

Dickinson County Catholic Community

St. Joseph Parish

1305 Okoboji Ave.

Milford, IA 51351

712-338-2274

FAX: 712-338-2191

www.stjosephmilford.org

St. Mary's Parish

1005 Hill Ave.

Spirit Lake, IA

FAX: 712-336-1013

P.O. Box 354

712-336-1742

www.stmarysspiritlake.org

Second Sunday of Advent
Dec. 5, 2021



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
FAX: 712-338-2191
stjosephmilford.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

Fri.: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

RECONCILIATION:

3:15 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: _____

Plan to make these activities a part of your Advent Season this year.

✓ **Communal Penance** this 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,

✓ **Immaculate Conception**, a Holy Day of Obligation, will be celebrated at Mass Wednesday morning, Dec. 8 at 7:30 a.m. and Wednesday evening at 6 p.m.

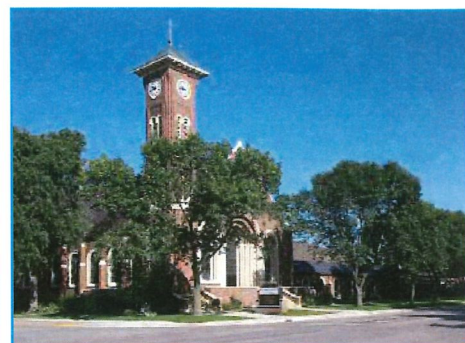
✓ **Anointing of the Sick** (Healing Mass) at St. Mary's Spirit Lake, Thursday, Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m. Light supper to follow.

✓ **Christmas Open House** Sun., Dec. 12, 2-4 p.m. in the overflow room. This event will offer a time of fellowship to visit with staff and Fr. Hughes along with some delicious goodies to eat!

✓ **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 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.

✓ **The Mitten Tree** is up in the hallway leading into the church. This project welcomes new hats, gloves, snowpants and winter-wear for children and adults. The items left on the tree will be distributed to those in need utilizing the St. Joseph Clothing Room.

✓ **New socks** are being accepted in the office for the less fortunate patrons of the Sioux City Soup Kitchen.



Monday, Dec. 6

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

8 p.m.: AA meets in Nazareth Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 7

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

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Wednesday, Dec. 8

7:30 a.m.: Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation Mass

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

6 p.m.: Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

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. 9

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

11 a.m.: Ones meet at Minerva's

5:30 p.m.: Healing Mass at St. Mary's, Spirit Lake.

Sunday, Dec. 12

2 to 4 p.m.: Christmas Open House, overflow, hosted by Altar/Rosary Society.

4 p.m.: "Home for the Holidays - A Holiday Concert," St. Joseph Church.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to St. Joseph Parishioners and guests from an anonymous parishioner who purchased 300 copies of Matthew Kelly's book, "I Heard God Laugh." Please pick up your free copy in the church lobby before leaving today and enjoy some reading prior to and during the upcoming holidays. Thanks to the parishioner who covered the cost of the books.

News From St. Joseph Parish

Faith Notes

By Sharon Mayer

Warmed by the fires of Advent, Part 2

We sit quietly and take in the stories of Advent as they begin to warm us. We never tire of this warmth from God. The flames grow.

Mary was so excited about her news that she needed to share it. Mary goes to her cousin Elizabeth who is quite a bit older than her. God has also shown favor on Elizabeth and Zechariah with a child. Gabriel also appeared to Zechariah to say they would have a son who would be named John. He would make the way clear for the Savior. John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, would be a great prophet; a man who would work hand in hand toward the course of salvation.

Two flames now dance: One for Elizabeth and one for Mary. Elizabeth upon hearing Mary's news, knows, either by intuition or power of God or both that Mary's child is to be the long-awaited Savior. We celebrate Mary this week as the Immaculate Conception, fulfilling God's plan for a sinless woman to be the Mother of the Son of God. Joy is filling the air and the candle of peace is burning strongly. Mary and Elizabeth share a family bond of love as they prepare to give birth to two very special boys.



PRAYERS and sympathy from the St. Joseph Parish Family to the family of +Merlin Wuebker, 95, who died Monday, Nov. 29, 2021. His Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday, Dec. 3 at St. Joseph.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Sincere thanks to Loretta Halbur and crew and all who assisted, donated food and attended our annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thurs., Nov. 25. About 60 persons enjoyed the meal and fellowship. Your spirit of volunteerism is greatly appreciated!



Christmas Shopping Made Easy

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

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS: We are in need of 2 Eucharistic Ministers for the 12 midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. If you can serve in this capacity, 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: Andrew Gross, 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, Dec. 4

4 p: For The People

Sunday, Dec. 5

9 a: +Lynn Knudtson
+Ken Knudtson

Monday, Dec. 6

No Mass Today

Tuesday, Dec. 7

5:30 p: +Phyllis Obermeyer

Wednesday, Dec. 8

7:30 a: +Jerry Westcott

6 p.m.: +Mary Negus

Thursday, Dec. 9

7:30 a: +Patricia Louise Wilber

Friday, Dec. 10

7:30 a: +Ron and +Charree Sweeten

Saturday, Dec. 11

4 p: For The People

Sunday, Dec. 12

9 a: +Earl and +Joan Langel

Together As One Update

Goal: \$38,759.00

Payments: \$1,540.00

Total: \$22,837.00

% of Goal: 58.9

Remaining: \$15,922.00

Parishioners: 735

Participants: 144

% of Participants: 19.5

Please return your card
as soon as possible.

Ministry Schedule

3rd Sunday of Advent

Saturday, Dec. 11th @ 4 p.m.

EMHC: Dennis Loebig, Irene McCoy, Jim McCoy

LECTOR: Deb Bode

SERVERS: Faith Garcia, John Garcia
HOSPITALITY: Jim Baumgard, Anne Donovan, Doug Heller, Monica Koppen

Sunday, Dec. 12th @ 9 a.m.

EMHC: Cory Knudtson, Bev Kruger, Shelley Matuska

LECTOR: Susan Willette

SERVERS: Aubry Knudtson, Liam Knudtson

HOSPITALITY: Teresa Fairchild, Marshall Matuska, Barb Woodley, Wayne Woodley

Pastor's COLUMN

Thanks to the Knights

We would like to thank the Milford Knights for setting up the beautiful nativity scene in front of our religious education building. It is a great way to remind all passersby of the beauty of the season.

Sharon Mayer

Our Religious Education Director at Milford, Sharon Mayer, had hip replacement surgery this week at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Please say a prayer for a quick recovery for Sharon.

Penance Service

Our annual Advent Penance Services will be held this Sunday afternoon. A group of priests will be traveling to three sites for Confessions and you are all welcome at any of the sites. We will begin the afternoon a 1 p.m. service at St. Patrick's in Estherville followed by 2:30 p.m. in Spirit Lake. We will finish the services with Confessions at St. Joseph's at 4:30 p.m. These Sunday afternoon Penance Services are a wonderful way to create a prayerful preparation for the Great Feast of Christmas.

In the Hospital

If you are hospitalized and would like a visit from our clergy, please make sure that you notify the parish offices. It is often difficult to obtain the names of individuals who are hospitalized. A quick phone call would be greatly appreciated.



Good stewards believe that God, who has begun this good work in them, will carry it through to completion. In words and deeds, they can sing with the Psalmist, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!"

ST. MARY'S FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Nov. 27-28, 2021 Attendance: 508

Adults: \$4,702.00

Dollar: \$311.00

Online: \$1,686.00

Votive: \$28.00

ST. JOSEPH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Nov. 27-28, 2021 Attendance: 603

Adults: \$4,312.00

Candles: \$45.01 Cookbook: \$10.00 Poor Box: \$97.00

Harvest Dinner.: \$68.00 Online Ministry: \$100.00

Loose: \$996.00

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@smsj Catholics.org
Susan Reiser.....Business Manager
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The St. Mary Staff

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