

# 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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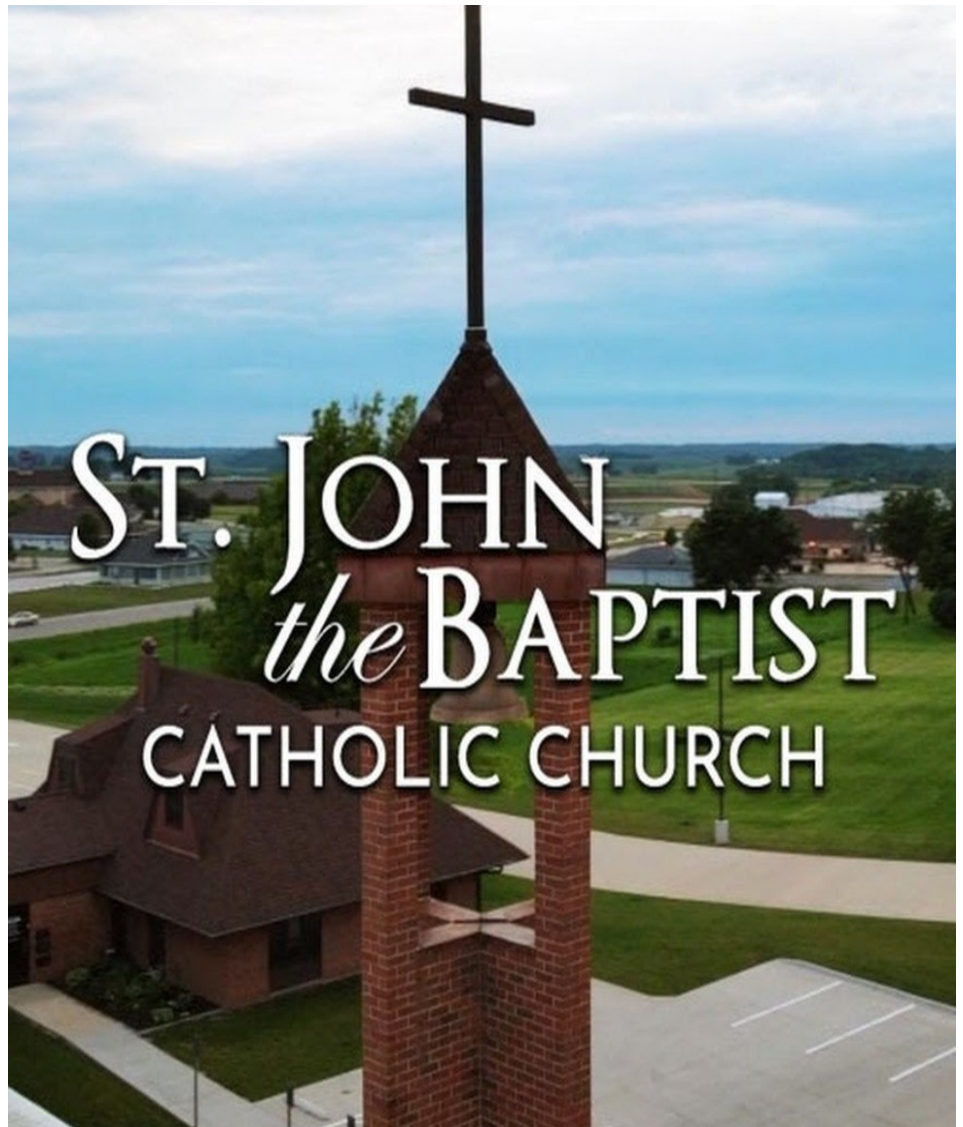
**Coordinator of Music and Liturgy**

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

**Prayer Chain Contacts:**

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

*September 10th, 2023*  
*Twenty-Third 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  
The Gospel of Sacred Silence

In our Catholic tradition and culture, the sense of the SACRED is highly stressed and embedded in our practices and devotions. We hear of sacred music, sacred vestments, sacred vessels, sacred images, the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary, and the list goes on.

Thanks to our families and the church, the awareness and appreciation of the SACRED is inculcated in us right from our infancy through baptism to form a salient part of our lives and faith journey. As the church and our families introduce us to God, we become consciously aware of the sacred presence in our lives and our surroundings.

One tangible way we express this sense of the sacred is by observing Sacred Silence in the presence of God in prayer, devotion, or meditation. Thus, I reiterate my earlier appeal to you that as Catholics we observe silence once we are inside the Church. We need to create a prayerful ambiance that is fitting for the sacred place we all cherish and gather to encounter our God. Such Sacred Silence in the worship space is expected before, during, and after Mass because of the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and personal prayers.

Please look at the following expert advice, an excerpt from a 2004 Zenit article published in Rome. Here, Father Edward McNamara, professor of liturgy at the Regina Apostolorum Pontifical Athenaeum, addresses the issue of silence in the church in response to a question he received.

Q: What is the role of silence in a Mass? When should there be silence? — J.C., Perth, Australia

A: "Silence has a very important role to play in the celebration as indicated by the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), No. 45. 'Sacred silence also, as part of the celebration, is to be observed at the designated times,' the GIRM says. Its purpose, however, depends on the time in each part of the celebration. Thus, within the Act of Penitence and again after the invitation to pray, all recollect themselves; but after a reading or the homily, all meditate briefly on what they have heard; then after Communion, they praise and pray to God in their hearts. Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence [to] be observed in the church, in the sacristy, in the vesting room, and adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action devoutly and fittingly. To this, we would add that silence should also be observed after Mass until one is outside the Church building, both for respect toward the Blessed Sacrament and toward those members of the faithful who wish to prolong their thanksgiving after Mass. The specific periods of silence recommended in the GIRM encourage a general atmosphere of interior and exterior silence for all the participants at Mass."

However, I should explain that for our churches that are designed with gathering areas outside the main church, the use of such space for community and conversation is well merited; it's OK! Thank you for your devotion to our rich Catholic faith and culture.



## Parish Faith Formation

*"Did you know that every day the Catholic Church feeds, houses and clothes more people, takes care of more sick people, visits more prisoners, and educates more people than any other institution on the face of the earth could ever hope to. We should be proud to be Catholic" - Matthew Kelly*

### Faith Formation for the Week:

- Later Today at 4:00 PM there will be a Catechist Inservice meeting. All Catechists and Faith Formation Leaders please attend!
- September 13th at 6:00 PM will be the Opening Mass and Parent Meeting for Faith Formation. All parents, catechists, and leaders please attend!
- That Man is You will have their 2nd meeting on Saturday the 16th at 6:30 AM. All men please join us even if you missed the first meeting.
- A little later Saturday, Run for Pie will take place at the Lisbon Park at 9:00 AM to support Haiti - please join us if you would like to run, volunteer or otherwise support the event!
- Sunday the 17th is Catechetical Sunday. We will be honoring all of the Catechists, and there will be an Open House after Mass for parents and students to meet their teachers. All parents, catechists, and leaders please attend!



Have you  
visited the  
Parish Library?

**Take a minute to browse through  
the collection of Catholic topics,  
kids book and even FREE books!**

We are looking for a few volunteers to help keep the library updated and tidy. Please contact the office if you can spare a few minutes each week.

## FORMED

St. Mother Teresa's  
Feast Day was  
September 5.



Check out  
FORMED  
for many  
movies  
about  
Saints.



### **Readings for the week of September 10, 2023**

Sun: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2,6-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20  
Mon: Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11  
Tues: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11/Lk 6:12-19  
Wed: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26  
Thurs: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2,34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
Fri: 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14/Ps 16:1-11/Jn 19:25-27/Lk 2:33-35  
Sat: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2,3-4,5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49  
Next Sunday:  
Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35



### **Wednesday September 13th, 2023:**

**8:30 AM:** Allison Horton Jacobi

### **Friday September 15th, 2023:**

**8:30 AM:** Tony & Dolores Fetter

### **Sunday September 17th, 2023:**

**8:00 AM:** Robert Schneider

### **St. Isidore Parish Festival**

Our festival will be held on Sunday, October 1st at St. Isidore in Springville. Studio Dancers in the parking lot at 11:00 a.m. Serving starts at 11:30 and goes until 1 pm. Menu features hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, German potato salad, sauerkraut, baked beans and a variety of salads and desserts. Silent auction starts at 11 with a live auction at 1:00 p.m. \$10 and kids under age 5 are free.

### **Blood Drive At St. John's!**

Impact Life will be hosting a blood drive at St. John's Thursday September 14th from 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM. It will be hosted in the lower level. If you would like to sign up please visit the Impactlife website or a link will be sent out in email later this week. Or, you can contact Theresa Pisarik or Patty Lynch at Pat-tylynch406@gmail.com

### **RCIA Begins Soon**

Do you know someone who is interested in learning about the Catholic faith?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults will begin October 5.

The sessions are informal and engaging and are designed for inquirers to learn more about Catholicism.

✓ Parishioners are always welcome!

Sessions will be held twice a month on Thursday evenings, unless otherwise arranged.

For more information, please call St. John's office at 895-6246.

### **STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**Weekly contributions needed..... \$6623.08**

**Due to Bulletin due dates with the holiday there were no significant donations to report. This will be taken back up in next week's bulletin.**

### **Liturgical Ministers September 17th, 2023**

Sacristan: Brett Kimm

Lectors: Cindy Kendall - Charlie Liberko

EM: Pete Bahl - Ellen Bentley  
Marty Fall - Trevor Gretten

EM( Cup): Diane Kimm-Stephen Poduska-Chuck Murray  
Dave Klostermann - Theresa Patterson

Hospitality: Jamie & Annalyn Elloren  
Darin & Charlene Vig & Family  
Larry & Judy Poduska

Servers: Michael Covington - Mitchell Covington  
Tommy Rhomberg - Adam Swart

### **Meetings and Activities of the Week**

#### **Sunday September 10th -**

**4:00 PM - Catechist Inservice**

#### **Wednesday September 13th -**

**Lower Level Reserved For Election**

**8:30 AM - Mass**

**6:00 PM - Parent Night Meeting & Mass**

#### **Thursday September 14th -**

**1:00 PM - Blood Drive**

#### **Friday September 15th -**

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

**5:30 PM - Church Reserved For Wedding Rehearsal**

#### **Saturday September 16th -**

**Church Reserved For Wedding**

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

**9:00 AM - Run For Pie**

#### **Sunday September 17th -**

**8:00 AM - Mass**

**9:00 AM-Catechetical Sunday/Faith Formation Open House**



**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,  
go to [nfp.dbqarch.org](http://nfp.dbqarch.org)