

Reflections of the Rector



Dear brothers and sisters,

Happy Easter!

I recently heard on the news that the state of Iowa wants to replace all the “Welcome to Iowa” signs across the state. With that, there was also the talk about changing the slogan on such billboards. In case you don’t remember, the current signs read, “The people of Iowa welcome you. Iowa, Field of Opportunities.” That made me wonder. If we had to design welcome signs for our parish, what would they say? What would our slogan be?

We Catholics are not always regarded as very welcoming people. I unfortunately have witnessed how people are rejected from parish groups because they do not conform to a pre-conceived notion of what members are supposed to be like. Or even more common, visiting a church and being asked to move because you sat in someone else’s pew.

On the other hand, I have also seen how our noon Mass community is welcoming of others, especially when a new “regular” joins the ranks. I’ve also seen how our Latin Mass community welcomes newcomers and offers them resources to better participate in the Mass. I’ve also received words of gratitude for how our office staff welcomes new parishioners. So not all we hear about Catholics not being welcoming is true, and this is just a small sample.

But we can and should be doing more. As we are painfully aware, Catholics are leaving the Church, or at least no longer attending Mass. This was exacerbated by the ongoing pandemic, but it’s something we have seen for a few decades now. That is the root cause of the recent parish reorganizations. We have heard over and over that it is because we do not have enough priests to staff our parishes; but we do not have more priests because we do not have enough Catholics involved in the parish.

With the help of some parishioners, we will be working on some initiatives to invite and welcome people back into our parish. These parishioners and our staff attended a seminar in early March on how to welcome people back to Mass, and we will be coming up with strategies. No strategy, though, will be successful if we are not all welcoming as a parish. Again, I have witnessed that welcoming attitude already, but there is always room for improvement.

So, what can we do? The first thing to do is to start praying for your fellow parishioners. Let us pray for all members of our parish who have stopped coming for any reason. According to Church law, all Catholics who live within our parish boundaries are our parishioners. That would include all of downtown, and a great part of the west side. We are also the personal parish for Spanish and Vietnamese speakers, as well as for those who prefer to attend the *Usus Antiquior*, or Extraordinary Form. So, as you can see, we have a lot of people to pray for.

The second thing to do is inviting people back to church, whether they left because of the merger, the pandemic, or whatever reason. If every parishioner that I mentioned in the previous paragraph came to Mass, we would have full Masses, yet we know that’s not the case, nor it has been for a few years. If you know anyone who should be coming to Mass, please call them or visit them, invite them, and follow up. Some, especially those who left because of health concerns, may not be ready to come back yet, and that’s understandable.

The third thing to do is getting involved. When we get active in our parish, we get to know our fellow parishioners. When we know our fellow parishioners it is easy to identify newcomers and be more welcoming.

And the last item is being more welcoming. Now, what does that look like? I don’t think there is just one way to be more welcoming. We all need to ask ourselves, “How would I like to be treated if I ever have to join a new parish?” - and act accordingly. I want to hear what you, as a parishioner or friend of the parish, can do to be more welcoming.

So, pray, invite, get involved, and be more welcoming. That’s simple, isn’t it? Now let’s do it!

In Christ,
Fr. Esquiliano

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Cathedral Updates

Temporary schedule for the Chapel

Monday-Wednesday, from 4:00pm to 10:00pm or Thursday-Sunday, 24 hrs.

To sign up or manage your hours, go to epiphany.weadorehim.co.... Or Contact Fr. Wind if you have any questions at (712)255-1637 ext. 110 or at jwind@sccathedral.org. All Diocesan protocols will have to be observed.

Signup for Mass

Remember to register before you come to Mass, or let us know afterwards what Mass you attended. You can fill out a short form at sccathedral.org/live or call Laura at 255-1637 ext., 116

Confessions

Confessions are being heard once again in the Church. The priest will be behind the statue of Our Blessed Mother to the South of the Sanctuary in the Cathedral. Go to sccathedral.org/penance... for times.

The Financial Corner

<u>INCOME</u>	Jan-21
Weekly Offerings	\$ 44,564.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 9,446.18
Programming Support	\$ 8,306.33
Other Income	\$ 16,317.63
Total Parish Income	\$ 78,634.14
<u>EXPENSE</u>	
Salaries and Wages	\$ 30,116.27
Administrative Expenses	\$ 7,245.53
Ministry Expenses	\$ 305.02
Utility Bills & Repairs	\$ 20,450.19
Assessments	\$ 7,809.00
Other Expenses	\$ 67.11
Total Expenses	\$ 65,993.12
Net Income	\$ 12,641.02

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OFFICE HOURS:

The office doors are locked when school is in session. If you need to see or talk with someone from the office please call ahead. Thank you for understanding.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Mass intention may be offered for a deceased love one or a close family member or friend who is in need of prayers due to illness or other struggle. In order to offer the opportunity for all parishioners to schedule a Mass Intention for their loved ones and to accommodate recently deceased individuals, please go to sccathedral.org or call the office at 712-255-1637 ext. 116.

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

April 1st Mass of the Lord's Supper - **7pm** (Cathedral) (Bilingual)
April 2nd – Good Friday - **Noon** (Cathedral) (English Service)
5:30pm (Cathedral) (Spanish Service)
April 3th – Easter Vigil - **8:00pm** (Cathedral) (Bilingual)
April 4th– Easter Sunday – **Normal Sunday Mass Schedule**

OFFICE CLOSED:

The parish office will be closed on Friday, April 2nd and Monday April 5th. **!Happy Easter!** From all Cathedral staff.

Faith and Sacramental Formation



We are almost concluding the forty days of Lent and we will glory in the light of Christ through His resurrection, this is the most important moment for us as Catholics, since it is the moment when Christ conquered sin and death to always in His resurrection.

"!Christ was resurrected! Indeed He is risen! " These words should always resonate in our mind and heart and should fill us with faith and hope as we will be celebrating the wonderful feast of our salvation, the solemnity of Easter.

Hopefully this season of Lent has made us turn to the Lord and seek real conversion, because it is very easy to say, "we have already finished another Lent" and now it is time to eat meat again on Fridays and we have forgotten about prayer. and fasting, we fall back into laziness (spiritual apathy) but we should not easily fall into it.

If we go through Lent and only move on to a superficial level, then that is what we will get out of it, being superficial Catholics. We all need conversion and real repentance in our lives, we must make profound and significant changes that last in our lives beyond the six weeks of the Lenten season.

That is why then, let me encourage you to return to Mass on weekends, it is nice to see when whole families gather to celebrate together the encounter with our Lord Jesus through the Holy Eucharist and also together as brothers praying for each other in one voice, answering or praying the parts that correspond to us in the Mass. We must commit ourselves to serve God through all the ministries that we have, "which are many and the servants are few". I have always wondered: why, being such a large community, is it that we have so few people willing to serve God? I believe that we can achieve a united community if we work together as children of God and brothers of Jesus Christ Our Lord. Jesus said to him: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great commandment, the first. But there is another very similar: You will love your neighbor as yourself"*.
Matthew 21, 37-39



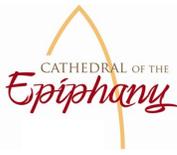
On April 3 at 8pm here in the Cathedral of the Epiphany we will witness the welcome to the Catholic Church of 18 people (children over 7 years old and adults) who are called catechumens, they have not celebrated the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion). This beautiful ceremony will be preceded by our Bishop Nickless, all attendees will have the privilege of celebrating on the solemnity of Easter and seeing these 18 people celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation and become Catholics and children of God.

We continue with the celebrations, as many children and young people will celebrate their First Communion on April 24 and 25 during Sunday Masses. On May 16 we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Nickless who will be present to grant Confirmation to those who have been preparing for two years and are ready to receive the Sacrament. Please pray for all of them when they receive their Sacraments that they continue to live the Sacraments in a way worthy of the children of God.

These are reminders to ourselves that our faith is alive and that God's power is active in his church. It also reminds us of the Lord's commandment at the end of Matthew's Gospel: *Go, then, and make all peoples my disciples. Baptize them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to fulfill all that I have entrusted to you "*. Matthew 28, 19-20

Santa Fernandez

Director of Faith and Sacramental Formation



Cathedral of the Epiphany

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Sioux City, Iowa 51105

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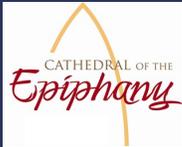
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April 2021

Very Rev. J. David Esquiliano, JCL Rector
Rev. Jeremy Wind, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mauro Sanchez, Parochial Vicar
Very Rev. Bradley Pelzel, V.G., In-Residence

Website www.sccathedral.org
Email info@sccathedral.org
Telephone 712-255-1637

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

MONDAY– SUNDAY 24 Hour
Adoration Chapel-Epiphany Center

CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY 8:00a- 8:30a Cathedral
MONDAY 4:30p -5:30p Cathedral
TUESDAY 4:30p -5:30p Cathedral
WEDNESDAY 4:30p-5:30p Cathedral
THURSDAY 4:30p-5:30p Cathedral
FRIDAY 11:30a -12:00p Cathedral
4:30p to 5:30p Cathedral
SATURDAY 3:00p to 4:00p St. Boniface
5:00p to 6:00p Cathedral

MASS SCHEDULE

MON.-FRI. 12:00 pm Cathedral English
5:30 pm Cathedral Spanish
SATURDAY: 4:00 pm St. Boniface English
6:00 pm Cathedral Spanish
SUNDAY: 8:30 am Cathedral Latin
8:30 am St. Joseph English
10:00 am Cathedral English
10:30 am St. Boniface Spanish
12:00 pm Cathedral Spanish
12:30 pm St. Joseph Vietnamese
1:30 pm Cathedral Spanish

MASSES HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Anticipated / Vigil

5:30 p.m. St. Boniface (English)
5:30 p.m. Cathedral (Spanish)

On the Day of the Solemnity

7:00 a.m. St. Joseph (English)
12:00 p.m. Cathedral (English)
5:30 p.m. Cathedral (Spanish)

MASS CIVIL HOLIDAYS

9:00am Cathedral (Bilingual)

Thursday, April 1

Mass of the Lord's Supper - **7pm** (Cathedral)
(Bilingual)

Friday, April 2

Good Friday - **Noon** (Cathedral) (English)
5:30pm (Cathedral) (Spanish)

No Religious Education classes

No Confirmation classes

Office Closed

Saturday, April 3

NO Baptisms (Spanish)

Rehearsal of Catechumens at noon (Cathedral)

Easter Vigil - **8:00pm** (Cathedral) (Bilingual)

Sunday, April 4

Easter – **Normal Sunday Mass Schedule**

No RCIA Classes (English)

Monday, April 5

Office Closed

Wednesday, April 7

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

RICIA (Spanish) 6p to 7:30p, EC-BR

Friday, April 9

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Wednesday, 14 April

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

RICIA Classes (Spanish), 6 to 7:30p, EC

Friday, April 16

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Saturday, April 17

Baptisms (Spanish) 11a

Wednesday, April 21

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

RICIA Classes (Spanish), 6 to 7:30p, EC

Friday, April 23

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Reconciliation for kids 6p, (Cathedral)

Saturday, April 24

Celebration of First Communion during Masses

Baptisms (Spanish) 11a

Sunday, April 25

Celebration of First Communion during Masses

Wednesday, April 28

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

RICIA Classes (Spanish), 6 to 7:30p, EC

Friday, April 30

Religious Education, 5:30p to 8p, EC

Confirmation, 5:30p to 8p, EC

The deadline for May newsletter submissions is:

Friday, May 14

Easter Triduum Schedule

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(Bilingual)

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April 4th – Easter – **Normal Sunday Mass Schedule**

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A Note from the Carmelite Nuns:

Thank you to all for your generous donations to the Carmelite Nuns' annual grocery and household funds collection. The Sisters with grateful hearts pray daily for your parish family.

