

APRIL 26, 2020

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

Okobojiweightloss.com

The Ideal Protein Way

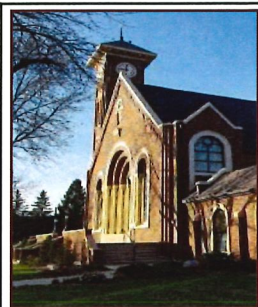
Milford 338-2127

Just a few housekeeping items. Each week the priests of the diocese have a 'teleconference' with Bishop Nickless and our Vicar General (Fr. Brad Pelzel), along with the Diocesan Finance Officer. Questions arise about certain liturgical practices permitted such as the Sacrament of Reconciliation, allowable individuals present during the recording of parish Masses, etc. In the same manner there have been questions and information shared about financial matters within the parish life during these days and weeks of the restrictions and guidelines.

From the diocesan viewpoint, parish and school staff are of primary concern, whether that be their financial support or safeguarding their physical health. We continue to support the salaries of our staff, doing work that is possible in and around the building while adhering to the diocesan guidelines and keeping the building closed. We did apply for the government sponsored loan to aid our ongoing expenses of salaries and overhead. Bishop Nickless has been supportive of the continued wellbeing of the parishes throughout our diocese, acknowledging we each have our own particular circumstances; and too he emphasizes our (priests, deacons) continued efforts to safeguard our health and that of others by being conscientious of our social actions and travels. So far no priest or deacon has been diagnosed with the virus, including parish and diocesan staff. However, Bishop Nickless cautions us from setting forward any timeline when we shall again gather as a parish for the Eucharist, the Sacraments and parish functions. Diocesan staff have been communicating about different scenarios dependent upon when and how the CDC will gradually lift the restrictions.

We continue to be blessed with the means to record our parish Masses and other liturgical prayers and rituals for our parish website and Facebook, compliments of a parishioner who offered us his equipment to use alongside the technical expertise of our staff. Our recorded Masses, whether daily or Sunday, have been enhanced by the liturgical music and seasonal decorations on the sanctuary and the volunteers who read, sing and take care of the altar. Because of the present circumstances we are blessed with Zach Jones presence, returning from Rome earlier as their seminary formation and studies are now relegated to online classes. He is finishing up his second year of major seminary formation, and offering his presence at our parish Masses. His faith, hopeful spirit and gracious personality is a gift to our liturgies, our parish—and a reflection of our parish community.

Personally, I extend my gratefulness for the cards, the thoughtful messages and gifts I received for my birthday and Easter. Thank you for your kindness,



By Fr. Tim Johnson

your caring, and understanding of our present situation that has effected all of us. Though we are unable to be present to one another at this time, your prayers and faith is a welcome grace, a reassurance. May our personal prayers reflecting our hope and our struggles continue to bind us together as a parish through the embrace of the Holy Spirit.

Whatever our concerns, opinions, sacrifices, doubt during this time of social distancing and safeguarding, may we understand the individual and community character formed through this unprecedented time: The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of the depths. These persons have an appreciation, a sensitivity, and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and a deep loving concern. Beautiful people do not just happen." (Elisabeth Kubler-Ross)

God Bless,

Fr. Tim

Parting shot from Pope Francis . . .

"To Christians, the future does have a name, and its name is Hope. Feeling hopeful does not mean to be optimistically naïve and ignore the tragedy humanity is facing. Hope is the virtue of a heart that doesn't lock itself into darkness, that doesn't dwell on the past, does not simply get by in the present, but is able to see a tomorrow."



The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long, but it was not until they offered Him hospitality and He blessed and broke the bread that they recognized Him. Simple acts of loving kindness still reveal the presence of God in our midst.

April 8 to April 22, 2020

Weekly Envelopes: \$9,795.00

Loose: \$300.00

Online Contributions: \$2,500.60

Online Ministry: \$815.00

Peace & Justice: \$150.00

Holy Land: \$45.00

Infirmary/Retired Priests: \$475.00

Easter Gift: \$2,100.00

FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

Another week of watching where we go and what we do. So many things now are getting cancelled for the summer. On the one hand, officials are planning for getting things opened and on the other hand, summer events are not going to happen if they involve a lot of people. I am fortunate that the golf course can still be open. We cannot have over 10 people at any one place but that is doable for me at this time. My carts have never been cleaner!

Still, for many people coming to Okoboji this summer it will have a different tone. Even when retail, churches and restaurants open up, will people still keep some distance or just let it be? This doesn't stop the virus after all, only slows the progression so that medical personnel and scientists can get a handle on treatment. It affects people so differently. I turn 62 this Monday and I do not want that for a birthday gift.

If you missed last week's bulletin, Camp CaYoCa has been cancelled for this year.

Another casualty of the virus. If things come around, I do plan on a summer Bible school for kids in grades PK-4.

In the meantime, I still have a couple of lessons I will be sending to the families for May. I am working on next year's calendar of classes and events for religious education which will begin after Labor Day. We still have no word on when the Sacraments will be conferred for our waiting students. I will send an email out as soon as I know. Keep your chin up as our weather gets nice and hopefully the return to normalcy will be soon.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: Thank You for the overwhelming response to the KC "Helping Hands" project. If you are in need of food or assistance, call the office and a KC member will be dispatched to assist. We are all in this together. Be kind. Be thoughtful of others who may need help.



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Bishop has ordered that all facilities and the parish office remain closed during the eight week quarantine. Calls are being taken by Susan at 338-4674 or 320-2584. Calls for Sharon are being taken at 330-6028. Thank you for your understanding.

REMEMBER to keep your Rice Bowls, keep filling them and plan to return them to the Church when we can gather again.

WE CONTINUE to receive nice comments both online and in the mail. We enjoy hearing feedback, good or bad. Following are the latest notes in the mailbag.



✓ I watched and prayed with the Holy Week Masses on YouTube provided from St. Joseph Milford. Thank you for offering these services for so many people. It was top quality work and very reverent and beautiful. I appreciated it very much. May God Bless Everyone for their effort.

Jan Cink, Wesley, IA

✓ Thanks for doing the masses on line! Great services but missing being in our beautiful church with all. God Bless You.

--A parishioner

✓ Thank you for helping me get through this difficult time.

--A parishioner

✓ Thank you for the great online Masses!

--Sue Sup, Laughlin, NV

✓ Thanks so very much for videoing daily Mass, weekend Mass and especially for Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter Sunday were especially beautiful and meaningful. Thank you to everybody who had anything to do with it. The singing was beautiful. The voices of those two blend together so nicely. Molly's readings were so meaningful as were the others. Was surprised to see all the flowers. It helped to lift our spirits a little. Glad to see Zach is okay too.

--A parishioner

✓ Thank you for providing the wonderful virtual Mass every Sunday. We especially enjoy Fr. Tim's sermons and the beautiful music. Stay healthy and well.

--Marty and Dee Halbur, Carroll, IA

✓ We have been participating in Fr. Tim's weekend Masses from Carroll and enjoy the music and the homilies and the beauty of the altar. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in these Masses.

Tim, Ann & Kelly Fitzpatrick Carroll, IA

✓ Thank you so much for streaming your masses. We have been joining in the weekends and all of the Holy Week Masses. The Church looked beautiful on Easter! Trust in the Lord.

--Spud and Deb Rahm, Wesley, IA

✓ We so much appreciate your video Masses. The Holy Week services were so meaningful. Thank You!

--Anonymous - in a plain envelope

REMEMBER your mother, grandmother, aunt, sister or special woman in your life with the Mother's Day Novena of 9 Masses which begins Tues., May 12. Send your intentions to the office by Wed., May 6.



MASS INTENTIONS

Weekend Masses 4/25-26

+Bill Ruml
+Rita Wuebker
+Tom Wuebker
+Sharon Knudtson
+Floyd Sporrer

Monday, April 27

No Mass Today

Tuesday, April 28

Living & Deceased CDA Members

Wednesday, April 29

Liv/Dec Brown Family Memb.

Thursday, April 30

+Mardell Eilers

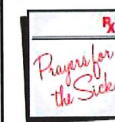
Friday, May 1

+Tom Wittrock

Weekend Masses 5/2-5/3

+Bo Schnetter
+Bill Badding
+Lorraine Kenney
+Jim & +Phyllis Streit

TO ENHANCE your faith during this time, there are links available on the Diocese of Sioux City website.



Please pray for these
St. Joseph
Parishioners:

Elizabeth Knudtson, Mike Wilison, Geneva Knudtson, Roger Wittrock, Rick DeMuth, Connie Jackson, Fr. Tom Flanagan, Bev Sporrer, Glatha Langel, Linda Higgins, Mary Ann Sigler, Dennis and Alma Klute, Jerry Clark, Robert Rowland, Bill James, Marie Van Hofwegen, Ethel Wilson, Steve Painter, Ginny Yore, LaDonna Jansen, Dale Langel, Finley Brunsold, Dee Bryant, Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker.

Other Special Persons:

Jan Norgaard, Kathy Kapustka, Kristin Meyer, Leo Trebbien, Kyle Pedley, Kevin Wittrock, Peggy Reit, Fr. John Vakulskas, 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, Kami Svoboda, Darrel Wedeking, Dan Mulder, Pam Meyer, Leah Brevik, Colleen Mulder, Jamie O'Neill, Carol Willette, Pat Juza, Bea Reiter, Paula Bernardy, Mary Jones, Andy Benson, Todd Clausen, Zach Budden, Jan James, Sharon Forsman, Aden Remme, Jeff Harbst, Esther Baxter, Melissa Hruby, David Smith, Jean Stille and Howie Holdenried.