

SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 4, 2018

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

HAPPENINGS AT ST. JOHN...

Faith Formation

Father will be meeting with the Faith Formation students following Mass this morning. Following Father's brief lesson, students will share in coffee and rolls then continue with their regular lesson which will conclude at 11am.

Fish Fry

The next Friday Fish Fry is on March 9th from 5-7pm.

Extra Mass Time

There will be an extra

Mass at 7pm Saturday, March 10th. This was requested by and is to accommodate those who are helping to prepare the Spring Turkey Dinner. There will still be Mass on Sunday morning as usual. You are welcome to attend either Mass time.

Easter Flowers

Please Contact Monica Fagan @ 641-742-3067 if you'd like to order flowers for Easter. Deadline for placing your order is March 10th. Pick up is

Friday, March 23rd from 5-7pm at St. John's Church Hall. Payment is due at time of order. Thank you!

Turkey Dinner

The annual CWO Turkey Dinner will be from 11am-1pm Sunday March 11th in the Parish Hall. Please contact Betty Ludwig if you have any questions.

Reminder: Bulletin items need to be submitted to the church office by 5pm Wednesdays.

-Submitted by David Witkowski

On Prayer...

Very often we pray the same way and say the same prayers that seem to get stale and old. Because of this we often also think that because we repeat the same prayers, make the same requests to God and repeat the same words again and again, that we aren't effective or "God isn't listening". Below is a short paragraph or three that may help you see God and God's answers in your daily life. Please

enjoy, be blessed this week and pray today and every day.

God doesn't always work in the ways we want Him to, but He does always work. When we find ourselves feeling desperate for Him in a dry season, we can miss His hand working in our lives. We become so focused on expecting Him to move in a specific way that we miss the small, daily ways He comes through for us. Keeping our eyes—both

spiritual and physical—open allows us to see Him move in a tapestry of ways.

As with all things in the Christian journey, there is no one formula to solve all our problems. But by staying faithful and focused on God, by seeking His presence and by continuing to seek Him in our pain, we recognize our worth in His eyes and our place in His Kingdom.

CONTACT US:

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515-523-1943
- ◆ Brenda Wedemeyer,
Communications
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- ◆ Rita Rilea, Bookkeeping
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- ◆ St. John's Men's Group
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Parish Hall
(641)742-5045

MASS TIMES
8AM SUNDAY
8:30AM WEDNESDAY
6:30PM THURSDAY

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DEAR PARISHIONERS

While Jesus was in the Temple, he watched the rich people dropping their gifts in the collection box. Then a poor widow came by and dropped in two small coins.

"I tell you the truth," Jesus said, "this poor widow has given more than all the rest of them. For they have given a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she has." (Luke 21:1-4 NLT)

This passage begs the question: "How much have you given?" Some Give Nothing, Some Give One-tenth, Some Give All. In our culture today, it is easy to think "I must accumulate because I am empty and there may not be enough". I believe that statement or something similar to it comes up in our mind from time to time. The question perhaps is: "empty of what?"

Today, people are empty because they feel more alone than ever. Our younger

generation, also known by the title "Millennials", are very lonely, even though they may have a thousand friends on Facebook.

The complaint among them and among the older generations is the lack of true intimacy - someone to talk to from the heart, someone who responds with genuine concern, someone to share their life with. Everyone, including Millennials, is looking for that connection, that feeling they are not alone and that connection first starts with God. Millennials and all generations are not anti-spiritual or anti-relational, yet there is a distrust for organized practice of spirituality - what we call religion.

Many people believe that organized religion has failed to provide a way to make a close connection with God. But this does not mean that we abandon it's true intention of showing the way to connect with God and one another. Our faith, our reli-

gion, should include the support of one another, to be present to each other in our struggles not to overwhelm, manipulate, or dominate, but to be a disciple on the way to God together. Intimacy is not just with another person, true intimacy is to share a common direction or goal and to engage in that. Otherwise, if it is only us without God, we eventually disappoint each other. Soon after, the relationship dissolves.

The poor widow - despite her situation - gave her all. She gave because she understood her relationship with God. She knew God would honor her gift and that He would continue, as He promises in Philipians 4:19-20 New American Bible (Revised Edition) (NABRE): "My God will fully supply **whatever** you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." Promises are fulfilled in faithful relationships.

- Fr. Ray

PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ Thank you to everyone who joined us for the first Friday Fish Fry of the season! Hope to see you again on March 9th!
- ◆ To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Adella Vogl at 641-742-5277, or email: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com

Liturgical Ministers Sunday March 11

Cross Bearer: Francis Hollinrake

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Phil Fagan

Lector: Julie Plowman

Host: Adella Vogl

Cup: Dave Richter & Sr. Nesta

Servers: Cole Plowman & Luke Brincks

Traveling Chalice: Francis & Deb Hollinrake

PARISH BUSINESS & FINANCE REPORT

February 25th Collection \$596.00 Kids: \$7.00

Building Fund Balance as of 2/14: \$52.34 Building Fund: \$50.00

This Week's Income: \$603.00 This Week's Expenses: **\$0.00**

2017 ADA Balance As of 2/5/22018: \$0.00 **Thank You!**

Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin

Council Members: John Fagan, Monica Fagan, Larry Drees, Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler

Financial Secretary: Rita Rilea

CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 3-4</u>	<u>Monday 3-5</u>	<u>Tuesday 3-6</u>	<u>Wednesday 3-7</u>	<u>Thursday 3-8</u>	<u>Friday 3-9</u>	<u>Saturday 3-10</u>
<p>7:30am Confession/ Adoration/ Rosary</p> <p>8am Mass for Joseph Vogl</p>		<p>6pm Mass for <i>Mary Dickson</i> (Stuart)</p> <p><i>6:30pm Adult RE</i> <i>Class</i> (Stuart)</p> <p>BD: Erin Carney</p>	<p>8:30am Mass for Mable E. Richter</p> <p>7pm Ecumenical Lenten Service At St. John</p>	<p>6:30pm Mass for Eldon Faga w/ Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>6pm Mass for Sr. Phyllis Kernz w/ Stations of the Cross (Stuart)</p> <p>5-7pm Fish Fry</p>	<p>3:30pm Confessions (Stuart)</p> <p>4:30pm Mass for Mary Stoberl (Stuart)</p> <p>7pm Mass for Ray & Rose- marie Metzger</p>

DAILY READINGS

<p>Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25</p> <p><i>Jesus performed many signs, but it was in his death and resurrection that God's glory was fully revealed and made manifest.</i></p> <p>When Jesus drives the money changers and animal vendors from the Temple, the Jews demand a sign to prove his authority. They do not have faith to see what is in front of them. Later, when Jesus dies and is risen, his disciples remember his words, and they understand and believe. Do we have the faith to see what is revealed right in front of us, in this Eucharist?</p>	<p>2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30</p> <p><i>We can trust in the Word of the Lord.</i></p> <p>Both Naaman and the people of Nazareth are presented with God's Word: spoken by Elisha, and embodied in Jesus Christ. Naaman does not recognize what he sees, but he heeds his servants' suggestions, comes to believe, and is healed. The inhabitants of Nazareth have the Word living among them and yet they refuse to believe. Let us trust and believe, as Naaman did.</p>	<p>Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35</p> <p><i>We are called to imitate God in forgiving others.</i></p> <p>Like the huge amount the debtor owed, the weight of our sin is beyond imagining, yet God set us free at the cost of his Son. We think withholding forgiveness imprisons our enemy, but actually it is we who are in bondage; we fasten our own shackles. When we show mercy, we reap the benefits of freedom and peace.</p>	<p>Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19</p> <p><i>Obey the commandments now and forever.</i></p> <p>Moses and Jesus tell us to keep the commandments and to teach them to our children. They are a gift from God, lighting the pathway to right morals and ethics, and engaging us in relationship with him. We are called to obey the commandments here so we may live in eternity in heaven.</p>	<p>Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23</p> <p><i>Listen to God and respond wholeheartedly.</i></p> <p>Throughout salvation history, once-faithful people have hardened their hearts against God. Today's readings invite us to respond to hearing God's Word: listen, soften our hearts and obey his commands. The Gospel also warns us to take this seriously: if we're not with Jesus, we are against him. It's all or nothing.</p>	<p>Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34</p> <p><i>Jesus sums up the laws into one word: love.</i></p> <p>When a scribe asks Jesus which commandments are first and second, he replies: to love God with your whole heart, soul, mind and strength; and to love your neighbor as yourself. Truly, love can help to stamp out repression, stifle bullying, stop crime, wipe away fear. How simple is that? How difficult is that?</p>	<p>Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14</p> <p><i>Take up the humility of the tax collector to avoid self-righteousness.</i></p> <p>It is easy to condemn the Pharisee who appears bloated with self-righteousness, until we explore the not-so-obvious ways that we, too, may express such an attitude. How do we, in secret, perhaps take pride in judging others? Let us seek the humility of the tax collector, who was aware of his need for God.</p>
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2018 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Dear Friends in Christ,
During Lent, we engage Jesus in intensive prayer and fasting, more conscious than ever of God's rich blessings in our lives and our responsibility to be good stewards of all His gifts. Further, we root ourselves in relationship with Jesus, how He calls us to be disciples in mission, and the urgent need of our church to reach out to the millennial generation. This is The New Moment, needed in our supplying oxygen for the Body of Christ.

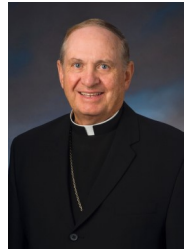
The 2018 Annual Diocesan Appeal enables each of us in the responsibility of being a good steward. Our theme remains "We Are One Body." As one body, we seek to re-

spond to an emerging "change of age" so that our church may be vibrant and live with gratitude, generosity, and self-sacrifice. I invite you to share in the important ministries of our Diocese which include priest medical and healthcare, priest retirement, seminarian formation, Catholic education, youth and adult programming, pastoral ministry, Catholic Charities services, and administrative support. As you reflect on God's gifts to you, it is my prayer that you will support our ministries by giving as generously as possible.

I recognize each gift constitutes a sacrifice, an offering made with gratitude. I ask you to prayerfully consider a sacrificial offering to

this year's appeal, which may be made through a pledge or onetime gift through your parish or online. All gifts, no matter the size, are greatly appreciated. Our website provides a thorough overview of how your gift is used to serve our faith community. You and your family will be remembered in my prayers throughout the coming year, and I ask that you also pray for me as well as the success of this year's Annual Diocesan Appeal.

Sincerely yours in Christ, *The Most Reverend Richard E. Pates, Bishop of Des Moines*



CATHOLIC ANSWERS BOOK SERIES

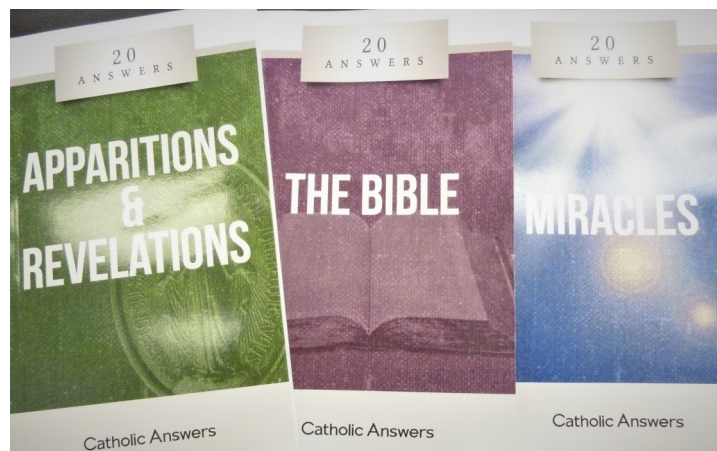
There is a series of faith resource books now available for you to refer to should you need to find an answer about the Catholic faith.

A total of 26 books, published by Catholic Answers, offers answers to more than 500 different topics. *Suggested donation of \$2/book.*

These are the titles we have available:

1. The Bible
2. Apparitions & Revelations
3. Miracles
4. God
5. The Sacraments
6. Homosexuality
7. Bible Prophecy
8. Mormonism

9. Divorce & Remarriage
10. The Papacy
11. Scripture & Tradition
12. The Reformation
13. Angels & Demons
14. Atheism
15. Abortion
16. Islam
17. Witchcraft & the Occult
18. Death & Judgment
19. Jehovah's Witnesses
20. Salvation
21. The Real Jesus
22. The Eucharist
23. End of Life Issues
24. The Church
25. Mary
26. Faith & Science



SAVE THE DATE...

Adair Lenten Ecumenical Service

- ◆ March 7th
7pm

Fish Fry Fridays

- ◆ March 9
- ◆ March 23

Turkey Dinner

- ◆ March 11
- ◆ See Betty Ludwig for details