

# St. John Catholic Church

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

October 22, 2017



## Mass Times\*

- **Sunday:**  
7:30am  
Rosary & Confessions  
**8am Mass**  
10am Mass at Stuart
- **Tuesday:** 6pm Mass at Stuart
- **Wednesday:**  
8:30am Mass
- **Thursday:**  
6:30pm Mass
- **Friday:** 8:30am at Stuart
- **1st Saturdays:** 8:30am at Stuart  
\*Always Check Weekly  
Calendar for Any Changes

## Inside this issue:

Respect Life Month	2
How can we help?	2
Finance Report	2
Readings for the week	3
Resource Websites	3
Save the Date...	3
Parish Info/Calendar	4

## IT'S TIME FOR CATHOLICS TO EMBRACE HALLOWEEN

**QUESTION:** *What is the relation of Halloween to All Saints/All Souls? Which came first?*

**Fr. Steve Grunow** (*Father Steve Grunow is the CEO of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries*): All Saints Day appears to have a more ancient genealogy than All Souls Day.

The practice of a festival day to honor the whole communion of Saints, rather than that just a single saint, seems to happen for the first time in the Catholic Church with the consecration of the Pantheon as a public place for the Church's worship. This happened in the year 609 (or 610) on May 13th. The Pantheon had been originally dedicated for the use of Roman religion as a place where all the gods would be honored. Boniface displaced the images of the gods from their shrines and gave the building over to the Saints of the Church, particularly the Martyrs. This was a kind of "in your face" to pagan culture. Boniface was saying that the old gods had been defeated and were

defeated by the faith of the Church's Martyrs.

Also, May 13th was a day associated in Roman religion with what was called the festival of the Lemurs or ancestral spirits. It is likely that Boniface's choice of this day to claim the Pantheon for Christian worship was intentional and it was a way of saying that the Martyrs are the great ancestors of all the baptized and it is their memory and witness that is rightly honored on the day that Romans recalled their ancestors.

How we get from May 13th to November 1st is interesting. The festival of All Saints seems to emerge from the dedication of another Roman church that was consecrated by Pope Gregory III. The church is named St. Peter and All the Saints. It was a subsequent pope, Gregory IV, who extended the annual festival that commemorates this church dedication to the whole Church as All Saints Day. The extension of festivals specific to the Church of Rome is part and parcel of how the Catholic Faith becomes the underlying

cultural matrix from which a new kind of European civilization would emerge.

All Souls Day (celebrated November 2nd) seems to emerge with the growth and spread of monastic communities and the practice of commemorating deceased members of monasteries. This practice gained broad cultural traction and in time was extended to the whole Church.

Halloween is the precursor to All Saints Day and as such is kind of like what December 24th is to Christmas Day. Remember, the calendar of the Church is filled with festival days, all of which were once associated with great, public celebrations. A holy day of obligation has not always meant spending 45 minutes in church for Mass and then going back to work. Holy Days were times for a party and if you look at the Church's calendar - past and present - with this ethos in mind, you will discover that the reasons for a party happened with great frequency.

## October is Respect Life Month: How to Build a Culture of Life

(cont'd from last week)

### Our Response

When someone is facing great trials, we need to meet them where they are, walk with them on their journey, intercede for them, and be open to sharing Christ's love however he directs. When a woman becomes pregnant, and her boyfriend threatens to leave her if she continues the pregnancy, we need to lovingly walk with her. When family members or friends become seriously ill, we need to assure them that God still offers them something in this life, and they still have purpose. We need to consistently be with them every step of the way. Sometimes our actions speak for

themselves; other times, words are needed. Whatever the situation, Jesus knows how to speak to each person's heart; we simply need to follow where he leads.

### A Culture of Life

This is how we answer our missionary call. This is how we build a culture of life, a culture that joyfully proclaims the truth of God's love, purpose, and plan for each person. Changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts and includes a willingness to be instructed and a desire to be close to Jesus - the source of joy and love. When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our rela-

tionship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them. Let us go, therefore, and not be afraid. God is always with us.

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## What can we do for you?

### If you would like a visit from Father:

Father Ray is available to visit the sick and the homebound generally during the week. If you would like a visit from Father, please call the Church office to set up a time: 515-523-1943.

### To Request Prayer:

If you would like to request prayer for someone in need, you may call Adella Vogl (641-742-5277) for the telephone prayer chain or email the office at [stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com) for an electronic prayer chain communication.

### Need a Sacrament?

**Baptisms:** contact the church office to set a date; if you are first-time parents, you will need instruction prior to the Baptism.

**Weddings:** Be sure to contact the church office to request a date at least six months prior to the wedding. Father will need to meet with the couple for counsel/marriage prep.

## Parish Business & Finance

### October 15th Collection

Regular Tithes: \$224.00  
Children's Collection: \$4.00

Building Fund: \$10.00

Special: \$0.00

This week's income:  
\$228.00

This week's expenses:  
**\$1,758.20**

ADA Balance Due: \$470.00

Repair Fund Bal: \$3,580.12

### From the Bishop

After the devastations of Hurricanes Harvey & Irma, we were prone to believe that the worst was over. Not so. Hurricane Maria came with its unbelievable fury and nearly totally destroyed Puerto Rico. With all this tragedy, I realize that compassion and collection fatigue set in. But this is the time we need to reach deeper than ever and perhaps our authentic compassion is tested. Since the need is so extensive, I ask that a special collection for the victims of Hurricane Maria be taken up. The need of those affected pales in comparison to our resources which admittedly have been stretched. **We will ask for your donations over the weekend of October 28th-29th. Thank you.**

# The Readings for this week...

<u>Monday 23rd</u>	<u>Tuesday 24th</u>	<u>Wednesday 25th</u>	<u>Thursday 26th</u>	<u>Friday 27th</u>	<u>Saturday 28th</u>	<u>Sunday 29th</u>
<i>Opt. Memorials of St. John of Capistrano, Priest</i>	<i>Optional Memorial of St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop</i>				Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles	<b>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
Romans 4:20-25	Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21	Romans 6:12-18	Romans 6:19-23	Romans 7:18-25a	Ephesians 2:19-22	Exodus 22:20-26
Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75	Psalms 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17	Psalms 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8	Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6	Psalms 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94	Psalms 19:2-3, 4-5	Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51  1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
Luke 12:13-21	Luke 12:35-38	Luke 12:39-48	Luke 12:49-53	Luke 12:54-59	Luke 6:12-16	Matthew 22:34-40

## Resource Websites

### Catholic Devotional and Bible Studies

Catholic Scripture Study

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

Magnificat [www.magnificat.net](http://www.magnificat.net)

U.S. Conference of Catholic

Bishops [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

The Word Among Us [www.wau.org](http://www.wau.org)

### Reliable Catholic News Sources

Catholic Culture

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

Catholic News Agency

[www.catholicnewsagency.com](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com)

EWTN News [www.ewtnnews.com](http://www.ewtnnews.com)

Ignatius Insight

[www.ignatiusinsight.com](http://www.ignatiusinsight.com)

National Catholic Register

[www.ncregister.com](http://www.ncregister.com)

Our Sunday Visitor [www.osv.com](http://www.osv.com)

Zenit [www.zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)

### Information on the Vatican, Church Statements, Teachings, & Documents

Catholic Answers [www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com)

The Holy See Inside the Vatican

[www.insidethevatican.com](http://www.insidethevatican.com)

Pope2You [www.pope2you.net](http://www.pope2you.net)

US Conference of Catholic Bishops

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

Vatican News [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

## Save the date...

- **Attention All C.W.O Women**  
It is time for the fall \$25 collection. This replaces our fall dinner. Please pay either your chairman or Wilma Fagan. Thank you.
- The next Faith Formation classes are scheduled Nov. 5th & 19th from 9-11am.

- **Tuesday Night Adult Religious Ed** with Fr. Ray follows 6pm Mass at Stuart. All are welcome!
- **The Children's Harvest Mass** will be November 19th. Please bring imperishable food items to donate. Also, Annie's Faith For-

mation class will be selling jewelry and bookmarks made by the kids along with hot chocolate after Mass. The funds will go to **Food For the Poor**. We have a catalog of items we can choose to give, the kids are hoping to make enough for 20 chicks or even 3 "little pigs". Thank you!

