

# SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY 27, 2018

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins, Parish Priest

MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

## DEAR PARISHIONERS

Please plan to attend with your children the Memorial Day Mass at Calvary Cemetery in Stuart at 8:30 am, and if the weather is bad or the ground is too wet, we will have the Mass at All Saints in Stuart. I hope you will join us and bring the kids so they can begin the tradition of remembering our fallen soldiers and all those who have died. In the Catholic Church, we have a special day honoring and remembering the dead, it is called All Souls Day celebrated on November 2. Remember, the day before All Souls, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints thanking God for their example of living a heroic life of virtue. The Saints also battled evil and many of them were killed and are called martyrs. Although Memorial Day started off as Decoration Day, on which the mothers of those who lost sons in the Civil War remembered and honored their sons and so the placing of flowers (outward sign of love) soon became popular. Over time, the remembering of all veterans was the focus of Memorial Day. Today, we include all members of our families. Yet, over the past many decades, there has been a huge decline of people

actually seeing this day as it was originally intended. Many today simply look at Memorial Day as a three day weekend "out at the lake," a vacation, or some other kind of gathering. I hope people can recapture the intention behind this special day before their "holiday activity" to pray and honor not only our veterans, but all who have died.

Love and remembrance can be challenging, especially under difficult situations. It can seem meaningless for some, or at the very least inconvenient to go out of one's way to make a "fuss" over decorating graves. Some have found the Veteran's Memorial Services or even the Mass to remember the dead to be too early and/or boring. Perhaps, I can put it into perspective-- what comes to mind, if you have attended "a thousand" get-togethers like, parties and receptions for: graduation, baby or bridal showers, birthdays, anniversaries, retirement, weddings, funerals, etc.? Do we have the same enthusiasm for each occasion we attend? Do we not expect and hope a great number of people will attend our special day with joy? Does that always happen?

Love is the reason we go out of our way to be there for others. The only way people and children will overcome the meaninglessness of such activities like Memorial Day is to have them attend such events regularly and as early in life as possible. Why? So, that it can, over time, become and remain a meaningful part of life. Children can't do or commit themselves to such devotions unless mom and dad are willing to make it a part of their formation.

The expectations you have for your child in the future must be lived and practiced today. Some parents say, "I will make my children do it", but will excuse themselves from participating by thinking, "I did my duty by making them do it." The result of such thinking will be the resentment you build up in your child to such activities. "You make me do it, but you don't participate." What do you think that will look like in 10, 15, 20 years? Let's turn that around and begin to model and to remind and share with others the meaning behind these special days we celebrate throughout the year. God Bless you and Happy Memorial Day.



**501 ADAIR ST.  
ADAIR, IA 50002**  
**MASS TIMES**  
**8AM SUNDAY**  
**8:30AM**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**CONFESSION:**  
**7:30AM SUNDAY W/  
ADORATION  
& ROSARY**

**MEMORIAL DAY  
SERVICE AT SUNNY  
HILL CEMETERY  
10AM MONDAY  
MAY 28, 2018**

**PARISH BUSINESS  
& FINANCE REPORT**  
**May 20th Collection \$694.45**  
**Kids: \$9.00**  
**Building Fund Balance:**  
**\$1,325.05**  
**Building Fund: \$50.00**  
**This Week's Income: \$703.45**  
**This Week's Expenses: \$0.00**  
**ADA 2018 Balance Due**  
**As Of 5/11: \$679.24**  
**Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin**  
**Council Members: John Fagan,**  
**Monica Fagan, Larry Drees,**  
**Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler**  
**Financial Secretary: Rita Rilea**

## “He Spoke Not a Word”

-Submitted by David Witkowski

We have all heard it said that “actions speak louder than words.” In the case of St. Joseph, we have not a single spoken word recorded in all of Scripture. I understand humility, but if it were me, I would have bargained with God for at least something! Joseph accomplished everything the Lord asked from him while spending thirty years in the presence of the God-Man and the Immaculate Conception. Surely, he had more than a few stories to tell! Yet, we hear not a word...Why would the Holy Spirit will the hiddenness and silence of St. Joseph in Scripture? Did the second greatest saint in heaven truly have nothing to say?

In this light, could he really have been all that important? On the contrary, this silence should speak loudly to us. St. Joseph is the ultimate example of the famous teaching of

St. Francis of Assisi, “Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words.” Throughout this journey, we will enter into the mystery of St. Joseph and allow him to “preach the gospel” to us through his actions and even through his silence. If we have the spiritual ears to hear it, God wishes to teach us something profound through the silence of St. Joseph. St. Joseph was content to be hidden because he was not all about himself. St. Joseph was all about God. He had no desire to be in the limelight, no desire to get in a word or two, no desire for attention and no desire to make himself known. Therefore, his example teaches us an incredibly valuable and absolutely essential element in the spiritual life...It’s not about ME!

From the very start, we learn from him the

essential virtue of humility. It is hard, if not impossible, to truly possess any other virtue, if we are lacking in humility. Simply put, the opposite of humility is pride. Within every sin committed, there is an element of pride at its core. In the words of St. Augustine, “It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels.” If our other virtues are filled with pride, then they aren’t really authentic virtues at all.

Over the next month, we will see the abstract idea of humility put on flesh through the example of this unassuming carpenter. We are just getting started. The more we become acquainted with him, the more we enter into the mystery, and as we do so, the hidden character of St. Joseph will begin to be revealed.

**Author: Mark Hartfiel**

### ***Prayer & Thanksgiving***

To request prayer, please call the Church office at 515-523-1943, Adella Vogl at 641-742-5277, or email: [stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

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

**Thanks!**

### **Visit our Website:**

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

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

### **Liturgical Ministers**

**Sunday June 3**

**Cross Bearer:** John Fagan  
**Greeters:** Mr. & Mrs. Doug Richter  
**Lector:** Barb Bachman  
**Host:** Scott Suhr  
**Cup:** Dave Richter & Sr. Nesta  
**Servers:** Cole Plowman & Luke Brincks  
**Traveling Chalice:** Kaye & Cleon Klemish

### ***Memorial Day Remembered***

1. What is the earliest day in May that Memorial Day can be observed?
2. What was the holiday now known as Memorial Day originally called?
3. Memorial Day started out as a holiday honoring those who died in what war?
4. In 1966, President Johnson designated what small town as the official birthplace of Memorial Day?
5. True or False: The holiday for the past 100 years has always fallen on a Monday.
6. What flower is traditionally worn as a sign of remembrance on Memorial Day?
7. True or False: Under Federal Law, the American flag is to be displayed at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day.
8. At what time of day is a national moment of remembrance observed?
9. Who introduced a bill every year since 1989 to set the holiday as May 30?
10. What sporting event has taken place on or around Memorial Day since 1911?

**Answers will be in next week’s bulletin!**

## CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 5-27</u>	<u>Monday 5-28</u>	<u>Tuesday 5-29</u>	<u>Wednesday 5-30</u>	<u>Thursday 5-31</u>	<u>Friday 6-1</u>	<u>Saturday 6-2</u>
<b>7:30am</b> Confession/ Adoration/Rosary <b>8am Mass</b> for the Living & Deceased Members of the Parish		<b>6pm Mass</b> <i>for Patricia Miller</i> <i>(Stuart)</i>  <b>BD:</b> Bill Littler	<b>8:30am Mass</b> for Joseph Vogl	<b>9am Care Center</b> <b>Mass</b> for Joseph & Mary Doud <i>(Stuart)</i>  <b>BD:</b> Reece Richter	<b>8:30am Mass</b> <i>for Lawrence</i> <i>Lacher (Stuart)</i>	<b>3:30pm</b> <b>Confessions at</b> <b>Stuart</b> <b>4:30pm Mass at</b> <b>Stuart for Martin</b> <i>G. Lydon</i>

# IN THIS WEEK'S READINGS

### Sunday Focus:

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40; Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20

*Jesus calls us all to relationship with the Triune God, and with one another.*

Christ proclaims the three-fold unity of God and commands that we *make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

### Monday Focus:

1 Peter 1:3-9; Mark 10:17-27

*The cost of discipleship is high.*

Our relationship with God must come first. We are challenged by our readings today to make our witness to Christ our first priority. This is not easy, as the rich man discovered in today's Gospel. But if we wish to be His disciples, we must try each day to put the things of God above things of this earth.

### Tuesday Focus:

1 Peter 1:10-16; Mark 10:28-31

*We are called to holiness.*

Because we believe the Good News of Christ's saving action, our hope is in God's promise of eternal life. We act on

this hope by letting go of what impedes our faith in Jesus, and by giving priority to eternal values as we follow God's plan for us.

### Wednesday Focus:

1 Peter 1:18-25; Mark 10:32-45

*We are called to serve one another with the love of Jesus in our hearts.*

Abuse and misuse of power can occur with anyone with any degree of authority, which is why we all have to be vigilant and aware of our responsibilities to those we serve. We would do well to follow the example of Jesus, who came to serve rather than to be served.

### Thursday Focus:

*The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Feast*

Zephaniah 3:14-18a or Romans 12:9-16; Luke 1:39-56

*Mary, God's humble servant, models for us faith and trust in God's plan.*

Mary's "yes" to God was based on her deep love for and faith in the Father. She submitted to God's will despite any uncertainties she may have had. By her example, she teaches us to also accept

the call of the Lord and live out the Gospel in our daily interactions with others.

### Friday Focus:

1 Peter 4:7-13; Mark 11:11-26

*Be stewards of God's varied graces, and be ready to give witness to your faith.*

We do not know the hour when Christ will return in glory. But we live in hope, and in the faith and knowledge of God's mercy and presence in our lives. As believers, we are called to trust and to be ready to share that mercy and presence with others.

### Saturday Focus:

Jude 17, 20b-25; Mark 11:27-33

*Build yourselves up in your most holy faith.*

Jude warns against falling under the spell of false prophets and encourages us to stay strong in faith. We, too, must be watchful for those things which can separate us from God.

# WHO'S WHO?

## Parish Priest

Rev. Raymond J. Higgins is our current Pastor. He will officially be leaving us July 11, 2018. Our new priest will be Fr. Antony Mathew who is currently serving the parishes in Audubon and Exira.

**Parish Office** PO Box 605, 216 All Saints Drive, Stuart 50250 Serving Both Parishes Rita Rilea ([allsaintsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsoffice@gmail.com)) is our Financial Secretary and is responsible for all matters dealing with the finances at both All Saints in Stuart and St. John in Adair. She is also the person who publishes donation statements, sets up electronic donations, and is the secretary/treasurer of the Altar & Rosary Society. Rita is in the office Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday from 9am-3pm. Brenda Wedemeyer ([stjohnallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)) is our bulletin editor, communications coordinator, and pastoral assistant. She manages the websites and email correspondences and assists Father as needed by attending meetings in his place or taking care of general requests. Brenda is in the office on a limited basis, but generally on Thursdays from 9-5, with some hours at other times during the week as needed.

**Faith Formation** Cathy Hicks ([cabinmn@gmail.com](mailto:cabinmn@gmail.com)) is our Director of Religious Education and is responsible for the education department at All Saints. Annie Brincks ([annie68164@hotmail.com](mailto:annie68164@hotmail.com)) is her counterpart at St. John. Please contact either one of these ladies to register your children for Faith Formation, to volunteer, or for further information.

**Parish Maintenance** Barb Boss ([bbosslady@msn.com](mailto:bbosslady@msn.com)) is the head of building custodial duties. She is part time and is assisted by Christina, her daughter. Their work schedule fluctuates with the events of the parish, but generally are at the

church on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Dave, Barb's husband, is the one who takes care of our building & grounds as well as our environmental creature comforts.

**Knights of Columbus—All Saints** Dan Hilgers ([amh50070@yahoo.com](mailto:amh50070@yahoo.com)) is the current Grand Knight. Meetings are conducted on the second Sunday evening of the month at 6pm. All men—18 and older—of the parish are invited and welcome to join.

**St. John's Men's Group—Adair** Formerly the Knights of Columbus at St. John's, the men have regrouped and are now known as the St. John's Men's Group. All men—18 and older—are invited to take part in the organization which specializes in sponsoring Friday Night Fish Fries during Lent each year. Francis Hollinrake is the leader of this group. (641-742-5016)

**Altar & Rosary Society—All Saints** Jodi Bassett ([jodibdc@coonvalleytelco.com](mailto:jodibdc@coonvalleytelco.com)) is the current president of the Altar & Rosary Society. The A&RS provides funeral meals as well as altar linens. All women—18 and older—of the parish are automatic members. Annual dues are \$10.

**C.W.O.—Adair** The Catholic Women's Organization at St. John's is lead by Betty Ludwig ([bludwig50002@yahoo.com](mailto:bludwig50002@yahoo.com)). The group meets the first of each month following Mass on Wednesday morning. Every woman of the church is a member. The group provides coffee and rolls the first Sunday of the month. The CWO hosts an annual Spring Dinner to help raise funds to help with the Annual Diocesan Appeal amount. They serve funeral lunches and are responsible for the bills of the parish hall. Annual dues are \$5 as well as a \$25 collection each fall in lieu of a dinner.

## Hall Rentals

Anyone wishing to rent a parish hall

should contact Rita Rilea at All Saints or Betty Ludwig at St. John.

## Musicians

Norma Tigges ([tiggesnorma@yahoo.com](mailto:tiggesnorma@yahoo.com)) is the organist, music director, and wedding coordinator for All Saints with Sharon Swartz as the Saturday organist.

Deb Hollinrake (641-742-5016) is the organist, cantor, and choir leader for St. John.

Contact Norma or Deb for wedding or funeral arrangements.

## Special Events

Frank Hadley ([8791armyvet@gmail.com](mailto:8791armyvet@gmail.com)) has accepted the responsibility of heading the Special Events committee at Stuart. Please contact Frank if you'd like to volunteer to help him on any particular event.

## Websites & e-Communications

<https://stuartallsaints.org>

<https://adairstjohn.org>

Mass emails are sent out through Constant Contact. If you are not receiving our electronic bulletins and other notifications (i.e., prayer requests, announcements, etc), please be sure to submit your email address to the church office. The week's bulletin is sent out at 9am each Saturday morning for your convenience.

Any items that you would like to have published in the upcoming bulletin need to be submitted to the church office by 5pm Wednesday. Thank you!

## Liturgical Scheduling

All scheduling of Liturgical Ministers is done through Les Elgin ([elgins2011@gmail.com](mailto:elgins2011@gmail.com)) for St. John and through Joyce Van Pelt ([joyceannvp@gmail.com](mailto:joyceannvp@gmail.com)) at All Saints. Please keep these folks informed of your ability to serve as well as your current contact information.