

Father Tony's Corner

(Continued from front page)

and follow where he leads. On the path to Christian freedom and fulfillment, we need Christ the Savior, and he needs us. And so, if we want to experience life as God meant it to be lived, we need to let God save us, but we also need to do our part. That includes paying attention to him. It is not hard, and he has actually given us a very easy way to do it. Why not turn our hearts to Jesus more and more? Why not become riverbeds of Christ's saving grace, lighthouses in this dark and stormy world? But how do we do that? Well, by living out the Ten Commandments, the commandment to love our neighbor as ourself, the teachings of the Church, the voice of conscience, and the responsibilities of our state in life. We should ask ourselves, which commandment do we need to brush up on? What is God asking us in the secret chamber of our conscience? How can we better love our neighbor as Christ has loved us? Jesus wants to be our Savior, and all he asks is that we trust him, that we let him save us by seeking and doing his will. Then our eyes will be opened, our hearts will rejoice, and we can carry out our mission? There are three mission fields for every Christian. First, the family. Each one of us is called to build Christ's Kingdom in our family. What kind of parent would Jesus be? What kind of a brother or sister or daughter or cousin or grandparent? Every Christian family should be a garden of light, goodness, strength, joy, and forgiveness, a real school of Christian virtue. Second, the parish. The parish is more than a gas station where we come to fill up on sacramental grace. It is also more than a place where we punch our card every week. Every parish is an extension of Christ's incarnation in a concrete community. Each one of us needs to ask God how we can contribute to parish life, how we can combine our talents in order to help the parish be a fruitful outpost of Christ's Kingdom. Third, the rest of the world. Our work place, our neighborhood, our school, our sports teams. Everywhere we go we should be shining with the light of Christ in word and example. The people around us are searching for Christ, and Christ is coming to them - through us. Play football the way Christ would play football. Welcome the new neighbor the way Christ would. Carry out our work responsibilities with a Christ-like integrity. If each one of us is more and more like Christ in these three mission fields, God will do wonders, for us and through us. Let us ask Christ to show us the way and give us the strength so that we can find meaning and happiness by embracing our mission, not just with our lips, but also with our lives, every day.

Faith Formation Coordinator, Jill Gerling

I would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers and kind words since hearing I have accepted the position of Coordinator of Faith Formation. And a BIG THANKS to the catechist for continuing their great work in the classrooms with the youth of our parish family.

As we look towards finishing the Faith Formation year, we have a few events coming up, in and outside the classroom. The next big event will be our Faith Formation Mass on Sunday, February 10 at the 10:00 Mass. This Wednesday, a letter will be going home with children explaining more and the assignments for children to do during this mass. This is our time to teach our children how to assist in the parts of the Mass and I encourage all parents to help your child if they are assigned a mass part.

On Wednesday, February 27, a guest from the Catholic Youth Camps will be here explaining to all children in grades third through twelfth the events and activities at the Catholic Youth Camps in Panora this summer. That same night we will also kick off our Lenten Rice Bowls with an entire Faith Formation Lesson about what we can do to really help the Catholic Relief Charities during Lent.

Again, thanks for the support, kind wishes and I ask for continued prayers as I journey on this new ministry as Coordinator of Faith Formation here at All Saints ~ Jill Gerling ~ allsaintsff@outlook.com

All Saints Financial Partnership

January 20, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 1842.00

Children's Offering: \$ 21.05

St. John Financial Partnership

January 20, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 462.00

Children's Offering: \$ 11.00

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew
 Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)
 E-mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net
 Secretary/Bookkeeper: Tammy Doud
 Email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinator:
 Jill Gerling
 Phone: 515-523-1943
 Website: stuartallsaints.org
 Website: adairstjohn.org



Office Hours

Tuesday: 8:30am - 3pm
 Wednesday: 8:30am - 3pm
 Thursday: 8:30am - 3pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Noon Wednesday



All Saints Mass Schedule

Tuesday: 6pm
 Thursday: 9am (Care Center)
 Friday: 8:30am
 Saturday: 4:30pm
 Sunday: 10am

St. John Mass Schedule

Wednesday: 8:30am
 Sunday: 8am

Father Tony's Corner



Jesus returns to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and teaches there in the synagogue. Soon after that, he moves on to his own hometown, Nazareth, and there in the synagogue enunciates his mission. He tells those present there that *he is 'the Anointed One', sent to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. And the question is - who are the suffering, the imprisoned, and the blind? Humanity as a whole - sometimes physically, and all the time spiritually. As human beings, we suffer disappointments, trials, and frustrations, no matter how hard we try to avoid them; we suffer the moral agony of seemingly incurable selfishness. We are captives of our strong tendencies to sin and self-centeredness that do not seem to go away no matter how hard we try - impatience, lust, greed, fear, dishonesty, laziness: they bind us like chains. Daily we are blinded by the sparkling allure of temptation that trips us up again and again, that makes us think we are on the right path in life as long as enough people accept us, that makes us think we will be happy if we have enough money or success or pleasure or comfort. We are the suffering, the captives, and the blind. We are not experiencing life, as God wants us to, and in our hearts, we know that. We know that we should be better, stronger, more patient, wiser, and happier. We put up a good front, but underneath - we are suffering, imprisoned, and blind. We need a Savior, and Jesus knows this. Hence, he comes to be our Savior. This was his original job description, and it has not changed. One of the most common errors of our times is the widespread mentality that makes us think we can save ourselves. If we can save ourselves and achieve the fulfillment we long for just by our own efforts, then why did Jesus come into the world? The mere fact the Jesus came proves that we need him. None of us can be all that we were created to be except by following him. It is hard for us to accept this truth - even us Catholics, who really should know better. We have all been infected to some extent, with the modern self-help and self-sufficiency mentality. None of us is meant to give meaning to our own lives. None of us is meant to be the hub. Just as the earth is not the center of the solar system, self is not meant to be the center of our lives. Christ is, and he was not meant to occupy just one sector among many; he must be everything. He is the Lord, the Savior, and the eternal King. How does this salvation happen? It is a partnership: he does his part, and we do ours. Sometimes our relationship with God is seriously handicapped by thinking that he is going to do it all for us. Jesus invites each of us to follow him, but we have to accept the invitation. He would not force us, because he wants us to be his friends, and not his slaves. We have to accept his invitation*

(continued on the back page)

Sacraments:

Reconciliation:
 3:30pm Saturday in Stuart;
 7:30am Sunday in Adair;
 or by Appointment
Anointing of the Sick:
 Call Fr. Tony before/after hospitalization
Baptism: Call the office during pregnancy for preparation class
Marriage: Call the office at least nine months to one year ahead to plan marriage preparation. Wedding Date should not be set until preparations have begun
Annulment/ Marriage Validation:
 Call Fr. Tony to learn more about this process with Diocesan Tribunal if you are divorced and remarried or never married in the Catholic Church.
RCIA: Call Fr. Tony if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or the RCIA process.
Membership/Registration:
 If you are new, welcome to our parish. Please register by calling the office. If you are moving away, please contact the office to notify us before moving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Stewardship:** Jesus calls and his call comes not as nameless people in a faceless crowd. He calls us individually, by name. Each one of us has a personal vocation. He gives us a unique role in carrying out his mission. The challenge is to understand our role, and to respond generously to that call. He calls us to a Christian way of life, or a Christian way of discipleship. Christian discipleship is a commitment of life after the model and example of Jesus Himself. It involves stewardship – meaning it requires making time for personal prayer. It means choosing to serve in parish ministries. It means planning a generous, consistent gift to the weekly offertory. Over time, as each person embraces his or her personal commitment, our parish can become a powerful witness to the abundant life that Jesus has promised. Thank you for what you are; and for what you bring to all of us through your life, gifts, and ministry.
- **Annual Diocesan Appeal:** I want to thank everyone who participated in the Annual Diocesan Appeal for the year 2018, and a reminder to those who have not participated, that everyone's active participation is required to change the story of All Saints Catholic Church. We have not been able to meet our parish goal here at All Saints. We are looking forward to meeting that goal this year with your support, and sacrificial generosity. The Annual Diocesan Appeal Goal for All Saints is \$29,802 and we have paid \$23,940 so far. There is a balance of \$5,862 yet to be paid before the next appeal kicks in. If God has blessed you, and you are inspired to share a little of that blessing with your parish family to spread His kingdom and mission, please do so. May God bless you, your families and your loved ones with His abundant blessings during this special season. Fr. Tony
- **Appreciation Party for Altar Servers:** We are blessed with a good number of altar servers. Father Tony would like to recognize and thank them for their ministry on Sunday, January 27th after 10:00 am Mass in the parish hall at All Saints; and Sunday, February 17th after 8:00am Mass in the parish hall at St. John. Please consider this as a personal invitation to join the party.
- **Thank You to the Men's Club of St. John, Adair:** The Men's Club of St. John has decided to donate rain gutter for the Church. They are also going to donate \$ 2,000 towards the building fund for St. John. Your sacrifice, hard work, and generous giving is really appreciated by your parish family as you make a difference in the life of our parish. May God bless you, your families, and your loved ones with His abundant blessings. Thank You!
- **COMING SOON: the liturgical season Lent!** Lent is a solemn religious observance in the liturgical calendar that begins on **Ash Wednesday** and ends approximately six weeks later, before **Easter Sunday**. It is a time of preparation through **prayer**, doing **penance**, **repentance** of sins, **almsgiving**, **atonement**, and **self-denial**. One of the devotional practices of Catholics during Lent is meditating on the **Stations of the Cross**, a devotional commemoration of **Christ's carrying the Cross** and of **his execution**. This year, we have a unique opportunity to participate in the Holy Eucharist on **Wednesdays of lent at 5.30 p.m.** followed by the Stations of the Cross, and a soup supper at All Saints. Let us make the season of Lent a time of grace and blessing for ourselves, our families, and our parish family.
- **Lenten Choir:** Each Wednesday at All Saints, Mass begins with music provided by a Lenten choir. You are invited to take part in this choir by joining us for rehearsals from 3:30-4:15 p.m. prior to Saturday Mass starting February 2nd. Please contact Brenda Wedemeyer at brendawedemeyer@yahoo.com for further information.
- **Mass Intentions!** The tradition of offering Masses for others, particularly the dead, originates in the very early Church. When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any other sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. To have a Mass offered on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need is appropriate, beneficial and appreciated. If you would like to offer Mass for a deceased family member or someone who is sick or to celebrate someone's birthday or to celebrate a couple's wedding anniversary, kindly contact the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMING SOON! Lenten Fish Fry at St. John, Adair:** The Men's Club of St. John Lenten Fish Fry is coming soon! Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a good fish fry meal on Friday, March 15th, Friday, March 29th and Friday, April 12th at St. John's Parish Hall in Adair.

Altar and Rosary Society by Jodi Bassett, President

We experience much grief and misery in our lives. There is plenty to complain about: grey, cloudy days; cold and snow; rising fuel prices; post-holiday bills. In Iowa, politics never goes away; there are already a few new candidates running for president. Several young people in our local communities are struggling with serious illnesses. The media news is mostly bad news, not happy news. It can be hard to see the light among all the desolation and despair.

Ezra gathered people, formerly exiled captives of Babylonia; young and old, male and female, to introduce them to the law. For several hours, Ezra stood on a wooden platform and read from the book of law, interpreting it so the people would understand. Then Ezra and Nehemiah calmed the assembly, who were weeping at the reading of the law. They explained that day to be holy to the Lord, and encouraged them to rejoice in the Lord as their source of strength. Nehemiah encouraged them to eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and to share with those who had not prepared themselves any food. They did this because the day was holy to the Lord.

But then, isn't every day holy to the Lord? And if that is the case, isn't there always a reason to celebrate? Even with a lot of unhappy news, there's always a reason to eat and drink well. Rejoice in the Lord and find your strength.

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>Sunday 1/27</u>	<u>Adair 2/3</u>	<u>Tuesday 1/29</u>	<u>Wednesday 1/30</u>	<u>Thursday 1/31</u>	<u>Friday 2/1</u>	<u>Saturday 2/2</u>
Adair 7:30am Adoration, Confession, Rosary 8am Mass for Francis Hollinrake (health)	Mass for Leona Dress Monday 1/28 BD: Greg Warthan, Luis Huerta & Melissa Kloewer	Stuart 6pm Mass for Paul Heins ANN: Rick & Carol Knowlton 1972	Adair 8:30am Mass for Sharon Shellings (health) BD: Amanda Durbin	Stuart 9am Mass (Stuart Care Center) for Paul Heins BD: Sarah Truitt & Dayana Huerta	Stuart 8:30am Mass for Paul Heins BD: Paul Kautzky & Stephanie Drees	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05 Rosary 4:30pm Mass for Paul Heins BD: Dave Vigon & Cindy Baudler
Stuart 9am Choir Practice 10am Mass for Teresa Powell ANN: Larry & Betty Ludwig 1962						

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, February 2

Rosary: Frank Holle

Ushers: Dan Hilgers & Dave Boss

Altar Server: Connie Drake

Lector: Jodi Bassett

Commentator: Anita Hilgers

Greeters: Dan & Anita Hilgers

EMHC: Dan Hilgers, Jodi Bassett &
Brenda Wedemeyer

All Saints

Sunday, February 3

Ushers: Vince & Christy O'Brien

Altar Servers: Lauren O'Brien, Aiden
Clauson & Emily Smith

Lector: Donna Olson

Commentator: Gary Riordan

Greeters: Vince & Christy O'Brien

EMHC: Amy Doud, Linda Lee O'Neel &
Ismael Leyva

St. John

Sunday, February 3

Cross Bearer: Cody Moreland

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Matt Fagan

Lector: Theresa Elgin

Host: Dave Richter

Cup: Elizabeth Moreland & Matt
Fagan

Altar Servers: Addy Richter & Carley
Fagan

Traveling Chalice: John & Adella Vogl