

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time • August 17, 2025

St. John Paul II Cluster



St. John the Evangelist

209 5th Ave NE
Independence, IA 50644
(319) 334-7191
dbq106sec@dbqarch.org



St. Patrick

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



August 17, 2025
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 12:49-53

During my baseball career, my best coach often said, “You shouldn’t be worried if I yell at you. Be worried if I don’t. If I stop pushing you, it means I don’t think you have any more potential.” He demanded a lot, and I knew it meant he saw that I could be something special on the baseball field.

Jesus says some demanding words to us this week. “Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth?” he asks, “No, I tell you, but rather division” (Luke 12:51). He wants you and me—in fact, all the earth—to participate in the luminous glory of God. That’s why he speaks of himself as a divine arsonist. Divine fire is like a good coach: it demands the removal of all that obstructs the achievement of the lofty goal.

How is your life demanding right now? That inconvenient family situation, the unfair boss at work, the kids who reject their parents’ wishes, the nagging health issue? Maybe things would be more peaceful devoid of these seemingly arbitrary difficulties. But for us who believe in the one who comes to set the earth on fire, we should be much more worried if he stops demanding so much from us. In fact, let’s thank him for it. He sees how glorious we can become.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

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: :9:15 - 9:45 a.m.
St. Patrick
Friday: 7:15 - 7:45 a.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

August 18, through August 24, 2025

St. John Parish, Independence

Tues.	8:00 am	Mary Rochford
Wed.	9:30 am	Msgr. Russell Bleich (at Prairie Hills)
Thurs.	8:00 am	Anthony Alessio
Sat	1:30 pm	Wedding Henry Stauffenberg / Holly Milbach
	4:00 pm	Steve Krempegs
Sun.	10:00 am	Kenneth & Mary Bowden

St. Patrick Parish, Winthrop

Mon.	4:30 pm	Fr. Vorwald
Fri.	8:00 am	Dan & Janice O'Loughlin
Sat	5:30 pm	Parishioners of the St. John Paul II Cluster
Sun.	8:00 am	In Thanksgiving for the Kinney & Conrad Families

Scrip Cash Table Volunteers for August 23/24

4:00 pm	Brenda Davis & Sharon Schares
10:00 am	Amee & JR Freidhof

Altar Linen Schedule: All August Sharon Bainbridge

ST. JOHN PARISH, INDEPENDENCE**Saturday, 4:00 pm, August 23, 2025**

Eucharistic Ministers:	B Fr. Beckman	John Arend	Volunteer
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Mary Reed		

Hospitality Ministers:	Chuck Mazur	Greg Gates
	Volunteer	Volunteer

Lector: Connie Weber**Altar Servers:** Graden Gruman Bryson Nicolas n/a**Music:** Shelly Reck Julie Weber**Sunday, 10:00 am, August 24, 2025**

Eucharistic Ministers:	B Fr. Beckman	Kathy Hoeger	Starla Himebaugh
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Ron Hearn		

Hospitality Ministers:	Robert Butters	Ric Corkery	Deb Corkery
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer

Lector: Sherry Plein**Altar Servers:** Koth Family Members n/a**Music:** Bonnie O'Brien Debbie Michael**Rosary Ministry:** Craig & Rhonda Bussan**ST. PATRICK PARISH, WINTHROP****Saturday, 5:30 pm, August 23, 2025****Eucharistic Ministers :** B Fr. Beckman Jess Flexsenhar**Eucharistic Ministers :** W n/a**Hospitality Ministers*:** Dennis Sullivan Volunteer

*Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church

Lector: Becky Peyton**Gift Bearers:** Dennis & Barb Sullivan**Altar Servers:** Leo Flexsenhar Volunteer**Music:** St. Patrick Choir**Sunday, 8:00 am, August 24, 2025****Eucharistic Ministers :** B Fr. Beckman Janet Hackett**Eucharistic Ministers :** W n/a**Hospitality Ministers*:** Gary Fank Volunteer

*Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church

Lector: Janet Hackett**Gift Bearers:** Volunteers**Altar Servers:** Keely Lenox Volunteer**Music:** St. Patrick Choir**Monday, August 18, 2025****Collection Counters:** Sharon Moroney Susie Stafford**THE WEEK AHEAD**Monday, August 18, 2025**Nothing listed on schedule/calendar**Tuesday, August 19, 2025**Nothing listed on schedule/calendar**Wednesday, August 20, 2025**Mass:** Prairie Hills, 9:30 am (for Msgr. Russell Bleich)**Faith Formation:** Cluster Office, 6:00 pmThursday, August 21, 2025**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Cluster Office, 10:00 amFriday, August 22, 2025**Confessions at St. Patrick:** 7:15 - 7:45 am, before MassSaturday, August 23, 2025**Confessions at St. John's:** 3:15 - 3:45 pm, before MassSunday, August 24, 2025**Confessions at St. John:** 9:15 - 9:45 am, before Mass**Cemetery Walkers -** August 16-30, Mary Wells/Nila Turner**Readings for the week of August 17, 2025**

Sunday:	Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53
Monday:	Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday:	Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday:	Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday:	Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt 22:1-14
Friday:	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40
Saturday:	Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday:	Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

Just a reminder to please contact the cluster office at 319-334-7191 if you have a new address, new phone number, or have removed your landline phone. Thank you for helping us keep our records updated.

Cluster Finances

St. John For Sunday, August 10, 2025

Budget Envelopes	\$7,632.00
Offertory	\$332.00
EFT donations for the month are:	\$5,760.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	\$11,814.00

Last week we were short \$3,850.00 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, August 10, 2025

Budget Envelopes	\$5,827.71
Offertory (Haiti)	\$159.00
EFT donations for the month are:	\$880.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	\$3,376.00

~~Archdiocesan Events~~



Do you know a couple who have been married 70, 75 or more years? Worldwide Marriage Encounter highlights and honors couples who have very long marriages. Every state in the US will honor one nominated couple who is married the longest. Please nominate a couple by going to wwme.org and nominate them at the top of the page. **Nominations should be in by September 1st.** For questions call 641-753-6953.

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!

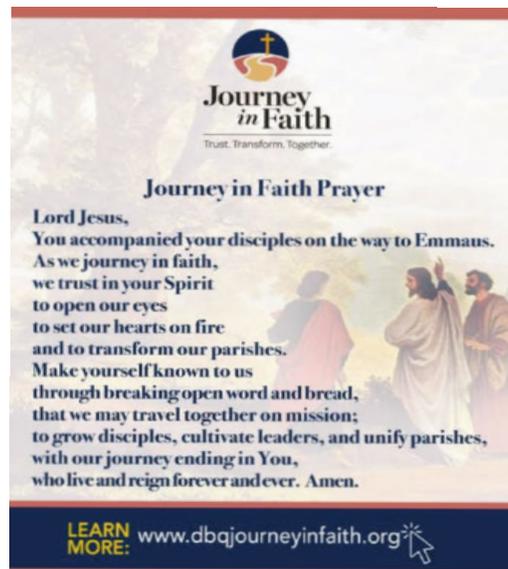
Archbishop Zinkula's second Rural Life Mass is coming to Haverhill on Thursday, Sept. 18th. The families of Robert, Richard, and Dale Stalzer look forward to hosting this celebration of rural life on their farm located at 2737 Oaks Avenue, Haverhill, IA 50120. Circle the date and plan to attend this 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. Would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information call 563-920-9419 or you can sign up at wwme.org. Upcoming dates are September 12-14 and February 13-15, 2026 both in Dubuque, Iowa. Sign up soon as space is limited.

Here is our prayer for the Archdiocese of Dubuque "Journey In Faith" initiative. I invite and encourage you to, cut it out of the bulletin, place it in a handy spot on your refrigerator, your nightstand, your coffee table, your end table, your countertop, your workbench, your desktop, your wallet, your purse, or your pocket, and pray it daily through this period of pastoral planning.

Fr. David



RE Information for St. Patrick's & St. John's



RE classes for St. Patrick's will be starting on Wednesday, September 3 and RE classes for St. John's will be starting on Wednesday, September 10. If you have a 1st grader or are a new family to the St. John Paul II Cluster, please contact either Jessica Gibbs or Beth Flaucher to get registered. Thank you!

Jessica Gibbs at 319-929-2301 for St. Patrick's RE
Beth Flaucher at 319-334-7173 for St. John's RE

You can also find the forms on the cluster website:
<https://stjohnstpat.org>



***The Cluster Office
will be closed on
Monday, September 1***

Stewardship Quotes

In today's second reading, St. Paul encourages us not to grow weary or lose heart, but to persevere in following Jesus. Our willingness to give of ourselves, even in the face of conflict and division, is one way to measure our discipleship.

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



School News

Greetings from St. John School,

The school year is just around the corner. St. John School is looking for a Chess Club sponsor. Please inquire if you or someone you know is interested. It is a great opportunity to work with our amazing students!!

REMINDERS:

August 24:

Ice Cream Social, 11:15am-Noon

August 25:

1st Day of School for PK3-8th Grade, 1pm dismissal

August 26:

2nd Day of School for PK3-8th Grade, 1pm dismissal

August 27:

FULL DAY of School

August 28:

School Mass, 8:30am, FULL DAY of School

August 29:

1pm Dismissal

If you have any questions about anything pertaining to St. John School, please reach out either by phone 319-334-7173, or email hupked@sjs.pvt.k12.ia.us.

Thank you for all that you do to support our students, staff and school.

Mr. Hupke

Middle School Parents' Night:

On August 19, 2025, Middle School Parents are invited to a meeting about middle school. You will hear information regarding your student's school year as well as meet our new 6/7/8th grade Reading/Language Arts/Social Studies teacher and STEM/Technology teacher. This meeting will start at 7pm and will last approximately 1 hour and will begin in Mrs. Bussan's Room.

SJS on Facebook!

Check us out on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088497703727>



The 2026 Mass Book is open for Scheduling Mass Intentions!

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

****You may schedule 5 Mass intentions per year. 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. 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.

AA and Alanon meetings

Just a friendly reminder that AA and Alanon meetings are held at St. John's. If you are struggling with an addiction you are most welcome to attend the AA meetings held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings at 7:00 p.m., as well as Tuesday at noon in the St. John's church hall. If you need support because of a family member who suffers from an addiction, the Alanon group meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 in the church office meeting room. You are most welcome.

~~AREA EVENTS~~

Aurora Legion & Auxiliary Sunday Breakfast

Carry-outs available!

All you can eat pancakes; also biscuits/gravy, sausage, ham & scrambled eggs, milk, juice or coffee from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. A 50/50 Raffle to be held each breakfast. Need not be present to win.

Adults \$10 5-8 years \$5 Pre-school Free

September 7 - October 5 - November 2 - December 7

Cedar Valley Hospice Release & Remember 2025

Our Release & Remember event brings our community together to honor its loved ones. The 13th annual celebration will take place on Sunday, September 7, 2025 at the Riverloop Amphitheater in downtown Waterloo. Attendees will enjoy lunch, children's activities, and live Music by Never The Less before a short program and release of 1,000 monarch butterflies at 2:30 pm. (Event is 1-3 pm.)

As part of this cherished fundraising event for Cedar Valley Hospice, a butterfly can be dedicated in honor or in memory of someone special for \$30 - and donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. T-shirts (with an all-new design) are also available for \$20. There will also be a raffle for two community members to open a butterfly box at the event. Tickets for this are \$10/each.

For more information visit cvhospice.org

St. John Scrip Voucher

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*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.stjohn eagles.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.*



From the Desk of Fr. Beckman:

This week in our "Journey In Faith" initiative we will consider: What will a "vibrant and sustainable" parish look like? How will "Journey In Faith" support our priests? What other roles will the priests have beside celebrating Masses?

What will a "vibrant and sustainable" parish look like?

- Celebrate inspiring liturgies in full churches
- Offer strong faith formation for all ages
- Foster community support and outreach
- Support the health and holiness of priests
- Be financially and operationally sustainable

How will "Journey In Faith" support our priests? By ultimately reducing the number of parishes each priest must serve, the new structure aims to:

- Allow more time for pastoral care and sacramental ministry as the faithful unfold their gifts in leadership
- Build stronger relationships with parishioners
- Foster vocational discernment
- Prevent burnout

What other roles will the priests have beside celebrating Masses? The majority of our pastors currently serve more than one parish, which limits the amount of time and energy they can spend:

- Preparing candidates for celebrating the other sacraments
- Caring for the spiritual needs of parishioners and staff
- Helping parishioners form their faith
- Teaching parishioners to grow deeper in their relationship with Jesus
- Reaching out to those who have left the Church or who are not Catholic

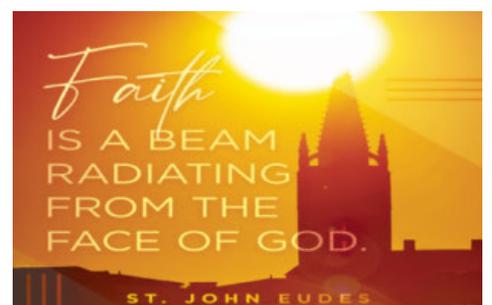
Overall, we anticipate they will be able to spend more time and resources caring for people and their spiritual needs as the administration and governance of pastorates is streamlined and coordinated. We hope it will give our priests a better work-life balance.

Next week we will consider how you can get involved and what you can do.

In the peace of Christ, Fr. David

Pilgrimage to England & Scotland:

Come along April 20-30, 2026, as we visit some of the most beautiful and historical places in all of Europe. We will visit the prehistoric Stonehenge, Stratford, the home of William Shakespeare, Edinburgh and its famous Scottish Castle, Big Ben in London, Buckingham Palace and so much more! We will have Mass each day in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. Cost is \$5,169 with departure from Omaha. For a brochure and more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, 276 Country Club Drive, Lake Park, Iowa 51347 or call 712-899-6870 or email frdanguenther@gmail.com



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