

*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:
8 am - 2 pm

Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah
Office: 319-895-6246
Email: DBQ137@dbqarch.org

Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper

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

Director of Faith Formation

Linda Hansmeier: 319-895-6758
E-mail: DBQ137RE@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Youth/Young Adult Ministry

Cade Naughton: 319-895-6758
E-Mail : DBQ137YM@dbqarch.org

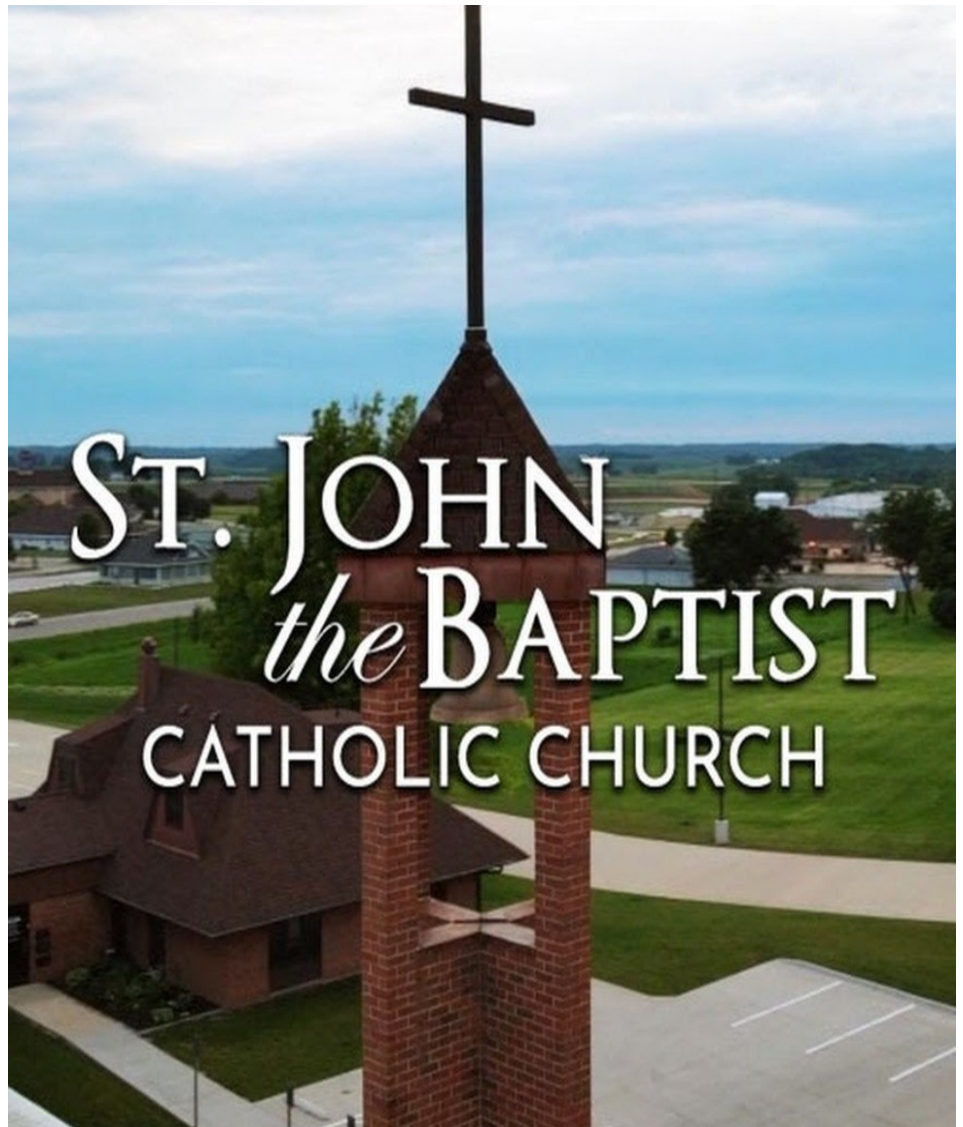
Coordinator of Music

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

Prayer Chain Contacts:

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

*March 19th, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Lent*



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

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

Pastor Speaks

4th Sunday of Lent: *"I do believe, Lord"*

The passage may not be one of the often familiar and intense passages we recognize and can narrate in a heart beat. However, it should cause us to love it and apply its lessons.

The first feature relates to the literary genre or style. What makes the narrative real and worthy of attention is that it is non-fiction. The story is not a parable; it is a real story of a man born blind. The story recounts how Jesus and his disciples came upon a man born blind.

The second feature relates to human impulse towards hasty attribution of causes or assigning reasons for things in our lives or other people's lives.

The disciples, following the socio-religious narrative of the time concerning sin and punishment, failure and success, ascertained from Jesus if the condition of physical defects of the man was due to his own sins or those of the parents.

But Jesus' answer that "neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him" was intended to clarify and alter that socio-religious world view.

Imagine how many people in that society felt misjudged based on some physical or emotional calamities they had to endure. It is painful to suffer misfortune, and to be teased, bullied, misjudged or shunned on top of all that.

According to Jesus, there are moments we must suffer to glorify God. Those of you who have watched Tim Francis' presentation recall Catalina, who experienced the stigmata and suffered a lot to show the world the suffering of Jesus. This is why this gospel is healing to many of us. It showcases God's compassion and love. He doesn't judge us or punish us even for our wrongdoings. Instead he gives us the chance to reform.

The story is about being healed from blindness. When the man's blindness was removed and he could see Jesus clearly, he admitted to Jesus, "I do believe, Lord." People these days have become blind to the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Yet, I believe that those of us who listened to Tim Francis can consider the miracles and the writings of Church Fathers and make our grand admission, "I now believe, Lord."

If we are experiencing Unexpected pain or situations, let's remember that it is not always a bad thing in themselves. It may be for God's glory.

Lenten Communal Penance Service -- Today at 2 PM

Haven't been to confession for a while?

DO NOT BE AFRAID!



Check out St. John's website for some great tips from Pope Francis and a video from Father Mike Schmitz!

There will be several priests present and they can walk you through it if you are out of practice. Bring the whole family!

You will feel joyful and FORGIVEN!

Guitar Academy

By: Theresa Sundstrom

What better way to beat the winter blues, than to learn a new instrument! St. John and St. Isidore students, in 4th -8th grade, participated in our first "Guitar Academy" led by John Schroeder. John sings and accompanies on guitar during Mass at St. John's and graciously shared his talent with the next generation. Students supplied their own guitar and attended 8 classes on Sunday afternoons at St. John's, ending with a recital for family members to attend. Below are some of the kids who were able to attend – thank you John



News & Events

Adoration:

- 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the Month 7:00-9:00 PM
- Every Wednesday During Lent 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

Readings for the week of March 19, 2023

Sun: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
 Mon: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Tues: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
 Wed: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
 Thurs: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
 Fri: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21&23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Sat: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
 Next Sunday:
 Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



Wednesday March 22nd, 2023:

8:30 AM: Irvin Clark

Friday March 24th, 2023:

8:30 AM: Doris McElmeel

Sunday March 26th, 2023:

8:00 AM: Stephanie Watson

Social Justice Lenten Project:

Please Join us by donating new or gently used items to the Catherine McAuley Center. CMC serves immigrants, evacuees, and women in need by providing education, housing, transportation, and more. Some needed items include bedding, pots and pans, cleaning materials, hygiene items, beans, rice and canned goods. A complete wish list can be found on the parish website, Facebook page, and in the e-mail sent to all Parishioners.

Return to God with Eucharistic Adoration the Lent:

Adoration will take place every Wednesday during Lent from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Spending time praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament is an intimate way to grow your relationship with Christ the Lent. You don't need to sign up and can stay for as little or as long as you'd like.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

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

Contributions Received Through February 14th 2023

Budget, Adult	\$ 1295.00
Loose Coin/Currency	\$ 149.00
Fuel/AC	\$ 20.00
Snow Removal	\$ 45.00
Facility Upkeep	\$ 25.00
Easter & Easter Flowers	\$ 55.00
Misc Donations (ICYC/Haiti)	\$ 139.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$ 15.00
Total Collected	\$ 1743.00
YTD collection needed	\$ 215240.10
YTD collections received	\$ 272231.42
YTD	\$ 56991.32

Liturgical Ministers March 26th, 2023

Sacristan: Ellen Bentley
 EM: Pete Bahl - Marty Fall
 Trevor Gretten - Ruth Horton
 EM (Cup): Lisa Thuerauf - D e Wagner - Diane Apel
 Diane Kimm - Dave Klostermann
 Lectors: Children's Mass
 Hospitality: Larry & Judy Poduska
 John & Amanda Rhomberg & Family
 Tyler & Theresa Patterson & Family
 Servers: Adam Swart - Landon Stolte
 Ryne Moeller - Chasen Caskey

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Monday March 20th -

7:00 PM - Social Justice Committee Meeting

Tuesday March 21st -

6:30 PM - Faith Formation Committee Meeting

Wednesday March 22nd -

Family Time No Faith Formation

8:00 AM - Mass

7:00 PM - Adoration

Thursday March 23rd -

6:00 PM - RCIA (Triduum)

Friday March 24th -

8:30 AM - Mass (Fellowship to Follow)

Saturday March 25th -

6:30 AM - That Man is You - Men's Group

Sunday March 26th -

Family Time No Faith Formation

Parish Auction

8:00 AM - Mass

4:00 PM - First Communion Parent/Candidate Meeting

4:00 PM - Guitar Academy

Go to our website stjohnmv.org to access FORMED!