

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Dec. 19, 2021



A LITTLE CHILD
WILL LEAD THEM.

Isaiah 11:6, NIV

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
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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: _____

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

✓ **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.

NW IOWA MEN'S WELCOME

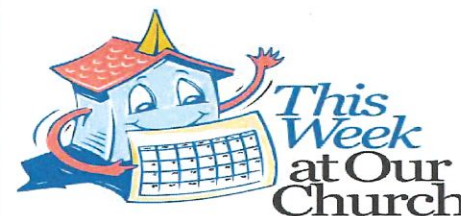
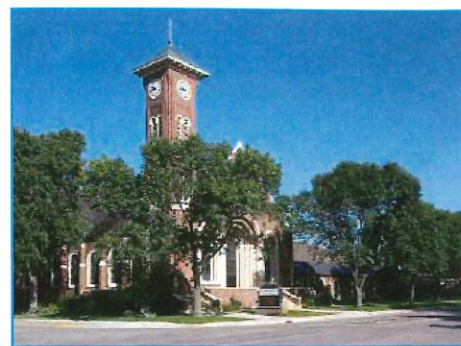
Retreat is scheduled for March 12-13, 2022 @ St. Joseph, Milford. This is an opportunity in fellowship and faith. Contact Aaron Lorch @ 712-363-2372; Jeff Nelson @ 712-541-2379; Dcn. Frank Boever @ 712-262-8342; Bill Kersting @ 712-363-1613. More details to follow.



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 Monday morning, Dec. 20th.



CHRISTMAS BASKETS



Monday, Dec. 20

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

8 p.m.: AA meets in Nazareth Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 21

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

5:30 p.m.: Mass

7 p.m.: Confessions

Wednesday, Dec. 22

NO Religious Education

7 p.m.: Confessions

Thursday, Dec. 23

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

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.

NEW 2022 CALENDARS will be arriving soon, hopefully by Dec. 24. We also continue to wait for the new ice machine. Thanks to the St. Joseph Altar/Rosary Society for contributing the calendars and the ice machine. You will be rewarded for your generosity.



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.



News From St. Joseph Parish

Faith Notes

By Sharon Mayer

Warmed by the fires of Advent, Part 4

Having come through Advent, our homes are ready, the food and gifts are bought, it is time to rest. Rest in the spirit of love that has been building since Thanksgiving. Our fourth flame of love is lit, and the fires of Advent are burning brightly for all.

Two women, two men, two boys and God are the players in the story of the salvation of the world. The thought of it! A story that will be told year after year as long as man endures. Told, until the Son of Mary comes again and asks "were you waiting for me? I hope so."

Will the fires of Advent still be burning as brightly then as they do now? Are they burning in your heart and soul as they should be? With all the hope, peace, joy and love that only a belief in Jesus Christ can bring. Mary knew and believed. She shared the warmth of her Son's fire with the world and blessed us all.

HOPE
HOPE
HOPE

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

To Fr. Brian, the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion, Funeral Group #1 and anyone else who remembered our dad, +Earl Sporrer, at the time of his death and funeral. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

The Family of +Earl Sporrer



Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible study registration will take place in person after each Mass this weekend, December 18 and 19, at both St. Mary's and St. Joseph's. Registration forms are also posted at each parish and can be mailed to the address on the form. All details are in the December 12 bulletin.



Christmas Shopping Made Easy

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

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS: We are in need of two ushers 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 Brunsfold, 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. 18

4 p: Edwin Graettinger Family

Sunday, Dec. 19

9 a: For the People

Monday, Dec. 20

No Mass Today

Tuesday, Dec. 21

5:30 p: +Jerry Westcott

Wednesday, Dec. 22

7:30 a: +Betty Newman

Thursday, Dec. 23

7:30 a: +Cae Shima

Friday, Dec. 24

4 p: For the People

12 Mid: For The People

Saturday, Dec. 25

9 a: +Merlin and +Rita Wuebker

+Tom Wuebker

+Margaret Demke

4 p: For the People

Sunday, Dec. 26

9 a: +Earl and +Frances Connors

**Livestream
Available**

We will be livestreaming Masses on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. and 12 Midnight as well as Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. and the regular weekend Masses Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 25 and 26 at 4 p.m. and 9 a.m. respectively.



FR. HUGHES and Fr. Flanagan will be available for last minute confessions in both churches before Christmas on Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 6 p.m. and Wed., Dec. 22 at 7 p.m.

Pastor's COLUMN

Synod Survey Questions

During the month of December and into early January we are participating in the world-side Synod that Pope Francis has convened to listen to Catholic throughout the world. This is a wonderful opportunity to express your experience of various aspects of Church life. Everyone's voice is important and valuable. We will be holding our hearing sessions on line and we ask that each of you consider completing at least some of the 10 questions that our Holy Father has posed for Catholics throughout the world.

Please take a few moments to visit one of our websites: stjosephmilford.org or stmarysspiritleake.org. You will find the questions there. We will gather all of the responses together and submit them to our deanery meeting on January 13th in Algona.

Confessions Before Christmas

Going to Confession before the celebration of Christmas is an ancient tradition in the Church. We will provide a couple of chances for everyone to make a spiritual preparation for Christmas with Confessions. This week we will have Confession on Tuesday evening beginning at 6 p.m. at both St. Mary's and St. Joseph's. On Wednesday we will have Confessions beginning at 7 p.m. in both Churches.



The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.

ST. MARY'S FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 11-12, 2021 Attendance: 447

Adults: \$7,432.00

Loose: \$798.00

Votive: \$50.00

Online: \$571.30

Dollar: \$202.78

ST. JOSEPH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 11-12, 2021 Attendance: 406

Adults: \$9,375.00

Candles: \$132.00

Peace & Justice: \$55.00

Loose: \$1,385.99

Poor Box: \$46.00

Misc.: \$270.00

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
sreiser@milfordcable.net

The St. Mary Staff

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