

**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

Third Sunday of Advent

216 All Saints Drive, Stuart, IA 50250

December 17, 2017



## Dear Parishioners

By Brenda Wedemeyer, Bulletin Editor

### 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*

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It's Gaudete Sunday. Be joyful!  
At this time of the year, we seem to go two distinctly different directions: rushing around at full speed trying to get everything done by Christmas Eve in order to have the picture-perfect family celebration or we can be overcome by the sentiments of the season - some of them "warm fuzzies", but unfortunately, also some that can stop us dead in our tracks. Either way, the season of Christmas - the birth of our Savior - seems to be a trigger for those things that are deep inside of our hearts and minds.

I was at an auction several years ago and there were several tables filled with Christmas decorations. As I walked past them, I saw an old cardboard box filled with glass ornaments. (If you can remember the late 50's and early 60's, these were the ornaments we all used on our trees!). I stopped and picked up the box. It still smelled exactly the way I remembered from my childhood. All at once, I was a 6 year old child

running around our house all excited about getting the tree put up! The smell of the pine, the large light bulbs strung around the tree, the real lead tinsel, the homemade ornaments from years past, and those glass ornaments...what a sweet memory!  
But all of that wonderfulness quickly turned into sadness. The feelings of the loss of days gone by. I needed to make a conscious effort at this point to stop myself and say, "Hey! Don't go there! Hold on to the good memories and look forward to making new ones!"  
The sad thoughts can lead us into despair and depression if we let them. Instead, when those sadder things come to mind, thank God for them, then ask Him to move you along. Ask Him to help you focus on Him and look to what He has ahead for you.  
I can spend my days thinking of "what was" and totally lose any happiness that may be yet to come. Or, a better choice I think, I can move on and think of how happy I can be that God has given me life and so many ways to

enjoy it. Yes, there will still be sad times ahead. But those times will be tempered with God's love and mercy. We can learn from those times. We can learn that God is always there for us and that He always loves us and wants what is best for us.  
I recently saw an episode of a program on IPTV where the guests are given information about their "roots". One man in particular, who, when he found that he had come from slaves, reacted in several ways: sad for the original circumstances, of course, then mad, but then came around to the point of saying he was "lucky". He realized that, had his ancestors not been brought to this country - even in this horrible way - that he may not be where he is today and, today, he is a successful, free, and happy man.  
We don't know what life will bring us from one moment to the next. We need to remember to always look to God and ask Him to lead and guide us where He wants us to go. The outcome will be so much better, even with the knocks along the way.

# Faith Formation News by Cathy Hicks DRE

This coming Wednesday evening, December 20th, the Faith Formation students will be presenting "Celebrating the Birth of Jesus". The Schola will be singing two songs, the 1st and 2nd graders will be reading a poem, we'll read the story of Jesus' birth, 7th-9th graders will sing a carol, the high school will read a poem, and there will be a sing-along. The program will last about 35 minutes, then there will be cookies and milk provided by the Confirmation students in the hall until 7:30. Everyone is welcome to attend,

especially Faith Formation parents and families. It will be an evening of joy and laughter as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. I hope you can attend!

Reminder: There will not be any Faith Formation classes December 27th or January 3. Classes will resume on January 10th.

As always, may God be at your side and hold you in the palm of His hand.



## Thoughts from Jodi

- Jodi Bassett, President, Altar & Rosary Society

I left off last week with the suggestion to keep your prayers light, because Advent is a time of joy. And it is...our Savior is coming soon!

Today is Gaudete Sunday. It is notably different; vestments and altar linens are rose in color. We read reminders of the good things in our lives. God is the source of our joy—He provides for all our needs. Many people find great stress this time of the year. This, I'm sure, comes as no surprise. Everyone is busy with many activities, extra preparations for impending guests or travel

plans for those doing the visiting, and cooking and baking the things that only get made this time of year. Some may have extra end-of-the-year duties at their jobs, or maybe the weather will affect the roads as the holidays approach.

Shopping for gifts is extra stressful for me...lots kids in our family means lots of spending, even with a tight holiday budget. It took me a lot of years to come to this realization, but somehow, there's always enough money to cover what I need to purchase. Eventually I

could see that God provides what is needed when it is needed the most. There's still plenty of holiday stress, but I now give less of my energy to this concern. At the same time, I put more of my faith in God. I count on his benevolence all year, but even more so now. Knowing that it is God's will that we have reason to give thanks is a cause for joy. God may not make us perfect, but He makes us perfectly holy. Rejoice! It's Advent! Share glad tidings and the Good News of the Savior; share the joy.

## Parish Finance Report

### December 10th Collection

Sat/Sun: \$1,595.00

Kids: \$20.25

Building Fund: \$0.00

Special Collection: \$0.00

**This Week's Income: \$1,615.25**

**This Week's Expenses: \$2,646.82**

**2017 ADA Balance**

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

Each year our sanctuary is decorated with Poinsettia 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.

# The Readings for this week...

<u>Monday 18th</u>	<u>Tuesday 19th</u>	<u>Wednesday 20th</u>	<u>Thursday 21st</u>	<u>Friday 22nd</u>	<u>Saturday 23rd</u>	<u>Sunday 24th</u>
Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	4th Sunday of Advent
			<i>Optional Memorial of St. Peter Canisius, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church</i>		<i>Optional Memorial of St. John of Kanty, Priest</i>	
Jeremiah 23:5-8	Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a	Isaiah 7:10-14	Zephaniah 3:14-18a	1Samuel 1:24-28	Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalms 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19	Psalms 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17	Psalms 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6	Psalms 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21	1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd	Psalms 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, 14	Psalms 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
Matthew 1:18-25	Luke 1:5-25	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:39-45	Luke 1:46-56	Luke 1:57-66	Romans 16:25-27
						Luke 1:26-38

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

- Coming up January 8th - **Care Center Bingo**. Please see Linda Lee O'Neel to volunteer.
- **Liturgical Ministers** For scheduling questions, please contact Joyce Van Pelt through the Church office or via email at: [joyceavp@yahoo.com](mailto:joyceavp@yahoo.com). If you are interested in becoming

ing a Liturgical Minister, please contact the Church office to schedule an instruction time.

**Ministers include:** *Sacristan, Ushers, Cross Bearers, Greeters/Gifts, Lectors, Commentators, Altar Servers, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC).*



**Returning to ALL SAINTS  
Beginning in January 2018**

**\*\*\*\* Watch for Details \*\*\*\***

## Thanks & Prayers

### Requests:

**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](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com) to set up an appointment.

### Votive Stand 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.

Please note the change in the amount of the suggested donation per candle: it is now \$2 due to the rising cost of the 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!*

### 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)



**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

**Liturgical Ministers:**

**Saturday 12-23**

**Rosary:** Frank Holle  
**Ushers:** Wayne & Jan Gilman  
**Cross Bearer:** Mark Tisl  
**Altar Server:** Connie Drake  
**Lector:** Jodi Bassett  
**Commentator:** Sharon Doud  
**Greeters/Gifts:** Wayne & Jan Gilman  
**EMHC:** Maria Ladwig, Mark & Kari Tisl

**Liturgical Ministers:**

**Sunday 12-24**

**Ushers:** Wayne Nosbisch & Tom Doud  
**Cross Bearer:** Pete Kasap  
**Altar Servers:** Eli & Sam Kasap, Larissa Crawford  
**Lector:** Gary Riordan  
**Commentator:** Wayne Nosbisch  
**Greeters/Gifts:** Tom & Amy Doud  
**EMHC:** Cathy Hicks, Amy Doud, Linda Lee O'Neel

**ALL Ministers Needed for Christmas Eve & Christmas Morning**

**Contact Us**

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

Church Office: 515-523-1943

**Parish Administrative Assistant & Bulletin Editor:**

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**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 12-17	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

Sunday 12-24	Monday 12-25	Tuesday 12-26	Wednesday 12-27	Thursday 12-28	Friday 12-29	Saturday 12-30
<b>9am</b> Choir/Adoration <b>10am Mass</b> for the Lvg & Dec'd Mbrs of the Parish  <b>6:30pm Special Christmas Music</b> <b>7pm Christmas Eve Mass</b>	<b>9am Christmas Morning Mass</b>	<b>6pm MASS</b> for Donato Cianciaruso  <b>NO Adult RE Class</b>	<b>NO</b> Faith Formation  <b>BD:</b> Jill Hauschildt	<b>9am Mass</b> (Care Center) for Martin G. Lydon	<b>8:30am Mass</b> for Deceased members of the Tigges/Gladfelder Families <b>BDs:</b> Bridgeen Graham, Sadie McFarland	<b>3:30pm</b> Confessions <b>4:30pm Mass</b> for Albert & Lucille Greubel  <b>BD:</b> Nate Smith