

Father Tony's Corner (continued from front page)

wants to connect with us, but he can only do so if we let him, and we cannot let him if we do not think we need him. Jesus makes the most amazing offer imaginable. He offers us a friendship with him. He offers us happiness. He offers us eternal life. But we have to want it – God will never force us to accept his love. The first man does not recognize how much he needs God. He would not receive salvation as a gift, but seems to think that he has earned it. The second man is different. He recognizes that he is a sinner, and he asks God for forgiveness. He does not even think he is worthy to raise his eyes to heaven. Instead he prays, 'Oh God, be merciful to me, a sinner'. He does not take God's mercy for granted – he asks for it. Jesus wants to give us that attitude. He died on the Cross to heal us with his mercy and bring us to heaven. We choose whether to ask for that. It's not easy to admit that we are sinners. We are all sinners – and we all need redemption. We are sinners infinitely loved by Christ, who offers us that redemption, and offers us a new life. Have we admitted to Christ that we are sinners? It is a wonderful experience, because it frees us from the burden of thinking that we have to be perfect, and that we have to have it all together. It is what allows God's power to begin to change us, fill us, and make us truly happy. During the Eucharistic Prayer, let us just silently say to Jesus, 'Jesus, I believe in your love for me. Have mercy on me, a sinner'. And as we receive him in the Holy Eucharist let us thank him for his overwhelming mercy, which is his eternal gift to us.



The Altar & Rosary Society met last weekend and decided to participate in two charity events: Operation Christmas Child & Sarah's Holiday Caring program. More information will be forthcoming on dates and details. It was also decided to hold a cookie/candy fundraiser sometime in December. All bakers in the parish are encouraged to pull out your favorite recipes and plan to provide some delectable treats for sale. Stay tuned for more information.

All Saints Faith Formation by Jill Gerling, Coordinator



All Saints Community Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, October 30 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
All Saints Church Parking Lot

Parishioners and Faith Formation Families will provide their personal vehicles to be theme decorated and filled with goodies for the children of the community to come and Trunk (trick) or Treat in a safe area with fun and fellowship.



Please sign up on the table in the gathering space. This is a great opportunity to reach out to the community and our own parish families.

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

Table with 7 columns: Sunday 10/27, Monday 10/28, Tuesday 10/29, Wednesday 10/30, Thursday 10/31, Friday 11/1, Saturday 11/2. Rows include Mass times, Birthdays (BD), and Anniversaries for various individuals.

Staff

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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



Saint Luke tells us that Jesus 'addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else'. Jesus went after the big sinners - not to destroy them, but to convert them, to win them over to his friendship. Those are big sinners, because their hearts are poisoned with arrogance. They look down on other people and consider themselves superior, which is exactly what the devil does. And what is worse, they do not even recognize their sinfulness. This is the kind of person that we usually try to avoid. But Jesus does not. He tells this parable to them specifically, in order to reel them into his heart, to make them see the folly and ugliness of their self-centered lifestyle. He reaches out to them. Jesus did not just preach to the choir. It would have been safer to do so - he would not have ruffled the feathers of powerful enemies; he would not have been put to death. And so, his eagerness to bring big sinners to the light shows how much he cared about others, and how little he worried about himself. If his priority had been comfortable self-satisfaction, he would never have gone after them. But he did go after them, and he is still going after them. Jesus wants absolutely everyone to come to his Father's house. Why was the tax collector's prayer better than the Pharisee's prayer? Because the tax collector actually made a connection with God, but the Pharisee only made a connection with himself. Tax collectors were despised by the Jewish community in Palestine. They were Jews who collaborated with the occupying Roman forces by collecting taxes from fellow Jews. They often collected more than the law required, pocketing the extra. The Pharisees were just the opposite. They were the most respected members of the Jewish community, the elite, the undisputed religious leaders of the nation. And yet, Jesus praises the tax collector's prayer and criticizes the Pharisee's prayer. Through the centuries, in fact, the tax collector's simple prayer, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner', has been taken up as a complete summary of Christian spirituality. There are even cases of monks who made this prayer the only words that they spoke and reached heights of sanctity by means of it. This prayer makes a connection with God because it recognizes two things. First, it acknowledges God's greatest quality in relation to fallen mankind, his mercy. The word 'mercy' comes from the Latin word 'misericors': miser (wretched, miserable) + 'cor' (heart). Literally, it means to take someone else's wretchedness into one's heart. That is what God does with us. Second, the tax collector's prayer recognizes his need for that mercy. He accuses himself of being a sinner, someone who has selfishly abused God's gifts. The Pharisee's prayer shows no knowledge either of God's mercy or of his need for God; rather, it is an exercise in narcissism, in self-admiration. God

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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 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

- **All Saints Knights of Columbus Annual Chicken Dinner:** This weekend the 27th, (or if you're reading this on Sunday, it's TODAY), from 10:30am - 1:00pm. See you all there!!



- **All Saints: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. The basic process applies to adults and older children, with younger children initiated through an adapted version sometimes incorrectly referred to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children.

⇒ New session begins Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the music room

### Music Announcement by Brenda Wedemeyer, Music Director

In recent weeks, several people have asked about a change of habit prior to Mass. We have traditionally been offering a musical prelude prior to each weekend Mass. Father Tony has made the request that this be a time of silence. Here's why:

*(From an article published in the GIA Quarterly, Volume 31, #1, by Eric J. Bermari)*

*"As with all things, the liturgy too must have a balance. In some instances, active participation borders on being too active. Pope St. John Paul II spoke of active participation in the liturgy when he addressed the bishops of the episcopal conference of the United States (Oct. 9, 1998): Active participation certainly means that, in gesture, word, song and service, all the members of the community take part in an act of worship, which is anything but inert or passive. Yet active participation does not preclude the active passivity of silence, stillness and listening: indeed, it demands it. Worshippers are not passive, for instance, when listening to the readings or the homily, or following the prayers of the celebrant, and the chants and music of the liturgy. These are experiences of silence and stillness, but they are their own way profoundly active. In a culture which neither favors nor fosters meditative quiet, the art of interior listening is learned only with difficulty. Here we see how the liturgy, though it must always be properly inculturated, must also be counter-cultural."*

If you have any comments or questions, or if you'd like to learn how to be a cantor, please feel free to contact me by email at: [brendawedemeyer@yahoo.com](mailto:brendawedemeyer@yahoo.com) or by phone/text: 641-740-1079.

### St. John Faith Formation 2019-2020 by Monica Fagan



- **St. John Harvest Mass:** Please join us Sunday, November 3rd for the Youth Harvest Mass where the children of the church will be fulfilling liturgical roles. All parishioners are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the local food pantry. After mass, please join our youth and fellow parishioners for a sale in the parish hall. Enjoy some hot cocoa and coffee while starting your Christmas shopping early. Items available for purchase are recipes in a jar, hot cocoa mix gift packages, baked goods, scarves and much more. Proceeds from the sale will go to Tori's Angels, an organization that helps all kids with life threatening illnesses. We're looking forward to seeing you all there!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Holy Day of Obligation - Solemnity of All Saints Mass schedule:**

Thursday, October 31	Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of All Saints 5:30pm at St. John, Adair
Friday, November 1	Solemnity of All Saints 6:00pm at All Saints, Stuart

- **Man - Up West Power Lunch, November (Catholic Fellowship for Men):**

Friday, November 8th - 12:00 Noon at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in West Des Moines

### ***Sacred Relics: Treasures of the Church***

Tim Jameson will bring his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Relic of the True Cross of Jesus Christ plus other relics of the Saints and share his stories of how Relics have led him and countless others to receive and respond to God's grace.

Bring your own sacramentals; rosaries, holy cards, crucifixes, etc. to make your own 3<sup>rd</sup> class relics and venerate the Relic of the True Cross.

Lunch from Chick-fil-A/Fellowship/Program: High Noon, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church- 7075 Ashworth Rd, West Des Moines, IA 50266

Register for this event at <https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/events>

**Save the Date! "Men of Christ" Catholic Men's Conference, February 22nd, 2020. Mass with Bishop William Joensen. Featured Speaker: ISU Football Coach Matt Campbell.**

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

#### All Saints

##### Saturday, November 2

**Rosary:** Frank Holle  
**Ushers:** David & Sharon Doud  
**Altar Server:** Zoey & Bailey Dickson  
**Lector:** Donna Donnelly  
**Commentator:** Sharon Doud  
**Greeters:** David & Sharon Doud  
**EMHC:** Donna Donnelly, Mark Tisl & Dan Hilgers

#### All Saints

##### Sunday, November 3

**Ushers:** Dennis Van Pelt & Tom Doud  
**Altar Servers:** Jackson Doyle, Jenna Doyle & Lauren O'Brien  
**Lector:** Donna Olson  
**Commentator:** Wayne Nosbisch  
**Greeters:** Dennis & Joyce Van Pelt  
**EMHC:** Joyce Van Pelt, Amy Doud & Ismael Leyva

#### St. John

##### Sunday, November 3

**Cross Bearer:** Gavin Steensen  
**Greeters:** Faith Formation  
**Lector:** Faith Formation  
**Host:** Dave Richter  
**Cup:** Elizabeth Moreland & Matt Fagan  
**Altar Servers:** Addy Richter & Carley Fagan  
**Traveling Chalice:** Cleon & Kaye Klemish

### MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, October 29 @ 1pm: Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn

Tuesday, November Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn

#### All Saints Financial Partnership

October 20, 2019

**Weekly Offering: \$ 1,670.00**  
**Children's Offering: \$ 3.00**  
**Building Fund: \$ 25.00**

#### St. John Financial Partnership

October 20, 2019

**Weekly Offering: \$ 849.00**  
**Children's Offering: \$ 0**