FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

Transition. I am not sure anyone finds it

easy. This week we say goodbye to Fr. Tim

who will be the new pastor in Boone and

hello to Fr. Hughes who comes to us from

Boone. This is a major transition for them.

We may have our own transitions to think

about-maybe a new job, new home, new

lifestyle with a new diet or exercise program,

maybe just a new outlook on life after going

through 2020. For me, I no longer will run a

golf course that has been most of my life.

Many ask: what are you going to do with

your time? The answer is I don't really know

and have no specific plans. I will be looking

forward to having Bible school here after a

two-year hiatus. When God shuts a door....

ocese is planning on hosting Camp CaYoCa

this year. This is exciting news as this camp

is one of my favorite things. Dates for grades

3-6 will be June 13-15 and for grades 10-12

it will be at the Creighton University retreat

It might be early to talk about it, but the Di-

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.

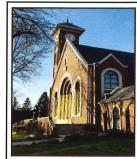
NAME:	
Address:	
City:	
	Zip:
DI	

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Piccadilly Circus Pizza Milford 338-9100

Christmas Season, liturgically, ends with the Baptism of the Lord this weekend, though for many the trees, outside lights and nativity sets have been take down or put away. Our sanctuary for the past three weeks has reflected the dignity and beauty of the birth of Christ Jesus, the source of

the light within and before us,



By Fr. Tim Johnson

the hope we carry into this New Year. Many thanks to the volunteers who graciously prepared the sanctuary for this brief but beautiful season; also our music director and cantors, ushers, readers, altar servers, online techs, and Eucharistic Ministers. And our KC's for their presence at many of the Christmas Masses, ensuring the comfort and wellbeing of those who shared in the Eucharist. Thank you.

When I came to St. Joseph Parish in 2017, the week prior to the 4th of July, it was warm, longer days, and rather large gatherings of people throughout the area. As I leave this coming Tuesday it is cold outside, shorter days, and restricted, small gatherings. For the majority of my life, regardless of the scenario, I've found it very difficult to say 'goodbye.' I'm at a loss for the proper words to share with you as I depart. Ernie Harrell, the great baseball announcer for the Detroit Tigers (God rest his soul) may have said it best: "It's time to say goodbye, but I think goodbyes are sad and I'd much rather say hello. Hello to a new adventure." Though these last few months have certainly altered our sense of community at St. Joseph, it has been your faith and caring, your hospitality and kindness, your humor and hope that has allowed me to feel at home here in the lakes region and more specifically, sharing the Eucharist together. Thank you. Two weeks ago I baptized a couple's first infant born into their marriage; and they were the first marriage I presided at here at St. Joseph parish. Such is a blessing that affirms my calling—however brief—to be a part of and serve this grace filled parish. Our staff here has always maintained the day to day mission and purpose of our parish: Susan, Sharon, Teresa, Cain, Shane, Pam, Alice and Lois; with the time and help of so many who volunteer—seen and unseen. Thank you!

Welcome to Fr. Brian Hughes who is a talented and dedicated priest with knowledge of the "lay of the land" so to speak. He cares about the sense of 'community' within a parish, the grace of the Sacraments shared, and the blessing of the Eucharist that bonds us as "the Body of Christ." He has gifts within his ministry I cannot offer.

One of the most profound gifts of this parish is how so many feel welcome at our Eucharist, and enjoy the shared prayers and sense of "belonging." May such remain a vital character of this parish, regardless of the individual coming through our church doors. For we all seek a "seat at the table" where we find the presence of God within our personal lives and the world at

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. .Timcontinued from last column

hand. Again, that wonderful story teller and announcer, Ernie Harwell describes in baseball lingo the Christian character reflected in our parish of St. Joseph: "In baseball, democracy shines its clearest. The only race that matters is the race to the bag. The creed is the rule book. And color, merely something to distinguish one team's uniform from another's."

Without saying a final goodbye, thank you again for sharing your parish life with me these last three and half years. A blessing!

May God Bless,

Fr. 7im

FROM THE OFFICE

✓ Watch for your 2020 stewardship contribution statement this week. They were mailed Thursday. Call if you have any questions or concerns about your tax statement.

✓ New stewardship envelopes for the first quarter of 2021 were delayed in handling by the post office. The envelope company has assured us that you will be receiving your envelopes in the next few



Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. The US Bishops' pastoral on stewardship reminds us that Baptism gives all of His disciples a share in His priestly work and calls them "to offer up the world and all that is in it -- espe

cially themselves -- to the Lord of all." Jan. 2-3, 2021

Weekly Env: \$3,684.00 Loose: \$125.00

center in Griswold, Iowa from July 21-25. I do not have the cost information as of yet but we do generally share the cost of these events with the families. Way out this year is Rekindle which is held in Carroll. Iowa on Oct. 17. More information to come on these. We will probably not be getting back to in person religious education classes in January so I will be planning on sending lessons

home for our students. That means a little more work for the parents. However, we do not want them to fall too far behind on their church education. I will try to keep them streamlined and to the point for our families. My daily prayer is for us to get back together soon. When the children do not come, my world is empty, like part of my family is missing. I have gotten used to seeing and teaching all of these children. I have been a Catechist at St. Joseph now for 23 years. That is a good share of time and I miss this part of my life.

I am happy our weather is relatively warm for January. It seems to make winter bearable. I wish you the best as we begin the new year.





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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday, Jan. 16 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Jerilyn Streit

LECTOR: Lois Eckard

SERVERS: Jaden Heller, Jerron Heller

USHERS: KC's

Sunday, Jan. 17 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Marlene Nelson

LECTOR: Darlene Moritz

SERVERS: Loretta Halbur, Kailee Herman

USHERS: KC's

Sunday, Jan. 17 @ 10 a.m. **EMES:** Fr. Hughes and Chad Harms

LECTOR: Susan Willette **SERVERS:** Austin Harms.

USHERS: Jack and Julie Kliegl

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Fr. Tim for your eulogy for dad's funeral. You created a memory that truly honored the man our father was and we will carry his memories with us always. Thank you to the organist and cantor for being a great part of the service. our dad was lifelong member of St. Joseph who will be deeply missed. The Family of Ken Baschke



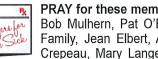
WELCOME to the Catholic Faith through the Sacrament of Bap-

tism to Brooks Scott Harmelink, son of Brady and Ashton Harmelink, who was baptized Jan. 3, 2021 at St. Joseph.



PRAY FOR OUR NATION





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. 9

4:30 p: +Chad Galles

Sunday, Jan. 10 8 a: +Paul Delaney

10 a: +Joan Langel +Don Weiland

Monday, Jan. 11

7:30 a: Spec. Int. (JLW) Tuesday, Jan. 12

7:30 a: +Bud Brooks Wednesday, Jan. 13

7:30 a: Halbur/Johnson Fam Thursday, Jan. 14

7:30 a: +Tim Schmit

Friday, Jan. 15 7:30 a: +Frances Connors

Saturday, Jan. 16 4:30 p: Skelton/Hinshw Fam.

Sunday, Jan. 17

8 a: +Clarice Schmit 10 a: +Joan Langel

CDA Annual Layet Project

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

Paid to date: \$23.873 **Pledged:** \$1,440 **Remaining:** \$35,168 # Families: 705

Responses: 157 % of Response: 22%

% of Goal Reached: 43%