



June 14, 2020

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

FROM THE PASTOR

Bishop Walker Nickless has authorized the opening of churches for private prayer in the diocese starting on Monday, June 15th. Over the last week, there has been an influx of positive COVID-19 cases and exposures in our area. With the health and safety of our parishioners in mind, we have decided to delay the opening of Sacred Heart and St. Joseph O'Brien County. Please know that we are closely monitoring the situation and hope to reopen for private prayer on June 22nd.

Last week was the initial publication of the new diocesan newspaper, The Lumen. The front page story concerns the shortage of priests in our diocese. It contains interesting information about the number of priests, seminarians, and upcoming retirements. The situation is more grim than when we did the Ministry 2025 plan three years ago. My solution has been to merge with another diocese so resources can be used more efficiently. Both Dubuque and Des Moines diocese have more seminarians than Sioux City.

If you have not seen this article in The Lumen, you can access it online at sdiocese.org. The number of priests and how they are used affects all of us in our diocese. Deacon Mark Prosser is now in charge of this Pastoral Planning. If you wish to give him your input, you can email him at prosserm@sdiocese.org or call him at 712-233-7536.

Racism is wrong. Violence against another person is wrong. It saddens me to see that our country has not yet learned these lessons. It is the responsibility of parents today to teach these lessons to their children so these ignorant attitudes do not continue. These lessons at home can be reinforced by bringing children to Mass every weekend where they can repeatedly hear the teachings of Jesus to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

Thank you again for your financial help. A number of people have been generous. We also have a number of people who have not given anything. Please consider making at least a small gift to help us meet our financial obligations.

I hope you are all doing well. I continue to pray and have Mass daily.

Blessings, Fr. Tim

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHURCH SUPPORT: <https://www.spencersacredheart.com/churchsupport>

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 will be: Jerry Schueller & Berdella Schueller, Kay Steffen, Paula Ann Wilson, Fr. John Cain, Bob & Sanny Andrews, All Parish Members, Dean Nutt, and James Ruden.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE: Please remember in your prayers Jim Huss, brother of Terry Gruhn. May he feast at the heavenly banquet.

CHURCH SUPPORT: Sacred Heart \$4,886.50, Special Collections \$20,00, St. Joseph \$1,603.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 14, 2020

Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12]/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58

Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7 [2b]/Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16 [cf. 3a]/Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20, 21, 24 [25]/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Sir 48:1-14/Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7 [12a]/Mt 6:7-15

Friday: Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10 [cf. 17]/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30