

# ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 15, 2018

216 ALL SAINTS DRIVE, STUART, IA 50250

THIRD SUNDAY OF SUNDAY

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

## DEAR PARISHIONERS

Spring, hopefully starting soon, brings new beginnings and I want to make you aware of two new Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters who have joined our Sisters in Adair.

Perhaps you have met them already, but I wanted to introduce them formally by way of the bulletin and the pulpit.

### Sr. M. Nkiruka

*(Pronounced Key-rue)*

Okafor, a member of the Religious Institute of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ. I made my first profession in 1998 and final profession in 2007. I am a clinician and a theologian researching on the narratives of women. Cell Phone: 763-587-8052. Email: nkirua-

daeze@gmail.com

### Sr. Gloria Mariette

**Okpara**, from the Religious Institution of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ, Nigeria. Finally professed on September 3rd., 2012, at St Michael's Catholic Church in Nigeria. I came from Immaculate Heart Convent Freeport, IL., to join our Sisters in Adair on March 17th, 2018.

Here is my email address, srgloriamariette2016@gmail.com.

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ, also known as "The Sisters of IHM" or "The Blue Nuns," have not only served St. Gregory's Retreat Center in Adair and Bayard, Iowa but they

also have a new ministry to help women in need located in Freeport, Illinois. The **Madonna Renewal Center** is a safe haven for adult pregnant women and their infants. The center serves women who face unplanned motherhood and need support. In order for this mission to continue, the Sisters of IHM need financial, volunteer and prayer support. The Sisters are currently renovating a school building to serve as a home for women in need. To make it a reality, they need your help.

Please welcome our new Sisters: Sr. M. Nkiruka (Pronounce Key-rue) Okafor and Sr. Gloria Mariette Okpara and help make the renovation of the Madonna Center a reality.

### MASS TIMES

10AM SUNDAY  
6PM TUESDAY/8:30AM FRIDAY  
4:30PM SATURDAY

### CONTACT US:

- ◆ Parish Office  
515-523-1943
- ◆ Brenda Wedemeyer,  
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- ◆ **Knights of Columbus**  
Dan Hilgers  
amh50070@yahoo.com
- ◆ **Altar & Rosary Society**  
Jodi Bassett  
jodibdc@coonvalleytelco.com

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### Man-Up Event May 8

All men are invited to meet up for Man-Up's next event, "Don't Stop Believin: Keeping the Faith Through FOCUS," on Tuesday, May 8, at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church in Ankeny. We'll

start with a 5:20pm Rosary followed by 5:45pm Mass and 6:30pm dinner and program. Hear how other men are keeping the faith in this engaging panel discussion featuring Dea-

con Tom Bradley, Fr. Jon Seda, Fr. Mark Owusu, and Addie Magruder with students from ISU, Drake, and DCHS. Register at [IowaCatholicRadio.com](http://IowaCatholicRadio.com), or call 515-223-1150.



# Are Sanctifying and Actual Graces the Same?

-Submitted by David Witkowski

If you took your parish's catechism classes when you were growing up, you at least remember that there are two kinds of grace, sanctifying and actual. That may be all you recall. The names being so similar, you might have the impression sanctifying grace is nearly identical to actual grace.

Not so.

Sanctifying grace stays in the soul. It's what makes the soul holy; it gives the soul supernatural life. More properly, it is a supernatural life.

Actual grace, by contrast, is a supernatural push or encouragement. It's transient. It doesn't live in the soul, but acts on the soul from the outside, so to speak. It's a supernatural kick in the pants. It gets the will and intellect moving so we can seek out and keep sanctifying grace.

Imagine yourself transported instantaneously to the bottom of the ocean. What's the very first thing you'll do? That's right: die. You'll die because you aren't equipped to live underwater. You don't have the right breathing apparatus.

If you want to live in the deep blue sea, you need equipment you aren't provided with naturally; you need something that will elevate you above your nature, something super- (that is, "above") natural, such as oxygen tanks.

It's much the same with your soul. In its natural state, it isn't fit for heaven. It doesn't have the right equipment, and if you die with your soul in its natural state, heaven won't be for you. What you need to live there is supernatural life, not just natural life. That supernatural life is called sanctifying grace. The reason you need sanctifying grace to be

able to live in heaven is because you will need to be in perfect and absolute union with God, the source of all life (cf. Gal. 2:19, 1 Pet. 3:18).

If sanctifying grace dwells in your soul when you die, then you have the equipment you need, and you can live in heaven (though you may need to be purified first in purgatory; cf. 1 Cor. 3:12-16). If it doesn't dwell in your soul when you die—in other words, if your soul is spiritually dead by being in the state of mortal sin (Gal. 5:19-21)—you cannot live in heaven. You then must face an eternity of spiritual death: the utter separation of your spirit from God (Eph. 2:1, 2:5, 4:18).

The worst part of this eternal separation will be that you yourself would have caused it to be that way.

## PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ Please pray for the Knowlton family
- ◆ To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Viola Heins at 515-789-2029, or email: [stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

**Saturday April 21st**

**Rosary:** Frank Holle

**Ushers:** Marty & Julie Doud

**Cross Bearer:** Marty Doud

**Altar Servers:** Connie Drake

**Lector:** Roni Wilson

**Commentator:** Carol Smith

**Greeters/Gifts:** Marty & Julie Doud

**EMHC:** Sr. Chinweze, Jodi Bassett, Sr. Nesta

**Sunday April 22nd**

**Ushers:** Patrick Tiernan & Tom Doud

**Cross Bearer:** Jason Tigges

**Altar Servers:** Cam Tigges, Larissa Crawford, Lauren O'Brien

**Lector:** Amy Doud

**Commentator:** Daisy Nevins

**Greeters/Gifts:** Jason & Jennifer Tigges

**EMHC:** Joyce Van Pelt, Amy Doud, Jill Gerling

*Please contact Joyce Van Pelt regarding scheduling questions:*

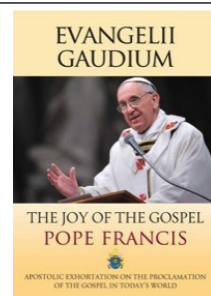
[joyceannvp@gmail.com](mailto:joyceannvp@gmail.com)

## CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 4-15</u>	<u>Monday 4-16</u>	<u>Tuesday 4-17</u>	<u>Wednesday 4-18</u>	<u>Thursday 4-19</u>	<u>Friday 4-20</u>	<u>Saturday 4-21</u>
<b>9am</b> Choir/ Adoration <b>10am Mass</b> for the Living & De- ceased Members of the Parish <b>BD:</b> Loretta Sloss		<b>6pm Mass</b> for James Witkowski 6:30pm Adult RE <b>BD:</b> Sarah McAndrews	<b>6:30pm</b> Faith Formation <b>BD:</b> Kathy Grundmeier	<b>9am Mass</b> for Irene Witkowski ( <i>Care Center</i> ) <b>BD:</b> Julie Doyle <b>ANN:</b> Norbert & Phyllis Tigges 1949	<b>8:30am Mass</b> for Ashton Maier <b>BD:</b> Whitney Kuttler	<b>3:30pm</b> <b>Confessions</b> <b>4:30pm Mass</b> for Clair & Pat Dickey

## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL READ & SHARE SPACE

To help facilitate our reading of *“The Joy of the Gospel”* and to encourage us to share with one another, this space is meant for us to use as a study aid. Each paragraph throughout the book is numbered consecutively, to make it easier to reference any spot in the book that we may want to discuss further or ask questions about. Feel free to offer any thoughts or questions that you may want published in the bulletin—others may have the same thoughts or questions.



### Chapter Two: *Amid the Crisis of Communal Commitment*

There are several subheadings under each of the two sections.

#### Section I. Some Challenges of Today’s World \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Section II. Temptations Faced by Pastoral Workers \_\_\_\_\_

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# FAITH FORMATION

- CATHY HICKS, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Faith Formation year is quickly winding down. Eight students were confirmed last Sunday, and, in two weeks, seven students will receive their 1st Communion.

Our last class session will be April 25th, and the May Crowning and Ice Cream Social will be May 2nd. Everyone is invited to participate in this event. If you don't want to be a part of the procession, feel free to come to the church and pray then join us for refreshments.

I know our students have grown in their faith and love for God this year.

As I have reflected back over this year, the Beatitudes given to us by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount come quickly to mind.

I have witnessed so many of the students growing in the ways of the Beatitudes,

which are the heart of Jesus' preaching. "Blessed are the poor in spirit" teaches us to be humble, which makes us more teachable. "Blessed are the meek" reflects a spirit which is kind, gentle, patient, and tolerant, not proud, mighty, or conceited. "Blessed are they that mourn" reveals the promise made by Christ to be blessed as we endure the hardships and problems in life. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst" encourages us to show our love for God by keeping the Ten Commandments and to know God and to do God's will. The best example of "Blessed are the merciful" is Christ's crucifixion. As He suffered on the cross, Jesus showed forgiveness and mercy, even near death. "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." "Blessed are the pure of heart" leads us to the love and knowledge of God. If we

strive to be like God, our motives and actions will be honorable and our hearts will be pure. "Blessed are the peacemakers" encourages us to love and understand others so we can live together in peace. Finally, "Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake". We are encouraged to be proud to stand up for the principals of God and His Church. We will be the most happy when we are following Christ's teaching, so no matter how young or old we are, we always want to keep our hearts and minds open to the Beatitudes' message—a message, when practiced, will lead us to God in His Kingdom.

**May God always be at your side and forever keep you in the palm of His hand.**

## Thoughts from Jodi


-Jodi Bassett, President, Altar & Rosary Society

We are made perfect in God. On earth, however, we are not perfect. We sin. Most parents raise their children to not be sinners. They send them off to school, to birthday parties, to play dates, and tell them to "Be good!" Hopefully, they are teaching good lessons and setting appropriate examples. Of course, most parents realize that their children aren't 'perfect little angels,' and know they will make mistakes.

St. John tells us not to sin. But he also knows we are human, so he then tells us that if we do sin, Jesus will advocate for us. If we know Jesus, we are

more inclined to keep His commandments. Knowing and remembering what Jesus endured for us keeps us humble! We must repent and soften our hearts in order for our sins to be cleansed away. Isn't it nice to know that someone has our backs? Jesus always did and always will.

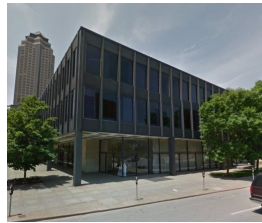
Our Lenten season of penitence is over, and we are in the joyful season of Jesus' resurrection. We should now be on our best behavior! I'm pretty sure I have fallen back on my old habits...have you? Keep asking for forgiveness as Jesus is continuing His old habits as well.



**Diocese of Des Moines  
Community  
Celebration Open House**

**Sunday June 3, 2018 2-5pm Events located at the Catholic Pastoral Center**

**All Are Welcome—**



**Fun For The Whole Family!**

**601 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines**

## Parish Business & Finance Report

April 8th

Tithes & Offerings: \$2,508.00

Kids: \$24.16

Building Fund: \$750.00

Easter & CRS: \$120.00

Rice Bowls: \$268.25

**This Week's Income:**

\$2,532.16

**This Week's Expenses:**

**\$3,691.85**

**NEW 2018 ADA Goal**

\$29,802.00

Balance as of 4/6: \$17,602

**Trustees:**

Janis Gilman, Robert Bird

**Council Members:**

Wayne Noshisch, Brenna Bird,  
Dave & Barb Boss, Eric Tiernan,

Tom Doud

Rita Rilea, Financial Secretary

**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."**