St. John Paul II Cluster

July 20, 2025
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 10:38-42

One of my close friends is a hermit priest who lives on a desert mountain. Recently I found myself in a group conversation about him. One vehemently objected, “What does he do up there all day? Nothing! Priests are down here working, running parishes, making a difference, and he…he is doing nothing! What a waste.” The words dripped with indignation and resentment. Most of the group quietly nodded in silent agreement. Were they correct?

No! To see why, consider a similar scenario in this week’s gospel. Jesus visits his friends Martha and Mary. A hardworking and exasperated Martha complains to Jesus that her sister is attending to him rather than to urgent household tasks. Our Lord, rather than praising hospitality, explicitly celebrates the less-productive sister for doing the “one necessary thing.” He praises her for she “has chosen the better part” (Luke 10:42). Mary is busy doing what matters.

Before we freak out like Martha, consider that all work–domestic, manual, professional, ministerial, contemplative–is done to help us (sooner or later) to experience the love that makes us happy. We should be thankful for those who focus on the “better part” of radical, ceaseless prayer. They invite us to remember the purpose of all work is the enjoyment of love. Contemplatives, hermits, anyone fervently committed to prayer–they invite us to cast aside our forgetful, resentful, and self-aggrandizing attitudes in exchange for hearts ready to do what is finally necessary.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

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dbq106sec@dbqarch.org

St. Patrick
555 First St. S.
Winthrop, IA 50682
Mailing Address: 209 5th Ave NE
Independence, IA 50644

WEEKEND MASSES:
St. John the Evangelist
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m.
St . Patrick
Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION:
St. John the Evangelist
Sunday: :915 - 9:45 a.m.
St. Patrick
Friday: 7:15 - 7:45 a.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

July 21, through July 27, 2025

St. John Parish, Independence

Tues.	8:00 am	Dan & Janice O'Loughlin
Wed.	9:30 am	Msgr. Carl Schmitt (at West Village)
Thurs.	8:00 am	Rick "Rona" & Shirley Wendling
Sat	4:00 pm	Mary Rochford
Sun.	10:00 am	Bob & Louis Fischels

St. Patrick Parish, Winthrop

Mon.	4:30 pm	Ralph & Inez Kremer
Fri.	8:00 am	Deceased Family Members of Vernon & Joan Gudenkauf
Sat	5:30 pm	Parishioners of the St. John Paul II Cluster
Sun.	8:00 am	Barry McGraw

Scrip Cash Table Volunteers for July 26/27

4:00 pm Brenda Davis & Sharon Schares
10:00 am Shelly Reed & Jacquie McTaggart

Altar Linen Schedule: All July Betty Miller

ST. JOHN PARISH, INDEPENDENCE

Saturday, 4:00 pm, July 26, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers:	B Fr. Beckman	Abby Crawford	Volunteer
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Jean Crawford		
Hospitality Ministers:	Volunteer	Volunteer	
	Volunteer	Volunteer	
Lector:	Greg Gates		
Altar Servers:	Volunteer	Volunteer	n/a
Music:	Karen Kremer	Michelle McBride	

Sunday, 10:00 am, July 27, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers:	B Fr. Beckman	Deb Michael	Ron Michael
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Rhonda Bussan		
Hospitality Ministers:	Ric Corkery	Deb Corkery	Molly Greenley
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Lector:	Sharon Bainbridge		
Altar Servers:	Volunteer	Volunteer	n/a
Music:	Bonnie O'Brien	Debbie Michael	

Rosary Ministry: Karen Connell & Pat Weber

ST. PATRICK PARISH, WINTHROP

Saturday, 5:30 pm, July 26, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers : B Fr. Beckman Kim Naber
Eucharistic Ministers : W n/a
Hospitality Ministers*: Dave Flexsenhar Volunteer
*Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church
Lector: Becky Peyton
Gift Bearers: Dave & Mary Beth Flexsenhar
Altar Servers: Leo Flexsenhar Volunteer
Music: St. Patrick Choir

Sunday, 8:00 am, July 27, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers : B Fr. Beckman Lois Loughren
Eucharistic Ministers : W n/a
Hospitality Ministers*: Drew Trott Volunteer
*Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church
Lector: Greg Schmitt
Gift Bearers: Volunteers
Altar Servers: Olivia Optiz Volunteer
Music: St. Patrick Choir

Monday, July 21, 2025

Collection Counters: Lois Loughren Joanie Brace

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, July 21, 2025
Nothing listed on schedule/calendar
Tuesday, July, 22 2025
KC Meeting: Denalis, 6:30 Dinner, 7:00 pm Meeting
Wednesday, July 23, 2025
Mass: West Village, 9:30 am (for Msgr. Carl Schmitt)
Thursday, July 24, 2025
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Cluster Office, 10:00 am
Friday, July 25, 2025
Confessions at St. Patrick: 7:15 - 7:45 am, before Mass
Saturday, July 26, 2025
Confessions at St. John's: 3:15 - 3:45 pm, before Mass
Sunday, July 27, 2025
Confessions at St. John: 9:15 - 9:45 am, before Mass

Cemetery Walkers - July 16-31 Trice & Mya Gruber & Pam Ratchford

Readings for the week of July 20, 2025

Sunday:	Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42
Monday:	Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Wednesday:	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9
Thursday:	Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17
Friday:	2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28
Saturday:	Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Mt 13:24-30
Next Sunday:	Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

Cluster Finances

St. John For Sunday, July 13, 2025

Budget Envelopes	$8,332.00
Offertory	$236.17
EFT donations for the month are:	$5,760.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	$11,814.00

Last week we were short $3,245.83 to meet our operational expenses!

This section includes all debt that the church owes to date.

Monies borrowed from DBQ for building projects:	$0
Monies borrowed from Embrace Our Future/Debt Elimination:	$0

St. Patrick For Sunday, July 13, 2025

Budget Envelopes	$5,953.47
Offertory	$187.00
EFT donations for the month are:	$880.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	$3,376.00

~~Archdiocesan Events~~

Rural Life Award Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the inaugural Father Norm White Award, recognizing significant contributions to rural life. This special Archdiocesan award, along with two deanery-wide awards, will be presented following the Rural Life Mass, Thursday, September 18 in Haverhill, Iowa. Father Norm served as the Director of the Archdiocesan Rural Life Center from 1984 to 1994 during the farm debt crisis. He did much to organize priests, laity, and religious in a common effort to serve the rural Church. If you know someone who you feel may be eligible for this important recognition, nominate them at dbqarch.org/rural-life or contact Deacon Brian Zeman at b.zeman@dbqarch.org. Nominations are due by August 15, 2025.

2025 Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Annual Meeting - Save the Date!

All women are invited to attend the 2025 ACCW Annual Meeting! Plan now to join us on Saturday, September 27, 2025 at St. Benedict Parish in Decorah. This year's theme is "Pilgrims of Christian Hope," and the keynote speaker will be Mary Pedersen, the ACCW Spirituality Commission Chair and past Director of Adult Formation for the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Archbishop Thomas Zinkula will be the main celebrant for the Mass and will also have a short presentation. The day will include Morning Refreshments, Exhibits, Silent Auction, and Lunch and Door Prizes! In addition, the Our Lady of Good Counsel Award and the Golden Rose Award will be presented. Nominations for these awards are open until September 10, 2025. Come and connect with other women from across the Archdiocese!

Additional information and registration for the ACCW Annual Meeting can be found at: https://dbqarch.org/accw-events. Contact Joanne Pohland at dbqaccw@dbqarch.org with any questions. If you would like more information about ACCW in general, please contact ACCW President Billie Burhite at dbqaccwpresident@dbqarch.org.

2025 Rural Life Mass is Coming to the Marshalltown Deanery - Save the Date!

Archbishop Zinkula's second Rural Life Mass is coming to Haverhill on Thursday, Sept. 18th. The families of Robert, Richard, and Dale Stalzer look forward to hosting this celebration of rural life on their farm located at 2737 Oaks Avenue, Haverhill, IA 50120. Circle the date and plan to attend this Thursday morning Mass, followed by recognition and a luncheon. Look for more information and updates at dbqarch.org/rural-life.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

MARRIED COUPLES. Give your marriage a well-deserved vacation. Plan to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy! Our next weekend is September 12-14 in Dubuque.

For more information call Denise and Greg at (563)920-9419 or visit wwme.org.

Stewardship Quotes

Today's readings speak of hospitality. Abraham, who cheerfully did for his guests all that desert hospitality required, was rewarded with his heart's desire - a son. Martha also busied herself with all the details of hospitality, but grudgingly and with complaint. Am I a cheerful or a grudging giver?

True North VBS

Complete the registration form here:
https://forms.gle/dNoTsg79cQZda3QYA

Feel free to share the link with friends who might be interested in joining us for VBS this summer!

Please sign up to volunteer to help at this link:
https://forms.gle/RnZUVQbnhb5q8PVf9

We'll go on the ultimate Alaskan adventure, explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our world today, and learn that Jesus is our True North – a faithful friend we can always trust in this wild world!

Remember in prayer: Eileen Barreca, Cindy Krempges, Kari Magsamen Eddy, Chris Nelson, Barb Weber, Marlys Fischels, Mary Crawford Compean, Tom Breckler - as well as Doctors and Nurses

School News

Scrip Program

The SCRIP Program is looking for 2 volunteers ASAP. 1 person for Tuesday mornings and 1 for Wednesday mornings. If you are interested in assisting with this great program that provides financial support to our school, please call Dewey Hupke at 319-334-7173.

Summer Reading Program:

This summer, we introduced a new optional reading incentive program designed to help students strengthen their reading skills. While participation is encouraged, it is not required, and students will not be penalized for choosing not to take part.

Each grade level has been assigned a points goal, with incentives available for students who reach their targets. These guidelines were thoughtfully discussed and agreed upon by our staff. Students may complete books in one of the following ways:

Read independently
Read with an adult
Have the book read to them

When students take the Accelerated Reader (AR) test, they will indicate how the book was read. If an AR test is not available for a book:

Students in grades 1–2 should write a 3–5 sentence summary.
Students in grades 3–5 should write a 2-paragraph summary.
Students in grades 6–8 should follow the directions on the sheet that was sent home.

As this is our first time implementing a program of this kind, we've experienced a few growing pains. Some parents have shared that the expectations may have been more challenging than intended. In response, staff have adjusted the points required to earn incentives.

Please refer to the updated summer reading sheet for the new point guidelines.

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to Mr. Hupke by email at hupked@sjs.pvt.k12.ia.us or by phone at 319-334-7173.

Thank you for supporting your child's reading journey!

St. John Scrip Voucher

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St. John Prepares for Next School Year!

If you happen to be out and about this summer and find some great sales on school supplies and would like to donate them to St. John's School, here is the wish list for you to use. You may drop off items at the Cluster Office between 8 am - 3 pm Monday through Friday. Thank you for your support!

Religion
Glue Sticks
Permanent Markers
Scissors
Washable Markers
Colored pencils
Baggies - quart size
Sharpies - Colored
Dry Erase Markers
Battery Tea Lights

Custodial
Antibacterial Wipes
Multi-purpose cleaner - scented
Magic Erasers

Art
Small paper plates
Pony beads
"How to Draw" books
Disinfectant Wipes
Rulers
Sharpie Markers (Black)
Sharpies - Colored
Colored pencils

PE
Tissues
Hand Sanitizer
Ponytail Holders
Clipboards

The wish list, school supply list and more is available at www.stjohneagles.com

The 2026 Mass Books is open for Scheduling Mass Intentions!

To meet the needs of parishioners we have revised the guidelines for scheduling Mass intentions:

**<u>You may schedule 5 Mass intentions per year</u>. You may schedule 3 weekend Masses out of the 5 during a calendar year, as this allows more people the chance to schedule a weekend Mass for their loved ones.

**A Mass intention can be listed as an individual "Joe Smith" as a family "For the deceased members of the Smith family." or as two people "For Joe & Mary Smith".

**The offering for each intention is $5, but you do have the option to give more if you wish. Mass intentions must be paid for once they are scheduled.

**Please have a few dates in mind when scheduling your Masses as the date you may want could be spoken for already.

Stop by or call the office at 319-334-7191 to schedule Masses.

Welcome to the Parishes of the St. John Paul II Cluster

St. John the Evangelist

Independence, Iowa

&

St. Patrick

Winthrop Iowa

Pastor: Very Rev. David Beckman

*Deacon: Dc.*Tim Post

Pastoral Associate:
Sharon Bainbridge

Religious Education Coordinators:
St. John: Beth Flaucher
St. Patrick: Jessica Gibbs
319-929-2301

St. John School Principal: Dewey Hupke
https://www.stjohneagles.com

Telephones:
Cluster Offices: 334-7191
St. Patrick Center: 319-935-3871
St. John School: 334-7173

Cluster Mailing Address:
209 - 5th Ave NE
Independence, IA 50644

Cluster Email:
dbq106sec@dbqarch.org

Cluster Website:
https://stjohnstpat.org

WEEKDAY MASSES:
See Mass Schedule Page 1

WEEKEND MASSES:
St. John the Evangelist - 97.1 FM
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am
St . Patrick - 97.3 FM
Saturday: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION:
St. John the Evangelist
Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 pm
Sunday: 9:15 - 9:45 am
St. Patrick
Friday: 7:15 - 7:45 am

BAPTISM:
Arranged after Pre-Baptism Classes. Contact the cluster office.

MARRIAGE:
Please contact Fr. Beckman to arrange marriage preparations twelve to nine months in advance of the wedding date.

The **Social Concerns Committee** welcomes you to learn about and explore different opportunities that will allow you to live out your life in works of charity and mercy! Listed below is Opportunity #5!

Young Parents Network
420 6th Street SE #260 , Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 Phone: 319-364-8909

What they do: Support young families with classes, home visits and other essential tools to be successful parents raising successful children. Staring with pre-natal care and providing services through becoming a successful family. Bilingual services also available.

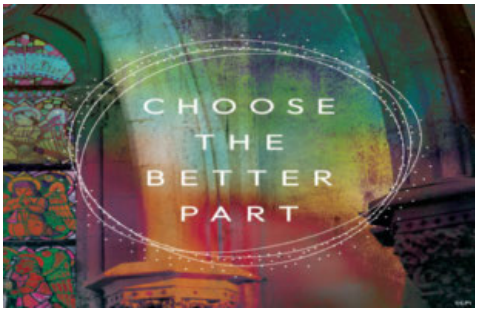
How you can Help: There are multiple opportunities please contact Heike Wagner at 319-364-8909 or email hwagner@ypniowa.org

Group Night Volunteer
As we continue to expand our prenatal and parenting groups, we need some additional volunteers to assist with meals, setup/cleanup and childcare. We currently need assistance between 5:00-7:30pm:
•Serve the evening meal
•Provide on-site childcare for children 0-5 years of age
•Facilitate prenatal, moms, dads, or Hispanic group discussions
•Prepare and/or facilitate parent/child activities

We Care Shop
Want to interact with our awesome YPN donors and participants? In just a couple hours per week you can make a big impact. Here are some of the volunteer roles in the We Care Shop include:
•Accept and sort donations
•Help participants shop for items
•Assist participants with checkout

Driving & Clerical Opportunities
YPN has a contract with the Iowa Department of Human Services to provide volunteers to perform different tasks for the department. We are currently in search of individuals that can volunteer their time to help with Transportation for supervised visits at Linn County Family Visitation Center using a STATE CAR and may aid with clerical tasks in Linn County DHS office during the visit (filing tasks, shredding, assembly of support packets). If you like to go the extra mile, these are the shifts: Tuesday 9am–1pm Wednesday 1–5pm Thursday 9am–1pm Friday 12–4pm
•Compile papers and staple, DHS packets
•Driver for supervised visits at Linn County Family Visitation Center
(Must be 18 or older and have a valid driver's license)

Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank
Support families who engage in healthy behaviors. Parents who participate in YPN programs, Eastern Iowa Health Center prenatal and well-child visits, and HACAP/WIC well-child programs earn points for diapers & wipes. The Diaper Bank is open to distribute diapers through our drive-up model on Mondays from 1:00-5:30pm, Thursdays 9:00am-12:00pm, and the last Wednesday of each month 3:30-5:30pm. Some of the volunteer roles in the Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank include:
•Sort & bag diapers into packs of 50 (can be done on or off-site)
•Assist during diaper bank drive-up distribution hours
•Assist YPN staff with inventory & other duties to maintain flow



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