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:

<u>Winter</u> 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 coll	ection basket.
NAME:	
Address:	
City:	
	Zip:
Phone: _	- F

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home & Crematory Spirit Lake 712-336-8471

Two weeks ago, both Fr. Paul Kelly and Fr. Brian Hughes received phone calls from Bishop Nickless informing them that their pastoral assignments would be changing. Fr. Kelly will be moved to St. Patrick's Parish in Estherville and Fr. Hughes. while remaining pastor of St. Joseph Church in Milford. will also be the pastor of St.



By Fr. Brian Hughes

Mary's in Spirit Lake. These two assignments are part of a much larger reorganization of the pastor assignments in all parts of the Diocese of Sioux City. Change is always difficult and this pastoral change will require readjustment on everyone's part. These changes will take place on July 7th of this year. In the coming months we will be addressing organizational structures and liturgical schedules. Please pray for both Fr. Kelly and Fr. Hughes.

The Winter Cold

We have all been encountering the bitter winter weather these last two weeks. We hope that promised warmup will arrive as predicted. Together let us pray for the hidden folks in our own community who do not have adequate housing. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the many who must work outside to keep us safe and warm in these dangerous temperatures. When we encounter these cold days I am struck by the grandeur of God's creation here in Northwest lowa. Very few places on earth regularly experience the extremes of temperature that we have here in lowa: -10 below zero on some winter days to 105 on some summer days. The power of God's creation is a breathtaking thing to behold.

Religious Education is Well Under Way

We have been having a good turnout for our Wednesday night Religious Education program. We are happy to be able to offer in person learning once again. We are grateful for the teachers and workers who help us to offer a top-notch program.

Our Lenten Fasts

Our Lenten Fasts have begun. This holy season gives us the opportunity to concentrate on three of the central pillars of our faith; Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. We concentrate on our prayer lives during this time to open up our hearts to the presence of God...... We fast or give something up so that we can take stock of what we really need and to root out habits that draw us away from God and away from others. We give alms to remind ourselves of the holy interconnectedness of all peoples. We share our resources with others in need to remind ourselves of our gratitude for all we have received from the hand of God.

Masks and Other Precautions

As infection rates and hospitalization admissions continue to decline let us not get complacent with the protocols that have been suggested by the Center of Disease Control and the directives given us by our Bishop. Care with these protocols reminds us of our obligation to protect each other from this deadly contagion. Let us continue to pray for the most vulnerable. Wear a mask, wash your hands, practice social distancing.

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH



Monday, Feb. 22

7 p.m.: AA meets in Nazareth Hall. 8 p.m.: Ala-non meets by zoom.

Tuesday, Feb. 23

5:30 p.m.: Mass

6 p.m.: Soup to go by Parish Staff featuring Fr. Hughes' turkey chili and cheesy ham chowder.

6 p.m.: CDA meets in Nazareth.

Wednesday, Feb. 24

3:45 p.m.: Rel. Ed. for grades K-4. 7 p.m.: Rel. Ed. for grades 5-12.

SOUP SUPPER INFO

On Tuesday nights, 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. Thanks to the following for volunteering to date:

Feb. 23: St. Joseph Staff;

March 2: KC's:

March 9: Deb Bode & Denise Wunn;

March 16: Jones Crew: March 23: Reiser Crew;

March 30: Rosary/Altar

If you would like to help at any of the soup, suppers, call the office and we will find a job for you.



BLESSED

OUR ONLINE ministry team is seeking additional volunteers to assist in the live-streaming of liturgies at St. Joseph. Training is provided to each volunteer. This important ministry was created in light of the COVID-19 pandemic to provide an avenue to continue to virtually bring Mass to parishioners and friends of St. Joseph who are unable to attend in person due to health or other concerns. The ministry has also created an avenue in which our summer parishioners and friends are still able to participate and join our faith community virtually in our parish liturgies year-round.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the online ministry, or if you have questions, please contact Cain in the parish office at 712.338.2274, ext 11, or email: cain@stiosephmilford.org.

FAITH FORMATION

By Sharon Mayer

We are in the season of Lent and I urge you to make it all that it can be. The practices of Lent are not just for Catholics but for all Christians. It is a time for introspect and ask if we are following in Jesus' footsteps or can we do better. Even if it is just for the short time of Lent.

Christians remember the life of Jesus and all that He showed and taught. Then, apply it to our lives. The hallmarks of Lent are to pray, fast and give alms. Prayer is basic to Catholics. We are taught at a young age our standard prayers like the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be but do we use them when not at church? Have we learned new ones on our own? Do we have a favorite that rolls off our tongues with ease? Do we practice talking to Jesus as the Friend that He is? I have two very short prayers that I say daily to ask Him to be with me then I thank Him at the end for getting me through. This makes me feel calm and close to Him especially on the days I would classify as "lousy".

How about fasting during Lent? This tradition asks us to fast from meat on Friday's. fast from large meals on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and maybe fast from a favorite during Lent like pop. We can fast from other things too like talking about others, swearing, spending like money grows on trees, etc. Then there is almsgiving or giving to the poor or those who do not have the means to have decent things in life. Jesus emphasized how to take care of each other in any way we can.

We have a clothing room that people donate to regularly. It is intended for those who really need it and the clothes are free. Can you give to a favorite charity or maybe a new charity during Lent? We have the Rice Bowls available that if you have loose change-put it in there during Lent and return it on Holy Thursday. This is for Catholic Relief Services and an excellent way for your child to give.

It was good to see so many faces during Ash Wednesday Masses. I especially appreciate the assistance of the 5th, 11th and 12th grades for ministries

Giving extra of time, talent and treasure as well as sacrificing to recognize Jesus' sacrifice for us is Lent. Add a Mass if you are not attending and decide what practice will work for you as a family. You will not regret it.

This also might be a good time to get a Bible, Crucifix, or Rosary at your home. I can help you with that. A Bible or Crucifix may cost a bit but the Rosaries are free.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



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

Second Sunday of Lent Sat., Feb. 27 @ 4:30 p.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Alex Jones

LECTOR: Ron Swartz

USHERS: KC's

Sunday, Feb. 28 @ 8 a.m. **EMES:** Fr. Hughes and Mark Johnson

LECTOR: Deb Johnson

USHERS: KC's

Sunday, Feb. 28 @ 10 a.m.

EMES: Fr. Hughes and Cheryl Aumer

LECTOR: Susan Willette

USHERS: Jim and Irene McCoy

"The Eucharist is an unfathomable gift of divine love. When we consistently spend time with Jesus in the Eucharist, we discover that our ways of thinking, acting, and loving gradually become more and more Christ-like." from Bread of Life: Prayers for Eucharistic Adoration by Marie Paul Curley and Madonna Therese Ratliff

All are welcome to join in Eucharistic Adoration p.m. Benediction at 5:15 p.m. concludes the period of Adoration followed by Holy Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Consider committing 30 to 60 minutes in Eucharistic adoration this Lent. Please contact Deb at 651-587-7296 for information.

THANK YOU to the Knights of Columbus for treating the parish staff to lunch this past week. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

The St. Joseph Parish Staff



PRAY for these members: Mary Dunleavy, Pat O'Brien, 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, La-Donna Jansen, Dale Langel, Finley Brunsvold, Dee Bryant, Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas.

PLEASE pray for these special persons: Heather (Abbas) Hamann, Gidget Halbur, Glen Luchtel, Jean Elbert, 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, Feb. 20 4:30 p: +BIII & +Elvera Kane Family

Sunday, Feb. 21

8 a: +Josephine Hamilton 10 a: +Fritz & +Norma Thoma St. Joseph Parishioners

Monday, Feb. 22

NO MASS TODAY

Tuesday, Feb 23 5:30 p: Liv/Dec Kramer Family

Wednesday, Feb. 24 7:30 a: Dec. Halbur/Johnson

Thursday, Feb. 25

7:30 a: Special Intention (JLW) Friday, Feb. 26

7:30 a: Spec. Int. (Hinshaw 50th) Saturday, Feb. 27

4:30 p: +Rita Wuebker +Tom Wuebker

> St. Joseph Parishioners Sunday, Feb. 28

8 a: +Ron Dog & +Charree Sweeten 10 a: L/D+Bill & +Elvera Kane Fam +Fr. John Vakulskas

IF YOU NEED to call Fr. Hughes in times of emergency, he is available at this landline phone number.

712-338-2807



ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism... that people place their gifts, their resources--their selves -- at God's servicein and through the Church."

Feb. 13-14 2021

Weekly Env: \$ 3,886.00 Loose: \$401.00 Endow: \$40.00 Peace & Justice: 195.00 Rosary/Altar Dues: \$10.00 Briar Cliff: \$20.00

Building: \$472.00 Misc.: \$230.00