

2nd Sunday of Easter • April 12, 2026

St. John Paul II Cluster



St. Patrick Catholic Church
Winthrop, IA
April 11, 2026
5:30 pm

Marshall Baragary
Dolan Cocking
ViVianne Etten
John Francois
Beckett Gibbs
Declan Gibbs
Calvin Henderson
Amber Hoefler
Gracyn Kress* Masonville
Lillian Kunze
Harper Sperflage
Tucker Stecklein

St. John the Evangelist
Independence, IA
April 12, 2026
1:00 pm

Cole Carson
Estelle Flanders
Gideon Franz
Adyleia Goodman
Brooks Kegler
Willow Nelson
Logan Rasmussen
Caroline Reck
Finn Ryckman
Raelynn Sauser
Shae Sharar
Jaxson Torgerson
Brielle White
Harlyn Wieland
Theo Wieland
Halie Ann Williams
Oliver Zimmerly



Congratulations to our First Communicants!!

For all the First Communicants whom we congratulate this weekend, that they may be nourished by the Lord and that through this spiritual food they will live forever in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

MASS INTENTIONS

April 13, through April 19, 2026

St. John Parish, Independence

Tues. 8:00 am Patricia Arthaud
 Wed. 9:30 am Rev. Bernard Grady (at Prairie Hills)
 Thurs. 8:30 am Lavonne Rosencrans
 Sat 4:00 pm Rick & Shirley Wendling
 Sun. 10:00 am Emmett Schumann

St. Patrick Parish, Winthrop

Mon. 4:30 pm John C. & Margaret Hogan / Linda Moore
 Fri. 8:00 am Rudy & Celia Priebe &
 All Living & Deceased Family Members
 Sat 5:30 pm Leo, Lois, & Teresa Francois
 Sun. 8:00 am Parishioners of the St. John Paul II Cluster

Stewardship Quotes

Jesus meets the need of each disciple. To the fearful in the upper room, He speaks words of peace. To doubting Thomas, He provides the tangible proof of His resurrection. What do I need to become His disciple? What do I have to share that might meet someone else's need?

Altar Linen Schedule: All April Vicki Kegler

ST. JOHN PARISH, INDEPENDENCE

Saturday, 4:00 pm, April 18, 2026

Eucharistic Ministers: B: Fr. Beckman Abby Crawford
 C: Dc. Post Jean Crawford
Hospitality Ministers: John Evers Chuck Mazur
 Volunteer Volunteer
Lector: Connie Weber
Altar Servers: Amelia & Elodie Knudtson n/a
Music: Karen Kremer Michelle Reck

Sunday, 10:00 am, April 19, 2026

Eucharistic Ministers: B: Fr. Beckman Dan Crawford
 C: Dc. Post Maggie McGarvey
Hospitality Ministers: Mark McGarvey Zach Boss Robert Butters
 Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer
Lector: Sherry Plein
Altar Servers: Koth Family Members n/a
Music: Bonnie O'Brien Jubilee Choir
Rosary Ministry: Rod & Donna Nabholz

ST. PATRICK PARISH, WINTHROP

Saturday, 5:30 pm, April 18, 2026

Eucharistic Ministers : B Fr. Beckman Don Spersfalge
Eucharistic Ministers : W n/a
Hospitality Ministers*: Don Spersfalge Volunteer
 *Ushers - Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church

Lector: Tricia Zhiss
Gift Bearers: Al & Janet Cook
Altar Servers: Lilly Hansen Volunteer
Music: St. Patrick Choir

Sunday, 8:00 am, April 19, 2026

Eucharistic Ministers : B: Fr. Beckman Jill Wilgenbusch
Eucharistic Ministers : C: 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: Randy Takes
Gift Bearers: Dean & Lola Baragary
Altar Servers: Caitlyn Dierks Volunteer
Music: St. Patrick Choir

Monday, April 13, 2026

Collection Counters: Annette Slattery Mary Beth Flexsenhar

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, April 13, 2026

Nothing listed on schedule/calendar

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

St. John Church: Adoration/Confessions, 7:00 am
St. Patrick Finance/Pastoral Council: Cluster Office, 5:30
Cluster Finance/Pastoral Council: Cluster Office, 6:30
St. John Finance/Pastoral: Cluster Office, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

St. Patrick Religious Education: Grades 1-9, 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Cluster Office, 10:00 am
Cluster Office is Closed - Pastoral Leadership Day Conference

Friday, April 17, 2026

Confessions at St. Patrick: 7:15 - 7:45 am, before Mass
SJS Early Dismissal: 1:00 pm for Professional Development

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Confessions at St. John's 3:15 - 3:45 pm, before Mass

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Confessions at St. John: 9:15 - 9:45 am, before Mass

Scrip Cash Table Volunteers for April 18/19

4:00 pm Joan Wieland & Brenda Davis
10:00 am Monica House & Jessie Doyle

Readings for the week of April 12, 2026

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31
 Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/Jn 3:1-8
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
 Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
 Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Cluster Finances

St. John For Sunday, April 5, 2026

Budget Envelopes \$5,510.40
 Easter \$16,526.87
 EFT donations for the month are: \$5,760.00
 Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses \$11,814.00

Last week we were short \$0.00 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, April 5, 2026

Budget Envelopes \$1,035.00
 Offertory \$5,579.00
 EFT donations for the month are: \$880.00
 Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses \$3,376.00

~~Archdiocesan Events~~

Celebrate Archdiocese Council of Catholic Women's (ACCW) Membership Weekend April 24-25

All women and all local women's groups in the Archdiocese of Dubuque are members of ACCW, although their level of involvement may vary. In addition to supporting your local council or your parish's contribution to ACCW, please consider taking this opportunity to join in the important work of ACCW by becoming a sustaining member. Your annual sustaining membership fee of just \$10 allows you to:

1. contribute to the support of and prayers for clergy and religious vocations in our Archdiocese
2. be a part of a community of Catholic sisterhood support the Archdiocesan Women's Conference
3. receive timely information including the ACCW newsletter, "The Link" delivered directly to your inbox as well as a special invite to attend the Annual ACCW Meeting
4. and much more!

Go to: <https://dbqarch.org/council-of-catholic-women> to become a sustaining member today! For more information, please contact Billie Burhite, ACCW President (dbqaccwpres@dbqarch.org).



2026 Rural Life Mass Location Announcement

The third annual Rural Life Mass is coming to Waterloo on Friday, Sept. 18th. The Lichty family farm, located at 8110 Ansborough Ave. in rural Waterloo, is excited to host this celebration of rural life. John and Kayla Lichty, and Pat and the late Randy Lichty, are parishioners at Blessed Sacrament Church, and have a diversified operation that includes cattle, hogs, corn, and soybeans. John's passion as a sixth-generation farmer stems from his father and grandfather, who instilled many lifelong skills, including conservation practices on the land and giving back to the ag and faith communities. Plan to attend this Friday morning Mass, followed by recognition and a luncheon. Look for more information and updates at dbqarch.org/rural-life.

We Are Still Taking Applications for Totus Tuus Missionaries for Summer 2026!

College-aged men and women are invited to consider serving as Totus Tuus Missionaries for Summer 2026! If you, or someone you know, is a great role model for younger Catholics, please apply now to serve on teams with other men and women leading songs, teaching, performing skits, and sharing witness talks with the children and youth of the Archdiocese. We provide missionaries with training, offer compensation, and most expenses are provided during the summer.



General information about Totus Tuus can be found at www.dbqarch.org/Totus-Tuus. Application information can be found at dbqarch.org/apply26totus. Please contact Joanne Pohland (j.pohland@dbqarch.org) with any questions.



Cluster Office will be closed on Thursday, April 16 so that staff can attend a Pastoral Leadership Day Conference.

Saturday Mass Time Change

As a reminder: please note that the weekend of April 11th & 12th, we will be switching the Saturday evening Mass only from 4:00 pm at St. Patrick's in Winthrop to 5:30 pm; and from 5:30 pm at St. John's in Independence to 4:00 pm. This change will be in effect through July 11/12 when the new pastorate Mass times will start. The Sunday Masses remain the same 8:00 am at St. Patrick's in Winthrop and 10:00 am at St. John's in Independence.

In Loving Memory...The Flowers of Easter St. John Paul II Cluster

John Gaul

By: The Gaul Family

Sal McGraw & Barry McGraw

By: Holly McGraw



St. John & St. Patrick Cemetery Information -

All Fall & Christmas decorations must be removed by April 12. Both Cemeteries reserve the right to dispose of any flowers (natural or artificial) and/or grave decorations when they become unsightly. Thank you for helping keep the cemeteries looking nice.

St. John Cemetery -

We will be walking the cemetery in the next week or so to "clean up" around the headstones. We would also like to remind you that there is a Decoration Policy in place for the cemetery. If you need a copy, please contact the cluster office at dbq106sec@dbqarch.org and we will email you one. Thank you for helping the cemetery looking nice.

St John - Cemetery Walkers -

We are looking for cemetery walkers for this summer! Two-week time slots will be available starting in May. This is a great way to give back to the church by helping us keep the cemetery looking nice. Please call the cluster office if you would like to help.



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



Remember in prayer: Scott Kinseth, John O'Loughlin, Vickie Schultz, Cindy Krempges, Madonna Leonard - as well as Police Officers and Emergency Responders

School News

Congratulations to students of the month for March Josephine Lake, Kindergarten Braxton Nicolas, 5th Grade



IMPORTANT DATES FOR REMAINDER OF 2025-2026:

Here are some important dates for the remainder of the year:

April 30: Grandparents Day

May 11-15: Music Week

May 11: Throwback Tunes Day (Pick a decade and rock it!)

May 12: Tour Tee Tuesday (Wear a t-shirt from a concert or festival you've attended or music related t-shirt)

May 13: Genre Jam Day (Dress the color of your favorite music genre!)

May 14: Note Worthy Outfits & Hats (Dress your best for Mass and bring a hat to wear the remainder of the day)

May 15: Superstar Style Day (Dress as your favorite musical artist or band)

Independence Food Pantry Needs:

Independence Food Pantry is in need of food that you can pop the lid off of, personal hygiene products like bath soap and deodorant, and toilet paper. If you can assist with these products, thank you for your help!!



St. John Scrip Voucher

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JCDA / CDA Meetings

The JCDA will meet at 5pm in the church basement on April 16th.

The adult CDA members will meet at 6pm on the 16th in the church basement.



We will also be having our Lifesaver Campaign after all Masses on the 18th and the 19th of April. This program helps people who have been abused and this is a campaign the CDA participates in each year.



Journey in Faith:

Final Pastorate Plan Announcement

**Journey
in Faith**

Trust. Transform. Together.

After careful discernment, prayer, and consultation, Archbishop Zinkula has announced the final pastorate structure for the Archdiocese of Dubuque in a video message on April 11. In addition to the message shared during Masses this weekend, specific information to our parish, our new pastorate, and the priests assigned can be found at dbqjourneyinfaith.org.

There are 2 cookbook options available in the church office for sale.

Both are \$5.00 each.

Sharing Our Best from 1996

Cooking on the Wapsi from 2006

If you would like to purchase a copy (or two), please stop in the cluster office to purchase - sorry, but cookbooks will not be mailed.

Prayer Hot Line

We would like to pray for you, your family, and/or friends in time of need. Prayer requests can be for any problem or hardship - health, faith, finances, schoolwork, an anonymous/confidential reason, etc. You may use your whole name, your first name, or just "a parishioner" and you may explain the problem or you can just ask for a prayer for your special intention. Prayers can be for anyone - not just parishioners. If you would like to add a friend or family member to our daily intentions for the ill and injured, please call our cluster office at (319) 334-7191. Please make sure you have their permission to do so because some people do not want their name publicly mentioned. Confidentiality is important and to be respected. Again, to place your request on the prayer line, please call the parish office at 319-334-7191 or use the form found on the cluster website at <https://stjohnspat.org>

~AREA EVENTS~

Aurora Legion & Auxiliary Sunday Breakfast

Carry-outs available!

All you can eat pancakes; 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

April 12 May 3 June 7 July 5

*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

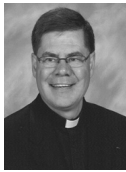
BAPTISM:

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.



From the Desk of Fr. Beckman:

This week, as we continue with the 13th installment of our reflection on the meaning of Christian death and resurrection of the body. Today we reflect upon another prime example of how God will glorify and raise the body along with the soul. We see this explicitly in Ezekiel chapter 37:1-14 when God has Ezekiel preach to a valley of dead bones. The bones are symbolic of Israel. They are dead and defiled. And the defilement of their physical condition is a sign of the defilement of their spiritual condition. They had forgotten God, refused to follow God's commands, and lost the hope God had promised them. Through that forgetting, they defiled their souls. "Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off'" (Ezekiel 37:11). Ezekiel's lesson telling the Israelites not to touch the bones of the dead helps the Israelites learn to detest sin. This is similar to the Jews who quarantined the lepers who were not allowed to be around or even near the community. Leprosy in the Bible is a sign of sin, but God doesn't care about skin purity. He cares about soul purity. Leprosy does to the body, what breaking God's law does to the soul. In a way, God telling Israel that touching the dead or the lepers makes them unclean is like your mom washing your mouth out with soap if she caught you lying or swearing. She tried to teach you a lesson internally by applying the punishment externally. Here is Ezekiel's famous prophesy: "The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he led me out in the spirit of the Lord and set me in the center of the broad valley. It was filled with bones. He made me walk among them in every direction. So many lay on the surface of the valley! How dry they were! He asked me: Son of man, can these bones come back to life? "Lord God," I answered, "you alone know that." Then he said to me: Prophecy over these bones, and say to them: **Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Listen! I will make breath enter you so you may come to life. I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow over you, cover you with skin, and put breath into you so you may come to life.** Then you shall know that I am the Lord. I prophesied as I had been commanded. A sound started up, as I was prophesying, rattling like thunder. The bones came together, bone joining to bone. As I watched, sinews appeared on them, flesh grew over them, skin covered them on top, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me: Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man! Say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: From the four winds come, O breath, and breathe into these slain that they may come to life. I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath entered them; they came to life and stood on their feet, a vast army. He said to me: Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel! They are saying, "Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost, and we are cut off." Therefore, prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: Look! **I am going to open your graves; I will make you come up out of your graves, my people, and bring you back to the land of Israel. You shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and make you come up out of them, my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may come to life, and I will settle you in your land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord. I have spoken; I will do it says the Lord.**" This is the hope of our First Communicants whom we congratulate this weekend, that they may be nourished by the Lord and that through this spiritual food they will live forever in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

I have based this reflection on a book I recently read by Scott Hahn with Emily Stimpson Chapman, entitled: *Hope To Die: The Christian Meaning of Death and the Resurrection of the Body.*

Fr. David Beckman (Pastor)



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