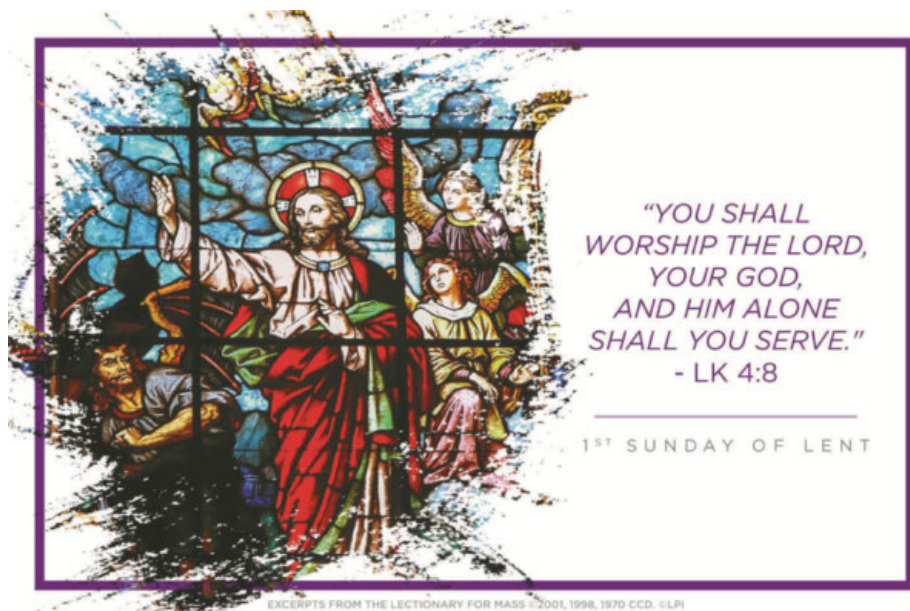




March 9, 2025 | First Sunday of Lent



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

For Homebound Ministry: Contact Deacon Stan (319) 533-0425 or the parish.

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 months before your wedding.

Mass Times

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

PARISH OFFICE

8100 Roncalli Drive
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-9178
Phone: (319) 846-3139
Website: stjohn23cr.org

STAFF

Priest: Rev. Greg Bahl

(Ext. 103) g.bahl@dbqarch.org

Deacon: Stanley Scheiding

(Ext. 110) s.scheiding@dbqarch.org
319-533-0425

Business Manager: Ron Junge

(Ext. 102) r.junge@dbqarch.org

Secretary: Vicki Hergert

(Ext. 101) v.hergert@dbqarch.org

Religious Ed: Allison Wilhelm

(Ext. 112) a.wilhelm@dbqarch.org

Youth Ministry: Sabrina Marte

(Ext. 113) s.marte@dbqarch.org

Prayer Chain:

blessedjohnprayerchain@gmail.com

Mission Statement

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



Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Well, Lent has begun! The general theme of which is, a desert time of preparation for the Paschal Mystery. A marked time of extra prayer, fasting and almsgiving. I say, “marked time” as Lent should be a noticeable time in you day-to-day life, noticeable to you and perhaps even to others.



However, if what we offer as extra practices are not noticeable, especially to ourselves in the day-to-day, then perhaps we’re not doing enough! Now, Jesus is very clear about the sin of doing things just to be recognized for them, especially if it is about self-promotion rather than giving glory and honor to God. However, that can’t be an excuse to make such minimal effort that it isn’t even recognizable! I’m thinking about this as Jesus concludes his Sermon on the Plain in last week’s Gospel with the theme of hypocrisy. It is not necessarily hypocrisy to strive for conversion and an invitation to holiness simply because it takes *public* shape. I will offer two examples from the parish:

First, parish leadership has wants to make a public statement about how selfless this parish community can be. Only being a part of this parish for two months, I have witnessed for myself the vibrancy and faith of so many here! Prior to my arrival (alas, I cannot take any credit for this), an idea to share it with the greater community at large. So, in honor of our 25th Anniversary, much of the effort is *other*-centered. We offered a quite successful “provide 25 goods” to Metro Catholic Outreach. Also, look for the announcement (in this bulletin) for our 2500+ hours initiative that we’re introducing!

The second example is subtle, but significant. We have adopted a branding style, new logo, and style that is just now being implemented. This is very common among churches as an expression of communal identity. This is extra helpful among different “St. Mary” churches close to each other for example, as the logo, text and colors become a symbol of our parish family. It will serve to invite others to our parish as it becomes more recognizable. The colors and the shape are adaptations from the crest of St. John XXIII, and incorporate our own local themes.

May your personal Lenten practices bear fruit for you personally, but also serve to build up the Kingdom of God!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Greg



Please note: There will not be Reconciliation or 8 am Daily Mass on Wednesday, March 12th.



**Weekly Shared Treasure
March 1-2, 2025**

Envelopes & Online Contributions	\$8,440.00
Offertory & Visitor	\$566.05
Total	\$9,006.05

A Recommitment to End Hunger



Since 1975, Catholics across the United States have come together each Lent to respond to global hunger through the CRS Rice Bowl program. Learn how people like you have made a local and global impact on the lives of our sisters and brothers in need and why our prayers and almsgiving are still needed today. During this holy season, let us recommit to sharing bread for life with our global family so that all people can reach their God-given potential. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-1 to read this week's Story of Hope.

Join Us on Thursdays for a Holy Hour

This Lent is a great time to join us each week on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm for a Holy Hour. This is one hour of evening prayer, rosary and Adoration. We begin with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, pray the Evening Liturgy of the Hours, pray the Rosary and end with the Repose the Blessed Sacrament. This can be a peaceful, stress free way to end your week.

Are You Being Called to Share Your Talent?

The Music Ministry at St. John XXIII is very *much in need* and is *always welcoming* anyone interested in being a cantor, playing keyboard, playing an instrument, or singing in the choir. You can choose the times that work with your schedule. Please call the parish office at (319) 846-3139 if you are interested in joining this ministry.

Spiritually Prepare for the Resurrection



The Wednesday Faith Study Group will begin a six week Agape Catholic Bible Study for Lent and Easter on Wednesday, March 12th. This six week series will help you strive to cleanse your body and soul through prayer, fasting, almsgiving and repentance of sin.

We meet every Wednesday at 10 am in the Conference room at the church. All are welcome, please join us!

Celebrating 25 Years of Faith & Service

In celebration of our 25th Anniversary, we invite you to join us in a special Service Challenge as we share hope, build community, and make a difference!



Our goal is to honor this milestone by committing **2,500 hours of service**. Whether it be by volunteering at a local shelter, helping a neighbor in need, supporting parish initiatives, or finding other ways to serve. This challenge is an opportunity to live our faith and inspire others through acts of kindness and generosity.

Together, let's reach our goal by our 25th Anniversary on Sept. 3rd, 2025. Every hour of service brings us closer to creating a lasting impact in our parish and community. To track your service, there is an acrylic box in the church where you can record your hours. Simply fill out a card and drop it in. Every hour counts as we work together to meet this challenge!

Family Ideas & Resources for Lent

The monthly *Family Matters* Newsletter Provides great resources to help Catholic families live their faith. The March edition contains many resources, articles, and ideas for the Lenten season. Families can find past issues and subscribe to *Family Matters* on the Archdiocese of Dubuque website at <https://dbqarch.org/family-matters-newsletter>.



Home Cooked Lasagna for Sale



Have you ever wanted a home cooked meal but didn't want the work and mess? Youth Ministry will be selling take-and-bake lasagna. We will be taking orders the weekends of March 8 - 9th and March 15 - 16th after each Mass. The cost is \$25 per lasagna. Funds raised will help offset travel costs to Catholic Heart Workcamp. Lasagnas will be ready for pick-up the weekend of March 22nd - 23rd.

Dine In at J23 on March 29th!

Youth Ministry will be hosting a free-will meal prior to Trivia Night on March 29th, from 5 - 6 pm. Sloppy Joes, chips, and dessert is on the menu.



The money that is raised will help fund the youth going to Catholic Heart Workcamp this summer in Memphis, TN. All are welcome! Please stay and support our youth for CHWC!

Trivia Night Reminder

If you haven't signed up or registered your team for Trivia Night on March 29th please do so as soon as possible. You can find the sign-up at john23cr.flocknote.com/signups.

Sign Up to Play Euchre on April 5th!



St. John XXIII will be hosting Euchre Night on Saturday, April 5th, from 6 - 8 pm. You can register to play on the sign up in Flocknote.

You don't have to be a parishioner at St. John XXIII to play. The registration fee is \$5 per person, and will be collected before play begins. Players need to be 18 years of age or older. You may sign up as individuals as they will draw for partners and change continuously throughout the evening. Knowledge of the game is preferred, but if you need a refresher we will help you. Call the parish office if you need help registering or if you have any questions at (319) 846-3139. *All proceeds will go to the youth for CHWC.*

Do You Like Donuts?

Donut weekend is definitely a favorite here at St. John XXIII. We would love to have more volunteers to help serve donuts. It's easy and fun, and doesn't involve too much extra time after Mass. Kids that are needing service hours can count these hours, they just need an adult to serve with them. If you are interested in helping, add your name to the Donut Server Group in Flocknote, or call the parish office at (319)846-3139.

Knights of Columbus News & Events

Bingo Blitz

The Knights of Columbus are joining forces with the Fairfax American Legion and other local groups for a joint fundraiser, Bingo Blitz on Saturday, March 15th at the Fairfax American Legion! This is a family-friendly event with bingo, a live DJ, fun games, raffles and food & beverages. Combo tickets are \$25 and include 10 bingo games, a raffle ticket and 2 beverage tickets. Advance tickets are \$20 online at: <https://tinyurl.com/Bingo-Blitz-Tix>. All proceeds will go to the Legion kitchen fund to make badly needed updates.

Enjoy pulled pork, cheesy potatoes, baked beans and dessert. The meal is by freewill offering. Dinner starts at 5 pm, bingo at 6:30. Come, win prizes and support our Legion Hall!

KC's Burrito Sale for Scholarships!

The Knights of Columbus will be selling breakfast burritos for \$7 after Masses on April 5 & 6th and at Euchre Night on April 5th. They are made with egg, sausage, cheese, potato, onion, green pepper and tortilla. You get them warmed up to eat here or take them to go. (They freeze well too!) A pre-sale will be held the weekend of March, 28 - 29th. Supplies are limited, order ahead to reserve your order.

All proceeds from the sale will support the KC's Dollars for Scholars program. If you know a high school senior who attends St. John XXIII parish, please encourage him/her to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship for college or vocational school!



Stewardship Quotes

All of today's reading remind us that our works reflect what is in our hearts. Do my words and actions reveal a heart that is grateful for - and generous in sharing the abundance God has poured into my life?

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 8 - *St. John of God, Religious*

4 pm Ken & Patricia Chairpar

Sunday, March 9 - *First Sunday of Lent*

8 am Robert Duvall & James Weber

10 am All Parishioners

Monday, March 10 - *Lenten Weekday*

8 am Amy Robertson

Tuesday, March 11 - *Lenten Weekday*

No Mass

Wednesday, March 12 - *Lenten Weekday*

8 am, No Mass

Thursday, March 13 - *Lenten Weekday*

No Mass

Friday, March 14 - *Lenten Weekday*

12:15 pm Bob Burns

Saturday, March 15 - *Lenten Weekday*

4 pm Baker Munson

Sunday, March 16 - *Second Sunday of Lent*

8 am Louis Buresh

10 am All Parishioners

READINGS FOR WEEK OF MARCH 9

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15
(see 5b)/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17,
18-19/ Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab,
2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a,
7bc-8/ Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/
Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8,
8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

ST. JOHN XXIII WEEKLY PLANNER

Monday, March 10

7:30 am, Reconciliation

4-5:30 pm, Cleaning Crew

6-7 pm, Exodus 90 Men's Group

6:15-7:15 pm, Social Concerns Meeting

Tuesday, March 11

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

8 am-7 pm, Adoration

7-8 pm, Rosary & Benediction

Wednesday, March 12

10 am, Faith Study Group

4:45-7:45 pm, Religious Education Grades 3-8

Thursday, March 13

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

6:30-7:30 pm, Holy Hour

Friday, March 14

11:30 am-noon, Reconciliation

5:30-6:30 Stations of the Cross

6:30-7:30 pm, Soup Supper

Saturday, March 15

10 am-noon, Grieving with Great Hope

2:30-3:45 pm, Reconciliation

Sunday, March 16

7-7:45 am, Reconciliation

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 14, 22, 28, April 4, 11 - Stations of the Cross

March 29 - Trivia Night

May 3 - Confirmation Retreat

May 4 - First Communion

May 11 - Confirmation Mass

June 8- Catholic Heart Work Camp

July 20 - Parish Picnic

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