

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.”*

All Saints Church

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

216 All Saints Drive, Stuart, IA 50250

November 26, 2017



Dear Parishioners

With the Feast of Christ the King, we come to the end of the Church's liturgical year. Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent.

The Feast of Christ the King is a comparatively recent addition to the Church's liturgical calendar - it was introduced by Pope Pius XI in 1925. It was a time in Europe where regimes in Germany and Russia were hostile to religion, along with a growing neglect for learning religion and a general indifference toward God and morality. The “roaring 20’s” seemed to stand out as a sign of a new mindset towards sexuality and the diminishing responsibilities that come with it - it wasn't long after discussions concerning contraceptives that the issue of abortion came into vogue. I saw on the news last Thursday night scrolling across the bottom of the television screen: “Abortions at all time low.” The way it was being presented almost made it seem like a bad thing. We need to overcome our indifference in the world. The Feast of Christ the King compels us to take a side.

The readings for the past few Sundays also remind us of this important choice to be for Christ, whose reign shall never end. In the parable for this Sunday, all the nations are assembled in the presence of Christ the King and He separates people one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. Some are invited to enter the Kingdom prepared for them since the foundation of the world; others are condemned to eternal punishment. The King's criterion for judgment is straight forward: “Whatsoever you did to one of the least of my brothers and sisters—you did for me.” This parable about judgment has one key point in common with the parables that we've heard over the past two Sundays: the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids two weeks ago and the parable of the talents last Sunday. These parables praised those who do good, however, we see something different: these parables were not harsh on those who do evil, but were harsh on those who did nothing. For example, the five bridesmaids had purchased oil for their lamps while the

other five did nothing, and they were unprepared when the bridegroom arrived. In the parable of the talents, two servants doubled the amount of money they were given, but the third servant did nothing. He buried his talent in the backyard and returned his talent to the master exactly as he received it. He did nothing with it. In today's parable, those who are welcomed into the Kingdom are those who fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, visited the imprisoned. While on the other hand, those who are sent to eternal punishment simply ignored them—they did nothing. Another example, found in the Book of Revelation, is the judgment passed on the church in Laodicea where Jesus asks John to write to the them and say, “I know about your activities, how you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were one or the other, but since you are neither hot nor cold, but only lukewarm, I will spit you out of my mouth.” So, while there is time, get oil for your lamps, make use of the talents entrusted to you, and be attentive to the very least of your brothers and sisters.

Mass Times*

- **Sunday** 8am at Adair
9am Adoration
10am Mass
- **Tuesday** 6pm Mass
- **Wednesday** Adair 8:30am
- **Thursday** 9am Mass
at the Community Care Center
-Adair 6:30pm
- **Friday** 8:30am
- **Saturday**
8:30am 1st Saturdays
3:30pm Confessions
4pm Rosary
4:30pm Mass
**Always Check Weekly
Calendar for Any Changes*

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Faith Formation

-Cathy Hicks, Director of Religious Education (DRE)

I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving. We are quickly approaching the Advent season, and I wanted to share some background on Advent with you and your families. Parents, this time is a great opportunity to visit with your children about Advent and reflect on its meaning and purpose in preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ.

The word advent comes from a Latin word meaning "approach" or "coming" and is the beginning of the new liturgical year for the Catholic Church. Advent begins each year on the Sunday closest to November 30th, which is the feast day of Saint Andrew the Apostle. This year Advent begins on Sunday, Dec. 3rd. Some-

times people mistakenly think that Advent is a part of the Christmas celebration, but actually it is a time of preparation all its own. It is similar to Lent and is often nicknamed "Little Lent." It is a time to reflect on a very important truth: the Christ Child is our Lord and Savior who will suffer and die for our salvation.

Advent has been around for a very long time and was originally celebrated for 40 days, like Lent. But through the years it was adjusted to four weeks, but the symbolism has remained the same. During this time, the readings at Mass will remind us of all the prophecies that pointed to the Lord's coming. And although we still sing the Alleluia

before the Gospel reading, we no longer sing the song of the angels: the Gloria. We wait to sing this song with the angels on Christmas day, just as they did over two thousand years ago.

Next week I will share some reflections on the Advent Wreath. Advent and Christmas are beautiful seasons for families to grow together in their faith and reflect on all the blessings that have been bestowed to them over the year. Make this holiday season a time of happiness, faith, and family. And may God always be at your side and hold you in the palm of His hand.

Thoughts from Jodi

- Jodi Bassett, President, Altar & Rosary Society

I usually don't take on Black Friday shopping unless I go online. This year was no different. There are a number of reasons for this, mostly that I am working either at the office or at the tree farm. But facing a throng of crowds and long lines is a bit daunting. I've never actually been involved in a fight over merchandise, but the news is quick to report such mayhem. It's rather hard to comprehend such greed and disrespect to celebrate the coming of the Savior that gave His life for our sins.

Matthew's Gospel reminds us of showing

kindness to those we meet, whether we know them or not. It's easy to help out family and friends but we might hesitate to help a stranger. In other cases, we might be inclined to be more charitable to others than our own family.

We know, of course, that for some, faith has no place in their Christmas. This doesn't make them bad people or unworthy of kindness. But perhaps instead, they are among the least. They may not be the most needy by some criteria, but their souls may be lacking. It's pretty simple to drop a few bucks into a red kettle or write

a check to a favorite charity. But how comfortable are most us evangelizing to those we don't know?

In this season of Advent, keep in mind those that hunger, for food and for the truth; those that are poor in health, and those who are poor in faith; the ones in prison and the ones not free to believe; those whose thirst needs to be quenched and those who thirst for the Word.

Until next week, my gratitude to you for reading.

Parish Finance Report

November 19th Collection

Sat/Sun: \$2,223.00

Kids: \$7.12

Building Fund: \$26.00

Human Development: \$51.00

This Week's Income: \$2,230.12

This Week's Expenses: \$250.00

2017 ADA Balance

As of 10-6-17: \$7,288.50

Make plans now to attend **Advent at The Well** for a few hours of faith, friendship, and fun. On Tuesday, December 12 women will gather at The Tea Room in downtown Des Moines for The Well's second annual Advent event.

Heidi Lepper Barrett will deliver the keynote titled ***What Our Guardian Angels Can Teach Us About Being 'Doers of the Word.'*** Doors open at 6:30 PM.



Social from 6:30-7:15. Program begins at 7:15 and ends with prayer by 8:30PM. An assortment of cookies and hot beverages will be served. Seating is limited. \$10/person. Learn more and register today at www.thewelldesmoines.com.

The Readings for this week...

<u>Monday 27th</u>	<u>Tuesday 28th</u>	<u>Wednesday 29th</u>	<u>Thursday 30th</u>	<u>Friday 1st</u>	<u>Saturday 2nd</u>	<u>Sunday 3rd</u>
<i>Last week in Ordinary Time</i>			Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle		<i>Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	1st Sunday of Advent
Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20	Daniel 2:31-45	Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28	Romans 10:9-18	Daniel 7:2-14	Daniel 7:15-27	Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56	Daniel 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61	Daniel 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67	Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11	Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81	Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87	Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Luke 21:1-4	Luke 21:5-11	Luke 21:12-19	Matthew 4:18-22	Luke 21:29-33	Luke 21:34-36	Mark 13:33-37

Places to be, things to do...

- **Stuart Community Blood Drive** will take place Tuesday, November 28, 2:30-5:30pm at the United Methodist Church, 219 NW 2nd Street, Stuart. To make an appointment, contact LifeServe Blood Center at 800-287-4903 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.
- **Knights of Columbus Soups**
The Knights are offering two opportunities for us to share a bowl of soup and some fellowship time. A Soup Supper is scheduled for Saturday Dec. 9th from 5-7pm and a Soup Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday Dec. 10th from 11am-1pm. A free will offering will be accepted and all proceeds will go to the food bank.
- We are beginning work on a **new church directory**. Contact person is Jill Gerling. Jill will have an informational sheet and sign-up sheet available in the gathering space in the near future.

Prayers & Thanks

Prayer Requests:

Pat Marnin, Bernard Mertes, Dave McKee, Gene Fitzgerald.

- **Home Visits** If you would like a home visit from Father Ray, please feel free to contact the Church Office at 515-523-1943

or by emailing Brenda at stjohnallsaints@gmail.com to set up an appointment.

- If you would like to **request prayer** for someone in need, you may call Viola Heins (515-789-2029) for the telephone prayer chain or email the office at: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com for the electronic prayer chain.

Mildred Lemar

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Amen

Candles

Many of our parishioners and visitors appreciate the chance to light a candle for a loved one on the votive stands located around the sanctuary. The suggested donation per candle is now \$2 due to the rising cost of the beeswax candles themselves. If you are unable to make a donation, please don't let that stop you from lighting a candle - *your prayers are important!*

ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BULLETIN MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE OFFICE BY 5PM WEDNESDAY. Call 515-523-1943 or email: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com

to submit your items.

*Bulletins, prayer requests, and other announcements are sent via email through **Constant Contact**. If you are not receiving these emails, please be sure the Church Office has your address. Also be sure to check your "spam" folder as it may be going there. Bulletins are also posted to our website each Friday afternoon.*

Website: stuartallsaints.org

**Liturgical Ministers:
Saturday 12-2**

Rosary: Frank Holle
Ushers: Dennis & Donna Donnelly
Cross Bearer: Marty Doud
Altar Servers: Connie Drake
Lector: Roni Wilson
Commentator: Sharon Doud
Greeters/Gifts:
 Dennis & Donna Donnelly
EMHC: Donna Donnelly, Jodi Bassett,
 Sr. Chinweze

**Liturgical Ministers:
Sunday 12-3**

Ushers: Pat Beaman & Tom Doud
Cross Bearer: Pete Kasap
Altar Servers: Jack & Jenna Doyle,
 Riley Doud
Lector: Amy Doud
Commentator: Amy Doud
Greeters/Gifts:
 Pat & Jo Beaman
EMHC: Jo Beaman, Joyce Van Pelt,
 Amy Doud



***Finance Council Meeting*
7pm Monday December 11th**

Special Mass Times

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of
 the Blessed Virgin Mary
Adair: 7pm Thursday December 7th
Stuart: 7pm Friday December 8th

Contact Us

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Pastor

Church Office: 515-523-1943

Parish Administrative Assistant & Bulletin Editor:

Brenda Wedemeyer stjohnallsaints@gmail.com

Parish Bookkeeper & Mass Intentions: Rita Rilea allsaintsoffice@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Cathy Hicks cabinmn@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Jill Gerling jillgerling@gmail.com

Music & Wedding Coordinator: Norma Tigges tiggesnorma@yahoo.com

Custodial Services: Barb Boss bbosslady@msn.com

Prayer Request Phone Line: Viola Heins 515-789-2029

Knights of Columbus: Dan Hilgers **Altar & Rosary Society:** Jodi Bassett

To arrange for Sacraments, rent the parish hall, to join the Church, or if you have a question, please contact the Church Office.

Calendar of Activities

Regular Office Hours:
9am-3pm T-W-Th

To view the entire calendar for both parishes, please go to stuartallsaints.org or adairstjohn.org

Sunday 11-26 9am Choir/ Adoration 10am Mass for Clair & Pat Dickey ANN: Marvin & Janet Bassett 1960 BD: Joyce Tibben	Monday 11-27	Tuesday 11-28 6pm MASS for Maynard Witkowski Adult RE Class 6:30pm BDs: Anna Maria Leyva, Michael James, Matthew Huerta	Wednesday 11-29 6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation BDs: Mary Fillman, John Lonsdale, Eli Smith	Thursday 11-30 9am Mass (Care Center) for Bob Griffin BDs: Nancy Moore, Olivia Klassen	Friday 12-1 8:30am Mass for James Witkowski	Saturday 12-2 8:30am 1st Saturday Mass for Pat Donnelly 3:30pm Confessions 4:30pm Mass for Martin G. Lydon BDs: Frank Hadley, Becky Tigges
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Sunday 12-3 9am Choir/ Adoration 10am Mass for the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish	Monday 12-4 BD: Kelly Smith	Tuesday 12-5 6pm MASS for Albert & Lucille Greubel Adult RE Class 6:30pm BDs: Iris Young	Wednesday 12-6 6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation BD: Steve James	Thursday 12-7 9am Mass (Care Center) for Rosalie McGinnis BD: Gina Ocheltree	Friday 12-8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7pm Mass for Donato Cianciaruso	Saturday 12-9 3:30pm Confessions 4:30pm Mass for Bob Griffin
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