernardy, Mary Jones, Andy Bensman, Todd Clausen, Zach Budden, Jan James. Sharon Forsman, Aden Remme, Jeff Harbst, Esther Baxter, Melissa Hruby, David Smith, Jean Stilley and Howie Holdenried. Please call the office to add persons.