

Father Tony's Corner

(Continued from front page)

He is alive, in heaven, at the right hand of the Father, and he is the substance of the Holy Eucharist, which looks like bread - thus, the living bread. And so, the more frequently and faithfully we receive Holy Communion, the more our natural desires will be transformed from within, just like the wafer is transformed from within at the words of consecration. And even when we cannot come during the week to receive Holy Communion, we can still come by to make a visit to Jesus in the Tabernacle. Praying in the presence of the Holy Eucharist still gives us a share in this grace that gradually frees us from selfish, worldly desires and feeds good, God-like desires. Jesus promised that those who seek will always find. Today, let us activate our faith, so that as we continue with this celebration of the Holy Eucharist, to which the Father has drawn us, we will give the Lord a solid opportunity to strengthen us for the everlasting life that he died to give us.

Faith Formation News from Cathy Hicks Director of Religious Education

Fall is quickly approaching, and so are Faith Formation classes. We will begin classes on Sept. 5 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. and run through May 1st. I will be registering students next weekend (Aug. 18th/19th) after Masses in the gathering space. The cost per student is \$30, not to exceed \$90. You are welcomed to pick up a registration form, take it with you, fill it out, and return it and the payment to my office or the church office. It is so very important that we have the current number of students enrolled, current email addresses and cell numbers, and contact persons. I greatly appreciate your cooperation with registration.

If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at the church (523-1943) or email me at cabinmn@gmail.com. I am looking forward to another great year of faith, worship, and growth in God's love. May the Lord be always at your side, and hold you in the palm of His hand.

Cathy Hicks
Director of Education
All Saints Catholic Church

Thank You

The Entire family of Dr. William Robert Doud wishes to thank the Altar & Rosary Society for the wonderful luncheon following the service Saturday July 28th. The gals did a wonderful job and the food was delicious!
Sincerely, Florence, Jeannine, Carol, John, and James.

T-Shirt Offer

St. John's t-shirts are available for pre-order. Proceeds will be combined with our **Food for the Poor** fundraiser. The color is light blue. Adult sizes- small, medium, large and extra large are \$20. Plus size 2x is \$25. Orders with payment are due by September 30 as the order will go in October 1. Contact Annie at 402-216-9488 or message the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsfaithformation/>



All Saints Catholic Church



216 All Saints Drive
Stuart, IA 50250

St John Catholic Church



501 Adair Street
Adair, IA 50002

Website: stuartallsaints.org

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew

Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)

E-Mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net

Secretary/Bulletin: Brenda Wedemeyer stjohnallsaints@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Rita Rilea allsaintsoffice@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Cathy Hicks cabinmn@gmail.com

Website: adairstjohn.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9am-3pm

Bulletin Deadline: 5pm Wednesday

Father Tony's Corner



We continue to hear from St. John's gospel on the bread of life discourse. Jesus points out the mystery of faith, that no one can believe in him 'unless he is drawn by the Father'. In other words, faith in Jesus Christ is God's gift. Second, this faith in Christ leads to 'eternal life'. Later in the Gospel, Jesus tells us that eternal life consists in knowing 'the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom God has sent'. In Biblical language, 'knowing' implies deep interpersonal intimacy, the kind of relationship we all yearn for. Third, Jesus himself is the 'bread' of this eternal life, its source and sustenance. Without bread, without food, physical life perishes. Without Jesus, without his 'flesh for the life of the world' in the Holy Eucharist, our life of intimate communion with God will perish. Eleven times in this discourse Jesus speaks of himself as the bread of life; he is really hoping that we will get the message. The gift of faith gives us access to eternal life, and the Holy Eucharist makes that life grow within us. When we think about happiness, we tend to think about happiness in this life. But when Jesus thinks of happiness, his perspective is much bigger. He understands that in this fallen world, weighed down with our fallen human nature, we can only experience partial happiness. There will always be suffering, adversity, and evil, as long as human history lasts.

Jesus never promised that believing in him would turn earth into heaven. But he did promise, as we just heard proclaimed in today's Gospel, that believing in him will put us on the path to ever-increasing happiness in this life, and total fulfillment in the life to come. That is what he wants us to set our hearts on - the bigger picture, the eternal perspective. This is why he came; it is the goal of all his sufferings and efforts. He wants to bring each of us into the everlasting Kingdom of light and joy, and he never lets that goal drift into the background. When Jesus Christ extends his hand in friendship (which he never stops doing), he offers much more: he means to walk with us in time and in eternity - if we are willing. Everything Jesus taught and did, everything his Church teaches and does, is directed to that goal. Jesus wants to give us more, but he will not force us to accept it. If our hearts are filled with desires for merely earthly happiness - wealth, fame, pleasures, popularity, comfort - then there is no room left for desiring wholeheartedly friendship with Christ and the eternal life that it brings. And yet, those natural, self-centered desires are so deeply rooted in our hearts - how can we get rid of them? The surest and best way is to feed and encourage Christ-centered, supernatural desires. Frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist does just that. The Holy Eucharist is natural on the outside but supernatural on the inside. It looks like plain, unleavened bread, but that is just its appearance. Its substance is actually the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ - his very own life. This is why Jesus calls himself the 'living bread'.

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19th Week in Ordinary Time

August 12th, 2018

Mission Statement

"Rejoicing with gratitude in God's blessings, we invite and welcome all to share in the fullness of the Catholic faith."

We live our baptismal call through worship, teaching, and serving one another."

Sacraments:

Reconciliation:

3:30pm Saturday in Stuart;
7:30am Sunday in Adair;
or by Appointment

Anointing of the Sick:

Call Fr. Tony before/after hospitalization

Baptism: Call the office during pregnancy for preparation class

Marriage: Call the office at least nine months to one year ahead to plan marriage preparation. Wedding Date should not be set until preparations have begun

Annulment/

Marriage Validation:

Call Fr. Tony to learn more about this process with Diocesan Tribunal if you are divorced and remarried or never married in the Catholic Church.

RCIA: Call Fr. Tony if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or the RCIA process

Membership/Registration:

If you are new, welcome to our parish. Please register by calling the office. If you are moving away, please contact the office to notify us before moving

Announcements

- Priest's Residence Updating** Our homes and offices, especially the appliances and furniture, need an updating after several years of use. The priest's residence belongs to the parish, and it is the responsibility of the parish to maintain and upkeep the residence. Whatever is bought by the parish for the priest's residence stays there for the use of the current pastor and his successors. The appliances and furniture at the priest's residence are very, very old. Perhaps the most appropriate time for an updating is when a new pastor occupies the residence. Therefore, your kind and generous support is essential for updating the residence of your pastor. Your contributions are tax deductible, and all the appliances and furniture bought with your financial contribution will remain at the residence. If you are willing to support this much needed project, *Kindly, make your generous contribution to All Saints Catholic Church, and mark on the memo (residence updating).* Thank you so much for your love and support of your pastor. **Thank you for your love, support and generous sharing of your treasure for our residence updating project. We are really and truly blessed by your love, kindness, support and generosity . Through your generosity and support, we are able to move forward with our project. Rev. Antony Mathew Contributions to date: \$2,200.00**
- Ice Cream For Everyone** The All Saints Knights of Columbus will be scooping up a sweet ice cream treat for everyone attending Masses over the weekend of August 25th-26th.
- Invitation to the Retirement Party** Brenda Wedemeyer (August 15th), and Rita Rilea (August 29th) have both decided to retire from their positions at All Saints/St. John Catholic Church in the month of August. In appreciation, and gratitude of their service/ministry to our parish-es, all are invited to a retirement party on Sunday, August 19th at 11.00 a.m. at All Saints Catholic Church parish hall.
- Announcement of New Parish Staff** I am pleased to announce that I have hired Tammy Doud, and she will be joining the parish staff team in the month of August, 2018. We wish her all the best in her service/ministry here at our parish families. - Rev. Antony Mathew
- The Feast of the Assumption** The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on Wednesday, August 15. It is a Holy Day of Obligation meaning all Catholics are obligated to celebrate the feast by participating in the Holy Eucharist. All Saints parish family will celebrate the feast on Tuesday, August 14th with a Mass at 6.00 p.m. and St. John parish family will celebrate the feast with a Mass at 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday, August, 15th. Let us show our honor and devotion to our heavenly mother by participating in the Holy Eucharist.

All Saints Financial Report

August 5, 2018

Tithes & Offerings: \$2,735.00
Children's Offering: \$6.00
Building Fund: \$523.29
This Week's Income: \$2,741.00
This Week's Expenses: \$2,556.71
ADA 2018: \$29,802.00 *(goal)*
Balance Due as of 8/3: \$10,112.00
Trustees: Janis Gilman, Robert Bird
Council Members: Wayne Nobsch, Brenna Bird, Dave Boss, Barb Boss, Eric Tiernan, Tom Doud

St John's Financial Report

August 5, 2018

Tithes & Offerings: \$505.00
Children's Offering: \$9.00
Special Collection: \$0.00
This Week's Income: \$514.00
This Week's Expenses: \$0.00
ADA 2018: \$7,029.00 *(goal)* **THANK YOU!!!!**
Balance Due as of 8/3/18: PAID IN FULL—We have rec'd a check from a parishioner that completed our goal. Thank you!
Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin
Council Members: John Fagan, Monica Fagan, Larry Drees, Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday August 18th

Rosary: Frank Holle
Ushers: Eric & Margaret Tiernan
Cross Bearer: Eric Tiernan
Altar Server: Connie Drake
Lector: Sharon Doud
Commentator: Donna Donnelly
Greeters/Gifts: Eric & Margaret Tiernan
EMHC: Maria Ladwig, Sr. Andre, Sr. Nesta

All Saints

Sunday August 19th

Adoration: *Sacristan Sets Up*
Ushers: John & Patrick Gulbranson
Cross Bearer: Patrick Gulbranson
Altar Servers: Jack & Jenna Doyle
Lector: Harriet Gulbranson
Commentator: Donna Olson
Greeters/Gifts: John & Harriet Gulbranson
EMHC: Harriet Gulbranson, Dave Tisl, Amy Doud

St. John

Sunday August 19th

Cross Bearer: Francis Hollinrake
Greeters/Gifts: Matt Fagan Family
Lector: Barb Bachman
Host: Dave Richter
Cup: Adella Vogl & Sr. Nkiruka
Altar Servers: Carley & Belle Fagan
Traveling Chalice:
 Cody & Elizabeth Moreland Family

CALENDAR WITH MASS TIMES, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, SPECIALS

<u>Sunday 8/12</u>	<u>Monday 8/13</u>	<u>Tuesday 8/14</u>	<u>Wednesday 8/15</u>	<u>Thursday 8/16</u>	<u>Friday 8/17</u>	<u>Saturday 8/18</u>
Adair <i>7:30am Adoration, Rosary, Confession</i> 8am Mass for Leona Drees Stuart <i>9am Adoration</i> 10am Mass for the People All Saints K of C Meeting 6pm	BD: Alexa Groff	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION—The Assumption Stuart 6pm Vigil Mass for James Witkowski BDs: Rielly Ocheltree, Aric Schwery, Scott Suhr ANN: Mike & Margie Livermore 1993	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION—The Assumption Adair 8:30am Mass for Joseph Vogl	9am Mass (Stuart Care Center) for Bill Sherman ANN: Bob & Donna Olson 1969; Dale & Kathy Grundmeier 1980	Stuart 8:30am Mass for Lawrence Lacher	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass for William & Marian Schultz BDs: Becket Bird, Amelia Richter ANN: Phil & Wilma Fagan 1951

IN THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday Focus:

1Kings 19:4-8; Ephesians 4:30-5:2; John 6:41-51

Jesus, the Bread of Life, teaches us how to come to the Father.

The claims that Jesus makes about Himself leave us with a choice: to receive Him and be transformed, following Him as He leads us to the Father, or to remain as we are.

Monday Focus

Ezekiel 1:2-5, 24-28c; Matthew 17:22-27

Jesus calls us, like Peter, to live freely—in the world, but not of it—trusting God to provide our needs.

There is an interesting interplay of Jesus' divinity and His humanity in this episode with Peter. Jesus divinely anticipates Peter's question about the Temple tax; and in His gentle humanity He avoids offending the Temple workers. Living in the world, we, like Jesus did, use things of the earth such as a fish or a coin, but in the end, as with Peter's miraculous catch, it is God who is the source of all things and who provides for our needs.

Tuesday Focus:

Ezekiel 2:8-3:4; Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Jesus, the loving Shepherd, calls us to Him.

We might find the words of Jesus strange. Who leaves ninety-nine sheep to find the one that is lost? But what if we are that one lost sheep? What a comfort to know that the Lord will search for us until He finds us. We are precious in His sight, and He will not rest until He brings us home.

Wednesday Focus: The Assumption

Revelation 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56

Mary's Assumption helps us focus on the eternal life that awaits us.

Mary's Assumption reveals to us our own destiny; eternal glory with God in heaven. Mary's own life serves as an example of faithfulness as we strive for that goal in this life. By our baptism we are called to be saints, to be able to say with Mary, *My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.* In the end of her earthly life and assumption into heaven, we see the power of God in lifting us above a world of sin and into the fullness of union with Him.

Thursday Focus:

Ezekiel 12:1-12; Matthew 18:21-19:1

Sin imposes a heavy burden on relationships; forgiveness relieves it.

When we are in a state of sin, it imposes a great burden on our relationship with God

and with one another. Our very soul is weakened and sick. Sin wounds and harms all parties. Forgiveness from God and forgiveness of others is the key to healing the injury.

Friday Focus:

Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63; Matthew 19:3-12

God will never desert us.

In spite of our lack of faithfulness, God never stops loving and caring for us. There is nothing we can do to make God stop loving us. Knowing this, let us consciously work at being faithful to Him through prayer, and striving to be aware of His will for us each and every day.

Saturday Focus:

Ezekiel 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Matthew 19:13-15

Jesus invites us to turn away from sin and return to God through Him.

We may recall times in childhood when we did something wrong, yet blamed someone else. Maybe we were ashamed of what we had done. Or maybe the adults in our lives did not deal very well with forgiveness and mercy. God, on the other hand, is ready to pour out His mercy and forgiveness when we confess to Him.