

SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JULY 15, 2018

Rev. Antony Mathew, Parish Priest

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Tools for Building a Domestic Church

According to the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church: "The family, is so to speak, the domestic church." (Lumen Gentium #11) This means that it is in the context of the family that we first learn who God is and to prayerfully seek His will for us. In the following bullet points you will find some suggestions on how to build your "domestic church" through a life of prayer that can help all the members of your family.

- Begin praying as a family and reading from Scripture daily, certainly before meals, but also first thing in the morning or before bed. Find a time that works for your family. Use the liturgy of the Church as a model for prayer, and try to include heartfelt unstructured prayer as well.
- Pray a Family Rosary (each member leads a decade, and everyone shares intentions).
- Have a crucifix in a prominent place in

the home, and in every bedroom.

- Make the Sacraments a regular celebration – take the whole family to Confession and Mass!
- Begin family traditions based on the seasons celebrated in the liturgical calendar.
- Make your vacation a holy pilgrimage by visiting the shrines and saints of our land and the world.
- Make worshiping God a priority. Never miss Mass, even while traveling – go to: www.MassTimes.org. . . to find a church near you!
- Teach stewardship and charity to your children, through word and example.
- Demonstrate love for your spouse, your children, your neighbors, and the world. Remind your children that they are loved by God and have been given gifts to serve others.

- Talk freely about the presence of God in the joys and sorrows of your life.
- Welcome into your home and support priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, and lay ministers in the Church.
- Participate in the lay ministries and activities of your parish community.
- Allow your children to witness you in private prayer. Encourage your children to pray daily on their own, to listen for God's call, and if heard, to respond.

For more ideas on how to build your home as a Domestic Church, go to: www.domestic-church.com. . . or visit *The Family Fully Alive*, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

From the usccb.org website

Visit us online at:

adairstjohn.org



501 ADAIR ST.
ADAIR, IA 50002

MASS TIMES

8AM SUNDAY

8:30AM

WEDNESDAY

CONFESSION:

7:30AM SUNDAY

W/ADORATION
& ROSARY

PARISH BUSINESS & FINANCE REPORT

July 8th Collection \$584.00

Kids: \$7.00

Building Fund Balance:

\$1,375.05

Building Fund: \$50.00

Income: \$591.00

Expenses: **\$370.00**

Please remember your tithes & offerings if/when you are unavailable to attend Mass. The Parish Expenses continue whether you are here or not.

Thank you!

ADA 2018 Balance Due

As Of 6/8: **\$479.00**

Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin

Council Members: John Fagan,

Monica Fagan, Larry Drees,

Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler

Financial Secretary: Rita Rilea

RETHINKING THE TERM “BRAIN DEAD”

Innovative research studying the brain of a 23-year-old English woman in a coma following a traffic accident has medical experts and scientists reconsidering their definition of “brain dead.”

The woman had been unresponsive since emerging from a coma and met all the criteria for a persistent vegetative state. However, although she had been considered “brain dead”, new research using an MRI scanner clearly showed that her brain activity was the same as those of a normal conscious person.

Presented with spoken sentences, the woman had increased activity in speech comprehension centers in the brain. When asked to imagine herself playing tennis and walking through rooms in her house, brain areas governing visual spatial and motor functions lit up on the imaging screen—again, in patterns similar to those seen in normal volunteers.

The medical experts agree that although the patient had been diagnosed as in a vegetative state, she clearly retained the ability to understand spoken commands and to respond to them through her brain activity, rather than through speech or movement. They also stated that her ability to cooperate confirmed beyond any doubt that

she was consciously aware of herself and her surroundings.

The teaching of the Church has consistently reaffirmed the importance of the dignity of every human life, even when that life appears to be unresponsive. A case like this one should no doubt help to change attitudes and views of people living in so-called persistent vegetative states.

For other Pro-Life Articles, Videos, or Images visit our website:

www.pro-lifepieces.org

*“To be clear: Catholics cannot provide, support or encourage abortion. Catholic political leaders have a serious obligation in this matter. Disciples of Christ do not support abortion. Period.”
-Bishop Thomas J. Tobin*



Welcome Father Antony Mathew!

“Fr. Tony” comes to us from the Audubon and Exira parishes.

Sunday: Mass 8am

Weekday Mass: 8:30am Wednesday

Cell Phone: **712-304-4836** email: **amathew8@sbcglobal.net**

Faith Formation:

Beginning next fall...

- Faith Formation classes will include kids ages 3 & 4.
- This class will be shorter than our usual classes.
- Further details to come...

Liturgical Ministers

Sunday July 22

Cross Bearer: Larry Drees
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Larry Drees
Lector: Barb Bachman
Host: Sr. Nesta
Cup: Sr. Chinweze & Adella Vogl
Servers: Luke Brincks & Cole Plowman
Traveling Chalice: John & Adella Vogl

Liturgical Ministers

Sunday July 29

Cross Bearer: Cody Moreland
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Les Elgin
Lector: Julie Plowman
Host: Les Elgin
Cup: Dave Richter & Matt Fagan
Servers: Addy Richter & Carley Fagan
Traveling Chalice: John & Kathy Fagans

CALENDAR

<u>Sunday 7-15</u>	<u>Monday 7-16</u>	<u>Tuesday 7-17</u>	<u>Wednesday 7-18</u>	<u>Thursday 7-19</u>	<u>Friday 7-20</u>	<u>Saturday 7-21</u>
7:30am Confession/ Adoration/Rosary 8am Mass for Eldon Faga BDs: Richard Bachman		6pm Mass for <i>George Clark</i> (Stuart) ANN: Rich & Barb Bachman 1976	8:30am Mass for Isabella Lawlor	 ANN: Roger & Barb Vais 2008	8:30am Mass for <i>Tom Kelly (Stuart)</i>	3:30pm Confes- sions at Stuart 4:05 pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass at Stuart <i>for Bill Sherman</i>

IN THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday Focus:

Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:7-13

God chose us in Him, before the foundation of the world.

God chooses us, despite our failures and shortcomings, to be His disciples. He sends us out into the world, not on our own, but in the companionship of our brothers and sisters in community. He does not leave us to our own devices, but gives power and authority through His name.

Monday Focus:

Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34-11:1
Listen to the instruction of our God: cease doing evil; learn to do good.

If ever we are not clear about what God is asking from us, we need only check Scripture. From the Ten Commandments to Jesus' command to love one another, the instructions are straightforward. Life is not always so simple, though, right? So we need to remember that God is all-good, and the complete absence of evil. Therefore, following His ways and relying on His grace will enable us to follow His instructions with courage and integrity.

Tuesday Focus:

Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24

God calls us to radical trust in the midst of challenges and hardships.

At various times in our lives, we all face challenges and hardship. It is at those times that we must rely on the goodness and love of God to see us through.

Wednesday Focus:

Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11:25-27

Jesus is the fullness of God's revelation of Himself.

Faith and reason are the bedrocks of our belief. It is not always just the wise and the learned who are guaranteed knowledge and understanding of God. It takes getting out of our own heads, and approaching God with childlike wonder and innocence, to allow faith and love to illuminate our knowledge and reason.

Thursday Focus:

Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew 11:28-30

Take comfort in joining the mission of Christ.

In taking on the mission of Christ, we may perceive it as an arduous chal-

lenge. Yet Christ promises that uniting ourselves and our goals to Him will give us comfort, rest and peace. He speaks to the weary and tells us that *His yoke is easy* and *His burden is light*.

Friday Focus:

Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matthew 12:1-8

The Lord hears the prayer of the one who trusts in Him.

As Christians, we are called to be people of prayer. Yet developing and growing a life of prayer can be one of our greatest challenges. To begin we need to be honest before the Lord and to ask for divine help in our endeavors, remembering at all times that our prayer must be matched by our witness.

Saturday Focus:

Micah 2:1-5; Mathew 12:14-21

Jesus, the true God and Messiah, desires to heal us.

The same Jesus who, in today's Gospel, cures all of the people who follow Him, desires our healing as well. Let us turn to Him in prayer and ask for forgiveness and healing.

WHO'S WHO?

Parish Priest

Fr. Antony Mathew

Cell Phone: 712-304-4836

Email: amathew8@sbcglobal.net

Parish Office Address:

PO Box 605, 216 All Saints Drive,
Stuart 50250

Office Hours: 9am-3pm

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

Financial Secretary Rita Rilea

(allsaintsoffice@gmail.com)

Bulletin Editor, Communications

Coordinator Brenda Wedemeyer

(stjohnallsaints@gmail.com)

Faith Formation Coordinator

Annie Brincks

(annie68164@hotmail.com) .

St. John's Men's Group—Adair

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 (641-742-5016)

C.W.O.—Adair Betty Ludwig

(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

Betty Ludwig

Musician Deb Hollinrake

(641-742-5016)

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 Les Elgin

(elgins2011@gmail.com). Please keep Les informed of your ability to serve as well as your current contact information.

Sacraments If you are in need of any Sacrament or if you wish to join the Church, please contact the Church office at 515-523-1943.

RCIA The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is offered during the regularly scheduled Faith Formation year.

Prayer Requests For St. John's contact Adella Vogl at 641-742-5277 or call the Church Office 515-523-1943.

Why Pray for Those in Purgatory?

Written by: Father Cal Christiansen

Even though we might not hear much about it explicitly, belief about purgatory is actually a part of daily Catholic practice. In every single Mass, for instance, we pray for the faithful departed during the eucharistic prayer and usually during the intercessions. Which faithfully departed souls are we praying for? Those in heaven or in hell? Not likely. Who, then? You guessed it: those in purgatory.

Your question, why we pray for the blessed souls in purgatory if they will eventually get to heaven anyway, strikes to the core of what it means to be a Catholic Christian. Before actually answering your question, we should be clear on exactly what purgatory is. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains, "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven." (CCC 1030) Speaking of heaven, Revelation 21:27 says that "nothing unclean will enter it." Catholics believe that heaven is a place of perfect purity, beauty, love and holiness, and only what is perfect and clean may enter it.

Some people, when our Lord calls them from this life to the next, even though they are free from mortal sin, can carry with them the attachment to sin and disorder; their hearts are not yet completely oriented toward God and holiness. God, in his mercy and eternal love for us, still wants these souls to be with him; he desires us to be perfect, but he will not reject that which is imperfect. Purgatory is the place of transition where attachments to disordered passions and sins are purified and cleansed so that we can be perfected for that place of ultimate perfection. Far from being an outmoded dogma, purgatory actually affirms God's endless love and mercy for each of us!

So why do we pray for the dead? For me, the belief in purgatory lies at the center of our Catholic faith because of our sense of family. As a family we pray for one another, and those faithfully departed who are not quite in heaven need our prayers, just as we need each other's prayers. As a priest, I have seen many prayers answered, and I firmly believe that our prayers for the faithful departed in purgatory — that they be sped along to their heavenly reward — will be answered as well.

May God's blessings be with you today and always!