

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. P.O. Box 354
Spirit Lake, IA 712-336-1742
FAX: 712-336-1013
www.stmarysspiritlake.org

Third Sunday of Advent
Dec. 12, 2021



ABOVE ALL
THESE *put on love,*
WHICH BINDS EVERYTHING
together in PERFECT *harmony.*

COLOSSIANS 3:14, ESV

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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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.

✓ **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!

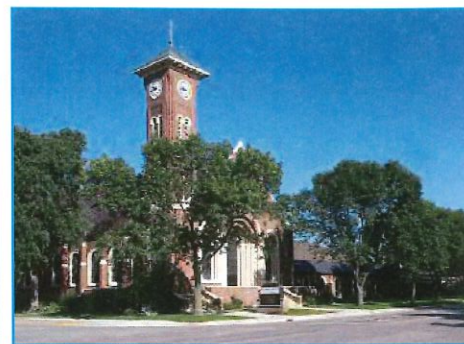
✓ **Get into** the holiday spirit by attending Home for the Holidays - A Holiday Concert. John Moore, Jessica Schable, and Drew Duncan reunite in their hometown to spread holiday cheer through songs of the season with Jennifer Johnson at the piano. Sunday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church 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 winterwear 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.

THE ST. JOSEPH Finance Council meets Thursday, Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m. in the zoom room.

REMEMBER your loved one with a poinsettia on the altar this Christmas season. \$12 each. Stop in office or include in collection. Deadline for inclusion in the bulletin is Wed., Dec. 22 at 12 noon.



Monday, Dec. 13

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

8 p.m.: AA meets in Nazareth Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 14

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

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Wednesday, Dec. 15

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. 16

8 a.m.: Bible Study meets, overflow.

5:30 p.m.: Finance Council meets in zoom room.

LifeServe Blood Center will host a Milford Community Blood Drive Tues., Dec. 21, 1:30 to 5:30 in the parish center. Appointments are required. Text Lifeserve to 999-7771 or call 1-800-287-4903.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 15 at 12 noon is the deadline for submitting items for the January newsletter.

THE KC's continue to collect in date canned and non-perishable items for their Christmas basket project. Please leave items on the bench near the west entrance. Deadline is Dec. 19th.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Thank you to Funeral Group #8 for serving the +Merlin Wuebker funeral luncheon on Fri., Dec. 3 and to Funeral Group #1 for serving the +Earl Sporrer funeral luncheon on Fri., Dec. 10. Your willingness to serve a family in their time of need is truly appreciated. Group #2 will handle the next funeral luncheon.

News From St. Joseph Parish

Faith Notes

By Sharon Mayer

Warmed by the fires of Advent, Part 3

The spirit of joy fills the air. Our three flames are burning brightly now as Christmas is closer. We are buying gifts for those we know and deciding what charity to give to this year. Our world has so much need but even the smallest gift given in love can help someone. Socks, toothpaste, shampoo, mittens, coats, or food. This is the time of year for giving. People clean out their closets and come to the clothing room knowing the needy will find something good. Food pantries start seeing their shelves fill up. The Salvation Army stations their bell ringers outside stores. Everywhere you look there is an opportunity to be Christ to someone. Not only does it supply goods but support and encouragement too.

Mary is full of joy but what about anxiety? She has never been a mother before. Joseph is there to love and support this woman whom God has chosen for a miracle. The fire is warm within and there is no anxiety. Mary fully trusts God even though they have nothing but hope. Our color changes this week from purple to rose. We celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe today as she appeared to Juan Diego in a Tilma full of symbolism about her place in salvation history and clearly showing her pride to be the future Mother of God. Anticipation is building for the blessed couple and the time of the prophet Isaiah's words will be fulfilled.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

To Fr. Brian, Fr. Flanagan, Msgr. Seifried, the Knights of Columbus and 4th Degree Knights, the American Legion, Funeral Group #8 and anyone else who remembered our dad, +Merlin Wuebker, at the time of his death and funeral. Your thoughtfulness will never be forgotten.

The Family of +Merlin Wuebker



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

- ✓ the family of +Earl Sporrer, 93, who died Thursday, Dec 2, 2021. His Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday, Dec. 10 at St. Joseph; and to
- ✓ Dean Seibold, on the death of his mother, +Dorothy Seibold, 85, of Spirit Lake, who died Thursday, Dec. 2. Her funeral was held Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Vander Ploeg Funeral Home, in Sheldon.

Christmas Shopping Made Easy

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

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS: We are in need of one Eucharistic Minister for the 12 midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. If you can serve in this capacity, please call the parish office.



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 Brunsbold, Dee Bryant, Phyllis Hintz, Terry Abbas.

PLEASE pray for these special persons: Rich Oliphant, Roy Townsend, 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. 11

4 p: For The People

Sunday, Dec. 12

9 a: +Earl and +Joan Langel

Monday, Dec. 13

No Mass Today

Tuesday, Dec. 14

5:30 p: Special Intention (MDJ)

Wednesday, Dec. 15

7:30 a: +Steve Muhlbauer

Thursday, Dec. 16

7:30 a: +Robert & +Betty Griffin

Friday, Dec. 17

7:30 a: +Charree Sweeten
+Darrel Jones
+Steve Jones

Saturday, Dec. 18

4 p: Edwin Graettinger Family

Sunday, Dec. 19

9 a: For the People

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

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 18th @ 4 p.m.

EMHC: Jim Baumgard, Jean Petitti, Brad Shell

LECTOR: Lois Eckard

SERVERS: Brian Jones, Dylan Jones

HOSPITALITY: Eldon Kraninger, Mary Kraninger, Connie Mataloni, Dick Mataloni

Sunday, December 19th @ 9 a.m.

EMHC: Terry Abbas, Chris Hinshaw, Jeff Nelson

LECTOR: Susan Willette

SERVERS: Bryce Anderson, Will Anderson

HOSPITALITY: Donna Clark, Arend Swygman, Molly Swygman, Curt Willette

Pastor's COLUMN

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long stretches that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Old Testament names and places. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, an eight-part Bible study, helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the "big picture" of the Bible and understand what it's all about. Aided by a unique color-coded Bible Timeline™ Chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order, Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible will help you pick up the Bible with confidence and understand how you fit into God's plan.

Dickinson County Catholic Community will begin the Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible study on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 6PM, at St. Joseph's Church. Participants will meet to view a video presentation followed by a time of group discussion and fellowship. The eight dates of the Bible study are February 1, 8, 15, March 1, 8, 15, 29 and April 5. Cost is \$15 for materials. Online access to the videos is provided to registered participants.

In person registration will take place after all Masses at both parishes the weekends of December 18 - 19 and January 8 - 9. For more information or to register, contact Deb Bode at 651-587-7296 or deb1bode@gmail.com.



Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship:
"Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none.
The man who has food should do the same."

ST. MARY'S FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 4-5, 2021 Attendance: 450

Adults: \$5,024.00

Loose: \$530.00

Votive: \$57.00

Online: \$766.00

Dollar: \$302.67

ST. JOSEPH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 4-5, 2021 Attendance: 443

Adults: \$8,316.00

Loose: \$1,074.30

Candles: \$79.80 Poor Box: \$50.00 Building: \$3,022.00

Peace & Justice: \$237.00 Endow: \$50.00 Misc.: \$2,694.00

Pastor Fr. Brian Hughes
Deacon Darwin Messerly

The St. Joseph Staff

Shane Akin.....Custodian
Teresa Goehring.....Director of Youth Ministry
teresa@stjosephmilford.org
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music@smsj Catholics.org
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The St. Mary Staff

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youth@stmarysspiritlake.org
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Greg Rolling.....Custodian
Donna Williams.....Parish Secretary
secretary@stmarysspiritlake.org