

Welcome to the Holy Family Parishes of
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary
Sacred Heart
Ss Philip & James

Mission Statement

A family of God constituted
by the Holy Eucharist and
strengthened by the Holy
Spirit to make God known,
loved and served.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 16, 2020



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

6th
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY
TIME

**“Do not take a
false oath, but
make good to
the Lord all
that you vow.”
- Mt 5:33b**

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Churches:

Ss Philip & James Church

606 Fulton Street— P.O Box 7

Grand Mound, IA 52751

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

903 Main St., P.O Box 127

Lost Nation, IA 52254

670 Mill Street

Toronto, IA 52777

Sacred Heart Church

309 Church Street

Oxford Junction, IA 52323

Web www.sacredheartoj.org

Cluster Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Telephone: 563-847-2271

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday 12:00 noon

(unless otherwise noted).

- Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the cluster office for arrangements.
- Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact Pastor 9 to 12 months prior to

Conversation with 'Altar Boys' on the call to priesthood

Occasionally, I will get into a brief conversation with the young boys who are scheduled to serve at the weekend liturgy about the priesthood. There are a few of them who will think aloud, O my gosh...that is not for me! For a few of them, this is not one of the things to consider for a career. Apparently, even when they think this way, I bet you, it's not yet over for God since he alone knows how to turn the human heart towards himself. So, the first thing I'd like to say here is that no male child should close the door of their hearts to the call of God to serve him as a priest. God may be knocking hard at a closed heart. Bringing young people to places of prayer and faith events (like an ordi-

nation ceremony and Chrism Mass) are very helpful to unlocking the heart.

The second thing that comes out from my encounter with altar servers has got to do with not being sure if God is actually calling. In other words, how sure could you be if God was calling? This is particularly interesting in the sense that sometimes it happens that 'we are trying to set out our own criteria and seem to be saying that I am not ready to check all the boxes now, so God please look elsewhere and leave me alone. God please I am not a super holy kid, I don't say my prayers, I don't read my Bible and I am sure God does not want someone like that.

The only thing about this way of thinking is that it leads to shutting the door to Jesus, and literally saying that 'hey you can do all that you want with me but please leave me out of this. So, here is how I guide them through our conversation. I say to them that God does not usually call special people; he calls ordinary people. He can call anybody to the priesthood. To anyone he calls he gives abundant grace to become a child of God and a disciple of Jesus. He sends them to go and serve others in his Church. Will you allow him to call you now?

Blessings,
Father Francis

Songs Come from Scriptures

Music has an amazing ability to speak to our hearts and minds like no other communication. Songs connect with our emotions and hearts. The language of the lyrics works its way into our souls and helps us express what's in our hearts. It is a glorious gift of God, and just like praying from Scripture, we can pray from liturgical songs.

The next time you're at Mass, listen carefully to one of the songs. The songs that are chosen for Mass, whether by the choir on the weekend or by Father at daily Mass, are scripturally based, supporting the prescribed readings of the day. Because of this, you can allow the song to open your heart

and mind to enter a conversation with God. Internalize the message of the song, God's message, and meditate on the meaning behind the words. Allow the words of the song to be your prayer. Sing them. Listen to them. Let the song permeate your heart.

Many of the songs we hear in church are based on prayer and Scripture, so try using just the lyrics for your prayer. Choose one of your favorite songs at Mass, and try not to sing along, simply read the words, taking time to consider what they mean. Too often, we sing along in church, not really thinking about the words. Slowing down and reading the words can bring a deeper

understanding to these beautiful hymns.

Every ministry in the church has a purpose, and the church choir is no exception. The three choirs of our cluster do an excellent job of picking music that truly "speaks" their prayer. Take time to thank these choir members, helping them realize how important their ministry is to each of our churches. You might even consider joining one of these choirs and its ministry. Remember, God gave you the voice, and He would love to have you give it back to Him in prayer and praise.

2020 Census - We Count!

Participating in the 2020 Census is a vital, civic duty for everyone living in our Diocese. We should encourage all parishioners to participate as an accurate count impacts federal representation and distribution of federal funding in our communities. Pastors/Parishes will receive bulletin announcements, brief public service announcements and flyers that can be inserted in bulletins and posted throughout the facilities. One set of resources will be provided for each weekend February 14/15 through March 14/15. Our goal is to ensure our parishioners know that:

- Everyone counts.
- Each household will receive a postcard beginning mid-March and can respond easily either online or by phone. This should take about 10 minutes and support for multiple languages is available.
- The questions asked are basic and there is good guidance available when needed.
- Confidentiality is guaranteed by law and personal information will not be shared with any other individual or agency. The Census Bureau is only

allowed to use the information available to generate statistics.

- Counting children, a traditionally undercounted population, is important.

You can find additional resources and information at our [diocesan census page](#). It is my hope some of you will offer access to parish or school computers a time or two along with volunteers to assist community members in completing their census survey. Thank you for supporting the 2020 Census.

Most Rev. Thomas R. Zinkula

PARISH CLUSTER NEWS



Ever Ancient, Ever New: The Art and Practice of Lectio Divina

Plan to join the Cluster Evangelization Team Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 pm in the hall at Lost Nation for *lectio divina*, a simple, insightful way to hear and experience the Word of God with one another. All are welcome!

All the parishes of the Diocese of Davenport are participating in **CALLED BY NAME**, a program of vocations awareness that begins this weekend. This program offers an opportunity for all to pray for vocation; to recognize gifts and potential for leadership and service in members of our parish; and finally, to call forth and encourage these members to share their gifts in priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life. Perhaps you know a man or woman (sophomore in high school and older) who would, in your opinion, have the qualities to become a priest, sister, or brother. Please recommend this person by filling out the response card found in church. Next weekend place the completed card in the collection basket.

OLOP February 2020 Events

- *Valentine Evening for Couples*, Fri., February 14- 6:00pm-9:00pm, Fee \$75 per couple
- *Taize Prayer Service*, Diane Prichard, Tues., February 18 - 4:00-6:30pm, Free Will Offering
- *Falling Upward Retreat*, John Cooper, February 21-23 - Fri. 5:00pm-Sun. 11:00am, \$125 Overnight/\$45 Commuters
- *Brave Hearts: From Loss to Resilience*, Val Lucas, February 28-March 1 - Fri. 5:00pm -Sun. 11:00am, Fee \$125 Overnight/\$45 Commuters

To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olprtreat@gmail.com. All programs include a delicious home-made meal.

The 'Good News' Newspaper

Let people know about your festivals, parish dinners, school plays, pancake breakfasts, retreats and more free of charge on *The Catholic Messenger's* calendar page. Subscribe to the *Messenger*! It's a real value at \$29 per year for 50 issues – print or e-edition. Sign up now through your parish!

SS Philp & James-Grand Mound

January Income and Expenses

Income -	\$6,930.22
Expense -	\$6,969.49
Deficit -	\$ 39.27

Building Fund -	\$ 190.00
Building Fund (roof) -	\$ 290.00

We would like to give credit to the person that gave \$29 in a Catholic Messenger envelope with no name on it. Could you please let us know who you are by calling the office?

February Ministries

Lector: Jean Maher

Euc. Min.: Maureen Schrader and a volunteer

Ushers: Mark Hahn, Dave Whitman, and Jerry Irwin

Altar Servers for February 23 — Zachary, Jacob & Andrew Weih

We are looking for a lector for the month of March.

Religious Education News

Class each Wed. from 6-7 pm

- **February 19th**
- **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26**
- **Children's Mass at 6:00 pm**

Bible Study Wednesday evenings from 6-7:00 pm

Important Notice: Any miscellaneous dishes or cookware left following a potluck or funeral dinner, please do not place in the vestibule for collection. All items should be collected from the kitchen area and not the vestibule. Hats, toys, and miscellaneous items must be placed in a basket for collection also.

The first impression when entering the church is important; our vestibule must be clean and immaculate. We welcome your cooperation.

Notice to SSPJ's Parish Council, Finance Council and Building Committee members—There will be a meeting Monday, Feb. 16 in the Church basement at 6:30 pm.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

OLHR is continuing to collect winter gloves, hats, scarves, etc. Those collected in Toronto will go to the Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland and those collected in Lost Nation to the Food Pantry.

Sacred Heart—Oxford Junction

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque

Catholic Charities Offers Many Services to Families - Did you know that Catholic Charities offers a diverse array of programs and services throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque, including Mental Health Counseling, Crisis Pregnancy and Post Abortion Counseling, Affordable Housing, Immigration Legal Services, Jail & Prison Ministry, mentoring and support for single parents and Disaster Services? We ask you to consider supporting these services with your gift to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. Learn more at www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org.

SH Sanctuary Guild will meet March 2 at 7:00. Margo Ahrendsen, Deb Bisinger and Sharon Miller are on the serving committee.

World Day of Prayer

Sacred Heart OJ will host World Day of Prayer March 6 at 1:00 pm. The theme is 'RISE! Take Your Mat and Walk' written by the WDP Committee of Zimbabwe. Everyone is welcome to attend.

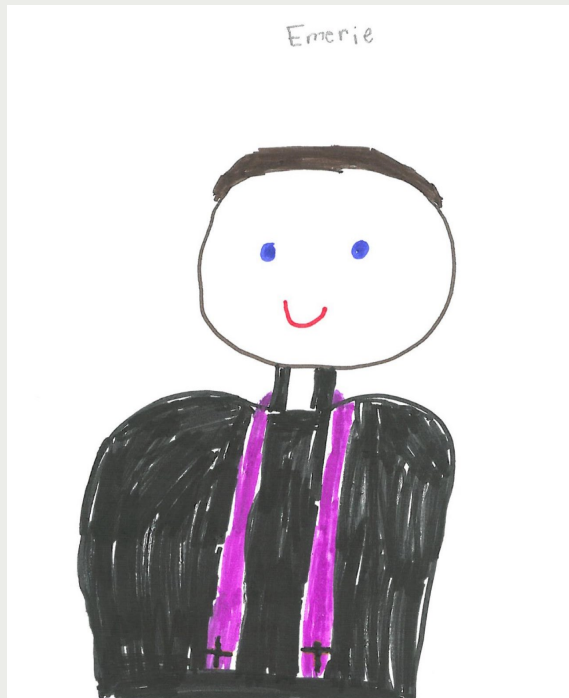
March cleaning committee is Matt and Sarah Rissler, chair, Amber Fall, Jim and Lola Lasack, Blain and Shari Crock.

SAVE THE DATE!

March 28

Annual Spring Kolache Bake

GENERAL INFORMATION 4A



A drawing of Father Francis by Emerie Looney, daughter of Kurt and Karleen Looney members of Sts. Philip and James Church.

Cluster Parish Prayer List

1. Our Shepherds:

Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Archbishop
Michael Jackels, Fr. Francis Odoom,
Deacon Mike Shiel

2. The Aged & Infirm:

- Dick Nodurft, Melvin Duwa, Natalie Regan, Elmer & Dorothy Hasenmiller, Grace Kinney, Carolyn Schwien, & Greg Schwien
- Betty Anderson, Rich Kleineck, Dennis Koppes, Wendy Larive, Jerica Christensen, Marilyn Stevenson, Rhonda Murphy, Leonard Lasack.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for February

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Bible quotation for the week

“Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, ‘Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.’ But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’ - Mt 5:33-34a, 37

MASS SCHEDULE 4B

Date	Time	Place	Intention
Saturday 2/15/20	05:00 pm	Lost Nation	Dan Lange
Sunday 2/16/20	08:00am	Grand Mound	John Purcell Family
	10:00am	Oxford Junction	Glen Reginnitter
Tuesday 2/18/20	08:00am	Grand Mound	Merwyn & Rhea Hasenmiller
Wednesday 2/19/20	05:00pm	Grand Mound	Richard Nichols Family
Thursday 2/20/20	05:30pm	Lost Nation	Esther Benischek
Friday 2/21/20	08:00am	Oxford Junction	Rosine Reginnitter
Saturday 2/22/20	05:00pm	Toronto	Tim Burmeister
Sunday 2/23/20	08:00am	Grand Mound	Sarah McNeil
	10:00am	Oxford Junction	Monk & Marguerite Coom

BIBLE QUIZ

- Jesus tells us we must do more that follow the laws or we will not go to _____.
- If we do not follow God's laws, he wants us to be sorry in our _____ and _____.
- Jesus explains four commandments in the Gospel today. Name two of them.
- Why do we need commandments or rules?
- How should we show our love for God?

DAILY READINGS

Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 [1b]/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 [77a]/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [1b]/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday: Jas 2:1-9/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [7a]/Mk 8:27-33
Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 1b]/Mk 8:34—9:1
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
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