

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

JAN. 31, 2021

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.: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fri.: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

RECONCILIATION:

3:30 pm Sat;

7:30 am & 9:30 am Sun

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

United Community Bank
Milford-Okoboji
Hartley-Ocheyedan-Lake Park
Member FDIC

I have a number of items to share with you this week:

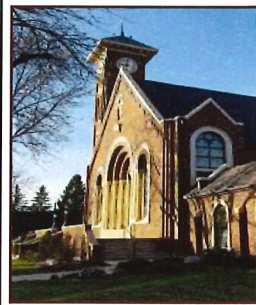
✓ Last March when our churches were locked and public Masses were suspended Bishop Nickless asked us to discontinue the practice of taking Holy Communion to the shut-ins in our parishes. This policy is rooted in the strong desire that the Bishop has to protect the health of the vulnerable and elderly of the Diocese of Sioux City. As we all now know, the Covid-19 virus is easily passed from one person to another and the infirmed are especially vulnerable. It would be tragic if well intentioned Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion visiting the sick with Holy Communion would inadvertently spread the virus among our homebound parishioners. This must be avoided at all cost and since last spring the Bishop has insisted that we discontinue home visits in the Diocese of Sioux City. Holy Communion outside of Mass must be confined to those in danger of death. I am aware that this decision will not be popular but I feel that it is incumbent upon me to do what the Bishop has asked of every priest in the Diocese of Sioux City. We must do everything we can to protect the health of our elderly parishioners.

✓ Last summer when the Bishops of Iowa permitted us to begin to celebrate public Masses each week there were a number of directives that Bishop Nickless laid down for every Mass at every Church in the Diocese of Sioux City. Among those directives was a prohibition from using altar servers at Mass. The nature of Mass serving requires a priest to stand close to the Mass servers and so the Bishop asked all parishes to suspend the use of Mass servers until further notice. At recent clergy meetings the Bishop has reiterated this prohibition. Until further notice we will not be using Mass servers at our liturgies. In addition, sung music and the use of wind instruments are not to be included in our celebrations of Mass. The practice of Holy Communion from the Chalice and the use of the Sign of Peace were also suspended. We hope to be able to return to these ancient practices as soon as the Bishop and our Diocesan Covid-19 Task Force deem it safe to return to these practices.

✓ All of you are doing a great job wearing masks at our parish events. Please continue that practice both to protect ourselves but also to protect each other.

+We will be returning to in person religious education classes this Wednesday. If your children will not be attending RE classes this Wednesday, we ask that you notify Sharon in the parish office. We will be calling the homes of all registered students who are not in attendance and are not excused by parental message.

+ We need ushers to assist at the 10 a.m. Mass each Sunday. We want to thank the Knights of Co-



By Fr. Brian Hughes

Fr. Hughes

Continued from last column...

lumbus for acting as ushers at the 4:30 and 8:00 Masses. If you are willing to assist with this ministry of hospitality please call Susan at the parish office.



GOOD NEWS! The St. Joseph Cooks have decided that a drive thru Chicken Noodle Dinner could be held on Sun., March 21, 11 to 1 p.m. There will be no inside dining but rather the meals will be packaged and distributed to cars as they drive thru the underpass or near the kitchen doors. We still have logistics to complete but our volunteers are anxious to get together again to do something. Mark your calendar!

Mark Your Calendar

✓ Looking ahead to Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17. We will attempt to have soup suppers but they will be a bit different because of Covid-19. We are looking for our soup makers to prepare the soup and then package it to go. As people leave the 5:30 p.m. Mass, they may pick up a bowl of soup, a wrapped cookie and garlic bread to take with them to enjoy at home. If you have a group that would like to be the cooks for the night, please call the parish office.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

✓ Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who covered the parish office while I was out for surgery last week and to those who sent cards or called. I appreciate your willingness to help out.

Susan Reiser

✓ Thank you to the bakers who brought goodies to share for the Welcome to Fr. Brian Hughes gathering following Mass this weekend.

FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

I am happy that we are still on track for good news. This weekend we can have a cantor again for Mass. That is very nice. This Wednesday, February 3, we can have in person religious education classes. This is wonderful news! K-5 will meet from 4-5 as we still need to keep the meeting time down and 6-12 will meet from 7-8. Family Formation will meet in the church basement from 6:30-7:30. We still need to mask and distance but we should be used to that by now. I am planning on this being a lasting thing until the end of our religious education year the end of April or possibly the beginning of May.

One casualty though and I had just shared it with you, is that Camp CaYoCa is cancelled for another year. However, I can have vacation Bible school so I will be working on that. It is always Catholic and always fun so I will work on dates and plans for that. This will be for children in next fall grades K-4.

This weekend after all Masses we will have a come and go welcome for Fr. Hughes in the parish center. Please stop to introduce yourself and welcome him to the parish as he gets settled in.

Very soon we will be in the season of Lent. Generally, I have a Mardi Gras for the students, but the last two years and this year it has not happened due to COVID and weather. I have enjoyed having it for them, but unfortunately the cards have been stacked against it. Hopefully, next year! During Lent, not only do we have Ash Wednesday Masses specifically for our students and families, but also reconciliation. Again, this is scheduled during a time for our students, but if it works for parents to come at that time during Lent, you are more than welcome. I will send updates out about that later.

This coming week we not only get our students back but we also celebrate two familiar feast days. The first is this Tuesday, Feb. 2nd with the Presentation of the Lord, and the other is Feb. 3rd with the Feast of St. Blaise.

The Presentation of the Lord refers to when Mary presented Jesus in the temple as was Jewish custom. Simeon and Anna were there and able to meet Baby Jesus. They knew at that point that they were seeing the Savior, fulfilling prophecy. It is also known as Candlemas day honoring Jesus as "Light of the World". Sometimes candles are blessed this day and are available for people to use in their homes or at Mass according to tradition. I would be amiss if I did not also mention Groundhog Day, the day we all look forward to for us to know if Spring

Continued in next column.....

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat., Feb. 6 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Paul Skopec

LECTOR: Lois Eckard

USHERS: KC Members

Sun., Feb. 7 @ 8 a.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Irene McCoy

LECTOR: Cheryl Houseman

USHERS: KC's

Sun., Feb. 7 @ 10 a.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Beth Lorch

LECTOR: Aaron Lorch

USHERS: Curt and Susan Willette

Mayer

Continued from last column.....

will be early or winter will hang on. I don't pay much attention to that, but it is a fun tradition.

The third is not only the day our students come back but is the Feast of St. Blaise This is celebrated with blessing of throats. This year the priest may not bless individuals but instead can do a general blessing. As a student of St. Josephs for eight years, we never missed getting our throats blessed. This is a longstanding tradition in honor of St. Blaise, Bishop, who saved a boy from choking to death on a fishbone.

Personally, I love the traditions of our faith. There is always a reason for them and thus they have found a place in our church.



PRAY for these members: Donna Kramer, Mary Dunleavy, Bob Mulhern, Pat O'Brien, 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.

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. 30

4:30 p: +Rita Wuebker
+Tom Wuebker
+Charles McCabe

Sunday, Jan. 31

8 a: +Patty Zweibahmer

10 a: +Joy Walz

Monday, Feb. 1

NO MASS TODAY

Tuesday, Feb 2

5:30 p: +Clarice Schmit
Liv/Dec CDA members

Wednesday, Feb. 3

7:30 a: Halbur/Johnson Fam.

Thursday, Feb. 4

7:30 a: +Bud Brooks

Friday, Feb. 5

7:30 a: +Lorraine & +Pat Kenney

Saturday, Feb. 6

4:30 p: +Harold Eilers

Sunday, Feb. 7

8 a: +Don Wolterman

10 a: +Margaret Kacynski

PRAYERS and sympathy from the St. Joseph Parish Family to:

the Family of +Leona Spieker. Leona died Thurs., Jan. 21, 2021. A private family service was held Mon., Jan. 25. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.



ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Moses told the people, "A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you from among your own kinsmen." God still provides among His people the gifts and talents necessary to continue the work of His Church. What gifts are yours to share?

Jan. 23-24, 2021

Weekly Env: \$7,844.00

Loose: \$397.00

Parish Rental: \$100.00

Building Fund: \$432.00

Rosary/Altar Dues: \$330.00