

February 23, 2025 St. John XXIII



Mission Statement

We, the parishioners of St. John XXIII, commit to be disciples of Jesus through prayer, worship, study & service.

Mass Times

Sat. @ 4 pm / Sun. @ 8 & 10 am
M, W, @ 8 am
Fri. @ 12:15 pm

PARISH OFFICE

8100 Roncalli Drive
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Phone: (319) 846-3139
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STAFF

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon. - Thurs. 8 am – 4 pm / Fri. 8 am – 2 pm

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

The registration form can be found on our website or contact the parish office.

RECONCILIATION

M, W, @ 7:30 am
Fri. @ 11:30 am – noon
Sat. @ 2:30 – 3:45 pm
Sun. 7 am– 7:45 am

BAPTISM

Parents must attend a baptism class **prior** to scheduling baptism. Call or email the parish office to register for classes: v.hergert@dbqarch.org

MARRIAGE

Contact the pastor eight (8) months before your wedding.



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last week, I preached about the common mistake people make of thinking of virtue as being some kind of quality that people just “have”. Someone might think that their friend Maria is a generous person, and wish they were more like her. However, if we mistakenly think that virtue is more or less a fixed attribute (like our adult height, for example), then we would be less likely to think that following Maria’s example would be helpful in being more generous like her. This



is a dangerous mistake, for we are called by Jesus the Good Shepherd to be guided on the path of virtue, a path we walk, a path we can make progress in holiness and virtue, as His pilgrim people.

So, with the practice of the moral, rational virtues, we grow in those virtues to become a virtuous person. You become what you do. (Sometimes we say, “you are what you eat!”) If you want to be a more generous person (like Maria), then practice generosity until it becomes “second nature”. So, we have an obvious goal to work with these natural virtues and an understanding of how to get there, for all Christians are called to be virtuous.

Consider which ones you may struggle with and be intentional about their practice. Consider what kind of person you are called to be and practice it: Honest? Fair? Trustworthy? Patient? Dedicated? Chaste? Generous? Selfless? Quick to forgive? (Just to name a few!) Take to prayer, asking the Lord to direct you to a couple of virtues that you lack, but also ask the Lord to point out a couple of virtues that feel natural to you. Then, put them into practice.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (March 5th), maybe consider a way to fast/abstain from something specific to the virtues you seek or seek to strengthen. As there are natural virtues, there are also supernatural virtues called the theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity (love-in-action). These are infused in us by God!

Through the practice of natural virtues, we may become more receptive to the theological virtues, but ultimately, they come from our Heavenly Father. We don’t develop faith, hope, and charity on our own, so we must turn to the sacraments (especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation) and to personal prayer. God pours them upon us in abundance.

I’m thinking about this as we had interviews for our Confirmation candidates. Celebrating the sacrament of confirmation says “yes” to the relationship the Lord entered into with us at our baptism, to be open to His grace. Pray for our Confirmation candidates, that they grow in holiness and express it outwardly through natural and supernatural virtues.



Yours in Christ,
Fr. Greg



Weekly Shared Treasure
February 15-16, 2025

Envelopes & Online Contributions	\$7,120.00
Offertory & Visitor	\$426.10
Total	\$7,546.10

No One Cries the Wrong Way



If you have been grieving the death of someone and would like some support for your tears and your grief, consider joining us for "Grieving with Great Hope", a five-week grief support series designed

to provide a prayerful, practical, and personal approach for those mourning the loss of a loved one.

Whether you are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, family member, or friend you are encouraged to join us. Grief has no timeline. Whether your loss is recent, or time has passed, no one cries the wrong way, and this workshop will support you in your grief journey.

Sessions will be held on Saturdays from 10 am to noon in the church on the following dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5th. This program includes video-based reflections through Formed and is an opportunity to find comfort and healing in faith. Registration forms are available in the parish center and the office. For more information, please contact Deacon Stan at (319) 533-0425 or call the parish office.

J23 Cleaning Teams Are in Need of Help

St. John XXIII church and gathering spaces are cleaned by four teams of volunteers who generously give of about 1.5 hours of their time each month to clean on a weekly rotating schedule. Each team is assigned



a week of the month to clean. Times can be flexible to work with your schedule, even on your own time.

Some current team members have resigned or are no longer able to help. We need extra hands to fill those teams. Some months we have a need for a fifth week crew, and need additional members to create a fifth team if possible, which would only clean a few times a year. If you feel you could possibly give us a hand, contact the parish office at (319) 846-3139.

Last Week to Donate for MCO

There's still time to participate in our food collection for Metro Catholic Outreach. During the month of February, we wanted to "Share the Love"



with our community and those in need by asking for 25 non-perishable food items for Metro Catholic Outreach in commemoration for the 25th Anniversary of St. John XXIII.

Other items to help MCO for their clients are clean plastic or paper grocery bags, and new disposable silverware packets from take out food. If you have an abundance MCO would be happy to have them. Let's celebrate our 25 years as a parish and Share the Love with the community and those who are less fortunate.

~ *Social Concerns Committee*

Spring Fever for Trivia?

Hi Trivia fans! Be sure to reserve Saturday, March 29th for Trivia Night here at St. John XXIII, from 6 - 9 pm. Registration opens on Monday, Feb. 24th. You do not have to be a member of our parish to play, all are welcome. You can register yourself or a team via Flocknote. If you are not in our Flocknote system, please call the parish office to register at (319) 846 - 3139. This is an *alcohol free* event.

The cost is \$20 per person, and will be collected at your table before play begins. There is a limit of eight players per team. Players must be 16 years of age or older. You can register an entire team, or a partial team and allow others to fill up the remaining spots. Contact the parish office if you have any questions. Start memorizing random facts now.

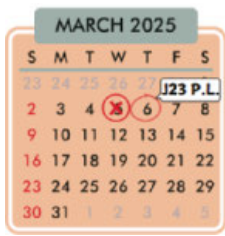
Are You in Need of Support and Fellowship?

If you or a loved one are homebound due to illness, in a care facility, or feeling isolated, our Homebound Ministry is here



for you. Ministers can bring you the Eucharist, offer prayer, and provide companionship. To arrange a visit, please contact Deacon Stan at (319-533-0425) or the parish office.

March J23 Potluck Date Change



The next J23 potluck has been changed to Thursday, March 6th. The first Wednesday in March is Ash Wednesday. (It wouldn't be much of a potluck on a day of fasting!) So mark your calendar now

for Thursday, March 6th. Lunch is served at noon, but come early if you would like to help set up.

We will celebrate both St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day. Wear your perspective colors, (green or red) to celebrate both!

From the Archdiocese

This is Going to be Epic!

Iowa Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC.) One weekend, Two Big Events! Both events are held at St. Ludmila Church, 211 21st Ave SW, Cedar Rapids.

- **EPIC** - Saturday, March 29th, 6-9 pm. This is a great opportunity for high school teens to meet others like them from all over eastern Iowa, hear a nationally-known musician (Connor Flanagan, Hip Hop artist), and grow deeper in their faith. Cost will be \$25 per person and will include a pizza supper! This is a great event for youth groups, and as a follow-up for recently Confirmed teens.
- **ICYC** - (grades 6-8) will take place on Sunday, March 30th from 10 am to 4 pm. It will also feature Hip Hop artist Connor Flanagan. Parents are also encouraged and welcome to attend. Cost is \$50 per person until March 1st, and includes speaker, lunch and materials. For more information or to register go to dbqarch.org/icyc-ms.

Stewardship Quotes

Today's Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards: "Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrusted in our care!

Poster Contest - Caring for Creation

As a way to celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, the Archdiocese of Dubuque is facilitating a poster contest for children ages K - 3rd grade!! Help your children to appreciate the beauty of God's creation and the importance of Church teaching on caring for the earth by participating in the contest.



Posters will be judged on artistic merit, relation to the theme "You Have the Power to Care for the Earth", originality, and neatness. Prizes will be awarded in each of two categories (K-Grade 1 and Grades 2-3). The contest will open on March 1st, 2025. Submissions are due by April 4th. Contest rules and additional information will be made available on March 1st, and can be found on the Archdiocesan "Care for Creation" webpage <https://dbqarch.org/care-for-creation>.

Other Events

- St Pius X Catholic Church is hosting a showing of **Gridshock**, a documentary about sex trafficking in Iowa on Wednesday, Feb. 26th at 6 pm in St. Pius X Hall, 4949 Council St NE, Cedar Rapids. Chains Interrupted will be there for a Q & A session following the documentary.
- Please join St. Paul Catholic Church in Newhall, for their Annual Ham Dinner on Sunday, March 2nd from 11 am - 12:30 pm. You can dine-in, pick-up or drive-thru. Menu is ham, party potatoes, corn, green beans, salad, rolls desserts and drinks. Adult meal is \$15, children ages 6-12, \$5, ages five and under are free. To pre-order, call (319) 223-5577.
- Catholic Daughters of America is celebrating the Jubilee Year as Women of Hope and cordially invite you to our Spring Welcome Brunch on Saturday, March 8th from 9:30 - 11 am, 4949 Council St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Pat Martin, (author) will talk about "An accidental tourist in the Czech Culture".
- Archdiocesan Men's Conference: Saturday, March 29th at St. Pius X from 9 am - 3:30 pm. Register at <https://www.archmensconference.org>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 22 - *The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*

4 pm Mildred Harover

Sunday, February 23 - *Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8 am Luvern Digmann & Dorothy Digmann

10 am All Parishioners

Monday, February 24 - *Weekday*

8 am Colleen Hutton

Tuesday, February 25 - *Weekday*

No Mass

Wednesday, February 26 - *Weekday*

8 am Jerry Clarke

Thursday, February 27 - *St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church*

No Mass

Friday, February 28 - *Weekday*

12:15 pm Elma Buresh

Saturday, March 1 - *Weekday*

4 pm Audrey Nuti

Sunday, March 2 - *Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time*

8 am All Parishioners

10 am John Banes

READINGS FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23rd

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15:45-49/
Lk 6:27-38

Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/
Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172,
174, 175/Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35/
Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18/
Mk 10:13-16

Next Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16
(see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

ST. JOHN XXIII WEEKLY PLANNER

Monday, February 24

7:30 am, Reconciliation

8:30-10 am, Cleaning Crew

6-7 pm, Exodus 90 Men's Group

Tuesday, February 25

6:45-7:30 am & 6-7 pm, Men of Action

8 am-7 pm, Adoration

7-8 pm, Rosary & Benediction

Wednesday, February 26

7:30 am, Reconciliation

10 am, Faith Study Group

4:45-7:45 pm, Religious Education, Grades 3-8 | 5th
Grade Reconciliation

Thursday, February 27

1-2:30 pm, Women's Scripture Sharing Group

6:30-7:30 pm, Holy Hour

Friday, February 28

11:30 am-noon, Reconciliation

Saturday, March 1

2:30-3:45 pm, Reconciliation

5:30-7 pm, Private Reception

Sunday, March 2

7-7:45 am, Reconciliation

11:30 am -12:30 pm, Evangelization Meeting

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 5 - Ash Wednesday

March 7, through April 11 - Stations of the Cross

March 29, Trivia Night

April 5, Euchre Night

May 3 - Confirmation Retreat

May 4 - First Communion

May 11 - Confirmation Mass



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