

*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
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Coordinator of Religious Education

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

Director of Youth/Adult Ministries

Marcy McElroy: 319-895-6758
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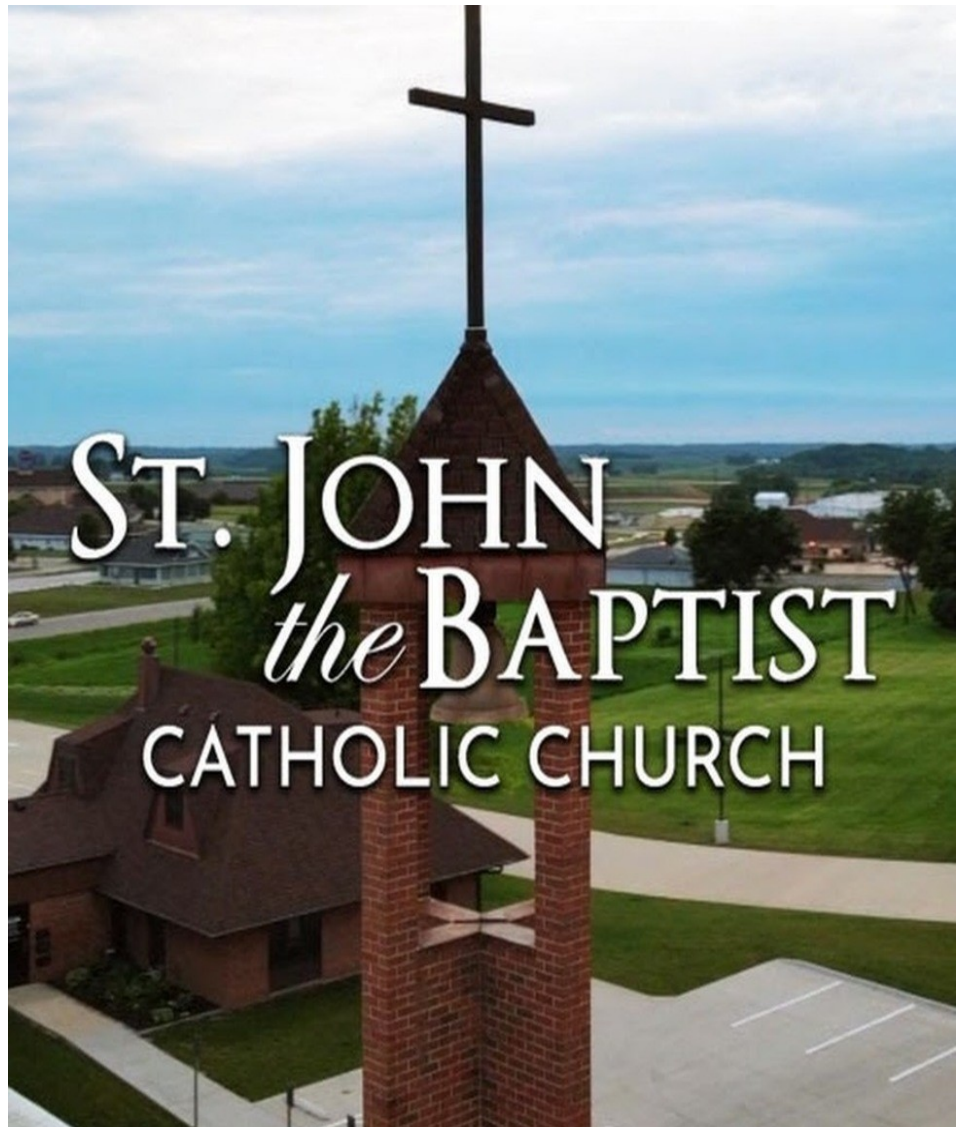
Coordinator of Music and Liturgy

Theresa Sundstrom: 563-451-2054
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Prayer Chain Contacts:

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

*August 20th, 2023
Twentieth 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

Welcoming the fall season with fresh starts

Nature has a way of teaching us about planning, waiting, experiencing, finishing, and letting go. The seasons of our climate bear witness to these apparent processes in life.

The summer season is almost gone and the start of fall is coming up fast. Ironically, fall is a paradoxical period. We will be admiring the tree leaves changing colors. Call it a busy time for the trees as well busy time for us. But we will all get busy as school and work activities get underway.

Families are already beginning to see those in college off with some difficulties, as parting is always painful to some extent, especially for those leaving home for the first time. The non-college children are not only getting ready as well to go back to school but for now, their presence in the house will provide consolation for the family. Families will start working more than they had done in the summer months and engage in several family-related events and activities.

As we prepare to step into the busyness of life, is there a place for faith experiences? Are you making plans to include faith practices in your your personal and family schedule? If your family can consider doing so, that would be great!

There is no denying that more often, as life throws more at us, things we do for faith tend to get lost in our schedules and daily activities. It is not because we don't care about our faith but in our effort to meet all the obligations that seem to come with consequences, we trade off faith-related activities.

I have a suggestion for families as we move into the busyness of the fall and the other seasons. Not long ago, I shared with a senior priest how hard it was to keep a regular evening prayer time. He asked me if I actually scheduled evening prayer time as I did for morning prayer I told him that I did not. He suggested that I schedule it. Since then, it has never been hard anymore.

I find the time to do it now because it has become a priority on my to-do list that I try to fulfill. That's it! Families, please schedule faith-related activities as you plan—for Mass, adoration, faith formation, the sacraments, and others. It's easier to do it when it is on the schedule. It assists in planning, waiting, experiencing, and finishing your prayers, being at Mass, reading, or listening to the Bible. Indeed, it makes faith become a priority and fulfillment for us.

Faith Formation by Linda Hansmeier

Faith Formation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 20 for grades 5-8 from 6:00 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. and high school from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. and on September 24 for grades K-4 from 9:00 a.m. until 10:15 p.m. Please join us every first and third Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for Adoration.

Beginning September 24 during Mass, Fr. Andrew will invite preschool aged children between 4 & 5 years old to come forward and be dismissed for Sunday Liturgy of the Word. The children will return to their family following the homily.

The last Sunday of the month will be Children's Mass. This year, each Children's Mass will have children and youth from a specific grade with high school students as their mentors.

Our first Parent meeting for sacramental preparation will be held on September 24 following Mass. Parents and family will meet in the lower level for family brunch. After brunch the 2nd grade children will return to their classroom with their catechists and their siblings will go to childcare in room 102. The parents will remain in the lower level for a meeting.

If you have not registered your child/children for faith formation classes, please do so as soon as possible. To register go to <https://www.myschoolsystems.com/ArchDBQ/DBQ137/>

If you have forgotten your username, contact Linda or Trevor and we can give it to you. If you have forgotten your password, click on the password box and it will provide you with it. If you have any questions send me an email at l.hansmeier@dbqarch.org or call 319-540-1190.

Social Justice Backpack Program

Social Justice is organizing a fundraising opportunity for "Operation Backpack." We purchase fresh fruit every week and work with school nurses from Lisbon—Mount Vernon to distribute healthy food to children in need... using their backpacks. "Operation Backpack" is part of a three-pronged program that Social Justice sponsors each fall, supporting schoolchildren in need from our communities and Haiti. Together as a parish, we raise money for:

- ☐ Children in Lisbon—Mount Vernon, as well as Haiti, to receive school supplies. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS IN JULY!
- ☐ Children in Lisbon—Mount Vernon to receive fresh fruit on a weekly basis throughout the school year in their own backpacks. WE WILL RAISE MONEY THROUGHOUT AUGUST FOR "OPERATION BACKPACK."

- ☐ Children in Haiti to benefit from school funding through the Run for Pie event. THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER.

We are humbled by the continued generosity of our parish! Thanks to our wonderful volunteers from the parish as well as partnerships with other parishes, educational institutions, and social service agencies both locally and abroad, all of the money raised goes directly toward where it is needed most.

These projects support the teachings of Catholic Social Justice:

- ☐ Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- ☐ Rights and Responsibilities
- ☐ Call to Family, Community, and Participation

Thank you for living your faith so generously!

Readings for the week of August 20, 2023

Sun: Is 56:1,6-7/Ps 67:2-8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
Mon: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22
Tues: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30
Wed: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16
Thurs: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Fri: Ru 1:1-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-10/Mt 22:34-40
Sat: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday:
Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20



Wednesday August 23rd, 2023:

8:30 AM: Edmond Ludwig

Friday August 25th, 2023:

8:30 AM: Michael Kortemeyer

Sunday August 27th, 2023:

8:00 AM: Marvin Wiesler

ATTENTION MEN OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Are you looking to deepen your relationship with God? Be a better husband? Become a more loving father? Build friendships with other like-minded men? And seek to be the best man you can be?

Then come join our Men's Group:
That Man is You!
Saturday Mornings
Starting on September 9
6:30 to 8:00 a.m.

Contact Dave Klostermann for more information: dklostermann@hotmail.com 319-350-2876

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." – Proverbs 27:17

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An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and ignatius press

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly contributions needed..... \$6623.08

Contributions Received Through August 15th, 2023

Budget, Adult	\$ 2035.00
Sacrificial Giving.....	\$ 96.00
Loose Coin/Currency	\$ 256.80
Fuel/AC/Upkeep.....	\$ 110.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 2497.80
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 48253.87
YTD collections received.....	\$ 36008.52
YTD	\$ 12245.35

Liturgical Ministers August 27th, 2023

Sacristan: Brett Kimm

Lectors: Stephanie Brehm - Ellen Bentley

EM: Joe Lynott - Marylynn Murray

Richard Povey - Joey Rhomberg

EM(Cup): Leona Smith Faoro - Lisa Thuerauf

Diane Kimm - De Wagner - Diane Apel

Hospitality: Mike & Ruth Clark & Family

Dave & Lesley Panos & Family

Troy & Tracey Louwagie & Family

Servers: Andrew Dix - Liliana Grosse

Natalie Thuerauf - Bailey Crock

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Tuesday August 22nd -

6:30 PM - Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday August 23rd -

8:30 AM - Mass

Friday August 25th -

8:30 AM - Mass (Fellowship to Follow)

Sunday August 27th -

8:00 AM - Mass

**Natural Family Planning (NFP)**
refers to the scientific, natural,
and moral methods of family
planning that can help couples
either achieve or avoid
pregnancy.

Blake and Sarah Covington are the newly trained
NFP Ambassador's to St. John the Baptist and are
eager to support couples in their Family Planning
Journey.

Please contact them at
blakesarahcovington@gmail.com if you would like
to inquire or converse about NFP

For more information about Natural Family
Planning, Scan this QR code.

