

Events this Week

Monday, Jan 5
5:00 pm - (SH) Community Meal

Tuesday, Jan 6
8:00 am Mass (SH) + Rosemary Moorman
5:30 pm Mass (SM) + Shawn Tranel
7:00 pm (SH) KC Meeting

Wednesday, Jan 7
Religious Ed - SH, SJ (No classes at SM)
12:00 pm All School Mass (SH) + Ron & Doris Meyer
3:30 pm (SH) Westhaven Mass

Thursday, Jan 8
8:00 am Mass (SH) + Augie Peitzmeier
2:30 pm (SM) Cedars Mass
5:30 pm Mass (SM) For the souls in Purgatory

Friday, Jan 9
8:00 am Mass (SH) + Kristin Ledvina

Saturday, Jan 10
9:00 am (SH) Connect Coffee
5:30 pm Mass (SH) + Andy Boon: + Larry Peter

Sunday, Jan 11
8:30 am Mass (SM) +L&D Madison & Ladurini families
9:30 am (SM) Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible Study
10:00 am Mass (SH) For the People of Ascension Parish
1:00 pm (SH) Al-Anon
5:30 pm (SM) KC Meeting

Rosary Schedule

St. Malachy
Before all Masses

Sacred Heart
Monday - 8:45 AM
T, W, Th, F - After Mass
Sa, Su - Before Mass

Adoration Schedule

St. Malachy
Tuesdays - 1 - 9 pm

Sacred Heart
Thursdays - 8:30 - 7:00 pm

Sacramental Life

Baptised

Holly Valentine Stotts was baptised on Dec 28th at Sacred Heart.
She is the Daughter of Tyler & Kara (Johnson) Stotts.

Stewardship

Dec 25 - 11,703.00 Loose..\$1,673.24
Dec 28 - Adult..\$13,616.00 Loose..\$392.00
Dollar..\$259.00 Wreaths across America..\$69.00
Immaculate Conception..\$10.00,
Solemnity of Mary..\$110.00 Christmas offering..\$325.00
Catholic Charities..\$1632.00, SH Improvement..\$500.00
SM Improvement..\$1500.00
Total..\$31,789.24

Scan the QR code to
give online to
Ascension Parish



Our Churches

Sacred Heart
915 12th St.
Boone IA 50036
515-432-1971
Email:
secretary@ascensionboonecounty.org

St. Malachy
405 Gerald St.
Madrid IA 50156

St. John
801 W Division St.
Ogden IA 50212

New to Our Parish?

We'd love to
welcome you into
our Ascension
Parish family!



SCAN ME

Whether you're new to the area,
returning to the Church, or
simply exploring the Catholic
faith, we're here for you. Reach
out to the parish office to learn
more about becoming a
member.

Parish Office

915 12th St.
Boone IA 50036
515-432-1971
Email:
secretary@ascensionboonecounty.org

Parish Website

www.ascensionboonecounty.org

Sacred Heart School

1111 Marshall St.
Boone IA 50036
515-432-4124
www.shboone.org



Ascension Catholic Parish

Sunday January 4, 2026

A Message from Our Pastor - Fr. Tim Johnson

“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” There are some misconceptions about the wisemen who came from the east. They were not present on the day or night of Jesus’ birth; probably arrived sometime later. They revealed neither their names or the area they were from. They were not kings, rather wisemen who could read the stars, who studied the night sky. Because of the three gifts we assume there were three wisemen, but we cannot determine exactly.

Not seeking any special privilege, they quietly offered the gifts, and returned via a different route without acknowledging their names or where exactly they came from. In short, they were decent men. Men of decency. Such is a word seldom used in today’s parlance: ‘decency.’ In a letter to his brother written in 1886, the author Anton Chekhov explains the criteria for such consideration.

They respect human beings as individuals and are therefore always tolerant, gentle, courteous and amenable.

They have compassion for other people. . . . their hearts suffer the pain of what is hidden to the naked eye.

They respect other people's property, and therefore pay their debts.

They are not devious, and they fear lies as they fear fire. To lie to someone is to insult them, and the liar is diminished in the eyes of the person he lies to.

They don't put on airs; they behave in the street as they would at home, they don't show off to impress their juniors.

They don't run themselves down in order to provoke the sympathy of others.

They don't play on other people's heartstrings to be sighed over.

They are not vain.

They don't waste time with the fake jewelry of hobnobbing with celebrities. . . True talent always sits in the shade, mingles with the crowd, avoids the limelight.

If they do possess talent, they value it. . . . they know they have a responsibility [to use it for the sake of others.]

They work at developing “mens sana in corpore sano.” (Latin phrase meaning, “a healthy mind in a healthy body.”) It’s original context suggested prayer for these enduring virtues over material wealth, advocating a balanced life integrating Intellectual, physical, and spiritual growth.)

All of Chekhov’s characteristics of a decent person reflect what we know or can presume of the wisemen’s persona. Reflecting what St. John of Chrysostom wrote of the three wisemen we ‘encounter’ on this Epiphany Sunday: “If the Magi had come in search of an earthly King, they would have been disconcerted at finding that they had taken the trouble to come such a long way for nothing. Consequently, they would have neither adored nor offered gifts.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:30 pm Boone
Sunday: 8:30 am Madrid
10:00 am Boone

Reconciliation Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm Boone
Sunday: 8:00 am Madrid
11:00 am Boone

But since they sought a heavenly King, though they found in Him no signs of royal pre-eminence, yet, content with the testimony of the star alone, they adored: for they saw a man, and they acknowledged God.”

Looking into the New Year of ‘26, we are often reminded of the need to consider personal resolutions. Any one of the above or several of Chekhov’s characteristics of ‘decency’ would be wisely considered as personal resolutions, forming a stronger Christian disposition. For we too, as Christians, “see a man and acknowledge God.”

God Bless, Fr. Tim

FYI: “Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.” (Benjamin Franklin)

Parish News



Final Faith on Tap!

Join us on Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 7:30 PM for our final Faith on Tap event!

Deacon David La Mar will speak about the Church's ministry to those in prison.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn how our faith reaches and serves the marginalized.

Church Deep Cleaning

Don't miss this chance to come together for a morning of service, community, and fun!

We welcome individuals of all ages—adults, teens, and even our youngest helpers. We could especially use men who are willing to climb ladders to help reach the high spots in God's house.

- **Sacred Heart: 8:00–9:30 am**
- **St. Malachy: 9:00–10:30 am**

Bring dusters, rags, or any cleaning supplies you can share, and help us honor and refresh our sacred spaces—it's a rewarding way to give back!

Questions? Contact the Parish Office



In-Person Parish Bible Study Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

This eight-week study helps you to get the "big picture" of the Bible by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church.

Men, women & young adults all welcome. Only an hour!

Sundays at St. Malachy: 9:30 am
Tuesdays at Sacred Heart: Noon
(Or let us know if you are interested in leading a group on another day/time!)

More information contact:
marsha@ascensionboonecounty.org
Sign-up here or call the parish office:



Walking With Purpose: Living in the Father's Love

A short six-week women's study. Small groups start week of Jan 11th!

Monday 7pm - Sacred Heart
(Facilitator still needed)
Tuesday Noon - Online
Tuesday 7pm - St. Malachy
Thursday 7:30pm - St. John
Friday 8:30am - Sacred Heart

Sign-up here or call the parish office:



Iowa Wolves - Faith and Family Day

Unite with fellow fans at Faith and Family Day and celebrate the connection between sports and faith as you cheer on the Iowa Wolves.

Enjoy special-rate tickets plus a FREE postgame concert featuring Hope Worship. Bring family and friends for an inspiring, joy-filled afternoon where basketball meets belief!

Sunday, January 4th, 2026
Tip off at 3:00pm,
Doors open at 2:00pm
Location: Casey's Center

Bible in A Year

Looking for a simple way to grow in faith this year? Join Fr. Mike Schmitz on the Bible in a Year podcast and walk through Sacred Scripture one day at a time. Listen on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, YouTube, or wherever you get your podcasts.

All Women Welcome to our next Coffee Connect

Join us as we enjoy some fellowship and watch a short video based on the teachings of Saint Therese of Lisieux. We will explore three childlike qualities that God desires to see in each of us. The coffee will be brewing and a chair will be waiting for you.

Saturday, January 10th
9:00 am
Fitzgerald Hall

Turn Conference 2026

Join 7-12th graders across the Diocese of Sioux City at the 2026 Turn youth conference on February 28th at St.

Joseph church in Jefferson. Bishop Keehner will be delivering the keynote presentation. We'll have games, breakouts, mass, time in prayer and all participants get a t-shirt! Cost is \$20, contact the parish office to learn how to register!



Tiny Tots Open Gym

Join us next Saturday, January 10th, for a fun-filled morning in the SHS Gym! Kids can run, jump, and explore, and parents can mingle with other families in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

FREE
9 - 11 AM
Children 6 & Under

Sacred Heart School News



Christmas Blessings

As we move into the week of Christmas and 2026, I'd like to thank our Ascension Parish Family for what you bring to Sacred Heart School. Your time, talent, treasure and prayers are a blessing to our school. I often have people tell me that the best thing about SHS is that it is more like a family than a school community. Having all ages in one building allows for so much interaction and opportunities to help each other. May God send you all the blessings you need for the New Year and thank you for letting all of us be a part of your family.

*The Staff & Faculty of Sacred Heart School

School Resumes

Sacred Heart School will resume classes on Monday, January 5. We look forward to welcoming our students back and beginning the new year together refreshed and ready to learn!

Preschool Registration Now Open

Enrollment is open for our 3- and 4-year-old preschool program! Give your child the gift of a faith-filled, nurturing, early learning experience. Scan the QR code to register today and secure your spot for the upcoming school year!

