

FEB. 2, 2020

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

How many of you remember the song "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" A children's classic song made popular in the early 1930's because of the Disney story The Three Little Pigs. Two of them were not afraid of the wolf who was going to huff and puff and blow their houses down while the third pig worked hard to protect himself from the wolf. I as a child had a record of Disney songs and that one popped into my head this morning Why? I'm not sure, but I think it has something to do with when I have children take on Mass duties for their class Masses. Some of them are comfortable and others are not. We start this task early so that as they grow, they become less afraid.

I am usually not involved in the scheduling of adults for Masses. I attend to it when we have a class Mass and these are young people that do not know how it all works but are generally willing to step up, learn and help. As early as kindergarten they start getting involved and by the time they are seniors, it is a pleasure to watch them participate in the Mass, no longer afraid. Anything we do for the first time young or old I think we are a little afraid of stepping out of our comfort zone. Every time I come up to speak in front of the assembly, I am still afraid. When I sing in choir there is that twinge, but I am doing this because I really enjoy it and it is for the Lord from me so nervous or not I take the plunge.

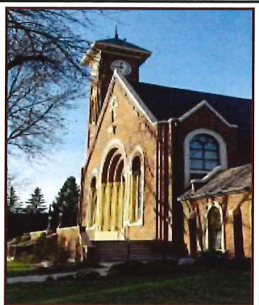
Encouraging children to become comfortable with our Mass is a challenge. Not all of them go regularly so it might be more foreign to them. Coming into February we will have Mardi Gras, a chance for students in grades 5-12 to have fun being kids with the help of the adults. Then we have Ash Wednesday the following week where we will expect them to abide by Lenten rules with the help of the adults and again participate in Mass duties. A blend of Mass, Catholic learning and fun—that is what we do through religious education. NO fear.

DAFFODILS to benefit the Relay for Life of Dickinson County are available to order in the office through Fri., Feb. 14 at 12 noon. Delivery will be the week of March 9.

Thank You, Thank You

The Dickinson County Outreach Office would like to thank you for your recent donation of hats, gloves, scarves and mittens. We are grateful for your support and helping provide these items to those in need in Dickinson County.

Jessica Gusch - Outreach Specialist



By Fr. Tim Johnson

Holding the two month old child seems natural for a mother, even those who have been blessed for the first time with a gift of life. Such is what I observed at a recent baptism in between the prayers and rituals. Confident would not be the precise word for the young mother and father standing before the baptismal font within our church. Gracious, possibly, or content or even gratified. Yes such would in a way define the character of the young parents at the baptism of their infant daughter. But, something more that I observed in their mannerisms, their character. I can't define it precisely; simply a grace that only God could impart upon their vocation as husband and wife, and now as father and mother. For me, such grace is a light, a ray of hope, a definite presence of Christ Jesus. As Simeon lifted up the infant Jesus, in our gospel reading, he realized the grace, the light of hope to be shared with all humanity. He was gratified not because he alone discovered such grace, but the light of hope meant for all individuals whatever their culture, their language, their situation. Likewise we as a parish community welcome those families who are participating in the Sacrament of Baptism, believing in the possibility of their faith and presence to be shared within our prayers and Sacraments. When I hear a child's voice during Mass, an infant's cry or a child's hand holding onto a younger sibling as they come forward for the collection, it appears to me a "light" of renewal and hope for our parish and faith. With all the distractions facing young families, our parish and Catholic faith can be a beacon of hope and of peace through our continued ministry of hospitality, and our Christian outreach of understanding and acknowledgement. Five years ago Pope Francis spoke about the gift of children, the gift of family: "There is a close link between the hope of a people and harmony between the generations. The joy of children makes their parents' hearts leap and opens up the future. Children are the joy of the family and of society."

Children are a gift. Each one is unique and unrepeatable, and at the same time unmistakably linked to his or her roots. Indeed, to be a son or a daughter according to God's plan, means carrying in oneself the memory and hope of a love that has become tangible by kindling the life of another human being, original and new. And for parents, each child is him- or herself, different, unique."

Witnessing the graciousness, the contentment, that grace on the faces of the young father and mother at our baptism font, I'm aware of "the light" that continues to grace our parish, indeed, our communities and our world. We are the invitation as a parish, welcoming such young families to feel a part of our Sacraments and prayers. A child's voice, an infant's cry, a youngster holding that hand of a younger sibling is a reminder of the "Light" that permeates our faith, our parish, and this world we live in.

Please continue to hold Fr. Tom in your prayers as he slowly but steadily recovers, and also our former pastor, Fr. John Vakulskas who will begin treatment for a very serious cancer. Thank you.

Fr. Tom

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

UPCOMING EVENTS



Monday, Feb. 3

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

Tuesday, Feb. 4

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

Wednesday, Feb. 5

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

Thursday, Feb. 6

8 a.m.: Bible Study in Nazareth Hall.
5-9 p.m.: Annie's Project, overflow

Friday, Feb. 7

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

Thank You, Thank You!

✓ I wish to thank all of the past and present members of the St. Joseph's Welcome Committee for your cooperation and time spent welcoming new members. After 21 years as chairperson, I am turning the position over to Sheila Finch. Please welcome Sheila. Thank You. **Jean Kennedy**

✓ Thank you to the wonderful Rosary/Altar volunteers who baked goodies and to those who assisted at the Winter Games Bridge Tournament Fri., Jan. 24.

CHRP Men's Retreat Feb. 22-23

Along with the other Catholic parishes of our lakes region, the men are invited to participate in the upcoming CHRP/Welcome retreat on Feb. 22/23. Through the efforts of a group of men preparing to lead the retreat and quiet donors, there is no cost. A golden opportunity to take a step back and renew the grace of our personal faith that may have been taken for granted. Application forms are in the the parish office, in the church vestibule, or simply contact the Coordinator, Bill Kerstin: kerstin@smunet.net CHRP retreat is an experience that helps individuals discover "that something" missing in their lives—and what to do about it. Retreat will take place in our parish facility.



PRAYERS and sympathy from the St. Joseph Parish Family to Brenda Packebush on the death of her mother, +Beryl Johnson, of Milford, who died Mon., Jan. 27. Her funeral was held Fri., Jan. 31 at Faith Community, in Milford.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



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

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat., Feb. 8 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: (6) Denise Cole, Larry Arndt, Pat and Susie Carr, Chris Hinshaw, Faith Garcia

GREETERS: Jim and Kathy Baumgard

LECTOR: Pat Carr

SERVERS: Isabel Nelson, Brianna Swenson

USHERS: Jim and Sharon Metzger

GIFTS: Jim Metzger Family

Sun., Feb. 9 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: (5) Jeff Knudtson, Jeff Nelson, Tom and Terri Rieron, Ron Swartz

GREETERS: Volunteers

LECTOR: Chris Bjornstad

SERVERS: John Garcia, Loretta Halbur

USHERS: Jeff and Pat Rolfes

GIFTS: Volunteers

Sun., Feb. 10 @ 10 a.m.

Boy Scout Sunday

EMES: (6) Aaron Hyatt, Laurie and Jim Murray, Roger and Cheryl Moss, Chad Harms

GREETERS: Boy Scouts

LECTOR: Lois Eckard

SERVERS: Adison Frerichs, Aubrey Knudtson

USHERS: Jack and Julie Kliegl

GIFTS: Boy Scouts

CHILDREN'S LIT: Patti Scott

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



WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH:

✓ Graysen Marie Holton, daughter of Adam and Taylor Holton who was baptized Sat., Jan. 4;

✓ Coraline May Beurskens, daughter of Ethan and Amanda Beurskens, who was baptized Sat., Jan. 4 and to

✓ Emerson Rayne Appel, daughter of Josh and Michelle Appel, who was baptized Sun., Jan. 26 at St. Joseph.

TAKE TIME before you leave Mass today to sign-up for a volunteer position to help out at our annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast set for Sun., Feb. 16, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?



Weekly budget needs are \$7,582

Jan. 25-26, 2020

Weekly: \$4,495.27

Kids: \$16.00

Loose: \$1,442.00

First Envelope: \$9.00

Peace & Justice: \$654.62

Candles: \$93.00

Dues: \$60.00

Briar Cliff: \$100.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Feb. 1

4:30 p +Steven Jones

Sunday, Feb. 2

8 a +Virgil & +Carol Rolfes

10 a +Lorraine Kenney

+Jim and +Phyllis Streit

Monday, Feb. 3

7:30 a +Bud Brooks

Tuesday, Feb. 4

5:15 p +Jim Cates

Wednesday, Feb. 5

7:30 a Johnson/Hanson

Thursday, Feb. 6

5:15 p Special Int. (JLW)

Friday, Feb. 7

7:30 a +John Cain

10:30 a +Dorothy Schultz

Saturday, Feb. 8

4:30 p +Darold Haberman

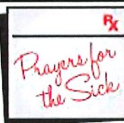
+James Haberman

Sunday, Feb. 9

8 a +Martha Rolfes

10 a +Earl Langel

+Alan Langel



**Please pray
for these
St. Joseph
Parishioners:**

Roger Wittrock, 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, LaDonna Jansen, Dale Langel, Finley Brunsvold, Dee Bryant, Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker.

Other Special Persons: Peggy Reit, Fr. John Vakulskas, Pam Cerny, 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. Call office to add names.