

# Church of the Nativity

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT: WE, THE PEOPLE OF NATIVITY PARISH, COMMIT TO PROCLAIMING JESUS' KINGDOM BY LEARNING AND TEACHING HIS WORD, ADORING HIS PRESENCE, AND SERVING THE NEEDS OF ALL PEOPLE.**

**October 11, 2020**

## Sacramental Life

### WEEKDAY MASSES

M-F..... 6:30am

Saturday..... 8:00am

### SUNDAY MASSES

Sat. Evening... 4:15pm

Sun. Morning.. 6:30 & 9:30am

### CONFESSIONS

M-F 7:00am

1st Sat. 7:15am

Saturday 3:00— 3:45 pm

### BAPTISMS

By arrangement.

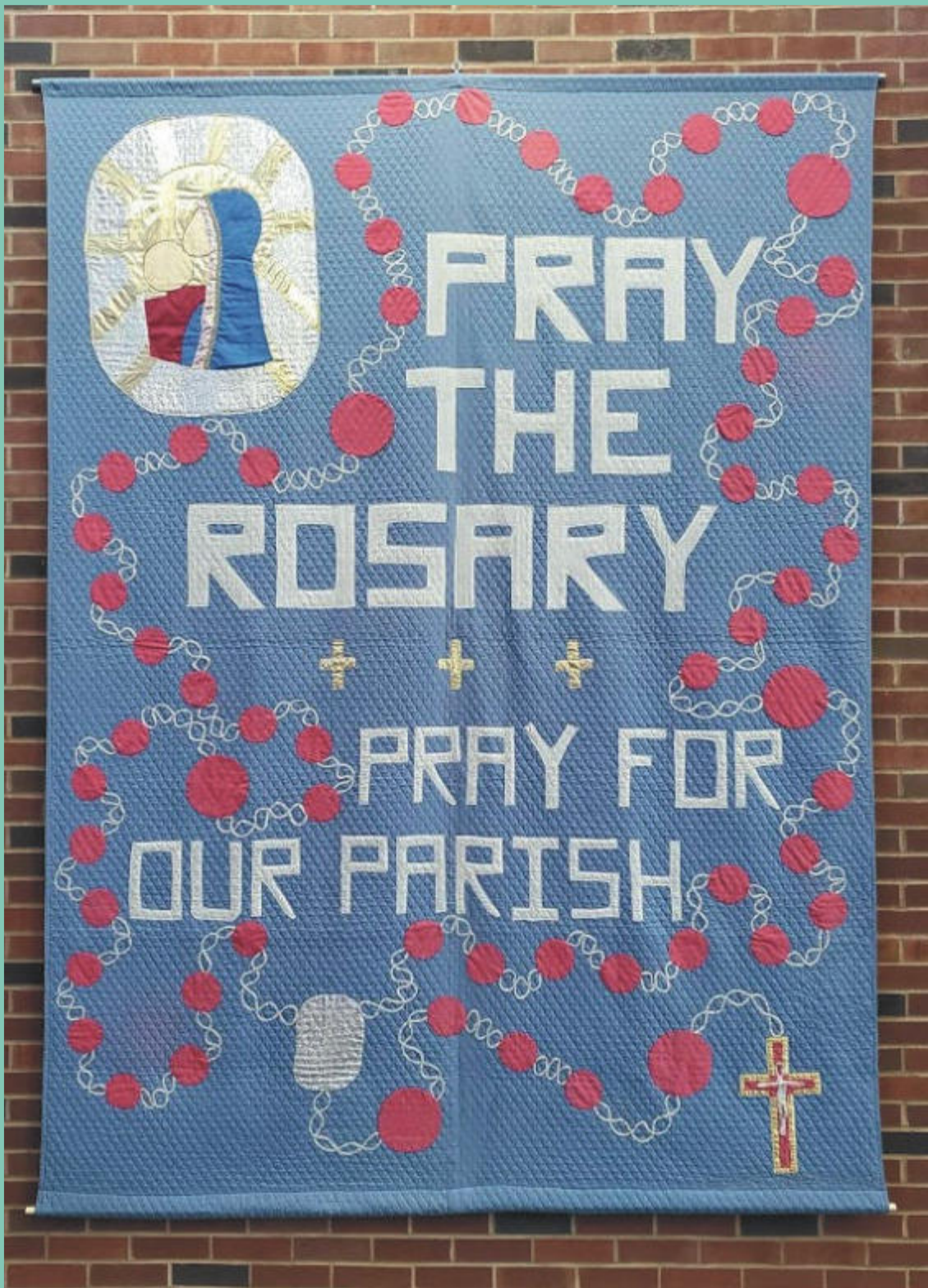
Pre-Baptism Program Required. The next classes are 6:30pm on November 16, 2020 and January 25, 2021. Please notify the office if you are planning to attend.

### WEDDINGS

Please notify parish office at least six months in advance to schedule wedding. *Catholic party must give evidence of faith.*



**1225 ALTA VISTA  
DUBUQUE, IA 52001**



**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Mass Intentions****Monday October 12**

GAL 4:22-24, 26-27,31-5:1/PS 113:1-7/LK 11:29-32

6:30am Matt Hurm

**Tuesday October 13**

GAL 5:1-6/PS 119:41-48/LK 11:37-41

6:30am Florence &amp; Wilbur Leifker

**Wednesday October 14**

GAL 5:18-25/PS 1:1-6/LK 11:1-4

6:30am Gunnar Ant

**Thursday October 15 St. Teresa of Jesus**

EPH 1:1-10/PS 98:1-6/LK 11:47-54

6:30am Pat Conzett (Anv)

**Friday October 16 St. Margaret Mary Alacoque**

EPH 1:11-14/PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13/LK 12:1-7

6:30am Vern Demmer Family

**Saturday October 17 St. Ignatius of Antioch**

EPH 1:15-23/PS 8:2-7/LK 12:8-12

8:00am Diana Morton (Anv)

4:15pm Art &amp; Louise Clow

**Sunday October 18 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

IS 45:1,4-6/PS 96:1-10/1 THES 1:1-5B/MT 22:15-21

6:30am Nativity Parish

9:30am Gloria Egan

**Parish Staff****Pastor**.....Fr. Andy Upah (Ext. 202)

DBQ057@dbqarch.org

**Deacon**.....Deacon Steve Whiteman

DBQ057D2@dbqarch.org

**Bookkeeper**.....Joan Bradley (Ex. 205)

DBQ057bk@dbqarch.org

**Secretary**.....(vacant)

DBQ057sec@dbqarch.org

**Music/Choir**.....Mary Ann McCauley(Ex. 207)

DBQ057S@dbqarch.org

**Evangelization**.....Amanda Benner (Ext 203)

DBQ057S1@dbqarch.org

**Parish Visitor**.....Karen Leisen (588-1163)**Parish Nurse**.....Becky Krapfl (582-1839)**Office Information****Phone (563)582-1839 Hours** 8:30am-3:00 pm (M-F)**Parish Website.** <http://Nativity.weconnect.com>**Parish E-mail....** DBQ057@dbqarch.org**Stewardship Report**

Received October 4, 2020.....\$16,977\*

Envelopes Rec'd.....198\*

\*Includes \$9,164 + 88\*

Weekly Need.....\$13,520

Amount Budgeted Year to Date.....\$189,280

Received YTD (July 1-October 4).....\$170,390

Retire the Debt (RED Fund).....\$684

Amount Needed for Loan #1781.....\$100,398

**From the Pastor**

This Sunday, part of my homily talks about the Church's position on contraception and the role of *Humanae Vitae*. Since it isn't easy to get very technical from the pulpit, I'd like to supplement my homily here, but it is still no substitute for reading the whole document, especially to see what the prophecies were and then realize how they have come true. It has been 52 years since Saint Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, or "Of Human Life," where he reflects upon how God designed the nature of married love. This he draws from Sacred Scripture and the Catholic Tradition. The Holy Father writes that married love is fully human (involving the body and soul). Married love is total, faithful, and fruitful (HV, 9).

"Fruitfulness" is discussed primarily in terms of God's gift of fertility to husband and wife. So important is this gift that Scripture teaches that God calls husband and wife to take up a sacred stewardship over the powers of life that He shares with them (see Gen. 1:26-28; cf. HV, 8). Indeed, this gift is directly related to how God created men and women in the divine image (made for communion with God and each other--life-giving love). Children are gifts from God. They are part of the fabric of married love. Consequently, spouses should be open to receiving children lovingly seeking to nurture them as they form their families. Procreation and care of children go hand in hand!

*Humanae Vitae* raises up the question of planning births in a family. The Church has always taught that it is reasonable for husband and wife to space and even limit births in their marriage for just reasons (see HV, no. 10); however, they are called to support God's design not to reject it. Use of contraception or sterilization rejects God's gifts. **That is because contraception and sterilization do harm to the nature of married love and the gift of life--they separate the unitive and procreative nature of conjugal relations** (HV, 14). Saying this another way, "husband and wife express their committed love not only with words, but with the language of their bodies ....the mutual gift of fertility is an integral part of the bonding power of marital intercourse." (USCCB, Married Love and the Gift of Life, pp. 4, 5.) To reject one's fertility by using contraception or being sterilized is to reject God's gift to husband and wife (HV, 12).

Does this mean that couples are to leave their family size to chance? No! God invites husband and wife to cooperate with Him in their mission of responsible parenthood. Spouses should pay careful attention to the nature of marriage as God created it, their current responsibilities to each other, any children already born, and the wider society (HV, 10). Within this context, the methods of Natural Family Planning (NFP) are acceptable because they respect God's divine plan for marriage!

Saint Pope Paul VI boldly predicted **four consequences** from the acceptance of artificial birth control (HV, 17). First, that **infidelity would occur and morality would decline**; second there would be a **loss of respect for women**; third there would be an **abuse of power by governments**; and fourth it would **lead people to think they have unlimited power over their own bodies**.

These are all worth a read, but here is an excerpt from *Humanae Vitae* on the second prediction, the loss of respect for women: "Another effect that gives cause for alarm is that a man who grows accustomed to the use of contraceptive methods **may forget the reverence due to a woman, and, disregarding her physical and emotional equilibrium, reduce her to being a mere instrument for the satisfaction of his own desires, no longer considering her as his partner whom he should surround with care and affection.**"



## In our Parish



**Karan Sieverding and Jack Mescher were united in marriage here on Saturday, October 3rd.** Although they live in the parish boundaries, did their marriage prep through us with Deacon Steve, and attend Mass here quite frequently, they just recently became members. Please welcome them to the parish if you see them around.

Jack and I were in seminary together for one year, so when a young man is in seminary for any length of time, he ends up having lots of priest friends! Joining us for the celebration were, from left, **Fr. Josh Link** (Associate Pastor of the Mason City Cluster and chaplain of Mason City Newman HS), **Fr. Michael McAndrew** (Associate Pastor of the Marshalltown Cluster), the newlyweds Karan and Jack, **Fr. Tyler Raymond** (Associate Pastor of the Dyersville Cluster and chaplain of Beckman HS), and myself. Those three priests were ordained in 2019 and are doing well in their ministries, but please keep them in your prayers.

**Family Holy Hour** is now every Wednesday at 6pm. Please join us!

**Pray the Rosary, pray for the parish.** In last week's bulletin, I misunderstood and reported that we would not be doing a rosary poster, but in fact, we do have a rosary poster available, pictured here. It is fairly self-explanatory, but when you pray a rosary this month, take a rose from the left and move it onto the Rosary Beads on the right.



**Discipleship** is something that I speak of often because it is so important to the Christian life. We are actively working on some new things here, so if you are interested in growing in discipleship, please contact Amanda. ~Fr. Andy

## What's happening in RCIA?

**This week...** Habits of Christian Discipleship

**Next week...** Faith

Pray for those exploring the Catholic faith and please join if you're interested! (No RSVP necessary.)

Every Sunday at 8am in the O'Brien Room

## 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Note: text in *italics* should be recited by congregation.

**Entrance Antiphon:** Psalm 130:3-4

*If you O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.*

**First Reading:** Isaiah 25:6-10

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken. On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the LORD for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!" For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 23:1-6

*R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul.

**Second Reading:** Philippians 4:12-14

Brothers and sisters: I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I can do all things in him who strengthens me. Still, it was kind of you to share in my distress. My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father, glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Gospel:** Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast."' Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests.

**Communion Antiphon:** Psalm 34:11

*The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.*



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