

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY 27, 2018

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

DEAR PARISHIONERS

Please plan to attend with your children the Memorial Day Mass at Calvary Cemetery in Stuart at 8:30 am, and if the weather is bad or the ground is too wet, we will have the Mass at All Saints in Stuart. I hope you will join us and bring the kids so they can begin the tradition of remembering our fallen soldiers and all those who have died. In the Catholic Church, we have a special day honoring and remembering the dead, it is called All Souls Day celebrated on November 2. Remember, the day before All Souls, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints thanking God for their example of living a heroic life of virtue. The Saints also battled evil and many of them were killed and are called martyrs. Although Memorial Day started off as Decoration Day, on which the mothers of those who lost sons in the Civil War remembered and honored their sons and so the placing of flowers (outward sign of love) soon became popular. Over time, the remembering of all veterans was the focus of Memorial Day. Today, we include all members of our families. Yet, over the past many decades, there has been a huge decline of people actually seeing this day as

it was originally intended. Many today simply look at Memorial Day as a three day weekend "out at the lake," a vacation, or some other kind of gathering. I hope people can recapture the intention behind this special day before their "holiday activity" to pray and honor not only our veterans, but all who have died.

Love and remembrance can be challenging, especially under difficult situations. It can seem meaningless for some, or at the very least inconvenient to go out of one's way to make a "fuss" over decorating graves. Some have found the Veteran's Memorial Services or even the Mass to remember the dead to be too early and/or boring. Perhaps, I can put it into perspective-- what comes to mind, if you have attended "a thousand" get-togethers like, parties and receptions for: graduation, baby or bridal showers, birthdays, anniversaries, retirement, weddings, funerals, etc.? Do we have the same enthusiasm for each occasion we attend? Do we not expect and hope a great number of people will attend our special day with joy? Does that always happen?

Love is the reason we go

out of our way to be there for others. The only way people and children will overcome the meaninglessness of such activities like Memorial Day is to have them attend such events regularly and as early in life as possible. Why? So, that it can, over time, become and remain a meaningful part of life. Children can't do or commit themselves to such devotions unless mom and dad are willing to make it a part of their formation.

The expectations you have for your child in the future must be lived and practiced today. Some parents say, "I will make my children do it", but will excuse themselves from participating by thinking, "I did my duty by making them do it." The result of such thinking will be the resentment you build up in your child to such activities. "You make me do it, but you don't participate." What do you think that will look like in 10, 15, 20 years? Let's turn that around and begin to model and to remind and share with others the meaning behind these special days we celebrate throughout the year. God Bless you and Happy Memorial Day.



515-523-1943
PO Box 605
216 ALL SAINTS DRIVE
STUART, IA 50250

MASS TIMES

10AM SUNDAY
6PM TUESDAY
9AM THURSDAY AT THE
CARE CENTER
8:30AM FRIDAY
3:30PM SATURDAY
CONFESSION
(OR BY APPOINTMENT)
4:05PM SATURDAY
ROSARY
4:30PM SATURDAY

MEMORIAL DAY MASS
8:30AM MONDAY
MAY 28TH CALVARY
CEMETERY

Parish Business & Finance May 20th

Tithes & Offerings: \$2,748.00
Kids: \$32.63
Building Fund: \$50.00
Catholic Communications: \$77.00
This Week's Income: \$2,780.63
This Week's Expenses: \$1,725.17

2018 ADA Goal: \$29,802.00
Balance as of 5/18: \$13,527.00

Trustees: Janis Gilman,
Robert Bird

Council Members: Wayne
Nosbisch, Brenna Bird, Dave &
Barb Boss, Eric Tiernan, Tom Doud
Rita Rilea, Financial Secretary

“He Spoke Not a Word”

-Submitted by David Witkowski

We have all heard it said that “actions speak louder than words.” In the case of St. Joseph, we have not a single spoken word recorded in all of Scripture. I understand humility, but if it were me, I would have bargained with God for at least something! Joseph accomplished everything the Lord asked from him while spending thirty years in the presence of the God-Man and the Immaculate Conception. Surely, he had more than a few stories to tell! Yet, we hear not a word...Why would the Holy Spirit will the hiddenness and silence of St. Joseph in Scripture? Did the second greatest saint in heaven truly have nothing to say?

In this light, could he really have been all that important? On the contrary, this silence should speak loudly to us. St. Joseph is the ultimate example of the famous teaching of

St. Francis of Assisi, “Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words.”

Throughout this journey, we will enter into the mystery of St. Joseph and allow him to “preach the gospel” to us through his actions and even through his silence. If we have the spiritual ears to hear it, God wishes to teach us something profound through the silence of St. Joseph. St. Joseph was content to be hidden because he was not all about himself. St. Joseph was all about God. He had no desire to be in the limelight, no desire to get in a word or two, no desire for attention and no desire to make himself known. Therefore, his example teaches us an incredibly valuable and absolutely essential element in the spiritual life...It’s not about ME!

From the very start, we learn from him the

essential virtue of humility. It is hard, if not impossible, to truly possess any other virtue, if we are lacking in humility. Simply put, the opposite of humility is pride. Within every sin committed, there is an element of pride at its core. In the words of St. Augustine, “It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels.” If our other virtues are filled with pride, then they aren’t really authentic virtues at all.

Over the next month, we will see the abstract idea of humility put on flesh through the example of this unassuming carpenter. We are just getting started. The more we become acquainted with him, the more we enter into the mystery, and as we do so, the hidden character of St. Joseph will begin to be revealed.

Author: Mark Hartfiel

Thoughts from Jodi...

-Jodi Bassett, President, Altar & Rosary Society

This weekend we observe The Most Holy Trinity. Most of us learned of the trinity in our early years of Catechism. It can be a tricky concept; one God, three persons. We get it, but do we really? Many of the nuances of our faith are rather complicated. The first book of Genesis describes the creation of the earth. It’s an easy read, and a familiar one. But it can be challenging to comprehend how God made all that from nothing. And if God made everything, who made God? Such elementary questions, and yet

they defy explanation. We know very well the story of the visitation of Mary by the Angel Gabriel. Gabriel tells Mary she will bear a son, without relations with a man, and Mary willingly accepts, without really knowing what would eventually be asked of her. Picture that in a modern setting. I’m sure any young woman who made a similar claim in 2018 would be sent for a mental health assessment. Last week we celebrated Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, allowing each Apostle to

speak and be understood in his own tongue. Because the Holy Spirit was understood in different languages, this allowed the story of the faith to be spread throughout the world.

Each aspect of the trinity served a very important purpose. That’s why it gets a special day of observation. As we wrap up the Easter season, contemplate the meaning of the Trinity in your life.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday June 2nd

Rosary: Frank Holle

Ushers: Marty & Julie Doud

Cross Bearer: Marty Doud

Altar Server: Connie Drake

Lector: Jodi Bassett

Commentator: Roni Wilson

Greeters/Gifts: Marty & Julie Doud

EMHC: Sr. Andre, Jodi Bassett, Donna Donnelly

Sunday June 3rd

Ushers: Dennis & Joyce Van Pelt

Cross Bearer: Dennis Van Pelt

Altar Servers: Jenna Doyle, Jack Doyle, Riley Doud

Lector: Donna Olson

Commentator: Gary Riordan

Greeters/Gifts: Dennis & Joyce Van Pelt

EMHC: Joyce Van Pelt, Dave Tisl, Jill Gerling

Please contact Joyce Van Pelt regarding scheduling questions: joyceannvp@gmail.com

Prayer & Thanksgiving

- Please pray for Joe Sherman, Paul Heins, Cheyenne Jensen, Florence Cook

- To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Viola Heins at 515-789-2029, or email:

stjohnallsaints@gmail.com

CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 5-27</u>	<u>Monday 5-28</u>	<u>Tuesday 5-29</u>	<u>Wednesday 5-30</u>	<u>Thursday 5-31</u>	<u>Friday 6-1</u>	<u>Saturday 6-2</u>
9am Adoration 10am Mass for James Witkowski	Memorial Day Mass 8:30am at the Cemetery BDs: Roni Wilson, Jackson Doud ANN: Jeremy & Julie Trichel 2005	6pm Mass for Patricia Miller ANN: Vince & Christy O'Brien 1993	BDs: Jeanine Holland, Sawyer Ocheltree ANN: Donald & Mary Fillman 1987	9am Mass for Joseph & Mary Doud <i>(Care Center)</i> BDs: Kathy Moon, Brendan Arthur ANN: Jim & Tammy Doud 2003	8:30am Mass Lawrence Lacher BDs: Magen Schaffer, Mason Clauson	3:30pm Confessions 4:30pm Mass for Martin G. Lydon

IN THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday Focus:

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40; Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus calls us all to relationship with the Triune God, and with one another.

Christ proclaims the three-fold unity of God and commands that we *make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

Monday Focus:

1 Peter 1:3-9; Mark 10:17-27

The cost of discipleship is high.

Our relationship with God must come first. We are challenged by our readings today to make our witness to Christ our first priority. This is not easy, as the rich man discovered in today's Gospel. But if we wish to be His disciples, we must try each day to put the things of God above things of this earth.

Tuesday Focus:

1 Peter 1:10-16; Mark 10:28-31

We are called to holiness.

Because we believe the Good News of Christ's saving action, our hope is in God's

promise of eternal life. We act on this hope by letting go of what impedes our faith in Jesus, and by giving priority to eternal values as we follow God's plan for us.

Wednesday Focus:

1 Peter 1:18-25; Mark 10:32-45

We are called to serve one another with the love of Jesus in our hearts.

Abuse and misuse of power can occur with anyone with any degree of authority, which is why we all have to be vigilant and aware of our responsibilities to those we serve. We would do well to follow the example of Jesus, who came to serve rather than to be served.

Thursday Focus:

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Feast

Zephaniah 3:14-18a or Romans 12:9-16; Luke 1:39-56

Mary, God's humble servant, models for us faith and trust in God's plan.

Mary's "yes" to God was based on her deep love for and faith in the Father. She submitted to God's will despite any uncertainties she may have had. By her example, she teaches us to also accept the

call of the Lord and live out the Gospel in our daily interactions with others.

Friday Focus:

1 Peter 4:7-13; Mark 11:11-26

Be stewards of God's varied graces, and be ready to give witness to your faith.

We do not know the hour when Christ will return in glory. But we live in hope, and in the faith and knowledge of God's mercy and presence in our lives. As believers, we are called to trust and to be ready to share that mercy and presence with others.

Saturday Focus:

Jude 17, 20b-25; Mark 11:27-33

Build yourselves up in your most holy faith.

Jude warns against falling under the spell of false prophets and encourages us to stay strong in faith. We, too, must be watchful for those things which can separate us from God.

WHO'S WHO?

Parish Priest

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins is our current Pastor. He will officially be leaving us July 11, 2018. Our new priest will be Fr. Antony Mathew who is currently serving the parishes in Audubon and Exira.

Parish Office PO Box 605, 216 All Saints Drive, Stuart 50250 Serving Both Parishes Rita Rilea (allsaintsoffice@gmail.com) is our Financial Secretary and is responsible for all matters dealing with the finances at both All Saints in Stuart and St. John in Adair. She is also the person who publishes donation statements, sets up electronic donations, and is the secretary/treasurer of the Altar & Rosary Society. Rita is in the office Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday from 9am-3pm. Brenda Wedemeyer (stjohnallsaints@gmail.com) is our bulletin editor, communications coordinator, and pastoral assistant. She manages the websites and email correspondences and assists Father as needed by attending meetings in his place or taking care of general requests. Brenda is in the office on a limited basis, but generally on Thursdays from 9-5, with some hours at other times during the week as needed.

Faith Formation Cathy Hicks (cabinmn@gmail.com) is our Director of Religious Education and is responsible for the education department at All Saints. Annie Brincks (annie68164@hotmail.com) is her counterpart at St. John. Please contact either one of these ladies to register your children for Faith Formation, to volunteer, or for further information.

Parish Maintenance Barb Boss (bbosslady@msn.com) is the head of building custodial duties. She is part time and is assisted by Christina, her daughter. Their work schedule fluctuates with the events of the parish, but generally are at the

church on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Dave, Barb's husband, is the one who takes care of our building & grounds as well as our environmental creature comforts.

Knights of Columbus—All Saints Dan Hilgers (amh50070@yahoo.com) is the current Grand Knight. Meetings are conducted on the second Sunday evening of the month at 6pm. All men—18 and older—of the parish are invited and welcome to join.

St. John's Men's Group—Adair Formerly the Knights of Columbus at St. John's, the men have regrouped and are now known as the St. John's Men's Group. All men—18 and older—are invited to take part in the organization which specializes in sponsoring Friday Night Fish Fries during Lent each year. Francis Hollinrake is the leader of this group. (641-742-5016)

Altar & Rosary Society—All Saints Jodi Bassett (jodibdc@coonvalleytelco.com) is the current president of the Altar & Rosary Society. The A&RS provides funeral meals as well as altar linens. All women—18 and older—of the parish are automatic members. Annual dues are \$10.

C.W.O.—Adair The Catholic Women's Organization at St. John's is lead by Betty Ludwig (bludwig50002@yahoo.com). The group meets the first Wednesday of each month following Mass. Every woman of the church is a member. The group provides coffee and rolls the first Sunday of the month. The CWO hosts an annual Spring Dinner to help raise funds to help with the Annual Diocesan Appeal amount. They serve funeral lunches and are responsible for the bills of the parish hall. Annual dues are \$5 as well as a \$25 collection each fall in lieu of a dinner.

Hall Rentals

Anyone wishing to rent a parish hall

should contact Rita Rilea at All Saints or Betty Ludwig at St. John.

Musicians

Norma Tigges (tiggesnorma@yahoo.com) is the organist, music director, and wedding coordinator for All Saints with Sharon Swartz as the Saturday organist.

Deb Hollinrake (641-742-5016) is the organist, cantor, and choir leader for St. John.

Contact Norma or Deb for wedding or funeral arrangements.

Special Events

Frank Hadley (8791armyvet@gmail.com) has accepted the responsibility of heading the Special Events committee at Stuart. Please contact Frank if you'd like to volunteer.

Websites & e-Communications

<https://stuartallsaints.org>

<https://adairstjohn.org>

Mass emails are sent out through Constant Contact. If you are not receiving our electronic bulletins and other notifications (i.e., prayer requests, announcements, etc), please be sure to submit your email address to the church office. The week's bulletin is sent out at 9am each Saturday morning for your convenience.

Any items that you would like to have published in the upcoming bulletin need to be submitted to the church office by 5pm Wednesday. Thank you!

Liturgical Scheduling

All scheduling of Liturgical Ministers is done through Les Elgin (elgins2011@gmail.com) for St. John and through Joyce Van Pelt (joyceannvp@gmail.com) at All Saints. Please keep these folks informed of your ability to serve as well as your current contact information.