



MAY 17, 2020

## Sacred Heart Parish—Clay County & St. Joseph Parish—O'Brien County

### FROM THE PASTOR

We are now about two months into the Covid shutdown. It has been a strange and difficult adjustment. I know many are frustrated. It is tough on families, school children, those who have lost loved ones, those who have planned weddings, nursing home residents, and people who simply miss personal contact with others. There has been gratification in seeing those who are finding creative ways to help others and be there for them. We need to face the fact that this could go on for some time, a second wave may happen, and we may need to operate and function in different ways in the future.

Our bishop is being very cautious with a concern for the health of everyone. For this reason the obligation to attend weekend Mass has been suspended even when we begin to have public Masses on a limited basis. Anyone with a health issue should not attend and those over 60 years of age are strongly discouraged until we can have full Masses again.

I am doing Mass and praying for you every day. Even though the office doors are locked, you can still call if you have a question or concern.

Thank you for watching our Masses online or on cable TV. Thank you also for your continued contributions. Remember that even if you do not itemize your tax deductions, you can still deduct \$300 this year as a charitable gift.

Blessings,  
Fr. Tim

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESE OF SIOUX CITY

With regard to resuming public Masses in our parishes, the Diocese of Sioux City has based and will continue to base decisions on scientific data and reliable projections. There is a number of criteria the Diocese is waiting to be met before it is deemed safe and responsible to open up churches again. This includes the downward trajectory of new COVID-19 cases reported within a 14-day period, the downward trajectory of hospital bed, intensive care, and ventilator usage, and the downward trajectory of daily death reports. In addition to these things, it is necessary to have adequate contact-tracing and a robust testing program. Achieving these conditions will indicate that it is reasonably safe to resume, with precautions, the public celebration of the Mass.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ONLINE MASSES:** <https://www.spencersacredheart.com/onlinemass>

**RESOURCES:** For Parish and Diocesan updates, announcements, school news & faith support resources go to: <http://www.spencersacredheart.com/resources>

**SACRED HEART FACEBOOK PAGE:** <https://www.facebook.com/SpencerSacredHeart/>

**ST. JOSEPH FACEBOOK PAGE:** <https://www.facebook.com/ObrienCoFaithFormation/>

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK** are for James Ruden, All Parish Members, Mike Hynes, Degan Family, Jim Laddusaw, Paula Ann Wilson, Fr. Bill WIngert, Rita McCarty.

**CHURCH SUPPORT:** Sacred Heart \$3,452.50, Special Collections \$75, St. Joseph \$2,251.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Kyla Otto and Kyle Petrich who were married in Christ last Saturday at Hartley St. Joseph.

**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE:** Please remember in your prayers Lu Horning of our Sacred Heart Parish family. May she feast at the heavenly banquet.

**JOB OPENING:** Spencer Sacred Heart has an opening for a Director of Stewardship and Development. The main duty of this position is fundraising. If interested, please contact Fr. Tim at [qtjhz@aol.com](mailto:qtjhz@aol.com).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 17, 2020

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

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