

December 25, 2016
Christmas

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

Website:

stuartallsaints.org

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Custodial Services

Barb & Christina Boss

Building & Grounds

Dave Boss

Telephone Line Prayer

Chain Requests

Viola Heins
515-789-4103

Mailing Address

All Saints Church
216 All Saints Drive
PO Box 605
Stuart, IA 50250

Dear Parishioners,

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. First of all, a big thank you goes out to all who helped with the decorating and Liturgical Services such as ministers of music and ministers at the Altar. We just can't have a true celebration without the goodness and dedication of folks who come together to bring about a wonderful environment for us to celebrate the Feast of Christmas.

I would like to share a reflection with you that was written by Bishop Robert F. Morneau, pastor of Resurrection Parish in Green Bay, WI, and retired auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay. It speaks not only to the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, but also of Our Blessed Mother. This article was published by Liturgical Press in "Daily Reflections for Advent & Christmas, Waiting in Joyful Hope 2016-2017".

Scripture: *The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. (Luke 2:16).*

Reflection: *Often at weddings and funerals, Franz Schubert's Ave Maria is sung. Several passages of the beautiful hymn and prayer merit pondering in our hearts, just as Mary reflected upon the amazing message she heard from the shepherds in Bethlehem.*

Gratia plena! *Mary is one full of grace, favored in a unique way by God in her participation in the mystery of our redemption. The grace that filled her being was that of life, love, and light. The Lord of all life was with her, dwelling within her womb; the Spirit of love radiated from her reflective and tender heart; the light of God's glory shone in her words and very presence. The grace that she received she gave to all whom she encountered.*

Mater Dei! *Mary is proclaimed the mother of God for she bore the Christ who was human and divine. As the mother of Jesus, she became the mother and model for the church. A good mother is one who listens and loves. Mary was obedient to the word she heard from God; Mary was responsive in her active concern for all she met. Mary's obedience and self-giving mirrors our Eucharistic celebration.*

Ora pro nobis peccatoribus! *We ask Mary to pray for all of us, we who are sinners and in need of redemption. That prayer is not only when we face the mystery of death, but in our everyday life as we struggle to be free from sin and faithful disciples of the Lord. Our pilgrimage is long and difficult. We need much grace to be true to our baptismal commitments.*

On a different note, I want to share with you that Kim Olson, our custodian, has sold her house and is moving to Newton to be close to her family. I want to wish her the best in the New Year. Thank you Kim for all the good you have done for All Saints. I wish to announce that Barb and Christina Boss have agreed to take over the cleaning of the facility and so a big welcome to them. I also want to give a big thank you to Dave Boss who has been volunteering on the large maintenance for our church building. An update on our lighting situation: both Dave Boss and Rick Knowlton investigated and worked to put into temporary use the lights we have now. Ultimately, we cannot get parts for the old system and Dave worked with our insurance and we are now approved for a new one. Hopefully, that work will start soon.

May we always look to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit for our salvation and direction and may we also look to Our Blessed Mother who points us to Him! Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

Fr. Ray

Parish News & Events

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Christmas

Sunday 12/25 No Mass Monday 12/26 <i>Church office is closed on Mondays & Fridays</i>	Tuesday 12/27 6-7am TMIY 6pm Mass For Dylan Watson Birthday: Jill Hauschildt Wednesday 12/28 No R.E. Classes	Thursday 12/29 9am Mass at the Care Center For JoAnn Allman Birthdays: Mary Dickson, Sr. Nesta, Sadie McFarland, Bridgeen Graham	Friday 12/30 8:30am Mass For George Clark Birthdays: Herb Gibson, Nate Smith	Saturday 12/31 3:30pm Confessions 4:30pm Mass For Tom Billheimer Birthdays: Dan Hilgers, Caleb Klassen	
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Titling 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 are available in the gathering space at this time.



Faith Formation
Christmas Program 2016

Financial Report for the week of December 18 (Masses cancelled due to weather)

Tithes \$560.00 **Children:** \$0.00 **Building Fund:** \$0.00 **Special Collections:** \$100.00 **2016 ADA Balance Due** \$9,046.33

Weekly Prayer Requests Please pray for: *Ruby Waltz, Bob & Mary Dickson, Mary Doud.*

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.*

SATURDAY 12-31 4:30pm Liturgical Ministers	Rosary Leader Mary Doud Cross Bearer Dave Boss	Ushers Dave & Barb Boss Lector Carol Smith	Altar Servers Connie Drake Nick Doud Commentator Roni Wilson	Greeters & Gifts Marvin & Janet Bassett Extraordinary Ministers of the	Eucharist Jeanine Holland, Maria Ladwig, Jodi Bassett	REMEMBER: If you cannot serve, please be kind and find your own replacement.
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SUNDAY 1-1 10am MASS Liturgical Ministers	Ushers John & Patrick Gulbranson	Cross Bearer Wayne Nosbisch Lector Amy Doud	Altar Servers Jack Doyle, Jenna Doyle, Lauren O'Brien	Commentator Wayne Nosbisch	Greeters & Gifts Vince & Christy O'Brien Extraordinary Ministers of the	Eucharist Harriet Gulbranson Cathy Hicks Linda Lee
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