

**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

Second Sunday of Advent

216 All Saints Drive, Stuart, IA 50250

December 10, 2017



## Dear Parishioners

This year we have only three weeks of Advent with the Fourth Sunday of Advent falling on Christmas Eve. Last year, on a trial basis, we introduced the idea of having a Midnight Mass as the Christmas Day Mass. This year Christmas Eve Mass falls on the 4th Sunday of Advent and the parishes will be having their normal morning Masses for that Sunday in addition to the two evening Masses for Christmas Eve, and one Mass for Christmas day. The Mass times for the **4th Sunday of Advent:** St. John (Adair) 8:00 am and All Saints (Stuart) 10:00 am. Mass times for **Christmas:** Sunday Dec. 24, St. John (Adair) at 4:30 pm; All Saints (Stuart) 7:00 pm. Monday Dec. 25, All Saints (Stuart) 9:00 am.

As we fast approach Christmas, each of us need to spend time in prayer and meditation during this season of Advent. Why? So that we can enter into Christmas and the Christmas Season with a prayerful and mindful approach to God. Otherwise, by the time you get your shopping done, attend parties, and have listened to Christmas music since the beginning of November - you might literally be “done” with Christmas the afternoon of Christmas Day. We tend to forget that we are in the Season of Advent preparing our minds, heart, soul, body, and family for the celebration of Christmas. Instead of preparing our hearts for Christ, we have accepted “culturally” this time of year as dedicated to “rushing around” buying gifts and attending parties. Might I suggest you consciously take time for prayer not only personally, but with your family. You also might read the Scriptures and meditate on them together. There is a simple process that you can find on USCCB.ORG called “lectio divina.” It is a simple way to enter into the spirit of meditation and reflection together with your family or even personally. In short, you read a passage and let it “sit” with you. What word

or words stand out for you? You can write them down or say them aloud. Read the passage again and pause to reflect if something else stood out for you. In a family or group setting, listening to each other is always enlightening. Finally, read the passage again and once again sit with it a bit and then share your thoughts about the passage and how it might speak to you. Here are some examples of questions to help with the meditation for the Christmas readings which can be found on the USCCB.ORG website:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me? So they “went in haste.” Do I make haste to find opportunities to love and serve? Do I hasten toward God or procrastinate about acts of prayer and charity?

“All who heard it were amazed.” What amazing things has God done in my life? How am I called to witness to God’s goodness?

“Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” What concerns weigh heavily on my heart? What blessings fill my heart with joy?

### 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
- **Friday 8:30am**
- **Saturday**  
**3:30pm** Confessions  
**4pm** Rosary  
**4:30pm Mass**  
*\*Always Check Weekly Calendar for Any Changes*

### Inside this issue:

<b>Memorial Poinsettias</b>	<b>2</b>	For the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God January 1, 2018, this Solemnity falls on a Monday. In the United States, because it falls on a Monday, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.
<b>Thoughts from Jodi</b>	<b>2</b>	The Mass for Mary, Mother of God will be held at All Saints in Stuart on Monday at 9:00 am. I will be leaving after Mass for a retreat with several of the priests and a few days off.
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# Memorial Plants

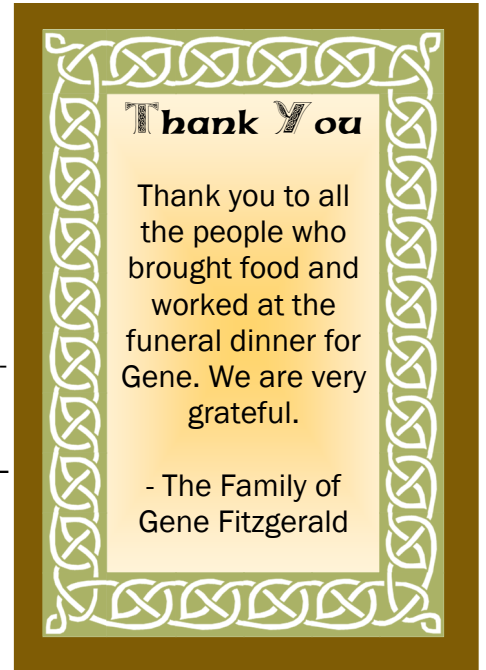
Each year our sanctuary is decorated with Poinsettias plants, the traditional Christmas flower. These plants may be sponsored in

memory of loved ones. If you would like to purchase a plant, there are three sizes available.



**Large: \$30**  
**Medium: \$25**  
**Small \$15**

Please use one of the red "Flower Offering" envelopes in the gathering space to make your purchase. Also, be sure to provide ALL of the information requested on the front of the envelope.



## Thoughts from Jodi

- Jodi Bassett, President, Altar & Rosary Society

"Time sure flies." "What a long day it has been!" I'm sure we have all said each of these sentences, maybe even in the same day. Opposite statements, and yet we "feel the pain" of both. Christmas is rapidly approaching even though it seems July 4th was just a few weeks ago. A day of work, cooking, laundry, spouse, kids, etc., may seem to never end. Saint Peter wants us to understand that with God, one day is like a thousand years and a thou-

sand years is like one day. Sort of like our lives. God takes his time with us, giving us plenty of opportunities to repent and prepare. But then, our day of reckoning will come out of nowhere, "like a thief." This is the time of year when we shop, clean, and decorate our homes. We attend Christmas school programs and parties, send out cards, and otherwise be busy in anticipation of Christmas. But this is also the time of year when we should be prepar-

ing our hearts and minds for the coming of the Lord. Wait; isn't that what we are doing? Well, maybe. But more likely we are getting ready for the HOLIDAY, not the Savior.

So how can we prepare? Look inside yourself. Search your soul for its highs and lows. Consider changing up your prayers focusing on the coming of the Baby. But keep things light...Advent is a time of joy!

## Parish Finance Report

December 3rd Collection

Sat/Sun: \$2,217.00

Kids: \$15.57

Building Fund: \$664.00

**(Bldg. Exp: \$1,056.09)**

Special Collection: \$0.00

**This Week's Income: \$2,232.57**

**This Week's Expenses: \$1,470.99**

**2017 ADA Balance**

As of 12-5-17: \$7,226.00

**Harmony Christmas Tree Farms**

Featuring Scotch Pine, White Pine, Firs and Concolors, as well as wreaths.

Also available are Aronia berries and a small variety of Aronia Berry products.

10-4pm Fridays & Saturdays

Noon - 4pm Sundays until Christmas

Marvin Bassett Family Farm 1523 Trenton Avenue, Stuart 515-523-1822

# The Readings for this week...

<u>Monday 11th</u>	<u>Tuesday 12th</u>	<u>Wednesday 13th</u>	<u>Thursday 14th</u>	<u>Friday 15th</u>	<u>Saturday 16th</u>	<u>Sunday 17th</u>
<i>Opt. Memorial of St. Damasus I, Pope</i>	<b>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</b>	<b>Memorial of St. Lucy, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b>	<b>Memorial of St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</b>	<b>Advent Weekday</b>	<b>Advent Weekday</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>GAUDETE SUNDAY</b>
Isaiah 35:1-10	Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab	Isaiah 40:25-31	Isaiah 41:13-20	Isaiah 48:17-19	Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11	Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14	Judith 13:18bcde, 19	Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10	Psalm 145:1, 9, 10-11, 12-13ab	Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6	Psalm 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19	Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
Luke 5:17-26	Luke 1:26-38	Matthew 11:28-30	Matthew 11:11-15	Matthew 11:16-19	Matthew 17:9a, 10-13	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
						John 1:6-8, 19-28

## Places to be, things to do...

- **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.
- **The Community Choir Christmas Cantata "And It Came To Pass...Emmanuel"** will be at the Stuart-Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church at 4pm Sunday December 17th. Free will offering for WCV Ministerial Association.
- Coming up January 8th - Care Center Bingo. Please see Linda Lee O'Neel to volunteer.



## Holiday

String Quartet Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 @ 4PM  
REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTERWARDS

SAINTS CENTER  
320 N. FREMONT STREET, STUART, IA

**FREE!**



COME GET IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT & ENJOY LIVE HOLIDAY MUSIC. GREAT WAY TO ENTERTAIN FRIENDS & FAMILY.



## Thanks & Prayers

### Requests:

Dan Miner's daughter Caras

**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 stjohngallsaints@gmail.com to set up an appointment.

### To the Ladies in the Kitchen:

Thank you for the wonderful lunch after Mom's service. We really enjoyed it after our difficult morning. Your hard work is appreciated. Mom always liked to help with funeral lunches. You all made her proud. - *Susan Butler & the Family of Mildred Lemar.*

### Help us celebrate the season in prayer.

All Saints Parish has provided a "Prayer Tree" in the gathering space. It is loaded with prayer requests for people and causes in need. We ask you to join us in prayer during this season celebrating Christ's birth. Please "Pick a Prayer" and pray for that person or cause during advent.

**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](mailto: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](http://stuartallsaints.org)

**Liturgical Ministers:  
Saturday 12-16**

**Rosary:** Frank Holle  
**Ushers:** Matt & Jen Dickson  
**Cross Bearer:** Matt Dickson  
**Altar Servers:** Zoey & Bailey Dickson  
**Lector:** Donna Donnelly  
**Commentator:** Roni Wilson  
**Greeters/Gifts:** Matt & Jen Dickson  
**EMHC:** Donna Donnelly, Jodi Bassett, Sr. Andre

**Liturgical Ministers:  
Sunday 12-17**

**Ushers:** Bob Olson, Jim Doud  
**Cross Bearer:** Patrick Gulbranson  
**Altar Servers:** Riley Doud, Taylor Ommen, Olivia Nixt  
**Lector:** Daisy Nevins  
**Commentator:** Gary Riordan  
**Greeters/Gifts:** Jim Doud Family  
**EMHC:** Harriet Gulbranson, Brenda Wedemeyer, Joyce Van Pelt



**Special Music**

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. Thank you, Norma Tigges, Church Musician 515-789-4634

**Contact Us**

**Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Pastor**

Church Office: 515-523-1943

**Parish Administrative Assistant & Bulletin Editor:**

Brenda Wedemeyer [stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

**Parish Bookkeeper & Mass Intentions:** Rita Rilea [allsaintsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsoffice@gmail.com)

**Director of Religious Education:** Cathy Hicks [cabinmn@gmail.com](mailto:cabinmn@gmail.com)

**Youth Minister:** Jill Gerling [jillgerling@gmail.com](mailto:jillgerling@gmail.com)

**Music & Wedding Coordinator:** Norma Tigges [tiggesnorma@yahoo.com](mailto:tiggesnorma@yahoo.com)

**Custodial Services:** Barb Boss [bbosslady@msn.com](mailto: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](http://stuartallsaints.org) or [adairstjohn.org](http://adairstjohn.org)*

Sunday 12-10	Monday 12-11	Tuesday 12-12	Wednesday 12-13	Thursday 12-14	Friday 12-15	Saturday 12-16
<b>9am</b> Choir/ Adoration <b>10am Mass</b> for the Lvg & Dec'd Mbrs of the Parish <b>Knights of C Soup Luncheon 11-1pm</b> <b>ANN:</b> Pat & Jo Beaman 1983 <b>BD:</b> Jo Beaman	<b>7pm</b> Finance Council Meeting	<b>6pm MASS</b> for Sr. Phyllis Kerns <b>Adult RE Class 6:30pm</b>  <b>BDs:</b> Grant Becker	<b>6:30-7:30pm</b> Faith Formation  <b>ANN:</b> Bob & Brenna Bird 2014 <b>BDs:</b> Maggie Marnin, Breckon Johnston	<b>9am Mass</b> (Care Center) for Don Lacher	<b>8:30am Mass</b> for Laura Opheim	<b>3:30pm</b> Confessions <b>4:30pm Mass</b> for Albert & Lucille Greubel  <b>BDs:</b> David Doud, Luis Huerta
Sunday 12-17	Monday 12-18	Tuesday 12-19	Wednesday 12-20	Thursday 12-21	Friday 12-22	Saturday 12-23
<b>9am</b> Choir/ Adoration <b>10am Mass</b> for the Lvg & Dec'd Mbrs of the Parish  <b>BDs:</b> Chantal Tigges, Eli Kasap, Andrew Byrnes	<b>BD:</b> Norine Marlowe	<b>6pm MASS</b> for Maynard Witkowski <b>Adult RE Class 6:30pm</b>  <b>ANN:</b> Dave & Barb Boss 1987	<b>6:30-7:30pm</b> Faith Formation <b>Christmas Program</b>  <b>BDs:</b> Cindy Lonsdale, Jacob Ladwig	<b>9am Mass</b> (Care Center) for Bob Griffin	<b>8:30am Mass</b> for Donato Cianciaruso	<b>3:30pm</b> Confessions <b>4:30pm Mass</b> for Betty Beaman  <b>BDs:</b> Dan Miner, Adalynn Pieper