

December 18, 2016
4th Sunday of Advent

All Saints Catholic Church

Mission Statement: *"Rejoicing with gratitude in God's blessings, we invite and welcome all to share in the fullness of the Catholic faith. We live our baptismal call through worship, teaching, and serving one another."*

Parish Contact Information

Rev. Raymond J.
Higgins
Pastor

Church Office

Phone: 515-523-1943
Hours: T-W-Th 9am-3pm
Closed: Monday & Friday

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Custodial Services

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Dave Boss

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Chain Requests
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Mailing Address

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Dear Parishioners,

We are fast approaching the celebration of the birth of our Lord and it is important that we continue to prepare our interior life for this important Solemnity. Too often, many consider Christmas just another reason to have a party. I am in favor of parties and gatherings. Sometimes, these events stay on a superficial level repeatedly. We are social beings and it is important for our growth and maturity to have deep and meaningful relationships. God can help us to have such friendships within in our family circles, friends and neighbors. By having an interior life where we meet God and have honest conversations with Him, perhaps, this type of intimacy may enter into our everyday life with others. How does one begin? Simple. Just ask God to help you to have a meaningful and loving relationship with Him and with others. Ask God to teach you, but you must be willing to learn. Another bit of advice is to ask God to come with you when you go to weekly or occasional gatherings. Reflecting on how important God is in your life, it should be easy to invite him to your parties and gatherings. Maybe you never thought of that or you might say you couldn't invite him to certain parties. Why not? If God has your best interest in mind and He loves you and you love Him, then we might consider why I can't bring "my best friend" with me. Jesus is our spouse and the best friend we will ever have. Maybe by inviting him and bringing him to wherever we go, we just might bring joy and meaning to the everyday events of our life. To share life with God seems like the goal we all ought to have. How do I start? Just begin right now in whatever it is you are doing. Otherwise, how will intimacy grow with our loving Lord unless we can invite him to every aspect of our personal and public life?

On a different note, our enrichment committee has been working hard planning events and creating an open and welcoming environment. We hope you will join in their efforts. Through the wonderful efforts of our committee we have been able to use memorial monies and some donated monies to purchase furniture for the gathering space. The hope is to turn the gathering space into an environment where people would stay and visit one another a little longer. It is the hope of the committee and my hope that others will come forward to help with donations to complete the project. A big thank you to our Enrichment Committee for their great work.

Mass times for Christmas are 4:00 pm at St. John on December 24, 7:00 pm at All Saints on December 24, and 12:00 am at All Saints on December 25. - *Father Ray*




St. Mary's Center serves an average of 500 people/day, five days a week in an area of Des Moines where the poverty rate is over 45%. The homeless, unemployed, and working poor are able to receive food, diapers, personal care and household items in addition to some clothing. Working through Catholic Charities, with mostly volunteer staff, with generous support of many churches, Des Moines Area Religious Council and businesses such as AE Dairy, Panera Bread, and others.

Thank you for your kind donations.

May God bless you and keep you close to His heart. ***The Knights of Columbus***

Parish News & Events

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Sunday 12/18 9am Choir 10am Mass For the People Birthdays: Norine Marlowe, Joseph Schechinger 	Monday 12/19 Anniversary: Dave & Barb Boss 1987 <i>Church office is closed on Mondays & Fridays</i>	Tuesday 12/20 6-7am TMIY 6pm Mass For Marjorie & Ike Gomez Birthdays: Therese Witkowski, Cindy Lonsdale, Jacob Ladwig	Wednesday 12/21 6:30pm Christmas Program Thursday 12/22 9am Mass at the <i>Community Care Center</i> For Donato Cianciaruso	Friday 12/23 8:30am Mass In Honor of Maritza Holland Birthday: Dan Miner	Saturday 12/24 7:00pm Mass For the living & deceased members of the Calahan & Holland families Seasonal Music Begins at 6:30pm Midnight Christmas Mass For Bob Willeke Music at 11:30pm	No Regularly Scheduled Sunday Masses 
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Tithing Envelope boxes will contain an envelope for **Altar & Rosary dues** as we have done in the past as well as 12 **Repair Fund** envelopes, one for each first of the month building fund collection. This will eliminate the need to stuff them in the bulletins each month. The boxes will be available in the gathering space by the end of the year.

Weekly Prayer Requests Please pray for: *Ruby Waltz, Bob & Mary Dickson, Hadley Swafford.* **UPDATE on Hadley** - thank you for the prayers. She came through surgery very well and is home recovering! To request prayer for someone for publication in the bulletin, please contact the church office at 515-523-1943 or via email at: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com. **Be sure to include the person's name, your contact information, and that you have permission to submit the name.**


Christmas Eve Music 6:30-7:00pm
 On Christmas Eve, 6:30pm, we will join in the joy of Christmas music before the 7pm Mass. It's a great opportunity to share your talents or just appreciate those that do. Children/adults, if you would like to play an instrument, sing a solo or with others, please contact me. Catch me after Sunday Morning Mass or give me a call.
Norma Tigges, Church Musician, at 515-789-4634



Financial Report
 for the week of December 11
Tithes \$2,075.00 Children: \$20.70
Building Fund: \$125.00 Special Collections: \$120.00
2016 ADA Balance Due \$9,046.33

 **Christmas Memorial Poinsettias** may be purchased by using the envelopes supplied in the gathering space. Large plants are \$30, medium plants are \$25, and small plants are \$15. 
Please be sure to complete the information requested on each envelope. Thank you!

SATURDAY 12-24 7pm Liturgical Ministers	Rosary Leader No Rosary - Seasonal music begins at 6:30pm	Cross Bearer James Gulbranson	Ushers John & Patrick Gulbranson Lector Donna Olson	Altar Servers Eli Kasap, Sam Kasap Zoey Dickson	Commentator Jodi Bassett Greeters & Gifts Gulbranson Family	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist James & Harriet Gulbranson, Jodi Bassett
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SUNDAY 12-25 MIDNIGHT MASS	Liturgical Ministers Ushers Sign Up (2)	Cross Bearer Sign Up Lector Sign Up	Altar Servers Sign Up Commentator Sign Up	Greeters & Gifts Sign Up	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Sign Up (2-3)	
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