

August 28, 2016
22nd 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

Phone:

515-523-1943

Website:

adairstjohn.org

Parish Business Manager

Deacon Fred Cornwell
Cornwellfritz@gmail.com

Secretary & Communications

Brenda Wedemeyer
StJohnallsaints@gmail.com

Bookkeeping

Rita Rilea

Allsaintsoffice

@gmail.com

Adella Vogl

Prayer Chain Requests
641-742-5277

Annie Brincks

Religious Education
Coordinator

annle68164@hotmail.com

Les Elgin

Liturgical Minister
Scheduling

elgins2011@gmail.com

Or 742-3854

Mailing Address:

St. John Catholic Church
c/o All Saints Church
PO Box 605
216 All Saints Drive
Stuart, IA 50250

Dear Parishioners,

In reference to last week's article regarding end-of-life care, we'd like to continue on with some excerpts from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops resource "Respecting the Dignity of the Human Person at the End of Life".

Every day, Catholics and others face unexpected dilemmas about treatment for themselves and their loved ones. Each situation is a unique and bewildering set of facts, forcing us to choose what we hope will be the best or "least bad" outcome.

Moral Principles

People are often surprised to find that Catholic teaching provides no single authoritative answer to many of the questions that arise near the end of life. For example, it has no list of medical treatments we must always use. It does provide key moral principles we can apply to concrete situations, using the virtue of prudence. And those principles are based on a vision of the human person that is at the core of the Gospel.

Let's begin with the principles. They explain two things we must never do, and provide guidance to help us decide what we *can and should do* for those we love.

First is God's Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill." We must never deliberately take a human life, our own or anyone else's....In short, we should always reject euthanasia, which is "an action or omission which of itself and by intention causes death, with the purpose of eliminating all suffering."

Second, we must not discriminate against those most in need. We should not lavish every life-saving option on those who are rich or smart or able-bodied or powerful, while ignoring the value of life for people with lesser abilities or accomplishments.

Third, we have a positive obligation to take reasonable care of our own lives and the lives of those who depend on us.

The fourth principle is about the term, "the normal care due to the sick person." There is a basic level of care we owe to everyone, out of respect for their human dignity. Keeping the patient comfortable, relieving pain, providing personal hygiene - these are things we do for our children when they are very young, and we do them for adults when they can no longer do them for themselves.

Fifth, in the context of these moral principles, we should address patients' pain and suffering. (To read the entire article, please go to www.usccb.org and search for the FAMILY RESOURCE - DOERFLINGER, Respecting the Dignity of the Human Person at the End of Life).

Bringing this issue closer to home, Deacon Fred (Cornwell) has offered to share his own experience of making the tough decisions when his wife Pat was nearing the end of her life. Please feel free to contact Deacon if you would like to learn more about their struggles with this as a family.

Parish News & Events

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Mass Schedule

Sunday 8/28 8:00am For the People
Wednesday 8/31 8:30am
For John, Elizabeth, Leroy & Barb Vogl
Thursday 9/1 6:30pm For John W. Brincks
Sunday 9/4 8:00am For Betty Dill

*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 21st

Regular Tithes \$588.00

Children \$10.00

Building Fund \$25.00

Repair Fund Balance 8/10: \$2,424.63

ADA Balance Due: \$373.90

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.**

Holy Father's August Prayer Intentions

Universal: That volunteers may give themselves generously to the service of the needy.

Evangelization: That setting aside our very selves we may learn to be neighbors to those who find themselves on the margins of human life and society.

Birthdays

8/29: Christopher Skram

8/30: Larry Drees

9/2: Matt Fagan



Thank You!

In appreciation of being able to use the north parking area during the business week, Craig's Automotive has provided two loads of gravel to help refurbish the lot. Thanks also to Francis Hollinrake for helping with the process!

Liturgical Ministers September 4th

Cross Bearer: Dave Richter

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Phil Fagan

Lector: Barb Bachman

Host: Adella Vogl

Cup: Dave Richter, Matt Fagan

Servers: Logan Brincks, Quinton Younker



Traveling Chalice: Phyllis O'Brien