St. Joseph Catholic Church
Fed by Word and Sacrament to Love and Serve

1790 14th Street, Marion, IA  52302 * PHONE: 319-377-4869 * WEBSITE: www.stjoesmarion.org

Liturgies

Weekend Mass:  Saturday 4:30 PM
                Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Weekday Mass:  Tuesday, December 24, 4:00, 6:30 & 9:00 PM
                Wednesday, December 25, 9:00 AM
                Thursday, December 26, 7:30 AM
                Friday, December 27, 7:30 AM

Reconciliation: Saturday, December 28, 3:00 PM

Adoration:  No Adoration Monday, December 23

December 22, 2019

Rev. David O'Connor, Pastor
d.oconnor@dbqarch.org

Deacon Dennis Ternes
d.ternes@dbqarch.org

Deacon Ken Bauer
k.bauer@dbqarch.org

Deacon Jeff Volker, Pastoral Minister
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Sean McVeigh, Director of Adult FF
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Doug Brock, Business Manager
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Patty Kelly, Director of Liturgy & Music
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Nancy Roush, Business & Ministry Asst.
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Tammy Martin, Secretary
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Judy Ramsey, Adolescent FF Coordinator
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JoAnn Starr, YFF Coordinator
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Casey Kettmann, Principal
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Peggy Brady, School Secretary
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Joy Severin, Childcare Director
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Kevin Burmeister, Director of Maintenance
kburmeister@sjcsmarion.org

Youth Faith Formation  319-377-8402
1430 14th Street, Marion, IA  52302

St. Joseph Parish Office  319-377-4869
1790 14th Street, Marion, IA  52302

St. Joseph Catholic School  319-377-6348
1430 14th Street, Marion, IA  52302

4th Sunday of Advent

“She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” - Mt 1:21

New to the Parish: Welcome! Please call the office to make an appointment to register at 377-4869.

Prayer Chain: Contact Deacon Jeff at 377-4869 or dbq126d3@dbqarch.org.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Call the office and make an appointment with the priest or deacon.

Parish Library - Open during office hours.

Advanced Care Planning Consultants: Learn about church teachings on health issues and find help with documents pertaining to durable power of attorney for health care and health care decision directives. Parish contacts: Theresa Alt, 319-447-1132 or alt.theresa@yahoo.com, Jean Randolph, 319-377-0497 or jnr926722@mchsi.com, Deacon Dennis Temes, 319-377-4869 or d.temes@dbqarch.org and Deacon Ken Bauer, 319-377-4869 or k.bauer@dbqarch.org.

Feed My Sheep: The Marion Food Pantry requests cake, bar, and cookie mixes. Please place your offering in the basket on the altar or ask an usher to take it to the front.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue: Honor the Blessed Virgin Mary by gathering from December 22 - 27, to pray the Rosary at the home of Dan and Diana Richardson, 1200 - 19th St. NW, Cedar Rapids, at 7:00 PM each evening. All are welcome.

Infant Baptism: The next baptism preparation session will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020, in the St. Joseph Room of the parish offices from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Contact Deacon Dennis Ternes at d.temes@dbqarch.org or 377-4869 to register and learn more.

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### Sunday Envelope Giving

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of December 15, 2019 - Week 25</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budgeted Sunday Envelope Needs</strong></td>
<td>$21,037.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year-to-date budget</td>
<td>$525,943.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collected last weekend</td>
<td>$13,997.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Actual Year-to-date envelope income</strong></td>
<td>$522,558.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over/(Under) Budget</td>
<td>($3,384.81)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Unrestricted Gifts and Offertory | $110,661.94 |
| Budgeted Gifts and Offertory | $94,339.62 |
| **Over / (Under) budget** | $16,322.32 |

| Bricks and Mortar Envelopes | $26,808.64 |
| Bricks and Mortar budget | $23,584.91 |
| **Over/(Under) Budget** | $3,223.73 |

| Social Concerns 5% of Envelopes | $699.85 |

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### Ministry Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sacristan</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Ministers of Holy Communion</th>
<th>Ministers of Hospitality</th>
<th>Children's Liturgy</th>
<th>Door Greeters</th>
<th>Master of Ceremonies</th>
<th>Music Ministry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 28</td>
<td>Jamie Lundahl</td>
<td>Ciara O'Brien, Molly Genskow, Olivia Brownberger</td>
<td>Jennifer O'Brien, Richard Dorff</td>
<td>Sharon Neilly, Jim Wilson, Joyce Helmick, Diane Morris, Michele Brock, Bonnie Thomas</td>
<td>Kenneth Baragary, Timothy O'Brien, James Ickes, Gary Schmidt, Robert Neilly</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Joyce Wright, Christopher O'Brien, Kossivi Tomedonou, Dawn Barnes</td>
<td>Doug Brock</td>
<td>Kristen Perreault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 29</td>
<td>1 Open</td>
<td>William Montgomery, Claire Vasey, Wyatt Montgomery</td>
<td>Lisa Volker, Marcia Schmidt</td>
<td>Becky Miller, Jeffrey Schussler, Linda Randklev, Lyle Ridenour, Mary Mikkola, Peggy Detweiler, Janice McCusker</td>
<td>Roger Bonlander, Allen Platner, Marilyn Platner, Dennis Holdgrafer, Gregory Van Gorp</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Kathy McPartland, Jim McPartland, Marjorie Jensen</td>
<td>Darwin Schutttloflel</td>
<td>Joan Boche, Patty Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 30</td>
<td>Moe Ryan</td>
<td>Charles Bostwick, Kloey McCurren, Charlotte McCurren</td>
<td>Jane Schlegel, Jeffrey Puffer</td>
<td>Joan O'Connor, Becky Bostwick, Laura Bostwick, Kent Sodawasser, Daniel Drey, Darlene Schmidt</td>
<td>Pat O'Connor, Verna Kostermann, Donald Klostermann, Teresa Girard, Doug Smith</td>
<td>John Bostwick, Lisa Pope</td>
<td>Matthew Schlegel, Scott Schlegel, Sandra Osbon, Mary Breen</td>
<td>Aidan Bostwick</td>
<td>Spirit Choir</td>
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### Christmas Eve - Parish Office Closed

- Monday, December 23
  - 4:00 PM MASS † Robert Bradley
  - 6:30 PM MASS † Bob Brown
  - 9:00 PM MASS † For the People

- Tuesday, December 24
  - Christmas Eve - Parish Office Closed

- Wednesday, December 25
  - Christmas Day - Parish Office Closed
  - 9:00 AM MASS † Maryann Petesich

- Thursday, December 26
  - 7:30 AM MASS † Jerry Ottaway

- Friday, December 27
  - 7:30 AM MASS † John Van Hoeck
  - 6:30 PM Silent Prayer, Church

- Saturday, December 28
  - 3:30 PM Reconciliation
  - 4:30 PM MASS † For the People

- Sunday, December 29
  - 8:00 AM MASS † John Esch
  - 10:30 AM MASS † Melvin Jansen

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**Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions**

**Mass Intentions for 2020 are now open**

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**Early Bulletin Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bulletin Date</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 29, 2019</td>
<td>December 19, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5, 2019</td>
<td>December 26, 2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
December 27 - Coffee and Conversation
9:30 - 11:00 AM @ Mr. Beans

Women’s Connection
Women’s Connection offers widows from the parish the opportunity to share experiences, solve problems, support each other emotionally and spiritually and have fun, all while developing true and lasting friendships. Gatherings are the second Thursday of each month, 1:15 to 3:15 PM at the school. Next meeting date: January 9. For more information please contact Sally Wilkinson at 373-5484.

Women of St. Joseph
Women’s Book Club will begin a new book study on January 15. We meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. We will be reading Katrina Zeno’s book, “Discovering the Feminine Genius”. Zeno explains God’s divine plan for woman and gives insight into the dignity and identity of women. Contact Kim Ternes at kternes60@gmail.com by Monday, January 6, to reserve your copy of the book.

Ministry Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Schedule</th>
<th>Tuesday, December 24, 4:00 PM</th>
<th>Tuesday, December 24, 6:30 PM</th>
<th>Tuesday, December 24, 9:00 PM</th>
<th>Wednesday, December 25, 9:00 AM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacristan</td>
<td>Nathaniel Perreault Julia Foerster</td>
<td>1 Open</td>
<td>Robyn Ginther</td>
<td>Theresa Alt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>Lian Perreault Nick Walter</td>
<td>Aiden Kuennen Ciara O’Brien</td>
<td>Marlowe Ginther Kaeden Ginther</td>
<td>Charles Bostwick Virginia Bostwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministers of Holy Communion</td>
<td>James McDonald Kristen Perreault Doug Hoeger</td>
<td>Catherine Walz Daniel Pickar</td>
<td>Phyllis Koschmeder Judy Ramsey</td>
<td>Marilyn Platner Sandra Alt</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christine Hoeger Becky Miller Michael Cira</td>
<td>Michele Brock Chelsea Watts</td>
<td>Rosemary Newton Brian Logan</td>
<td>Laura Bostwick Becky Bostwick</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marguerite Bowen Joyce Helmick</td>
<td>Jim Holt</td>
<td>Peggy Detweiler Craig O’Brien</td>
<td>Renee Wiebel Terry Wiebel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kimberly McAlear</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joyce Helmick</td>
<td>George Cleppe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministers of Hospitality</td>
<td>Dennis Holdgrafei David Bowen Darwin Schutllofelf</td>
<td>5 Open</td>
<td>David Van Gorp 4 Open</td>
<td>Mike Alt Verna Klostermann</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gary Schmidt Timothy O’Brien Tina Neyens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Donald Klostermann 2 Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door Greeters</td>
<td>Marcia Black Gunnar Black</td>
<td>1 Open</td>
<td>Gaylord Hauschildt</td>
<td>Kathy McPartland Jim McPartland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Ceremonies</td>
<td>Adrien Perreault</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Haushildt 2 Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Jam</td>
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Adult Faith Formation

RCIA - There is no RCIA Meeting next week, December 29.

Advent Evening Prayer WITH Adoration - Sunday, December 22, 6:00 - 7:00 PM. This will be our last meeting for Evening Prayer and Adoration during Advent, so please try to attend.

Young Adult Adoration - St. Joseph is collaborating with other parishes in the area to provide Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for young adults on the first Friday of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The next meeting is on Friday, January 3, here at St. Joseph.
OOPS!  SAVE THE DATE CORRECTION

Sunday, January 26, 2020

St. Joseph Christmas 2019 Mass Schedule - The Mass times will not change this year, but we will have one less Mass. Since we are now a one priest parish, the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass in the school gym will not occur. Rather, all Masses will be celebrated in the church and we will welcome the overflow for the 4:00 and 6:30 Mass in the church hall where a large TV screen and sound system will be set-up.

The Christmas Mass schedule is:
- 4:00 PM Christmas Eve - This Mass time is the most popular and hence is very crowded.
- 6:30 PM Christmas Eve - This Mass has competed with the 9:00 AM Christmas Day Mass as the second most crowded which means about two-thirds of the church being filled.
- 9:00 PM Christmas Eve - This is the least crowded of all the Masses and is usually half full.
- 9:00 AM Christmas Day - This Mass can be on par with the 6:30 PM Christmas Eve attendance or larger.

Facts, not Myths, About Immigrants

FACT: Immigrants Contribute to Our Economy

Immigrants create new jobs by forming new businesses, buying homes, spending their incomes on American goods and services, paying taxes and raising the productivity of U.S. businesses. A legal flow of immigrants based on workforce demand strengthens the U.S. economy by keeping productivity high and countering negative impacts as the U.S. aging population swells. Certain industries such as home care, janitorial, child care and hospitality services will see the largest growth in the next decade. The problem with today’s economy is not immigrants.

[Sources: American Immigration Council, SEIU, Bipartisan Policy Center, Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP)]

Christmas Wreath and Poinsettia Memorials

If you would like to have a wreath or poinsettia placed in the church during the Christmas season as a memorial of a loved one, please clip this form and return it to the parish office by Monday, December 23, 2019. Your loved one’s name will be placed on the wreath or poinsettia that you have sponsored. You may take the wreath or poinsettia home after the season of Christmas ends in mid-January.

Check one: _______ Wreath $12 _______ Poinsettia $17

In Memory of: (Please print) ________________________________________________
______________________________________________

With love from: __________________________________________________________
______________________________________________

Please provide contact email or phone number: ________________________________
______________________________________________

Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Church.

(Give note wreaths are artificial due to fire regulations.)
**Pastor's Pen**

**Fr. David O'Connor**

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**Christmas Greetings**—We live in a world that is polarized and often bereft of good news. Our nation is politically charged and partisan, motivated pragmatically to do what will be a win for my side and a defeat for yours. Jesus was born in a partisan world, too, as the Zionists struggled against Roman power and the religious leaders of the Chosen People danced an uneasy Waltz with their Roman overlords. When Christ was born, called rightly the new born king, he was a threat to the establishment and its power.

Jesus never exercised partisanship. He told the truth, healed, exhorted, called people to God and effected his promises of salvation and eternal life for those who believe. He inaugurated the Kingdom of God, but had no weapons or used no army. His kingship was exercised through love and not by conquering king or lands. He defeated Satan and death, the powers that cripple, hurt and destroy.

Let our focus and commitment of our lives be solely on Christ. Let us be humble to be saved by him and thankful enough to serve him with joy. Let us learn to love like him to be like him. This is how the world will change for the better, and ultimately, for the best. Merry Christmas to you all!

**New Year’s Day is a Holy Day of Obligation**—On that day, we celebrate one of the dogmas of our faith, that Mary is the Mother of God. Masses for the Holy Day will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 31</td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 1</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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**An Early Christmas Present!**—By the hard work and good graces of the P.R.A.I.S.E. Committee ( Parish Raising Active Intelligent Spiritual Evangelizers), we have an early Christmas present. Please read on for the exciting details from the committee!

As we gather with our family and friends this time of year, let us take a minute to remember how we are all One Body in Christ. In this spirit, a committee called P.R.A.I.S.E. ( Parish Raising Active Intelligent Spiritual Evangelizers) was formed with the goal of helping our parish be a more welcoming and nurturing environment for young families and for all worshipping with them. Children are the future of the Church and their presence at Mass is warmly welcomed and encouraged! We acknowledge that all people from every demographic should feel welcomed and cared for at St. Joseph’s. P.R.A.I.S.E.’s recommendations should reflect the needs of all our parishioners.

The P.R.A.I.S.E. committee was tasked with the following activities:

1. Suggest ways of making St. Joseph’s more welcoming to young families while minimizing distractions for other worshippers.
2. Create ways to help parents participate with and engage their children during Mass.
3. Recommend a regrouping area to help caregivers refocus children and prepare them to return to the worshipping community.

After consulting with Father O’Connor, the Pastoral Council and several parish groups the committee has:

1. Developed engaging children’s material to place in the pews to assist parents.
2. Created a pamphlet of helpful tips for young families at Mass.
3. Established the cloak room as a Regrouping Room for those in need of a place to redirect and create calm outside the body of the church.
4. Begun research on whether hearing assistance devices can be used with our sound system.

We encourage everyone to be mindful and respectful to all ages and walks of life. If you should find yourself getting distracted at Mass, keep your focus on Jesus and imitate His lessons of being patient and kind. Say a prayer, smile and offer a kind gesture or words of encouragement to those who may be distracting to you. You never know what cross someone is carrying and your kindness may be exactly why God called that person to celebrate Mass with you. We acknowledge that all people from every demographic should feel welcomed and cared for at St. Joseph’s. P.R.A.I.S.E.’s recommendations should reflect the needs of all our parishioners.

**Evangelize this Christmas!**—Here are a few pointers regarding sharing the Good News this Christmas.

- Invite someone to attend Christmas Mass this year. It could be a relative, friend, co-worker or neighbor who hasn’t been to church in a while or has no church at all.
- Be welcoming to the stranger at St. Joseph. A charitable act could be the significant moment when a heart is opened to God.
- Avoid judging people, including those who haven’t been with us for a while or a long time.
- Be patient in the parking lot both going to church and returning home.
- Share your pew. “Make room in the inn” for those who are looking for a seat at Mass.

**Thanks to the Scouts for Cleaning the Church**—The St. Joseph Cub and Boy Scouts cleaned the church recently. They reached those far flung and oft missed places to add that extra special touch, shine and sheen to prepare our house of worship for Christmas. Thanks to them for a job well done!

**The Theme of the Homily for the Fourth Week of Advent**—Go Ahead and Worry!

Prepare for the homily by reading the scripture readings for that Sunday and consider the theme that was posed. Then, use the homily to help you answer the question.

Here's a recap of the themes considered so far during Advent:

- Week I: Are You in Peak Condition?
- Week II: Get it Together!
- Week III: Are You Satisfied?