

Father Tony's Corner (continued from front page)

Jewish eating and drinking at the time - will be excluded from God's Kingdom. So exterior rituals are not the ticket either. But if race and ritual are not the keys to salvation, what is? It is the heart. Salvation does not depend primarily on external appearances, but on friendship with Christ, and that is rooted in our hearts. The people in his parable who were excluded from the heavenly banquet complained that the Lord had actually taught in their streets. But the Lord answers by telling them, 'I do not know where you are from'. In other words, they are strangers to him. May be they did let him into their streets, but they never let him into their hearts. We cannot take our friendship with Christ for granted. We have to consciously and continually strive to enter by the narrow gate. This is what our Lord wants to tell us today. And so we need to ask ourselves: Is that the word that best characterizes our Christian life - striving? The Greek word translated as 'strive' is 'agonizomai'. It has the connotation of a supreme effort. Our English word agony comes from this Greek word. Other Bible versions translate it as 'make every effort' and 'try your hardest'. Jesus is eagerly looking at us today, inviting us to break out of our comfort zones and start striving to follow him more closely. He only asks this of us because he loves us, and love always seeks the very best for the beloved. We each have to examine our hearts and see where we have been falling into routine - where in our Christian lives we have been getting lazy. We cannot strive with all our strength to follow Christ if we do not know Christ. Therefore, let us make a resolution to start striving to know Christ better. It can be done in many ways: weekly active participation in the Holy Eucharist, joining one of our Bible studies/book studies, renewing our prayer life, and so on. Whatever we decide to do, let us make sure we decide to do something - depending not on our own strength, but on God's grace. Jesus is eager to help us through the narrow gate, but he cannot do his part unless we also strive to do our part.

Faith Formation by Jill Gerling, Coordinator

2019-2020 FAITH FORMATION SIGN UP



◆ Faith Formation Wednesday evening classes will begin on Wednesday, September 11, 2019. Sign up will begin next weekend, August 17 & 18, before and after Mass, and continue until classes begin. There are brochures about the programs offered on the table in the gathering space. There are many events planned for the 2019-2020 year to bring families of our parish together and to do outreach community projects too! Sign up is simple and the fee for the 2019-2020 Faith Formation season is \$30.00 per child with a \$100 maximum per family. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jill Gerling at allsaintsff@outlook.com or contact the church at 523-1943.

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday 8/25	Monday 8/26	Tuesday 8/27	Wednesday 8/28	Thursday 8/29	Friday 8/30	Saturday 8/31
Adair 7:30am Rosary & Confession 8am Mass	BD: Carley Fagan	Stuart 6pm Mass	Adair 8:30am Mass	Stuart 9:00am Stuart Care Center	Stuart 8:30am Mass for the deceased members of the Tigges & Gladfelder families	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass for the People
Stuart 10am Mass				BD: Larry Drees	BD: Justin Smith	

All Saints Financial Partnership

August 18, 2019

Weekly Offering & BVM Offering: \$ 2,168.00

Children's Offering: \$ 5.05

St. John Financial Partnership

August 18, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 644.00

Children's Offering: \$ 5.00

Blessed Virgin Mary Offering: \$48.00

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 - 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



Today's Gospel passage reminds us of three things: first, that heaven exists. This is the banquet in the Kingdom of God, the way Jesus describes salvation and eternal life. Second, that hell exists. This is what is outside that banquet, where there is 'wailing and grinding of teeth'-images of the hopeless frustration that the human soul experiences when it is cut off forever from friendship with God. And third, that in order to make our way to heaven, we have to keep on doing our part. It is not enough to have a superficial knowledge of Christ - like the people who said, 'we ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets'. Rather, we have to have a living, lasting, growing friendship with Christ. That is what we were created for. And that is what will lead us to true life. And since friendship always involves effort, self-sacrifice, and the investment of time and energy, the same thing goes for our friendship with Christ. Salvation comes from actually following him, from striving to know him better and live out his teaching. This is what Jesus means by 'the narrow gate' that leads to salvation. To get through a narrow gate you have to leave behind all your excess baggage - you have to go through it on purpose. It is possible to be labeled a Christian on the outside without really making an effort to follow the Christian way in our hearts. It is possible to come to Mass, to be involved with parish activities, and still never really enter into a committed, life-changing, personal relationship with Christ. Jesus knows that going through the motions is not enough; we need to let his grace change our lives. Many Jews at the time of Jesus thought that salvation was based on external factors, like race and ritual. Many Jews, in fact, believed that only Jews could actually live in communion with God. The non-Jewish people, so they thought, were destined to be second-class citizens in the Kingdom of God. Others believed that you not only needed to be of the Jewish race to win God's favor, but you also had to follow even the most minute details of the Law of Moses, as well as the many ritual practices that had grown up around that Law. Jesus takes the opportunity of this question, about whether or not many people will be saved, to correct those wrong ideas. He explains that in God's Kingdom there will be people from all four corners of the earth - just as Isaiah had prophesied, and as we heard in the First Reading. So race had nothing to do with it. He also explains that many who 'ate and drank' with the Lord - in other words, many who followed all the many external rituals that governed

(continued on back page)

Sacraments:

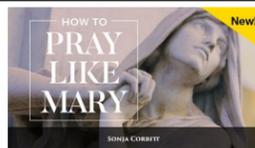
Reconciliation:
3:30pm Saturday in Stuart;
7:30am Sunday in Adair;
or by Appointment
Anointing of the Sick:
Call Fr. Tony before/after hospitalization
Baptism: Call the office during pregnancy for preparation class
Marriage: Call the office at least nine months to one year ahead to plan marriage preparation. 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

- **Mistaken Bulletin Omission:** The editor would like to apologize for an oversight in the bulletin last week. Please join us in wishing Dave & Rosie Tisl a Happy Anniversary! They were united in Holy Matrimony in 1960 and celebrated 59 wonderful years of marriage on August 20th.
- **ANNUAL COLLECTION for the SEMINARIANS of the Diocese of Des Moines:** The Diocese of Des Moines has 17 men seeking to lay down their lives for the Church through priestly vocation. Preparation for a priestly vocation requires a minimum of six years of study, deep prayer, and life of sacrificial love. Such a commitment is an expression of The New Moment, in which we serve as Jesus' hands and feet in a culture that consistently rejects and denies Him. The average cost to educate a seminarian is approximately \$ 30,000 or an estimated annual cost of \$ 720,000 for class of 18 seminarians. A portion of this cost is covered by the Annual Diocesan Appeal but a special collection is necessary to provide for the needs of our seminarians without impacting current programs or ministries. In order to provide for the ever-increasing cost of educating and forming the seminarians, a special collection will be held on Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15. Each registered household will receive a brochure and return envelope through the mail. They may return their gift directly to the Diocese, place the gift in the parish collection, or make a gift online at dmdiocese.org/giving. Heartfelt thanks for your prayers and charitable donation to support the seminarians.
- **St. John Catholic Church:** There has been a proposal to combine the Men's Club and the Catholic Women's Organization since we have a limited membership, and participation in the groups at St. John. In order to hear from everyone, and to move forward, we invite all the parishioners to a meeting on Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. If you are unable to attend the meeting, and want your thoughts to be heard, please let Deb Hollinrake at 641-740-0039 or Monica Fagan at 641-799-4073 know. Thanks, and see you all on Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m.
- **All Saints Knights of Columbus:** The Knights of Columbus meet every second Sunday of the month at the church in the Music Room. Please watch the bulletin for future meeting dates and times.

St. John Faith Formation 2019-2020 by Monica Fagan

Please join us for a Family Kickoff of the 2019-2020 Faith Formation season on Sunday, September 8 after mass until 9:30am. September 8th marks the first day of class, where Monica Fagan will take over as the new Coordinator, as well as, provide information and events for the upcoming season. For questions, please contact Monica at 641-799-4073 or mmfagan03@gmail.com.



Book Study at All Saints

How to Pray Like Mary by Sonja Corbitt

All Saints is having a fall Book Study group to read "How to Pray Like Mary" written by Sonja Corbitt. This is a new release book that looks at how Mary prayed and the ways we can pray like Mary. You will learn a powerful practice for daily prayer as Mary models it: L-Listen, O-Observe, V-Verbalize, E-Entrust. This model is called "L.O.V.E. the Word". Sonja draws from vivid biblical texts to show you the key to loving Scripture and deepening your relationship with God.

The group will be meeting on Tuesday, September 17 at 10:00 at All Saints. Future sessions will be established at the first meeting. A sign up sheet is on the table in the gathering space. The fee is \$15 covers the cost of the book and will be yours to keep.

For more information contact Jill Gerling

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Business Expenses:** All Saints and St. John Fiscal Year end reports will be published the last weekend of September. Your partnership is very essential to the financial wellbeing of our parish families. Please consider signing up for automatic donations. The form following may be found on the table in the gathering space at All Saints. St. John Parishioners, please call the office at 515-523-1943 if you are interested in auto withdrawals. Thank you for remembering us while you are away.

→ **Automatic Withdrawal:** I want to share the information that All Saints has the capability of accepting automatic withdrawal from your bank account. Some people may have concerns about the security of such a transaction. I want to address such concerns by assuring you that it is safe and secure. It makes it easy for you in the sense that you don't have to carry your check book or cash with you all the time. It makes it easy for the parish staff for accounting purposes, and for the money counters in the sense they have less money to count. Considering all the advantages, may I ask you to think about automatic withdrawal. If you agree, we ask you to provide the requested information here below. Fr. Tony

Authorization for Automatic Withdrawal _____
Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____

Name of the Financial Institution _____

Account Number _____ Routing Number _____

Signature _____

Attach a Voided Check _____

Date of debits to be made: - 5th of the month _____ 20th of the month _____

Note: we can accept automatic withdrawal only two days (either 5th or 20th) of the month.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, August 31

Rosary: Frank Holle
Ushers: Dan Hilger & Eric Tiernan
Altar Server: Connie Drake
Lector: Anita Hilgers
Commentator: Sharon Doud
Greeters: David & Sharon Doud
EMHC: Dan Hilgers, Maria Ladwig & Sister Andre

All Saints

Sunday, September 1

Ushers: Dennis Van Pelt & Pat Beaman
Altar Servers: Jackson & Jenna Doyle & Damerica Smith
Lector: Amy Doud
Commentator: Wayne Nosbisch
Greeters: Dennis & Joyce Van Pelt
EMHC: Amy Doud, Joyce Van Pelt & Jo Beaman

St. John

Sunday, September 1

Cross Bearer: Larry Drees
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Francis Hollinrake
Lector: Brian Richter
Host: Dave Richter
Cup: Elizabeth Moreland, Sr. Nesta
Altar Servers: Addy Richter & Bailey Lillard
Traveling Chalice: Cleon & Kaye Klemish

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, August 27 @ 9am: Diane Messinger, Dennis Van Pelt & Dave Vigon

Tuesday, September 3 @ 1pm: Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn