

Father Tony's Corner

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during his passion. Today one of our Lord's miracles has been replayed for us in the liturgy. Have we read the sign aright, or are we missing the point? As his followers, we are called to imitate Christ's universal love, a love that goes beyond appearances. We ourselves are meant to be living signs of God's goodness and power in this fallen world. We are called to be Christ's ongoing, long-lasting miracles. This does not mean that we are perfect. Rather, we just have to strive each day to be faithful to our friendship with Christ. If we do that, he will shine through us even when we are not aware of it, spreading his light and warmth to the spiritually handicapped all around us. As Jesus renews his commitment to us through performing the miracle of this Mass, let us renew our commitment to do our best to be his living miracles, living witnesses of his goodness and power, to everyone God puts in our path.

Faith Formation News by Cathy Hicks, Director of Religious Education

Faith Formation officially began last week, and we are off to a great start. Thank you to the parents who make sure their children are here each week. Our numbers are up a bit, but I still have some families who need to register. I'm hoping to get everyone registered in the next week or so. Thanks to everyone who have registered their children. It is greatly appreciated!

Father Tony will be having altar server training next Wednesday, Sept. 12th during Faith Formation. It is an honor to serve at the altar of God. So anyone interested, please plan on attending the training. Also, we are arranging a time for anyone who has been confirmed to be trained as a Eucharistic minister. More information on this training will be forth coming.

There is much to the adage, "The family that prays together, stays together." Please set aside time for family prayer as often as you can. And some of that time needs to be at Mass. Attend Mass regularly; it's the best way to get our young people involved in their faith, no matter their age. Parents need to set that example of regular attendance at Mass, strengthening not only the family bond, but also the bond with the faith community.

May God always be at your side and hold you in the palm of His hand.

Altar and Rosary Society by Jodi Bassett, President

Disclaimer: this is not political, so please don't go there. Allow me to tie it together.

Much has been said of immigration reform in the past couple weeks. Yet we are a country of hypocrisy. Most of our ancestors came here from somewhere else. Go back far enough, and there weren't yet laws to limit the flow of immigrants. So no laws were broken. Now many whose families have lived here since great-grandpa came here from wherever are clamoring for immigration laws to be enforced.

Aren't we quite happy to have a few margaritas at the Mexican restaurant, or overload on the carbs in Italian food, or love a good lo mein meal? Apparently, people from other cultures have good things to offer, but some want to limit their opportunity to share it. Of course, *not everyone feels this way*, but it's easy to find those who do.

The bible is filled with parables and multiple meanings. I think this week's readings are a good example of that. The first reading tells how God clears us and our senses. He opens eyes and ears, not necessarily to just sight and hearing, but also to understanding. He frees limbs and tongues to movement and speech that we might speak out and move to defend ourselves and others, as well as to sing His praises. The second reading suggests how we distinguish between the poor and the rich and make less than fair judgments based upon a person's appearance. And in the Gospel Jesus opens the deaf man's ears and restores his speech, and the man spreads such good news.

All who are here are obligated to observe the laws of the land. The challenge is to conform the country's laws to God's laws. That would eliminate some hypocrisy.

September 9, 2018

All Saints Catholic Church

23rd Week in Ordinary Time

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew
Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)
E-mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Tammy Doud
Email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com
Book Keeper: Tammy Doud
Director Religious Education:
Cathy Hicks
Phone: 515-523-1943
Website: stuartallsaints.org
Website: adairstjohn.org



Office Hours

Tuesday: 8:30am - 3pm
Wednesday: 8:30am - 3pm
Thursday: 8:30am - 3pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Noon Wednesday



All Saints Mass Schedule

Tuesday: 6pm
Thursday: 9am (Care Center)
Friday: 8:30am
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 10am

St. John Mass Schedule

Wednesday: 8:30am
Sunday: 8am

Father Tony's Corner



Today's gospel speaks about a deaf man who had a speech impediment being healed by Jesus. It is very interesting to observe how Jesus heals the man. He takes the man off by himself away from the crowd; puts his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touches his tongue; then looking up to heaven and groaning says to him, "Ephphatha!" - that is, "Be opened" - And immediately the man's ears are opened, his speech impediment is removed, and he speaks plainly. This healing is the fulfillment of the wonderful prophecies that we heard in the first reading. God himself gets dirty in order to make us clean. This is central to Christianity. This is uniquely and marvelously a Catholic view of God. If sin is messy, redemption involves some messiness and discomfort too. It is through material realities that we fall, so it is logical that the Lord should establish material ways to redeem us. By modern standards, it may seem distasteful that saliva is involved, but when we consider that every time we celebrate the Holy Eucharist, we are receiving Jesus' body and blood, it is not much of a stretch. God assumed human nature because he wanted to touch us and heal us through human nature. God still wants to touch us and heal us. And he does so through the sacraments. In each sacrament, there are certain materials, certain expressions, certain dispositions of heart through which the Lord reaches out and touches us and heals us or strengthens us. When we receive him in Holy Communion, we touch God, who comes into our hearts and makes us more like him. Saint Mark also includes a puzzling observation towards the end of today's Gospel passage. He writes that Jesus ordered everyone to keep this amazing miracle under wraps, not to spread the news, not to talk about it. Why would he do such a thing? Jesus knows the tendencies of our fallen nature. He knew that too many reports of miracles would lead people to think of him merely as a wonder-worker. They would feed the impression that he had come to create paradise on earth, that his Kingdom was merely a good earthly reign. And Jesus did not want to give that impression. He wanted more time to explain his vision, to convince people that the Kingdom of God went far beyond politics and economics, touching people's hearts and bringing them back into communion with God, putting them on the path to eternal life. His miracles were not the goal of his ministry, they were simply signs of credibility, confirmations of the truth of his teachings, invitations to trust, obey, and follow him. In order to give himself time to explain this, he discouraged his followers from spreading news about the miracles. The more the crowds heard about his wondrous deeds, the less - it seems - they understood them. This became clear at the end of his life: although many people had been willing to be cured by him, few were willing to follow him to the cross. Even his closest disciples, the Apostles, denied or abandoned him

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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 prep-
arations 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 and generous sharing 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: \$ 4,485.**
- All Parish Musicians:** (Cantors, Choir, Organ, Piano, Violin, Flute, etc.) There will be a potluck at 6pm on Saturday, September 15th at the home of Norma and Vernon Tigges. Brats, drinks and service will be provided. It is just fun to get together to celebrate the beginning of another season. For more information, call Norma at 515-789-4634.
- Special Collection:** The diocesan-wide Special Collection for Seminarians will be conducted on September 15 and 16. Registered parishioners will be receiving a letter and brochure in the mail from Bishop Pates. The average cost to educate one seminarian is approximately \$30,000 each year. Gifts to this collection support the education and formation costs associated with seminarians, which continually rise. There are 19 seminarians in the Diocese of Des Moines. They are quality individuals dedicated to discernment. Your prayers for the number to continue to increase are appreciated. The need for your support is critical so that we may continue providing for our seminarians.
- September 2018 is designated as a month of Fasting and Prayer in the Diocese of Des Moines seeking healing and reform from the perpetration of sexual abuse and its cover-up. With this in mind, we here at All Saints Catholic Church are going to devote our regular Sunday Holy Hour (Sunday, September 9, Sunday, September 16, and Sunday, September 23) from 9.00 am. to 10.00 a.m. to this purpose. And I invite all our parishioners to come early on Sunday morning and spend a little extra time in prayer and fasting to address this sin which has been embedded in our Church community and broader culture.
- Office of Bishop Richard E. Pates:** In recent weeks, a once in a century flood disaster occurred in Kerala, South India. It is reported 350 died and some 800,000 have been in relief camps. Fathers Thomas Kunnel, Antony Mathew and Tom Thakadipuram come from these regions in India. Joining Pope Francis may we demonstrate solidarity, prayer and support for these flood victims in the midst of this disaster. Any parishes or individuals who may wish to contribute monetary support are encouraged to do so. Please send such contributions clearly marked, as to their purpose, to the finance Office {Attention: Paul Carlson, Director of Finance, 601 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309}, and they will be forwarded to Catholic Relief Services for outreach in this disaster.
- St. John Liturgical Help:** If you are interested in helping with Mass as a Server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Cross Bearer, Greeter, Praying for Vocations or Rosary Leader at St. John's in Adair please contact Les Elgin at 641-742-3854 or elgins2011@gmail.com.
- Altar Server Training Session at All Saints Catholic Church:** An altar server training session will be held on Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30pm at All Saints. This training is meant for children who have received their first communion, and are interested in assisting at the altar. Current altar servers are also invited to attend. Once trained, you will be assigned to a Mass so be sure to assist that day.

CALENDAR WITH MASS TIMES, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, SPECIALS

Sunday 9/9	9/9 BD: Eric Gerling, Jessica Johnston, Grayson Nims	Tuesday 9/11	Wednesday 9/12	Thursday 9/13	Friday 9/14	Saturday 9/15
Adair 7:30am Adoration, Confession Rosary 8am Mass for Betty Dill	ANN: Francis & Ardis McGinnis 9/9/1972	Stuart 6pm Mass for Ruby Waltz	Adair 8:30am Mass for Eugene Lawlor (health) BD: Laura Weber	9am Mass (Stuart Care Center) for Bill Sherman BDs: Marshall Dickson	Stuart 8:30am Mass for Maynard Witkowski BD: Justin Smith, Greer Hunsaker	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass for Tony Pivonka BD: Hope Livermore, Mason Richter ANN: Mark & Kari Tisl 1972
Stuart 9am Adoration 9am Choir Practice 10am Mass for the people	Monday 9/10 BD: Mark Tisl, Benjamin Schwery		ANN: Felecia & Nathan Lorenzen 2015			

IN THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday Focus: Isaiah 35:4-7a; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37 <i>We are called to be open to God's word penetrating our hearts today.</i>	Wednesday Focus: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Luke 6:20-26 <i>Blessed be the Most Holy Name of Mary.</i>	<i>Jesus transformed the cross, an instrument of death, into a symbol of life and love.</i>
Monday Focus: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Luke 6:6-11 <i>Jesus calls us to live a life of loving service.</i>	Thursday Focus: 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13; Luke 6: 27-38 <i>Love is the supreme value in the kingdom of God.</i>	Saturday Focus: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; John 19:25-27 or (Led. 639); Luke 2:33-35 <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows.</i>
Tuesday Focus: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; Luke 6:12-19 <i>The Lord takes delight in his people.</i>	Friday Focus: Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17	

All Saints Financial Partnership

September 2, 2018

Weekly Offering: \$ 1970.00
Children's Offering: \$ 20.00
Building Fund: \$ 617.00
ADA 2018 Goal: \$29,802.00
ADA Balance Due: \$9,222.00
 Finance Council: Rev. Antony Mathew, Wayne Nosbisch, Brenna Bird, Dave Boss, Barb Boss, Eric Tiernan, Tom Doud
 Trustees: Janis Gilman, Robert Bird

St John Financial Partnership

September 2, 2018

Weekly Offering: \$ 703.00
Children's Offering: \$ 3.15
ADA 2018 Goal: \$ 7,029.00
ADA Balance Due: \$0 —**THANK YOU!!**
 Finance Council: Rev. Antony Mathew, John Fagan, Monica Fagan, Larry Drees, Kenneth Ludwig, Marcia Gettler
 Trustees: Sheryl Drees, Les Elgin

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday September 15

Rosary: Frank Holle
Ushers: David & Sharon Doud
Cross Bearer: David Doud
Altar Server: Connie Drake
Lector: Bob Bird
Commentator: Carol Smith
Greeters/Gifts: David & Sharon Doud
EMHC: Jodi Bassett, Sister Nesta and Sister Chinweze

All Saints

Sunday September 16

Adoration: Sacristan Sets Up
Ushers: Wayne Nosbisch & Bob Olson
Cross Bearer: Matt Gerling
Altar Servers: Nate & Gabe Gerling
Lector: Gary Riordan
Commentator: Wayne Nosbisch
Greeters/Gifts: Jill & Matt Gerling
EMHC: Jill Gerling, Cathy Hicks and Joyce Van Pelt

St. John

Sunday September 16

Cross Bearer: Madison Suhr
Greeters/Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Francis Hollinrake
Lector: Scott Suhr
Host: Les Elgin
Cup: Matt Fagan & Sr. Chinweze
Altar Servers: Cash Suhr & Trevin Suhr
Traveling Chalice: Les & Theresa Elgin