

St. John Catholic Church

First Sunday of Advent

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

December 3, 2017



Mass Times*

- **Sunday:**
 - 7:30am Rosary/Adoration & Confessions
 - 8am Mass
 - 10am Mass at Stuart
- **Tuesday:** 6pm Mass at Stuart
- **Wednesday:** 8:30am Mass
- **Friday:** 8:30am at Stuart

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Dear Parishioners

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. Advent devotions, including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. There are a lot of resources for instruction and prayer on USCCB.ORG website

(United States Catholic Conference of Bishops); these helps will enrich the various Liturgical Seasons for individuals and family. One area I believe needs mentioning is the area of penance and abstinence. I would like to quote some excerpts from the **Pastoral Statement On Penance And Abstinence** found on the USCCB.ORG (full text can be found there). "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.... If we say that we have not sinned, we make [God] a liar, and His word is not in us" (1 Jn 1:8-10).

1. Thus Sacred Scriptures declare our guilt to be universal; hence the universal obligation to that repentance which Peter, in his sermon on Pentecost, declared necessary for the forgiveness of sin (Acts 2:38). Hence, too, the Church's constant recognition that all the faithful are required by divine law to do penance. As from the fact of sin we Christians can claim no exception, so from the obligation to penance we can seek no exemption.

"2. Forms and seasons of penance vary from time to time and from people to people. But the need for conversion and salvation is unchanging, as is the necessity that, confessing our sinfulness, we perform, personally and in community, acts of penance in pledge of our inward penitence and conversion.

"5. Changing customs, especially in connection with preparation for Christmas, have diminished popular appreciation of the Advent season. Something of a holiday mood of Christmas appears now to be anticipated in the days of the Advent sea-

son. As a result, this season has unfortunately lost in great measure the role of penitential preparation for Christmas that it once had.

"8. If in all Christian homes, churches, schools, retreats and other religious houses, liturgical observances are practiced with fresh fervor and fidelity to the penitential spirit of the liturgy, then Advent will again come into its own. Its spiritual purpose will again be clearly perceived.

"9. A rich literature concerning family and community liturgical observances appropriate to Advent has fortunately developed in recent years. We urge instruction based upon it, counting on the liturgical renewal of ourselves and our people to provide for our spiritual obligations with respect to this season. "...Lent has had a different history than Advent among us. Beginning with the powerful lesson of Ash Wednesday,.... We hope that the observance of Lent as the principal season of penance in the Christian year will be intensified..." "Christ Died for Our Salvation on Friday..."

"18. Gratefully remembering this, Catholic peoples from time immemorial have set apart Friday for special penitential observance by which they gladly suffer with Christ that they may one day be glorified with Him. This is the heart of the tradition of abstinence from meat on Friday where that tradition has been observed in the holy Catholic Church.

"20. Accordingly, since the spirit of penance primarily suggests that we discipline ourselves in that which we enjoy most, to many in our day abstinence from meat no longer implies penance, while renunciation of other things would be more penitential.

"23. Friday should be in each week something of what Lent is in the entire year. For this reason we urge all to prepare for that weekly Easter that comes with each Sunday by freely making of every Friday a day of self-denial and mortification in prayerful remembrance of the passion of Jesus Christ.

"25. Every Catholic Christian understands that the fast and abstinence regulations admit of change, unlike the commandments and precepts of that unchanging divine moral law which the Church must today and always defend as immutable. This said, we emphasize that our people are henceforth free from the obligation traditionally binding under pain of sin in what pertains to Friday abstinence, except as noted above for Lent. We stress this so that no scrupulosity will enter into examinations of conscience, confessions, or personal decisions on this point.

"26. Perhaps we should warn those who decide to keep the Friday abstinence for reasons of personal piety and special love that they must not pass judgment on those who elect to substitute other penitential observances. Friday, please God, will acquire among us other forms of penitential witness which may become as much a part of the devout way of life in the future as Friday abstinence from meat. In this connection we have foremost in mind the modern need for self-discipline in the use of stimulants and for a renewed emphasis on the virtue of temperance, especially in the use of alcoholic beverages.

"27. It would bring great glory to God and good to souls if Friday's found our people doing volunteer work in hospitals, visiting the sick, serving the needs of the aged and the lonely, instructing the young in the Faith, participating as Christians in community affairs, and meeting our obligations to our families, our friends, our neighbors, and our community, including our parishes, with a special zeal born of the desire to add the merit of penance to the other virtues exercised in good works born of living faith." In entering fully into the Liturgical Seasons and actions of the Church, we are given an opportunity to enrich our daily lives and draw closer to God through these observances.

Thanks & Prayers

The family of Wilma Fagan would like to thank you for all you have done for our family. The prayers, kind words, and generous donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Father Higgins, Deacon Fred, Deb Hollinrake, those donating food and the ladies serving the funeral luncheon. We were blessed to have her as our mother.

Rose and John Meredith and family, Bob and Diana Fagan and family, Rita and Jim Frie and family and Shirley Fagan.

Pat Lenhart

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Amen

Please plan to attend the
BKODJ Players
performance of

**CHRISTMAS ON
WALNUT
STREET**

at the Casey Visitor
Center. Performances will be
Dec. 2 at 7:30pm
Dec. 3 at 3:00pm

Tickets are \$10 in advance
and \$12 at the door and are
also available at the
Insurance Store in
Casey, Fay Pharmacy in Adair,
from cast members or by
contacting Pat Pettinger.

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 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

November 26th Collection

Regular Tithes: \$635.00
Children's Collection: \$7.00
Building Fund: \$0.00
Special: \$0.00

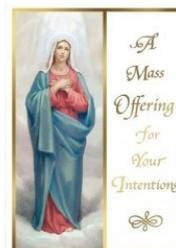
This week's income:
\$642.00

This week's expenses:
\$298.46

ADA Balance Due: \$470.00

Repair Fund Bal: \$3,680.12

Mass Intentions There are Mass times available for your Prayer Intentions. Please contact Rita in the Church Office at 515-523-1943, via email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com, or by regular mail.



We are short seven (7) intentions for January 2018 at this time.

Usual donation per intention is \$5.

The Readings for this week...

<u>Monday 4th</u>	<u>Tuesday 5th</u>	<u>Wednesday 6th</u>	<u>Thursday 7th</u>	<u>Friday 8th</u>	<u>Saturday 9th</u>	<u>Sunday 10th</u>
<i>Opt. Memorial of St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i>		<i>Opt. Memorial of St. Nicholas, Bishop</i>	Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	<i>Optional Memorial of St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin</i>	2nd Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 2:1-5	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 25:6-10a	Isaiah 26:1-6	Genesis 3:9-15, 20	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26	Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9	Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17	Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6	Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a	Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4	Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6	Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
Matthew 8:5-11	Luke 10:21-24	Matthew 15:29-37	Matthew 7:21, 24-27	Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12	Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	2 Peter 3:8-14
				Luke 1:26-38		Mark 1:1-8

Resource Websites

Catholic Devotional and Bible Studies

Catholic Scripture Study

www.catholicscripturestudyinc.org

Magnificat www.magnificat.net

U.S. Conference of Catholic

Bishops www.usccb.org

The Word Among Us www.wau.org

Reliable Catholic News Sources

Catholic Culture

www.catholicculture.org

Catholic News Agency

www.catholicnewsagency.com

EWTN News www.ewtnnews.com

Ignatius Insight

www.ignatiusinsight.com

National Catholic Register

www.ncregister.com

Our Sunday Visitor www.osv.com

Zenit www.zenit.org

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

Catholic Answers www.catholic.com

The Holy See Inside the Vatican

www.insidethevatican.com

Pope2You www.pope2you.net

US Conference of Catholic Bishops

www.usccb.org

Vatican News www.vatican.va

Save the date...

- The next **Faith Formation** classes are scheduled for December 3rd and December 17th.
- Festival of Trees** will be Dec. 2 from 1-8pm and Dec. 3 from 11am-2pm at the Adair Community Centre. Proceeds will go to Senior Scholarships and community projects.
- Christmas Eve Mass** will be at 4:30pm on Sunday December 24th.
- Stuart Christmas Eve Mass** will be at 7:00pm on Sunday December 24th. Special seasonal music will be offered beginning at 6:30pm.
- Stuart Christmas Morning Mass** will be at 9am Monday December 25th.
- Plans are not yet confirmed for December 31st/January 1st possible extra Mass times.

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

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.*

Website: adairstjohn.org

Liturgical Ministers Schedule: Sunday December 10, 2017

Cross Bearer: Larry Drees

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Darrin Plowman

Lector: Barb Bachman

Host: Les Elgin

Cup: Matt Fagan & Sr. Andre

Servers: Trevin Suhr & Addy Richter

Traveling Chalice: Phyllis O'Brien

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 & Bulletin Editor:

Brenda Wedemeyer stjohnallsaints@gmail.com

Parish Bookkeeper & Mass Intentions: Rita Rilea allsaintsoffice@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Annie Brincks 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 & Parish Hall Rental/Information: Betty Ludwig 742-3812



Attention Please

Finance Council Meeting
7pm Monday December 4th

Special Mass Times

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

Adair: 7pm Thursday December 7th

Stuart: 7pm Friday December 8th

Calendar of Activities

*Reg. Church Office Hours:
9am-3pm T-W-Th*

To view the entire calendar for both
parishes, please go to
stuartallsaints.org or adairstjohn.org

Sunday 12-3 7:30-7:55am Rosary & Confessions 8am Mass for Eldon Faga 9-11am Faith Formation 10am Mass (Stuart)	Monday 12-4 7pm Finance Council Meeting	Tuesday 12-5 6:30pm Mass (Stuart) for Albert & Lucille Greubel BD: Betty Ludwig	Wednesday 12-6 8:30am Mass in Gen DeSouza	Thursday 12-7 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7pm Mass for Mable E Richter	Friday 12-8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7pm Mass (Stuart) for Donato Cianciaruso	Saturday 12-9 (Stuart) 3:30pm Confessions Mass 4:30pm for Bob Griffin
Sunday 12-10 7:30-7:55am Rosary & Confessions 8am Mass for Linda Barber 10am Mass (Stuart)	Monday 12-11	Tuesday 12-12 6:30pm Mass (Stuart) for Sr. Phyllis Kerns ANN: Deb & Francis Hollinrake 1981	Wednesday 12-13 8:30am Mass in honor of Angela Faga BD: Elizabeth Moreland	Thursday 12-14 Thursday Evening Masses are cancelled until further notice	Friday 12-15	Saturday 12-16 (Stuart) 3:30pm Confessions Mass 4:30pm for Albert & Lucille Greubel BD: Troy Christensen