December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:30 pm Sunday: 8 am and 10:30 am
Weekday Masses: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:30 am
(Please note: Wednesday Mass is at 8:15 am during the school year.)
Adoration: Monday: 7 am to 9 pm
Confession: Saturday: 3:30 pm to 4 pm
New to the Parish: Welcome! Please call the office to make an appointment to register at 377-4869.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 - 4 p.m. or by appointment with Fr. O’Connor.

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

RCIA: If you interested in finding out more about the process of becoming Catholic, please contact Matt Selby at 377-4869 or matt.selby@stjoestarion.org.

Infant Baptism: The next baptism preparation session will be held on Saturday, January 14th, 2017, in the St. Joseph Room of the parish offices from 9 to 11 am. Contact Deacon Dennis Ternes at deaconternes@stjoestarion.org or 377-4869 to register and learn more.

Notifications for Worship Aid: Contact Cathy or Dawn at 377-4869.

Mass Intentions: Please stop in the office to schedule.

Prayer Chain: Contact Vicki at 241-9402 or contact Dawn by email at dawn.feltman@stjoestarion.org.

St. Joseph Quilting Ministry: Day sessions meet every 2nd Tuesday, 1 to 3 pm, in the Church Hall. To learn more, call Lynn at 377-6166. Evening sessions meet every 2nd Thursday, 6 to 8 pm. For location, call Sue at 377-1394.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry which reaches out to those in need of comfort. If you are interested, please call Sharon at 373-2810.

That Man is You: Men’s prayer and study groups meet on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Church Hall and Thursdays at 6 am in the Church Hall. Contact Deacon Dennis Ternes at 377-4869 or deaconternes@stjoestarion.org to learn more.

Women’s Connection: Widows from the parish have 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 2nd Thursday of the month, 1 to 3 pm in the Learning and Leadership Lounge at our school. Contact Carol G. at 319-200-6905 or Sally W. at 373-5483.

Silent Prayer: 6:30-7 pm, Friday, in the church.

SCRIP: Contact Jennifer Decker at jennifer.jill.decker@gmail.com or 558-9072.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue: Honor Mary Dec 11th - 16th with Jane Regan; 2135 - 1st Ave SE; Apt 119, Cedar Rapids. Rosary every evening Sunday-Friday, 7:30 pm.

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

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**Weekly Mass Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 12/12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Adoration: 7 am to 9 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue. 12/13</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Susan Bonlander</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 12/14</td>
<td>8:15 am</td>
<td>Ryan Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu. 12/15</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Robert (Bob) Jacobsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. 12/16</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Richard J. Halvorsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. 12/17</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Paul Supple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. 12/18</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Jane Spoden</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>For the People</td>
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</tbody>
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**Weekly Deadlines for the Holiday Season**

**Bulletin**

- December 24 & 25
- December 31 & January 1

**Submission Deadline**

- Thursday, Dec. 15, 5 pm
- Wednesday, Dec. 21, 5 pm

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**Ministry Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Schedule</th>
<th>Saturday, Dec. 17, 4:30 pm</th>
<th>Sunday, Dec. 18, 8:00 am</th>
<th>Sunday, Dec. 18, 10:30 am</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacristan</td>
<td>Theresa Alt</td>
<td>Carla DeMoss</td>
<td>Linda Maher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>Carly Drey</td>
<td>David Weaver</td>
<td>Addie Sleeter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kale Leymaster</td>
<td>Jack Oehler</td>
<td>Addison Bisinger</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stacia Drey</td>
<td>Will Oehler</td>
<td>Alex Frericks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectors</td>
<td>Elinor Remington</td>
<td>Mark Oehler</td>
<td>Judy Ramsey</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Dorff</td>
<td>Jeff Alt</td>
<td>Jeff Puffer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministers of Holy</td>
<td>Dan Drey</td>
<td>Darwin Schuttloffel</td>
<td>Carla Reilly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communion</td>
<td>Jim Wilson</td>
<td>Eric Ratliff</td>
<td>Jean McNamara</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Julie Raymond</td>
<td>Janice McCusker</td>
<td>JoAnn Starr</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Karen Wilson</td>
<td>Jim McDonald</td>
<td>Joe Trapani</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marge Bowen</td>
<td>Sandy Alt</td>
<td>John Oates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michele Brock</td>
<td>Sharon Sowadski</td>
<td>Kent Sodawasser</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sandy Shay</td>
<td>Steve Freemon</td>
<td>Rachel Sodawasser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministers of Hospitality</td>
<td>Dave Bowen</td>
<td>Amanda Weaver</td>
<td>Don Klostermann</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gary Raymond</td>
<td>Bob Sowadski</td>
<td>Gary Kalis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jerry Fetzer</td>
<td>Greg Van Gorp</td>
<td>Terry Dolphin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terry Lynch</td>
<td>Mike Alt</td>
<td>Terry Reilly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Liturgy</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Nicholas Weaver</td>
<td>Verna Klostermann</td>
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The parish relies on the generosity of parishioners to maintain and develop high quality staff, ministries, and facilities. St. Joseph parish is committed to being a good steward of its resources. There are two ways to give: 1.) Member envelopes may be used to place cash or check donations in the offering at weekend Masses or may be dropped off or mailed in to the parish offices. 2.) Online giving is now available at www.stjoesmarion.org/give. There you may setup recurring donations or give a one-time donation via credit card, debit card, or bank draft. It’s fast, easy, and effective! Please consider making a year-end, tax-deductible gift to the parish. For questions about financial donations to the parish, please contact our Business Manager by calling the parish office at 319-377-4869.

Support the Mission of St. Joseph Parish

Iowa Right to Life has canceled the Midwest March for Life that was to take place on January 13th, 2017. The bishops of Iowa have rescheduled the annual Mass for Life for Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017, at 5 p.m., at Saints John and Paul Church in Altoona. The Mass will take place at the conclusion of the first day of the Iowa Institute for Social Action. Bishop Martin Amos of Davenport will be the homilist. Registration is not required for the Mass. If you are interested in participating in the Iowa Institute for Social Action you can find out more information and access the sessions go to: dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation.

Midwest March for Life Cancellation

Advent Confessions
Advent is a season of devout and expectant delight in preparation for the celebration of Christmas and the return of Jesus at the end of time. In the spirit of devotion and expectation, the season carries with it a penitential character of conversion and seeking the forgiveness of one’s sins. The scripture readings of Advent attest to this, especially as Jesus evokes the Flood of Noah’s time (repentance and conversion before it is too late), St. Paul speaks of walking in the light of Christ rather than the darkness of sin (ongoing conversion and repentance after baptism), and St. John the Baptist calls for repentance because the Kingdom of God is at hand. Going to confession during this season is an essential way of preparing for the celebration of Christmas and part of our vigilance for the Lord’s return at the end of time. To promote and support your participation in the spirituality of Advent, a confession schedule is found below.

Individual Confessions
♦ Saturday, December 17th—3:00-4:00 PM
♦ Monday, December 19th—6:00-8:00 PM
♦ Friday, December 23rd—6:00-8:00 PM

Communal Penance
♦ Thursday, December 15th--St. Joseph, Marion, 7 PM

Christmas Mass Schedule
♦ Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th:
   ◊ 4:00 PM in the church and school gym
   ◊ 6:00 PM in the church
   ◊ 10:00 PM in the church
♦ Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th:
   ◊ 9:00 AM in the church

Respect Life and Social Justice Concerns
The Respect Life and Social Justice office and the Faith Formation Division of the Archdiocese has developed a year-long program to learn about various topics related to respect life and social justice. There are program sessions catered to all ages and various parish settings. The first session uses Advent, the season of waiting for Christ, the Prince of Peace, to introduce the topic of Building Peace and the Just War Theory. For more information and to access the sessions go to: dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation.

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Please note that there is NO senior luncheon in December. Thank you.
**St. Joseph Catholic School**

If you are interested in a tour or in learning more about how St. Joseph Catholic School and Preschool can serve as a partner in growing your child’s heart, mind and faith, please contact principal Casey Kettmann at 377-6348, or email ckettmann@sjcsmarion.org.

**Clip and Earn Money for St. Joseph School!**

St. Joseph Catholic School collects: Box Tops, Hy-Vee receipts, Tyson Foods, Prairie Milk caps and A+ labels.

**SJCS offers a Safe Learning Environment**

St. Joseph Catholic School offers a safe learning environment to all of our students. This includes the reinforcement of safety rules for adults and children. The school has cameras inside and outside the building, a lock-down procedure in place, safety rules for anyone dropping -off and picking-up students, and a process for visitors to sign-in and out when entering or leaving the building. This safe learning environment also includes classrooms that are clean, orderly and inviting which encourages students to do their best. Organized classrooms allow for easy movement and collaboration in small groups, and helps students feel comfortable and safe in the area in which they spend most of their time.

**This Holiday Season Give the Gift of a Catholic Education**

The Our Faith School Tuition Organization (STO) exists solely to make a Catholic education more affordable for every child. As an Iowa tax payer, you can help families with demonstrated financial need through a contribution to the STO. In return, you will receive an Iowa tax credit equal to 65% of your donation. The amount you contribute also qualifies as a charitable donation on a Federal tax return. The available Iowa tax credits are filling up fast so visit www.OurFaithSto.org or call the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 800-876-3546.

**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 Friday, December 16th. 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

Checks should be made out to St. Joseph Church. (Please note wreaths are artificial due to fire regulations.)

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**Important Parish Directory Information for All Parishioners**

As with previous directories, our parish roster will be printed in the new directory, including names, phone numbers, and addresses for all registered parishioners. If you would like your information excluded from the directory or need to update your information, please contact Laurie Schill at laurie.schill@stjoesmarion.org or 319-377-4869. The complementary 8x10 photos included with each family’s portrait session have arrived and may be picked up in the church hall. They are located just inside the church hall doorway in a white plastic file box with a black lid.

**Women’s Connection**

**Advent Gathering:** The St. Joseph Parish widows support group will gather Tuesday, December 13th at 11:30 a.m. at the Indian Creek Country Club, 2401 Indian Creek Rd., Marion. As we gather this Advent season, we recognize the blessings of friendship while we wait together to celebrate the joy of Christmas.

**For Food, Fun, and Friendship!** Women’s Connection will gather at Zio Johno’s, for our next monthly luncheon, at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 15th. For more information, call Carol at 319-200-6905 or cell: 319-654-6296, or Sally at 373-5484.

**The Annual Retirement Fund for Religious Collection:** Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, and seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously.

**Grieving the Death of Loved One**

The six-week 1 1/2 hour sessions entitled “Grieving the Death of a Loved One” will be held on Friday afternoons (1:30-3:00 pm) January 13-February 17, 2017 at St. Patrick Parish. It is recommended that those considering these sessions allow six months since the death or change in family lifestyle before attending one of these faith sharing groups. Registration forms are available at the parish entrance. Please contact the St Joseph Pastoral Associate office for further details at 377-4869.

**St. Vincent de Paul - Christmas Boxes - 2016**

Last year, through your generosity, St. Vincent de Paul delivered 215 Christmas food boxes to area residents in need. Once again St. Vincent de Paul is hoping you will share your loving care this year. Here is how you can help:

1) Cash or Check Donation payable to St. Vincent de Paul Food Account, mailed to Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 928 7th St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401.
2) Assist in Delivery of Food Boxes. Delivery of food boxes will occur Saturday, Dec. 17th, beginning at 8 AM at the St. Wenceslaus - Glovik Parish Center.
3) Adopt a Family through HACAP. To adopt a family, call HACAP at 319-739-1505 or visit http://www.hacap.org/how-to-help/holidays/ prior to Dec. 17th. Your generosity is imperative for St. Vincent de Paul to provide these services!
ADULT FAITH FORMATION

For more information about the events, programs or materials listed below, please contact Matt Selby, Director of Adult Faith Formation at 377-4869 or matt.selby@stjoesmarion.org, or visit our website at www.stjoesmarion.org.

2 for $5 Books and CDs Return this Advent!
During the Advent season, many new titles of Catholic books and CD talks are available in the vestibule. All resources are available for a reduced price of 2 for $5. You’re invited to buy one and give one away for Christmas. Books include Resisting Happiness by Matthew Kelly, Understanding the Mass by Mike Aquilina, Walk Humbly with Your God by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, Does the Bible Really Say That? by Patrick Madrid, and Making Choices: Practical Wisdom for Everyday Moral Decisions by Peter Kreeft! Plus, make sure to check out the new CDs on the Lighthouse kiosk, including reflections on the Advent Sunday readings by Bishop Robert Barron, along with two daily Advent reflection booklets by Bishop Barron and Chris Stefanick.

Like “St. Joseph Catholic Church, Marion” on Facebook!
Stay connected and be inspired by following our parish Facebook page. We post inspirational faith-related messages, along with St. Joseph parish and school news. Find us by going to www.facebook.com/stjoesmarion. And help us get to 1,000 “Likes” by the end of 2016!

Christmas Postcard Invitation
All registered parishioners were mailed a postcard invitation to our Christmas Masses this past week. We invite you to “Prepare the Way” for Christmas by making plans to attend Mass and welcome others at St. Joseph. You’re encouraged to take down the information on the postcard and pass it along to invite someone else to celebrate Christmas at St. Joseph. Extra copies of the postcard are available in the vestibule to use to invite others.

New Scripture Study Series on Church History
Do you know your family history? The history of the Church is the story of our family. It is the epic story of our ancestors in the Faith—the heroic men and women who shaped civilization and spread the Gospel throughout the world. Knowing this story is crucial to our identity as Catholics. Just as we would uncover exciting and interesting stories of our ancestors through the study of our family genealogy, we can uncover our Catholic past through the study of Church history. Join an exciting 20-week Scripture Study series called Epic to explore the history of the Church! The series will be offered on both Mondays from 7:00-9:00 PM and Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 AM in the St. Joseph

Flocknote
To keep up-to-date on the latest St. Joseph Women’s Ministry programs and events, please register for the Women’s Ministry newsletter at www.flocknote.com/stjoesmarion/women OR text 84576 “women.”

Beauty in Christ
Treat yourself and plan to attend the Archdiocese of Dubuque Women’s Conference, Beauty In Christ, Saturday, February 4th, 2017, St. Pius X in Cedar Rapids. Invite your mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends to this exciting day with Leah Darrow and Kelly Nieto! Our speakers will touch the hearts of all ages, from teens to more mature women. For more information, to view videos of our presenters, and to register visit http://www.archwomensconference.org/.

Gems of Hope, Bead and Card Making Workshop
Coming in January! Date and time TBA. If interested contact the Pastoral Office at 377-4869.

Lenten Book Club
Wednesdays beginning March 8th through April 12th in the Saint John Paul II Room, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. We will be reading My Sisters the Saints by Colleen Campbell. To see a trailer for the book, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjMmM7cCWxA&feature=youtu.be.