

**November 20, 2016**  
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King  
of the Universe

# **Saint John Catholic Church**



## **Parish Contact Information**

Rev. Raymond J.  
Higgins  
Pastor

## **Church Office**

**Phone: 515-523-1943**  
Hours: T-W-Th 9am-3pm  
Closed: Monday & Friday

**Website:**  
adairstjohn.org

## **Parish Administrative Secretary**

Brenda Wedemeyer  
[stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

## **Bookkeeping**

Rita Rilea  
[allsaintsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsoffice@gmail.com)

## **Adella Vogl**

Prayer Chain Requests  
641-742-5277

## **Annie Brincks**

Religious Education  
Coordinator  
[annie68164@hotmail.com](mailto:annie68164@hotmail.com)

## **Les Elgin**

Liturgical Minister  
Scheduling  
[elgins2011@gmail.com](mailto: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

## **News & Views from Father Ray**

Dear Parishioners,

As we look to another celebration of Thanksgiving, many of us might recall from our school days that, in 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states.

It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November (History.com).

Historically, we recognize that the early pilgrims were people fleeing religious persecution, people who were fleeing a society that had become exceedingly decadent and very immoral, and they were looking to be able to practice their faith. There were, of course, others looking for opportunity to own land.

Among early pilgrims were many Catholics - those who founded, for instance, the states of Maryland and Virginia - both named after our Blessed Lady by Catholics who came to America. The first religious who came to America came in 1776. It was a community of Carmelite nuns who came to the New World to be able to lay a spiritual foundation for those who would follow.

The very essence of what our founding fathers came for was to practice their faith, and it is that faith that we have to be so grateful to God for because now it is we who, in fact, live in a society that is similar to the one they were trying to flee. We live in a society where they are trying to push God out of society, but how grateful we must be that the Lord has given to us the grace to recognize Him, to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him.

Let our Thanksgiving not be focused on one day on the third Thursday of November, but everyday and every time we celebrate the Mass and are at prayer. We thank God for all His blessings, gifts, experiences - good or bad because we grow and learn from them, and we especially thank God for our life and relationship with Him and those we are surrounded by.

Fr. Ray



**Thinking of priesthood?** If you're feeling a tug toward priesthood, consider being part of Bishop's Discernment Retreat Dec. 16-18. Contact Fr. Joe Pins at 515-237-5050 or email him at [jpins@dmdiocese.org](mailto:jpins@dmdiocese.org) for details.

**March For Life Signup** It's time to start thinking about joining the pilgrimage in January to Washington, D.C. to be a part of the annual March for Life. Iowans for LIFE is securing several buses to take pro-life Iowans to the march, which will be on Jan. 27. Go to [IowansForLIFE.org](http://IowansForLIFE.org) for details.

# Parish News & Events

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<b>This Week's Calendar</b>  w/Mass Times & Intentions, Birthdays & Anniversaries	<b>Sunday 11/20</b>  <b>8am Mass</b> For Betty Dill  <b>9am</b> Faith Formation	<b>Monday 11/21</b>  <i>No Office Hours Monday, Thursday or Friday this week.</i>	<b>Tuesday 11/22</b>  Birthdays: Marilyn Ludwig, Nick Richter	<b>Wednesday 11/23</b>  <b>NO MORNING MASS</b>  <u>5:30pm</u> <b>Thanksgiving Mass</b> For Leona Drees	<b>Thursday 11/24</b>  <b>NO Evening Mass</b>  No Adult Bible Study	<b>Friday 11/25</b>   <b>Saturday 11/26</b>  <b>Birthday:</b> Abby Richter	<b>Sunday 11/27</b> For the People <b>Advent Begins</b>  
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## E-Bulletins & Updates

Weekly bulletins are published online through both our websites and via your personal email address - *if* you have provided us with your current email contact information. The bulletin comes to your personal address at 9am each Saturday. It is also available on our website by Friday afternoon. Please contact the church office to subscribe.

Visit: [www.adairstjohn.org](http://www.adairstjohn.org) to view our bulletins.



**Toy Collection** St. John's Faith Formation will accept new, unwrapped toys through December 4th for **Toys for Tots** and used toys in great shape for **Catholic Charities** until December 18th.

The toys can be dropped off in the hall after Mass. Thank you!

<b>Liturgical Ministers</b> November 27th	<b>Cross Bearer:</b> Scott Suhr	<b>Greeters:</b> Mr. & Mrs. Doug Richter	<b>Lector:</b> Barb Bachman	<b>Host:</b> Adella Vogl	<b>Cup:</b> Matt Fagan Les Elgin	<b>Servers:</b> Cade Suhr Logan Brincks	<b>Traveling Chalice:</b> John & Adella Vogl
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<b>Financial Report For:</b> November 13, 2016	<b>Regular Tithes</b> \$438.61	<b>Children's Collection</b> \$24.00	<b>Special: Cemetery Fund</b> \$125.00	<b>Repair Fund Balance</b> \$9,078.70	<b>Altar Furn. Fund</b> \$6,100.00	<b>ADA Balance Due:</b> \$300.00
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**NOVOS Young Adults** If you're a young adult looking for social, spiritual and service activities, check out Novos Young Adults. Events happen every second and fourth Thursday of the month and occasionally on weekends. For more information, go to the Novos Young Adults Facebook page.

**Holy Father's November Prayer Intentions** *Universal:* That we may be open to personal encounter and dialogue with all, even those whose convictions differ from our own. *Evangelization:* That pastors of the Church, with profound love for their flocks, may accompany them and enliven their hope.

**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.