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

October 12, 2025
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 17:11-19

Dorothy Day, the great Catholic activist, doubted God's existence. At least in her early adult years. But something changed when after giving birth to her daughter, she experienced an overwhelming gratitude. She later described how, as she held her daughter, the only appropriate response was a kind of unlimited gratitude. She had done nothing to deserve such a gift — this tiny, miraculous life — but there she was, flooded with gratitude, completely undone by the love of such a Giver.

Something similar occurs in Luke 17:19 when Jesus tells a healed leper, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you." This man had already received physical healing through his faith. But the moment of an even deeper transformation came when he turned back, fell at Jesus' feet, and gave thanks. Like Dorothy, this man's gratitude led him to encounter the Giver.

Isn't that what we want, too? Gratitude to God has the power to break our chains of sadness, bitterness, and disenchantment. It empowers us to step out of the prison of self-pity and into the reality of God's abundant love. It shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have received, from what wounds us to what heals us.

Where do we learn this? The Mass. The priest prays: "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks." Always. Everywhere. Not just when life is easy. Not just when prayers are answered as we expect. Gratitude is not a passive feeling; it is an act of faith. In the eucharist, we remember that Christ himself has given everything for us. And in this act of gratitude, we are healed.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

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

October 13, through October 19, 2025

St. John Parish, Independence

Tues.	8:00 am	Word and Communion Service
Wed.	9:30 am	Word and Communion Service (Prairie Hills)
Thurs.	8:30 am	Dick Merfeld
Sat	5:30 pm	Rick & Shirley Wendling
Sun.	10:00 am	Don & Ruth Hearn

St. Patrick Parish, Winthrop

Mon.	4:30 pm	Kaye Troupe
Fri.	8:00 am	Msgr. Edward Petty
Sat	4:00 pm	Dick & Marion Rau
Sun.	8:00 am	Parishioners of the St. John Paul II Cluster

Stewardship Quotes

Jesus healed ten lepers in today's Gospel. Only one (10%) came back to say thank you. I, too, have received many blessings from the Lord - indeed, all I am and all I have is gift! How and how often have I remembered to thank Him?

Altar Linen Schedule: All October Sherry Plein

ST. JOHN PARISH, INDEPENDENCE

Saturday, 5:30 pm, October 18, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers:	B Fr. Beckman	Nancy Dodge	Volunteer
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Chuck Mazur		
Hospitality Ministers:	Sharon Schares	Jeff Schares	
	Volunteer	Volunteer	
Lector:	Connie Weber		
Altar Servers:	Brooklyn & Myles Carson		n/a
Music:	Shelly Reck	Debbie Michael	

Sunday, 10:00 am, October 19, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers:	B Fr. Beckman	Linda Bagby	Justin Post
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Zach Boss		
Hospitality Ministers:	Ric Corkery	Deb Corkery	Mary Wells
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Lector:	Brenda Corkery		
Altar Servers:	Bennett Clark	Lucy Flanders	n/a
Music:	Bonnie O'Brien	Jubilee Choir	

Rosary Ministry: Diane Williams & Corrine Love

ST. PATRICK PARISH, WINTHROP

Saturday, 4:00 pm, October 18, 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: Volunteers
Altar Servers: Leo Flexsenhar Volunteer
Music: St. Patrick Choir

Sunday, 8:00 am, October 19, 2025

Eucharistic Ministers : B Fr. Beckman Lois Loughren
Eucharistic Ministers : W n/a
Hospitality Ministers*: Jessi Opitz Volunteer

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

Lector: Randy Takes
Gift Bearers: Volunteers
Altar Servers: Olivia Opitz Volunteer
Music: St. Patrick Choir

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Collection Counters: Lois Loughren Joanie Brace

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, October 13, 2025
Nothing listed on schedule/calendar

Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Nothing listed on schedule/calendar

Wednesday, October 15, 2025
Mass: Prairie Hills, 9:30 am - Word and Communion Service
St. John Religious Education: Grades 1-6, 3:30 pm
Grades 7-10, 6:30 pm
St. Patrick Religious Education: Grades 1-9, 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 16, 2025
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Cluster Office, 10:00 am
SJS Early Dismissal: 1:00 pm for Conferences

Friday, October 17, 2025
Confessions at St. Patrick: 7:15 - 7:45 am, before Mass
SJS No School: Conferences

Saturday, October 18, 2025
Confessions at St. Patrick's: 3:15 - 3:45 pm, before Mass

Sunday, October 19, 2025
Confessions at St. John: 9:15 - 9:45 am, before Mass

Scrip Cash Table Volunteers for October 18/19

5:30 pm Brenda Davis & Sharon Schares
10:00 am Monica House & Jessie Doyle

Readings for the week of October 12, 2025

Sunday:	2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19
Monday:	Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46
Thursday:	Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7
Saturday:	2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9
Next Sunday:	Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14—4:2/Lk 18:1-8

Cluster Finances

Budget and Collection numbers were not available at the time the bulletin was sent to print.

EFT Opportunities....

We have many ways you can contribute to your individual parish. Besides bringing your envelope to church or mailing it to our office, you can consider automatic withdrawal from a checking or savings account. This option is available for both St. John's and St. Patrick's. If you are interested in EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer), please contact the parish office at 319-334-7191.

The perpetual light candles that are by the Tabernacle, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mary and Joseph statues, 4 candles all together, this year are in memory of the Dick Merfeld and Karen McLaughlin

J.I.F. Feedback

The best way to make sure your voice is included in the Journey in Faith process is by attending your local parish's session 2 and 3, where all input will be officially recorded and parishioners can engage in discussion and hear the feedback of others.

The online feedback form is available until November 21st. Family members and neighbors are encouraged to assist parishioners who do not have access to a computer or mobile device so their feedback can be shared if they are unable to attend a session 2 and/or 3. Those who prefer not to use technology may also mail written feedback to Pastoral Planning, 1229 Mount Loretta Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52003.

~~Archdiocesan Events~~

Couples Date Night Event

Married and engaged couples are invited to a Couples Date Night Event, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Dubuque, on Friday, November 14th from 6:00-8:00 PM at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Cedar Rapids. Join us to enrich your relationship through an evening that will include dinner, a talk by internationally recognized marriage speakers Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret, and time for conversation with each other and other couples. Learn more and register at www.dbqarch.org/couples-event.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Fall is a beautiful season full of color and crisp fresh air. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is like autumn because it's a weekend full of fresh air, new beginnings and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage. It's a great time to rekindle communication and enjoy a weekend away. Dates of upcoming experiences are a non-residential weekend November 7-9 in Ankeny and a residential weekend February 13-15 in Dubuque. For more information call Greg and Denise - 563-920-9419 or sign up at wwme.org.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2026 Archdiocesan Women's Conference: Beauty in Christ

Saturday, January 31, 2026
Mark your parish calendar for this virtual event, designed to gather women in your parish/cluster for a morning of friendship, faith, and formation!!! More information to come!

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

Mass Schedule Change

On Saturday, October 11th, only one Mass will be offered, as Father Beckman will be out on vacation. Father Paul will hold a 4:00 pm Mass at St. John's in Independence. There will be no Saturday evening Mass at St. Patrick's on October 11th.

St. John Cemetery Fall Clean Up

It is once again that time of the year for all flowers, decorations, and ornamentals to be removed from St. John Cemetery. Please have all items removed by the end of October. Christmas decorations are permitted after Thanksgiving but must be removed by April 1. We thank you for your cooperation.

~~*AREA EVENTS*~~

2025 Fall Craft & Vendor Show will be held at the Falcon Civic Center (1305 - 5th Ave NE, Independence) on Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Free Admission. Everyone is welcome to attend! If you have any questions, please contact Angie at 319-334-6711.

Immaculate Conception Fall Dinner - Fairbank

Sunday, October 19 serving from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Roast Beef, Ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, baked beans, coleslaw, rolls & beverages, ice cream, and dessert.

Adults: $10, Ages 5-11: $5, 4 and under Free. Carry-outs are available. A bake sale will also be taking place with pies, cookies, breads, jams & jellies, salsa, and canned goods.

Raffle tickets are $5.00 each and will be sold before and during the event. Top prize $500 and (5) $100 prizes. Drawing will be held at 2:00 pm. Need not be present to win.

Turkey Dinner - Immaculate Conception, Masonville

Sunday, October 19, 2025 from 11:00 - 1:30 pm
Homemade turkey dinner with all the fixings! (No Drinks)
Carry-out only for $15. Questions, please call 563-920-7141

Immaculate Conception - Gilbertville HARVESTFEST - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

BREAKFAST at St. Mary Center, All you can eat, 8:00 a.m. - noon. Menu includes: Ham, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Hash Browns, Cinnamon/Caramel Rolls, Coffee, Milk, and Juice.
Price: Adults, $12; Children 4-10, $6, Under 4, free

ACTIVITIES at St. Mary Center between 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. include Silent Auction, Bake Sale, Craft Sale, Used Book & Puzzle Sale, and Children's Games. Raffle drawing at 12:30 p.m.

The Silent Auction is always a big draw. This year features a $700 Gift Certificate Bundle, a half of a half Angus beef, and much, much more!

School News

It's Scholastic Book Fair time!

From October 16th-17th, come experience the limitless possibilities with your kids. Every purchase benefits our school library. Look in your child's backpack for a book fair letter and flyer. If you are unable to come in person, consider visiting us at: https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stjohnschool4.

Students of the Month for September:

Lydia Rittgers, 7th grade & Spencer Ryan, 6th grade

SCRIP

You can reduce your tuition obligation by using SCRIP (gift cards). If you'd like to take advantage of online ordering go to raiseright.com and follow the prompts. **The Enrollment Code is LB59F65E841**

On your phone:

Click on Play Store (Android device) or App Store (i-phone)
Search for and Click on raiseright
Click on Install
Click on Open
Click on Join a program
The Enrollment code is LB59F65E841
Click on Get started
Create your account
- Make sure you add St. John Elementary School, Independence IA (There are a lot of St. John schools)

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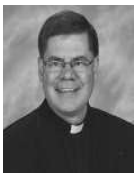


From the Desk of Fr. Beckman:

Continued from last week: October is Respect Life Month! This year, Bishop Thomas, chair of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, is asking us all to answer his renewed nationwide invitation to prayer for the end of taxpayer funding for the abortion industry. Over the summer, the U.S. Congress took the historic step of defunding major abortion providers from the federal Medicaid program for a year. But big abortion businesses like Planned Parenthood have been going to court to stop this new law. Meanwhile, babies' lives are at stake every day the case persists. While the Hyde Amendment prevents direct public funding of most abortions, hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars still benefit the overall abortion industry. In the spirit of the Jubilee Year of Hope, please join in this prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life, throughout this upcoming Respect Life Month.

Fr. David

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

Trunk or Treat

The St. John's Social Concerns Committee will be hosting a trunk or treat on Sunday, October 26th after the 10:00 Mass (weather permitting) in the church parking lot just north of Church (where employees/visitors park). Children are allowed to wear their Halloween costumes (no devils, death or the such) to church. After Mass families are invited to go out to the parking lot where parish organizations will have treats to pass out to the children. In case of inclement weather, Trunk or Treat will be held in the church hall.

Next Sunday, October 19 is Food Pantry Sunday. Please be generous.

THANK YOU!

Thank you!!

" It has been said it takes a village and St John's has a wonderful one. To everyone who made the Chicken Meal a success. To the youngest hands to the strongest legs and hands and all the wonderful visiting that was done. Plus, all the wonderful advertising. THANK YOU to everyone!"

The SJ Rosary Officers

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: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am
St . Patrick - 97.3 FM
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am

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

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.

Journey in Faith

Local Parish Journey in Faith Sessions #2 & #3

The Archdiocese of Dubuque continues its Journey in Faith, an invitation to renewal and growth for parish life. Based on survey responses from more than 22,000 parishioners and additional parish data, proposed pastorate models have been prepared to encourage prayer, listening, and dialogue. You can view these proposed models at dbqjourneyinfaith.org.

This September, parishioners were invited to attend one of 34 Regional Journey in Faith Information Sessions. The next step will be our local parish meetings. These sessions will provide opportunities for listening and input. Please plan to attend.

Additional resources and online feedback opportunities are available at dbqjourneyinfaith.org.

When and where are the meetings?

St. John's Parish will be hosting local meetings on Sunday, October 19th, after the 10:00 am Mass and on Sunday, November 9th, after the 10:00 am Mass.

St. Patrick's Parish will be hosting a local meeting on Tuesday, November 4, at 7:00 pm.in the church.

What is the difference between meeting #2 and meeting #3?

Parish Session #2 offers parishioners the chance to reflect on and engage in discussion on the strengths and challenges of each model, sharing their own experiences and insights while also listening to the perspectives of others.

Parish Session #3 invites parishioners to look ahead and reflect on "where do we feel called to belong in a pastorate", creating space to consider the proposed models, share new ideas and models, and discern together the future of our parish communities.

How can I prepare for these meetings?

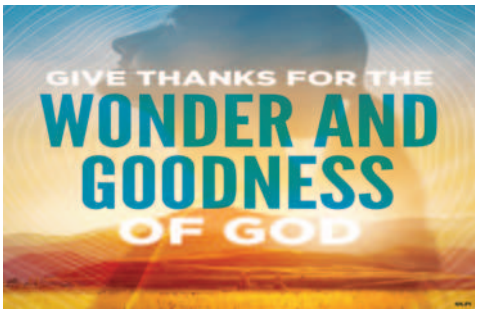
✓ Spend time in prayer, especially invoking the Holy Spirit for guidance and wisdom.
✓ Review the FAQs, maps, and other resources found at dbqjourneyinfaith.org.
✓ Consider what your thoughtful verbal feedback will be at the meetings concerning the proposed pastorate models and other ideas/suggestions you want to share.
✓ Submit feedback and questions via the feedback form on the website through November 21st or take written letters to your parish office to be uploaded for you.

Why should I attend?

Journey in Faith is about setting forth a course to have vibrant and sustainable parishes focused on evangelization for the next 25+ years. This is your opportunity to be engaged and offer valuable feedback and information which will be considered prior to decisions being made by Archbishop Zinkula in the Spring of 2026.

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 pm in the church office meeting room. You are most welcome.



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