

SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 1, 2018

501 Adair Street, Adair, IA 50002

EASTER SUNDAY

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

DEAR PARISHIONERS

Happy Easter! I hope each of you were able to receive a special grace from Lent this year.

As with each Christmas and Easter, we are giving a book to you to add to your personal library. This year's Easter book entitled, *"The Joy of the Gospel"*, is an Apostolic Exhortation of the Holy Father Francis.

What is an Apostolic Exhortation? The popes since the time of Pope Pius XII have written exhortations or encouragements for the faithful to live in a particular manner, as in a greater conversion to Christ, or to do something of virtue. Pope Francis has called for renewed efforts to evangelize and to share the Joy of the Gospel. Beginning efforts in the United States were made with a special convocation of Catholic leaders throughout the country to come up with ways to equip the Church today in order to recapture the zeal to share the beautiful message of the Gospel of

Jesus Christ. You may have noticed Diocesan Communications with the logo—New Moment.

"The New Moment"

The Holy Father has asked that we reflect on *Evangelii Gaudium* or *The Joy of the Gospel* and to invite the Holy Spirit to lead us in going forth in sharing the faith with those on the peripheries of society lacking material means, but most especially to reach out to those who lack spiritually.

In light of the many challenges facing our country and the growing number of people who do not associate themselves with a Christian identity, the call to renew our efforts is being brought to our attention. Therefore, I am presenting this year's book to you entitled, *"The Joy of the Gospel"*, by Pope Francis. Bishop Pates is encouraging us to renew our efforts. At this time, there are some pilot

parishes who are working through the Holy Father's Exhortation and I would like for us to become familiar with it as well.

Instead of complaining about or criticizing our situation, I am asking the leadership in our parish to be ready to discuss aspects of this document in our future meetings. I would like for you to join with fellow parishioners in small groups to read and pray together *"The Joy of the Gospel"*. It is with great hope each of us can come up with ways to share the faith and encourage others, and not only to share it, but live the faith with joy.

Please make an effort to read this wonderful exhortation from Pope Francis and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to discern how best you might share this beautiful faith in following Christ.

Have a Blessed Easter.
-Fr. Ray

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MASS TIMES
8AM SUNDAY
8:30AM WEDNESDAY
CONFESSION:
7:30AM SUNDAY

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He Is Risen!

-Submitted by David Witkowski

He has Risen ...

But something came first.

If you are like most Catholics, you have prayed the words "He descended into hell" thousands of times without giving them a thought. If you, like myself, have wondered what purpose there might have been to Christ's visit to hell, may I share with you the following words from the Easter Homily by St. John Chrysostom.

"Let no one grieve over his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed; let no one weep over his sins, for pardon has shone from the grave; let no one fear death, for the death of our Savior

has set us free: He has destroyed it by enduring it, He has despoiled Hades by going down into its kingdom, He has angered it by allowing it to taste of his flesh.

"When Isaias foresaw all this, he cried out: "O Hades, you have been angered by encountering Him in the nether world." Hades is angered because it is frustrated, it is angered because it has been mocked, it is angered because it has been destroyed, it is angered because it has been reduced to naught, it is angered because it is now captive. It seized a body, and, lo! it encountered heaven; it seized the visible and was overcome by the invisible.

"O death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Christ is risen and you are abolished. Christ is risen and the demons are cast down. Christ is risen and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen and life is freed. Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead: for Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the Leader and Reviver of those who had fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen."

"On the third day he rose again."

PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

- ◆ Thank you to everyone that volunteered their time, brought food or attended the Men's Club Fish Fry Fridays during Lent. We appreciate your generosity. Working together helps us put these on for our church and community. Also, thank you to all who donated candy for the egg hunt, and St. Gregory's for helping as well!
- ◆ 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 Easter Sunday April 8

Cross Bearer: Cole Plowman

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Francis Hollinrake

Lector: Scott Suhr

Host: Elizabeth Moreland

Cup: Matt Fagan & Dave Richter

Servers: Carley Fagan & Cash Suhr

Traveling Chalice:

Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

PARISH BUSINESS & FINANCE REPORT

March 25th Collection \$511.00 **Kids:** \$27.00

Building Fund Balance as of 3/29: \$383.05

Cemetery: \$100.00

This Week's Income: \$538.00

This Week's Expenses: **\$804.00**

ADA 2018 Goal: \$7,029 Balance Due As Of 3/29: \$4,884

Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin

Council Members: John Fagan, Monica Fagan, Larry Drees,

Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler

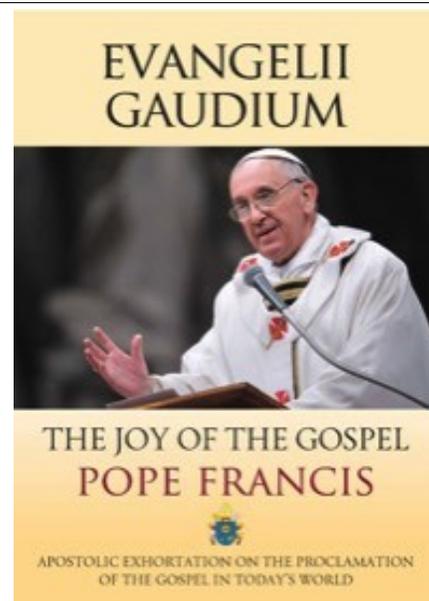
Financial Secretary: Rita Rilea

CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 4-1</u>	<u>Monday 4-2</u>	<u>Tuesday 4-3</u>	<u>Wednesday 4-4</u>	<u>Thursday 4-5</u>	<u>Friday 4-6</u>	<u>Saturday 4-7</u>
<u>EASTER SUNDAY</u> 7:30am Confession/ Adoration/ Rosary 8am Mass for Joseph Vogl 9am Easter Egg Hunt		6pm Mass for <i>Donato Cianciaruso (Stuart)</i>	8:30am Mass for Mable E. Richter CWO after Mass			BD: Luke Brincks 3:30pm Confessions at Stuart 4:30pm Mass at Stuart for Ruby Waltz

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL READ & SHARE SPACE

In Father’s letter this week (front page article “Dear Parishioners”), we are given in invitation to read this year’s Easter gift book “The Joy of the Gospel” by Pope Francis. To help facilitate our reading and to encourage us to share with one another, this space is meant for us to use as a study aid. Each paragraph throughout the book is numbered consecutively, so that will make it easy to reference any spot in the book that we may want to discuss further or ask questions about. Feel free to offer any thoughts or questions that you may want published in the bulletin—others may have the same thoughts or questions.



Introductory Pages

Section I. A Joy Ever New, A Joy Which is Shared _____

Section II. The Delightful And Comforting Joy Of Evangelizing _____

Section III. The New Evangelization For The Transmission Of The Faith _____

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Youth Ministry

The Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference Wants You

This year's youth conference in October will be called "Boldly Sent" and we want the youth of our diocese to be the ones to design its logo and t-shirt. Submissions can be made through Easter to Justin White; further details can be found on our website.

The Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference, known as DCYC, is a peer-led event gathering teens of the diocese together with their bishop in exploration and celebration of the Catholic faith. It's a one-day event with separate tracks for middle school (grades 6-8) & high school (grades 9-12).

Fanning the Flame Retreat

This retreat was rescheduled to April 7 due to weather. Therefore, registrations are still open.

Fanning the Flame is a day of prayer, reflection, and fellowship, all oriented towards identifying the movements of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives. This day will be very helpful for ninth and 10th graders preparing for confirmation. There is a separate track for sponsors and/or adult chaperones accompanying the teens to help them grow deeper in their faith as well. The cost is \$40 for teens and \$20 for adults. The retreat will be held at the St. Thomas More Center. For questions or registration information, please contact Justin White, director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, 515-237-5098.

Thoughts from Jodi

-Jodi Bassett, President, All Saints Altar & Rosary Society

Holy Week is completed and Easter has arrived. That means a lot of Masses and a lot of readings. It was a challenge deciding what to write this week. Something that has always intrigued me has been the two readings of The Passion. How does the same event warrant two readings and why are they different? The Palm Sunday reading of The Passion sets the stage for the week to come. The Good Friday reading of The Passion sets the solemn tone of Jesus' crucifixion and death. Mark's Gospel emphasizes Jesus' ministry and Simon Peter's betrayal. John's

Gospel focuses more on the interrogation of Jesus by Pilate. As children, we rank Christmas as a favorite holiday. It certainly gets more attention, what with much holiday food, gifts, gatherings, trees and other decorations. Its secular representative, Santa Claus, is bigger than life, with much mystery surrounding him and his trek around the world in 24 hours. However, Easter is the more important holiday. It is the very reason Christmas exists. But the decorations are less, there are fewer gifts, and the Easter Bunny doesn't have quite the

draw of Santa. But The Passion is what Easter is really all about. The ministry of Jesus, his betrayal and interrogation, the crucifixion of Jesus and the thieves, his death and resurrection, all of which are described in the various Gospels, are The Passion. The intensity of the events of The Passion correlate the importance of the Resurrection and the promise of eternal life. Thus two versions of The Passion cover different aspects with different emphases of the final hours of Christ. It's important enough to read twice. **He is Risen...Alleluia, Alleluia!!**

SAVE THE DATE...

- ◆ **Faith Formation** final class days: April 8th & 22nd and May 6th.
- ◆ **May 2nd — May Crowning & Procession** at All Saints 6:30pm

Visit our Website:

adairstjohn.org

- Bulletins
- Daily Readings
- Children's Bulletins
- Mass Intentions
 - Calendar
 - ...and more!