

## SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY 17, 2020

### 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's 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

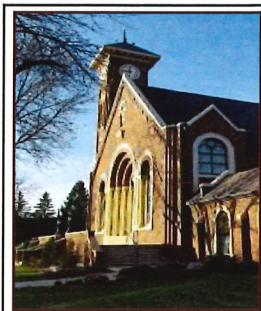
Northwest Iowa Sprinkler

Milford

712-338-7359

"I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned, the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle, and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next. Delicious Ambiguity." (Gilda Radner, gifted actress who died of ovarian cancer, 43 years of age.)

Though we hear a range of opinions and statistics concerning the Coronavirus—distancing, treatment, symptoms, diagnosis, recovery—there remains an uncertainty, ambiguity, about the present and near future 'steps' to be taken. Bishop Nickless faces the same sense of ambiguity concerning the definite time to open our churches to shared Eucharist and gatherings, uncertainty about the protection of all who will gather for parish activities, and how our communities will be affected. He is certain—guided by CDC recommendations, procedures set by the governor's office, and local health care professionals—that the virus remains a very real threat to the wellbeing and health of many individuals who are parishioners or visitors to our parishes. Thus, led by faith, a team of advisors, health care professionals, Bishop Nickless continues to uphold whatever measures are necessary to protect the health of parishioners, visitors, children, parish employees, and priests alike. Succinctly, there has been no definite date when public worship, gatherings within our churches will be allowed. Working with the other three bishops of Iowa and his staff, Bishop Nickless has repeated the matrix determining when we can regather: when there is a consistent downturn in the number of people diagnosed with the disease coupled with a decrease in hospitalizations due to the virus, then the initiation of a two week 'wait' before the churches are reopened (with specific guidelines). Last week during our weekly teleconference with the priests of the diocese, the bishop and diocesan staff, the 'favorable' time to regather would be in June. But, such is not a certainty. Patience is a virtue—well worn possibly—but a needed grace during this time of uncertainty. I can say when we regather for the Eucharist there will guidelines: six feet spacing between individuals, every third pew used, masks to be worn, no greeting or sign of peace or the cup offered, procedural sanitizing of all seating and entrances following Mass. As of now the situation is very fluid so dates and guidelines will change. When the Bishops decide on a specific date and guidelines, you will be informed expediently. Pope Francis has some thoughts about our present situation. "In this quest to seek and find God in all things, there is still an area of uncertainty. There must be. If a person says



By Fr. Tim Johnson

that he met God with total certainty and is not touched by a margin of uncertainty, then this is not good."

Hold on in the darkness though no gleam of light breaks through.

Keep on dreaming dreams although they never quite come true.

Keep on moving forward though you don't know what's ahead.

Keep on keeping on though it's a lonely road ahead.

Keep on looking up towards the goal you have in view.

Keep on at the task God has given you to do.

Keep on in the hope that there are better times in store.

Keep on praying for the thing that you are waiting for.

Blessings come to those who in the turmoil of events,

seek to see the goodness of the Will of Providence.

Hold to this and never doubt. Keep head and spirits high.

You'll discover that the storm was only passing by. . . .

(Anonymous; from "Prayers For Healing")

Fr. Tim

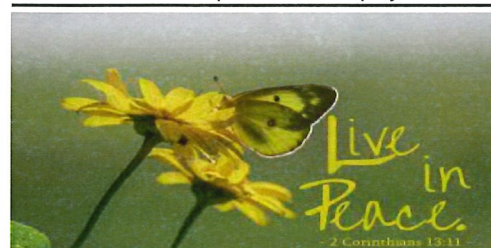
**THE Funeral Service** for +Sharon Arms, mother of Julie Chicoine, will be live streamed on our Facebook and Website pages Wed., May 20, at 10:30 a.m.

**There are new** rules and regulations in regards to the posting of worship aides on our parish website. Please go to the website for information on how to continue to receive these worship aides.

**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.

### NEW ONLINE GIVING

We have just installed the capabilities for online stewardship. Check out our website or Facebook page for details or call the office to set up automatic payments.



### FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

Well, little by little things are starting to open up and life is beginning to be a little more normalized. We are not there yet by any means, but at least we are headed that direction. This coming weekend is Memorial weekend. Traditionally a time when churches have special services to honor those who have passed. Towns and cemeteries have avenues of flags to honor those who have served our armed forces. This year we will probably not see this due to COVID. Unfortunately, I will fly my flags at home and business, and I would hope all of you do as well. Good times or bad we are the United States and we will stick together to keep this country the best it can be.

Different states have various regulations concerning COVID. Some seem a little far fetched to me but I am not making those decisions. I only know what is right for me. I am patiently waiting for the time, as we all are, when church will resume, and Sacraments can be planned. Congratulations to our seniors who will get to celebrate graduation after all in June. I believe they had awards night but I do not have all the names yet of our Catholic recipients so that will be coming later; Probably in the June newsletter. In any event I wish them all the best for their future.

As our summer season unfolds, I am hoping we get to see each other soon.



**This Sunday was supposed to be the graduation day for our senior students. Let us remember all who were scheduled to graduate:**

### Student

Avery Cable  
Liz Chicoine  
Brady Clausen  
C.J. Crouch  
David Greiner  
Jake Halbur  
Austin Jones  
Nathan Kollasch  
Lawton Kramer  
Jasmine Seeders  
Martha Stein  
Joseph Stein  
Jay Swygman  
Joseph Waters  
Matt Wintz  
Tyler Wittrock

### Parents

Brian Cable, Tracy Richard  
Julie and Galen Chicoine  
Adam Clausen  
Charlie Crouch  
Troy and Michelle Greiner  
Shane and Jennifer Halbur  
Bryan and Sara Jones  
Joe and Amber Kollasch  
Mark and Dawn Kramer  
Lori Seeders  
Chris and Lea Stein  
David and Ann Stein  
Arend and Molly Swygman  
Robert and Cari Waters  
Randy and Jolene Wintz  
Rick and Heidi Wittrock

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**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.



--A Parishioner

✓ We miss you!  
✓ Thank you for the Masses and wonderful spiritual guidance! You are the best!

--Shirley Lackman, Albert City, IA

✓ I grew up in Milford and attended school at St. Joe's. I enjoy your Masses by way of Facebook. Thank You!

--Patricia Wilber, Sacramento, CA

✓ Fr. Thanks for providing the online Masses.

--Dennis Molitor, Carroll, IA

✓ Fr. Tim & Staff: Thanks for letting us become virtual parishioners.

--Ron and Linda Lickteig, Johnston, IA

✓ Just wanted to let you know I appreciate your beautiful services online. May God bless during this trying time. Stay safe and healthy.

--Mary Schutjer, Wesley, IA

✓ Thank Fr. Tim and St. Joseph Church for the daily Mass videos. Well done. A former member of St. Joseph.

--Ron Hock, Cedar Falls, IA

✓ Just wanted to send a note of appreciation for all of your hard work on online mass. I was a member of St. Joseph's in Wesley, IA growing up so I remember Fr. Tim. I have enjoyed participating in Mass once again with him. And your music groups do a great job as well!! Thanks again.

--Russell and Janel Buseman, Blue Earth, MN

✓ Thank you Fr. Tim for remembering us. It's so lonesome for us.

--A Parishioner



### PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY from the St. Joseph Parish Family to:

✓ Angie VanMaasdem and Becky Schierholt on the death of her son and grandson, +Nick Mortensen, 27, who died Sat., May 9. A celebration of life will be held at a later date; and to

✓ Doreen McCabe on the death of her sister, +Shirley Lens, 79, of Sheldon, who died Sun., May 3. A graveside service was held Tues., May 5.

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

✓ Thank you so much for your support of the Backpack Ministry. You are making a difference in children's lives, keeping them strong, healthy and ready to learn! We really appreciate your generous monetary donation. It will be put to good use.

### The Backpack Ministry

Those who obey the commandments, Jesus says in today's Gospel, are the ones who really love Him. Does my stewardship reveal my love for Jesus?



May 4 to May 13, 2020

Weekly Envelopes: \$7,865.00

Youth Ministry: \$487.10

Peace & Justice: \$150.00

Easter: \$80.00

Online Ministry: \$750.00

Holy Land: \$40.00

Endow: \$30.00

Easter Flowers: \$100.00

Infirm/Retired Priests: \$40.00

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Weekend Masses 5/16-17

+Skip Eggers  
+Joe Schmitz  
+Joan & +Earl Langel  
+Alan Langel

#### Monday, May 18

No Mass Today

#### Tuesday, May 19

Mother's Day (5)

#### Wednesday, May 20

Mother's Day (6)

#### Thursday, May 21

Mother's Day (7)

#### Friday, May 22

Mother's Day (8)

#### Weekend Masses 5/23-24

+Thomas John Oleson  
Mother's Day (9)  
+Todd Wittrock

Dec. Wittrock/Baxter Fam.

**WE ARE NOW** taking items for the Treasure Chest Garage Sale Ministry. Please call Cheryl Aumer at 712-331-4303 to make an appointment. We do not accept electronic items.



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

Elizabeth Knudtson, Mike Wilison, Geneva Knudtson, Roger Wittrock, Rick DeMuth, Connie Jackson, Fr. Tom Flanagan, Bev Sporer, 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 Brunsvold, Dee Bryant, Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas, Susan Robinson, Leona Spieker.

**Other Special Persons:** Craig Danes, Jan Norgaard, Kathy Kapustka, Kristin Meyer, Leo Treb-bien, Kyle Pedley, Kevin Wittrock, Peggy Reit, Fr. John Vakulskas, Charlotte Tiesler, Tailen Sturtz, Aimee Wallrich, Sara Springer, 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 Bensman, Todd Clausen, Zach Budden, Jan James, Sharon Forsman, Aden Remme, Jeff Harbst, Esther Baxter, Melissa Hruby, David Smith, Jean Stilley and Howie