

August 21, 2016
21st Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Saint John Catholic Church

Mission Statement: "We envision a process of transforming all baptized Christian, clergy, and lay into maturing persons knowing themselves in community, growing in their relationship to God, lived in individual and shared ministry responses to their baptismal call."

Parish Contact Information

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins
Pastor
Rev. Mr. Fred Cornwell
Deacon

Church Office

Hours: T-W-Th
9am-3pm

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Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End

(Excerpts from the pamphlet published by the USCCB The entire pamphlet is available in the parish office.)

An old Irish proverb says, "It is in the shelter of each other that the people live." Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how best to "shelter" them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them.

1. **Invite God in:** ...The dying process is a sacred time - a final season to seek closure in this life and prepare for the next in the hope of sharing in Christ's Resurrection.
2. **Listen:** ...Try to discover your loved one's values and how best to honor his or her wishes. Listen with a non-judgmental ear so your loved one feels free to speak openly.
3. **Inform yourself:** ...Be aware the wishes for refusing ordinary or proportionate treatment - or for pursuing assisted suicide - are usually rooted in fears of dependency, helplessness, or pain. Seek to understand the Catholic Church's teaching on end-of-life care.
4. **Be steadfast in compassion:** ...Your friend or family member will likely face ups and downs. Recognize these as part of a natural process.
5. **Help them achieve closure:** ...Help your family member or friend define the unfinished personal projects, financial concerns, unresolved relationships, or other matters that occupy his or her mind.
6. **Provide opportunities for resolution:** ...You can help ensure a peaceful transition for your loved one by facilitating opportunities for reconciliation with others and for mutual expressions of love and gratitude.
7. **Reminisce:** ...Our appetites diminish as our bodies experience a decreased need for food and fluids when we near life's end. Provide smaller amounts of your family member or friend's favorite foods. Even if unable to eat them, he or she may still enjoy the aromas and reminisce with you about special memories they evoke.
8. **Provide a peaceful presence:** ...Your own quiet, patient presence can provide important support as your loved one prepares emotionally and spiritually for his or her passing.
9. **Show tenderness:** ...Tell stories, laugh, and share memories to reassure the person he or she is a cherished gift, not a burden in any way.
10. **Bear their transition patiently:** ...Try to be patient, and allow the "how" and "when" of death to be between God and your loved one.

Free downloads - articles, prayers, quick reference info, and more - are available at www.usccb.org/respectlife



Parish News & Events

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Mass Schedule

Sunday 8/21 8:00am For Isabel Lawlor
Wednesday 8/24 8:30am For Dean Kopp
Thursday 8/25 6:30pm For Joseph Arnts
Sunday 8/28 8:00am For the People

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please contact Rita in the Church Office at 515-523-1943.

Financial Report for the Week of August 14th

Regular Tithes \$232.00

Children \$10.28

Special Collections \$0.00

Repair Fund Balance 8/10: \$1,932.73

ADA Balance Due: \$373.90

Birthdays

8/21: Betty Vais

8/23: Francis Hollinrake

8/26: Carley Fagan

8/27: Madison Suhr

Anniversaries

John & Kathy Fagan are celebrating their **42nd** Wedding Anniversary on August 23rd. They were married in 1974.

Faith Formation Classes will start Sept. 11th on Sundays after Mass. The \$20 per student fee is due by the first class. We could use one more teacher volunteer. We plan to have a snack and prayer before class so individual snack/drink donations are appreciated. We have a Facebook page which we can post news and teachers can share stories and photos of the kids throughout the year. It is St Johns Catholic Church Faith Formation. If you "like" and turn notifications "on", you should get the posts in your feed. - **Annie Brincks**

RCIA/Adult Religious Education Begins

Weekly sessions for anyone wishing to become a member of the Catholic Church or who wants to further their education in our faith is invited to attend the classes beginning at **6:30pm Tuesday August 30th at All Saints** or **7pm Thursday September 1 at St. John in Adair**. All sessions will be lead by Father Ray and/or Deacon Fred.

Please sign up on the sheet available in the back of the church.

Liturgical Ministers August 28th

Cross Bearer: Scott Suhr

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Matt Fagan & Family

Lector: Elizabeth Moreland

Host: Rich Kennedy

Cup: Scott Suhr, Sister Nesta

Servers: Cole Plowman, Madison Suhr



Traveling Chalice: Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Guest Speaker Last Week

Our recent guest pastor was Rev. Joey D. Aguilar. He sends his sincere thanks for your generosity! You may reach him at joey_usfordham@yahoo.com or by writing to him:

Rev. Joey D. Aguilar, Sta. Cruz Street, Virac 4800 Cantanduanes, Philippines

