

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF



ST BERNARD

201 Main St. Blencoe, IA



ST JOHN

1009 13th St., Onawa, IA



ST JOSEPH

510 Tipton St., Salix, IA

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

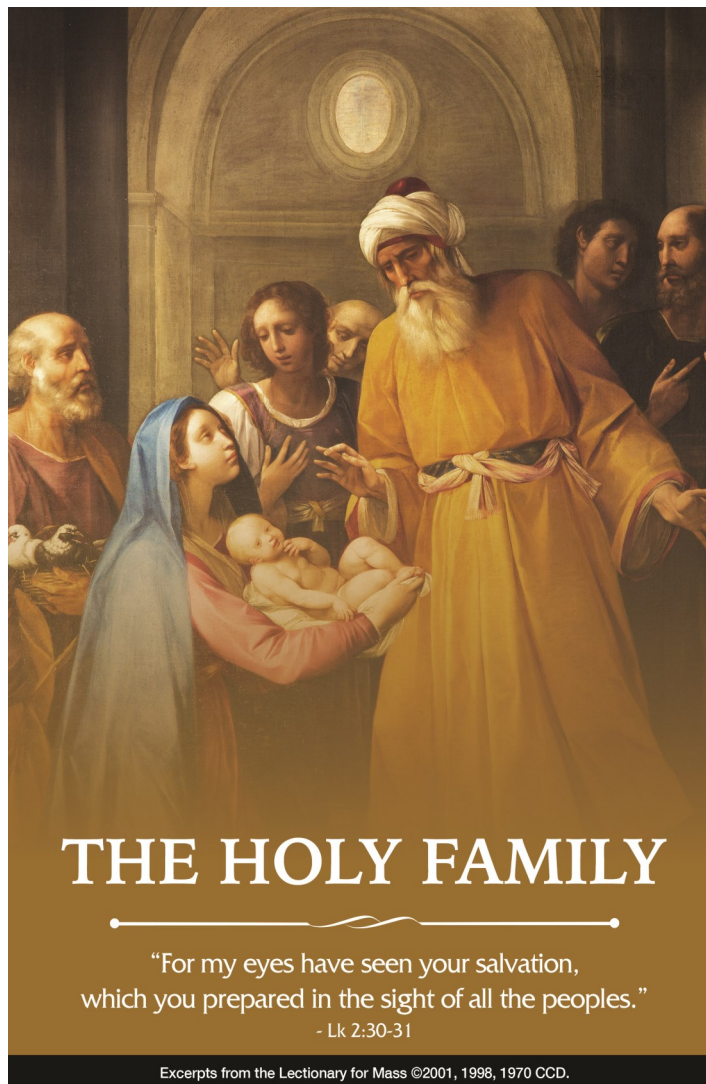
DECEMBER 27, 2020

From Father Michael

Sermon XXII.
On the Feast of the Nativity
St. Leo the Great

The Mystery of the Incarnation Demands Our Joy.

Let us be glad in the Lord, dearly-beloved, and rejoice with spiritual joy that there has dawned for us the day of ever-new redemption. Of ancient preparation, of eternal bliss. For as the year rolls round, there recurs for us the commemoration of our salvation, which promised from the beginning, accomplished in the fullness of time will endure for ever; on which we are bound with hearts uplifted to adore the divine mystery: so that what is the effect of God's great gift may be celebrated by the Church's great rejoicings. For God the almighty and merciful, Whose nature as goodness, Whose will is power, Whose work is mercy: as soon as the devil's malignity killed us by the poison of his hatred, foretold at the very beginning of the world the remedy His piety had prepared for the restoration of us mortals: proclaiming to the serpent that the seed of the woman should come to crush the lifting of his baneful head by its power, signifying no doubt that Christ would come in the flesh, God and man, Who born of a Virgin should by His uncorrupt birth condemn the despoiler of the human stock. Thus in the whole and perfect nature of true man was true God born, complete in what was His own, complete in what was ours. And "ours" we call what the Creator formed in us from the beginning and what He undertook to repair. For what, the deceiver brought in and the deceived admitted had no trace in the Savior Nor because He partook of man's weaknesses, did He therefore share our faults. He took the form of a slave without stain of sin, increasing the human and not diminishing the Divine: because that "emptying of Himself" whereby the Invisible made Himself visible and Creator and Lord Of all things as He was, wished to be mortal, was the condescension of Pity not the failing of Power.



Questions of the Week:

Children: When is it the hardest for you to obey your parents?

Adults: We are invited to let the word of Christ dwell within us and direct our daily lives. Which one of the lifestyle suggestions in this reading speaks most loudly to you?

WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

ST. JOHN / ST. BERNARD

Pastor Father Michael Erpelding 712-423-2656
 stjohndparishhall@msn.com www.stjohnnonawa.com
Secretary / DRE Colleen Maule 712-423-1004
 stjohndparishhall@msn.com
Office hours: 7 am–12pm Monday thru Thursday

MASS SCHEDULE :

Mon No Mass.. 0:00 am
 Tue Mabel & Doe Walker.....9:00am
 Wed Doe Walker.....Blencoe)..7:30 am
 Thurs No Mass0:00pm
 Fri John & Marjorie Zink.....9:00 am
 Sat No Mass.....0:00 am
 Sun Lawrence Schumaker & Anna Marie Grothe....9:00am

Stewardship December 13 St. John

Envelopes/Loose \$ 2263.68
 building \$
 Candles \$
 E-offering \$ 864.40
 Needy Fund \$
 Grain \$
 Christmas Flowers \$ 50.00
 Cath. Charities \$
St. Bernard \$ 394.06

Total: \$ 3572.14

St. John Registered Families.....185

ST. JOSEPH

Pastor Father Michael Erpelding 712-946-5635
 stjoseph@longlines.com WWW.STJOESALIX.COM
Secretary Mary Lynn Nelson 712-946-5635
 stjoseph@longlines.com Cell 712-281-0107
DRE Kathy Jo Mitchell 712-212-3867

MASS SCHEDULE:

Mon No Mass.....0:00am
 Tue No Mass.....0:00am
 Wed No Mass.....0:00pm
 Thurs Dorothy Hubert.....5:30pm
 Fri No Mass.....0:00 am
 Sat Maurice & Gloria Welte..... 4:00 pm
 Sun Parishioners of Sts.Joseph, John & Bernard..11:00 am

STEWARDSHIP December 13 St. Joseph

Envelopes \$ 4230.00
 Loose: \$ 144.00
 Candles: \$ 26.00
 Cemetery PC \$
 E-offering: \$ 543.70
 Maintenance \$
 Emergency \$
 Food Pantry \$ 75.00
 Mow & snow \$ 10.00
 Christmas Flow \$ 155.00
 Imm. Conc. \$ 228.00
 Choir \$

TOTAL: \$ 5371.70

St. Joseph Registered Families209

ST. JOHN				
LECTORS	SERVERS	EMS	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS
		Elmwood		
ROSARY		Homebound	Greeters	
ST. JOSEPH —				
LECTORS	SERVERS	EMS	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS
—Rosary			14- Greeters	
Stewards		Homebound		Liturgy/ Word



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES:

Father Patrick O'Kane, Midge Stanley, Madonna Dodd, Pam Turner, Loretta Simoff, Pete Mortensen, John Heisterkamp, Charlotte Zortman, Florence Ibsgaard, Gina Mortensen, Chris Metzger, Judson Bramow, & Sherry Wince. If you know of someone who is ill and needs our prayers, and would like to be listed, or if you no longer need to be listed, contact Colleen @ office 423-1004

Thank you to all who donated Christmas flowers in memory of their loved ones. We appreciate your generosity and commitment to honor your loved ones and help beautify our Church during this blessed season. Thank you to Annette Linden and her helpers who decorated our Church. It is beautiful.

A big Thank You to Phil Morrow, as a representative for the Knights of Columbus, for delivering bags with Missalettes, Calendars etc to our parishioners who are finding it difficult to come to Mass during this Covid pandemic. Hopefully these bags will help them follow Mass on TV or online, and let them know we are praying for them and are here for them. If you know of a parishioner who could use a bag with a missalette and calendar, please let me know @ 712-423-1004.

It is not too late to give. If we do not make our goal, the diocese will bill our Parish for the remainder of the amount. Our goal amount is \$15,965. We are at 48% of our goal. Let's work Together As One to help support our future. With your help, we will get there. You can give online, at www.scdiocese.org.

_____What Makes Us Laugh:_____

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

Answer: Snowflakes.

What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wrapper?

Answer: Ribbon hood.

Why does Santa have 3 gardens?

Answer: So he can ho-ho-ho.

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

Answer: Frostbite

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES.

Father O'Kane, Fran Mitchell, Nainna Gnat, Jeri Greiner, Mike Franken, David Bogenrief, Linda Donnelly, Sue La-Croix, Bryson Harder, Justin Lamoureux, Sophie Helvey, Doreen Becker, O Roger Huot, Tristan Parks, Colleen Ebner, Bailey Cleveland, Christian Case, Brady Worrell, Cal Worrell, Connie Wagner, Kathy Clayton, Helen Martin, Glenda Ullrich, Stella Serviss, Gerrie Lamoureux. Darrell Lux, Richard Hentges, Paula Wagner, & Carol Lux. For all who travel, grieve, those in the military, veterans their families and our nations leaders. The candles burning on the Blessed Mother's altar are for the military serving in foreign lands.

PARISHIONERS TOGETHER AS ONE IS UNDERWAY, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT MORE NOW THAN EVER. EVERYONE NEEDS TO PITCH IN TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESS, IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO PLEASE CONTRIBUTE EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS. THANK YOU!!!!

Our goal is a Big One \$20,142.00 but we are up to it. If we succeed we will receive \$8681 dollars back to us. We have reached \$12,235.00 a little over half way but we need more. Let's get this done.....

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS WERE DONATED IN MEMORY OF Ed & Evelyn McKenna, Ed & Esther McKenna, Leo & Faith McKenna, O'Farrell Family, Deceased Members of the Tabernacle Society, Dan Hamilton, Bud & Rita Brassfield, Clyde & Dolores Johnson, Tom Breaman, Stanley Johnson, James & Elizabeth O'Meara, Huot Family, Dolores & James O'Keefe, Kathryn & Roger A. Huot, Earl & Helen Putnam, Agnes Wickencamp, Nick Steinhoff, Dean & Josie Prather, Charles & Florence Lucas, Brent Weikel, Allan Bartak, Deceased Members of the Mareau Family, Pinkie & Ernest Mareau, Bud & Ilene Mareau, Rhonda Mareau Johnston, Connor M. Norgelas, Lawrence Topf, Joe Baker, Donald Domsch, Vince Topf, Maurice Topf, Nick & Lucy Topf, Mary Trudeau, Donald Topf, Matt Decker, Theresia Decker, Henry Schmitz, Hildegard Schmitz, Wallace & Bonnie Parker, Dayle & Darlene Ellis

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE UPGRADES, For those of you not attending Mass on Saturday or Sunday, we are trying to do some repairs to the church, by replacing the basement windows which have deteriorated over the last 125 years and this project would help with the cooling and heating of the building. Also we would like to replace the floor in the Parish Center, it is very hard to maintain and keep looking nice and the new floor would not get scratched by the chairs or tables when moving them and would be very easy to maintain and look nice. Half the money is here, another \$20,000 would get both projects done. If everyone pitches in we can do this just send money in, drop it off at the office or put in collection box, mark your envelope for Special collection. Thank you in advance for whatever you can do. Make this your late Christmas Gift to the Baby Jesus.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God! Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us

