

# Dickinson County Catholic Community

## St. Joseph Parish

1305 Okoboji Ave.

Milford, IA 51351

712-338-2274

FAX: 712-338-2191

[www.stjosephmilford.org](http://www.stjosephmilford.org)

## St. Mary's Parish

1005 Hill Ave.

Spirit Lake, IA

FAX: 712-336-1013

[www.stmarysspiritlake.org](http://www.stmarysspiritlake.org)

P.O. Box 354

712-336-1742

*First Sunday of Advent*  
*Nov. 28, 2021*

*Hope in God;*

*FOR I SHALL AGAIN PRAISE HIM,  
MY HELP AND MY GOD.*

PSALM 42:11, NRSV





# News From St. Joseph Parish



## 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

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Milford, IA 51351

OFFICE: 712-338-2274

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## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.- Thurs.: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fri.: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

## RECONCILIATION:

3:15 pm Sat;

8:15 am Sun

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Tuesday 12 noon

## MASS SCHEDULE:

### Winter

Saturday at 4 p.m.

Sunday at 9 a.m.

### Summer

Saturday at 4 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: \_\_\_\_\_

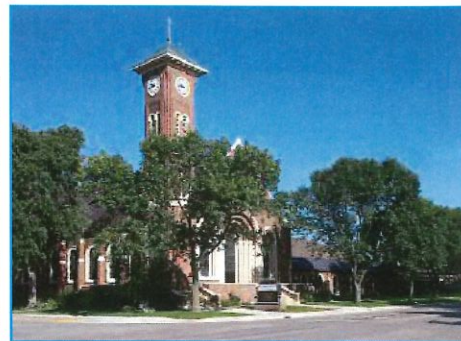
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Harvest Dinner Update

Thank you to all who brought food, worked tirelessly and attended our annual Harvest Dinner. We cannot do a dinner of this magnitude without the help of many and for you, we are grateful. We served 335 meals, including 47 takeouts or deliveries. Of the 335 meals, 187 non-parishioners and 148 parishioners enjoyed the meal. On Monday, Deacon Darwin drew the names of the five \$20 cash prizes and they included: Parishioner Francis Spear of Spencer and Tutti Willison, of Milford; and visitors Lynne Koeller, of Milford; Mary Kisting of Spirit Lake; and Gary VandeVegte, of Orange City. The checks are in the mail. Financially, we want to thank the anonymous parishioner who picked up the grocery tab totalling \$1,980.29. Income from tickets, dessert and salad payments totalled \$4,590.54. We have about \$100 in miscellaneous other expenses netting \$4,490.45 for the church.



Get into the holiday spirit by attending Home for the Holidays - A Holiday Concert. John Moore, Jessica Schable, and Drew Duncan reunite in their hometown to spread holiday cheer through songs of the season with Jennifer Johnson at the piano. Sunday, Dec. 12 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Milford, IA. Free will offering with all proceeds going towards a new performing arts initiative coming to the lakes area, set to launch in 2022. Celebrate the season with this special musical reunion.



## Monday, Nov. 29

8 p.m.: Ala-non meets by zoom.

8 p.m.: AA meets in Nazareth Hall

## Tuesday, Nov. 30

2 to 5:15 p.m.: Eucharist Adoration

5:30 p.m.: Mass

6 p.m.: CDA meets following Mass.

## Wednesday, Dec. 1

8:15 a.m.: Social Justice Committee meets in zoom room.

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

7-8 p.m.: Rel Ed for 5-12

7:15 p.m.: High School youth group meets in the Zoom Room for the winter months.

## Thursday, Dec. 2

8 a.m.: Bible Study meets in overflow room.

## Saturday, Dec. 4

5 p.m.: CDA/KC Christmas party, PC

## Sunday, Dec. 5

Communal Penance: 1 p.m. St. Patrick's, Estherville; 2:30 p.m. St. Mary's, Spirit Lake; 4 p.m. St. Joseph Milford.

## Christmas Shopping Made Easy

St. Joseph Centennial items on sale in the parish office. Stop in.



Please make a note of these upcoming events:

✓ **Communal Penance** Sun., Dec. 5: 1 p.m. St.

Patrick's in Estherville; 2:30 p.m. St. Mary's in Spirit Lake and 4 p.m. St. Joseph in Milford;

✓ **Anointing of the Sick** (Healing Mass) at St. Mary's Spirit Lake, Thursday, Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m.



# News From St. Joseph Parish

## Faith Notes

By Sharon Mayer

### Warmed by the Fires of Advent, Part 1

Most often as we prepare for Christmas, we envision a roaring fire in a fireplace or scented candles burning brightly with the scents of Christmas-pine, gingerbread or cinnamon all burning brightly to usher in warm holiday feelings.

Our season of Advent also ushers in warm holiday feelings beginning gently and quietly with the first candle, the candle of hope. We listen to scriptures as we begin hearing about Jesus' return. Our hope is in the Lord for His help throughout our lives and His recognition of us as His children when He returns. Be watchful of your sins as we do not know when we will be called.

Mary, born sinless, was taken aback by the words that came to her out of the blue from the angel of God, Gabriel. Was she prepared for what she heard? No. But the girl named Mary had faith in God so deep that it is hard for us to comprehend it. Her anxiety was quelled by her grace and so felt no fear. The flame of hope began burning brightly in her heart and soul as she knows she will be the Mother of God.

This first week of Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of the Lord into your life with great joy.



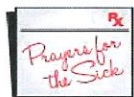
### PRAYERS and sympathy from the St. Joseph Parish Family to

- ✓ Mary Vermeer on the death of her husband, +Buzz, 76, who died Sun., Nov. 21, 2021. A private family memorial service will be held at a later date; and to
- ✓ Mari Mulhern on the death of her brother, +Leo Shoo, 83, of Eagle Grove, IA, who died Nov. 13. His Mass of Christian Burial was held Thurs., Nov. 16 at Sacred Heart, in Eagle Grove.

**Thank you** to the youth from St. Joseph and St. Mary that worked together to help bus tables at the Harvest Dinner. Your help was appreciated!

**ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS:** We are in need of 3 Eucharistic Ministers and two ushers for the 12 midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. If you can serve in these capacities, please call the parish office.

**There will be** a Middle School Youth Group scripture study event December 12th after mass at St. Joseph in the basement. All students 5th-8th grade are welcome. A light breakfast will be served.



**PRAY for these members:** James Higgins, Mary Mittag, Jerry Finch, Dirk Hansen, June Reiman, Ann Stein, Nancy Crepeau, Mary Langel, Geneva Knudtson, 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:** Virginia Bensman, Craig Tingwald, Cooper Hatfield, Corey Langner, Claire Yaw, Cheryl Kallis, Sammy Schumann, Ellie Wiemers, Mary Gerdes Smith, Mary W., Mary Bolan, Dick Vogel, Charles Graves, Zoe Lorenzen, Heather Hamann, 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, Kevin Wittrock, Charlotte Tiesler, Tailen Sturtz, Aimee Wallrich, Jan Wolf, Peggy Price, Joan Mertz, John Bruening, Ashlyn Clark, Jerry Wolford, Kami Svoboda, Darrel Wedeking, Dan Mulder, Colleen Mulder, Jamie O'Neill.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, Nov. 27

**4 p:** +Rita Wuebker  
+Tom Wuebker

### Sunday, Nov. 28

**9 a:** For The People

### Monday, Nov. 29

**No Mass Today**

### Tuesday, Nov. 30

**5:30 p:** +Bo Schnetter

### Wednesday, Dec. 1

**7:30 a:** +Jerry Westcott

### Thursday, Dec. 2

**7:30 a:** +Al Mataloni

### Friday, Dec. 3

**7:30 a:** +Floyd & +Bev Sporrer

### Saturday, Dec. 4

**4 p:** For The People

### Sunday, Dec. 5

**9 a:** +Lynn Knudtson  
+Ken Knudtson

### Together As One Update

**Goal:** \$38,759.00

**Payments:** \$1,540.00

**Total:** \$22,237.00

**Remaining:** \$16,522.00

**% of Goal:** 57%

**# Parishioners:** 735

**# Participants:** 142

**%:** 19.3

Please return your card  
as soon as possible.

## Ministry Schedule

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

**Sat., December 4th @ 4 p.m.**

**EMHC:** Faith Garcia, Alex Jones, Eldon Kraninger

**LECTOR:** Darlene Moritz

**SERVERS:** Grace Davis, Ron Swartz

**HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:** Bonnie Dunn, Connie Mataloni, Dick Mataloni, Merlin Wuebker

**Sunday, December 5th @ 9 a.m.**

### Knights of Columbus Mass

**EMHC:** KC Members

**LECTOR:** KC Member

**SERVERS:** KC Members

**HOSPITALITY:** KC Members



# Pastor's COLUMN

## The Great Season of Waiting and Preparation

This Sunday the Church begins the Season of Advent. This is not the church's way of reminding us how many shopping days we have until Christmas but it is a time of preparation and like shopping for Christmas gifts, Advent provides us with a prayerful path to renew our wonder at the love that God showed the world by sending Jesus into human history. These days leading to Christmas always involve lots of planning and deliberate thought. We buy gifts and plan meals, we send greetings and decorate our homes. The spiritual promptings of Advent are the Churches ancient way of helping us chart our spiritual course and aid us to deliberately think about how we can best open our lives to the wonder of God's love for us. At our Advent Masses we study ancient biblical texts that search the horizon of God's design and explore the longings of the human heart. During Advent the Church especially celebrates the gift of mercy, and the Confession of sin has always been one of the principle ways that Catholics prepare for Christmas. Our beautiful musical traditions enhance our liturgies and our homes, and the quiet waiting time that the darker winter days provide can prayerfully ready us to celebrate the gift of Jesus. We often send greetings to family and friends during this Advent season, let us redouble our prayers for those nearest to our hearts. The great Christmas meals that we are planning are a delight in every way; as we approach Christmas, let us prepare our lives for the eternal banquet of heaven. Nourished week after week by the precious Blessed Sacrament and enlivened by the Word of God may the new born Savior come among us. Come Lord Jesus!



"Be on guard," Jesus warns in today's Gospel, "lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence." Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.

### ST. MARY'S FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Nov. 20-21, 2021 Attendance: 497

Adults: \$6,156.00 Online: \$238.00  
Guatemala: \$467.00  
Special: \$45.00 - Food Pantry Votive: \$27.00

### ST. JOSEPH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Nov. 20-21, 2021 Attendance: 463

Adults: \$14,950.00 Loose: \$1,265.00  
Candles: \$138.56 Food Program: \$350.00  
Misc.: \$20.00 St. Jo Ed Fund: \$25.00

Pastor Fr. Brian Hughes  
Deacon Darwin Messerly

### The St. Joseph Staff

Shane Akin.....Custodian  
Teresa Goehring.....Director of Youth Ministry  
teresa@stjosephmilford.org  
Sharon Mayer.....Director of Faith Formation  
sharon@stjosephmilford.org  
Ali Oyler.....Director of Music/Technology  
music@smsjccatholics.org  
Susan Reiser.....Business Manager  
sreiser@milfordcable.net

### The St. Mary Staff

Mary Brandt.....9-12 Rel. Ed. Director  
youth@stmarysspiritlake.org  
Derek Probst.....Dir. K-8 Rel. Education  
dprobst@smsjccatholics.org  
Greg Rolling.....Custodian  
Donna Williams.....Parish Secretary  
secretary@stmarysspiritlake.org