

## Events this Week

### Monday, Jan 12

### Tuesday, Jan 13

8:00 am Mass (SH) + *Mary Kate Langholdt*  
Noon (SH) Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible Study  
5:30 pm Mass (SM) + *Lorretta Heinen*  
7:30 pm (BVB) Faith on Tap

### Wednesday, Jan 14

Religious Ed - SH, SJ, SM  
12:00 pm All School Mass (SH) + *Jim Sarff*  
6:45 pm (SH) Children's Rosary

### Thursday, Jan 15

8:00 am Mass (SH) + *Terry Garvey*  
5:30 pm Mass (SM) + *Larry Spenla*

### Friday, Jan 16

8:00 am Mass (SH) + *Kristin Ledvina*  
9:15 am Mass (SJ) + *Susie Anthoney*

### Saturday, Jan 17

9:00 am (SM) Church & Hall Deep Cleaning  
5:30 pm Mass (SH) + *George Cabral*

### Sunday, Jan 18

8:30 am Mass (SM) For the People of Ascension Parish  
KC Waffle Breakfast after Mass  
10:00 am Mass (SH) + *L&D Cooper & Fitzgerald families and Marv Farley*  
11:30 am (SM) KC Free Throw Contest @ Madrid Elementary  
1:00 pm (SH) AI-Anon

### 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

## Stewardship

Dec 28 - Adult..\$16,476.25 Loose..\$424.00  
Dollar..\$322.00 Solemnity of Mary..\$525.00  
Christmas offering..\$5.00 Ash Wednesday..\$10.00  
Catholic Charities..\$30.00  
**Total..\$17,792.25**

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# Ascension Catholic Parish

## Sunday January 11, 2026

### 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

### A Message from Our Pastor - Fr. Tim Johnson

“As our liturgical “Season of Christmas” comes to an end, we graciously remember the dignified environment of our church sanctuaries at St. Malachy, St. John, and Sacred Heart. During these past two and a half weeks, alongside the inspired hymns of the season, the joy and hope of our faith was brought forth within each Eucharist we gathered together. It may be challenging to be present to the ‘spirit of Christmas’ in our daily lives going forward, yet our faith always prospers the reality and hope of the verse that is so familiar: “It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth, ‘Peace on the earth, goodwill to men.’

*Many thanks for those whose time, sacrifices and participation brought forth the Spirit of this beautiful season within our gatherings for the Eucharist. With faith, our parish and churches will continue to reflect a spirit of hospitality and hope as we move into ‘ordinary time.’*  
*May I share a beautiful story of hope that reflects the dignity and courage of our Christian faith within the society around us. (Condensed from, When Life Begins with Death, by Veronica Kabas). Doris and John were expecting their first child. “It doesn’t look good,” John remembers his wife telling him on the phone. Doris’ gynecologist advised her to terminate the pregnancy immediately. Doris and John’s child had ‘13q deletion syndrome’—a rare genetic disorder with minimal life expectancy. Again, urgently recommending terminating the pregnancy so they could start focusing on having a healthy child.*

*The doctor’s advice was clear, and so was Doris and John’s certainty that they would not be following it. Through a pro-life association the young couple learned of St. Josef Hospital where couples who wish to welcome a child with debilitating or life-threatening diagnoses are supported in realizing their dreams. For Sister Teresa, ethics officer at St. Josef, it is clear that every life has equal value, whether it lasts a second or ninety-eight years. The focus is not on prolonging life at any cost, but on the question: How can we treat the child with as much dignity and love as possible.*

Doris and John felt relief at being accepted for who they were—parents of a severely disabled child whose life they wished to honor and welcome. Anna was born on June 27, 2021. As it turned out, Anna managed everything herself (at birth). John added, “Considering that we didn’t know if she would even survive delivery—if it would be her death—it was incredibly beautiful.” As he speaks, there is something in his eyes of that special sparkle fathers have when they boast about their children’s achievements. Though Anna only weighed a delicate three pounds, a week later the new parents were able to take their daughter home. Dr. Schiller of St. Josef Hospital tries to guide parents to live as fully as possible in the present moment—in the here and now. Let it be a moment for joy, love, and gratitude.

In the early morning of May, 2022, just six weeks shy of her first birthday, little Anna died. “We would have loved to experience so much more with Anna,” her parents admit. The beautiful thing about our story is that for us, there are no unanswered questions.

“Anna’s story has a beginning, a middle, and an end.” As part of St. Josef’s care program, parents are encouraged to take advantage of counseling with psychologists and pastors after the death of a child. Every year a memorial service is held in the chapel—a sense of community creating a place of remembrance for the parents and shared memories.

Deciding to accept a child despite the prediction of a limited or minimal lifespan means accepting life as it comes. Life cannot be planned; it cannot be controlled; it is not always fair—but it is valuable in all its aspects. The fact that abortion was presented as the obvious best way out of their difficult situation still upsets John. To him, it’s an indication of how society treats people with disabilities. “Where do we draw the line when we begin judging someone as worthy of living—or not. . . . I am grateful to Doris for her motherly love that she wanted to let Anna live. It’s the greatest, the most precious gift she could ever give me.” Today Doris and John have a second child, Marlene. When asked about her older sister, the two-and-a-half-year-old responds with “Anna!” as if it were the most natural thing in the world. Anna’s story is not a tragic secret; nor is it for her parents. Rather, it is a quiet reminder of how vulnerable—and therefore how precious—every life is. A reminder that as humans, our fragility is not a weakness, but rather a great strength that can call forth the ability to love—even when we have to let go.

God Bless, Fr. Tim  
FYI: “Life isn’t a matter of milestones, but of moments.” (Rose Kennedy)

## New to Our Parish?

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



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 12<sup>th</sup> 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

### Our Churches

Sacred Heart  
915 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Boone IA 50036

St. Malachy  
405 Gerald St.  
Madrid IA 50156

St. John  
801 W Division St.  
Ogden IA 50212

# Parish News

## St. Malachy Knights of Columbus Waffle Breakfast

A waffle breakfast with scrambled eggs and sausage will be served Sunday, January 18th in Hansen Hall after the 8:30am Mass. Free will donation. Proceeds will go to the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund.



## Church Deep Cleaning Saturday, January 17th

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~~  
SH cancelled
- 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 show you 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!**

Tuesdays at Sacred Heart: Noon  
Starts this Tuesday, the 13th  
*(Or let us know if you are interested in leading a group on another day/time!)*  
Study to be offered in Madrid in the near future.

For 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 this week, but you can still join!

Monday 7pm - Sacred Heart  
Tuesday Noon - Online  
Thursday 7:30pm - St. John  
Friday 8:30am - Sacred Heart

Tuesday 7pm - St. Malachy  
(Will start Ash Wednesday)

Sign-up here or call the parish office:



## KC Free Throw Contest

The St. Malachy Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest will be held at the Madrid Elementary gymnasium on Sunday, January 18th. Registration starts at 11:30, shooting starts at noon. All girls and boys ages 9-14 are eligible to compete. This event is FREE to attend and participate in.



## Amore Dinners February 1st Save the Date!

The youth of Ascension Parish will be hosting Amore Dinner fundraisers at Sacred Heart and St. Malachy on Sunday, February 1st. Watch for youth group members who will be taking reservations very soon! This free will donation plated pasta dinner helps fund summer camps and conferences for our teen parishioners.

## Social Justice Committee

Meets next Tuesday, January 20th at 6pm in Hansen Hall. If you would like to help those in need and give back to our parish community in multiple ways, this committee is for you. Come join us and find out more!

## 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!



## Sacred Heart Choir

We would like to thank our Secret Santas for their generous and thoughtful gifts to the choir this past Christmas. It was so special and fun to be remembered in this way. Thank you!

Sincerely, Monica and the choir.

## Baptism Class

This class is required for parents who are welcoming their first child.

Our Baptism Class is tonight, Monday, January 19th at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Parish Hall conference room.

# Sacred Heart School News



## 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!

