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 stiosephmilford.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:

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK Stein Law Office David J. Stein, Jr. 338-2431

State: _____ Zip:___

Milford

Our Masses this weekend fall on World Day of Marriage (8th & 9th), and the diocese is asking the parishes to recognize the grace shared in this Vocation, within the relationships of those engaged to be married, and those who are together sharing the gift of caring and hope. Prayer cards are in the pew for your taking as offered by the diocese.



By Fr. Tim Johnson

However, Pope Francis has some insights concerning life giving relationships especially those within the vocation of marriage:

Make Time For One Another. "Love needs time and space; everything else is secondary. Time is needed to talk things over, to embrace leisurely, to share plans, to listen to one other and gaze in each other's eyes, to appreciate one another and to build a stronger relationship. Sometimes the frenetic pace of our society and the pressures of the workplace create problems. At other times, the problem is the lack of quality time together, sharing the same room without one even noticing the other."

Often the other spouse does not need a solution to his or her problems, but simply to be heard. "Instead of offering an opinion or advice, we need to be sure that we have heard everything the other person has to say. ... Often the other spouse does not need a solution to his or her problems, but simply to be heard, to feel that someone has acknowledged their pain, their disappointment, their fear, their anger, their hopes and their dreams."

Accept Your Partner's Shortcomings "It does not matter if they hold me back, if they unsettle my plans, or annoy me by the way they act or think, or if they are not everything I want them to be. Love always has an aspect of deep compassion that leads to accepting the other person as part of this world, even when he or she acts differently than I would like."

And Be Generous With Their Imperfections "We have to realize that all of us are a complex mixture of light and shadows. The other person is much more than the sum of the little things that annoy me. Love does not have to be perfect for us to value it. The other person loves me as best they can, with all their limits, but the fact that love is imperfect does not mean that it is untrue or unreal."

And in the spirit of Christ Jesus, Pope Francis offers this parting advice: "Three words need to be used. I want to repeat this! Three words: 'Please', 'Thank you', 'Sorry'. Three essential words!"

Lord, help us to remember when we first met and the strong love that grew between us.

To work that love into practical things so nothing will divide us.

We ask for words both kind and loving.

and for hearts always ready to ask forgiveness as well as to forgive.

Lord, we put our marriage, our relationship into your hands. Amen. Fr. 7im

God Bless.

FAITH FORMATION

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

By Sharon Mayer

Here we are into February after a very busy week. Last Sunday started us off with a wonderful spaghetti dinner on a warm day, then the Caucus last Monday which is very important for the state of lowa, our sponsors and candidates have met to prepare for Confirmation while Family Formation has met to prepare for Lent. The ball has started and will just pick up steam from here.

I know that the snowiest month is ahead, but I hope not. Too much to do. This weekend, at the 10 am Mass, our church acknowledges our Cub/Boy Scouts of the area that go to this church. Being reverent is a part of their oath which we always have them stand and say. Not only the oath but a visible lifestyle. Personally, as you may know, I have Tom who is one of the many Eagle Scouts that troop 170 has produced over the years. The leaders are and should be very proud of that accomplishment not to mention the boys themselves. It is a lot of work to get to that point. As a parent I am proud of his achievement and watch as he lives that as an adult. We will acknowledge the Girl Scouts on March 8.

This coming week we also have Valentines Day. The day for lots of candy and flower sales. More importantly, showing our love for each other being family or friends. Children exchange greetings in a fun way at school and I think they still make special bags to carry their Valentines home in. I never bought Valentines as a child-we always made them. They are ever so special when given to parents and they get kept for years in a box or scrapbook. Then your kids grow up and say "what did you keep that thing for?" Sentimentality.

Next Sunday our 6th graders will be participating in class Mass at 10 a.m. On Wednesday, the 19th, if weather allows, will be Mardi Gras for the 5-12 grades. A night of Catholic history, good food and fun games. Door prizes, best dressed in theme colors, king and queen selection are among the events of the night. Please send your students hungry. We begin at 6:45 pm that evening.

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

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who baked desserts or brought lettuce or bread, to those who worked and those who attended our annual spaghetti dinner on Sun., Feb. 2. Your spirit of volunteerism is deeply appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

Tuesday, Feb. 11

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration **RCIA** at Milford

Wednesday, Feb. 12

3:40-5 p.m.: Rel. Ed grades K-4 5:30 p.m.: Praise Band practice in Church **7-8 p.m.:** Rel. Ed for grades 5-12

Thursday, Feb. 13

8 a.m.: Bible Study in Nazareth Hall 11 a.m.: Ones meet at Bob's Dogs otherwise The Hutt. in Arnolds Park. 5-9 p.m.: Annie's Project, overflow

Friday, Feb. 14

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

Sunday, Feb. 16

8:30-11:30 a.m.: Annual pancake and sausage breakfast. Free will offering.

CHRP Retreat Feb. 22-23

CHRP/Welcome Retreat for men will be held at our church facilities on the 22nd/23rd Open to all men from our parish and surrounding parishes. Because of the generosity of donors, there are no fees for those who participate. We are blessed to have a group of eleven Catholic men from the diocese who have been preparing to lead this retreat. Forms are in the office or you may contact Bill Kersting of Spencer for further information (363-1613). CHRP/Welcome is a national Catholic retreat for both men and women; and we hope a Women's CHRP/ Welcome retreat will be held in the fall.

THE DEADLINE for submitting items for the March newsletter is Thurs.. Feb. 20 at noon.

THANK YOU. THANK YOU!

The brothers and sisters of Fr. Tom would like to thank all the members of St. Joseph's for the kindness, concern, prayers and commitment to our brother. Please accept our gratitude. The weekend Masses of February 15/16 are being offered for you from the Flanagan family and the altar flowers are an expression of our appreciation for all the support you have given to Fr. Tom over his vears here. We commend him to your loving care in our absence, starting again on February 19. Thank you.

Darlene Meier for the Flanagan Family

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sat., Feb. 15 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES:(6) Eldon Kraninger, Karen Naber, Connie and Chris Bjornstad, Tony Peschong, Connie Lange

GREETERS: Larry and Mary Arndt **LECTOR:** Kathy Eilers

SERVERS: Liam Knudtson, Kailee Herman

USHERS: Bill and Cheryl Aumer **GIFTS:** Tony Peschong Family Sun., Feb. 16 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: (5) Jeff and Pat Rolfes, Alma Klute, Patti

Scott, Bev Kruger **GREETERS:** Jeff and Pat Rolfes

LECTOR: Loretta Halbur SERVERS: Ron Swartz, Jay Garcia

USHERS: Carol Swartz **GIFTS:** Volunteers

Sun., Feb. 16 @ 10 a.m. 6th Grade Class Mass

EMES: (6) Donna Clark, Jean Petitti, Connie and Chris Jones, Steve Eral, Connie Hinrichs

GREETERS: Barb and Wayne Woodley, students **LECTOR:** Student

SERVERS: Dalton Kilgore, Andrew Frerichs USHERS: Donna Clark, Gary Espinoza, students

GIFTS: Students CHILDREN'S LIT: Heidi Wittrock

Plan to attend our

Annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, Feb. 16 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Parish Center Free Will Offering Featuring whole hog sausage from the Ruthven Locker.



When Jesus heard about the illness of His friend. Lazarus. He responded, "This illness is not to end in death; rather it is for God's glory, that through it the Son of God may be glorified." Every aspect of our



lives--our gifts as well as our sufferings--can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessing for ourselves and others.

Financial information for the weekends of Feb. 1-2 and 8-9 will appear in the Feb. 15-16 bulletin.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Feb. 8

4:30 p +Darold Haberman +James Haberman

Sunday, Feb. 9

8 a +Martha Rolfes 10 a +Earl Langel +Alan Langel

Monday, Feb. 10

7:30 a +Lois Sporrer

Tuesday, Feb. 11

5:15 p +Mary Negus Wednesday, Feb. 12

7:30 a +Cindy Rush

Thursday, Feb. 13

7:30 a +Joe Schmitz

Friday, Feb. 14

7:30 a +Betty Newman +Michael Newman

10:30 a Special Intention (JLW) Saturday, Feb. 15

4:30 p St. Joseph Parish

Sunday, Feb. 16

8 a St. Joseph Parish 10 a St. Joseph Parish



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, 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, Aimee Wallrich. Sara Springer, Betty Taylor, Mary Vogel, Diane De Vries, Marilyn Mertz, Jan Wolf, Peggy Price, Joan Mertz, John Bruening, 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.