

Father Tony's Corner *(continued from front page)*
 from the path of Christ. When Christ comes into our hearts through the ministry of the Church, the Church that has endured twenty centuries of storms under the sure guidance of Peter, let us promise never to jump ship, and to be a faithful witness that the path of Peter is the sure path to Christ. Jesus established his Church, promised to be with that Church until the end of time, and commanded Peter to lead that Church, to 'feed his sheep', and to 'feed his lambs'. If we did not need a shepherd, Jesus would not have given us one. We need one because in this fallen world there are many dead-end paths, seductive voices, temptations, and false shepherds. Only Peter and his successors, the popes, have received the divine guarantee to point out the path of Christ in the midst of confusion and unrest. It is not always easy to follow the Pope's teachings. When we follow Peter, that sometimes means following him to the cross, because Peter followed Christ so closely that he too ended up being humiliated and crucified, in Rome, under the Roman Emperor, Nero. And yet, that is the sure path to life because it was Peter's net that was not torn. It was Peter who hauled that net safely onto the shore. Today, as Christ comes again to feed our souls through the ministry of this Church which has grown and endured through the centuries under the guidance of Peter, let us thank the Lord for taking such good care of us. Let us promise him that we will do our part too, listening to the teaching of his Vicar, striving to understand it, and obeying it out of love for the Lord.

Altar and Rosary Society by Jodi Bassett, President

The Altar and Rosary Society met after Masses this past weekend. A number of topics were discussed, starting with the White Pole Road Sales on May 31 and June 1. Connie Drake asked if we wanted to continue (it was very successful last year) and if so, would like the majority of donations be brought to the church by May 21 to allow for set up. Connie also asked for help with set up and tear down. A sign up sheet will be available, so please help if you can. An organization from Atlantic will take any unsold merchandise.

Also discussed was the passing through of RAGBRAI this July. Father Tony has some ideas and plans to involve the whole parish, so further discussion will depend on Father's ideas. We discussed the formation of a group of parishioners who would be willing to be called upon for food items for smaller, non-funeral needs. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the gathering space.

A final topic was the Family Fun Fest scheduled for August 24th. The Altar and Rosary will be organizing games for children and families. Several people suggested game options with which they are familiar. More information will be forthcoming over the next few months.

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to stay for the meetings. I only schedule meetings when there is something important to discuss, so it is important to have as many members present as possible.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, May 11

Rosary: Frank Holle

Ushers: Eric & Margaret Tiernan

Altar Server: Jodi Bassett

Lector: Bob Bird

Commentator: Sharon Doud

Greeters: Eric & Margaret Tiernan

EMHC: Sr. Nesta, Mark Tisl &

VOLUNTEER

All Saints

Sunday, May 12

Ushers: Jim Doud & Dennis Van Pelt

Altar Servers: Riley & Davis Doud

Lector: Donna Olson

Commentator: Gary Riordan

Greeters: Jim & Tammy Doud

EMHC: Ismael Leyva, Joyce Van Pelt &

Brenda Wedemeyer

St. John

Sunday, May 12

Cross Bearer: John Fagan

Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Brian Marso

Lector: Julie Plowman

Host: Les Elgin

Cup: Sr. Nesta & Adella Vogl

Altar Servers: Cole Plowman &

Luke Brincks

Traveling Chalice: Phyllis O'Brien

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew

Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)

E-mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Tammy Doud

Email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinator:

Jill Gerling – allsaintsff@outlook.com

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



We have an interesting gospel narrative for our reflection on the third Sunday of Easter. Perhaps, it is a reminder of our own tendency to trust in ourselves rather than relying on God. All the same, deep down in our hearts, we really want to rely on Him, and we want to know that He is in charge. Though, every now and then, we get confused and turn to what we are comfortable with. The apostles do exactly that in today's gospel. They go fishing without their master. As a result, they do not catch anything. Sometimes God allows our best-laid plans to come crashing down around us. He does not do this to torment us, but to teach us to trust in him. Their embarrassment and frustration must have been pretty overwhelming. As a matter of fact, fishermen tend to be fairly proud of their skill set, and when they are skunked, it is humiliating. And then, to make matters worse, Jesus shows up on the shore and asks if they have caught anything. This is like rubbing salt in an open wound. And you can imagine the way they growled in response 'no, we have not caught anything'. The apostles need to recognize their own weakness. They need to vocalize their own inability to do anything without their master. And when they do that, he acts. He fills the boat with one hundred and fifty-three types of fish. According to Saint Jerome, there are one hundred and fifty-three types of fish in the ocean. So that number represents above all the fullness of the Church. But it also represents the fullness of our own lives when we give them over to Christ. He fills our emptiness with his friendship. He gives us meaning and purpose. He fills our lives with wonder, and he fills our lives with love. Christ has arranged things in such a way that to follow him is to follow Peter. It is to Peter and his successors, the popes, that Christ entrusted the task of feeding his sheep. And yet, in the world today many Christians who sincerely want to follow Christ do not follow Peter. It is not for us to judge these non-Catholic Christians. Jesus taught us: 'Judge not, lest you be judged'. But at the same time, we know that it is Christ's will that those who believe in him follow him by following Peter. So why do so many Christians not follow Peter? Perhaps, one reason is that many Christians who claim to follow Peter do not really live like Christians. Unfortunately, we act like it is enough just to go through the motions, and just to belong to the club. But if we follow Peter, if we call ourselves Catholic Christians, it is because Christ told us to, it is because Christ put Peter in charge of his flock; it is because Christ filled Peter's net with fish and the net was not torn, and Peter brought it safely to shore. We should desire to bring all people into Peter's net, because only that net is guaranteed not to tear. But we will only do so if we ourselves are following Peter for the right reason: so that in our hearts, words, and actions, we will never stray

(continued on back page)

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

- Annual Diocesan Appeal 2019:** Each year, every member of our diocesan faith community is asked to participate in making a gift to support the work and ministry of Bishop Pates through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Each of the 81 parishes in the Diocese of Des Moines has a goal that is calculated based on a formula of parish income and expenses. One of the largest expenses covered by the Diocesan Appeal is support of our priests. The Diocese pays 100% of the priests health care. The Appeal also covers the priest's retirement benefits, an expense which is not absorbed by our parish. The Diocese currently supports 112 priests; 37 of those priests are retired, and 75 are active. The Appeal also covers the formation of our deacons, and education of our 21 seminarians as they study in their last years of Seminary. The ADA also covers administrative expenses for the staff of the Diocese who are dedicated to serving our parish in many ways. Bishop Pates' ministry, including housing, travel throughout the Diocese for meetings, special masses, and confirmations are all supported by the ADA. Last, but not least, a portion of our ADA dollars supports Catholic Charities in feeding and clothing those in need; providing shelter for homeless families; assisting victims of domestic violence; counseling thousands of individuals, and welcoming refugees who have fled their native lands as they settle in Iowa. I want to thank everyone who has already participated in the 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal, and provide a friendly reminder to those who are still thinking about responding. Your participation is very valuable to All Saints and St. John Catholic Church. We are looking forward to your support, and sacrificial generosity to share a little of our God-given blessing to spread His kingdom and mission.

All Saints, Stuart, Parish ADA Goal = \$30,035
 St. John, Adair, ADA Goal = \$7,257

Gifts Received: \$ 15,930.00
 Gifts Received: \$3,245.00

- All Saints Catholic Church Maintenance and Repair Projects:** All Saints Catholic Church has decided to take up three maintenance projects costing around \$ 54,841 dollars. As a matter of fact, all these projects are long overdue. The success of the campaign for these projects will depend upon your commitment in prayer, involvement and sacrifice of God given treasure. Our success will not come from a small group of parishioners, but rather from the participation of 100% of the parish family. I want to thank everyone who has already donated to these projects, and we are looking forward to the support, and sacrificial generosity of others so that in the spirit of the sacrifice and generosity of our founding members, we can answer our challenge today .

Gifts received - \$ 5,400.00 Parishioners Donated: 10

- Air-conditioning of St. John Parish Hall:** We have decided to fulfill a long cherished dream of our parishioners of having an air conditioning system installed at St. John Parish Hall at a cost of \$ 6050 dollars. The success of the campaign for this project will depend upon your commitment in prayer, involvement and sacrifice of God given treasure. Our success will not come from a small group of parishioners, but rather from the participation of 100% of the parish family. I want to thank everyone who has already donated to this project, and we are looking forward to the support, and sacrificial generosity of others so that in the spirit of the sacrifice and generosity of our founding members, we can answer our challenge today.

Gifts Received: \$ 1,635.00 Parishioners Donated: 8

- Pastor Away from the Office:** Father Antony Mathew will be away from the parish office from Tuesday, May 7th through Thursday, June 6th on vacation spending time with his family in India.
- NO DAILY MASS:** There will not be a daily Mass from Tuesday, May 7th through Friday June 7th.
- Substitute Priest :** Rev. Lawrence R. Hoffmann, a retired priest of the Diocese of Des Moines, will cover the weekend Masses at All Saints and St. John during Fr. Tony's absence.
- Funeral/emergency while Fr. Tony gone:** Call Rev. Lawrence R. Hoffmann (515-343-6040), and see whether he will be available for a funeral. If someone is in the hospital, the family needs to contact the hospital chaplain there; Rev. James Ahenkora (641-745-7362), pastor of St. John Catholic Church, Greenfield may be able to help in the event of an emergency.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ragbrai Fund Raiser!:** Ragbrai will pass through Adair and Stuart on Monday, July 22, 2019. We believe that it is a golden opportunity for our parishes to raise money by serving simple items to the Ragbrai riders. If you would like to assist us, please contact (Erin Carney at 641-740-7974 for St. John,) or (Tammy Doud at All Saints; allsaintsoffice@gmail.com or 523-1943). We are looking forward to taking advantage of this wonderful, and rare, opportunity.
- St. John Bible Study:** For those who have committed to "Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom" we will plan on starting Thursday May 30th at 6pm in the parish hall. The cost is \$29/book per person; couples could share if they wanted. The DVD set has been donated, I'll be ordering soon, 1 book per person, so please make sure to confirm your participation if you haven't already. There are 20 total sessions. We are so excited to start back up! Please contact Annie 402-216-9488 or email annie68164@hotmail.com if you have any questions. Thank you!

St. John Faith Formation Coordinator, Annie Brincks



Congratulations to our First Communicants: Gavin and Kelsie Steensen, Joseph Fagan, Jovie Denney and Will Skram, as they receive their first Holy Communion, Sunday, May 5th. We pray they will forever be blessed and continue to trust in God and grow in His grace.

Special thanks to Gina Gettler for preparing our first communicants to receive the most holy sacrament of our Lord. We pray that the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be upon them now and forever.

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

| Sunday 5/5 | Monday 5/6 | Tuesday 5/7 | Wednesday 5/8 | Thursday 5/9 | Friday 5/10 | Saturday 5/11 |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------|--|--|
| <u>Adair</u> 7:30am Rosary & Confession 8am Mass for Jeanette Wittrock 5/12 Mass for Jeanette Wittrock <u>Stuart</u> 9am Choir Practice 10am Mass BD: Janet Bassett & Owen Weber | BD: Cathy Hicks, Megan O'Brien & Les Elgin | <u>Stuart</u> NO MASS BD: Pat Doud & Ramona Partlow | <u>Adair</u> NO MASS BD: Barb Marnin & DaMerica Smith | <u>Stuart</u> NO MASS | <u>Stuart</u> NO MASS BD: Howard Messinger | <u>Stuart</u> Confessions by Appointment 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass BD: Jodi Bassett, Erin Hadley, Phillip Tigges & Logan Witte |

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, May 7 @ 1pm: Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn
 Tuesday, May 14th @ 1pm: Eric Tiernan, Gina James & Donna Donnelly

All Saints Financial Partnership
 April 28, 2019
 Weekly Offering: \$ 1,751.00
 Children's Offering: \$ 31.05

St. John Financial Partnership
 April 28, 2019
 Weekly Offering: \$ 254.00
 Children's Offering: \$ 22.00