

May 15, 2016
Pentecost Sunday

Saint John Catholic Church

Masses
Sunday:8am ~ Wednesday:8:30am ~ Thursday:6:30pm



Parish Contact Information

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Pastor
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Deacon
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To Be A Christian Steward

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace"(1 Peter 4:10).

What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

DISCIPLES AS STEWARDS Let us begin with being a disciple – a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. As members of the Church, Jesus calls us to be disciples. This has astonishing implications: Mature disciples make a conscious decision to follow Jesus, no matter what the cost; Christian disciples experience conversion – life shaping changes of mind and heart – and commit their very selves to the Lord; Christian stewards respond in a particular way to the call to be a disciple. Stewardship has the power to shape and mold our understanding of our lives and the way in which we live. Jesus' disciples and Christian stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom, and source of all things. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. We look to the life and teaching of Jesus for guidance in living as Christian stewards.

STEWARDS OF THE CHURCH Stewards of God's gifts are not passive beneficiaries. We cooperate with God in our own redemption and in the redemption of others. We are also obliged to be stewards of the Church – collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, which is the Church's essential mission. This mission – proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying – is our task. It is the personal responsibility of each one of us as stewards of the Church. All members of the Church have their own roles to play in carrying out its mission: Parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith; Parishioners, who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community; All Catholics, who give generous support – time, money, prayers, and personal service according to their circumstances – to parish and diocesan programs and to the universal Church.

A STEWARD'S WAY The life of a Christian steward models the life of Jesus. It is challenging and even difficult, in many respects, yet intense joy comes to those who take the risk to live as Christian stewards. Women and men who seek to live as stewards learn that *"all things work for good for those who love God"* (Romans 8:28). After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. As the Mother of Christ, she lived her ministry in a spirit of fidelity and service; she responded generously to the call. We must ask ourselves: Do we also wish to be disciples of Jesus Christ and Christian stewards of our world and our Church? Central to our human and Christian vocations, as well as to the unique vocation each one of us receives from God, is that we be good stewards of the gifts we possess. God gives us this divine-human workshop, this world and Church of ours. ***The spirit shows us the way. Stewardship is a part of that journey.***

- From the US Bishops Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM: Preparation class for parents and godparents is required. Please contact the church office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Preparation for marriage must begin at least six months before the anticipated date of the wedding. Please contact the church office to set up an appointment to speak with Father.

Parish News & Events

May 15, 2016
Pentecost Sunday

Mass Schedule

Sunday 5/15 8:00am For Leona Drees
Wednesday 5/18 8:30am For Pat Cornwell
Thursday 5/19 6:30pm For John W. Brincks
Sunday 5/22 8:00am For Ed & Joanne Littler

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please contact Rita in the Church Office at 523-1943.

Frequently Asked Questions about Marriage and Annulments in the Catholic Church

"And as the door of God's mercy is always open, so too must the doors of our churches, our communities, our parishes, our institutions, our dioceses, be open, because this is how we can all go out to bring this mercy of God."
Pope Francis 11.18.15

My Friends,
Experiencing the breakdown of a marriage is difficult to say the least. One's hopes and dreams are placed in the sacramental relationship that's expected to last a lifetime. Divorce, then, is an experience that can be traumatic and full of grief. The Catholic Church recognizes the pain and hurt associated with divorce and offers healing for those who want to move on, while retaining the dignity of marriage. An annulment, or declaration of nullity is a decree from the Church stating that from the beginning of the union an element, intention, or understanding of marriage was missing. It is my sincere hope that the annulment process is found to be healing, and that all people know that they are welcomed and loved by the Church.
Sincerely In Christ,
Richard Pates, Bishop Diocese of Des Moines

1. **What is an annulment?** It is a judicial (legal) decree from the Church. It is issued at the end of a process that studied the details of the marital relationship. It determines from the beginning of the union an element, intention, or a correct understanding of marriage was missing. When a Catholic person marries outside of the Church without permission, he or she can receive a "lack of form" annulment which is a simple process that can usually be completed in less than sixty days.

Next week: What is the difference between a "formal" annulment and a "lack of form" annulment?

Liturgical Ministers for May 22

Cross Bearer: Madison Suhr
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Cleon Klemish
Lector: Rich Kennedy
Host: Matt Fagan
Cup: Dave Richter, Elizabeth Moreland
Servers: Rachel Gettler, Logan Brincks
Traveling Chalice: Deb & Francis Hollinrake

Birthdays

5/18: Theresa Brincks
5/21: Cleon Klemish
Brian Richter

Financial Report for the week of May 8th

Regular Tithes \$447.00
Children's Collection \$25.00
Building Fund \$0.00
Repair Fund Balance 4/13: \$2,180.67

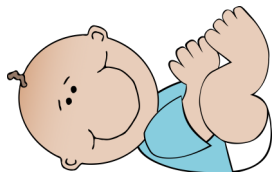
ADA Balance Due: \$473.90

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you all for the cards, prayers and support during this time. Your kind words and well wishes are greatly appreciated.

thank you!

Thank you,



Blair, Erin and Maxwell Carney

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

For May 2016

Universal: That, rejecting the culture of indifference, we may care for our neighbors who suffer, especially the sick and the poor.



Evangelization: That Mary's intercession may help Christians in secularized cultures be ready to proclaim Jesus.

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