

*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 & Pastoral Associate:

Rev. Mr. Mark Sandersfeld

319-743-5008

DBQ137D@dbqarch.org

Office Hours: Wednesday 9:00-12:00 PM

Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper

Trevor Gretten

Parish Office: 319-895-6246

E-mail: DBQ137SEC@dbqarch.org

Director of K-12 Faith Formation

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

*September 7th, 2025
Twenty - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*



Readings for the week of September 7, 2025

Sun: Wis 9:13-18/Ps 90:3-6,12-17/Phlm 9-17/Lk 14:25-33

Mon: Mi 5:1-4/Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6,/Mt 1:1-16,18-23

Tues: Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19

Wed: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3,10-11,12-13/Lk 6:20-26

Thurs: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38

Fri: 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14/Ps 16:1-8,11/Lk 6:39-42

Sat: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1-7/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday:

Nm 21:4-9/Ps 78:1-2,34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

LISBON - MOUNT VERNON, IA
AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

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

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

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Cross is Not Negotiable

“Holiness isn’t for wimps,” Mother Angelica famously said. “And the cross isn’t negotiable, sweetheart — it’s a requirement.”

I love Mother Angelica, and I love this quote. Following God is tough, and to do it you have to make a decision to be tough, to endure tough things — and ultimately, to love the toughness of it all, because within that struggle God meets us with mercy and salvation.

But in light of today’s readings, I think Mother Angelica would forgive me for tweaking her words a tiny bit.

Holiness is for wimps, because the cross isn’t negotiable.

When the unfaithful among the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses’ staff. With a literary flourish that puts Homer and Shakespeare to shame, God inverts that primitive symbol. To heal us, he invites us to look upon the cross — the sacrifice which achieved our redemption.

Jesus came here to die on that cross for us. For the wimps. Because we couldn’t do it ourselves, even if we tried. We couldn’t right all of our wrongs, not if we had a million years to do it. We would keep screwing it up. We would keep failing. We’re wimps; that’s what we do.

But the cross — the cross is a magnificent invitation to something more. Divinity Himself, assuming the cloak of flesh and the weight of sin, so that when we look at the cross we might recognize ourselves. So that we might see what we have been, what we are, what we could be.

And none of it is negotiable.

Sessions will be starting soon for anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church. If you or someone you know would like to learn more about becoming Catholic, please contact Natalie Klostermann. 319.551.7650

Blood Drive

Thursday, September 11th, 2025

2:30 - 6:30 PM

St. John’s Lower Level

Please either scan the QR code or contact
Therese Pisarik at
pattylynch406@gmail.com
to schedule an
appointment.



Pancake Breakfast

September 28th

Following 8:00am Mass

- A fundraiser for the National Catholic Youth Conference
- Two serving lines
- Free will donation

Thank you for your support!





Wednesday September 10th, 2025:

8:30 AM: Mass cancelled, intention rescheduled

Friday September 12th, 2025:

8:30 AM: Doris McElmeel & Larry Haight

Sunday September 14th, 2025:

8:00 AM: Alison Horton Jacobi

Liturgical Ministers September 14th, 2025

Sacristan: Ellen Bentley

Lectors: Ruth Horton - Cindy Kendall

EM: Lisa Thuerauf - Larry Collins - Charlene Vig

EM (Cup): Conni Swart - Diane Apel - Marty Fall
Janet Huebner - Nikki Sporrer

Hospitality: Mike & Ruth Clark

Troy & Tracey Louwagie & Family

Andy & Erin Moeller

Servers: Noah Sporrer - Rylan Sporrer

Chasen Caskey - Dashtyn Caskey

Meetings and Activities of the Week

Monday September 8th -

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

Tuesday September 9th -

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

6:00 - 7:00 PM: Social Justice Committee Meeting

6:30 - 7:30 PM: Faith Formation Committee Meeting

Wednesday September 10th -

9:00 - 10:30 AM: 1st St. Anne's Session

7:00 - 8:15 PM: 7th - 12th Grade Faith Formation

Thursday September 11th -

2:30 - 6:00 PM: Blood Drive

Friday September 12th -

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

Saturday Sept. 13th -

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

Sunday September 14th -

8:00 - 9:00 AM: Mass - Commissioning of Catechists

9:00 - 10:30 AM: Confirmation Parent Meeting

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

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly contributions needed..... \$7115.38

Due to bulletin due dates there have been significant donations since the last issue. There will be an update in next week's issue.



**Journey
in Faith**

The Archdiocese of Dubuque will be holding informational and feedback sessions about the new Journey in Faith initiative in the upcoming months. If you would like to attend one of these meetings please use the QR code below to register! There will be meetings at both All Saints & St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in September.



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
- Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday

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.

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