

*Working Together To  
Build the Kingdom of God*

**Mass Schedule:**

**St. John the Baptist, Mount Vernon**

Sunday at 8:00 am

Wednesday & Friday - 8:30 am

**St. Isidore the Farmer, Springville:**

Saturday at 6 pm - Tuesday & Thursday 8 am

**St. John's Parish Confession:**

Sunday at 7:30 am or by appointment

Monday 5:30 PM; 6:30 PM

During SS. Monica & Anthony Holy Hour

**St. John Office Hours**

Monday to Thursday from:

8 am - 4 pm

Friday:

8 am - 2 pm

**Pastor:**

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah

Office: 319-895-6246

Email: DBQ137@dbqarch.org

**Deacon:**

Rev. Mr. Mark Sandersfeld

319-743-5008

DBQ137D@dbqarch.org

**Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper**

Trevor Gretten

Parish Office: 319-895-6246

E-mail: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org

**Coordinator of Religious Education**

Linda Hansmeier: 319-895-6758

E-mail: DBQ137RE@dbqarch.org

**Director of Youth/Adult Ministries**

Marcy McElroy: 319-895-6758

E-Mail : DBQ137YM@dbqarch.org

**Coordinator of Music and Liturgy**

Theresa Sundstrom: 563-451-2054

E-mail: t.sundstrom@dbqarch.org

**Prayer Chain Contacts:**

Trevor Gretten: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org

*March 23rd, 2025  
The Third Sunday of Lent*



**Readings for the week of March 23, 2025**

Sun: Ex 3:1-8, 13-15/Ps 103:1-8, 11/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

**Scrutiny:** Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Mon: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30

Tues: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Wed: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19

Thurs: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Fri: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6-11, 14&17/Mk 12:28-34

Sat: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14

Next Sunday:

Jos 5:9-12/Ps 34:2-7/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

**Scrutiny:** 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13/Ps 23:1-6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41

**LISBON - MOUNT VERNON, IA  
AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES**

**Website: <http://www.stjohnmv.org>**

**Parish Theme: Pilgrims of Hope: We are Chosen, Faith Filled, Joyful!**

## Pastor Speaks

### My life as a Parishioner in Lent

Lent is a beautiful time to grow in deeper love with Christ and with others - family, friends, co-workers, classmates - and experience the meaning and beauty of life together. For what is the meaning of life when it is not expressed in love for others. During Lent, we are invited to reflect and honestly ask God to show us how He sees us and the way we can better ourselves for Him. Lent extends this opportunity to us to anticipate Christ's passion and suffering in a real and deep way. We have the chance to ask Christ to make our hearts more like His: merciful, attentive, generous, and eager to love. Then we put in the effort to act accordingly in all the WWCD (What will Christ do) moments.

Here are three general areas you can consider during this Lent in addition to whatever you have been doing.

1. Delve into the Parish Family: Our parish is our family. There may be some parishioners in the parish you have never talked to before, though you see them around and probably sit close to during Mass. You can make it a Lenten practice to take one step further to make time to converse after Mass; introduce your family or yourself or say hello directly to people and have a conversation with them. It is the way we get to know parishioners and feel bonded and caring towards one another and be a community. Also, participate in the parish's Lenten programs: Stations of the Cross, Praying the Rosary, reciting the Jubilee Prayer, Adorations, Lenten Study, etc. All these holy acts that can take place right here can make us experience the richness of Lent and become what God wants us to be.

2. Go to Confession: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is such a beautiful sacrament. Let us make it part of our Lenten journey. It allows us to be transformed into the vessel of grace. When we leave the Confessional, the gifts of grace and peace are bestowed upon us. We become more in tune and open to the Holy Spirit, who desires us to flourish. Lent is a time of reflection and healing, and this is the best way to reflect upon our lives and let God heal us.

3. Return to the Sacred Scripture: Studying and familiarizing ourselves with the Scripture is a great way to prepare our minds, hearts, and souls for what God has in store for us. We can do this by committing to reading the Bible daily, praying, fasting for the parish, and trying our best to attend Mass. With these actions, God will bless our Lent. Remember that Lent is not only about giving up some things. It is also about getting things - blessings and graces by following some of the suggestions.

God bless you and keep having a rewarding Lent.



## Parish Faith Formation

### Mary Says "Yes" To God

*When Was There A Time When You Said Yes To God?*

#### Faith Formation This Week:

##### Monday March 24th -

**5:30 - 7:00 PM: SS. Monica & Anthony Holy Hour**

##### Tuesday March 25th -

**7:00 - 8:00 PM: Annunciation Mass**

##### Wednesday March 26th -

**No Faith Formation - Online Family Activity**

##### Saturday March 29th -

**6:30 - 8:00 AM: That Man is You Men's Group**

##### Sunday March 30th -

**No Faith Formation - Online Family Activity**

## 2025 Lenten Alms For HACAP

Lent Is A Time Of Prayer, Fasting, And Almsgiving. This Year, Our Parish's Lenten Alms Are Supporting HACAP..

HACAP Is A Local Non-Profit Organization That Helps To Support Members Of Our Communities Who Need Assistance With Food, Housing, Energy Bills, Emergency Support, etc.

Please Donate Online Using The "Lenten Alms" Option, Or Send In A Check With "Lenten Alms" Or "HACAP" In The Memo!



## 2025/2026 Mass Intentions

PLEASE STOP BY OR CONTACT THE OFFICE WITH ANY MASS INTENTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE OFFERED IN 2025 OR 2026

WE STILL HAVE A FAIR NUMBER OF 2025 DATES AVAILABLE ESPECIALLY IN THE LATER PART OF THE YEAR

INTENTIONS CAN BE FOR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE PASSED, PERSONAL INTENTIONS, OR ANYONE YOU WOULD LIKE HONOR WITH A MASS SAID IN THEIR NAME

CUSTOMARY DONATION OF \$5/INTENTION THAT GOES TO THE PRIEST

#### Cemetery Cleanup:

Cemetery Cleanup at the St. John's Cemetery begins on Tuesday April 1st. Please remove any floral arrangements or decorations you would like to save before then. Cleanup will be finished on Tuesday April 15th and new arrangements can be placed any time after that. Thank you all for your understanding please contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.



**Wednesday March 26th, 2025:**

**8:30 AM:** Jim Barry

**Friday March 28th, 2025:**

**8:30 AM:** Harold Hufford

**Sunday March 30th, 2025:**

**8:00 AM:** Charlotte & Harold Miller

**Liturgical Ministers March 30th, 2025**

**Sacristan:** *Hugh Scieszinski*

**Lectors:** *Children's Mass*

**EM:** *Ellen Bentley - Janet Huebner - Diane Kimm*

**EM (Cup):** *Dave Klostermann - Teresa Patterson*

*Mark Kraus - Pam Kraus - Joe Lynott*

**Hospitality:** *John & Amanda Rhomberg & Family*

*Todd & Samantha Phillips & Family*

*Jamie & Annalyn Elloren*

**Servers:** *Damon Phillips - Tommy Rhomberg*

*Chasen Caskey - Dashlyn Caskey*

**Meetings and Activities of the Week**

**Monday March 24th -**

**5:30 - 7:00 PM:** SS. Monica & Anthony Holy Hour

**Tuesday March 25th -**

**6:30 - 7:30 PM:** Parish Council Meeting

**7:00 - 8:00 PM:** Annunciation Mass

**Wednesday March 26th -**

**No Faith Formation - Online Family Activity**

**6:30 - 7:30 AM:** Finance Council Meeting

**8:30 - 9:00 AM:** Mass

**Friday March 28th -**

**8:30 - 9:00 AM:** Mass (Fellowship to Follow)

**Saturday March 29th -**

**6:30 - 8:00 AM:** That Man is You Men's Group

**Sunday March 30th -**

**No Faith Formation - Online Family Activity**

**8:00 - 9:00 AM:** Mass

**9:00 - 11:00 AM:** Parish Auction (Childcare Provided)

**Go to our website [stjohnmv.org](http://stjohnmv.org)  
to access FORMED!**

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**Weekly contributions needed..... \$7144.33**

**Contributions Received Through March 18th, 2025**

Budget, Adult .....	\$ 2305.00
Loose.....	\$ 565.00
Upkeep.....	\$ 65.00
Misc. Donations.....	\$ 600.00
Holiday Donations.....	\$ 10.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 3545.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 271484.54
YTD collections received.....	\$ 298004.32
YTD .....	\$ <b>26519.78</b>

**St. John Parish Auction**

**Sunday, March 30th  
Following 8:00 AM Mass**

**Come For Breakfast Bidding & Fun**



Scan the QR Code  
or go to the church  
website to donate

Questions? Please Contact:

Megan Downey:

Cell: 319-361-2823 or email: [megan.e.driscoll@gmail.com](mailto:megan.e.driscoll@gmail.com)

OR

Tracey Louwagie:

Cell: 319-213-0251 or email: [tnlouwagie@hotmail.com](mailto:tnlouwagie@hotmail.com)

**Easter Mass Signups**

**Minister Signups for Holy Thursday,  
Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday are  
Available in the Gathering Space!**

**Please Sign Up if You Are Able to Serve!**



**News & Events**

**Adoration:**

- Every Wednesday During Lent 7:00-9:00 PM
- After 8:30 AM Mass on First Friday of the Month
- Every Monday Night 5:30 - 7:00 PM SS. Monica & Anthony Holy Hour

**Reconciliation:**

- Confessions held 30 minutes before Sunday Mass - 7:30 AM.
- Monday 5:30 - 6:30 PM During SS. Monica & Anthony Holy Hour
- 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 our Baptismal Catechesis Team. Please contact the office at 319-895-6246 or email [dbq137sec@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq137sec@dbqarch.org) with any questions and to sign up for a session

**Marriage Prep:** 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 to start preparation.

**Parish Theme: Pilgrims of Hope: We are Chosen, Faith Filled, Joyful!**