



# 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)

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

CREATE  
IN ME A  
CLEAN HEART



## February 25, 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  
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Deacon Brian Logan  
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Deacon Dennis Ternes  
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Deacon Jeff Volker, Pastoral Minister  
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[p.kelly@dbqarch.org](mailto:p.kelly@dbqarch.org)

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JoAnn Starr, YFF Coordinator  
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Kristen Perreault, Adolescent FF Coordinator  
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Casey Kettmann, Principal  
[ckettmann@sjcsmarion.org](mailto:ckettmann@sjcsmarion.org)

Peggy Brady, School Secretary  
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Amy Diercks, Childcare Director  
[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  
Thursday, 5:00 PM & Friday, 7:30 AM  
No Mass on Tuesday

**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



## Welcome to our New Members

Join us in welcoming this new parishioner to our parish family!

Judy Sheely

**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 February 18, 2024 - Week 34

<b>Budgeted Sunday Envelope Needs</b>	<b>\$20,192</b>
Year-to-date budget	\$686,538
Collected last weekend	\$23,555
<b>Actual Year-to-date envelope income</b>	<b>\$663,978</b>
<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>	<b>(\$22,560)</b>
<b>Unrestricted Gifts and Offertory</b>	<b>\$179,447</b>
Budgeted Gifts and Offertory	\$186,346
<b>Over / (Under) budget</b>	<b>(\$6,899)</b>
<b>Bricks and Mortar Envelopes</b>	<b>\$25,518</b>
Bricks and Mortar budget	\$32,692
<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>	<b>(\$7,174)</b>
Social Concerns 5% of Envelopes	\$1,178

### February 26 - March 3, 2024 Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

#### Monday, February 26

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

#### Tuesday, February 27

No Mass

#### Wednesday, February 28

8:15 AM Mass† **Marjorie Cecak**  
(Also broadcasted live at: [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org))  
10:00 AM Scripture Study - Church Hall  
2:00 PM Pietra Class - St. Joseph Room  
7:00 PM Men of Action - St. Joseph Room

#### Thursday, February 29

6:00 AM Men of Action - Church Hall  
5:00 PM Mass† **Jerome Feldman**  
(Also broadcasted live at: [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org))

#### Friday, March 1

7:30 AM Mass† **Joan Nath**  
(Also broadcasted live at: [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org))  
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross - Church  
6:00 PM Soup Supper - Church Hall

#### Saturday, March 2

3:00 PM Reconciliation  
4:00 PM Mass† **Glen Remington**  
(Also broadcasted live at: [stjoesmarion.org](http://stjoesmarion.org))

#### Sunday, March 3

8:00 AM Mass† **Reis Prati**  
10:30 AM Mass† **For The People**

### Pray the Rosary

The Knights of Columbus are going to pray the Rosary at St. Joseph Church on **Tuesday, March 5th** at 7:00 PM. All St. Joseph members are invited to pray with us. You do not have to be a Knight to participate. All are welcome.

Ministry Schedule	Saturday, March 2, 4:00 PM	Sunday, March 3, 8:00 AM	Sunday, March 3, 10:30 AM
Sacristan			
Lector			
Altar Servers			
Video Ministry			
Ambassadors			
Eucharistic Ministers			
C.L.O.W.			
Fun & Faith Fcltr.			
Door Greeters			
Music Ministry			

Schedule unavailable at  
time of printing

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



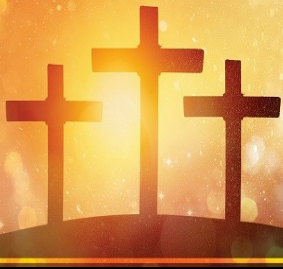


Please remember in your prayers all those who have died, especially **Patricia McGrane**, former Pastoral Minister at St. Joseph; **John Sheehan**, husband of Burdella, father of Tim (Rhonda) Sheehan and Jim (Kim) Sheehan; and **Viola Tschirgi**, sister of Rose Wolf

## Join us for **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Every Friday at  
5:30 PM during Lent

Soup Supper to  
follow in Church Hall



## Lenten Soup Supper for Friday, March 1

Please join us  
for supper in the  
Church Hall  
immediately following  
Stations of the Cross.

This week's Stations of  
the Cross will be led by  
Deacon Tim DeWees  
and the Soup Supper  
will be hosted by  
Men of Action.

## Adult Faith Formation

### Rite of Christian Initiation

We celebrated the archdiocesan Rite of Election last Sunday. Please keep the Elect and Candidates for full communion in your prayers as they continue this final period of preparation.



## SHAMROCK Vegas Night

You are cordially invited to attend **ST. JOSEPH SHAMROCK 2024**. This gala event benefits and celebrates St. Joseph Catholic School. It will take place on **Saturday, April 6**, starting at 6:00 PM at the Radisson Hotel Cedar Rapids. Join us for heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks, casino games, live music, live and silent auctions, games, raffles and more. Tickets are \$60 per person and commemorative wine and beer glasses (with house beer/wine included) are \$30 in advance. Reservations are due by March 15.

Proceeds from the event will go toward a new playground at the school, which serves preschool through eighth grade students, a childcare center and participants in the parish's Youth Faith Formation program.

If you wish to support the event by donating an item or service to the Shamrock auction, please contact [shamrock@sjcsmarion.org](mailto:shamrock@sjcsmarion.org) or call the school office at 319-377-6348. We'd love to showcase your talents or feature your business. Donations are requested by March 8 in order to be included in the event brochure. Donors will be recognized in the event program and donations are tax deductible to the greatest extent allowed by the law. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



## Campaign Corner

Please take a look at the insert to learn more about the beautification symbolism.  
This is Part 6 of a series.

## DISCOVERY LIVING - 2024 LENTEN PROJECT



Bob Hebl joined us for a short presentation during our Soup Supper on Feb 16. Here are a few facts he shared with us about Discovery Living:

- Operate 31 homes that provide 24-hour care to 3, 4 or 5 people
- Operate 3 recreation centers that facilitate community integration opportunities
- Serve over 150 people in Cedar Rapids, Marion and Hiawatha
- Have over 100 people on our waiting list
- Employ 250 people
- Own over 50 vehicles
- Intend to add two new homes in the year ahead

As our **Lenten Almsgiving project**, St Joseph Church will be collecting monetary gifts through March 17th to support Discovery Living's mission to provide individualized, life-long support to adults with developmental disabilities in the setting of their choice by promoting personal growth, success, and satisfaction through life experiences. A collection box is located in the main entrance. For more information go to [www.discoveryliving.org](http://www.discoveryliving.org). Thank you for your generosity!



## Celebration of the Sacraments

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

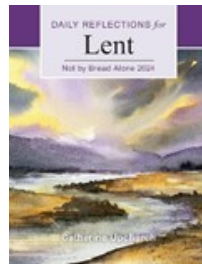


### Lenten Encounter Night

Join the **Young Adults** as they host a **Holy Hour on Sunday, March 10 from 5:00-6:00 PM**. There will be Adoration of the Sacrament along with scripture reading, singing, night prayer concluding with

Benediction. Come gather in the presence of Christ, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament—Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. Join our Catholic brothers and sisters across the country at the feet of Jesus, humbly praying for a Revival of Eucharistic faith in our Church, our parish communities, and our own hearts. All are invited! A light meal will be served afterwards.

**Lent is here** – Prayerfully journey through Lent with inspiring and meaningful reflections on the daily Mass readings. In just a few minutes each day, the insightful meditations of *Not by Bread Alone* can deepen your experience of this solemn season of prayer and penance.



To help defray the cost there is a suggested donation of \$1. Look for the table in the church entry space and pick one up this weekend.



**40 DAYS FOR LIFE™** Pray that we do not ignore the cries for help from the unborn and their mothers and fathers.

The overturning of *Roe v Wade* reminds us that **we are all called** to do what is necessary to end the injustice of abortion through prayer and fasting at peaceful vigils. Can **you** commit to come at least one hour? Sign up on the website below and be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card.

Web: <https://40daysforlife.com/cedar-rapids>

Questions, call Pat at 319-721-9730



### Marriage Enrichment

*"I have promised God that until my last breath I shall have lived for my poor people." (Saint John Bosco)*

Humor can lighten a stressful situation in life. Look for opportunities to lighten your beloved's life with a touch of humor. Poke fun at yourself, or exaggerate a frustrating situation to the point of levity. St. John Bosco is the patron saint of young people. If you are raising adolescents and teens, ask this kindly saint for wisdom...and a healthy sense of humor!



### Pancakes next Sunday!

Knights of Columbus will be serving pancakes, eggs, sausage, and beverages in St. Pius Church Hall on **Sunday, March 3rd, 8:30-10:30 AM**

Adults \$7.00 Seniors 65+ \$6.00  
Children 5-12 years - \$3.00 Children under 5 - Free  
Family price - \$20.00

**Be the Light for Those in Need:** At Catholic Charities, we have the privilege of renewing hope when all seems lost and walking alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ through their darkest moments. For those who are elderly, disabled, struggling with mental illness, separated from their families, incarcerated, facing homelessness, and altogether isolated, we are here. Your gift directly impacts families in Northeast Iowa. Please consider partnering with Catholic Charities and contribute to the Annual Appeal today. Learn more at <https://www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/annualappeal>

### Mt. Calvary Cemetery 2024 Spring Cleanup

This year the Mt. Calvary Cemetery Spring Cleanup will be **Friday, March 15th**. If you have wreaths or other holiday tributes on loved one's graves at Mt. Calvary and you wish to keep them, please have them removed by Thursday, March 14th. The cemetery will be completely cleared of all decorations starting Friday morning, March 15th. After April 1st conforming spring/summer floral displays may be placed. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer for this Corporal Work of Mercy, please contact Mt. Calvary Cemetery at 319-362-4659 or at [crmt.cal@gmail.com](mailto:crmt.cal@gmail.com).

### St. Joseph School News

The middle school had a great time on their annual ski trip to Chestnut Mountain in Galena last week!

### Legacy Corner

*"Later" can be too late. Don't delay having your will drawn. Make sure your estate plans are in place so that your wishes will be carried out to benefit your family. Gifts you plan for St. Joseph Parish through your will can help your church continue to minister and serve. 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).*





Greetings, St. Joseph Parish! This is Zach Bohannon, the Faith in Our Future (FIOF) Building Committee Chair, coming to you with your latest update on your church's renovation project. As you may recall, I have provided all parishioners with a couple of updates thus far. The first update happened last August during the middle of our capital campaign, with the other one coming in the bulletin the second weekend of December, which rolled out the beautiful design by Conrad Schmitt Studios. Now I am proud to provide you our most important update yet with some key timeline figures. But first, let's get a few things out of the way. Throughout the nearly five years that our FIOF team, led by Joe and Barb Schmall, has been hard at work, a few "non-negotiables" became abundantly clear: 1. Beautify the sanctuary to update the 1977 design, 2. Complete construction by summer of 2025, and 3. Minimize the construction disruption as much as possible.

With that said, I am proud to announce we are on pace to achieve these three things! As you have seen at each entryway of the church, we will be incorporating a rich design to make our church feel more "Catholic", thus beautifying our sanctuary. Second, Rinderknecht, our general contractor, has confirmed construction will be completed by the start of summer of 2025. Lastly, while working with Rinderknecht and Conrad Schmitt Studios, we have been able to compress the construction timeline, along with the disruption, into a manageable schedule. What does that mean you might ask?

In short, construction is set to begin around the main entrance on September 1<sup>st</sup> of this year (2024). However, we will be able to continue to hold Mass in the church through Christmas, with the sanctuary officially closing on the 26<sup>th</sup> of December. At this time, we will be shifting our Mass schedule over to the gymnasium at St. Joe's School until we reopen six months later in 2025. While I understand a temporary shutdown is not ideal, our building committee, along with our FIOF team, agreed this is the best case scenario for our project because Fun Days will not be impacted, along with the church being out of operation for only six months. Again, we knew we were going to have to go through a little short-term pain for long-term gain. I hope you each continue to pray and keep the faith in our church's future success. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me ([zach.bohannon@fib.com](mailto:zach.bohannon@fib.com)) if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Blessings!

### "The Midwestern Mary: Images of the Virgin Mary in the History and Spirituality of the American Midwest"

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

**Mount Mercy University**

Presented by Dr. Matthew Milliner  
Professor of Art History at Wheaton College

Dr. Milliner, an expert in sacred art - with a focus on artistic representations of the Virgin Mary - will explore the possibility of a "Midwestern spirituality," and what role the Virgin Mary might play in it. The lecture will be held at 7:00 PM in the Flaherty Communion Room (room 204) in Basile Hall, on MMU's campus. A brief reception will follow.

### DENTAL VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED at His Hands Clinic

Our patient waiting list continues to grow. Currently, it takes 3-6 months to be seen depending upon the service. The remedy is as simple as 2-3 hours per month at our clinic or yours. If interested or have questions, please contact Jody, Volunteer Coordinator, at [jody@hishandsclinic.org](mailto:jody@hishandsclinic.org) OR go straight to our website: [www.hishandsclinic.org](http://www.hishandsclinic.org) to fill out a volunteer application.

Stipend incentive available for DENTAL HYGIENISTS AND ASSISTANTS. Please contact: Alex Trunnell, Executive Director via [alex@hishandsclinic.org](mailto:alex@hishandsclinic.org).

### ST. JOSEPH FOOD DRIVE

All proceeds will go to Metro Catholic Outreach.



#### WEEK ONE (FEB 4-10) - "HOW SWEET IT IS"!

Remember to "sweeten" your donations: peanut butter AND jelly, pancake mix AND syrup etc.

#### WEEK TWO (FEB 11-17) - "SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY"!

All things soup! Canned soups, broths, canned stews etc., even dry pastas and macaroni.

#### WEEK THREE (FEB 18-24) - "PACKING ON THE PROTEIN"

The focus is on proteins: tuna fish, canned chicken, canned beef, SPAM, stews and even dried beans.

#### WEEK FOUR (FEB 25-MAR 2) - "EXTRA STARCH PLEASE"

Think "starches": rice, potato flakes, boxed potato meals, pastas, hamburger helper meals etc.



## Beautification Symbolism Part 6



In this final installment on the artistry and symbolism of our Church Beautification effort, we'll continue to look up to the ceiling above the Sanctuary and Altar.

In the area directly above the Altar we see the familiar dove, the symbol of Holy Spirit. The head of the dove is often surrounded by a nimbus or round halo-like sphere which represents holiness. The nimbus may be inlaid with three rays which indicates that the Holy Spirit is one of the three Persons of the Blessed Trinity. The dove is depicted as in flight and rising. This can symbolize the Ascension of Christ or the entry into glory of the martyrs and saints.



The Catechism of the Catholic Church provides this guidance:

**701 The dove.** *At the end of the flood, whose symbolism refers to Baptism, a dove released by Noah returns with a fresh olive-tree branch in its beak as a sign that the earth was again habitable. When Christ comes up from the water of his baptism, the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, comes down upon him and remains with him. The Spirit comes down and remains in the purified hearts of the baptized. In certain churches, the Eucharist is reserved in a metal receptacle in the form of a dove (columbarium) suspended above the altar. Christian iconography traditionally uses a dove to suggest the Spirit.*

The dove appears as a symbol and a tool of God in both the Old and New Testaments. The dove first appears by name in the book of Genesis.

**Genesis 8:9-11** *Then he (Noah) released a dove, to see if the waters had lessened on the earth. But the dove could find no place to perch, and it returned to him in the ark, for there was water over all the earth. Putting out his hand, he caught the dove and drew it back to him inside the ark. He waited yet seven days more and again released the dove from the ark. In the evening the dove came back to him, and there in its bill was a plucked-off olive leaf! So Noah knew that the waters had diminished on the earth.*

In the Old Testament a dove represented purity. According to Mosaic law, doves and turtledoves were the only birds that could be offered as acceptable sacrifices because of their perceived purity.

**Genesis 15:9** *He answered him: Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon*

**Leviticus 12:6** *When the days of her purification for a son or for a daughter are fulfilled, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting a yearling lamb for a burnt offering and a turtledove for a purification offering.*

In the New Testament as John baptizes Jesus in the Jordan River, we again see the dove. The dove is present at Baptism to represent the Holy Spirit being sent to gather mankind into the Church.

**Matthew 3:16** *After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him.*

**Luke 3:21-22** *After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."*



As we look closer at the other area above the altar, we see the presence of the Fleur-de-Lis. 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 lower brown beam is adorned with multiple Fleur-de-lis, each with 3 stems and flowers that resemble an Easter lily. On the ceiling area above the altar and surrounding the dove are larger quadruple Fleur-de-lis arrangements with each stem starting from a single focal point.

Our series started by focusing on the 4 ceiling areas adorned with a verse from the Prayer to our Patron, St Joseph. As we close out, we'll revisit that beautiful prayer again.

### **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*



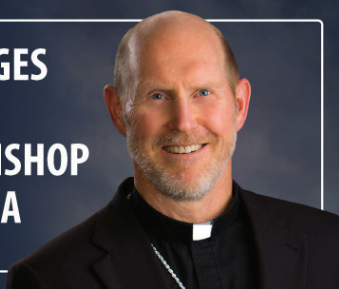
ARCHDIOCESE  
of DUBUQUE

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.

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

## MESSAGES FROM ARCHBISHOP ZINKULA



*"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world.*

*A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."*

Mt 5:13-15

## BE THE LIGHT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As faithful communities of salt and light, we are called to stand as beacons of hope to those facing adversity, serving as a testament to the boundless grace of God working through us as a gift to one another and the world.

This year, our annual fundraising appeal at Catholic Charities bears a special theme - "Be the Light." Drawing inspiration from the enduring message of faith and compassion found in the Gospel of Matthew, we invite you to join us in illuminating the lives of those most vulnerable in our community.

The critical work of Catholic Charities, firmly rooted in Catholic Social Teachings, brings together the sanctity of family, community, and the dignity of the human person. These principles are the foundation of our moral

vision for society. They are based on our recognition that each person is created in the image and likeness of God. Embracing the call to love one another, we also bear the responsibility of ensuring universal access to the common good, enabling every person not only to survive but to thrive.

Let us not forget that it is the collective radiance of our individual lights that weaves a vibrant tapestry of compassion and love. Thank you for your generous commitment to our annual appeal and all the ways you are sharing the light of Christ throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque. I am grateful for your continued benevolence.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Thomas R. Zinkula  
Archbishop of Dubuque



The Catholic Charities Annual Appeal kicked off the weekend of February 10-11, 2024. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque truly relies on your partnership, support, and promotion of this appeal to continue providing the critical services they provide each year.

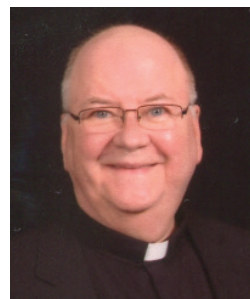
Make your gift today at <http://www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/donate>.

## A LEGACY OF SERVICE: RETIRED PRIESTS' JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



By Cassie Bird

Meet Fr. Louis Jaeger and Fr. Bernard Grady, who celebrated jubilee years in 2023.



Rev. Louis Jaeger was ordained a priest on March 31, 1973 and celebrated his Golden Jubilee in the year of 2023. A celebration of this anniversary

was held at St. Mary's Parish in Manchester with a Mass and reception this past spring.

### 1. What are aspects of your active priestly duties that you miss?

The aspect that I miss most of active ministry is dealing with people. There are some really great people in the Church and I miss dealing with them. When I was pastor I enjoyed doing visioning for schools or parishes. I liked hearing other people's ideas.

### 2. As you celebrate this golden anniversary, what reflections do you have on the impact of your priesthood on both yourself and the communities you served?

The biggest impact on me was through



prayer getting closer to God and realizing why God put me places. As for impact on the communities? You would have to ask the people.

### **3. How has your perspective on the role of a priest evolved since the time of your ordination to your retirement?**

The role of priest has changed from visiting people, celebrating sacraments, etc. to more of a collaborative ministry with active participation of the laity.

Rev. Bernard Grady was ordained a priest on June 1, 1968 and celebrated his 55-year jubilee in 2023.

### **1. Looking back on your years of active ministry, what are some of the most fulfilling and rewarding aspects that you experienced?**

For the most part, I was privileged and blessed to work with wonderful parish staff members and serve wonderful parish members: 1968-1972 as an



Assistant at St. Joseph in Marion; 1972-1977 as an Associate in Team Ministry at Immaculate Conception in Charles City and St. Mary, Roseville; 1986-1993 as Pastor at Blessed Sacrament, Waterloo; 1999-2005 as Pastor at Saint Mary, Marshalltown; and 2005-2012 as Pastor at Saint Patrick, Hampton and Saint Mary, Ackley.

For some 25 years, our Archdiocese staffed and supported a large parish in Cochabamba, Bolivia, "La Parroquia de San Rafael". I volunteered and served on the parish staff from 1977 to 1986. Due to the shortage of priests back here, the parish was then turned over to the local Archdiocese in Bolivia. From 1993 to 1998, I was permitted to be an Associate member of the Society of Saint

Columban, an Irish Missionary Group, and served as Pastor of a Columban Parish on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. During these early years after the Second Vatican Council, the "Basic Christian Community" movement was especially popular in parishes in South America, and served to form small communities within parishes and encourage leadership among the laity.

### **2. Besides the ways that you still live out your ministry as a retired priest, how do you spend your time in retirement?**

In retirement, I have owned a home in Marshalltown for the past eleven years and have enjoyed my hobby of woodworking. My brother Pete and sister-in-law Jeannine have lived in Marshalltown for many years, and I enjoy their presence and support in many ways. I served for a time delivering Meals on Wheels, and continue to enjoy volunteering at the Emergency Food Box. Age is now taking its toll, but Pete and Jeannine and parish members and neighbors are ready and willing to offer a helping hand whenever I have a need. I also enjoy contacts via visits, phone calls, emails and letters from other family members, classmates, and members of the parishes I have served over the years.

### **3. As you celebrated your 55th jubilee in 2023, what reflections did you have on the impact of your priesthood on both yourself and the communities you served?**

During the Christmas season, I received several greetings from classes and individual students of many of the schools and parishes of our Archdiocese. Many of them thanked me for being a priest. In my response to them, I pointed out that God must be calling some from among them to the priesthood and religious life. I ended each of my replies with: GO FOR IT!!!!

## **2024 RETIRED JUBILARIANS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE**

Rev. John Kremer - 65 years  
Rev. Philip Recker - 65 years  
Rev. Wayne Droessler - 55 years  
Rev. Joseph Schneider - 50 years  
(Golden Jubilarian)  
Rev. Stephen Meyer - 45 years  
Rev. Dennis Cain - 45 years  
Rev. Alexander Wild - 35 years  
Rev. William Cosgrove - 25 years

## **2023 RETIRED JUBILARIANS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE**

Rev. Donald Hawes - 70 years  
Rev. Msgr. Dean Walz - 70 years  
Rev. George Karnik - 65 years  
Rev. Ardel Barta - 60 years  
Rev. Bernard Grady - 55 years  
Rev. Louis Jaeger - 50 years  
(Golden Jubilarian)  
Rev. Dennis Juhl - 50 years  
(Golden Jubilarian)  
Rev. Philip Thompson - 45 years  
Rev. Michael Mescher - 40 years

Your generous support for priest retirement and the Priest Pension Plan are vital to supporting the Archdioceses' retired priests, who have dedicated their lives in service to God and the Church.

Thanks to the sacrificial gifts of so many, over \$2.4 million has been restricted to Priest Retirement through the ArchdioceseOne special appeal.

There is still a great need to support Priest Retirement, as the goal of \$15 million was not met and the Pension Plan remains underfunded.

If you have completed your ArchdioceseOne pledge, or made a one-time gift, and are in the position to give more, we would greatly appreciate your consideration of continued support for this ministry.

Gifts can be made online at [www.archdioceseone.org/support](http://www.archdioceseone.org/support), or mailed to ArchdioceseOne, 1229 Mt. Loretta Ave, Dubuque, IA 52003.