



# St. Joseph Catholic Church

Fed by Word and Sacrament to Love and Serve

1790 14th Street, Marion, IA 52302 ✚ 319-377-4869 ✚ [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org)



## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will  
make you fishers of men." - Mk 1:17

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

## January 21, 2024

Rev. David O'Connor, Pastor  
[d.oconnor@dbqarch.org](mailto:d.oconnor@dbqarch.org)

Deacon Ken Bauer  
[k.bauer@dbqarch.org](mailto:k.bauer@dbqarch.org)

Deacon Tim DeWees  
[t.deweese@dbqarch.org](mailto:t.deweese@dbqarch.org)

Deacon Brian Logan  
[b.logan@dbqarch.org](mailto:b.logan@dbqarch.org)

Deacon Dennis Ternes  
[d.ternes@dbqarch.org](mailto:d.ternes@dbqarch.org)

Deacon Jeff Volker, Pastoral Minister  
[j.volker@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.volker@dbqarch.org)

Doug Brock, Business Manager  
[d.brock@dbqarch.org](mailto:d.brock@dbqarch.org)

Nancy Roush, Business & Ministry Asst.  
[n.roush@dbqarch.org](mailto:n.roush@dbqarch.org)

Bridget Becker, Director of Adult FF  
[b.becker@dbqarch.org](mailto:b.becker@dbqarch.org)

Patty Kelly, Director of Liturgy & Music  
[p.kelly@dbqarch.org](mailto:p.kelly@dbqarch.org)

Julie Quandt, Parish Secretary  
[j.quandt@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.quandt@dbqarch.org)

JoAnn Starr, YFF Coordinator  
[j.starr1@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.starr1@dbqarch.org)

Kristen Perreault, Adolescent FF Coordinator  
[dbq126ff6@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq126ff6@dbqarch.org)

Casey Kettmann, Principal  
[ckettmann@sjcsmarion.org](mailto:ckettmann@sjcsmarion.org)

Peggy Brady, School Secretary  
[pbrady@sjcsmarion.org](mailto:pbrady@sjcsmarion.org)

Amy Diercks and Mallory Dudley  
Childcare Co-Directors  
[childcaredirector@sjcsmarion.org](mailto:childcaredirector@sjcsmarion.org)

Kevin Burmeister, Director of Maintenance  
[kburmeister@sjcsmarion.org](mailto:kburmeister@sjcsmarion.org)

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

**Weekday Mass:** Wednesday, 8:15 AM  
No Masses on Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

**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](mailto: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](mailto:alt.theresa@yahoo.com)

Jean Randolph 319-377-0497 or [jmr926722@mchsi.com](mailto:jmr926722@mchsi.com)

Deacon Dennis Ternes 319-377-4869 or [d.ternes@dbqarch.org](mailto:d.ternes@dbqarch.org)

Deacon Ken Bauer 319-377-4869 or [k.bauer@dbqarch.org](mailto: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](mailto:d.ternes@dbqarch.org) or 319-377-4869 to discuss baptism preparation for the parents prior to scheduling of the baptism. The next Baptism Class will be Saturday, March 9, 2024

**Parish Disability Advocate:** Contact Amanda Weaver at 319-432-9347 or [aweaver222@gmail.com](mailto:aweaver222@gmail.com)

Follow us:



### Sunday Envelope Giving Week of January 14, 2024 - Week 29

<b>Budgeted Sunday Envelope Needs</b>	<b>\$20,192</b>
Year-to-date budget	\$585,577
Collected last weekend	\$15,501
<b>Actual Year-to-date envelope income</b>	<b>\$566,313</b>
<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>	<b>(\$19,264)</b>
<b>Unrestricted Gifts and Offertory</b>	<b>\$146,728</b>
Budgeted Gifts and Offertory	\$158,942
<b>Over / (Under) budget</b>	<b>(\$12,214)</b>
<b>Bricks and Mortar Envelopes</b>	<b>\$23,153</b>
Bricks and Mortar budget	\$27,885
<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>	<b>(\$4,732)</b>
Social Concerns 5% of Envelopes	\$775

## January 22 - January 28, 2024 Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 22

7:00 AM Adoration  
12:00 PM Rosary - Church  
7:00 PM Scripture Study - Church Hall  
9:00 PM Benediction

### Tuesday, January 23

No Mass

### Wednesday, January 24

8:15 AM Mass † **Blanche Upah**  
(Also broadcasted live at: [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org))  
10:00 AM Scripture Study - Church Hall  
7:00 PM Men of Action - St. Joseph Room

### Thursday, January 25

6:00 AM Men of Action - Church Hall  
No Mass  
No Coffee & Doughnuts

### Friday, January 26

No Mass

### Saturday, January 27

3:00 PM Reconciliation  
4:00 PM Mass † **Robert & Ruth Kerns**  
(Also broadcasted live at: [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org))

### Sunday, January 28

8:00 AM Mass † **For The People**  
10:30 AM Mass † **Ivan Rohde**

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES IN METRO AREA

	Tues	Thurs	Fri
Immaculate Conception	12:05 PM	12:05 PM	12:05 PM
St. Matthew	5:30 PM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
St. Pius X	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM
St. Elizabeth	12:15 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
All Saints	8:00 AM	8:15 AM	8:00 AM
St. Ludmila	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	8:00 AM
St. Jude (if no funeral)	7:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 AM

Ministry Schedule	Saturday, January 27, 4:00 PM	Sunday, January 28, 8:00 AM	Sunday, January 29, 10:30 AM
<b>Sacristan</b>	Diane Kula	Rhonda Sourwine	Kathryn Geers
<b>Lector</b>	Erin Seymour	Marcia Schmidt	Michael Wobbe
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Tatiana Noffke Bayleigh Peck <b>1 Open</b>	Natalie Decker Matthew Decker Chase Decker	Will Noffke Noah Gonzalez Savanah Pope
<b>Video Ministry</b>	Peyton Stoller	n/a	n/a
<b>Ambassadors</b>	James Ickes Scot Brown Monica Dunbar <b>1 Open</b>	Jennifer Decker Nick Decker Mark Barnd Mary M. Johnson	Gary Raymond Tim Crumley Stephen Wright Barbara Wright
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Lola McAreavy Sharon Neilly Patricia Halstead Steven Brown Ann Brown Audra McEnany <b>1 Open</b>	Adrian Rehak Linda Randklev Judy Scott Jeffrey Alt Mary Mikkola <b>2 Open</b>	Julie Raymond Cathy Wobbe Kloey McCurren Clark White Teresa White Aaron Randolph Patti Zessin
<b>C.L.O.W.</b>	n/a	n/a	Jerome Nachazel Madison Shaffer
<b>Fun &amp; Faith Fcltr.</b>	n/a	n/a	Reese Ochall
<b>Door Greeters</b>	Barbara Gasaway Marjorie Jensen Sandra Osbon Linda Charlton	Gunnar Black Dorie Kelchen Jim McPartland Kathy McPartland	Dolores Dilger Jerry Dilger Lisa DeWees Timothy DeWees
<b>Music Ministry</b>	Jacob Weaver Bob Schmitt Jeffrey Alt	Spirit Choir	Jubilation Choir

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 **Mary Bentley**, grandmother of Sarah (Andy) Eicher, great-grandmother of Tenley and Lauren; **Mike Kepros**; **Patricia Powers**, sister-in-law of Aletha Panek; **Gerald Sperry**, brother-in-law of Elizabeth Sperry, uncle of Jeff (Pat) Sperry; and **Gloria Warner**, wife of Robert Warner

### Christmas Wreath and Poinsettia Memorials

If you sponsored a wreath or poinsettia for a loved one during the Christmas season, thank you! They can be picked up in the basement of the church. Look for a label or tag with your name or your loved one's name. **Memorial items should be picked up no later than January 28th.**



### To all women of St. Joe's:

Please join other St. Joe's women at **Coffee & Conversation**, which is held at Mr. Beans Restaurant on the 4th Friday at 9:30 AM. The date for January is **Friday the 26th**. This is a good way to meet and make new friends. Please join us.



### Catholic Schools Week Chicken Noodle Soup Luncheon

—Come celebrate the start of Catholic Schools Week! Enjoy a chicken noodle soup & chili lunch immediately following the 10:30 AM Mass on **Sunday, January 28,**

**2024** in the St. Ludmila Parish Social Hall—211 21st Ave SW. A free-will offering will be taken. LaSalle Catholic & St. Joseph Middle Schools' CenterStage Show Choir will give a preview performance of their 2024 Competition Show at 12:30pm. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Please contact Julie at 319-329-3397 or e-mail [mittelstadt.j@gmail.com](mailto:mittelstadt.j@gmail.com) to volunteer.

### Prayer for Vocations

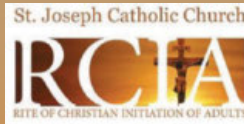
Please join us on **Tuesday, January 30th** at St. Ludmila Parish to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood. If your schedule allows, Mass will begin at 5:30 PM with the Holy Hour starting immediately following.

We will be welcomed by the Vocation Director, Fr. Mark Murphy and Seminarian Thomas Schnauffer will give a reflection during the Holy Hour. Refreshments will be served following the Holy Hour.

### Legacy Corner

*Making a gift in your will demonstrates a profound sense of caring and a spirit of generosity. It also encourages a tradition of giving, of family philanthropy, which continues to future generations. If you would like more information about leaving a legacy gift to St. Joseph Parish, 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](mailto:CFAD@OurCFAD.org).*

## Adult Faith Formation



The RCIA folks will be learning about the sacrament of Confirmation this week. Please

continue praying for the candidates and catechumens as they continue their conversion journey and for our RCIA process as we assist them in moving toward a closer relationship with God. If you are interested in joining us contact Bridget Becker at 319-377-4869 or email [b.becker@dbqarch.org](mailto:b.becker@dbqarch.org).



### Married Couples WHEN ALL THE HUSTLE-BUSTLE

OF THE HOLIDAYS ARE OVER.... Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? If you agree then you'll want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more info contact Denise and Greg at 563-920-9419. **Upcoming dates: February 16-18** in Marshalltown, **April 12-14**, in Epworth, **September 27-29** in Dubuque and **November 8-10** in Holstein, IA

### SHRINES OF FRANCE PILGRIMAGE—Nov. 4-14, 2024

We will visit:

- Holy Shrine of Lourdes
- Home of St. Martin in Tours
- Chartres Cathedral
- Monastery of Mont St. Michel
- Normandy Beach
- American and German Cemeteries
- Home of St. Therese the Little Flower in Lisieux
- City of Paris

Mass each day in great churches and cathedrals along the way. Cost is \$4,299 with departure from Omaha. For more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, 307 4th St. N., Humboldt, Iowa 50548, call 712-899-6870 or email [frdanguenther@gmail.com](mailto:frdanguenther@gmail.com). Fr. Guenther has been leading these pilgrimages for over 25 years!



Support St. Patrick Parish with our Lenten fish fry fundraiser! Purchase your eGIFT card today! Visit [stpatrickscr.org/fish-fry](http://stpatrickscr.org/fish-fry) or scan the QR code.

Purchase online for any dollar amount and use your phone or print off to redeem at the Fish Fry. Call Ahead | Dine-In | Drive Thru Every Friday from February 16 thru March 29







## Celebration of the Sacraments

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

### Covenant of Love Marriage Mentors

Do you desire a deeper understanding of God's plan for your marriage? Are you experiencing a time of difficulty in your relationship? Are you seeking a more intimate relationship with God and each other?

Trained *Covenant of Love* marriage mentor couples are available throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque to help equip married couples with practical tools for everyday life. If you are looking for help to strengthen your marriage, you can sign up to meet with a marriage mentor couple to receive support and guidance for you as a couple. To learn more, visit: [www.dbqarch.org/marriage-mentors](http://www.dbqarch.org/marriage-mentors).

### Marriage Enrichment

"Guide me in your truth and teach me"  
(Ps 25:5)

While learning about the other person is generally associated with the dating period, an essential aspect of marriage is continuing to ask and learn of your spouse. Ask questions. Keep learning about your beloved.

One suggestion for encouraging this conversation is to schedule regular "Date" nights with just the two of you. For a few hours (for example, over the meal), talk about the two of you. Focus on your relationship as husband and wife and discuss ways to enhance and enrich that relationship. Deal with your children and other family matters when you return home.

For suggestions on what a Date Night could look like, check out this article from the USCCB *For Your Marriage* website: <https://www.foryourmarriage.org/weekly-dating-ideas/>



### FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus

**Sunday,  
January 28, 2024  
3:00 PM**

- St Joseph School Gym (1430 14th St., Marion, IA).
- Doors open at 3:00 PM, expect to be present for about 1.5 hours to settle ties, as applicable.
- Open to all children in the community who are 9 to 14 years of age on January 1, 2024.
- Proof of age is required at any level of competition. Please be prepared if requested.

Contact Francis Ginther at 319-412-6121 or [fginther@gmail.com](mailto:fginther@gmail.com) for questions or more information.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) Court Cedar Rapids #1768 has members from all 11 parishes who engage in creative and spiritual programs. There is no CDA membership meeting during the winter month of January. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, February 13th**.



### January 21 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." As disciples, we are called to continue God's work on earth. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values.

**As you place your gift for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the collection (checks can be made out to St. Vincent de Paul), please say a special prayer for the poor who have no one to pray for them.**



### Campaign Corner

Please take a look at the insert to learn more about the beautification symbolism.

This is Part 1 of a series.

### St. Joseph School News

We will have our childcare/preschool/ kindergarten open house from 9:00-10:30 on Sunday, January 28. Teachers, staff, parents and the principal will be available to show you the school and answer any questions you may have. We encourage you to bring your child! Registration opens Friday, February 2 at 8:00 AM.

## SAVE THE DATE

All current Liturgical ministers and those interested in becoming a Liturgical Minister are invited to an evening of fellowship and ministry sharing on **Tuesday, February 20, 2024** beginning at 6:00 PM in the church hall. Fr.

Joseph Sevcik will be the keynote speaker on the Eucharistic Revival. Each specific ministry will then gather for a brief update/discussion for that ministry. Plan to attend and invite a friend interested in becoming more involved in our parish.

## A Eucharistic Revival Prayer

*Come, Holy Spirit, Come*

*Revive our souls to experience the Real Presence of Christ.*

*May our body be elevated with the Body of Christ.*

*May our body be healed by the sharing of Christ's blood.*

*May our body be consumed in Love by the consumption of Christ.*

*Revive our souls to share the Real Presence of Christ in our mission.*

*May the Real Presence lead us to wash the feet of the poor and vulnerable.*

*May the Real Presence Inspire us to live in communion with others regardless of class or culture.*


*May the Real Presence empower us to witness our faith among saints and sinners.*

*Revive our souls to be missionary disciples of love, justice and peace.*

*Break us in sacrificial love as you were broken as an offering for the world.*

*Send us to strengthen the Body of Christ in the world.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, Come*

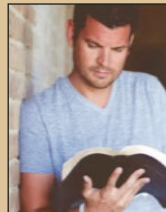
 <p><b>2024 Women's Conference</b></p> <p><b>Beauty In Christ</b> <small>Antidotes of Dubuque Women's Conference</small></p> <p>reviving our <i>hearts</i></p>	<p><b>Saturday, January 27, 2024</b> <b>8:00 AM-1:30 PM</b></p> <p>All women are invited to join us! We will gather at St. Joseph to share faith, fellowship and food!</p> <p>To register contact Bridget at <a href="mailto:b.becker@dbqarch.org">b.becker@dbqarch.org</a> or 319-377-4869. Cost is \$10</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### **CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE WEEKEND**

The Christian Experience Weekend, or CEW, is a renewal weekend for adults, designed to enable them to more deeply "experience" themselves and their relationship to God and the Christian community. This year the women's weekend will be **February 9-11**. The men's weekend will be **February 23-25**. Both take place at La Salle Middle School in Cedar Rapids, Friday evening through 4PM on Sunday. The weekend is specifically designed to focus on our self-worth and relationship with Christ but also how to carry that into our Christian mission. Cost is \$35. Register at <https://craw.org/>.



### **The 28th Annual Catholic Men's Conference**



The 2024 Men's Conference will take place on **Saturday, March 9th, 2023** at Pius X Catholic Church in Cedar Rapids (livestream available). The keynote will be John Edwards, founder and director of Pew Ministries, a Catholic apostolate with the mission of bringing the person of Jesus Christ to the person in the pew. John is the host of the 'Just A Guy in the Pew' podcast ([www.justaguyinthepew.com](http://www.justaguyinthepew.com)). Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Zinkula and breakout sessions presented by local speakers. Register at: [www.archmensconference.org](http://www.archmensconference.org)



**MEFFERD'S  
AUTO SERVICE**  
Serving The Area Since 1968  
**365-5505**  
4580 Mt. Vernon Rd. SE

**ENNEKING  
PLUMBING  
& HEATING**  
New • Remodel & Service  
3543 3rd Ave. **377-0745**

**BOB MICKEY  
COLLISION CENTER**  
4813 Center Point Rd. NE  
**393-3226**  
bobmickeycollision.com

**BOYSON  
DENTAL**  
DOUGLAS J. RECKER, D.D.S.  
CHRIS M. MOOTHART, D.D.S.  
1475 Boyson Road, Hiawatha, IA 52233  
**(319) 393-4019**

Sheila King  
REALTOR®  
417 1st Ave SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319.213.0779  
sheilaking@skogman.com  
www.sheilaking.skogman.com  
Parishioner **SKOGMAN REALTY**

**McALEER  
WATER CONDITIONING INC.**  
 **373-6965**  
For Sale or Rent  
• Iron Filters • Water Conditioners  
Parishioner Rent with 12 Month option to buy

**ISAIAH**  
1:18 | 53:5  
Shirts, Mugs & More  
www.isaiahflagstaff.com

 **Terrace Glen  
VILLAGE**  
INDEPENDENT LIVING • ASSISTED LIVING  
SHORT-TERM REHAB • LONG-TERM CARE  
3400 Alburnett Rd Marion, IA 52302 • 319.377.9000

**Affordable  
PRO EXTERIORS**  
ROOFING, SIDING, GUTTERS, ETC  
**319-899-8000 • affordableproroofting.com**

 **Birthright of Cedar Rapids**  
• Pregnant? Need Help?  
♥Free Pregnancy Tests  
♥Complete Confidentiality  
375 Collins Road NE, Suite 107  
1-800-550-4900 • 393-3251  
www.birthright.org/cedarrapids

**KMMK FM 88.7**  
**RADIO for  
CATHOLICS**

 **Winslow House  
care center**  
kind • compassionate • care  
**319-377-8296**


 **WADE'S  
AUTO COLLISION LLC**  
Over 30 Years of Experience  
All Makes & Models • Frame Straightening  
Work With All Insurance Companies  
560 31<sup>st</sup> St. • Marion, IA 52502  
**319-377-WADE (9233)**  
www.wadesautocollision.com

 **HOUSE OF CARPETS**  
COMPLETE FLOORING CENTER  
**House of Carpets**  
2712 First Ave NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402  
**319-363-1734**

**CARPET KING  
CARPET ONE**  
FLOORINGS & HOME  
carpet • vinyl • laminate • ceramic • hardwood  
quality, selection, price & value  
Locally Owned and Operated  
319-377-9801 • 998 44<sup>th</sup> St. • Marion, IA  
www.carpetkingcarpetonemarion.com

**MOONEY**  
HEATING & COOLING  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR  
"Service Most Brands"  
24 Hour Service  
**319-377-2647** www.mooneyhcei.com

Farmers State Bank Proudly Supports  
St. Joseph's Church!  
**FSB**  
myfsbonline.com | (319) 377-4891

 **(319) 804-5646**  
Exterior & Interior Remodeling

**Murdoch**  
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATION SERVICE  
"How Do You Want To Be Remembered?"  
MARION • CEDAR RAPIDS • CENTRAL CITY  
CENTER POINT • MANCHESTER • EARLYVILLE  
www.murdochfuneralhome.com

At the corner of 5th Ave. & 31st St.  
**Hubbell's  
Auto Repair**  
Hours 7am to 5:30pm Monday to Friday  
Storage Garages Available  
539 31st St., Marion, IA 52302  
Mike Hubbell, Owner (319) 377-6614

 **Knights of  
Columbus®**  
Andrew Hlubek, Field Agent  
319-432-4636  
andrew.hlubek@kofc.org  
Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance  
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance  
Protecting Catholic Families since 1882

**HyVee**  
EMPLOYEE OWNED  
**319-377-4803**  
Marion, IA

 **TEAHEN**  
Celebrates Life  
Cherishes Memories  
Personalized Funerals • Cremation Services • Prearrangement Plans  
Cedar Rapids (319) 396-2616 | Vinton (319) 472-2233  
www.TeahenFuneralHome.com

**JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!**  
 **KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
Council 5390  
• Charity  
• Unity  
• Fraternity  
Contact: Andrew Hlubek  
319-432-4636

**INSECT CONTROL SPECIALISTS INC.**  
 **TERMITES CONTROL** FAMILY OWNED AND  
OPERATED SINCE 1948  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SERVICE  
TERMITES & PEST CONTROL SERVICE  
PEST CONTROL SUPPLIES **363-1676**

 **ed**  
Ed Dye Family Dentistry  
Parishioner | **319-377-4805**  
3250 10th Ave, Marion | ed@eddyedds.com

 **Culver's**  
FROZEN CUSTARD  
BUTTERBURGERS™  
1375 Red Fox Way, Marion  
-Locally Owned-

 **PERFORMANCE  
FOODSERVICE**  
4100 44th Ave SW., Cedar Rapids, IA 52404  
**319-396-1300**

**HOGAN • HANSEN**  
A Professional Corporation  
**Jennifer J. Decker, CPA**  
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants  
2750 1st Ave., NE, Suite 150  
**366-8267 • www.hoganhansen.com**


 **Divine Mercy Gifts**  
**NOW REOPENED!**  
Catholic Gifts for All Occasions  
**319-200-4591 divinemercygifts.com**  
510 First Ave NW | Cedar Rapids  
Located on the 1st Floor of the St Patrick Catholic Church Rectory

 **Rinderknecht**  
Building a Stronger  
Community  
www.rinderknecht.com

 **ST DECLAN  
HOME CARE LLC**  
**319-435-7020**  
provcare@stdeclanhomecare.org  
www.stdeclanhomecare.com

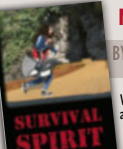
 **TIM O'BRIEN**  
HANDYMAN / SMALL PROJECTS  
**319-551-5980**  
TIMOBRIEN6345@HOTMAIL.COM  
PARISHIONER

**MARION IRON**  
• Recyclers of all types of scrap metals  
**4000 3rd Ave.**  
**377-1527**


Supporting and Serving the  
Catholic Community for 90 Years  
 **CEDAR MEMORIAL**  
CedarMemorial.com • 393-8000  
Cremation • Funeral • Cemetery

**The keystones  
of Cedar Rapids**  
Independent and Related Living Communities for Seniors  
Keystone Cedars  
Assisted Living  
6325 Rockwell Dr. NE  
(319) 393-9500  
Call & schedule  
a visit today!  
Keystone Place  
Independent Living  
6126 Rockwell Dr. NE  
(319) 393-7900  
www.thekeystonesofcedarrapids.com


**HIGH QUALITY HOME MAINTENANCE**  
"Your Home Repair Professional"  
Gutter Cleaning • Siding  
Roof Leak Specialist • Storm Damage  
Ceiling Fans • Drywall Repair  
 **Call: (319) 721-1859**  
www.hqhomemaintenance.com

**NEW RELEASE!**  
 **BY THERESA ALT**  
parishioner  
WEBSITE:  
amazon.com/author/theresaalt  
**Captivating  
Catholic Fiction**

 **Call  
Callahan**  
Real Estate Team  
**Cassie Shouse, Parishioner**  
319.551.1565 | cassie@callcallahan.com  
www.CallCallahan.com  
RE/MAX (800) 888-8888  
Licensed Realtor in Iowa • Over 12 Years of Experience

**Edward Jones**  
Member SIPC  
**TED STEGER, Financial Advisor**  
 755 22nd St., Marion, IA 52302  
**(319) 373-6174**  
• IRAs • 401(K) Options  
• Tax-Advantaged Investments  
• Protection Strategies

**HANNA**  
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.  
 1155 3rd Ave  
Marion, IA 52302  
PHONE: 377-2809

**Make Our New View, Your New View** ✨  
 **Summit Pointe  
Senior Living**  
Call and schedule a tour  
**319-373-4242**  
3005 English Glen Ave • Marion, IA 52305

## Beautification Symbolism Part 1



The Faith in Our Future Capital Campaign Committee has enlisted Conrad Schmitt Studios to assist with the beautification of our sanctuary. The initial renderings have been posted online and at the 3 entrances of the church. In this series of notes, we will look deeper at the artistry and symbolism that will adorn our church.

The 4 currently white triangular ceiling sections will each be painted in a similar fashion. At the bottom of each section, 3 stations of the cross will be placed. This will provide a journey around the whole church as a part of the Stations of Cross services. Walking the Way of the Cross is an unforgettable spiritual journey. As you stop to pray at each of the 14 Stations, you are symbolically treading the path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary while reflecting on the suffering He endured. The path known as the Via Dolorosa (“The Sorrowful Road.”)

Above the Stations of the Cross, in a green ribbon is a portion of the St. Joseph Prayer after the Rosary.

**O most Watchful Guardian of the Holy Family, Defend the Chosen Children of Jesus Christ**

Saint Joseph—spouse of the Virgin Mary, foster father of Jesus, patron saint of the universal Church and patron saint to our church here in Marion, Iowa.

The prayer to Saint Joseph was composed by Pope Leo XIII in his 1889 encyclical, *Quamquam pluries*. He asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary, especially during the month of October, which is dedicated to the Rosary. The prayer is on all four walls surrounding us as a Watchful Guardian and reminding us that we are all the Chosen Children of Jesus Christ our Savior.

The upper portion will have a contrasting orange section with a modified triple Fleur-de-Lis in the middle. The Fleur-de-lis or lily flower is a symbol of purity often representing the Virgin Mary. The Fleur-de-lis is also used to symbolize the Trinity, with each of its 3 petals representing a part of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). The Fleur-de-lis depicted has three flower stems from a single starting focal point. Each plant also having 3 flowers. If you look closely, the center flower on each resembles an Easter Lily.





## Prayer to Saint Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph,  
do we come in our tribulation,  
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,  
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you  
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God  
and through the paternal love  
with which you embraced the Child Jesus,  
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance  
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,  
and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

**O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,  
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;**

O most loving father, ward off from us  
every contagion of error and corrupting influence;  
O our most mighty protector, be kind to us  
and from heaven assist us in our struggle  
with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,  
so now protect God's Holy Church  
from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity;  
shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection,  
so that, supported by your example and your aid,  
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,  
and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

Amen.

For more information about St. Joseph Church's Faith in Our Future project, please visit [stjoesmarion.org/faith-in-our-future](http://stjoesmarion.org/faith-in-our-future)

For questions, please contact co-chairs Joe Schmall at (319) 560-4164 / [jschmall@bradleyriley.com](mailto:jschmall@bradleyriley.com)  
or Barb Schmall at (319) 560-4880 / [baschmall@gmail.com](mailto:baschmall@gmail.com)



# TOGETHER

*a monthly bulletin insert from the archdiocese*



ARCHDIOCESE  
of DUBUQUE

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

January 2024 Vol. 4 | No. 1

This document is available as a PDF at [www.dbqarch.org/together](http://www.dbqarch.org/together)



## IOWA IMMIGRANTS SHARE THEIR UNIQUE GIFTS

By Cassie Bird

It's been one year since the publication of the story of the Afghan evacuees who are being assisted by Catholic Charities' Immigration Legal Services (ILS) program. The original story can be read here: [www.archdioceseone.org/yga-1222](http://www.archdioceseone.org/yga-1222). In the past year, the attorneys and staff of Catholic Charities have been hard at work assisting the Afghan people, largely based in Cedar Rapids, who fled Afghanistan following the United States' military exit in August of 2021. The evacuees are men, women and children; many had worked alongside the US government in Afghanistan for 20 plus years.

There are numerous ways in which Catholic Charities staff have been working to assist Afghans in getting on the track to legal permanent residency, or a green card. One such method is to apply for asylum, and as of the end of November 2023, Catholic Charities received seven asylum approvals of the 27 asylum cases they have filed so far. Staff continues to be busy through the end of the year with answering the call to provide legal representation to clients who are required to appear in Omaha, NE for their asylum interviews and hearings with the DHS/USCIS Asylum Office.

### The Next Chapter of Saadat's Story

There is also an exciting update regarding Saadat Ahmadi, who was interviewed for



Saadat Ahmadi, Interpreter/Navigator  
DOJ-Accredited Legal Representative

the last article about the Afghan evacuees in December of 2022. Over the past year of being with Catholic Charities, Saadat has worked as an interpreter/navigator helping to provide language and case management services for clients in the Cedar Rapids area. Not only that, but Saadat was one of the thousands of Afghans evacuated in 2021. He joined the Catholic Charities team in March of 2022 to help others, even as he was trying to start a new life himself.

The good news? Saadat was one of the seven clients who received his asylum approval. This means he will have a pathway to legal permanent resident status (which means he is eligible for a green card after one year). Saadat has also been granted approval by the Department of Justice (DOJ) to be an accredited legal representative.

Yer Vang, Director of Immigration Legal Services said, "This is a tremendous achievement for him (Saadat) and our agency because of our limited capacity in not being able to hire an attorney last year. Saadat's accreditation allows us to expand

our services to serve Afghan immigrants and other refugees with their immigration needs."

"As an accredited Department of Justice (DOJ) legal representative, this allows Saadat to represent and serve immigrants and refugees on their immigration applications or cases before the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The one limitation with his accreditation/certification is that he cannot represent clients before Immigration Court."



Yer Vang, Director of Immigration Legal Services  
Immigration Attorney

Beyond the asylum cases that Catholic Charities staff attorneys filed over the past year, program staff also provided several large volume legal workshops. One of which was to help file renewal of parolee status for 60 to 70 individuals for another two years under this status. This extension will allow for more time to move through the backlogged immigration system at the national level. Applying for different statuses is done in stages by Catholic Charities staff, to try to obtain either the special immigration visa (SIV) or asylum for the Afghan evacuees.

The SIV is given to individuals who worked directly with the United States military or government in Afghanistan. “These are individuals who worked on behalf of and with the United States government in Afghanistan and were promised a pathway to legal status because of their commitment to the US,” Vang said. However, a very small percentage of individuals qualify for this, and so the next step is to aid them in applying for asylum.

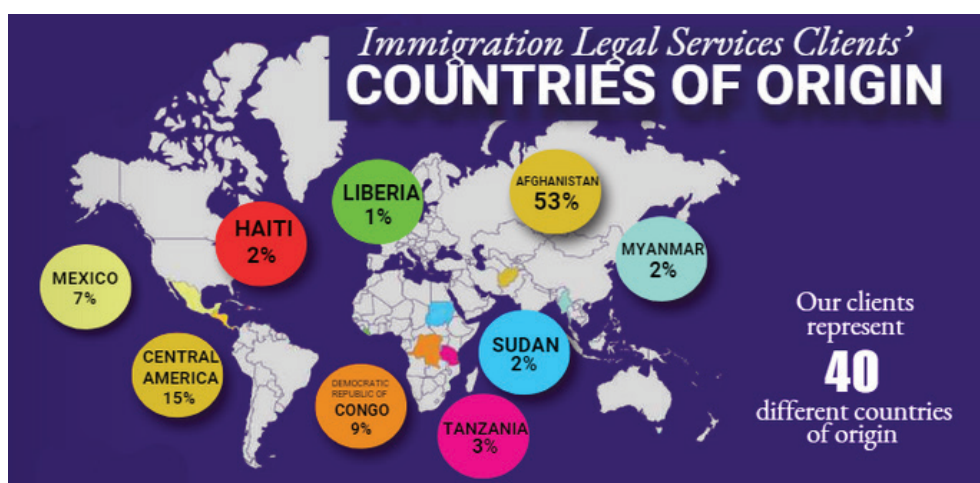
Catholic Charities’ Immigration Legal Services continues to be innovative in their delivery of services to make sure immigrants and refugees in the Archdiocese are served to the best of our ability and capacity.

This year in recognition of the legal progress Catholic Charities has done in the delivery of legal services for Afghans in Iowa, Catholic Charities was given funding support from the state-wide group called Afghan Legal League (ALL-Iowa) to hire another Afghan interpreter to help with language access and reducing barriers for Afghan immigrants. The new interpreter will be taking over Saadat’s previous role because Saadat will be transitioning to his new role as a DOJ legal representative in 2024.

### Iowa’s Immigrant Population

Many Iowans don’t realize just how large of a role immigrants play in our archdiocesan communities. Iowa is home to 170,118 immigrant residents, who combined have \$4.8 billion in spending power, and who paid \$1.7 billion in taxes in 2021. They account for 4.6% of entrepreneurs in the state, 17.8% of construction laborers, and 15.4% of postsecondary teachers. Not only that, but immigrants are more likely to be working age (83.7% of immigrants) than U.S. born citizens (60.7%). This means that they are able to contribute not only by participating in our workforce, but also means that they are able to contribute as taxpayers to help fund programs that benefit our population and communities.\*

Vang commented on the misconception that immigrants arriving to Iowa are only looking to take advantage of the (temporary) assistance they receive from



the United States government.

“I would say the immigrants who we encounter don’t want a handout - they just need a helping hand to reach their potential.”

She also shared that most immigrants learn English as quickly as possible, and want to work as soon as they are able to in order to provide for their families financially. They want to work, contribute to the local economy, and volunteer just as they did back in their home countries. They all have unique gifts, talents, and professions that they contribute to our communities. And now, many local economies in our state could not survive without them participating in our workforce.

### Serving the Entire Archdiocese

Catholic Charities’ Immigration Legal Services program is not limited to Cedar Rapids. The program staff works hard to reach every corner of the archdiocese, as there are immigrants in every one of our archdiocesan communities. Vang commented that if parishes have a need, their staff is more than happy to travel to offer consultation services for individuals in their communities who may qualify for services.

Vang said, “If donors invest in us with their dollars, they’re investing in our parishes, in the immigrants who are members of our parishes, and in our communities. Our goal is to strengthen families and individuals by stabilizing their legal status so they can be self-sufficient and contribute to our communities.”

### Immigration Legal Services Clients Served in 2023

Beyond the Afghan population, Catholic Charities assists clients from 40 other countries of origins, which you can see in the map below. These statistics are based on clients served in their 2023 fiscal year, which ended on October 31, 2023.

### Looking Ahead

In regard to the next year of Immigration Legal Services, the goal, as always, is to serve as many individuals as possible with their legal needs. Over the next year, Catholic Charities will work to not only sustain their current level of programming, but also continue to be innovative and collaborative in how they can enhance the immigration ministry to the most vulnerable.

*\*Data from the American Immigration Council from 2021, [www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/locations/iowa](https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/locations/iowa)*

### ArchdioceseOne Update

Thanks to your sacrificial gift, over \$17.3 million has been raised for the ArchdioceseOne special appeal. Over \$8.3 million of this amount has been left unrestricted, and over \$1.25 million has been restricted to Immigration Legal Services.