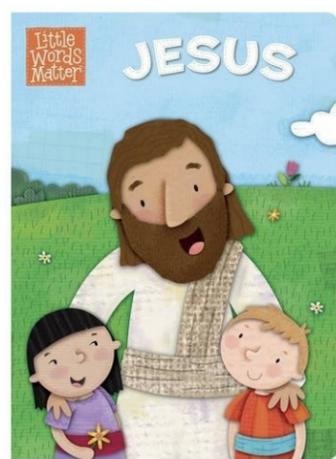


Father Tony's Corner (continued from front page)

birth and come to worship 'the newborn King of the Jews'. As believers, we have all drawn to the light of Christ, and we now bear it and can bear it to others. Despite two millennia of evangelization, there is a lot to do. Some people would argue that ignorance is bliss, but let us ask ourselves if anyone likes to be kept in the dark. Many generous souls have left family and comfort behind to share the light of Christ in places where the light of the Gospel does not shine. Each one of us should strive be like the star that guided the Magi: a steady witness to Christ, a gentle, but clear and attractive, invitation to his everlasting Kingdom. We are citizens of Christ's Kingdom; we are here in the world as his ambassadors. So many people are seeking fulfillment where they cannot get it: in their own little kingdoms of money, pleasure, and power; in their own web of merely human relationships, built on the shifting sands of un-dependable human affection; in their own merely earthly hopes that will come and go like a puff of smoke. If you and I do not show them a higher Kingdom, a lasting Kingdom, a Kingdom that will infuse all those hopes and relationships and activities with a meaning that never grows old but only grows better. Our example, our words, our actions should reflect Christ. We each should ask ourselves, how can we be more like Christ? Which relationship, habit, or activity in our life needs to be enhanced right now, so that we can be more like him, so that we can be better ambassadors? In our hearts, we know, and the Holy Spirit knows. Let us ask him to show us what project of home improvement for the soul we should take up, and let us ask him for the courage to do it. We should, each one of us, be like that star that guided the Magi to Jesus. More people than we realize, people who live right beside us, are searching, and if we let our lives shine in Christ, we will help them, as the star helped the Magi, to find true joy.

All Saints Faith Formation Coordinator, Jill Gerling



A great part of our children's faith development is the weekend Mass obligation. During the Faith Formation program year there are Faith Formation Family Masses. These are meant for all of the Faith Formation families and parishioners of All Saints. At these Masses the children are given various liturgical roles to perform with the guidance of their parents and catechists. Please mark your calendars to attend these Masses:

Sunday, January 12 at 10:00am

Saturday, February 8 at 4:30pm

Ash Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00pm

Sunday, March 8 at 10:00am

Sunday, May 3 at 10:00am (also Graduate Recognition Mass)

Sunday, May 31 at 10:00am (Confirmation Mass with Bishop Joenson)

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday 1/5	Monday 1/6	Tuesday 1/7	Wednesday 1/8	Thursday 1/9	Friday 1/10	Saturday 1/11
Adair 7:30am Rosary & Confession 8am Mass for Isabella Lawlor 1/12 Mass for Joseph Lawlor Stuart 10am Mass for Ron Dupuy BD: Eric Tiernan & Nita Fagan	BD: Reyes Leyva	Stuart 6:00 pm Mass for Karen Dupuy BD: Mary Bovee & Mark Whetstone ANN: Lucas & Amanda Nims 2005	Adair 8:30 am Mass for Mary Stanke	Stuart 9:00am Mass Stuart Care Center for Teresa Powell	Stuart 8:30am Mass for Caroline Lacher	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass for Bill & Anna Holle

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



Epiphany is celebrated as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Three Magi coming from distant lands. The word 'epiphany' originally meant a manifestation or appearance of something, often a divine being. Today, when someone has an 'epiphany', it also means they have had a sudden insight into the deeper meaning of something. In the Epiphany we see all these meanings come into play. It presents a realization that the Messiah was not just for the Jews, but also for the Gentiles. The stars and prophecies, signs from the heavens made by God and inspirations of the Holy Spirit, both point to a great king being born. The Three Magi themselves coming to pay homage to a newborn king is also an epiphany: it gave a sudden insight into the deeper meaning of the Messiah. The first thing the evangelist, Matthew discovered had to do with the Magi themselves. He looked at other references to the term 'Magi' or 'wise men' in the Bible. Then he looked up references in other ancient literature. He discovered that Magi were, basically, the 'scientists' of the ancient world. Quasi-scientists, from our perspective, since they did not have the benefit of the modern scientific, experimental method. But even so, they did make a rational, logical study of philosophy, medicine, and the natural world - including the stars. They were like the scholars and professors of ancient times. But instead of working in universities, they usually worked for kings. A king would finance his own group of scholars, using them as consultants and translators, and also to enhance his kingdom's reputation. One group of these scholars revered throughout the ancient world was the Chaldean Magi, based in the city of Babylon, just south of Bagdad, in modern Iraq. This school was already well-established 600 years before Christ, when the prophet Daniel was exiled from Jerusalem. The King of Babylon at the time forced Daniel and a few companions, some of Israel's most promising scholars, to join his school of Magi. There they studied, learned, did amazing deeds, and even kept their faith in the one, true God, as the Book of Daniel describes. The prophet Daniel never returned to Jerusalem. He lived his whole, long life as a top-scholar and royal adviser among Babylon's Magi, where he not only learned from others, but also shared Jewish history, prophecy, and beliefs. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to think that his prophecies were known, studied, and passed down through the generations by the Magi there. And if that is the case, it would make a lot of historical sense for Saint Matthew to tell us that the wise men 'from the east' had seen signs of the Savior's

(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



• **Monthly Meeting:** The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly meeting on Sunday, January 12th at 6:00 pm in the music room.

• **Annual Diocesan Appeal 2019:** Each year, every member of our diocesan faith community is asked to participate in making a gift to support the ministry of Bishop Joensen through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. All 81 parishes in the Diocese of Des Moines have a goal that is calculated based on a formula of parish income and expenses. One of the largest expenses covered by the Diocesan Appeal is support of our priests by covering 100% of their health care costs and providing them a retirement benefit; an expense not covered by the parishes. The Diocese currently supports 112 priests; 37 of which are retired, and 75 active. The Appeal also covers the formation of our deacons, education of 21 seminarians and administrative expenses for the staff of the Diocese who are dedicated to serving our parish in many ways. Bishop Joensen's ministry, including housing, travel throughout the Diocese for meetings, special masses, and confirmations are all supported by the ADA as well. Additionally, a portion of our ADA dollars supports 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. I want to thank everyone who has already participated in the 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal, and provide a friendly reminder to those who are still thinking about responding. Your participation is very valuable to All Saints and St. John Catholic Church. We are looking forward to your support, and sacrificial generosity to share a little of our God-given blessing to spread His kingdom and mission.

All Saints, Stuart, Parish ADA Goal = \$30,035

Gifts Received: \$ 20,342.50

Remaining: \$9,692.50

St. John, Adair, ADA Goal = \$7,257

Gifts Received: \$ 5,197.17

Remaining: \$2,059.83

• **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, someone who is sick, celebrate someone's birthday or celebrate a couple's wedding anniversary, kindly contact the parish office.



• **Prayer for Vocations:** Bishop Joensen and the St. Serra Club are asking the parish to pray for vocations. Available on the table in the gathering space, are prayer cards for all the seminarians studying for the priesthood in the Des Moines Diocese. Please consider taking a card and spending some time praying for these young men as they journey through seminary school. A culture of vocations must be nourished through out the year and one way you can help is by committing to pray once a month.

• **A New Year Prayer:** As we journey on in the New Year, let this be our personal prayer: May God bring us closer to him and to one another. May we praise God for His love, mercy, and abundant blessings with a little more passion every day and may we reach out to the extended family (the world) in love and charity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **All Saints Church Tithing OPTION - eGiving:** Electronic gifts are fast and secure, and they reduce administrative costs, allowing more of every dollar to fund the important work we are called to do.
- Give anytime, anywhere to your favorite funds
- Schedule and manage recurring donations
- Make one-time donations to special appeals
- Pay for events, programs and other activities



If you would like to give electronically, please visit www.stuartallsaints.org or contact the church office.

*** This is an OPTION to give to the church; it DOES NOT REPLACE traditional tithing envelopes.***

Altar & Rosary Society by Jodi Bassett, President

The Altar and Rosary Society has been asked to cater a meal for a family reunion that is planned to take place in our church hall next summer. We will meet after Masses the weekend of January 11 & 12, 2020 to provide more information and confirm involvement by the membership. This will be a considerable undertaking which is why this meeting is taking place in January. The catered meal will also be a fundraiser for our organization. Many ladies will be required to cook, serve and clean up, so I want to be sure everyone is on board. There will be plenty of opportunities to help, so no one should have to be involved the entire time.

January will be here before we know, so please put these meetings on your calendars and plan to attend. It is important that everyone gets the information early so we can plan on good involvement.

Thank you for your continued support in our numerous events.
Many blessings to you and your families this holiday season! ~ Jodi

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, January 11

Rosary: Frank Holle

Ushers: Mark & Kari Tisl

Altar Server: Jodi Bassett

Lector: Donna Donnelly

Commentator: Roni Wilson

Greeters: Mark & Kari Tisl

EMHC: Mark & Kari Tisl &

Donna Donnelly

All Saints

Sunday, January 12

Ushers: Faith Formation

Altar Servers: Faith Formation

Lector: Faith Formation

Commentator: Faith

Formation

Greeters: Faith Formation

EMHC: Faith Formation

St. John

Sunday, January 12

Cross Bearer: Kelsie Steensen

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Blair

Carney

Lector: Barb Bachman

Host: Elizabeth Moreland

Cup: Sister Andre & Adella Vogl

Altar Servers: Belle Fagan &

Bailey Lillard

Traveling Chalice: Phyllis

O'Brien

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, January 7 @ 10 am: Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn

Tuesday, January 14 @ 1pm: Tiernan, Gina James & Donna Donnelly

All Saints Financial Partnership

December 29, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 1,912.00

Children's Offering: \$ 22.39

Christmas: \$ 2,790.00

St. John Financial Partnership

December 29, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 417.00

Children's Offering: \$ 5.00

Christmas: \$ 1,995.00