

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 26, 2025

# St. John Paul II Cluster



## St. John the Evangelist

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



October 26, 2025  
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Luke 18:9-14

Every now and then readers of these reflections write letters in which they object to something. Years ago, this Gospel of Luke 18 prompted such an email. A man wrote to me: “I find it deeply offensive that you suggest we are still sinners once we are God’s sons and daughters.” His objection stirred in me a profound awareness of the paradox at the heart of our faith. Are we sinners or beloved children of God?

In this Gospel (Luke 18:9-14), a tax collector appears as one who has missed the mark. His sins have isolated him. His breast-beating is not an act of self-flagellation for pride’s sake but a heartfelt admission of his failure and unworthiness. Remarkably, Jesus honors the candid humility of the parable’s penitent. Why? Because we are always in need of mercy, always. But even more, perhaps because on the cross, Jesus will fully embrace a similar place of humiliation and rejection. He will enter into the most shameful, offensive place of the sinner so that we might “go home justified.”

There is a sacred tension in admitting that we are sinners and yet have profound hope. We are beloved sons and daughters of God, growing precisely through our honest acceptance of failure. When we cry, “Have mercy on us,” during Mass or when we repeat the “Jesus Prayer” in quiet moments, or in the confessional, we embrace our imperfections as fertile ground for divine grace. In doing so, we follow Christ’s example — finding true exaltation in the humble acknowledgment of our human frailty.

— Father John Muir



## 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: 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 27, through November 2, 2025

**St. John Parish, Independence**

Tues.	8:00 am	Dorothy Jack
Wed.	8:00 am	Msgr. Dean Walz
Thurs.	8:30 am	Emmett Schumann
Sat	2:00 pm	Wedding of Hannah Johnson / Logan Zuck
	5:30 pm	Herbert & Rose Weber
Sun.	10:00 am	Karen McLaughlin

**St. Patrick Parish, Winthrop**

Mon.	4:30 pm	Fr. Vorwald
Fri.	5:30 pm	Alice Elsbernd
Sat	4:00 pm	Parishioners of the St. John Paul II Cluster
Sun.	8:00 am	Julie Jack

**Scrip Cash Table Volunteers for November 1/2**

<b>5:30 pm</b>	Debbie Merfeld & Amy Holle
<b>10:00 am</b>	Amee & JR Freidhof

<b>Altar Linen Schedule:</b>	All October	Sherry Plein
	All November	Mary Lou Shonka

**ST. JOHN PARISH, INDEPENDENCE****Saturday, 5:30 pm, November 1, 2025**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	B: Fr. Beckman	Greg Gates	
	C: Dc. Post	Jane Gates	
<b>Hospitality Ministers:</b>	Connie Weber	Greg Gates	
	Volunteer	Volunteer	
<b>Lector:</b>	Kevin Pink		
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Skarlett Johnson	Connor Holle	n/a
<b>Music:</b>	Bonnie O'Brien	Debbie Michael	
<b>Sunday, 10:00 am, November 2, 2025</b>			
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	B: Fr. Beckman	Andrea Huston	
	C: Dc. Post	Donna Nabholz	
<b>Hospitality Ministers:</b>	Robert Butters	Deb Milbach	Nila Turner
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Lector:</b>	Beth Flaucher		
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Maize Freidhof	Alayna Svoboda	n/a
<b>Music:</b>	Bonnie O'Brien	Jubilee Choir	
<b>Rosary Ministry:</b>	Craig & Rhonda Bussan & St. John's Middle School		

**ST. PATRICK PARISH, WINTHROP****Saturday, 4:00 pm, November 1, 2025**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	B Fr. Beckman	Carrie Gudenkauf
<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	W n/a	
<b>Hospitality Ministers*:</b>	Curt Gentz	Volunteer
*Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church		
<b>Lector:</b>	Becky Peyton	
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Volunteers	
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Lilly Hansen	Volunteer
<b>Music:</b>	St. Patrick Choir	
<b>Sunday, 8:00 am, November 2, 2025</b>		
<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	B: Fr. Beckman	Kim Naber
<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	C: n/a	
<b>Hospitality Ministers*:</b>	Drew Trott	Volunteer
*Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church		
<b>Lector:</b>	Ron Crawford	
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Dean & Lola Baragary	
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Caitlyn Dierks	Volunteer
<b>Music:</b>	St. Patrick Choir	

**Monday, October 27, 2025**

<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Annette Slattery	Mary Beth Flexsenhar
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**THE WEEK AHEAD**Monday, October 27, 2025**Nothing listed on schedule/calendar**Tuesday, October 28, 2025**KC Meeting:** Denali's, Dinner 6:30 pm / Meeting 7:00 pmWednesday, October 29, 2025**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 pmThursday, October 30, 2025**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Cluster Office, 10:00 amFriday, October 31, 2025**Confessions at St. Patrick:** 7:15 - 7:45 am, before Mass**SJS Early Dismissal:** 1:00 pm for Professional DevelopmentSaturday, November 1, 2025**Confessions at St. Patrick's:** 3:15 - 3:45 pm, before MassSunday, November 2, 2025**Confessions at St. John:** 9:15 - 9:45 am, before Mass**Readings for the week of October 26, 2025**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14
<b>Monday:</b>	Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30
<b>Thursday:</b>	Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/Lk 13:31-35
<b>Friday:</b>	Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6
<b>Saturday:</b>	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40

**Cluster Finances**

St. John For Sunday, October 19, 2025

Budget Envelopes	\$12,223.08
Offertory	\$196.00
EFT donations for the month are:	\$5,760.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	\$11,814.00

**Thank you for your generosity!!**

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, October 19, 2025

Budget Envelopes	\$1,825.00
Offertory	\$249.00
EFT donations for the month are:	\$880.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	\$3,376.00

**St. Patrick's Parishioners:**

Just a reminder that the loose collection from both Masses the first weekend of each month goes to the Haiti Collection.

## ~~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  
November 2 - December 7

St. Joseph Catholic Church in Raymond will be holding a **Frosted, Pecan, and Caramel Roll Fundraiser** on Saturday, November 8th.

Order your delicious fresh-baked, frosted, pecan, and caramel rolls by October 31st at \$3.00 each or 6 rolls for \$15.00. You may pre-order on the parish web-site: <https://www.icsjchurch.com/events> or call Linda Kayser -319-830-2746 or Mary McMahon - 319-939-6279.

Orders may be picked up at St. Mary Center Immaculate Conception School, 405 16th Ave., Gilbertville, on Saturday, November 8th from 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

### Election Night Soup Supper

Sacred Heart Church - Laporte City

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 - Serving from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

All you can eat homemade chicken noodle soup & chili. Drinks, relish and dessert for dine-in.

Price: Adults - \$10, Children 5-10 - \$6, Children under 5 - Free  
Everyone is welcome!

## ~~Archdiocesan Events~~

### Our Call to Share – Thank You

If you have already made your gift to the Fall Our Call to Share collection, or have been able to support the global Church in another way, **THANK YOU!**

If you have yet to make a gift but would still like to do so, there is still time. Simply bring your sealed collection envelope to Mass with your gift enclosed and drop it in the collection basket during the offertory.

Thank you again for your support of the Church, both locally and beyond!



### 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](http://www.dbqarch.org/couples-event).

## Stewardship Quotes

Both the first reading and today's Psalm say clearly that the Lord hears the cry of the poor. Have I been given the gifts - of time or money or abilities - to be the means by which God answers their need?



### 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.



### 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.

### Mass Schedule for All Saints -

Friday, October 31 -  
St. Patrick's @ 5:30 pm

Saturday, November 1 & Sunday, November 2 -  
Regular weekend Mass Times



### Baptism Class

Have you recently had a child? Are you expecting a child? Congratulations! We welcome children into our Christian community through the waters of Baptism. To prepare for this celebration, we ask all parents, who would like to have their children baptized, to attend baptism class.

The next class is, Thursday, November 13 at 6:30 pm at the parish office. Please call the cluster office at 334-7191 to register.

### CDA Meetings

There will be two CDA meetings on the 13th of November. JCDA will meet from 5-6 pm in the church hall and the adult CDA will meet from 6-7 in the church hall as well. We will be discussing the Thanksgiving pie sale that was so successful last year. We will be doing it again this year! Please join us. Thank you!



**Remember in prayer:** Eileen Barreca, Cindy Kremppes, Kari Magsamen Eddy, Barb Weber, Marlys Fischels, Mary Crawford Compean, Tom Breckler, Jim Welsh, Eileen Welsh, Lakyn Pomaville - as well as Caregivers



## 2025 St. John PTO Bazaar & Luncheon

Please join us for the St. John PTO Bazaar after Mass on Sunday, November 9th from 11:00am-2:00pm in the St. John Multipurpose Room & upper gym. For our new families, The St. John Bazaar is a great fundraiser for St. John teachers and school. This is a fun family-friendly event for all to enjoy.

We hope you can join us, support our wonderful St. John PTO and enjoy some good food, fun, and fellowship! ALL are welcome!

## School News

### IMPORTANT ST. JOHN SCHOOL UPDATES:

- \* There are 4th-6th grade girls' basketball sign-up in the Office. Practice for girls BB will start on November 10 after school. Parent meeting will be on November 10 at 4:45pm in the gym.
- \* Archery sign up forms in the office.
- \* There is an archery parents meeting on November 4th at 6:30pm in the gym.
- \* Practice for new archers will begin on 11/18 at 6:30pm with returning archers beginning on 12/2.

### SCRIP

You can reduce your tuition obligation by using SCRIP (gift cards). If you'd like to take advantage of online ordering go to [raiserright.com](http://raiserright.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 raiserright

**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)



### From the Desk of Fr. Beckman:

I want to share some information from the Journey In Faith website in regards to parish operations and resources. These are two big issues that many are wondering about. Of course, a lot will need to be worked out among the pastorates once they are established.

What will happen with parish operations and resources?

#### **When a parish merges with another parish, what happens to the assets of each parish?**

Church law mandates that money, assets and liabilities go to the parish where the people are assigned after their parish merges with another. It does not go to the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Donated funds previously designated for a restricted use will have those restrictions honored.

#### **What if our church needs some immediate capital improvements or maintenance? Will the Archdiocese of Dubuque approve the work?**

Because the Archbishop and Vicar General are part of the corporate board of each parish, their approval is required for any capital improvements or maintenance over \$10,000. Each request will be looked at on a case-by-case basis, and will include consideration of the pastoral planning process.

#### **I work in a parish office. Can we still hire people and create budgets if we don't know the future of our parish?**

We will know more when the Archbishop makes his decision public in spring 2026. Best practices would include conservative budgeting, hiring essential positions, and delaying hiring for newly created positions. You should continue with your parish plans, but carefully review whether your ministries, events and resources are truly focused on building a vibrant, sustainable parish and evangelization.



### St. John Cemetery - Mowing Bids for 2026

St. John Cemetery (located behind the fairgrounds in Independence) is now taking bids for lawn care services for 2026. If you are interested, please contact Fr. David Beckman or Polly Barreto at

319.334.7191 or email at [dbq106sec@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq106sec@dbqarch.org). We will be accepting bids until January 30, 2026.

**THANK YOU!**

### THANK YOU!

It has been said, "It takes a village." St. John's has a wonderful one. Thanks to everyone who made the Chicken Meal a success, from the youngest to our most senior. Your volunteer efforts were greatly and gratefully appreciated. Thanks also to all who advertised and supported the dinner by attending and sharing in the fellowship.

*The SJ Rosary Officers*



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**Name:**

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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.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](mailto:dbq106sec@dbqarch.org)

*Cluster Website:*

<https://stjohnspat.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 Session #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](http://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](http://dbqjourneyinfaith.org).

### **When and where are the meetings?**

**St. John's Parish** will be hosting a local meeting 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.

**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](http://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.

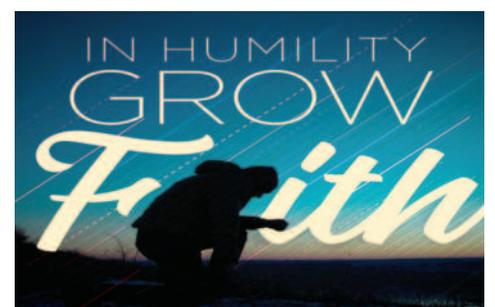
### **Why should I attend?**

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.

### **Feedback is Needed for Journey in Faith**

As we continue the Journey in Faith process, we need your input! Parish meetings are underway, and your participation ensures that the vision for the Church in the Archdiocese of Dubuque reflects the needs of its people. Please take time this week to learn more about Journey in Faith at [dbqjourneyinfaith.org](http://dbqjourneyinfaith.org). Together, guided by the Holy Spirit, we are shaping the Church's future.

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.



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