

*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

*October 26th, 2025*

*Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**Readings for the week of October 26, 2025**

Sun: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

Mon: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2,4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17

Tues: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16

Wed: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30

Thurs: Rom 8:31-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/Lk 13:31-35

Fri: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

Sat: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

Next Sunday:

Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-6/Rom 5:5-11/Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40

**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

Next Steps in Permanent Diaconate Process:  
Joshua Sundstrom Set for June Ordination

My name is Joshua Sundstrom, and I am in the final phase of the Permanent Diaconate program in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. In the spring of 2021, Father Andrew and I began the application process for my entrance into the program. After meeting all the admission requirements, my wife, Theresa, and I began formation and discernment in January 2022.

In October 2023, Class XXI of the Permanent Diaconate was officially admitted to candidacy. This took place in our parish of St. Isidore's and was the only time the wives were formally asked for permission to allow their husbands to continue through formation.

In October 2024, our class was instituted as lectors in Marshalltown. Most of you are familiar with the term lector as it is often used for those who read the first and second readings at Mass. Technically, those readers are not instituted as lectors. According to Church history, becoming a lector was one of the "minor orders," predominantly filled by clerics preparing for priesthood. In 1972, Pope Paul VI abolished the minor orders and made the roles of lector and acolyte available not only to men preparing for the permanent diaconate or priesthood.

Recently, in Dyersville, Class XXI was installed as acolytes. An acolyte assists at the altar—almost a step between an altar server and a deacon or priest. An acolyte can purify sacred vessels after Communion, distribute Holy Communion, and bring Communion to the sick. As I move forward, you will see me begin to function as an acolyte during Mass.

Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate will be at the Cathedral in Dubuque on June 27, 2026. My family and I extend an invitation to all—more details will follow later.

During our studies, we completed a non-parochial unit focused on serving outside the Church. I mentored a gentleman in Dubuque who had fallen on hard times through the Jail and Prison Re-Entry Program at Catholic Charities. I have also been attending a weekly Catholic men's group at the Anamosa State Penitentiary, which guides prisoners through the OCIA process for those wishing to join the Church.

Our parochial unit is now beginning. I will be attending parish meetings, assisting with server training, and performing various other tasks at the parish, particularly at St. Isidore's.

This process has been very rewarding. It has been a joy to have my wife and children present at each step. Theresa attends class with me most of the time, and what she learns—or what I share with her afterward—has provided valuable insights that she continues to use in religious education at the parish.

## Parish Faith Formation



PARISH SESSIONS  
#2 and #3

ST JOHN  
THE  
BAPTIST

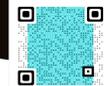
Please join us for  
both sessions.

PARISH SESSION # 2  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26: 2 - 4 PM

PARISH SESSION # 3  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16: 2 - 4 PM

Each session will contain important information, and your input and feedback are vital to the Journey in Faith process.

Scan for more information:  
Archdiocese of Dubuque *Journey in Faith*  
**NOTE: The FAQs are very helpful.**



CEDAR RAPIDS AREA YOUTH MINISTRY

## ALL SAINTS DAY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>. 6-8PM

SIGN UP BY SAT. NOV 1ST

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH,  
MARION, IA



6<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
TREATS AND  
GAMES PROVIDED!!

BRING YOUR OWN OUTDOOR CHAIRS!



## All Saints Mass

Saturday November 1st

8:30 AM

Please join us to commemorate the lives of the  
Saints in Heaven!





**Wednesday October 29th, 2025:**

**8:30 AM: Larry Haight**

**Friday October 31st, 2025:**

**8:30 AM: Joann & Jephtha Randolph**

**Sunday November 2nd, 2025:**

**8:00 AM: Ruth Hinz & Joe Joyce**

**Liturgical Ministers November 2nd, 2025**

**Sacristan: Mark Anton**

**Lectors: Vicky Wieseler - Samantha Phillips**

**EM: Tom Wieseler - Conni Swart - Diane Apel**

**EM (Cup): Ellen Bentley - Marty Fall - Ruth Horton**

**Janet Huebner - Dave Klostermann**

**Hospitality: John & Amanda Rhomberg**

**Chuck & Marylynn Murray**

**Tyler & Teresa Paterson & Family**

**Servers: Kiersten Swart - Adam Swart**

**Casey Swart - Tommy Rhomberg**

**Meetings and Activities of the Week**

**Monday October 27th -**

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

**Tuesday October 28th -**

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

**Wednesday October 29th -**

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

**6:00 - 7:30 PM: OCIA (Jesus/Paschal Mystery)**

**No Faith Formation**

**Friday October 31st -**

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

**Saturday November 1st -**

**All Saints Days**

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

**8:30 - 9:30 AM: All Saint's Mass**

**Sunday November 2nd -**

**All Souls Day**

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

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

**9:00 - 10:30 AM: She Women's Group**

**2:00 - 3:00 PM: Remembrance Service @ St. Isidore**

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

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**Weekly contributions needed..... \$7115.38**

**Contributions Received Through October 21st, 2025**

Budget, Adult .....	\$ 2325.00
Loose.....	\$ 352.00
Upkeep.....	\$ 20.00
Total Collected.....	\$ 2697.00
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 121001.46
YTD collections received.....	\$ 91033.24
YTD .....	<b>\$ 29968.22</b>

**Thanksgiving Turkeys**

*For Southeast Linn Community Center*

Donate online or make  
checks payable to St. Johns  
("Thanksgiving" in the memo)

Thank you for your support!  
- St. John's  
Social Justice Committee

Goal: 175 baskets for  
families in need



**Remembrance Service**

**Sunday November 2nd**

**St. Isidore Springville IA**

**2:00 PM**

Please join us to remember and pray for the souls of our loved ones  
who have passed away over the last year!



**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 7:00 - 9:00 PM

**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.