

JAN.2-3, 2021

## SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH


Fr. Tim ....continued from last column

facebook. St. Joseph is truly blessed by your faith, prayers and support; our mission will continue to be a beacon of Christ's light for folks sharing in our Eucharist and encouraged by our outreach.

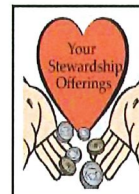
God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power. May we walk gently. May we speak only after we have listened well. Help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose. In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ Jesus bless us now and in the days ahead. Amen.

Happy New Year and may God bless,

*Fr. Tim*

 **PRAYERS and sympathy from the St. Joseph Parish Family to the family of +Ken Baschke, 92, of Milford, who died Tues., Dec. 22. His Mass of Christian Burial was held Tues., Dec. 29 at St. Joseph Catholic Church.**

The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?



**Dec. 24-25, 2020**

**Weekly Env:** \$6,567.00 **Loose:** \$1,458.00  
**P & J:** \$50.00 **Christmas Gift:** \$14,084.00  
**Candles:** \$352.00 **Online Min:** \$100.00  
**Catholic Charities:** \$5,010.00  
**Poor Box:** \$408.51

**Dec. 26-27, 2020**

**Weekly:** \$1,199.00 **Loose:** \$61.00  
**Christmas Gift:** \$30.00  
**Christmas Offering:** \$160.00  
**Catholic Charities:** \$65.00 **Haiti:** \$500.00

**Dec. 28, 2020:**

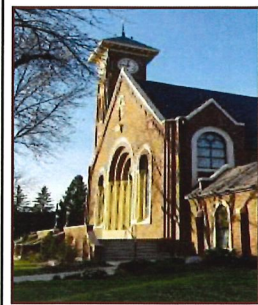
**Christmas Flowers:** \$436.00  
**Christmas Offering:** \$550.00  
**Catholic Charities:** \$50.00

**Dec. 30, 2020:**

**Weekly:** \$8,850.00  
**Christmas Flower:** \$12.00  
**Christmas Offering:** \$50.00  
**Catholic Charities:** \$500.00

**Dec. 31, 2020:**

**Weekly:** \$7,325.00 **Music Ministry:** \$200.00  
**Christmas Offering:** \$545.00 **Loose:** \$1,500.00



By Fr. Tim Johnson

Last Sunday in our season of Christmas we honored the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. No less significant within this Sunday's feast day: Epiphany. Thus, I share a portion of an article concerning the Holy Family, but more succinctly the grace and possibilities within each family regardless of size or circumstances.

"We honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In honoring them, we also honor all families, big or small. And in honoring all families, we honor the family of God, the Church. What was it like to live day in and day out in the household of the Holy Family. Their home would have certainly been a sacred place and a dwelling of true peace and unity. But it would have also been so much more. The family home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph would have been, in numerous ways, just like any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up daily family life. Their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones. . . . They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. . . . They would have had to fulfill all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, attend gatherings of family and friends and the like. They would have lived normal family life in every way. . . . The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God's divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out, some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue. . . . Lord, I do offer myself to You this day and in doing so I offer You my family; I offer each relationship, be it good or difficult, and I offer every challenge we face. Amen.

As 2020 comes to a close I need to offer my sincere gratitude on behalf of St. Joseph Parish, and our staff, for your continued support—tithing, in kind donations, on-line donations, volunteer time, and most importantly, your prayers and sustained faith. Redundant as it seems, "it has been a difficult year." Thank you. (Thank you to those who resplendently prepared our sanctuary for Christmas, the Sporrer family, those who cantored, greeted/ushered, lectured, those who served at the Masses, and those who helped share the Eucharist at Communion and to the homebound.) We so welcome those who are sharing in the Eucharist at our weekday and weekend Masses, and for those who are still a bit hesitant, sharing via our website/

### 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

**Milford Community Center**  
Rent it for your special event.  
**Milford 712-338-2741**

### FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

How is it going so far into 2021? Normally I am not here during this time and really was not planning to be. I was planning on spending a week down at Galveston, Tx. but right before Christmas they shut things down on the island due to COVID cases surging. Oh well, I will get there sometime.

My oldest came for a week to celebrate Christmas and work on the theatre which is nice. He has done a great job with the very old building. The shut down was a good time to remodel it but yet theatres are not back 100% so it takes a bit longer. So far, 2021 is starting out okay.

Now for religious education. We have no word yet on when we can resume classes. About mid-January, I will begin sending out lessons again and these will be per grade level. Family formation lessons will be sent the first of the month like normal and hopefully that group too can meet soon. It is good that the vaccine is starting to reach people, but it still may be some time before things normalize.

This weekend is the Epiphany of the Lord or Three Kings Day. Epiphany is a hard word to teach children. Simply, it recognizes the time when the three kings followed the bright star to where Jesus was. Many depictions indicate that they found the Holy Family still where Jesus was born but really, not. He was older by then but still they knew who they were seeking and brought Him gifts of the finest nature. Gold is still a wonderful gift to receive. Frankincense and myrrh are also still available. Many cultures celebrate this day as it signifies the world recognizing Jesus as Light of the World. Did the magi have special knowledge from God? Could be. It would not be a surprise if they did as God was providing insight through dreams right along.

Epiphany also is the twelfth day of Christmas- you know the song that we sing and the meaning behind it. A traditional thing to do at Epiphany is to have your house blessed by a priest. Seems like a good way to begin the new year. We will be in the unofficial season of Epiphany until the very well-known Tuesday, Mardi Gras right before Ash Wednesday. Always something to think about and keep us on our toes.

**ONE MORE Poinsettia.....**In memory of the Deceased members of the DeMuth and Fischer Families by Linda and Dave DeMuth.

## EPIPHANY



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. 9 @ 4:30 p.m.**

**EMES:** Fr. Tim and Paul Skopec

**LECTOR:** Joseph Schmidt

**SERVERS:** Need Help Here

**USHERS:** KC's

**Sunday, Jan. 10 @ 8 a.m.**

**EMES:** Fr. Tim and Jeff Nelson

**LECTOR:** David Johnson

**SERVERS:** Need help here

**USHERS:** KC's

**Sunday, Jan. 10 @ 10 a.m.**

**EMES:** Fr. Tim and Roger Moss

**LECTOR:** Sara Laven

**SERVERS:** Need Help Here

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

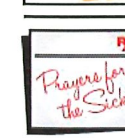
✓ **THE KNIGHTS of Columbus** thanks all who supported their food basket project this year. Over 50 baskets were delivered to less fortunate persons this holiday season.

✓ Thanks to all the staff and all who use their talents to livestream lovely Masses, all extra music, etc. on website. I enjoy it all--sometimes over and over! Cantors, readers, decorators. I don't want to miss anyone. Thank You

--a Parishioner



**THANKS** for all the Christmas goodies and gifts that were shared with staff. We appreciate being remembered.



**PRAY for these members:** Mary Dunleavy, Bob Mulhern, Pat O'Brien, Jerry Delaney Family, Jean Elbert, Alberta Nolan, Nancy Crepeau, Mary Langel, Geneva Knudtson, Roger Wittrock, Rick DeMuth, 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, Leona Spieker.

**PLEASE pray for these special persons:** Glen Luchtel, Esther Morris, Harvey Baxter, Jr., Wayne Bellinghausen, Maxine Thompson, Lois Doran, Dale Gentry, Susan Barnes, Mike Cooper, Denny Daberkow, Louise DeWitt, Ray Langel, Kristin Meyer, Leo Trebbien, Kevin Wittrock, Charlotte Tiesler, Tailen Sturtz, Aimee Wallrich, Sara Springer, Jan Wolf, Peggy Price, Joan Mertz, John Bruening, Ann Willette, Ashlyn Clark, Jerry Wolford, Kami Svoboda, Darrel Wedeking, Dan Mulder, Leah Brevik, Colleen Mulder, Jamie O'Neill.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, Jan. 2**

**4:30 p:** +Bev Sporrer

**Sunday, Jan. 3**

**4:30 p:** +Margaret Rehse

**Monday, Jan. 4**

**7:30 a:** Special Int. (JLW)

**Tuesday, Jan. 5**

**7:30 a:** +Ron Dog & +Charree Sweeten

**Wednesday, Jan. 6**

**7:30 a:** Halbur/Johnson

**Thursday, Jan. 7**

**7:30 a:** D/I Nelson/Bellinghausen

**Friday, Jan. 8**

**7:30 a:** +Steve Jones

**Saturday, Jan. 9**

**4:30 p:** +Chad Galles

**Sunday, Jan. 10**

**8 a:** +Paul Delaney

**10 a:** +Joan Langel

### CDA Annual Layette Project Begins

Catholic Daughters, St. Joseph Court Our Lady of Las Salette, invites St. Joseph parishioners to join us after Christmas and into January and February as we collect our annual layette, a worthy cause we have sponsored for over 30 years. Items useful for 2-4 year olds such as board books, learning toys, etc., used most often in parenting classes.

These items will be presented at our February meeting to Lakes Regional Hospital, as well as Birth Right and Catholic Charities located in Spencer, Iowa.

We thank you pre-emptively for your contribution and will keep you informed as to the delivery of the gifts.

**TELL** your friends our Mass is on Facebook or the website. Thanks to our Online Ministry Staff for their dedication to this project.

### DAA UPDATE

**Goal:** \$57,241.00

**Paid to date:** \$23,873

**Pledged:** \$1,440.00

**Remaining:** \$35,168

**# Families:** 705

**# Responses:** 157

**% of Response:** 22%

**% of Goal Reached:** 43%