

*Working Together To
Build the Kingdom of God*

Mass Schedule:

St. John the Baptist, Mount Vernon
Sunday - 8:00 am
Wednesday's and Friday's - 8:30 am

Parish Confession:

Sunday at 7:30 am or by appointment

St. Isidore the Farmer, Springville:

Saturday, 6 pm - Tuesday & Thursday 8 am

St. John Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:
8 am - 4 pm
Friday:
7 am - 2 pm

Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah
Office: 895-6246
Email: DBQ137@dbqarch.org

Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper

Trevor Gretten
Parish Office: 895-6246
E-mail: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org
FAX #: 319-895-0973

Director of Faith Formation

Linda Hansmeier: 895-6758
E-mail: DBQ137RE@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Youth/Young Adult Ministry

Cade Naughton: 895-6758
E-Mail : DBQ137YM@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Music

Theresa Sundstrom: 563-451-2054
E-mail: t.sundstrom@dbqarch.org

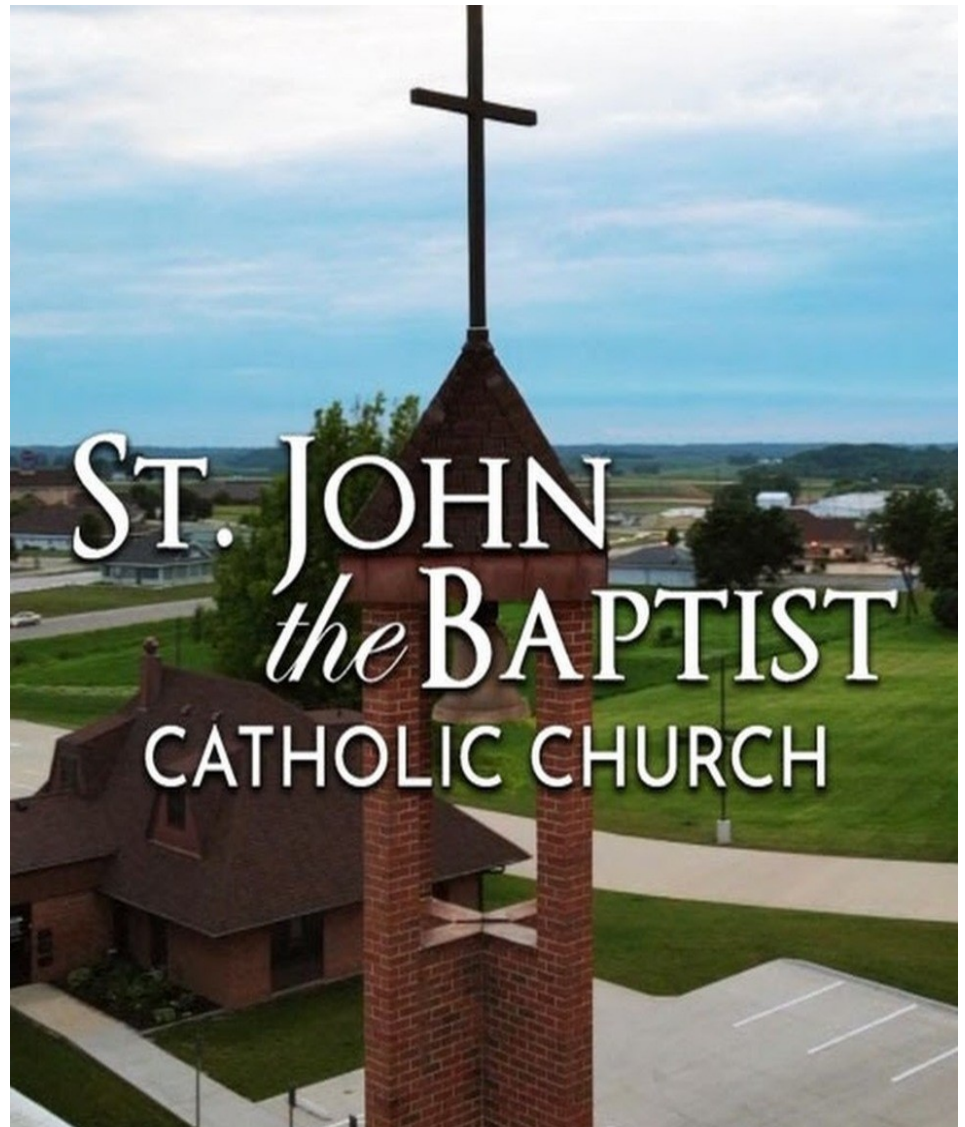
Prayer Chain Contacts:

Thelma Rife: tbrife@gmail.com
Trevor Gretten: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org

Catholic Charities: 1-800-772-2758

Birthright: 319-393-3251 or 1-800-550-4900

*January 1st, 2022
Mary, The Holy Mother of God*



LISBON - MOUNT VERNON, IA
AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
Website: <http://www.stjohnmv.org>

Parish Theme: Building Our Parish Through Love, Prayer, Service, Community

Pastor Speaks

Mary, Mother of God and Our Intercessor

Today marks the start of the new year, 2023. If we have all lived to see this day, let us also believe that with God on our side, we shall explore the year together and hopefully end it together. We maintain our parish mantra and acknowledge that God is always good! Each year on January 1, we celebrate the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Also, remember that because Christmas fell on Sunday, the traditional feast of the holy family, our model family feast, was celebrated on Friday, December 30, 2022

With all these in mind, let me express a happy, healthy New Year to you and your families. Let's all agree to face the year with solid belief, trust, and surrender (BTS) to the Lord while seeking the helpful intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary.

One of the boldest intimations of the Blessed Mother's role in God's saving plan for humanity was made by St. Paul in our second reading today: "When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons" (Gal 4:4-5). Paul talks about the fullness of time, a critical moment within God's plan to save us.

Bible scholars have maintained that in Paul's thought, the fullness of time meant the time the world was set to receive Jesus. The birth of Christ 2000 years ago in Bethlehem began this superabundance of time infused with grace. Christ became the chief dispenser of God's grace to us. But God's grace was also associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary, who received the fullness of God's grace according to the message of the Angel (Luke 1:42).

As Catholics, we don't take Mary's fullness of grace, which she shares with us as a mother for granted. The grace Mary received was for a purpose. God didn't only choose Mary for His Son, but He also decided she become a great intercessor for us before God. She was the mother of the holy family. She continues to play the role of a mother to us. Ask for her prayers and pray the rosary.

I also urge you to remember the encouragement from St. Paul in 1 Cor 13:13, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." Love remains the greatest of all virtues and all gifts, with nothing to compare. So, fill your heart daily with LOVE for God and pass it on to the last person in your chain of affection.

Finally, don't forget to pray, don't forget the church community that is here to support you, don't forget the Mass, and don't forget your God. May Jesus, Mary, and Joseph look on us in our life journey. Happy, healthy New Year!

Youth Ministry - Cade Naughton

January 1st: St. John's Youth Ministry is excited to share with you the new curriculum for the Spring faith formation classes! We are branching from what we learned about the Mass and delving into the life-blood of our Church - the Sacraments. In this study, we will be learning more specifically about the biblical roots of the Sacraments as well as their application to our lives. If you would like to help with teaching in St. John's Youth Ministry, please email Cade at dbq137ym@dbqarch.org.

Faith Formation by Linda Hansmeier

Another "New Year" has begun, and I am realizing how much my "New Year" challenges to become a better person, or lose 50 plus pounds, or reach a goal on my "Bucket List" start all over again from last year and nothing has changed other than losing 50 plus pounds has maybe moved to 60 pounds plus. Matthew Kelly in his book, "Holy Moments" puts it all in a much different and life-giving moment when he says, "If you only learn to master one moment in your life, learn to master the moment of decision." (pg. 25)

And that pretty much sums up why I still sometimes struggle to making life decisions that last for only moments. The truth is the life decisions that should really matter to me are the decisions to make a difference in the lives of others. It comes down to 'who has God called me to be' and 'what has God called me to do.' In simple layman's language God has called each of us to help Him build the Kingdom of God for God and with God. Those things I waste my time thinking about fall into place when I begin making decisions that make a difference in the lives of others that are guided by Prayer, Scripture, the Mass, and living as God has called me to live.

"Decision making is a powerful force in our lives. Our decisions quite literally shape our lives. We make the future with our choices. Our choices have power." (pg. 29). My New Years wish for 2023 is that each of us learn to master the moment of our decisions, that our decisions make a difference in the lives of those around us for the good of others and for the good of our relationship with God. Happy New Years!

Readings for the week of January 1, 2023

Sun: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Mon: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
Tues: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
Wed: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
Thurs: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51
Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11
or Lk 3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 & 6a, and 9b/Jn 2:1-11
Next Sunday:
Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph
3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



Wednesday January 4th, 2022:

8:30 AM: Priscilla Bahl

Friday January 6th, 2022:

8:30 AM: Jim Schemmel

Sunday January 8th, 2022:

8:00 AM: Dorothy Mullaley

+News & Events

Adoration:

- 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the Month 7:00-9:00 PM
- Every Wednesday During Advent 7:00 - 9:00 PM
- After 8:30 AM Mass on First Friday of the Month

Reconciliation:

- Confessions are held 30 minutes before Sunday Mass at 7:30 AM.
- First Wednesday of the month 7:00-8:00 PM During Adoration
- They can also be made by appointment by contacting Father Andrew either call the office at 319-895-6246 or email dbq137@dbqarch.org to schedule.

Baptism: Baptismal Catechesis is done by Father Andrew. Please contact the office at 319-895-6246 or email dbq137sec@dbqarch.org with any questions and to schedule a baptismal appointment.

Marriage Prep: Matrimonial Catechesis and preparation is done by Father Andrew. Please contact the office at 319-895-6246 or email dbq137sec@dbqarch.org with any marriage related issues or questions and to schedule an appointment.

Family Life Connections:

- Join the Parish families for Family Life Connections on third Sunday of the month after Mass

That Man is You Men's Group:

- Join the men of the Parish for Fellowship and discussions each Saturday at 6:30 AM in the lower level of the Church

Sisters of Faith:

- Join the women of the Parish for Fellowship and discussions the 1st Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly contributions needed..... \$5,817.30

Contributions Received

Budget, Adult	\$ 9345.00
Loose Coin/Currency	\$ 321.42
Christmas Donations	\$ 375.00
Snow Removal	\$ 150.10
Facility Upkeep.....	\$ 20.00
Sacrificial Giving.....	\$ 15.00
Misc. Donations.....	\$ 370.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 10596.52
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 151249.80
YTD collections received.....	\$ 182976.20
YTD	\$ 31276.40

Liturgical Ministers January 8th, 2022

Sacristan: Trevor Gretten

EM: Pete Bahl - Cindy Kendall - Kathy Dix
Marty Fall

EM (Cup): Chuck Murray - Allison Nissen
Theresa Patterson - Larry Poduska
Judy Poduska

Lectors: Tom Wieseler - Erin Moeller

Servers: Luke Stephens - Natalie Thuerlauf
Bailey Crock - Selah Loyd

Hospitality: Jamie & Annalyn Elloren
Dave & Natalie Klostermann
Darin & Charlene Vig & Family

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Tuesday January 3rd -

6:00 PM - Stewardship Committee Meeting

Wednesday January 4th -

8:30 AM - Mass

9:00 AM - St. Anne's Circle Meeting

6:00 PM - 5th-8th Grade Faith Formation

6:30 PM - Catechist Inservice

7:00 PM - Adoration

Thursday January 5th -

6:00 PM - RCIA (Mary)

7:00 PM - Liturgy Committee Meeting

Friday January 6th -

8:30 AM - Mass (Fellowship to follow)

9:00 AM - Adoration During Mass

Saturday January 7th -

8:30 AM - Sisters of Faith

Sunday January 8th -

8:00 AM - Mass

9:00 AM - K-4th Grade Faith Formation

4:00 PM - Guitar Academy