

Dear Padre

June 22, 2025

Some of my non-Catholic friends say the bread and wine are just symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus. Is there documented proof that we receive the Body and Blood at Communion?

Your non-Catholic friends are accurately representing their understanding of the Eucharist within their Christian denomination, but it is not the Catholic understanding. Catholics believe that, "in the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, the 'body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ, and therefore, the whole Christ, is truly, really, and substantially contained'" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1374). Therefore, Catholics do not believe that the Eucharist is a symbol of Jesus but rather, "This presence is called 'real'" (CCC 1374).

To answer your question regarding "documented proof," this can be offered only by the consistent and unchanging witness of the Christian community, found in the Catholic Church, that has never wavered in belief or practice of this understanding. At the same time, we understand that it is a mystery. It is not something that can be placed under a microscope or dissected. As a mystery, it is not subject to the laws of science and biology. Such laws are not applied to theological mystery, which goes beyond what can be physically seen but is "seen" through the eyes of faith. As the hymn proclaims: "Look beyond the bread you eat, see your Savior and your Lord" ("Look Beyond," Darryl Ducote).

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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MONDAY

June 23 Weekday Gn 12:1-9 Mt 7:1-5

TUESDAY

June 24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist Is 49:1-6 Acts 13:22-26 Lk 1:57-66, 80

WEDNESDAY

June 25 *Weekday* Gn 15:1-12, 17-18 Mt 7:15-20

THURSDAY

June 26 Weekday Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16 Mt 7:21-29

FRIDAY

June 27 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Ez 34:11-16 Rom 5:5b-11 Lk 15:3-7

SATURDAY

June 28 Weekday Gn 18:1-15 Mt 8:5-17

SUNDAY

June 29 Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles Acts 12:1-11 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18 Mt 16:13-19

WELCOME TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD CLUSTER

HOLY FAMILY, NEW HAMPTON IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NW ST. BONIFACE, IONIA

313 W. Court St. New Hampton, IA Email Address: clustergs@gmail.com

GOOD SHEPHERD
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MON.-THURS. 8 AM-4:30 PM
FRIDAY 8 AM-NOON

VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE

www.goodshepherdcluster.com

MISSION STATEMENT

"As a Catholic faith community we strive to unite as a people of God whose life is centered in the Eucharist. We seek to live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, called to be faithful stewards of God's gifts, growing in faith and attending to the spiritual and social needs of all."

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 AM-4:30 PM Friday 8 AM-Noon

Pastoral Office 641-394-2105
St. Joseph Community School 641-394-2865
St. John's School of Religion 641-394-2404
Pastor: Very Rev. Jim Goerend 641-394-2105
Principal: Michele Nehls 641-394-2865
Deacon: Victor DeSloover 563-429-2773
Cluster Business Manager: Becky Ptacek-Havlik

Hispanic Minister: Gustavo Jimenez **Director of St. John's/FF:** Jayden Burke

Pastoral Assistant: Gladys Christoph 641-330-9223

Cluster Secretary: Marcia Howe

Social Media: Chris Vital **Custodian:** Dave Roethler

Music Director:Michelle Lau641-229-6589Adult Choir Director:Ann Bennett641-394-5407Cemeteries-Calvary-Don Dixon319-290-4991St. Mary's New Hampton Mike Pickar.641-430-2446St. Mary's North Washington Jacob Hackman-641-330-6841St. Boniface, Ionia Dave Bonfig641-394-4703

RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation from 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday in the Reconciliation Chapel at Holy Family, New Hampton. Reconciliation may be celebrated on request at St. Boniface, Ionia & Immaculate Conception, North Washington. Sunday Reconciliation from 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Reconciliation Chapel at Holy Family, New Hampton.

Weekly Prayer & Faith Sharing & Ministry

1:30 PM-Rosary @ MercyOne Hospital Chapel on Tues.
2-4 PM Sharing Room, Pastoral Office on Wednesday
4 PM-Midnight-Holy Family-Adoration on Thursday
9-11 AM Sharing Room, Pastoral Office on Friday
9 AM Bible Study, Pastoral Office on Saturday

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULES

St. Boniface & Immaculate Conception Parish Alternate Saturday 6 PM Mass Holy Family Spanish Mass 1st & 3rd Sunday 11:30 AM

Saturday

4 PM Holy Family, New Hampton

6 PM St. Boniface, June 28, July 12, 26, August 9, 23

6 PM Immaculate Conception, June 21, July 5, 19, August 2, 16, 30

Sunday

8 AM & 10 AM Holy Family, New Hampton

SPOTLIGHT ON: We wish to recognize and thank our Advertiser of the Week **Reicks View Farms.** Please patronize our advertisers. Let them know you appreciate their support of the parish bulletin. That's the best to thank them.

Baptisms: Please contact Deacon Vic DeSloover @ 563-429-2773.

Marriage: Please contact the priest at least six months in advance.

Visiting the Sick or Anointing: If you would like a visit from Fr. Jim, please contact the Pastoral Office at 394-2105. The hospital and nursing homes do not notify us unless a family member requests.

PRAYERS for the SICK: We ask the Lord Jesus to bless all those in sickness, in weakness & in pain. Please join us in prayer for. Mark Zipse, Jeff Kirschbaum, Michele K, David Dick, Bill Sinnwell, Charlene Longhorn, Ron, Justin Shekleton, Alan Gilbert, Troy, Joyce Lowe, Beatrice Miller, Sebastian Burke, Patty Forkenbrock, Brady Einck, all special intentions & cancer patients.

PRAYER NETWORK: For a prayer request, please call the parish office during the business day @ 394-2105 or after hours to Jan Gorman @ 641-229-6072, or Carol Schmitz @ 394-6072.

Please note: <u>Due to the length of our prayer list, we will list the special intentions for prayer for two weeks</u>. If you wish names to remain longer, please call the parish office 394-2105 & we will be glad to leave the names in for as long as needed. Thank you for your understanding.

Military active duty- SGT Adam J. Burgart, Dylan Usher, Kaleb Macon, SGT. Andrew Kasuboski, SGT. Michael Messersmith, Adam Tieskotter, Michael Nosbisch, Staff Sgt. Nathan Schulz, Nichole Caldararo, Dustin Boeding, Paul Langreck REST IN PEACE: Please remember those in your prayers who recently died: Mary Hoeft sister of Tom & Dorann Burgart & Barb

Havlik

Farewell Potluck!

Saturday, June 21st, 7:00 PM

Immaculate Conception Church will host a farewell gathering in honor of Father Jim Goerend following the 6:00 p.m. Mass. Please join us in the church basement for a light meal featuring ham and turkey sandwiches, potato salad, chips, and cake.

We will also be holding a card shower to express our gratitude and best wishes to Father Jim as he begins his next chapter.

The Immaculate Conception Family offers our deepest thanks for your faithful service, compassionate leadership, and the love you have so generously shared with us.

You have walked beside us in faith—celebrating our joys, comforting us in sorrow, and guiding us ever closer to Christ. Your presence has truly strengthened the heart of our parish. Thank you for every prayer, every moment of wisdom, and every act of care. Your legacy of humility, grace, and spiritual devotion will remain a part of our community always.

As you begin this next chapter, may God bless you abundantly.
You leave behind a parish family forever grateful and deeply
inspired by your ministry. With sincere appreciation and love,
Your Immaculate Conception Family



"Go with God's grace, and know you leave behind hearts forever grateful."

CLUSTER NEWS

THE TIME HAS COME!! Bible Study will be starting Saturday June 21th at 9:00 a.m. at the Cluster Office the corner of Court and Maple. The group will be looking more deeply into the scriptures for Sunday's mass. We will be sharing discussion on Bible history, Church tradition, and personal insights and questions. Everyone is welcome, every question is a new opportunity to develop a broader understanding of God's love through the Word.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES: Have you recently moved? Have you changed phone numbers or no longer have a land line? Please contact the Pastoral Office at 641-394-2105 with your updates.

We also ask all young adults (high school graduate and older) that either live in the area and/or consider Holy Family, Immaculate Conception or St. Boniface their home parish to complete a registration form and officially register as an adult. This is important so that our statistics are accurate. A person should be a registered member of only one parish.

If you have any questions, please contact the Pastoral office at 641-394-2105.

Holy Family Farewell Potluck will be Sunday, June 29th at 11 a.m. immediately following Mass in Hynes Hall. Priest Pies & Potluck. Bring a dish to share. Table service will be provided.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THANK YOU: The family of Eleanor Schwickerath expresses a heartfelt thank you to all our family, friends, and community for the love, compassion, and support shown to us during this incredibly difficult time. To the entire staff at Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home your professionalism, care, guidance, and the dignity with which you helped us honor Mom's life made a painful process more bearable. To Fr. Jim—your comforting words and presence brought peace to our hearts. To the compassionate team at St. Croix Hospice—thank you for the gentle care and comfort you provided. Your kindness will never be forgotten. To the staff at New Hampton Nursing & Rehab—thank you for the care, patience, and respect you showed our mom throughout her time with vou. To the Immaculate Conception Parishioners for helping with the meal. Losing both of our parents in such a short time has left a void in our hearts, but your presence has reminded us that we are not alone.

With love and appreciation, Craig, Tony, Patrice, Scott & families

Volunteers Needed

HELP with MINISTRY: We are in need of volunteers to be greeters, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers at our weekend masses.

HELP with HOMEBOUND COMMUNION: We are looking for volunteers to take Communion and share some prayer time with our parishioners who are homebound. If you have a limited schedule, we can work with you.

HELP with WEDDINGS: We are looking for a volunteer(s) interested in assisting Father with wedding ceremonies. Some of the responsibilities include preparing for Communion if the ceremony includes Mass, giving direction to ushers, help to make sure the ceremony runs timely, etc.

Holy Family Rosary Society Callers Needed: We will begin our new year in September. Looking for volunteers to call members on their circle asking for a salad, dessert or work the day of funeral. Questions, or your interested in doing this, contact Marcia at the Pastoral Office, 394-2105.

June 15, 2025	June 15, 2025 Budget Report								
Parish	Holy Family	Immaculate Conception	St Boniface						
Yearly Collection Needed *	\$626,883.00	\$55,611.00	\$41,046.00						
Yearly Collection Needed to 06.15.2025	\$602,772.00	\$53,472.00	\$39,467.50						
Needed Weekly Amount	\$12,055.44	\$1,069.44	\$789.35						
Received Last Week	\$8,563.33	\$160.00	\$810.00						
Year to Date Recd to 06.15.2025	\$608,071.50	\$42,817.50	\$39,754.00						
Difference	\$5,299.50	-\$10,654.50	\$286.50						
Offertory	\$679.00		\$79.00						
Hispanic Mass Offertory	\$505.00								
*This is the amount needed to balance each respective church's budget.									

Just a Month Away!!!

Sign up your children, it a great way to enjoy summer with friends and experience the fun of learning more about Jesus!! You don't want to miss it!!! Call Jayden today and get registered or volunteer. Jayden can be reached at the Pastoral Office, 641-394-2105.



Totus Tuus is a vibrant, week-long Catholic program—like Vacation Bible School, but deeper—designed to help kids and teens fall in love with Jesus and grow in their Catholic faith through: Dynamic Catechesis 🌟 Joyful Evangelization 🌟 Powerful Eucharistic Worship 🬟 Authentic Christian Witness

Volunteer Opportunities – Be a Part of Something Eternal!

We need joyful hearts and helping hands to make Totus Tuus a success from July 19-25, 2025:

Host Homes Needed

Host a missionary team from Saturday, July 19, to Friday, July 25 One home for two men, one for two women Provide a separate sleeping area & breakfast daily

Chaperones

Monday-Friday, July 21-25 | 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM (until 3 PM Frid 3 chaperones needed each day

Must be 18+ with completed background check & training

Kitchen Helpers

2 helpers daily to prep snacks & distribute lunches

Meal Providers

Provide lunch and dinner for the team from Sunday dinner through Friday lunc Deliver lunch by 11:30 AM to Hynes Hall, dinner by 5 PM to the Gathering Space This is more than a week of faith-filled fun—it's a chance to plant seeds of faith that will last a lifetime. Help us build the Kingdom of God in the hearts of our young people.

i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Jayden Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, contact Burke at dbqrt4@dbqarch.org or (641) 394-2105 i To volunteer, #TotusTuus #FaithInAction #CatholicYouth #ServeWithJoy #KingdomBuilders



RETIREMENT MASS: Father John Haugen will celebrate a retirement Mass on Sunday, July 6 at 1 p.m. at Saint Mark Catholic Church in Edgewood, Iowa, with reception following. Father Haugen has served the Archdiocese of Dubuque for 41 years in parish, high school and college work, as well as music and liturgy, spiritual direction and retreat work. He is presently pastor of the Emmaus Pastorate parishes of Colesburg St. Patrick, Edgewood St. Mark, Strawberry Point St. Mary, Volga Sacred Heart and Elkader St. Joseph. All are cordially invited to join in the festivities!

AREA NEWS & EVENTS

Cookies for Cancer June Cookie of the Month: Snickerdoodle 15/\$10 Offering Mound samples with any \$10 order while supplies last (does not include snickerdoodle) Rose Ann Schwickerath - 641-557-8530 ... Thanks for your support.

THANK YOU: The Latecomer's Relay for Life team and "Cookies for Cancer" wish to thank you for your donations at the Makers Market on Saturday. We raised \$175 for ACS and \$111 for "Cookies for Cancer". So very grateful for your support.

12th Annual Lawler Irish Fest: The weekend of June 20-21 for another exciting celebration of Lawler's rich heritage featuring events, and entertainment for the entire family. Friday, June 20, Opening Ceremony, 6:30 pm. Grand Marshals music, activities and outdoor movie at dusk bring chair/blankets. Saturday, June 21, Grand Parade at 1 p.m. followed by more music, car show and fun for the kids in Croell Park. Sunday, June 22, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lawler Lions Club BBQ Chicken Dinner. For more information check out the website www.lawleririshefest.com.

New Hampton Community Blood Drive: Tuesday, June 24, 12:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. at the New Hampton Community Center, 112 E. Spring St. Call to make appointment with LIFESERVE Blood Center at 1-800-287-4803. GIVE HOPE and STRENGTH!!

Understanding Your Roots. Russell Baldner, a German linguist, genealogist and historian, presents "Ethnicity, Family History and the Ever-Changing Map of Europe: Making Genealogical Sense of Ethnic Heritage, Political Boundaries, European History, and Personal Roots." on Wednesday, June 25th at 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the German American Museum in St. Lucas, IA.

Our Call to Share Spring Collection: The Our Call to Share Collection is currently taking place. Please have your donations turned in to the office or put in the offertory basket by Sunday, June 29, 2025. Use the envelope you received in the mail to designate how you would like your donation distributed. Make check payable to our parish and mark in theme memo, "Our Call to Share".

The spring's collection will benefit the following for ministries:

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development-For the national anti-poverty program of the US cCatholic Bishops, focused on empowering people to break the cycle of poverty.

The Retirement Fund for Religious-Supports congregations of religious sisters, brothers and priests from across the United States who do not have adequate funding to support their members' retirement and healthcare cots.

The Hispanic Ministry Collection- A diocesan collection to specifically support Hispanic ministry at parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

The Catholic Communications Campaign-To help spread the Gospel message through media/communication efforts at the local, regional, and national levels. We pray that you will consider supporting these worthy ministries generously. Thank you for your support of the mission of the Church!



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THE
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If you're missing yours check the Pastoral Office.

TOGETHER

a monthly bulletin insert from the archdiocese



Comments regarding this insert may be sent to communications staff by emailing *contactus@dbqarch.org* or by calling (800) 876-3546 and asking for the director of communications.

June 2025

Vol. 5 | No. 6

This document is available as a PDF at www.dbqarch.org/together



Archdiocese of Dubuque Celebrates Families and Grandparents during Jubilee Year

by Cassie Bird

The Archdiocese of Dubuque is celebrating families and grandparents during the Jubilee Year. Below, two families and a faith formation director in the Archdiocese of Dubuque reflect on their unique faith experiences.

The Schetgen Family

Cassie and Brandon Schetgen are parents of four and parishioners at Holy Spirit Parish in Dubuque. They are deepening in their own faith as they parent their children and guide them on their own faith journeys. As a family, Cassie and Brandon have traditions that help them to celebrate their beliefs alongside their children.

"We try to put faith first in our family by attending Mass as a family each week and going to Adoration and Confession regularly," Cassie says.

"We also try to live the liturgical year in our home. We celebrate our baptism anniversaries with treats. Our four children are named after saints and we have special traditions on those days – one of our favorites is going to look at Christmas lights around Dubuque on the feast of St. Lucy since Lucy means 'light'. During Triduum, we also love visiting all the Altars of Repose on Holy Thursday and participating in our parish's Triduum liturgies."

Beyond the new family traditions that Cassie and Brandon have begun, becoming a parent has also affected Cassie's personal faith journey as she works to foster the faith of her four kids.

"Becoming a parent has given me a glimpse of the depth of our heavenly Father's love for each of us. I've come to understand better how He desires each person to choose goodness and love," Cassie reflects.

"Having kids also has shown me areas of my life where I need to grow in my faith – the need to surrender control, seek forgiveness, and grow in virtue each day."

As they grow older, Cassie and Brandon works to model the importance of faith, so that their children can learn from the example being lived out in front of them.

"We try to give them the opportunity to encounter Jesus personally. Some of the ways that we've done this are by bringing them to Mass and reminding them that this is Jesus' house and even if you can't receive Him yet physically, you can still invite Him into your heart," Cassie explains.

"We also invite them to pray in Adoration

and have that quiet time with our Lord. Brandon and I also know that we must also live out our faith as best we can. We try to model the importance of our faith in our own spirituality and in our marriage."

When asked about her hopes for her children's faith as they grow up, Cassie shares, "I hope and pray that each of my children come to know Jesus intimately and that they remain close to Him and His church all the days of their earthly life drawing strength from the Sacraments. That they discern God's calling for each of them and bring Him glory in whatever their vocations are. And ultimately that they are with Him in heaven for eternity."

The Lutgens Family

Joe and Sharon Lutgens are parishioners at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Hiawatha. They are parents of two adult children, and are also new grandparents as their daughter and son-in-law welcomed their first child last year.

As parents and now grandparents, Joe and Sharon have implemented daily practices to strengthen their own faith, as well as the faith of their family.

"Our family practice is saying a meal before eating – at home or when eating out we say the prayer together as a family out loud. We also try to do reading of daily scripture in the morning each day along with morning prayer and a Rosary each evening," the Lutgens shared. Of course, raising children comes with many challenges, including the fear of what obstacles they might face as they grow older. Sharon reflects on how that fear ended up bringing her closer than ever to God.

"My faith grew a huge amount when I became a parent and realized I could not protect my children everywhere they went," Sharon shares. "My fear for their well-being brought me to a moment of complete surrender to God when I realized that He loved them even more than I could, and I needed to trust Him more and not only rely on my power to keep them safe in this crazy world. We constantly pray for our children and grandchildren – that God may protect them and bring good people into their lives who help point them toward God."

As their children grew up and now as they watch their grandchild grow older, Joe and Sharon have enjoyed sharing the Catholic faith with them through stories, prayers, music and movies.

"Starting when they were babies, we read books about faith, taught them to pray and prayed with them each day and through special moments of their lives and for their friends and situations. We also introduced them to spiritual music, watched faith movies and cartoons, listened to stories of the saints, helped them memorize Bible verses, took them to Mass every week, and sent them to Catholic schools."

If they could offer one piece of spiritual advice to their family, Sharon says, "Find some quiet time on a regular basis to think, listen, and talk to God." Meanwhile, Joe has a saying that he often repeats, "Do your best, pray that it's blessed, and leave the rest to God."

Sarah Casey, Faith Formation

It is the role of faith formation directors across the Archdiocese of Dubuque to assist families like the Lutgens and Schetgens in their faith journeys as both individuals and families. Sarah Casey is the Coordinator of Middle & High School Formation at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Hiawatha, and works at the parish to help guide middle and high school students on their journeys of faith, building upon the foundation that they learn from their families. In this Jubilee Year of rest and growth, Sarah shares

her reflection about how the Jubilee Year theme, "Pilgrims of Hope," resonates with the families and young adults in her parish community.

"Hope is universal, it doesn't matter if you're 5, 25 or 75 years old, everyone resonates with hope in their life on some level," Sarah says.

"This theme encourages people to see their faith as a journey, a pilgrimage toward deeper understanding and connection with Jesus. In a world often filled with uncertainty, hope becomes a guiding light, reminding them that God walks with them."

Of course, faith is not necessarily a linear journey of growth. There are times when families need additional support, or an extra hand, to continue walking along the path. Part of Sarah's role is to be a welcoming face at the parish, alongside other staff members.

"First and foremost, we want people to know that they belong," Sarah explains. "Ultimately, the goal is to meet families where they are, offering them encouragement, understanding, and opportunities to reconnect with their faith in a way that feels natural and meaningful."

During the summer of this Jubilee Year,

the faith formation team at St. Elizabeth is launching their partnership with "Hallow" – a popular Catholic prayer app. Parish staff hope that this technology will be able to help them further meet families where they're at.

"This summer we are doing something really special with the launch of our Hallow Partnership. It's no surprise that we are all connected to our devices on a higher level than ever before, but in the same breath we are disconnected from our friends, family, and community on a personal level," Sarah explains.

"Technology is a powerful tool that can either strengthen our faith or become a distraction. As Catholics, we are called to use all things for God, including the devices in our hands. Hallow provides ways for our community to pray with and for one another, to open the gateway of conversation with our neighbors, to strengthen family formation and much more."

Throughout her work, Sarah realizes the importance of supporting families, like the Lutgens and Schetgens, in the parish.

"The Church teaches that the family is the domestic church, where faith is first nurtured. Families need support in making prayer, formation, and Sacraments an integral part of their lives."

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The June 2025 edition of *Together* will be the final issue. After careful consideration, the Archdiocesan Communications Office has decided to discontinue this printed bulletin insert and instead deliver the same content through email moving forward.

There are several reasons for this:

- **1. Format limitations:** The publication has been limited to a double-sided sheet in order to minimize the burden on parishes for printing and stuffing bulletins. This constraint limits how much we can share.
- **2. Unmeasurable reach:** We are unable to accurately determine how many people are reading *Together* in its current printed form.

- **3. Limited engagement:** We've heard that the publication hasn't gained the traction we had hoped for.
- **4. Better digital reach:** Email allows us to more effectively and directly reach households across the archdiocese.

While we recognize that not every household has an email address, the vast majority do—whether or not they consider themselves tech-savvy. Shifting to a digital format will allow us to share more content with a broader audience in a cost-effective, measurable way.

To receive the same content via email, please sign up at: dbqarch.org/connect-with-us



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GOOD SHEPHERD MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY-JUNE 21, 2025

4 PM-Holy Family-Francis & Alice Klassen

6 PM-Immaculate Conception-For the People

Fr. Jim Farewell after Mass at Immaculate Conception

SUN., JUNE 22-The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

8 AM-Holy Family-Collective

10 AM-Holy Family-Don & Arlene Boeding

Family Reunion @ Hynes Hall

MONDAY-JUNE 23, 2025

Bulletin News Due at Noon

St. Joe's Golf Outing,

New Hampton Golf & Country Club

TUESDAY-JUNE 24, 2025

No Mass-Fr. Jim out of town

WEDNESDAY-JUNE 25, 2025

10 AM-NH Rehab-Prayer & Communion Service

THURSDAY-JUNE 26, 2025

10 AM-Linn Haven-Rose "Tiny" Goerend

FRIDAY-JUNE 27, 2025

8:30 AM-Holy Family-Jim & Rick Pickar

SATURDAY-JUNE 28, 2025

4 PM-Holy Family-Ilm Mihm

6 PM-St. Boniface-For the People of the Cluster

SUN-JUNE 29, 2025-Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

8 AM-Holy Family-Leonard & Norma Rosonke

10 AM-Holy Family-Collective

11 AM Fr. Jim Farewell @ Holy Family, Priest, Potluck & Pies

No Daily Mass when we have a funeral.

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

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FIVE LOAVES
KINGDOM

COLLECTIVE MASS INTENTIONS

HOLY FAMILY, JUNE 22 AT 8 AM: Richard Holschlag, Norbert Burgart, Bernard & Elizabeth Dockendorf Family, Theresa & Frank Martin, Louis & Kathryn Geerts, Duane Lynch, Francis & Mary Kramer, Jim & Doris Galligan, Curtis Schwickerath and Norman Heit.

HOLY FAMILY, JUNE 29 AT 10 AM: Tom Gebel, Jim & Joyce Cavanaugh, Vernie Laures, Lavern Tilkes, Alice Elsbernd Glenda Holthaus, Jean Gander, Max Zweibohmer, David Rasmussen, and Special Intention.

Good News!

June 22, 2025

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) (C) Genesis 14:18–20 / 1 Corinthians 11:23–26 / Luke 9:11b–17

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Today, Sue lives in a retirement community. She no longer drives, so she walks the few blocks to the grocery store for her simple needs. One day, she took her checkbook to pay for some groceries because she had lost her credit card and had not yet received a new one. The store, however, would not accept personal checks without some identification, and, without a driver's license to show, she found herself in a swirl of distraught frustration. That was when the person behind her in line offered to pay her \$11 bill. She was overwhelmed and called to tell me about the stranger's kindness to her.

Throughout the Scriptures, deserts were always places of chaos and abandon, but they were also places where people were fed by God. In the desert, the wandering Hebrews were fed manna; in the desert, Jonah was fed when he wanted to give up; in the desert, Jesus was sustained by God; and in today's Gospel, Jesus fed the crowd in that "deserted" place with five loaves and two fish. In so many ways, it is when we find ourselves in the deserts of life, feeling abandoned and hungering for solutions to our needs, that we recognize God feeding us. Sometimes, it occurs in simple, unexpected ways, as it did for Sue. At other times, we are fed with the strength to endure and make our way through a difficult time to the other side of life's storms.

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