

# St. John Catholic Church

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

February 26, 2017



## Mass Times

- **Sunday:** 7:30am Rosary  
8am Mass
- **ASH WEDNESDAY MASS**  
5:30pm; or 7pm Stuart
- **Thursday:** 6:30pm w/  
Stations of the Cross

*(Stuart Mass Times Are Included On  
The Church Calendar on Page 4)*

## Confessions

- **7:30-7:55am Sundays**  
or by appointment

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## “A Lenten Reflection For Iowans”

With the season of Lent approaching, parishes and schools across Iowa are invited to journey towards a greater understanding of our state’s ecological and environmental issues, with the help of a new reflection book titled *Caring for our Common Home: A Lenten Reflection for Iowans*. Inspired by Pope Francis’s ecological encyclical *Laudato Si’*, this new work takes a uniquely Iowa perspective in exploring the science of the world around us, while contemplating God in the web of creation.

*Caring for our Common Home: A Lenten Reflection for Iowans* delves into the science, reflects on the encyclical letter *Laudato Si’* (Praise Be to You), and explores small and large ways to grow in faith and act for the goodness of our common home. Each day of the Lenten journey

sheds light on a different ecological concept, ranging from water and wetlands to agriculture, soil, biodiversity, and climate change. Bishop Richard E. Pates of the Diocese of Des Moines, writes, “This resource, *Caring for our Common Home: A Lenten Reflection for Iowans*, is a way to reimagine our place in the created order and put us in touch with Iowa’s bounty and the world’s needs. By reflecting on the connections between land and water, cities and farms, wildlife and humankind, the resource draws upon both lessons from science and teachings from our faith, especially from Pope Francis’s ecological encyclical, *Laudato Si’*.”

*Caring for our Common Home: A Lenten Reflection for Iowans* was produced collaboratively by Jacqueline Comito and Ann Staudt, with assis-

tance from Jamie Benning, Tom Chapman with the Iowa Catholic Conference, and Susie Tierney with the Center for Social Ministry. Dr. Comito is an anthropologist and director of the Iowa Learning Farms and Water Rocks! programs at Iowa State University. Staudt, an environmental engineer, and Benning, an agronomist, both collaborate with Comito at Iowa State University.

The reflection can be utilized as an individual Lenten journey or as part of a small group study during the season of Lent. To obtain your copy of *Caring for our Common Home: A Lenten Reflection for Iowans* for Lent 2017, go to <https://iowacatholicconference.org/>

## Easter Flowers



St. John’s is offering Easter Lilies,

Mums, and Begonias for sale again this year. All plants are \$15.



Please contact Monica Fagan at 641-742-3067 if you’d like to place an order.

Pick up is Friday, April 7th from 5-7pm at St. John’s Church Hall.



Payment is due at time of order.

# Sacred Journey: Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.

The Stations of the Cross are commonly found in churches as a series of 14 small icons or images. They can also appear in church

yards arranged along paths. The stations are most commonly prayed during Lent on Wednesdays and Fridays, and especially on Good Friday, the day of the year upon which the events actually occurred.

We will publish two stations each week in the bulletin for those who are not able to attend the prayer time following Thursday evening Masses.

## Station 1: Pilate Condemns Jesus to Death

"Lord, how strange it is to see you in this position, you who refused to condemn anyone. You defended the outcast, healed the sick, and

raised the dead. You, of all people, should have been spared such a fate. Yet, somehow through this paradox you save the world."

## Station 2: Jesus Takes Up His Cross

"Lord, it is never easy to take up a cross, yet you do it with amazing courage and grace. We tend to bear our crosses grudgingly, resentfully, even angrily. Show us the way to take up our crosses with the love that gives hope and meaning to life."

*(Sacred Journey is being used by permission, was written by Jerry Welte, All Saints Press, St. Louis, MO. To obtain your own copy, go to [AllSaintsPress.com](http://AllSaintsPress.com))*

## The Basics of Lent

### Why does Lent seem so negative?

Starting with the somber symbol of ashes, Lent indeed has its negative side, in part because Lenten discipline aims to make us aware of our own weakness and sin and need for conversion and renewal. We won't seek a doctor if we don't know we're sick. We won't seek help unless we realize how much we need help. But

the purpose of Lenten discipline isn't negative. Self-denial is necessary, said St. Augustine, because, unless we can give up what is good, many of us cannot avoid committing evil when tempted. Self-denial helps us empty ourselves so that we can be filled with God, helps us hunger and thirst for the food and drink our souls need. We freely give up good for the prom-

ise of something better. We should not undertake Lenten discipline as if by themselves they heal us, make us holy, or earn God's favor. Rather, their purpose is to open our hearts so that the Holy Spirit can work in us.

*(The Basics of Lent, All Saints Press, St. Louis, MO.)*

## Parish Business & Finance

**Funds are running low** It has come to our attention that we need to address the issue of continuing financial support of our parish. Weekly incomes are barely meeting our monthly expenses. In January 2017 we deposited \$2,274.96

in checking, but we paid out \$2,376.51 for the regular monthly obligations. If you are at all able to increase your giving, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

### February 19th Collections

- Regular Tithes: \$503.00
  - Children's Collection: \$7.18
  - Building Fund: \$150.00
- Building Repair Fund Balance: \$1,518.18**

## “The Tortoise and the Skunk”

### Counselors talk about communication patterns in marriage

The moral of the story: balance wins the race. At least when it comes to communicating with your spouse. Experienced marriage counselors at Catholic Charities say that effective communication during stress and conflict relies on a balance of communication styles. Counselors say that there tends to be a pattern in the way couples communicate with one another, particularly when it comes to coping with conflict in the relationship. Communication mechanisms for dealing with stress and anxiety typically fall into two categories—the tortoise or the skunk, says Sharon Bandstra L.I.S.W., therapist at Catholic Charities. One person in the relationship is more likely to “spray” like a

skunk and dominate the conversation while the other person tends to pull back from the situation like a tortoise. The skunk has a more in-your-face way of dealing with stress and the tortoise tends to draw back or avoid the issue. These opposing mechanisms of managing stress and anxiety often contribute to relationship conflict. “It’s important to remember that neither is right or wrong. The idea is to recognize that we all tend to exhibit a particular communication style under stress or high anxiety,” says Bandstra. Counselors suggest several ways for couples to work on creating balance in their communication styles: Ask yourself who you identify with more, the tortoise or the skunk? Consider the mechanisms you tend to use in communicating with your

spouse. If you identify more with the tortoise, consider saying more and work on verbalizing your thoughts during conflict with your spouse and avoid minimizing issues. If you identify more with the skunk, work on giving your spouse more opportunity to speak and consider saying less. Try not to exaggerate the argument or situation in your mind. Counselors advise that being aware of your communication pattern with your spouse can help create a balance that can have a positive affect on your relationship.

[www.CenterforLifeCounseling.org](http://www.CenterforLifeCounseling.org)

**Des Moines** - 515-237-5045

**Council Bluffs** - 712-328-3086

## New Calendar Insert

Included in today’s bulletin is a calendar for the month of March. One side is set for Adair St. John and the flip side is set for Stuart All Saints. Mass times and the intentions are shown for both parishes on each side. The difference is the notations made to recognize birthdays and anniversaries.

***Please note that the time listed for Friday Mass at Stuart is incorrect and should read: Mass 6pm and Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm.***

If you do not see a birthday or anniversary listed that should be, or if the information is incorrect, please contact the church office to make the correction. Thank you!

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please contact Rita Rilea in the church office at 515-523-1943 or email her at: [allsaintsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsoffice@gmail.com)



## Area Events & Announcements

**St. John’s Men’s Club  
Fish Fry Friday  
March 10 5-7pm**



**CWO Turkey Dinner  
March 12th**



**Carry Outs are  
available by calling  
the parish hall at:  
641-742-5045**

Items to be included in the bulletin must be submitted to the office by 5pm Wednesday.

Call 515-523-1943 or email:

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

to submit your items.

*Bulletins, prayer requests, and other announcements are sent via email through **Constant Contact**. If you are not receiving these emails, please be sure the Church Office has your address. Also be sure to check your "spam" folder as it may be going there. Bulletins are also posted to our website each Friday afternoon.*

Website: [adairstjohn.org](http://adairstjohn.org)



**Liturgical Ministers  
Schedule:  
Ash Wednesday March  
1st**

**Cross Bearer:** Brian Richter

**Greeters:** Mr. & Mrs. Larry Ludwig

**Lector:** Theresa Elgin

**Host:** Dave Richter

**Cup:** Adella Vogl & Matt Fagan

**Servers:** Carley Fagan & Belle Fagan

**Liturgical Ministers Schedule:  
Sunday March 5th**

**Cross Bearer:** Larry Drees

**Greeters:** Deb & Francis Hollinrake

**Lector:** Scott Suhr

**Host:** Les Elgin

**Cup:** Dave Richter & Sr. Nesta

**Servers:** Trevin Suhr & Madison Suhr

**Traveling Chalice:**  
Kaye & Cleon Klemish

**Contact Us**

**Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Pastor**

Church Office: 515-523-1943

To request a Baptism or other Sacrament, to join the Church, or if you have any other questions, please contact the Church Office.

**Parish Administrative Assistant:**

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

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

**Director of Religious Education:** Annie Brincks [annie68164@hotmail.com](mailto:annie68164@hotmail.com)

**Music:** Deb Hollinrake **Liturgical Minister Schedule:** Les Elgin 742-3854

**Prayer Request Phone Line:** Adella Vogl 641-742-5277

**St. John's Men's Club:** Francis Hollinrake 742-5016

**CWO:** Betty Ludwig 742-3812

**Planning ahead...**

**Ash Wednesday** is March 1st - Mass will be at 5:30pm in Adair and 7pm at Stuart

**Turkey Dinner** is March 12th - See Betty Ludwig for details.

**During Lent:** Friday Stations of the Cross & Fish Fry Fridays March 10th, March 24th, and April 7th 5-7pm.

# Two-Week Calendar of Activities

Sunday 2-26 7:30-7:55am	Monday 2-27	Tuesday 2-28	Wednesday 3-1	Thursday 3-2	Friday 3-3	Saturday 3-4
Rosary & Confessions <b>8am Mass</b> for the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish <b>10am Mass</b> (Stuart) for William & Marian Schultz	<i>Church offices are closed on Mondays &amp; Fridays</i>	<b>6pm Mass</b> (Stuart) for Sr. Phyllis Kerns <b>6:30pm</b> Adult Ed Class (Stuart)	<b>5:30pm ADAIR Ash Wednesday Mass</b> for Joseph Arnts <b>7pm STUART Ash Wednesday Mass</b> for James Witkowski	<b>9am Mass</b> (at the Stuart Community Care Center) for Bob Griffin <b>6:30pm Mass</b> for Carlton Seilhan	<b>6pm Mass w/ Stations of the Cross</b> (Stuart) for Pat Cornwell	3:30pm (Stuart) Confessions <b>4:30pm Mass</b> (Stuart) for Virginia Wagner
Extra Confession Times Available During Lent Following Most Mass Times Or By Appointment						

Sunday 3-5 7:30-7:55am	Monday 3-6	Tuesday 3-7	Wednesday 3-8	Thursday 3-9	Friday 3-10	Saturday 3-11
Rosary & Confessions <b>8am Mass</b> for the Leona Drees <b>10am Mass</b> (Stuart) for the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish	<i>Church offices are closed on Mondays &amp; Fridays</i> <b>BD:</b> Erin Carney	<b>6pm Mass</b> (Stuart) for William & Marian Schultz <b>6:30pm</b> Adult Ed Class (Stuart)	<b>8:30am</b> for Ed & Joanne Littler <b>6:30-7:30pm</b> Faith Formation (Stuart)	<b>9am Mass</b> (at the Stuart Community Care Center) for Clair & Pat Dickey <b>6:30pm Mass</b> for John W. Brincks w/ Stations of the Cross	<b>6pm Mass w/ Stations of the Cross</b> (Stuart) for John Roth <b>5-7pm Fish Fry</b>	3:30pm (Stuart) Confessions <b>4:30pm Mass</b> (Stuart) for Albert & Lucille Greubel