

*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

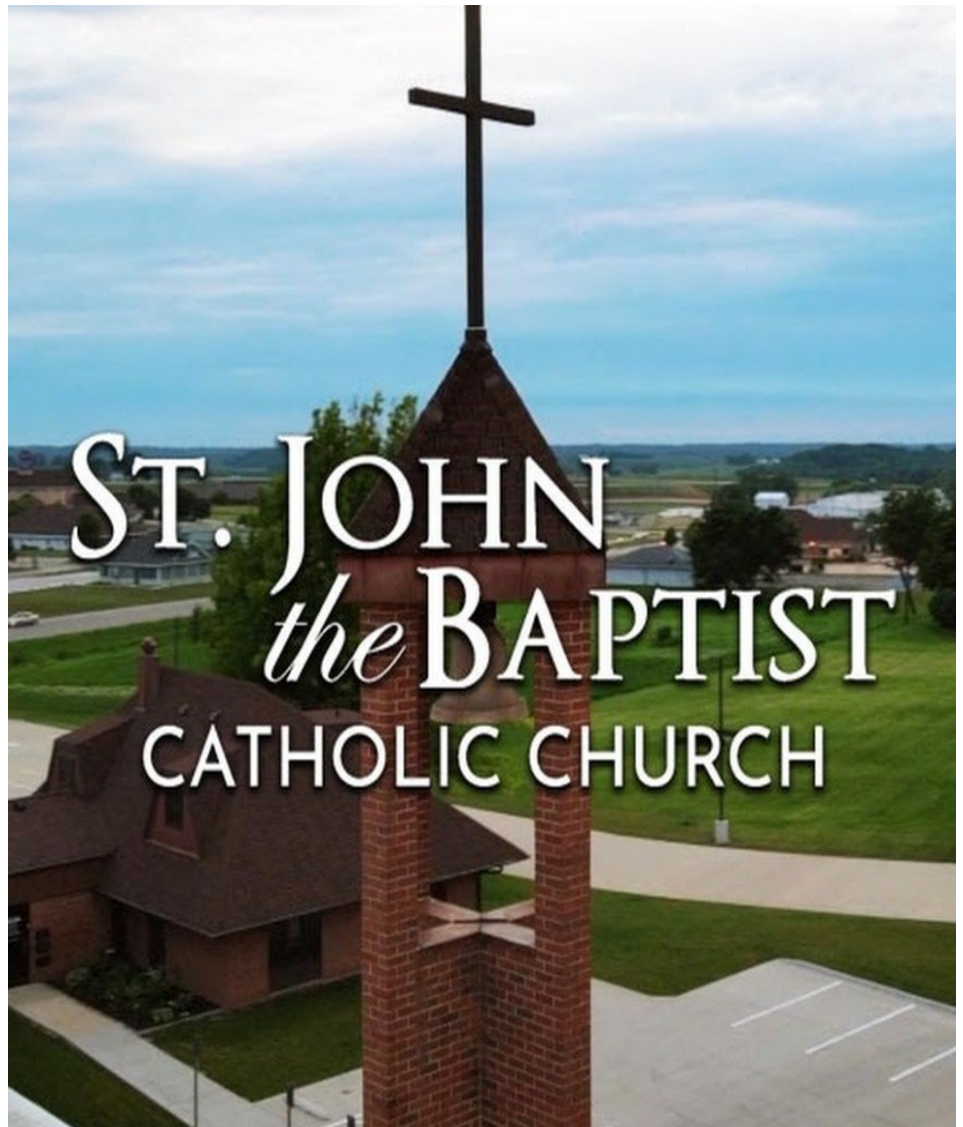
Prayer Chain Contacts:

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 29th, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



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

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

Pastor Speaks



As I celebrate this fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time with you, I convey greetings from abroad, Ghana. I'm grateful to the Lord and to all of you for sending lots of prayers our way to assist in the healing and recovery of my mother and my safety in air and road travels.

I wish to extend the gratitude of my family: siblings, nephews and nieces to you for the righteous prayers you lifted to the Lord for my mother.

I know all the prayers from the parishioners, particularly through the prayer chain were recognized by the good Lord and granted.

As Christians, we believe in the power of prayers. So, when we face challenges, we do not only pray but also connect with other believers in the Lord to support us with their prayers.

As I write, I remind myself of our parish theme: Building our parish through love, prayer, service, and community. I can't mention enough all the prayerful wishes and other kind actions expressed towards my mom.

Suffice it to acknowledge that my mother's illness was serious. However, all of you have kept her in your prayers for me. I love her so much for all the sacrifices she made for my siblings and I, something she continues to hold dear.

Currently, she feels way better; so I believe I can return to you without hesitation. I intend to get to Iowa on Friday.

Faith Formation by Linda Hansmeier

At our last RCIA meeting on January 19, David Klostermann led us to a deeper understanding of baptism, especially the baptism of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and what that means for each of us. If you follow the liturgical calendar, you know that the Feast of Baptism of the Lord indicated the end of the Christmas season and we immediately celebrated the Baptism of the Lord which is most significant for two reasons: 1) it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry, and 2) and confirms his identity as the Son of God.

It was during his baptism that all three Persons of the Trinity were present at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descended, and God the Father spoke from the heavens. God and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will.

When Jesus comes to John and tells him to baptize him John is confused as his is a baptism of repentance, and Jesus has nothing he needs to repent. Yet, Jesus is insisting that John baptizes him. Matthew's account in chapter 3: 13-15 explains it by telling us that by choosing to be baptized, Jesus fulfills all righteousness, preparing himself to be a perfect sacrifice for us.

For each of us, our baptism means we became adopted children of the Father, members of the Church, the Body of Christ, and temples of the Holy Spirit. Baptism washes away our original sin and claims us for the kingdom of God. We are filled with God's sanctifying grace and the fullness of the Trinitarian life, enabling us to understand the meaning and implications of our baptism as a means to grasp our identity, vocation and mission as disciples of Christ. Next Thursday the RCIA topic is the Eucharist. Everyone is welcome to join us at 6:00 p.m. in the ed wing.

Youth & Young Adult Ministry - Cade Naughton:

As the high schoolers have NCYC, St. John's is also offering a more local opportunity for 6-8th graders as well as their parents! ICYC is a day-long retreat on March 26th 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. So, if you're a parent or a student who would like to participate and would like further information, please contact Cade at dbq137ym@dbqarch.org!



Readings for the week of January 29, 2023

Sun: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (Matthew 5:3)/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a
Mon: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/Mk 5:1-20
Tues: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27,28&30,31-32/Mk 5:21-43
Wed: Heb 12:4-7,11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/Mk 6:1-6
Thurs: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7,8,9,10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40/2:22-32
Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/Mk 6:14-29
Sat: Heb 13:15-17,20-21/Ps 23:1-3a,3b-4,5,6/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday:
Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5,6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16



Wednesday February 1st, 2022:

8:30 AM: Dave Neuhaus

Friday February 3rd, 2022:

8:30 AM: Family of Dennis & Jeanne Duppong

Sunday February 5th, 2022:

8:00 AM: Allison Horton Jacobi

Regarding Grocery Bag Donations:

For those wondering what happens with their grocery bag donations, they are given to the Ladies of St. Patrick Church in Anamosa where they weave the mats. It takes over 500 bags to make a single mat. They are then donated to the Willis Dady Homeless Center in Cedar Rapids and another center in the Quad Cities. Please continue to donate as you are able, the collection boxes are in the back of the church near the Sacristy. Thank you all for your donations to date!

News & Events

Adoration:

- 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the Month 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:

- On the 3rd Sunday of each month, join the Parish families for Family Life Connections immediately 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 Through January 24th 2023

Budget, Adult	\$ 1315.00
Loose Coin/Currency	\$ 284.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$ 30.00
Father Andrew Travel Fund.....	\$ 310.00
Memorial Donations.....	\$ 115.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 2054.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 174519.00
YTD collections received.....	\$ 226454.94
YTD	\$ 51935.94

Liturgical Ministers February 5th, 2022

Sacristan: Hugh Scieszinski

EM: Jacob Ryan - Nikki Sporrer
Anna Vavricek - Charlene Vig

EM (Cup): Lisa Thuerauf - Chuck Murray
Diane Apel - Dave Klostermann
De Wagner

Lectors: Ruth Horton - Cindy Kendall

Servers: Laura Swart - Adam Swart
Landon Stolte - Ryne Moeller

Hospitality: Andy & Erin Moeller & Family
Dean & Kathy Mallie
Brian & Jennifer Donovan & Family

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Wednesday February 1st:

8:30 AM - Mass

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

7:00 PM - Adoration

Thursday February 2nd:

6:00 PM - RCIA (Eucharist)

7:00 PM - Liturgy Committee Meeting

Friday February 3rd:

8:30 AM - Mass (Fellowship to Follow)

9:00 AM - Adoration

Saturday February 4th:

6:30 AM - TMIY Men's Group

8:30 AM - Sisters of Faith

Sunday February 5th -

8:00 AM - Mass

9:00 AM - Faith Formation K- 4th

4:00 PM - Guitar Academy

That Man is You!

Men—there's still time to join our Saturday morning That Man is You! men's program. That Man is You! combines Scripture, solid secular research, and a little fun to address the pressures and temptations facing men in our modern culture. It seeks to form authentic leaders who will be capable of transforming homes and society." We meet from 6:30- 8 a.m. each Saturday.

**Go to our website stjohnmv.org
to access FORMED!**