



# CIRCLE OF SAINTS CIRCULO DE SANTOS

ST. PATRICK, TAMA • ST. JOSEPH, CHELSEA • ST. MICHAEL, BELLE PLAINE

## Office

900 Park St, Tama, IA 52339  
[641] 484-3039

**Monday - Thursday**  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**Friday**  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

## St. Michael Office

1302 9th Ave  
Belle Plaine, IA 52208  
[319] 444-3106

**Wednesday & Thursday**  
8 AM - 3 PM

## **Our Mission**

*We are here to form spirit - filled missionary disciples of Jesus Christ for the Glory of God.*

## **Nuestra Misión**

*Estamos aquí para formar discípulos misioneros de Jesucristo llenos del espíritu para la gloria de Dios.*



## THE HOLY FAMILY

DWELT IN A TOWN. *-Matthew 2:23*

DECEMBER 28, 2025

## LA SAGRADA FAMILIA

HABITO EN UN PUEBLO.

*-Mateo 2, 23*

EL 28 DE DICIEMBRE 2025

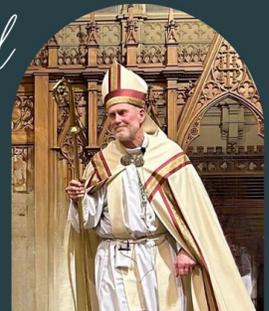


*Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

WED, DEC 31 AT 5:30 PM  
ST. MICHAEL - BELLE PLAINE  
ROSARY BEGINNING AT 5PM

THU, JAN 1 AT 9 AM  
ST. PATRICK - TAMA (BILINGUAL)



ARCHBISHOP  
ZINKULA  
PRESIDING

## Feast of the Holy Innocents - Dec 28



*Patron Saints of Babies, Children, Foundlings, the pro-life movement, and Children's choirs*

### Why do we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents?

The Feast of the Holy Innocents, or Childermas in Old English, commemorates the death of male children in Bethlehem who were two years of age or under. King Herod the Great had ordered this, in order to ensure that the infant Messiah sought by

the Magi would be unable to displace him on his throne. This is why St. Joseph was told in a dream to take the Child and the Blessed Virgin and flee to Egypt to escape the persecution of King Herod.

On this day we are reminded, as well, that all lives are precious, and it is our responsibility to protect every life from the moment of conception to natural death.

Pope Francis stated in his 2016 address for the Feast of the Holy Innocents:

*Christmas is ... accompanied, whether we like it or not, by tears. The Evangelists did not disguise reality to make it more credible or attractive. They did not indulge in words that were comforting but unrelated to reality. For them, Christmas was not a flight to fantasy, a way of hiding from the challenges and injustices of their day. On the contrary, they relate the birth of the Son of God as an event fraught with tragedy and grief. Quoting the prophet Jeremiah, Matthew presents it in the bluntest of terms: "A voice is heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children" (2:18). It is the sobbing of mothers bewailing the death of their children in the face of Herod's tyranny and unbridled thirst for power.*

*Today too, we hear this heart - rending cry of pain, which we neither desire nor are able to ignore or to silence. In our world - I write this with a heavy heart - we continue to hear the lamentation of so many mothers, of so many families, for the death of their children, their innocent children.*

(Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to Bishops on the Feast of the Holy Innocents)

For a thoughtful explanation of the Feast of the Holy Innocents and its meaning in salvation history, see "Holy Innocents" at EWTN. (December 28).

## Parish News & Events

### Church Office Holiday Hours:

- St. Patrick office will be closed Wednesday, December 31 - Friday, January 2. Normal office hours will resume Monday, January 5.
- St. Michael Office will be closed Wednesday, December 31 & Thursday, January 1. Normal office hours will resume Wednesday, January 7.

**There will be NO Faith Formation classes** due to the holiday on Wednesday, December 31. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 7.

**NO St. Joseph Adoration** on Wednesday, December 31.

**NO St. Michael Adoration** on Thursday, January 1.

**NO St. Patrick Adoration** on Friday, January 2.

**NO Baptism Class for the month of January.** Next class will be Saturday, February 7. Please call the St. Patrick parish office to sign up.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** following 10:30 AM Mass at St. Patrick in Tama on Sunday, December 28 and Sunday, January 4. It is also available on Saturdays at **3:30 PM - 4:15 PM** (until Mass time) at St. Joseph in Chelsea.

**St. Patrick CCW Quilting Days** will be Monday, January 5 and Tuesday, January 6. Alternative days in case of weather will be Monday, January 12 and Tuesday, January 13.

**St. Patrick CCW** will still have their regular meeting on Tuesday, January 6 at 1:30 PM in the parish cafeteria. Hostesses are Mary Kendall, Carol Weber, Deb Ellenbecker and Patty Kerns.

**St. Patrick Food Pantry collection** is Sunday, January 4. Please bring your non-perishable food items and place them in the gathering space. Thank you!

**St. Michael Bible Study "The Chosen - Season 2"** will be held on Thursdays, beginning January 8. It will be offered at 2:30 PM and 6:30 PM.

**SJ/SM Knights food pantry collection** is Sunday, January 11. Non-perishable food and paper goods only please. Items may be placed in the back of St. Michael.

**SJ/SM Knights will be meeting** Monday, January 12 at 7:30 PM at St. Michael parish hall.

**St. Michael Men's Group** meets every Thursday at 6 AM at the Social Hall. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Harry Jensen, formerly of St. Michael's and Jensen Food Center in Belle Plaine, will be celebrating his **90th birthday** on **January 1, 2026**. Cards and well wishes may be sent to:

Harry Jensen  
Meth-Wick Community - Manor 321  
1224 13th St  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

## Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Michael McAndrew  
m.mcandrew@dbqarch.org

### Deacons

#### Stan Upah

s.upah@dbqarch.org

#### Joe Behounek

### Hispanic Ministry

Cynthia Guadiana  
c.guadiana@dbqarch.org

### Business Manager

Elizabeth Monat  
dbq197bk@dbqarch.org

### Project Manager

Carol Hibbs  
c.hibbs@dbqarch.org

### Secretary

Lisandra Ordaz  
l.ordaz@dbqarch.org

### St. Michael Office Assistant

Carol Wonrau  
c.wonrau@dbqarch.org

### St. Patrick Pastoral Minister

Betty Hayek

## This Week

### Saturday, December 27

St. Joseph - Chelsea  
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM Confessions  
4:30 PM Mass - † Gloria Hlas

### Sunday, December 28

St. Michael - Belle Plaine  
8:30 AM Mass - † Alice Smith  
St. Patrick - Tama  
10:30 AM Mass [English] - † Pro Populo  
Confessions following Mass

### Tuesday, December 30

St. Patrick - Tama  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Adoration & Healing Prayer

### Wednesday, December 31

Offices Closed

### St. Joseph - Chelsea

9 AM - 10 AM **No Adoration**  
No Faith Formation Class [Preschool - 12th Grade]

### Thursday, January 1

Offices Closed

### St. Michael - Belle Plaine

9 AM - 3 PM **No Adoration**

### Friday, January 2

Offices Closed

### St. Patrick - Tama

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM **No Adoration**

## STAY UP TO DATE

 Cofsaunts.org

 Circle of Saints

 Rev. Michael McAndrew

## TEXT FOR UPDATES

 Text COFSAINTS to 84576

 Texto SANTOS al [202] 765-3441

Blessed are those who walk  
in the way of the **LORD**.

—*Psalm 28*

## December 80+ Birthdays

December 3 - Rita Oetker

December 13 - Jan Konicek

December 15 - Martha O'Connor

December 15 - Lois Vorwald

December 18 - Arlene Husak

December 21 - Doris Meier

December 22 - Martha Breja

December 24 - Robert Howe

December 24 - Donna Moulton

## Pray for..

Paula Eberhart,  
Dana Martin Kurovski,  
Rich Hookway, Shirley Delfs,  
Jeff Dvorak, Scott Posusta,  
Onnaha Dvorak, Anthony Dvorak,  
John Gessner, Shelbi Breja,  
Oliver Dvorak, Carol Walton,  
Matt Walton, Ted Sharer,  
Kathy Bacino, Sharon Hosek,  
Nork White, Brett Houghton,  
Sally Mason, Ryan Selken,  
Max Branecki, Dorothy Zmolek

*And anyone else suffering for any  
illness or injury including Veterans  
and the currently deployed military  
and their families.*

**Names will remain listed for three  
months. To add or renew a name,  
please contact the Parish Office at  
[641] 484-3039.**

Dichosos quienes siguen los  
caminos del **SEÑOR**.

—*Salmo 28*

 JANUARY 31

 8 AM - 1:30 PM

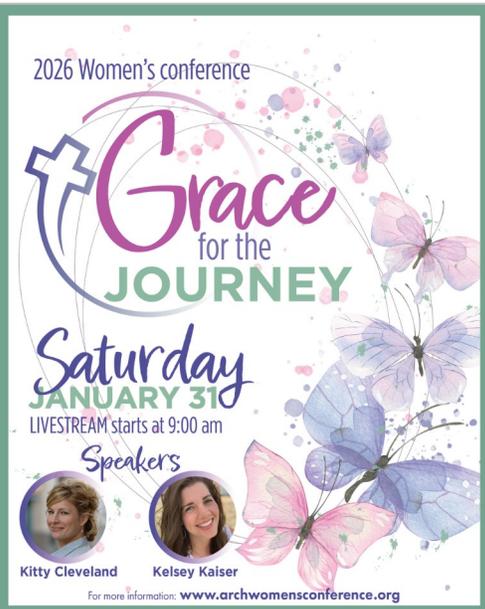
St. Michael Parish

 1304 9<sup>th</sup> Ave Belle Plaine, IA 52208

Please join us for breakfast!

There will be drawings for door prizes!

Contact Carol Wonrau for more  
information.



2026 Women's conference

**Grace**  
for the  
**JOURNEY**

**Saturday**  
JANUARY 31  
LIVESTREAM starts at 9:00 am

Speakers

 Kitty Cleveland  
 Kelsey Kaiser

For more information: [www.archwomensconference.org](http://www.archwomensconference.org)

## Minister Schedule

The Epiphany of the Lord

**St. Joseph - Chelsea**

**Saturday, January 3 at 4:30 PM**

† Ken Meier - Kraus

**Lector:** Janet Balvin

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Tom L. & Janice Upah,

Sid Jedlicka, Harry Hlas

**Hospitality Ministers:** Tommy Kiebach, Allen Kaufman

**Altar Servers:** Kade Kiebach, Bennett Behounek

**Gift Bearer:** Ann Kaufman

**Money Counters:** Jamie Kupka, Jill Shull

**St. Michael - Belle Plaine**

**Sunday, January 4 at 8:30 AM**

† Joey & Darlene Breja

**Lector:** Carolyn Silhanek

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Doug & Andrea Dvorak,

John Grieder, Alan Tichy

**Hospitality Ministers:** Todd Shaull, Bill Stadelmann

**Altar Servers:** Bo Stamp, Livy McLeod, Violet Crawford

**Money Counters:** Judy Parizek, Mari Grieder

**St. Patrick - Tama [English]**

**Sunday, January 4 at 10:30 AM**

† Joseph & Julia Benda

**Lector:** Betty Hayek

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Micki Ferris, Jim & Kris Collins,

Julie Hagerty, Diane Novak, John Kalinay

**Hospitality Ministers:** John Hayek, Gery Hagerty,

Patty Henle

**Altar Servers:** Nora Slagle, Arianna Slagle

**Money Counters:** Micki Ferris, Mary Cibula, Mary Kendall

**San Patricio - Tama [Español]**

**Domingo 4 de enero a las 12 PM**

† Pro Populo

**Lector:** Lucia Flores, Juan Martinez

**Ministró Eucarístico:** Les Parks, Maria Galvez,

Yaneli Gomez

**Ministró de hospedaje:** Norma Herrera, Leslie Martinez,

Heidy Herrera, Rafael Buenostro

**Monaguillo:** Fernando Cervantes, Mayra Castro

As schedules may change, we encourage all parishioners to check our parish website ([www.cofsaints.org](http://www.cofsaints.org)) regularly for the most up-to-date information. If you have not yet signed up for Flocknote, please do so. Sign up sheets are in the back of all churches or you can text COFSAINTS to 84576.

A todos los feligreses consulten regularmente la página web de nuestra parroquia ([www.cofsaints.org](http://www.cofsaints.org)) para obtener la información más actualizada sobre cambios. Si aún no se an inscrito en Flocknote, hazlo. Las hojas de inscripción están en la entrada de todas las iglesias.

## Fiesta de los Santos Inocentes - 28 de diciembre



*Santos patronos de bebés, niños, expósitos, el movimiento provida y coros infantiles.*

### ¿Por qué celebramos la Fiesta de los Santos Inocentes?

La Fiesta de los Santos Inocentes conmemora la muerte de niños varones en Belén que tenían dos años o menos. El rey Herodes el Grande había ordenado esto para asegurarse de que el

Mesías infantil buscado por los Magos no pudiera desplazarlo en su trono. Por eso a San José le dijeron en un sueño que tomara al Niño y a la Santísima Virgen y huyera a Egipto para escapar de la persecución del rey Herodes.

En este día también se nos recuerda que todas las vidas son valiosas y que es nuestra responsabilidad proteger cada vida desde el momento de la concepción hasta la muerte natural.

El Papa Francisco declaró en su discurso de 2016 para la Fiesta de los Santos Inocentes:

*La Navidad es ... Acompañada, nos guste o no, de lágrimas. Los evangelistas no disfrazaron la realidad para hacerla más creíble o atractiva. No se permitieron palabras reconfortantes pero sin relación con la realidad. Para ellos, la Navidad no era una huida hacia la fantasía, ni una forma de esconderse de los desafíos e injusticias de su época. Al contrario, relatan el nacimiento del Hijo de Dios como un acontecimiento cargado de tragedia y dolor. Citando al profeta Jeremías, Mateo lo presenta en los términos más directos: "Se oye una voz en Ramá, llorando y lamentando fuerte, Raquel llorando por sus hijos" (2:18). Es el llanto de madres lamentando la muerte de sus hijos ante la tiranía de Herodes y su sed desenfrenada de poder.*

*Hoy también escuchamos este grito desgarrador de dolor, que ni deseamos ni podemos ignorar ni silenciar. En nuestro mundo —escribo esto con el corazón pesado— seguimos escuchando el lamento de tantas madres, de tantas familias, por la muerte de sus hijos, sus hijos inocentes.*

(Carta de Su Santidad el Papa Francisco a los obispos en la Fiesta de los Santos Inocentes).

### Las Misas en Español serán el primer domingo del mes.

- Domingo 4 de enero, domingo 8 de febrero, domingo 1 de marzo a las 12 PM.