

Father Tony's Corner *(continued from front page)*

patient, but for those who persistently and stubbornly rebel against him and refuse to repent and change their course, there is a consequence that they have to face. And Church wants us to consider this in a special way during this penitential season of Lent. We need to repent from our sins. God is always ready to forgive us, if we ask. We need to live each moment of our lives in communion with God. The end can come at any time. We all need to be reminded of this truth, of the importance of repenting from our sins. We should also pray for the many people who have not come to Church today, who also need to be reminded of it. As Catholic Christians, we are blessed with a very clear, concrete way to repent, as often as we need to. It is called going to confession. In the sacrament of confession, when we live it from the heart, we climb back into the arms of our heavenly Father, hiding nothing, freely admitting our need for him. Confession opens our souls wide to Christ's grace. It gives him room to work in our lives. In confession Jesus purifies our hearts, heals our wounds, and enlightens our minds. Confession gives us the assurance of God's forgiveness and grace that we need. Confession is God's gift to us, just as much as the Eucharist, and baptism, and the Church itself. He wants us to make use of it. He wants it to be easy for us to come back to him, to repent, to live all the time in communion with him. He wants us to hear his words of forgiveness and encouragement not just in our imagination, but with our ears. Today, he is asking us to let him make us happy, by repenting, by turning away from our sin and selfishness and turning back into his arms. Let us not disappoint him.

Altar and Rosary Society by Jodi Bassett, President

In his letter to the Romans, Saint Paul describes how we have peace with God through our faith. Our faith gives us access to God, his grace, and the hope of his glory. It is the hope that keeps us going.

Currently, there are a significant number of community members fighting cancer and other life-threatening conditions. No doubt some of them have had their faith—and their hope—challenged. I don't think it's questionable that a positive attitude helps people fight illness. Positivity can be difficult when faith is shaken and hope seems fragile. It can be easy to get down and depressed when it seems like there isn't much for which to hope.

We are planning a Healing Prayer Service for those patients and their families as well as others who need to be lifted up in prayer. The service is at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 31. It will be an afternoon of inspirational music, encouraging messages and prayers. It is non-denominational, and all will be welcomed, including pastors from other local churches. We will follow with a time of refreshments and fellowship. It is hoped this event will reinforce the sick with the strength of prayers, and give them hope for the successes of their treatments, as well as know the love of Christ through us.

As a follow-up note, we need donations of cookies and bars for the refreshments following the Prayer Service. Please consider contributing a couple dozen (or more!) cookies or bars by signing up on the sheet in the gathering space. Thank you!

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, March 26th @ 9am: Diane Messinger, Dennis VanPelt & Dave Vigon

Tuesday, April 2nd @ 1pm: Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn

All Saints Financial Partnership

March 17, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 2,189.00

Children's Offering: \$ 13.00

Finance Council Members: Suzy Aubert, John Gulbranson, Anita Hilgers, Scott Lonsdale & Bob Olson

St. John Financial Partnership

March 17, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 550.00

Children's Offering: \$ 23.00

Finance Council Members: Monica Fagan, Larry Drees, Elizabeth Moreland, Julie Plowman & Andrew Richter

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 – allsaintsff@outlook.com
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 on a number of occasions warned the people to turn away from sin before it was too late to repent and receive God's mercy and pardon. Saint Luke recounts two current disasters which Jesus addressed with the people. The first incident occurred in the temple at Jerusalem. Pilate, who was the Roman governor of Jerusalem at the time, ordered his troops to slaughter a group of Galileans who had come up to Jerusalem to offer sacrifice in the Temple. We do not know what these Galileans did to incite Pilate's wrath, nor why Pilate chose to attack them in the holiest of places for the Jews, in their temple at Jerusalem. For the Jews, this was political barbarity and sacrilege at its worst. The second incident which Jesus addressed was a natural disaster, a tower in Jerusalem which unexpectedly collapsed, killing 18 people. The Jews often associated such calamities and disasters as a consequence of sin. Scripture does warn that sin can result in calamity. The time for repentance and forgiveness is right now. Jesus gives a clear warning - take responsibility for your actions and moral choices and put sin to death today before it can destroy your heart, mind, soul, and body as well. Unrepentant sin is like a cancer which corrupts us from within. If it is not eliminated through repentance - asking God for forgiveness and for his healing grace - it leads to a spiritual death which is far worse than physical destruction. Jesus' parable of the barren fig trees illustrates his warning about the consequences of allowing sin and corruption to take root in our hearts and minds. Fig trees were a common and important source of food for the people of Palestine. A fig tree normally matured within three years, producing plentiful fruit. If it failed, it was cut down to make room for healthier trees. A decaying fig tree and its bad fruit came to symbolize for the Jews the consequence of spiritual corruption caused by evil deeds and unrepentant sin. The unfruitful fig tree symbolized the outcome of Israel's indifference and lack of response to God's word of repentance and restoration. We must not assume that there is no hurry. A sudden and unexpected death leaves one no time to prepare to settle one's accounts when he or she must stand before the Lord on the day of judgment. Jesus warns us that we must be ready at all times. Tolerating sinful habits and excusing unrepentant sin and wrongdoing will result in bad fruit, painful discipline, and spiritual disease that leads to death and destruction. Jesus' parable depicts the patience of God, but it also contains a warning that we should not presume upon God's patience and mercy. God's judgment will come in due course - very soon or later. God judges to purify and cleanse us of all sin that we might grow in his holiness and righteousness. And he disciplines us for our own good, to inspire a godly fear and reverence for him and his word. God is

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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

- **Rescheduled Altar Server Appreciation at St. John:** We are blessed with a good number of altar servers, and Father Tony wants to recognize and thank them for their ministry on Sunday, March 31, 2019 after the 8 a.m. Mass at St. John's parish hall. Please consider this as a personal invitation to join for the party.
- **Annual Diocesan Appeal 2019:** Each year, every member of our diocesan faith community is asked to participate in making a gift to support the work and ministry of Bishop Pates through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. We are part of a much larger church community – the Church of the Diocese of Des Moines which encompasses 23 counties of Iowa, with 81 parishes, 17 schools and more than 35,000 registered Catholic households. The appeal pays 100% of the priests' health care, retirement benefits and expenses which are not absorbed by our parish. The Diocese currently supports 112 priests; 37 of those priests are retired and 75 are active. The appeal covers the formation of our deacons, education of our 16 seminarians, administrative expenses for the staff of the diocese, and Bishop Pates' ministry, including housing, travel throughout the Diocese for meetings, special masses, and confirmations. Last, but not least, a portion of our ADA dollars support Catholic Charities in feeding and clothing those in need; providing shelter for homeless families; assisting victims of domestic violence; counseling thousands of individuals, and welcoming refugees who have fled their native lands as they settle in Iowa. Your gift has significant impact on the how we live out our faith. Thank you again for your ongoing and generous support.

All Saints, Stuart, Parish ADA Goal = \$30,035: Gifts Received: \$ 7,835.00 Pledges: \$900.00

St. John, Adair, ADA Goal = \$7,257: Gifts Received: \$1,145.00 Pledges: \$0

- **Scrutinies for the Candidates:** We have three Candidates (Sara Balch, Kathleen Hull and Stacy Richter) who are preparing for the reception into Full Communion of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2019 at All Saints, Stuart. As a final preparation for them, we will be celebrating the Rite of Scrutiny on the following Sundays (Sunday, March 24, Sunday, March 31, and Sunday, April 7). Scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the Candidates; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. These rites complete the conversion of the Candidates and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.
- **Lenten Fish Fry at St. John, Adair:** Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a good fish fry meal on Friday, March 29th and Friday, April 12th at St. John's Parish Hall in Adair from 5 pm to 7 pm. Volunteers are needed to help clean up after each event so lend a giving hand if you are able. Many hands make light work. Thank you!
- **Knights of Columbus' 24-hour prayer for life adoration:** Life is a gift from God, and we are called to recognize and protect life from conception to natural death. Let us seek the intervention of God in prayer to enlighten our minds and hearts to recognize this God-given responsibility. Please join the Knights of Columbus for their 24-hour prayer for life Adoration beginning on Sunday, March 24th at 11:00 a.m. and ending on Monday, March 25th at 11:00 a.m.
- **Healing Prayer Service on Sunday, March 31, 2019:** "At sunset, all who had people sick with various diseases brought them to him (Jesus). He laid his hands on each of them and cured them (Luke 4. 40). All Saints Catholic Church, Stuart will be hosting a healing prayer service on Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 2.00 p.m. All (people of all denominations) are welcome to this prayer service. The purpose is to uplift, encourage, and strengthen especially those struggling with sickness, and the families that are trying to provide care for their sick ones. Please spread the word around in order to reach as many people as possible in our parish family and beyond.
- **Knights of Columbus' Lenten Project:** Knights of Columbus will be collecting 40 cans of non-perishable items to be donated to our local food pantry for Lent from Ash Wednesday (March 6th) through Easter Sunday (April 21st).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Bible Study at St. John Catholic Church:** In the past we have enjoyed the Jeff Cavins Bible Timeline Series Bible study. Annie would like to know who would be interested in starting "Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom." There are 20 total sessions and the workbook cost would be \$29 per person. This is a very in depth study into the early church and the mission of the apostles. Each class would be about an hour of watching the DVD. If interested, text Annie 402-216-9488 or email annie68164@hotmail.com so we can plan days/time for the study. Thanks!
- **Lenten Reconciliation Service:** Lent is an intense six-week time to turn away from our sin and selfishness, and turn back into the arms of our loving and merciful God. Therefore, let us make use of the God-given opportunity. Following is the schedule for individual reconciliation:

Sunday, March 31st at 11.30 a.m. at All Saints, Stuart

Sunday, April 7th at 3.00 p.m. at St. John, Adair
- **Abstinence during Lent:** Abstinence from meat is to be observed on all the Fridays of Lent by all who have celebrated their 14th birthday.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, March 30

Rosary: Frank Holle

Ushers: Jim Doud & Marty Doud

Altar Server: Riley & Davis Doud

Lector: Joan Brooking

Commentator: Daisy Nevins

Greeters: Jim Doud & Family

EMHC: Brenda Wedemeyer, Jodi

Bassett & Jo Beaman

All Saints

Sunday, March 31

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Altar Servers: Knights of Columbus

Lector: Knights of Columbus

Commentator: Knights of Columbus

Greeters: Knights of Columbus

EMHC: Knights of Columbus

St. John

Sunday, March 31

Cross Bearer: Dave Richter

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Cody Moreland

Lector: Theresa Elgin

Host: Sister Nesta

Cup: Matt Fagan & Les Elgin

Altar Servers: Belle Fagan & Bailey

Lillard

Traveling Chalice: John & Kathy Fagan

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday 3/24	Monday 3/25	Tuesday 3/26	Wednesday 3/27	Thursday 3/28	Friday 3/29	Saturday 3/30
Adair		Stuart	Adair	Stuart	Stuart	Stuart
7:30am Adoration, Confession, Rosary	BD: Mitchell Dickson	6pm Mass for Teresa Powell	8:30am Mass Carlton Seilhan (health)	9am Mass (Stuart Care Center) for Karen Dupuy	8:30am Mass for deceased members of the Tigges and Gladfelder families	3:30pm Confessions
8am Mass for Lynn Elgin		BD: Joyce Van Pelt, Rick Knowlton,	Stuart	BD: Kelly Marnin, Emily Smith & Annie Brincks		4:05 Rosary
3/31 Mass for Joseph Arnts		Margaret Storms & Cole Clarken	5:30pm Mass & Stations of the Cross followed by Soup Supper sponsored by the Knights of Columbus	ANN: Marilyn & Frank Wagers 1959	BD: Caleb Arthur	4:30pm Mass for the People
Stuart					BD: Betsy Byrnes & Sophie Dorsey	
9am Choir Practice						
10am Mass for the People						
BD: Matthew Smith			BD: Carol Smith, Holly Partlow, Gage Trichel & Adella Vogl			