

St. Catherine, St. Donatus,
St. Joseph & Sts. Peter & Paul
Catholic Churches
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 5, 2021



Mass Schedule

Saturday (vigil)

- ◇ 4:15 PM St. Joseph
- ◇ 5:30 PM St. Catherine (May - October)

Sunday

- ◇ 8:00 AM Sts. Peter & Paul
- ◇ 8:00 AM St. Donatus (May - October)
- ◇ 10:15 AM St. Joseph

Daily Mass/Holy Days--See inside

Main Parish Office

St. Joseph Church **MAILING ADDRESS (for all 4 Parishes):**
405 Franklin Street **405 Franklin St.**
Bellevue, IA 52031 **Bellevue, Iowa 52031**
563-872-3234

Website: www.sjandsp.com; **Facebook:** facebook.com/stjosephbellevue

Parish Staff

- ◇ **Pastor** - Rev. Dennis Miller: 563-872-3234
dbqdmiller@dbqarch.org
 - ◇ **Associate Pastor** - Rev. David Ambrosy: 563-872-3234
dbq012ap@dbqarch.org
 - ◇ **Deacon** - Rev. Mr. Loras Weber: 563-872-3234
ljcweber@hotmail.com
 - ◇ **Pastoral Minister** - Brother Stephen Markham: 563-872-3234; dbq012s2@dbqarch.org
 - ◇ **Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization and Youth Director** - Julie Schmidt: 563-495-4596
dbq012s@dbqarch.org
 - ◇ **Director of Religious Education St. Donatus/St. Catherine** - Mary Beth Wagner: dbq181ff@dbqarch.org
 - ◇ **Secretary/Bookkeeper** - Denise Michel: 563-872-3234
dbq012sec@dbqarch.org
 - ◇ **Office Volunteer** - Dee Schilling: 563-872-3234
- Area Catholic Schools:** Marquette Systems: 563-872-3284/3356; Holy Family: 563-582-5456

Pastoral Council Chairpersons

- Ashley Lochner (St. Catherine) 563-590-4363
- Lori Thielen (St. Donatus) 563-580-2931
- Dean Upmann (St. Joseph) 563-357-2528
- Greg Thomas (Sts. Peter & Paul) 563-663-0690

Reconciliation

Saturdays at SJ, 8:10-8:45 AM; 3:00-3:30 PM; Sundays at SPP 7:00-7:30 AM

Baptisms-Parents must be registered members of one of the parishes and attend a Pre-Baptism Class. Expecting families please contact the parish office at 872-3234 to schedule a class for St. Catherine, St. Donatus, St. Joseph and Sts. Peter & Paul.

Weddings-Arrangements should be made at least 8 months prior to the marriage by contacting the St. Joseph Parish office. One or both of the parties needs to be a registered, practicing member of one of our parishes or a parish where they reside. The latest time for a wedding at St. Joseph is 1:30 p.m. if held on Saturday. In addition to the pastor/deacon, other priests/deacons may preside at weddings with pastor's permission.

Pastoral Care

Call the parish office for Anointing of the Sick, Holy Communion, and visits to the homebound. If no answer, call Deacon Loras Weber at 563-599-6717.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Adults who wish to become Catholic should call the office.

The community of St. Catherine, St. Donatus, Ss. Peter & Paul, and St. Joseph Parishes has been called to a holy life by our loving Father in REVERENT WORSHIP. We are empowered with the Holy Spirit to experience FREEDOM IN CHRIST. We seek to live out our lives through the LOVE OF CHRIST. -Mission Statement

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MILLER/OTHER

Friends

Peace be with you.

Recently, I was asked about the Catholic Church's teaching on Yoga. So, I did a little research and this is what I found. My sources are a 1989 Letter to the all the bishops from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith entitled On Some aspects of Christian Meditation, A document from the Pontifical Council for Culture and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue called Jesus Christ the Bearer of the Water of Life, A recent homily by Pope Francis quoted in the Jesuit Magazine America called Pope Francis: Zen, yoga can't bring God's freedom: 'Only the Holy Spirit can prompt your heart to say 'Father,' Pope Francis said in a homily on Jan 9. and, most helpful, an article in Catholic Answers called simply The Trouble with Yoga. If I were to choose one to recommend, I would choose the last article by the team at Catholic Answers because I think it is most direct and most thorough. But, before I begin, let me admit the answer is not a simple "yes" or "no". Despite the rather superstitious claims of an important exorcist that the devil is working in Harry Potter and Yoga or the pithy column in America Magazine answering Pope Francis by claiming Yoga helps faith, the answer is rather complex.

Let me try to briefly clarify what the church finds problematic. One goal of Yoga is to be dissolved into the universal presence of god. God is everywhere and in everything, therefore the stretching and meditation that goes with Yoga are all an attempt to become enlightened that you are god and that you are a part of everything. One way of doing this is through repetition of a mantra while doing the stretches such as "so'ham", which means "I am he" or "I am the universal Self". "Om" is also encouraged to be repeated, which is meant as a connection to the universe. Notice that, in all of this, the focus is on the self. The stretching exercises may seek to transcend the physical, sometimes out of a belief that the physical realm is artificial or evil, but the end goal is to find peace or contentment as you see one's self as god and to get lost in that thought.

This is different than Christian spirituality in a number of ways. First, Christian spirituality is a gift not necessarily based on feelings. As I said above, the way you know you connect with the universe in Buddhism is, in general, having good feelings of peace or happiness. A good Yoga session, therefore, has the goal of inner peace or joy. A Christian may feel nothing in prayer. In On Some Aspects... cited above, in paragraph 30 it talks about how feeling nothing in prayer but continuing to pray demonstrates that the person genuinely is not merely praying for selfish reasons but is searching for union with God. The other point is that Christian prayer, though open to private and personal experiences, should always move us to serve. It moves us outside of ourselves to reconcile with a brother or to help the least among us. It makes us want to love God and love neighbor, not just to love oneself as a part of the deified universe. Lastly, Christian prayer sees an intimate connection between the body and the soul. Jesus was born with a body and resurrected with a body. Mary was taken

Message from Fr. Miller continued

up body and soul into heaven. We hope for the resurrection of the body. And, Jesus even infers that, while we blame the body for sin, it is what one thinks that often leads us to sin.

Still, one cannot deny that "some physical exercises automatically produce a feeling of quiet and relaxation, pleasing sensations, perhaps even phenomena of light and of warmth..." (Some Aspects... paragraph 28). We would not agree with some fundamentalist evangelicals who see the postures in a superstitious way as, themselves, inviting the devil into a person's life. That's no more true than saying someone who kneels in a church is automatically praying. The heart and the body have to be involved in prayer and the heart and the body have to be involved in Yoga for it to be effective. The issue is whether we can strip the spiritually problematic parts from the physical side of Yoga movements and replace it with something that would be in line with Catholic thought. The Trouble with Yoga above cites two problems. First, Yoga experts protest that, if we do this, it is the equivalent of cultural appropriation; taking from someone else's culture and claiming it as your own. Think about how people like Elvis Presley stole jazz music from African Americans in the 50's and 60s and made millions while the people that wrote the actual music were penniless and uncredited. Secondly, even if we ignore this criticism as politically correct garbage, how do we integrate it? The truth is that the stretching component of Yoga doesn't necessarily fit in with a classical Christian notion of meditation. It lends itself to personal introspection and focusing on the self but not necessarily moving outside the self to service of others. Focusing on a transcendent being who is completely different than ourselves but who wants to be in a relationship with us while doing Yoga moves doesn't seem entirely compatible. Still, if someone has figured out how to do that, please continue doing so. And, if you attend Yoga as it is and do your best to adapt the spiritual side to make it Christian or ignore the spiritual side while doing the stretches and have found it has helped your faith, good, keep doing it. However, if you're looking for something to help you grown in your faith and seeking some activity that is also good, low impact exercise, I would suggest you talk to a doctor and see if there are other solutions than yoga for your exercise and seek the Bread of Life at Mass or adoration to be united with the Father through the Holy Spirit, as Pope Francis said in his homily, instead.

YOUTH GROUP/ EPIC/HS FF/CONFIRMATION

- Wednesday, Sept. 8 - Youth Faith Formation- meet in Kruse Center & Kieffer Hall 3:15-5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 8 - Family Faith Formation-meet in Kruse Center & Trinity Hall 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 8 - Home Study Faith Formation-parent (s) work with child(ren) at home on assigned lesson.

OTHER

St. Catherine/St. Donatus Parish News

The 2021-22 St. Catherine/St. Donatus K-10 Faith Formation Program will hold its first session with students on Sunday, September 19, in St. Donatus Parish Center following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Donatus Church. All K-10 students from our parishes who are not attending a parochial school are asked to register and attend this program. Sessions will be held usually on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month following the 8 a.m. Mass held either at St. Donatus (September-October) or St. Catherine (November-April) parish. Please contact Marybeth Wagner, program director, at dbq181ff@dbqarch.org for registration information, forms and a calendar. We welcome **all** to join us and are looking forward to a great year.

There will also be an opportunity for pre-schoolers and their parents to meet together on the 3rd Sunday of the month during the Faith Formation sessions in the months of September-November and January-March. No registration is necessary for this program.

Our **Monthly Special Collection designee** for September will be the organization **"Vision to Learn."** The local **Vision to Learn** program provides free eye exams and free eyeglasses to students in Dubuque and Jackson Counties. Vision to Learn is a Mobile Eye Clinic that takes an optician and optometrist to schools and other programs, with the goal to help children to read at grade level by the end of third grade. Envelopes for donations to our monthly designees can be found in the back of our churches and placed in the regular collection basket at either parish any weekend of this month. Thank you for supporting those in need.

As part of St. Catherine and St. Donatus Faith Formation Commission goal this year to focus on helping parishioners to grow in their understanding of the beauty and richness of the Mass, Faith Formation Commission member Tricia Kilburg is asking some of our parishioners – **MAYBE YOU** – just what makes Mass beautiful and meaningful for you, and will be sharing responses after Masses in September. Think about how **YOU** would respond to this question. Also, if you would be interested in joining our Faith Formation Commission, please contact Judy Herrig at 773-8820. We'd love to have you join us!

Sts. Peter & Paul's, Springbrook, Iowa Fall Breakfast Sunday, October 17, 2021

Serving 7:00 am – 12:00 Noon

****Sign-up sheets and Grocery Donation List are in the greeting space.**

Circles 4, 5, & 6 are assigned to work.

Circles 1, 2, & 3 are asked to donate 1 dozen sweet rolls or donuts.

**New Circles List available*

Will have Raffles, 50/50 Drawing, & Bake Sale

Server Training at Sts. Peter & Paul

There will be server training for all servers at Sts. Peter & Paul Church on Sun., Sept. 12th after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING

St. Catherine

Adult Contributors	
Envelopes.....	\$1200.00
Offertory.....	\$49.00
Assumption.....	\$20.00
Special Monthly Collection.....	\$200.00
Haiti Collection.....	\$1404.00
Total.....	\$2873.00

St. Donatus

Adult Contributors	
Envelopes.....	\$242.00
EFT (Auto Deposit)	\$340.00
Summer Collection.....	\$1000.00
Offertory.....	\$135.00
Votive.....	\$37.00
Honesty Table.....	\$96.00
Way of the Cross.....	\$153.00
Chapel Fence.....	\$5500.00
Total.....	\$7503.00

St. Joseph

Adult Contributors	
Envelopes.....	\$2810.00
EFT (Auto Deposit)	\$3189.00
Youth.....	\$3.00
Offertory.....	\$434.63
Votive.....	\$33.00
Assumption.....	\$10.00
Haiti.....	\$220.00
Total.....	\$6699.63

Sts. Peter & Paul

Adult Contributors	
Envelopes.....	\$2210.00
EFT (Auto Deposit)	\$161.00
Offertory.....	\$283.00
Votive.....	\$12.00
BBQ.....	\$100.00
Hall rent.....	\$277.68
Haiti Collection.....	\$223.00
Total.....	\$3266.68

WELCOME



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To our guests attending St. Joseph's annual pork roast: we hope you enjoy your time with us and we look forward to your return!

A MESSAGE FROM BROTHER STEPHEN/OTHER

This week we celebrate the feast days of Saint Mother Teresa (Sept. 5) and Saint Peter Claver (Sept. 9).

In Mark's Gospel: Jesus made the deaf man hear, removed his speech impediment, and ordered them to not tell anyone (no doubt, they were not ready to believe) but they could not resist proclaiming the Good News.

Both Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Peter Claver dedicated their lives to proclaiming the Good News by bringing the love of God to the destitute poor among their hometown brothers and sisters. Mother Teresa would say: "Don't search for God in faraway lands. He is not there. He is close to you. He is with you. Just keep that lamp burning, and you will always see him." Mother Teresa saw Him in Calcutta and Peter Claver saw Him in Columbia.

When Teresa, a Sister of Loreto, Dublin, Ireland, was assigned to teach in a school in Calcutta (Kolkata) she was confronted with the devastating conditions the people endured. The image of poor children and adults dying and/or seriously ill on the streets of Calcutta remained with this young, tiny in stature, religious nun all twenty years she taught in India. At age thirty-six, she requested to leave the Sisters of Loreto to follow her passion to be an instrument of God's love serving the destitute poor, assisting the very ill, the starving, the homeless, and those nearing death. Within a few years she founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious order of women. Her message to those with whom she ministered was consistent and simple: "**We are put on earth to do something beautiful for God.**"

With her Sisters, she established a leper colony, an orphanage, and a nursing home. Her simplicity, embrace of God's presence, and passion to be an instrument of God's love for the most vulnerable brought her notoriety world-wide. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and the Bharat Ratna (Star of India) in 1980. She died at age 87 in 1987. She was named Venerable, December 20, 2002, Beatified, October 19, 2003, and Canonized a Saint, September 4, 2016. I had the privilege of meeting Mother Teresa in 1983 when she spoke at Winona State University in Winona, Minnesota. I can still recall how I felt a sense of God's presence, simplicity, and compassion just being in her presence.

Peter Claver was born in 1580 in Spain.. At age twenty-four he professed vows as a Jesuit. At age thirty he was assigned to Colombia where he encountered thousands of Africans being sold as slaves when they disembarked the ships that transported them. Peter was moved to minister to them after seeing multiple deaths and many more seriously sick, frightened, deprived of water and freedom. For thirty-three years he demonstrated God's love for them. He visited them on the plantations and pleaded with their owners to not mistreat them. He died in 1654, was beatified, September 21, 1851, and canonized a Saint, January 15, 1888.

How has God blessed you to be able to do something beautiful for God?

From the Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa we read, "Yesterday is gone, Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."

LITURGICAL ROLES

St. Joseph - Saturday, September 11 at 4:15 PM

Lector: Melissa Brinker **Eucharistic Minister:** Judy Moran, Leonard Ernst, Rhonda Petesch, Donna Mottet

Lead Rosary: Marilyn Ploessl **Sacristan:** Volunteer

Servers: Tate/Paige Kueter & 1 Volunteer

Ushers: Tim Daugherty, Loras Deppe, Ethan DeSotel, Dick Zeimet

Sunday, September 12 at 10:15 AM

Lector: Bill Lampe **Eucharistic Minister:** Carolyn Weber, Matt Tracy, Megan Capesius, Jacob Sturm

Lead Rosary: Ann Michels **Sacristan:** Monica McHugh

Servers: Erin/Tony/Brooke Sprank **Ushers:** Joe Kettmann, Volunteer, Ron Ries, Isaac Sturm

Sts. Peter & Paul - Sunday, September 12 at 8:00 AM

Lector: Mary Thomas **Eucharistic Minister:** Allison Hager

Server: Joseph & Justine Hager **Lead Rosary:** Carol Gerlach **Ushers:** Steve Cloos, Dan Zeimet, Mark/Tyler Banowitz

St. Donatus - Sunday, September 12 at 8:00 AM

Server: Amber Kramer **Lector:** Tom Draus **Eucharistic**

Minister: John Flammang **Ushers:** Larry Weber, Dave Herrig

St. Catherine - Saturday, September 11 at 5:30 PM

Lector: Liz Staner **Eucharistic Minister:** Dee Schilling

Ushers: Bob Jaeger & Joe Kies

St. Catherine Steak Fry

We will be hosting a Steak fry on Sept. 25th at the Parish Center. All families & friends are welcome to come and enjoy supper and fellowship. The \$20.00 ticket catered by Kalmes' will include your steak or 2 chicken breasts, baked potato, green beans, salads and dessert along with lemonade or coffee. There will also be a \$5.00 hotdog meal for the kids. You are welcome to bring a cooler with your favorite beverage as well. Serving will be from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Tickets will be available from Roger Manders, Joe Kies and JoAnn Herrig and will also be sold at the door.

Everyone is invited!

Bulletin Ads

Terri Roe from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be working the week of **September 13th**, securing new ads for our church. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



Bellevue Bread Basket

The Bellevue Bread Basket served the following in August - 32 families and 64 persons. The next Bellevue Bread Basket will be Thursday, September 16, 2021.

MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

Tuesday, September 7

8:25 AM - SJ † Hazel Lemer; † Lucille Bormann
† Mary Ann Till

5:30 PM - SC For the People

Wednesday, September 8

8:25 AM - SJ † Rosemary & Vincent Schwager & Family
† Duane & Sara Smith

10:00 AM - Mill Valley Care Center
† Lloyd Stecklein

Thursday, September 9

8:00 AM - SPP † Kathleen Cloos, Merlin & Rosemary
Dondlinger & Peggy Cloos Mueller

Friday, September 10

8:00 AM - SD † Deceased Members of the Ambrosy
Family

8:25 AM - SJ † Barbara Rowan; † Eldon Weis
† Joel, Vincent & Gloria Sturm, Merlin &
Marce Gonner

Saturday, September 11

4:15 PM - SJ † Hazel & Donald Lemer; † Rosie Kueter
† Maynard Meier; † Bill Vaughn
† Don, Evelyn & Gary Neubert
† Class of 1956

5:30 PM - SC † Ray & Rosie Tigges; † Melvin Lenz

Sunday, September 12

8:00 AM - SD † Carl Heitz

8:00 AM - SPP † Terry Kilburg

10:15 AM - SJ For the People

Join us on **October 10, 2021** for an informational meeting regarding our upcoming **9/11 remembered pilgrimage** scheduled for **June 6-13, 2022**. The meeting will be at 11:30 at the Fr. Kruse parish center at St. Joseph Church in Bellevue. Light snacks will be provided. Flyers for the trip are located in the back of church or you can contact Mary Johnston at blesu45@gmail.com or 319-560-5138 or go to www.pilgrimages.com/johnston to download a flyer.

AREA EVENTS

- ◆ **Holy Spirit Parish Festival**, Sun., Sept. 12, 10:30 - 4pm at the Holy Ghost campus, 2921 Central Ave., Dubuque. Chicken & Ham dinner with beverage & dessert \$12 per person. Silent Auction, games of chance, Big money wheel, Kids Zone, Country Store & refreshment stand. Everyone welcome!!
- ◆ **St. Joseph Parish, Preston** will be hosting their **Fall Festival** on Sunday, September 26th from 11 AM to 2 PM. There will be a Kalmes' Chicken & Ham dinner with all the fixings; also raffles, basket auction, bingo, bake sale, children's games, ice cream and car show.



Congratulations to Blair Bodkins and Nathan Gerlach, who were married this weekend at Sts. Peter & Paul Parish.

