



St. Joseph Catholic Church

Fed by Word and Sacrament to Love and Serve

1790 14th Street, Marion, IA 52302 ✨ 319-377-4869 ✨ stjoesmarion.org



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun and his clothes
became white as light. - Mt 17:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

August 6, 2023

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d.oconnor@dbqarch.org

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Amy Diercks and Mallory Dudley
Childcare Co-Directors
childcaredirector@sjcsmarion.org

Kevin Burmeister, Director of Maintenance
kburmeister@sjcsmarion.org

Weekend Mass: Saturday, 4:00 PM
Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Weekday Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
7:30 AM

Adoration: Monday, 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM

St. Joseph Parish Office 319-377-4869
Youth Faith Formation 319-377-8402
1790 14th Street, Marion, IA 52302

St. Joseph Catholic School 319-377-6348
1430 14th Street, Marion, IA 52302

New to the Parish: Welcome! Please call the office to make an appointment to register at 319-377-4869.

Prayer Chain: Contact Deacon Jeff Volker at 319-377-4869 or j.volker@dbqarch.org.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Call the office and make an appointment with the priest or deacon.

Advanced Care Planning Consultants: Learn about church teachings on health issues and find help with documents pertaining to durable power of attorney for Health care and health care decision directives.

Parish contacts:

Theresa Alt 319-447-1132 or alt.theresa@yahoo.com
Jean Randolph 319-377-0497 or jmr926722@mchsi.com
Deacon Dennis Ternes 319-377-4869 or d.ternes@dbqarch.org
Deacon Ken Bauer 319-377-4869 or k.bauer@dbqarch.org

Infant Baptism: If you wish to have your infant child/children baptized at St. Joseph, please contact Deacon Dennis at: d.ternes@dbqarch.org or 319-377-4869 to discuss baptism preparation for the parents prior to scheduling of the baptism.

Parish Disability Advocate: Contact Amanda Weaver at 319-432-9347 or aweaver222@gmail.com

Follow us:



**Sunday Envelope Giving
Week of July 30, 2023 - Week 5**

Budgeted Sunday Envelope Needs	\$20,192
Year-to-date budget	\$100,962
Collected last weekend	\$18,536
Actual Year-to-date envelope income	\$90,612
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$10,350)
Unrestricted Gifts and Offertory	\$10,299
Budgeted Gifts and Offertory	\$27,404
Over / (Under) budget	(\$17,105)
Bricks and Mortar Envelopes	\$5,003
Bricks and Mortar budget	\$4,808
Over/(Under) Budget	\$196
Social Concerns 5% of Envelopes	\$927

**August 7 – August 13, 2023
Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions**

Monday, August 7

7:00AM Adoration
7:00PM Scripture Study - St. Joseph Room
9:00PM Benediction

Tuesday, August 8

7:30AM Mass † **Mary Mowrer**
(Also broadcasted live at: stjoesmarion.org)

Wednesday, August 9

7:30AM Mass † **Sam Higgins**
(Also broadcasted live at: stjoesmarion.org)
9:00AM Scripture Study - St. Joseph Room
2:00PM Pietra Class
7:00PM Men of Action - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, August 10

6:00AM Men of Action - Church Hall
7:30AM Mass † **Mary C. Sindelar**
(Also broadcasted live at: stjoesmarion.org)

Friday, August 11

7:30 AM Mass † **Mike Ryan / KIA WW2**
(Also broadcasted live at: stjoesmarion.org)

Saturday, August 12

3:00PM Reconciliation
4:00PM Mass † **Albert Soukup**
(Also broadcasted live at: stjoesmarion.org)

Sunday, August 13

8:00AM Mass † **Pat & Joe Knopp**
10:30AM Mass † **For The People**
11:45AM Healing Prayer - Church

Holy Day August 15th for the Assumption

There will be a Vigil Mass on Monday, August 14th at 5:30 PM and daily Mass on Tuesday, August 15th at 7:30 AM to celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Ministry Schedule	Saturday, August 12, 4:00 PM	Sunday, August 13, 8:00 AM	Sunday, August 13, 10:30 AM
Sacristan	Robyn Ginther	Sandra Alt	Julie Schmitt
Lector	Jamie McAllister	Cody Albright	Steven Freemon
Altar Servers	Elliott Marshall Kaia Lokasari 1 Open	Gunnar Black Maddox Albright Phoenix Albright	Savanah Pope Kaiya Nowland Colin Kuennen
Video Ministry	Peyton Stoller	n/a	n/a
Ambassadors	Scot Brown Arlene Wiley David Bengford Tina Neyens	Michael Alt Mark Barnd Gregory Van Gorp 1 Open	Kristen Perreault Sharron Konzen David Adams Douglas Brock
Eucharistic Ministers	Terry Kelly Angela Sawyers Patricia Halstead Mary Mikkola Daniel Montague	Marcia Black Sandy Hendricks Jim Holt Marge Carson Mary M. Johnson	Karri Kruser Michael Cira Peter Ries Patti Zessin 1 Open
C.L.O.W.	n/a	n/a	Lisa Pope Alix McDonald
Door Greeters	Will Gasaway Gracie Gasaway Barbara Gasaway 1 Open	Dorie Kelchen Kelly Zimmerman Virginia Horan Brian Reynolds	Gary Raymond Julie Raymond Jerry Dilger Dolores Dilger
Music Ministry	Patty Kelly Shanna Duggan	Patty Kelly Joan Boche	Patty Kelly Theresa Crumley

Please volunteer for open ministry opportunities through Ministry Scheduler Pro or by calling Nancy Roush in the parish office.

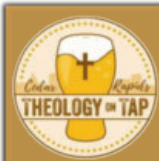


Please remember in your prayers all those who have died, especially **Jan Dickey; Donna Hefel**, sister of Dory (Jerry) Dilger; and **Carla Wiedemann**



Summer Outdoor Benefit Concert

Join the area Catholic Schools to raise money for Mary's Meals. Mary's Meals provides children across the globe one meal a day in their place of education. The event will be held on **Thursday, August 10, 2023** from 5:30-7:30 PM on the front lawn of Xavier High School - 6300 42nd St NE Cedar Rapids. The Xavier Booster Club will begin selling grilled food and concessions at 5:30 PM. Concert by Catholic singer and songwriter, Josh Blakesley is at 6:00 PM. Eucharistic Adoration will end the evening. Bring your family, friends, and lawn chair! The event is sponsored by KMMK Catholic Radio. All money raised will benefit Mary's Meals!



Theology on Tap

All 21-39 year olds are invited to join us at Parlor City on **August 17th** at 6:00 PM to hear from Michele Gelaude on "Keeping the End in Mind: Ratzinger's Eschatology." First drink is on us! Check out facebook.com/CRTtoT for more information.

JOB OPENING AT ST. MARY'S, SOLON - YOUTH MINISTER

St. Mary Parish in Solon is seeking to hire a part-time, faith filled youth minister to work with high school students. Hours are flexible, but include Wednesday evenings during the school year. Interested candidates, in good-standing with the Catholic Church, are invited to apply. Submit a letter of interest and resume to Fr. Charles Fladung by August 10, 2023 at fladungc@diodav.org or mail to St. Mary Parish, 1749 Racine Ave NE, Solon IA 52333. Background and safe environment checks are required for the position.

REGISTER NOW! St. Joseph Catholic Church Youth Faith Formation Grades K-12 2023-2024 Program Year

Registration is now open for YFF (K-8), High School Faith Formation and Confirmation Preparation.

Please follow this [link](#) to register!
Questions? Call 319-377-8402

Adult Faith Formation



St. Teresa recognized early on that receiving the Holy Eucharist was what gave her the strength and grace to care for the poorest of the poor.

She told her sisters: "Every Holy Communion fills us with Jesus, and we must, with Our Lady, go in haste to give Him to others."

St. Teresa, inspired by the Eucharist, and the saving grace Jesus offers us through it, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, and remains a steadfast, transcendent, and powerful symbol of charitable works around the world.

ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?



We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our Catholic faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm accepting setting.

We will have Inquiry sessions beginning September 28 on Thursday nights at 6:30 PM. We meet upstairs in the parish center. If you know of someone who may be interested, invite them to come with you to one of the meetings to learn how the RCIA process works. These inquiry sessions are for those with questions about the Catholic faith or those who are curious and want to learn more. For more information about RCIA or the inquiry meetings please contact Bridget Becker at 377-4869 or email b.becker@dbqarch.org



Young Adults Gathering this Sunday, August 6!

Anyone in their 20s and 30s is invited to join us on **Sunday, August 6th** in the St. Joseph room (located in the parish office building) from 5:00 – 7:00 PM for food, speaker and lectio divina. For more information, contact Tim and Lisa DeWees at t.deweese@dbqarch.org.



Celebration of the Sacraments

Please remember in your prayers all those who are preparing to receive sacraments.

JOIN US FOR Healing Prayer

The next Healing Prayer gathering will take place with Adoration on **Sunday, August 13th at 11:45 AM** in the church. There will be small prayer teams available to pray with you individually and to intercede for you and your needs.

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them." - Matthew 18:20

Join us for the 48th Annual St. Jude Sweet Corn Festival August 11-13, 2023

50 Edgewood Rd. NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

Daily Admission: \$5

Free Admission: Children 10 and under,
Adults 60 and over,

Free Admission: Sunday with a paid admission from
Friday or Saturday and still wearing your wristband.

Admission is free for all signed up volunteers.

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- Silent Auction
- Raffles

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- Bags Tournament
- Craft Beer Tasting

Buy your cash raffle tickets for your chance to win
the grand prize of \$20,000 or 10-\$1,000 prizes.



Visit www.judesweetcornfest.com,
or like us on Facebook for the most
up to date information.

Want to volunteer?

We would love to have you!

Scan the QR code or visit our website
and click on Volunteer Sign Ups.

Legacy Corner

Remembering your parish or school in your will is a wonderful way of continuing your good stewardship.

If you would like more information about leaving a legacy gift to St. Joseph, contact Doug Brock at 319-377-4869. If you would like information about gift planning, please contact our planning partner at the Catholic Foundation at 563-552-0176 or CFAD@OurCFAD.org.

Marriage Enrichment

"[Jesus] was transfigured before them"
(Mt 17:2).

Matthew's account of the Transfiguration of Jesus (17:1-9) (the 4th Luminous

Mystery of the Holy Rosary), took place as Jesus journeys to Jerusalem. It was a chance for his beloved disciples (Peter, James and John) to see Jesus as he would appear for all eternity after he entered into his glory with his Father following his death on the cross and resurrection.

The light that transfigured Jesus was a light from within, the grace of God transforming Jesus' human body. The Greek word for "transfigured" comes from the English "metamorphosis". Like clay in the hands of a potter, God's grace likewise transforms us.

When you married your spouse, you likely changed or in some respect transformed, as you took on your new roles as husband and wife. Use this Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus as an opportunity to pray with your spouse, perhaps the Luminous mysteries of the rosary. Transform your focus outward to your spouse. And allow that change in focus, to enrich your spiritual lives, allowing the grace and mercy of God to renew your hearts for his greater glory, while transforming your lives.

Women's Connection



Women's Connection, a support group for parish widows, will gather **Thursday, August 10th, 1:15 PM** in the church hall. We will be talking about calendar

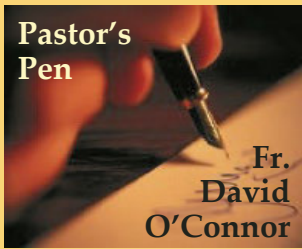
ideas for the new year and also planning our Annual September Remembrance Mass, breakfast and program for our spouses. Whether you're newly widowed or have been for several years we would love to have you come join us. For questions or to sign up for the Remembrance, call Sally at 319-373-5484 or 319-389-3225.

Catholic Worker House Meals

Help feed the hungry! Every **2nd Monday** of the month, the St. Joseph Social Justice Committee & friends collaborate to provide a meal for 25 children and adults staying at the St. John of the Cross Catholic Worker House in Cedar Rapids. Sign up to provide part of a meal, then drop off your ready-to-eat contribution at St. Joseph Catholic Church (main front doors) between 4:00-4:30 PM on that second Monday. Our volunteer transporter will leave St. Joe's at 4:30 PM to ensure that all the dinner components will arrive by 5:00 PM.

Sign up at <http://signup.com/go/PYkXJGy>
Thank you for your generosity!

Pastor's Pen



Archbishop-Elect Zinkula—We received the joyful news last Wednesday that the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has appointed Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Bishop of Davenport, to be the thirteenth Bishop and eleventh Archbishop of Dubuque. You can read his *curriculum vitae* here (<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2023/07/26/230726b.html>).

Of note is that the Archbishop-elect was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Dubuque and served in the archdiocese for many years before being ordained a bishop. He is well known by most of the priests and some of the recently ordained because he was Rector of St. Pius X Seminary, Dubuque, before his appointment as Bishop of Davenport.

Archbishop-elect Zinkula will be installed on October 18, 2023, just a few short months away. Thank you for your prayers asking God to send us a great shepherd and priest. Our prayers have been graciously and generously answered!

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary—This solemnity, a Holy Day of Obligation, occurs on Tuesday, August 15th, 2023. Masses for the Holy Day include:

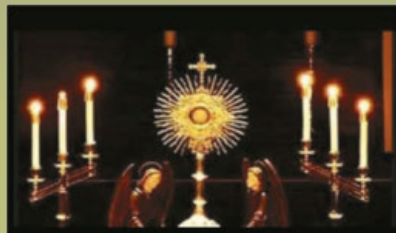
Monday, August 14th at 5:30 PM
Tuesday, August 15th at 7:30 AM

Mass Time Change for Wednesdays During the School Year—The first day of school is Wednesday, August 23rd. The Wednesday Mass time, however, won't change until the following week.

Effective August 30th, the Wednesday daily Mass time will be at 8:15 AM for the duration of the entire school year. Mass will be celebrated on Wednesdays at that time even when the school is on break, has a day off or due to a snow day.

All the other daily Mass times remain the same. Please note that we have had this schedule for about eleven years.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



*And behold I am with you always, until the end of the age.
Matthew 28:20*

**St. Joseph Church
Mondays
7:00 AM – 9:00 PM**

*Eucharistic Adoration will temporarily be suspended
at 4:45 PM on **Monday, August 14th** for the
Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of the
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*Adoration will resume following the conclusion of the
Mass, with Benediction at 9:00 PM as usual.*

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

Faith in our Future Capital Campaign

Campaign Prayer

Heavenly Father, you are the master builder
and your Son is the cornerstone and foundation
of our Catholic faith.

We turn to you, confident in your love and mercy,
to ask your blessing upon our endeavors to
engage in a

capital campaign and building project.
We seek to glorify you through what we build.

We wish to evangelize the gospel of Jesus
through the improvements we will make to our
church, school, grounds, and the new edifices we
may build.

We ask the Holy Spirit to inspire what we do and lead
it to completion.

We seek your blessing so that our capital
campaign and building project may help us to be
fed by Word and Sacrament to love and to serve
you, our community, and the world.

Calling upon the intercession of our Blessed
Mother and of St. Joseph, our beloved patron, we
ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Ready to turn in your completed pledge form and make your gift?

Please see below for a few easy ways to
complete your pledge:



Go online and visit:
<https://stjoesmarion.org/give>



Drop your completed pledge form off to
the Parish office or in the offertory basket



Text the St. Joseph Parish **text-to-give
number at (515) 346-6094** and follow
the instructions



Scan the QR Code below



Commitment Weekend is Coming: August 12-13

At all Masses next weekend, we will invite parishioners who have not yet made their sacrificial gift in support of the the **Faith in Our Future Campaign** to do so. Please give very careful consideration to Father O'Connor's request for a five-year pledge. Every gift is welcome and needed. Every gift will help meet the needs of our parish and our community by improving our space to ensure safety and security, improving accessibility and efficiency, increasing parishioner connectivity, community, and cohesion, and making our space more welcoming.

The success of our campaign depends on the sacrificial generosity of all parishioners, not just a few. Though not everyone will be able to offer gifts of equal dollar amounts, we can each offer the Lord, and each other, gifts of equal sacrifice.

We need every parish family to prayerfully consider how you can participate in this very important initiative. It is only through the sacrificial generosity of all of us that we can truly be successful.

How can you prepare for Commitment Weekend?

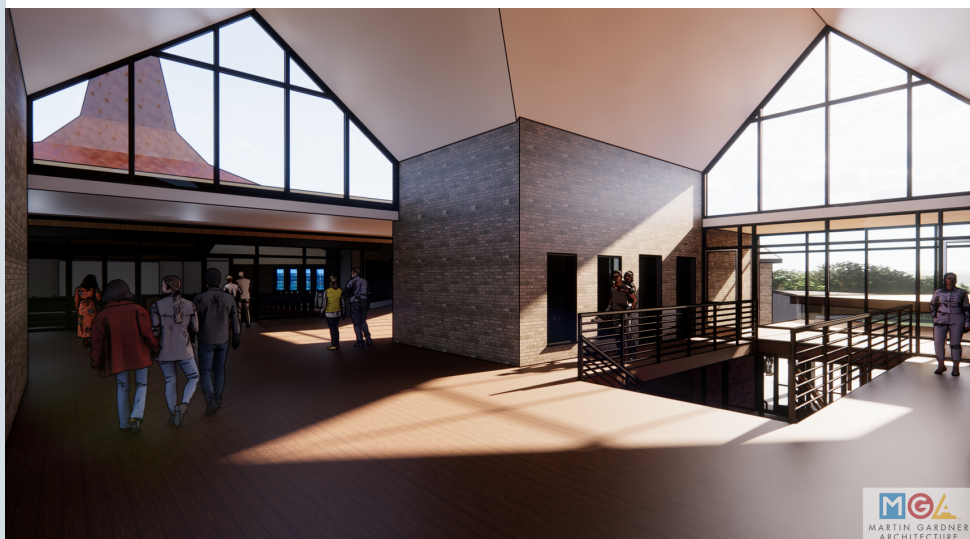
1. Read your campaign materials
2. Pray with your family about a sacrificial five-year pledge to the campaign
3. Be prepared to complete a pledge card next weekend

Questions about the campaign? Want to volunteer as a campaign caller?

Please contact our capital campaign co-chairs:

Joe Schmall at (319) 560 - 4164 or jschmall@bradleyriley.com

Barb Schmall at (319) 560 - 4880 or baschmall@gmail.com



TOGETHER

a monthly bulletin insert from the archdiocese



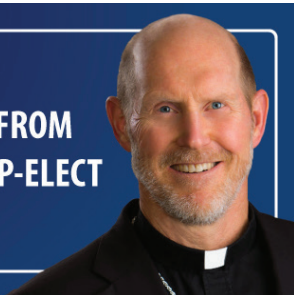
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Comments regarding this insert may be sent to communications staff by emailing contactus@dbqarch.org or by calling (800) 876-3546 and asking for the director of communications.

August 2023 Special Edition Vol. 3 | No. 8

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A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP-ELECT ZINKULA



Archbishop-elect Thomas Zinkula delivered the following message during a press conference on July 26, the day his appointment as Dubuque's eleventh archbishop was announced.

Good morning everyone. Normally at a gathering such as this, the bishop-elect introduces himself, but I obviously don't need to do that. There is that saying: "Better the devil you know than the devil you don't know!" You thought you had gotten rid of me, but I am coming back to haunt you! Hopefully it will be more a matter of me being like an old shoe – familiar and comfortable.

I receive all the emails that the priests of the archdiocese receive, so I have a copy of the prayer that the faithful of the archdiocese have been praying: A Prayer as We Await a New Archbishop. When the apostolic nuncio, Cardinal-designate Christophe Pierre, called about a month ago to inform me of this appointment, I began to pray this prayer. I have been praying that I will be the kind of bishop that the archdiocese needs and wants – that I will be "a priest of deep and true prayer, a teacher with a loving heart and a firm resolve, and a shepherd of joy and peace, who desires above all to do God's will."

In regards to the last petition in the prayer, my episcopal motto just so happens to be: "Thy will be done."

Well aware of my human weaknesses, limitations and frailties, I request that the priests, deacons, religious and faithful of

the Archdiocese of Dubuque continue to pray for me as well as for the archdiocese. I promise that I will remember you in prayer as well.

This is a bittersweet moment for me. As I said earlier this morning in an email to the archdiocesan leaders, I tend to fully immerse myself in my assignments, so it will be hard to leave the diocesan community in Davenport, with whom I have journeyed the past six years and who taught me how to be a bishop. But I nonetheless am overjoyed to receive the appointment to return to my home diocese to serve as its eleventh archbishop. It will be humbling and perhaps a bit interesting to add the role of spiritual father to my relationships with my fellow archdiocesan priests, who have been my brothers and friends for so many years.

I am well aware that the Archdiocese of Dubuque, which was created by Pope Gregory XVI in 1837, has a long, rich history. This local church has celebrated, nourished and spread the faith in this little corner of the world for 186 years. Many bishops, priests, deacons, consecrated religious and lay people have dedicated their lives to serving the people of the archdiocese.

Bearing this in mind, I recognize that I am following in the footsteps of a line of good shepherds. I have personally benefited from the ministry of Archbishop James Byrne who confirmed me; Archbishop Daniel Kucera who ordained me a priest; Archbishop Jerome Hanus who appointed me pastor, judicial vicar and episcopal vicar; and Archbishop Michael Jackels who appointed me rector of the seminary and, along with Archbishop Hanus and Bishop Martin Amos, ordained me a bishop. I have learned a great deal about episcopal leadership from each of the three archbishops under whom I served as a priest of the archdiocese.

I would like to join the archdiocese in expressing appreciation for the excellent

ministry of my immediate predecessor, Archbishop Jackels, and also in thanking Bishop Richard Pates for graciously and capably stepping in for a few months as the Apostolic Administrator of the archdiocese.

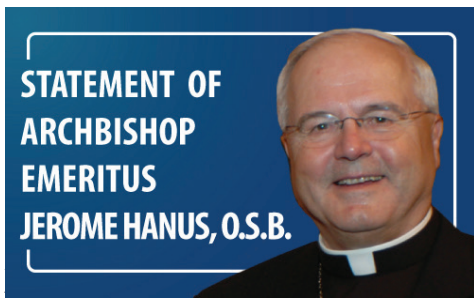
I hope that my being a native son and priest of the archdiocese will make the transition somewhat easier and quicker. I already know the clergy of the archdiocese, including those who were ordained priests since I left, since I was the rector of St. Pius X Seminary at the time of my appointment as bishop of the Diocese of Davenport. And I obviously know the archdiocese quite well, having served for 27 years in various assignments as a priest of the archdiocese. In those roles, I have ministered to thousands of the faithful of the archdiocese, and I have celebrated Mass in most of the parishes.

But it has been six years and the archdiocese hasn't sat still since I left. So I will need to get reacquainted with everyone and with what is happening here.

I won't be coming in with a big agenda or master plan. I have embraced the synodal process initiated by Pope Francis. So, in that vein, I hope to encounter and get to know as many people of the archdiocese as possible; to listen deeply and carefully to their thoughts, concerns and suggestions; to engage in communal discernment with the clergy and laity in regards to the path on which the Holy Spirit is leading us; and to accompany them as we journey together on that path.

When, while I was serving as rector of the seminary, I became the bishop of the Diocese of Davenport, it never crossed my mind that six years later I once again would be living at St. John Vianney, except this time one floor down and across the hall! But, again, it will be good to be home. God bless you all!

Archbishop-elect Zinkula will be installed as the eleventh Archbishop of Dubuque on Wednesday, October 18.



The wonderful news that Bishop Thomas Zinkula has been appointed Archbishop of Dubuque fills my heart with joy. How grateful we should all be to Pope Francis; he has shown his love and concern for this local church by giving us such a fine new chief shepherd.

The new Archbishop is well-known to us because of his many years serving as a priest in the Archdiocese. There is no doubt that he will be welcomed by his brother priests, the deacons and their wives, the religious and the lay faithful. He is known as a kind and compassionate servant of the people, obviously highly competent and experienced in pastoral care, in higher education, in legal and financial matters, in support of seminarians, in the work of Catholic Charities and so much more.

To him I pledge my prayers and personal support as he takes up his duties as our new Archbishop.

How Are Bishops Selected?

Adapted from a SimplyCatholic.com article by Michael R. Heinlein.

As the choice of a bishop potentially can guide and shape the journey of a given diocese or archdiocese for sometimes decades at a time, the nomination and appointment of bishops in the Catholic Church is one that has a significant impact on the lives and ministerial focus of Catholics in almost every segment of the Church.

The process of how these new shepherds are appointed to their new sees remains largely unknown, or at least largely opaque, to many.

Let's take a closer look at the complex undertaking of choosing a new bishop, one which originates with the needs of a local diocese and extends all the way to the desk

of the pope.

The current process for selecting bishops typically begins locally. Each diocese is part of a larger grouping — these larger territories are called metropolitan provinces, each with an archbishop.

The Archdiocese of Dubuque with the Dioceses of Davenport, Des Moines, and Sioux City constitute the Province of Dubuque.

Any bishop in a province is invited to submit names of priests whom they believe would do well to serve as a bishop. ... Together the bishops of the province discuss the nominated priests and take a vote to decide which names should be recommended. This list then is submitted to the country's apostolic nuncio, the pope's personal representative in a country and a pivotal player in the process of selecting bishops there. The current apostolic nuncio in the United States is French-born Cardinal-designate Christophe Pierre.

THE RESEARCH PHASE

When deliberating on candidates for diocesan bishops, the nuncio will find out as much as possible about the diocese in question. A report is compiled by the current bishop or administrator after consultation with various officials within the diocese. ... Once the nuncio shortens his list of candidates, he seeks the input of as many as several dozen people who know the candidates in consideration. ... After the nuncio has reviewed all of this information, he composes a report of three candidates — called a "terna" — in which he notes his preferences. All this material is forwarded to the Vatican's Congregation for Bishops.

SELECTING ARCHBISHOPS

In those cases where an archbishop is to be selected, a terna is usually composed of currently serving bishops. ...

THE CONGREGATION

When the prefect of the Dycastery for Bishops — currently American-born Cardinal-designate Robert F. Prevost —

approves the dossier submitted by the nuncio, the process moves ahead to select a bishop for a given post. The prefect chooses a member of his staff to create a summary of the information submitted by the nuncio, which in turn is submitted to the entire dicastery — staffed by bishops and cardinals from around the world.

THE TERNA

Members of the dicastery discuss the candidates and take a vote. They can either support the nuncio's recommendation, choose another priest/bishop to move to the top of the terna, or ask that another terna be composed.

THE POPE PICKS

The process finally draws to a close when the prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops meets privately with the pope. During the meeting, he presents the terna, given in a particular order with the dicastery's choice at the top. At this final stage, the pope can do one of four things: He may agree with the proposal, he may choose another candidate on the list, he may ask for a new terna to be submitted, or, more unlikely, he could choose his own candidate.

THE NOMINEE

Within a few days, the pope's decision is rendered to the Dicastery. Once the nuncio is informed, the nominee is contacted by the nuncio and given the option to accept the appointment.

When an affirmative answer is given, the nuncio arranges with the Holy See to set a date to make an announcement of the appointment. There is usually a two-to four-week period before the public announcement. During this time, the bishop-elect is not allowed to discuss his appointment.

The entire process of nominating and appointing a bishop usually takes six months to a year from the date a diocese becomes vacated due to sudden resignation, death or transfer of the diocesan bishop.

Metro Catholic School System Question (This article was in last week's bulletin)--

Reflecting back on the last few years within our Cedar Rapids Metro Area Catholic faith community, there is much for which to be thankful. We have come together to support one another in times of devastation and need, we have weathered the uncertainty of COVID as a cohesive and collaborative community, and most recently, we have worked diligently to promote our schools and parishes in an effort to ensure all those wanting a Catholic school education are provided with that opportunity. All of these efforts have been remarkable and invaluable to our mission of spreading the kingdom of God by going out to make disciples of the all nations.

Over the course of the last year, a committee of 19 individuals throughout the Cedar Rapids metro Catholic communities, also known as the Cedar Rapids Metro Task Force, have reviewed the current educational processes, governance structures, and practices within our metro area Catholic schools and parishes. This was in an effort to enter into discussion and dialogue about the vision of the future for the metro Catholic schools and ensuring that in the next five to twenty-five years these schools have positioned all our Catholic Schools to be successful, while continuing to fulfill the mission of the Catholic Church.



The work of the metro task force was extensive and has all been shared on the Xavier Catholic Schools webpage

(www.crxaviercatholicschools.org/cr-metro-task-force) for your

review. A number of data elements were analyzed and discussed to ensure clarity of the current educational landscape within the metro area, while also working to define the future of education and the necessary components required in our schools to continue to be viable.

After extensive efforts and discernment, coupled with an invitation of the Holy Spirit, the conclusion of the metro task force is that **it is not in the long-term best interest of parishes and Catholic education in the metro area for Catholic Schools to remain independent and would therefore recommend systemization.**

As a faith community, we are seeking your input on this important decision. We ask that you take some time to review the materials included here and on the Xavier Catholic Schools webpage. After which, please complete the survey included here by Friday, September 1, 2023.



The Pastoral Council ultimately will make a recommendation to me as to whether this recommendation for systemization of the metro Catholic Schools will move forward. Our goal is to make a final decision by November 2023.

We appreciate your engagement in this conversation as we look to ensure the viability of our parishes and schools in the years to come. We also encourage you to invite the Holy Spirit into your discernment of this recommendation.

Faith in Our Future Capital Campaign—Last weekend, we launched the public phase of the Faith in Our Future Capital Campaign to fund a building project for the parish. We haven't had a capital campaign of this magnitude since 1977 when the present church was built. Our facilities need updating and it is time to enhance them by new construction. For the next several weeks, you will be learning more about the components of the building project that will be funded by the campaign. Firstly, I ask that you pray for the success of the campaign. Secondly, that you offer a generous gift to the campaign. Lastly, and just as important, that you offer your time and talent in support of the campaign and building project.

This will only happen when we work together with the common goal of providing for our needs now and for the future. May God bless the work of our hands and may St. Joseph, our great patron and carpenter, intercede for us.