

## Daily Readings

### Week of December 12, 2021

Sunday, 12/12: Zep 3: 14-18a/Is 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/

Phil 4: 4-7/Lk 3: 10-18

Monday, 12/13: Nm 24: 2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25: 4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8-9/

Mt 21: 23-27

Tuesday, 12/14: Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13/Ps 34: 2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 & 23/Mt 21: 28-32

Wednesday, 12/15: Is 45: 6c-8, 18, 21-25/Ps 85: 9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 7: 18b-23

Thursday, 12/16: Is 54: 1-10/Ps 30: 2 & 4, 5-6, 11-12a & 13b/Lk 7: 24-30

Friday, 12/17: Gn 49: 2, 8-10/Ps 72: 1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1: 1-17

Saturday, 12/18: Jer 23: 5-8/Ps 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1: 18-25



# SACRED HEART

“RETURN TO ME &

RENEW YOUR SPIRIT”

309 Church Street • PO Box 98

Oxford Junction, IA 52323

Mass Schedule: 11:00am Sunday

[www.sacredheartoj.org](http://www.sacredheartoj.org)



**December 12, 2021**

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

### Sacred Heart Office Hours:

Mon., Wed., Fri.

10:00am-11:00am

Phone: 319-320-5003

### St. John the Baptist (Mt. Vernon)

### Office Hours:

Tues.: 8:00am-5:00pm, Fri.: 7:00am-3:30pm

Phone: 319-895-6246

### St. Isidore (Springville) Office Hours:

Wed. & Thurs.: 10:00am-3:00pm

Phone: 319-854-6141

### Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah:  
DBQ137@dbqarch.org

### Administrative Assistant:

Wendy Swan: dbq155sec@dbqarch.org  
Phone: 319-320-5003

### Bookkeeper:

Sue Zeller: dbq155bk@dbqarch.org

### Parish Council Chairperson:

Blain Crock: blain.crock@gmail.com

### Finance Council Chairperson:

Kris Leeper: kjlgjl@hotmail.com

### Sanctuary Guild Chairperson:

Mary Ann Mostaert:

mamostaert@gmail.com

### Director of Religious Education:

Sarah Rissler:

sarahrissler10@gmail.com

### Music Ministry Leaders:

Carmie Nowachek:

nowachekfarms@hotmail.com

Karen Bachman: wlbach@netins.net

### Website & Facebook Administrator:

Colleen Coon: collcoon@gmail.com

### Parish Council Members:

Sarah Rissler

Monte Ahrendsen

Jon Eganhouse

Mary Ann Mostaert

### Finance Council Members:

Donna Schewe

Brett Moorman

Ron Nowachek

### Schedule for December 19, 2021

Lector: Patty

Greeters/Gifts: Sauer Family

Servers: Grady/Kevin

Money Counters: Patty/Monte

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Patty/Ron

### Today's Mass Intention:

**Deloris Eganhouse**

### Prayer Corner

- Betty Anderson, Rich Kleineck,  
Leonard Lasack, Paul Lasack,  
Marilyn Stevenson, Derek Denniston,  
Julie Ahrendsen
- Archbishop Jackels, Fr. Andrew



# To Our PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS

## 1. Third Sunday of Advent-A reflection

As Advent advances to the third week of the season, those who are familiar with the Advent wreath already notice the distinctive pink candle that is lighted to mark it. It describes the joyful character of the season from hereon; the Advent landscape is shifting toward immediate preparation to celebrate Christmas.

We all have heard the Christmas jingle, “*It’s the most wonderful time of the year.*” We notice how businesses have already sounded the Christmas trumpet and discharged the holiday flavor in the air; however, traditionally, it is the third Sunday of advent that sets the stage for us to focus on the joyful event of Christmas.

To this end, the readings of the weekend are expressive of the joy that should mark our preparation. We notice the joyful tone of Zephaniah’s and Paul’s voices, both urging God’s people to be joyful for reasons far beyond their own limiting circumstance, and awareness. What makes Zephaniah urge the kind of celebratory, joyful attitude? Look not far to notice it. “The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; He will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in His love, He will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals,” he tells them. Equally Paul sees the Lord’s coming as a constant occasion for joy when he tells us, “The Lord is near.”

John the Baptist’s view of what constitutes joy is even more striking in the gospel. Notice his exhortation to the disparate groups that flocked to him to seek guidance and discernment. The common thread that is woven through his instructions is that they be mindful of others, and doing so means sharing, avoiding deception and false utterings.

In a sense, real joy is relational. The one who takes the initiative to bring us joy is God. And our part is to continue this divine initiative to generate more joy in the world through our own daily, personal life in relating to others with kindness.

## 2. Mass Time Change

Most of you are aware by now that since July I have been serving as the pastor of Sacred Heart in Oxford Junction in addition to St. John and St. Isidore. Because Sacred Heart’s Mass time was 10am on Sunday, it was arranged that it should be moved to 11am due to the time and navigation adjustments I needed at the start of the assignment.

After six months, it is time to make adjustments in our Mass schedules. The Pastoral Council of St. John has consented to **8:00 am Sunday Mass at St. John**, starting **January 1, 2022**, to make it possible for Sacred Heart to move their Mass from 11 am to an earlier time. The Mass time at St. Isidore stays the same.

- Christmas Eve Mass will be at 4:00pm on Friday, Dec. 24th with carols beginning at 3:45pm.
- This year the Guild is planning on having a Winter Head, Neck and Hands tree. The tree is all set up in the back of the sanctuary. If you want to participate all you have to do is bring a warm cap, headband, ear muffs, scarf, mittens, or gloves and hang them on the tree. After Christmas these items will be given to the Midland Elementary School here in Oxford Junction.
- We are asking our church family to consider donating winter flowers to decorate our altar during the Christmas season. You may call Doris Denniston @ 319-480-6963 or Karen Bachman @ 319-981-3906 with questions or assistance in purchasing a plant/flower. More details to come.
- The next CCD class is Sunday, December 19th at 9:45am.
- THANK YOU to our CCD kids for participating in Mass last Sunday. THANK YOU Lily Carlson for using your extraordinary talent in playing the Ave Maria on your violin before Mass last Sunday as well.
- It has become necessary that our official membership data be updated to reflect our status as a stand-alone parish. Therefore, the Archdiocese of Dubuque requires that all parishes maintain an up-to-date Register of all parishioners. Such a register includes demographical data. So, with that said our Parish Council has come up with a new registration form that is in each family’s mailbox. Please pick up and fill out and place in the tray that is on top of the mailboxes or give to Wendy Swan, our Parish Administrative Assistant or Blain Crock, our Parish Council President. If you do not have a mailbox please let either of them know and they will get you a registration form. It is very important that we return our forms by the end of December.



Please have all bulletin submissions to Colleen Coon by Wednesday PM

Email: [collcoon@gmail.com](mailto:collcoon@gmail.com)