

*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

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**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

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**Prayer Chain Contacts:**

Trevor Gretten: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org

*June 29th, 2025*

*The Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul*



**Readings for the week of June 29, 2025**

Sun: **Vigil:** Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19 **Day:** Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-9/2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Mon: Gn 18:16-33/Ps 103:1-2,3-4,8-9,10-11/Mt 8:18-22

Tues: Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 8:23-27

Wed: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 8:28-34

Thurs: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29

Fri: Gn 23:1-4,19;24:1-8,62-67/Ps 106:1-5/Mt 9:9-13

Sat: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:14-17

Next Sunday:

Is 66:10-14/Ps 66:1-7,16,20/Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12,17-20

**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

### Feast of Saints Peter and Paul: "You are the Christ"

Dear Friends,

Today, Holy Mother Church celebrates the memory of two of the most iconic founders of our cherished faith—Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles. But for us at St John's, we also celebrate the feast of a third iconic personality, Saint John the Baptist, our Parish Patron Saint. Though called and sent on distinct missions—Peter as the apostle to the Jews and Paul as the apostle to the Gentiles—they together laid a firm foundation for the Church across the nations. Through their tireless work, they handed down to us the faith and mission entrusted to them by the Lord of the harvest. As Pope Benedict XVI once said, "Christian tradition has always considered Saints Peter and Paul inseparable: indeed, together, they represent the whole Gospel of Christ."

Jesus Christ founded His Church on the faith of Peter, and Paul became the greatest evangelist in the Church's history. These two saints are not only remembered as pillars of the faith and symbols of the Catholic Church, but tradition also holds that both were martyred around the same time under Emperor Nero's persecution.

When we look closely at the individuals behind these great biblical figures, we see distinct personalities—Peter, impetuous and sometimes fearful, Paul, intense and bold. And yet, we recognize how God used their differences for His purpose. This teaches us that God can use each of us, with all our uniqueness, to serve His glory. Peter's passionate love was channeled into pastoral care for Christ's flock, while Paul's rigorous Pharisaic training and powerful character were used to bring the light of the Gospel to the Gentiles, who had long lived in ignorance of the true God.

At the heart of today's Gospel are two critical questions Jesus asked His disciples—and continues to ask us today: "Who do people say that I am?" and "Who do you say that I am?" The responses then revealed widespread confusion about Jesus' identity. Sadly, that same lack of knowledge, faith, and even rejection of Jesus still persists today. While the people may have changed, the challenge remains the same.

You may already be familiar with the statistics. According to Pew Research, today, people aged 18-39 are less likely to consider religion as important to them compared to those ages 40 and older. Moreover, just 19% of the U.S. population identifies as Catholic. Regionally, 19% are in the Midwest, 26% in the Northeast, 29% in the South, and 25% in the West. These figures point to a sobering reality, but not a hopeless one.

Rather than despair, let us pray to the Lord of the harvest, who transformed Saul into Paul, that He may use each of us—weaknesses and all—as witnesses to the faith. Let us draw strength from Saints Peter and Paul, who show us that our talents, limitations, and even disagreements can become instruments of God's transformative grace. They remind us that unity in diversity is possible in the Church, and that through God's grace, reconciliation is always within reach.

Let us never stop answering the Lord's question: "Who am I to you?" As Pope Francis urges us, "Let us give Him an answer today—one that comes from the heart." We do not need to be perfect for God to work through us. Just as He worked through Peter and Paul, He can work through us—flaws, failures, and all.

**Happy Feast of Saints Peter and Paul! Happy Feast of Saint John the Baptist!**



## Parish Faith Formation

Jesus asked Peter three times "Do you love me?"  
*How would you respond to Jesus' question?*

# Totus Tuus



INCOMING 1<sup>ST</sup> - 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

JULY 28- AUG. 1, 9:00AM - 2:30PM

INCOMING 7<sup>TH</sup> - OUTGOING 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:

JULY 27 - 31, 6:30 - 8:45PM



SIGN UP WITH QR CODE!



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST







Wednesday July 2nd, 2025:

**8:30 AM:** Carl & Marie Morrison

Friday July 4th, 2025:

**8:30 AM:** Jim Barry & Carol Kozlowski

Sunday July 6th, 2025:

**8:00 AM:** John & Sally Schneider

Liturgical Ministers July 6th, 2025

**Sacristan:** Ellen Bentley

**Lectors:** Ruth Horton - Cindy Kendall

**EM:** Janet Huebner-Dave Klostermann-Mark Kraus

**EM (Cup):** Marylynn Murray - Teresa Patterson

Chuck Murray - Joe Lynott - Pam Kraus

**Hospitality:** Troy & Tracey Louwagie & Family

Andy & Erin Moeller & Family

Dean & Kathy Mallie

**Servers:** Andrew Dix - Libby Dix

Liliana Grosse - Fitz Doyle

Meetings and Activities of the Week

**Monday June 30th -**

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

**Wednesday July 2nd -**

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

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

**7:00 - 9:00 PM:** Adoration

**Friday July 4th -**

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

**9:00 - 9:30 AM:** Adoration after Mass

**Saturday July 5th -**

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

**Sunday July 6th -**

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

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

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

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

**Contributions Received Through June 24th, 2025**

**(Please note next week's issue will be the final report for  
fiscal year 2024-2025)**

Budget, Adult .....	\$ 1555.00
Loose.....	\$ 429.00
Upkeep.....	\$ 200.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 2184.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 371505.16
YTD collections received.....	\$ 390515.47
YTD .....	\$ 19010.31

## **Blood Drive**

**Thursday, July 17th**

**2:30 - 6:30 PM**

**St. John the Baptist lower level**



Scan this code or contact Terese  
Pisarik or Patty Lynch @  
[pattylynch406@gmail.com](mailto:pattylynch406@gmail.com) to  
schedule a donation!

## **We are looking for more Altar Servers!**

If your child would like to be trained as an altar server, please contact the office for more information and to get a training time scheduled. Thank you all for your ministry!



## **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](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.

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