

*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

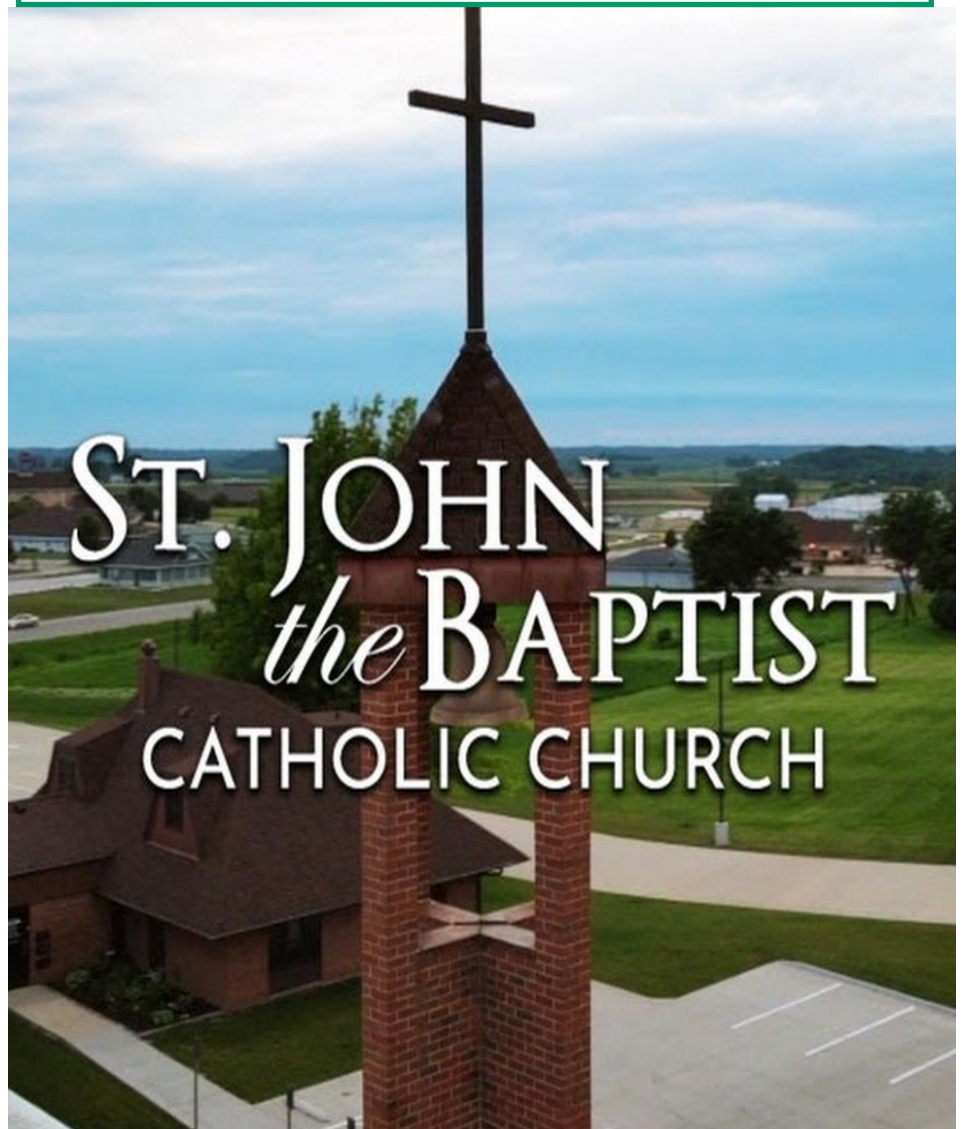
**Coordinator of Music**

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

**Prayer Chain Contacts:**

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

*June 25th, 2023  
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
The Nativity of St. John the Baptist*



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

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

## Pastor Speaks

### *Staying Close to the Lord*

This weekend marks the celebration of our parish feast in honor of St. John the Baptist. The feast of the nativity of St. John the Baptist is traditionally scheduled on the universal church calendar for June 24. However, as a parish church, with St. John as our patron, we mark the feast on the weekend to enable as many parishioners as possible to join in reflecting on his life and ministry and also pray for his powerful intercession.

The readings for this weekend urge us to stay close to God and put our trust in His providential care. Jesus said in the gospel, "Everyone who acknowledges me before others will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

St. John the Baptist was one person that acknowledged Jesus throughout his ministry and lifetime. And he challenged us also to acknowledge the Lord by *bearing fruits worthy as the followers of the Lord (Luke 3:8)*.

One way to measure how closely we're really following Jesus is to take an honest look at our lives. Taking a look at our lives sometimes could mean asking another person to give you feedback about how you are doing. If you are a father, you could ask your wife or children, "How am I doing?" Mothers and children can do likewise.

We recall in another place where Jesus said, "A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. A tree is identified by its fruit". He's referring to people, not trees.

Most of the time, the people close to us know us best; we can rely on them to make changes in our lives by finding out from them with simple, open questions. For they see our "good fruits" such as love, joy, peace, patience, honesty, kindness, goodness, justice, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control." But they also can identify our "bad fruits" such as anger, impatience, biases, unforgiveness, and lack of self control, selfishness, pride, greed, envy, gossip, unkindness, and hatred.

As we follow Jesus and grow closer to Him, His Spirit living in us will help us produce more and more good fruits, and less and less bad fruits. The changes in thoughts, attitudes, and actions will continue for a person's whole life because God is never done teaching us, shaping us, encouraging us, and transforming us into the people He created us to be. Let's stay close to Jesus.

**Happy Feast of St. John the Baptist!**

## Faith Formation by Linda Hansmeier

By Baptism, we become members of the Church, the Body of Christ. Today we celebrate our parishes namesake, St. John the Baptist. The origin and foundation of Christian Baptism is Jesus. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism given by John the Baptist. The waters did not purify him; he cleansed the waters . . . Jesus did not need to be baptized because he was totally faithful to the will of his Father and free from sin. However, he wanted to show his solidarity with human beings in order to reconcile them to the Father. By commanding his disciples to baptize all nations, he established the means by which people would die to sin – Original and actual – and begin to live a new life with God.

In Baptism, the Holy Spirit moves us to answer Christ's call to holiness. In Baptism, we are asked to walk by the light of Christ and to trust in his wisdom. We are invited to submit our hearts to Christ with ever deeper love.

Totus Tuus registrations are still open. Sign up soon as we do have a ceiling on the number of 1-6th grade children we can have. July 9 – 13, 7th – 12th grade. Dinner served each night. July 10 – 14, 1st – 6th Grade, Snacks and lunch served daily. We are still in need of three beds for our missionaries who will arrive on Saturday, July 8 – July 13. A continental breakfast is required for the missionaries daily, other meals are taken care of.

Please register your children and youth for Faith Formation classes as soon as possible. This helps us with our ordering and administrative responsibilities. Your help with this is greatly appreciated. To register go to <https://www.myschoolsystems.com/ArchDBQ/DBQ137/>. If you are a return registrar and have forgotten your username, send me an email at [l.hansmeier@dbqarch.org](mailto:l.hansmeier@dbqarch.org) and Trevor (office manager) or I will furnish it. If you have forgotten your password there is a box on your home page to click on and it will provide it for you. Fees can be paid online at [stjohnmv.org](http://stjohnmv.org) by clicking on online giving, using the drop box scroll down to faith formation fees.





### Readings for the week of June 25, 2023

Sun: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10,14,17,33-35/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33  
Mon: Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22/Mt 7:1-5  
Tues: Gn 13:2, 5-18/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Mt 7:6, 12-14  
Wed: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 7:15-20  
Thurs:  
Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19  
Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-9/2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18/Mt 16:13-19  
Fri: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 8:1-4  
Sat: Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and 53, 54-55/Mt 8:5-17  
Next Sunday:  
2 Kgs 4:8-11,14-16a/Ps 89:2-3,16-19/Rom 6:3-4,8-11/Mt 10:37-4



### Wednesday June 28th, 2023:

**8:30 AM: Amanda Meeker**

### Friday June 30th, 2023:

**8:30 AM: Darlene Allard**

### Sunday July 2nd, 2023:

**8:00 AM: Ed Bahl**

**TOTUS TUUS  
IS COMING BACK  
TO ST JOHN'S!**

*Have fun learning  
about your faith!*

Hey kids! Hope you come to this exciting week of Totus Tuus.  
There's something for young kids all the way up to high schoolers.

*Totus Tuus is a special summer program brought to us by  
seminarians and college students. They bring energy, fun games,  
goofy songs and skits.*

*And they bring Catholic teaching in all of that!*

**Grades entering 1-6**

starts Monday  
7/10 thru 7/14  
9 am to 2:30

Register online  
soon!!

**Grades**

**entering 7-12**

starts Sunday  
7/9 thru 7/13  
6:30 to 8:45 pm

Program especially  
for teens.

Go to St. John's  
website for details,  
a video and  
registration.

[stjohnmv.org](http://stjohnmv.org)

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

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

### Contributions Received Through June 20th, 2023

Budget, Adult .....	\$ 1415.00
Loose Coin/Currency .....	\$ 312.00
Memorial.....	\$ 2000.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 3727.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 296682.30
YTD collections received.....	\$ 350775.46
YTD .....	\$ <b>540963.16</b>

### Liturgical Ministers July 2nd, 2023

Sacristan: Ellen Bentley

Lectors: Trevor Gretten - Sharon Grice

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

EM( Cup): Larry Poduska - Judy Poduska - Lisa Thuerauf  
Stephen Poduska - Leona Smith Faoro

Hospitality: Troy & Tracey Louwagie & Family  
Jeremy & Abbie Stolte & Family

Servers: Selah Loyd - Noah Sporrer  
Clara Vavricek - Alaina Sellner

### Meetings and Activities of the Week

#### Tuesday June 27th -

**6:30 PM - Pastoral Council Meeting**

#### Wednesday June 28th -

**8:30 AM - Mass**

#### Friday June 30th -

**8:30 AM - Mass (Fellowship to Follow)**

#### Saturday July 1st -

**8:30 AM - Sisters of Faith (All Women Welcome)**

#### Sunday July 2nd -

**8:00 AM - Mass**

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:dbq137sec@dbqarch.org) with any marriage related issues or questions and to schedule an appointment.