

*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

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Coordinator of Religious Education

Linda Hansmeier: 319-895-6758

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Director of Youth/Adult Ministries

Marcy McElroy: 319-895-6758

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Theresa Sundstrom: 563-451-2054

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Prayer Chain Contacts:

Trevor Gretten: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org

*March 30th, 2025
The Fourth Sunday of Lent*



Readings for the week of March 30, 2025

Sun: 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

Mon: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2,4-6,11-13/Jn 4:43-54

Tues: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wed: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9,13-14,17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thurs: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47

Fri: Wis 2:1,12-22/Ps 34:17-23/Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30

Sat: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3,9-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday:

Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11**Scrutiny:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45

**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

Liturgical Changes During Lent

Liturgical celebrations incorporate certain changes to reflect the nature of the season. These changes foster aesthetic appreciation and attentive reflection for some spiritual benefits from the celebration. Lent has its own unique rules, including giving up or suspending some things for the period to convey the unique character of the season. Here are some changes that occur in the season of Lent.

The Liturgical Color

The liturgical color for Lent is typically purple or violet, symbolizing penance, humility, and preparation. However, on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, known as Laetare Sunday, the color may be rose (pink) to symbolize a brief respite in the austerity of Lent, signaling the nearing approach of Easter joy.

Singing or saying the Gloria

One of the most notable things we give up at Mass is the Gloria. That joyous hymn that the angels sang the night of our Savior's birth, which we sing on Sundays, Feast days, and Solemnities, is omitted during Advent and Lent.

The singing or saying of Alleluia before the Gospel.

We also omit the Alleluia, an acclamation derived from a Hebrew expression of praise to God. We sing Alleluia to thank and glorify God. During Lent, however, our focus is on the spiritual journey just like the Israelites in the Old Testament. We journey toward the coming of Christ and the salvation of humankind through His death on the cross and the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Flowers and decoration at the Sanctuary.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal forbids using fresh flowers during Lent. The idea is that Lent is a time to focus on Christ and His sacrifice, and that means only those elements necessary for the Eucharistic celebration should be in the sanctuary and on the altar. Exceptions, however, are Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts. Flowers are typically removed from the altar; other decorations are simplified to create a more subdued atmosphere.

Lent is a time of spiritual preparation for Easter; these changes in the liturgical celebration reflect the penitential nature of the season. They are designed to get our attention and focus more on the season's nature. The changes are also intended to remind us of the changes we need to introduce to reflect the season's character and purpose. So, as you enter the church and notice the somberness of the place, it should prompt you to ask yourself, 'Am I responding to anything unusual in my life?'



Parish Faith Formation

We Celebrate Five Feasts In March *Do you Know All Five Feasts?*

Faith Formation This Week:

Monday March 31st -

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

Wednesday April 2nd -

7:00 - 9:00 PM: Adoration

7:00 - 8:15 PM: Shadow Stations Practice

Saturday April 5th -

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

8:30 - 10:00 AM: Sisters of Faith (All Women Welcome)

Sunday April 6th -

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Confirmation Retreat

9:00 - 10:15 AM: K-6th Grade Faith Formation

2:00 - 3:00 PM: Communal Penance

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!



St. John's Communal Penance

**Sunday April 6th,
2:00 PM**

We will be hosting a Lenten Communal Penance Service at St. John's on Sunday April 6th at 2:00 PM.

There will be a communal service with multiple Priests available for individual Confessions after!

Please join us for this service!



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 April 2nd, 2025:

8:30 AM: Ann Hufford

Friday April 4th, 2025:

8:30 AM: Carl & Marie Morrison

Sunday April 6th, 2025:

8:00 AM: Darlene Allard

Liturgical Ministers April 6th, 2025

Sacristan: Mark Anton

Lectors: Erin Moeller - Samantha Phillips

EM: Dan Pederson - Larry Poduska - Judy Poduska

EM (Cup): Leona Smith Faoro - Stephen Poduska

Heidi Ryan - Jacob Ryan - Richard Povey

Hospitality: Tyler & Theresa Patterson & Family

Brett & Diane Kimm

Jeremy & Abbie Stolte & Family

Servers: Andrew Dix - Libby Dix

Jake Baker - Brick Baker

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Monday March 31st -

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

Wednesday April 2nd -

8:30 - 9:00 AM: Mass

6:00 - 7:00 PM: Stewardship Committee Meeting

7:00 - 9:00 PM: Adoration

7:00 - 8:15 PM: Shadow Stations Practice

Friday April 4th -

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

9:00 - 9:30 AM: Adoration After Mass

Saturday April 5th -

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

8:30 - 10:00 AM: Sisters of Faith (All Women Welcome)

Sunday April 6th -

8:00 - 9:00 AM: Mass (Anointing of the Sick)

9:00 - 1:00 PM: Confirmation Retreat

9:00 - 10:15 AM: K-6th Grade Faith Formation

2:00 - 3:00 PM: Communal Penance

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly contributions needed..... \$7144.33

Contributions Received Through March 25th, 2025

Budget, Adult	\$ 3135.00
Loose.....	\$ 397.00
Upkeep.....	\$ 20.00
Misc Donations.....	\$ 450.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 4002.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 278628.87
YTD collections received.....	\$ 302006.32
YTD	\$ 23377.45

Sponsored by Cedar Rapids Area Youth Ministers

QUEST RETREAT

Registration due March 30th

WHEN Saturday, April 5, 2025
10am-10pm

WHERE LaSalle Middle School

WHO Freshman & Sophomore

WHY Grow in relationship with
Christ and others

HOW Register with QR Code
\$40 Checks Payable to
Archdiocesan Deposit & Loan



Send Checks to St. Elizabeth's:
1350 Lyndhurst Dr. Hiawatha, IA 52233

2025Lenten 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!

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 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 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 with any marriage related issues or questions and to schedule an appointment to start preparation.

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