

## Daily Readings

### Week of March 19, 2023

Sunday, 3/19: 1 Sm 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13/Ps 23: 1-6/

Eph 5: 8-14/Jn 9: 1-41

Monday, 3/20: 2 Sm 7: 4-5, 12-14, 16/Ps 89: 2-5, 27, 29/

Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24

Tuesday, 3/21: Ez 47: 1-9, 12/Ps 46: 2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5: 1-16

Wednesday, 3/22: Is 49: 8-15/Ps 145: 8-9, 13-14, 17-18/Jn 5: 17-30

Thursday, 3/23: Ex 32: 7-14/Ps 106: 19-23/Jn 5: 31-47

Friday, 3/24: Wis 2: 1, 12-22/Ps 34: 17-21, 23/Jn 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, 3/25: Is 7: 10-14; 8: 10/Ps 40: 7-11/Heb 10: 4-10/Lk 1: 26-38



### Schedule for March 26, 2023

Lector: Mark

Greeters/Gifts: Mark/Doris

Servers: Kevin/Nathan

Money Counters: Mark/Kris

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Mark/Doris

### Today's Mass Intention:

**Ray & Helen Koppes**

### Priest Visit to the Homebound

If you are sick or homebound or know someone who is, and would like Fr. Andrew to visit and pray, contact the main office at 319-320-5003 or email Fr. Andrew at DBQ137@dbqarch.org.

### Prayer Corner

- Betty Anderson, Rich Kleineck, Leonard Lasack, Marilyn Stevenson, Julie Ahrendsen, Isaiah Leeper, Larry Merrick, Rosie Stephan, Shirley Coon
- Archbishop Jackels, Fr. Andrew

# SACRED HEART

**"BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY OF SACRED HEART: LOVE, PRAYER & SERVICE"**

309 Church Street • PO Box 98

Oxford Junction, IA 52323

Mass Schedule: 10:30am Sunday

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



**March 19, 2023**

**4th Sunday of Lent**

### 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, Bulletin & Facebook Administrator:

Colleen Coon: collcoon@gmail.com

### Parish Council Members:

Sarah Rissler

Monte Ahrendsen

Jon Eganhouse

Mary Ann Mostaert

Abby Inglis

Amber Fall

### Finance Council Members:

Donna Schewe

Brett Moorman

Ron Nowachek

Mark Denniston

## PASTOR SPEAKS

4th Sunday of Lent: *"I do believe, Lord"*

The passage may not be one of the often familiar and intense passages we recognize and can narrate in a heart beat. However, it should cause us to love it and apply its lessons.

The first feature relates to the literary genre or style. What makes the narrative real and worthy of attention is that it is non-fiction. The story is not a parable; it a real story of a man born blind. The story recounts how Jesus and his disciples came upon a man born blind.

The second feature relates to human impulse towards hasty attribution of causes or assigning reasons for things in our lives or other people's lives.

The disciples, following the socio-religious narrative of the time concerning sin and punishment, failure and success, ascertained from Jesus if the condition of physical defects of the man was due to his own sins or those of the parents.

But Jesus' answer that "neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him" was intended to clarify and alter that socio-religious world view.

Imagine how many people in that society felt misjudged based on some physical or emotional calamities they had to endure. It is painful to suffer misfortune, and to be teased, bullied, misjudged or shunned on top of all that.

According to Jesus, there are moments we must suffer to glorify God. Those of you who have watched Tim Francis' presentation recall Catalina, who experienced the stigmata and suffered a lot to show the world the suffering of Jesus. This is why this gospel is healing to many of us. It showcases God's compassion and love. He doesn't judge us or punish us even for our wrongdoings. Instead he gives us the chance to reform.

The story is about being healed from blindness. When the man's blindness was removed and he could see Jesus clearly, he admitted to Jesus, "I do believe, Lord." People these days have become blind to the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Yet, I believe that those of us who listened to Tim Francis can consider the miracles and the writings of Church Fathers and make our grand admission, "I now believe, Lord."

Unexpected pain or situation, lets remember that it is not always a bad thing in themselves. It may be for God's glory.

- **Thank You from Catholic Charities:** These past several weeks Catholic Charities has received strong spiritual and financial support for their 2023 Annual Appeal. These gifts work to strengthen families, reduce poverty, and empower communities in Northeast Iowa. Thank you to all who have given so generously. It is never too late to join this important effort. To learn more about Catholic Charities or to give go to [www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org).



- **REMEMBER:** During Lent we have Stations of the Cross & Mass on Friday evening at 6:00 pm. You only have to sacrifice one hour of your time, even though it's Friday, to attend.
- **CONGRATULATIONS** to Doug and Kevin Ahrendsen for their power-lifting medals last week. Each of them received a gold and silver medal in their competitions. Margo and Monte will no longer have to lift heavy bags of feed, right?!?!?
- We are inviting you to donate Easter/Spring flowers to help decorate our altar during the Easter season. Flowers may be brought to the church the week before Easter. Decorating will be done after the Good Friday service, either Friday or Saturday.
- We will be holding Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, at 7:00 pm on April 6 and Good Friday, Passion of the Lord, service at 3:00 pm on April 7. There will be no Saturday Easter Vigil at SH. Easter Sunday Mass will be at the regular time of 10:30 am April 9.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Kolache Bake Day will be Saturday, April 22nd. If we have a lot of orders we will most likely do some on Friday, April 21st. More information to come.
- **Ready to file your 2022 Iowa income taxes?** Ask your tax preparer about how you can **save 75% on your 2023 Iowa income taxes** by making an Our Faith School Tuition Organization (STO) donation. Now is the perfect time to consider helping Catholic school families with the greatest need for tuition assistance while receiving a **75% tax credit** on your 2023 Iowa income taxes. For more information, please visit [www.OurFaithSTO.org](http://www.OurFaithSTO.org), or call Steve Kane at 563-552-0297.



March 12, 2023 Collection:

Envelopes = \$485.00  
Offertory = \$22.00  
Candle Money = \$9.00  
Festival T-shirts = \$74.00

**TOTAL = \$590.00**

Please have all bulletin submissions to Colleen Coon by Wednesday PM

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