

Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah

Office: 895-6246

Email: DBQ137@dbqarch.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 6 pm @ St. Isidore

Sunday: 8:30 am @ St. John

Weekday Mass Schedule

As stated in the weekly bulletin

Confessions Sunday: 8 am or by appointment

Main Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:

8 am - 5 pm

Friday:

7 am - 3:30 pm

Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper

Lorraine Kula

Parish Office: 895-6246

E-mail: l.kula@dbqarch.org

FAX #: 319-895-0973

Web: <http://www.stjohnmv.org>

Director of Faith Formation

Linda Hansmeier: 895-6758

E-mail: l.hansmeier@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Youth/Young Adult Ministry

De Wagner: 895-6758

E-Mail : DBQ137YM@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Music

Theresa Sundstrom: 563-451-2054

E-mail: t.sundstrom@dbqarch.org

Prayer Chain Contacts:

Thelma Rife: jtbr2@q.com

Lorraine Kula: (w)895-6246 or (c)319-350-8874

l.kula@dbqarch.org or ljula55@gmail.com

Catholic Charities: 1-800-772-2758

Birthright: 319-393-3251 or 1-800-550-4900

ST. JOHN

THE BAPTIST

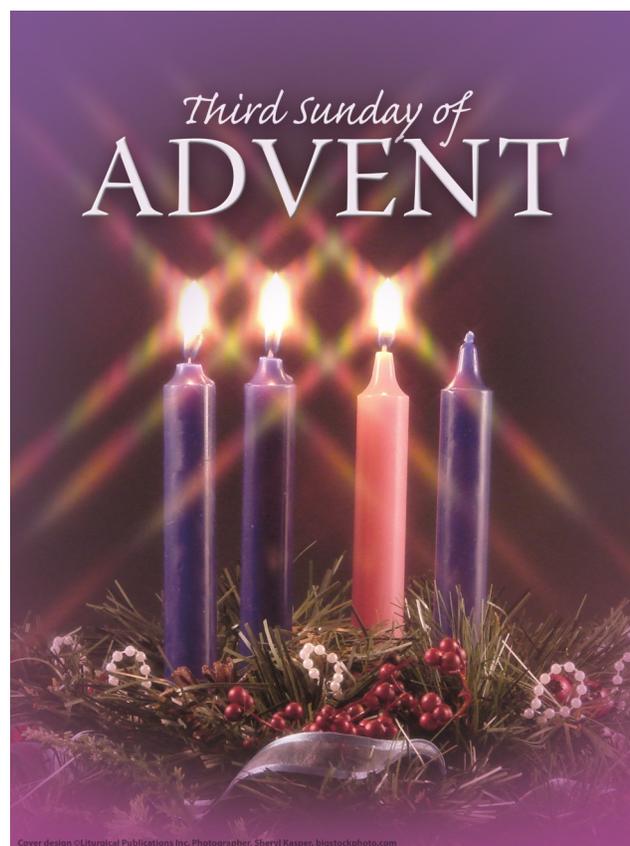
CATHOLIC CHURCH

212 7TH ST. SE

MOUNT VERNON, IA

LISBON - MOUNT VERNON, IA
AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

*Working Together To
Build the Kingdom of God*



Year of Seeking and Healing through Prayer and Kindness

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.” Isaiah 55: 8-9

Immaculate Conception (December 8): We focus so much on the season of Advent we often overlook three saints of the season who are worthy of remembering: St. Juan Diego on December 9, St. Lucy on December 13 and St. John of the Cross on December 14. The feast of St. Juan Diego is celebrated one day after the Immaculate Conception (December 8). This Holy Day of Obligation, the Immaculate Conception, is often mistaken for the Immaculate Conception of Mary, but it centers on the belief that Jesus’ mother, the Virgin Mary, was conceived without sin in the womb of her mother, St. Anne.

Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12): Juan Diego, canonized in 2002, is remembered for his loving obedience to the Blessed Mother. Mary asked Juan to tell the Church authorities that she wanted a church to be built at the place where she now appeared. When asked for a sign by the Church authorities Mary presented Juan with a gift of roses, which he found in the snow. When he opened his cloak in front of the authorities the roses poured out. His simple love for Our Lord and His mother reminds us to stop and smell the roses. On this day, December 9, eat a simple meal and put a rose on the table to remember this December miracle. We celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12.

St. Lucy (December 13): Lucy’s name means “light,” so traditional celebrations for her include candles. Martyred about the year 304 when Christianity was still outlawed by the Roman Empire, she had been persecuted because of her faith and tortured terribly, including burning her eyes out. Yet, her eyes were miraculously restored. She is the patron of those who are blind or have eye disorders. Take time to light candles and pray for the blind and include those who can see but are blinded by the eyes of consumerism during the Christmas season, missing the meaning of Jesus’ birth.

St. John of the Cross (December 14): With St. Teresa of Avila, he co-founded the Discalced Carmelites and is a Doctor of the Church. He was a great spiritual writer of the late medieval period. His most recognized work is *Dark Night of the Soul*. His writing focused on the soul, explaining that it must be emptied of self in order to be open to God. Now this might sound like some deep theology, but it is what we try to do during Advent; open ourselves to God by setting aside the attachments that are all around us.

Things to do with your kids this advent: (1) Walk under the stars: Go for an evening stroll on a clear night and have each one explain what he or she did during the last week to show God’s love. (2) Wrap and Pray: as presents are being wrapped, pray for the person the gift is for. (3) Make a prayer corner in your home for nightly prayers for the season. (4) Explore at the library or on the internet for information from other countries on things to do during Advent.

Youth Ministry

Last Sunday we heard the readings about preparing our way for the coming of the Lord. In Isaiah 40:3 we heard the prophecy of a voice crying out: “In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!” In 2 Peter 3:10-12, Peter tells us how to prepare for the Lord’s coming: “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God. Then in the Gospel, we hear about the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy through John the Baptist who proclaimed “a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. Mark 1:4-5 During Advent season, the high schoolers are preparing the way for the Lord by conducting themselves in holiness, prayer, seeking forgiveness, acts of kindness and service such as writing Christmas cards to those in our community who are in care facilities and decorating an advent tree.

Retired Fund for the Religious:

Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Readings for the week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
Wed.: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday:
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 16th

8:30 am - Alison Horton Jacobi

Friday, December 18th

8:30 am - Darlene Allard

Sunday, December 20th

8:30 am - Jerry & Agnes Litz

Liturgical Ministers for December 20, 2020

Sacristan: Jim Kendall

EM: Marty Fall Cindy Kendall
Diane Kimm Fr. Andrew

Lectors: Erin Moeller Lisa Thuerauf

Servers: Jackson Rhomberg Alex Fencil

Hospitality: Mike & Ruth Clark family
Dave & Lesley Panos family
Troy & Tracey Louwagie family

Weekly contributions needed..... \$5,326.92

November 29, 2020

Budget, Adult..... \$2,490.00
Loose Coin/Currency..... \$ 77.10
Thanksgiving \$ 50.00
Total Collected \$2,617.10

YTD collection needed \$117,192.24
YTD collections received \$105,717.35
YTD over/**short**..... \$ **11,474.89**

Weekly contributions needed..... \$5,326.92

December 3 & 6, 2020

Budget, Adult..... \$2,985.00
Loose Coin/Currency..... \$ 172.00
Facility Upkeep..... \$1,025.00
Christmas Offering \$ 30.00
Share in the Care..... \$ 95.00
Total Collected \$4,307.00

YTD collection needed \$122,519.16
YTD collections received \$109,896.35
YTD over/**short**..... \$ **12,622.81**

God cannot be outdone in generosity.

- ◆ Your gifts help our parish spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Through your support, we can continue to spread the Good News, celebrate the sacraments, and help those in need.
- ◆ **If you itemize your deductions:** The new Adjusted Gross Income limitation for charitable contributions has been raised from 60% to 100%. You can now deduct your cash or cash-equivalent contributions from your entire income.
- ◆ **If you don't itemize your deductions:** You are now able to claim a charitable deduction of up to \$300, even if you were unable to claim any charitable deductions last year.

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2020**