

*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

*May 25th, 2025
The Sixth Sunday of Easter*



Readings for the week of May 25, 2025

Sun: Acts 15:1-2,22-29/Ps 67:2-8/Rv 21:10-14,22-23/Jn 14:23-29

Mon: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1-6 and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tues: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wed: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2,11-14/Jn 16:12-15

Thurs: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 16:16-20 **Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/Eph 1:17-23/Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Fri: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Sat: Zep 3:14-18/Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-6/Lk 1:39-56

Next Sunday:

Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14,16-17,20/Jn 17:20-26 **Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3,6-9/Eph 1:17-23/Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

**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

The Symbolism of the Paschal Candle

"In him was life, and life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (Jn 1:4-5).

The Paschal Candle, also known as the Easter Candle, carries profound symbolism in Christian Traditions, especially during Easter. The Paschal Candle is a special candle which has been used in the Christian church for hundreds and hundreds of years. The Paschal Candle is lit as the Church comes into Easter morning and then continues to be lit throughout the Easter season during liturgical celebrations. Its flames and glow should not miss our notice; its inspiration should draw you to look at it whenever it is lit.

Baptism and Funeral Liturgies:

The Paschal Candle is used also at baptisms and funeral that occur throughout the year, tying those occasions back to their Easter connections in the resurrection of Christ. At Baptisms, it represents the new life and spiritual rebirth received through this Sacrament. During Funeral liturgies, it represents Christ's victory over death. It reminds the grieving community of the promise of eternal life, giving hope that the deceased is going to share in the life of Christ.

Light in Darkness:

The Paschal Candle symbolizes Christ as the light of the world, shining in darkness. It reminds us that even in the darkest moments, there is hope and light. The Easter candle represents Jesus as the "light of the world," imitating the Jewish custom of the ceremonial lighting of Sabbath lamps on Friday evenings. The Paschal Candle also has connections with the lamps the early Christians lighted and displayed on Saturday evenings to honor Jesus as the "light of the world".

Renewal and Rebirth:

The Candle is lit during the Easter vigil, signifying the resurrection of Christ and the renewal of life. It teaches about the possibility of new beginnings and spiritual transformations that should accompany the Christian life during Easter, and which continues with the strength and power of the Holy Spirit to be received and rekindled at Pentecost.

Sacrificial Love:

The candle's flames consume the wax, signifying Christ's sacrificial love for humanity. It inspires us to embrace selflessness and compassion in our lives.

Guidance and Direction:

In the liturgical setting, the Paschal Candle often guides the faithful, symbolizing Christ as our guide and source of direction in life's journey.

Unity and Communion:

As the flame of the Paschal Candle is shared among the congregation's candles during the vigil. It signifies the unity and communion among believers emphasizing the importance of community and fellowship.

Beloved, the Paschal Candle should be our source of Inspiration and guidance in our spiritual and personal growth journeys teaching us that: light will always overpower the darkness, renewal and rebirth are possible, love is shown through sacrifice, guidance and direction won't be lacking with Christ, and that Christians should live as one.



Parish Faith Formation

This Week We Celebrate The Visitation Of The Blessed Virgin Mary!
What Magnifies the Presence of the Lord in Your Life?

LOST ISLAND YOUTH DAY

Cedar Rapids Area Youth
Ministry invites all
6th-12th grade students

**LIMITED SPACE
AVAILABLE
(40 Spots then a
Waitlist)**



THURS JUNE 12
9:30AM - 4:45PM



\$45 PER STUDENT*
+ ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR
FOOD AT THE PARK
*fee covers admission & transportation



**LOST ISLAND
WATER PARK
WATERLOO, IA**

Return Forms with Cash or Check**

Payment by June 5th to

St. Pius X Church - Sarah Coppa
4949 Council St NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402



St. John the Baptist

Feast Day Celebration
June 29th

OUTDOOR MASS - 10:00 A.M.
Please bring a lawn chair

PARISH PICNIC TO FOLLOW
FOOD - FELLOWSHIP - FUN



YOUTH SERVICE RETREAT
JUNE 23 - 25, 2025



The Cedar Rapids Area Youth Ministers invite all high school youth to volunteer in Cedar Rapids during Matthew 25's Transform Week. Matthew 25's Transform Week program matches homeowners with community volunteers - that's us - who can help complete home repair or landscaping projects that make both homes and neighborhoods safer, healthier, and more uplifted.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

- Marcy McElroy - Youth Ministry Director at St. John the Baptist in Mount Vernon
o DBQ197ym@dbqarch.org / 563-321-8405
- Lisa Meyers - Youth Minister at St. Ludmila Catholic Church
o DBQ029YM@DBQARCH.ORG / 319-721-9360





Wednesday May 28th, 2025:

8:30 AM: Hal Hufford

Friday May 30th, 2025:

8:30 AM: Jim Barry

Sunday June 1st, 2025:

8:00 AM: Jim Schemmel

Liturgical Ministers June 1st, 2025

Sacristan: Ellen Bentley

Lectors: Charley Liberko - Patty Lynch

EM: Diane Apel - Marty Fall - Ruth Horton

EM (Cup): Janet Huebner - Dave Klostermann
Mark Kraus - Pam Kraus - Joe Lynott

Hospitality: Troy & Tracey Louwagie & Family
Andy & Erin Moeller & Family
Dean & Kathy Mallie & Family

Servers: Natalie Thuerauf - Selah Loyd
Clara Vavricek - Libby Dix

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Monday May 26th -

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

Tuesday May 27th -

6:30 - 7:30 PM: Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday May 28th -

8:30 - 9:00 AM: Mass

Friday May 30th -

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

Saturday May 31st -

7:00 - 8:00 AM: Men's Group

Sunday June 1st -

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM: Mass



**Go to our website stjohnmv.org
to access FORMED!**

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly contributions needed..... \$7144.33

Contributions Received Through May 20th, 2025

Budget, Adult	\$ 2055.00
Loose.....	\$ 260.00
Total Collected	\$ 2315.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 335783.51
YTD collections received.....	\$ 366340.76
YTD	\$ 30557.25



The Feast of
THE VISITATION
May 31



News & Events

Adoration:

- 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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