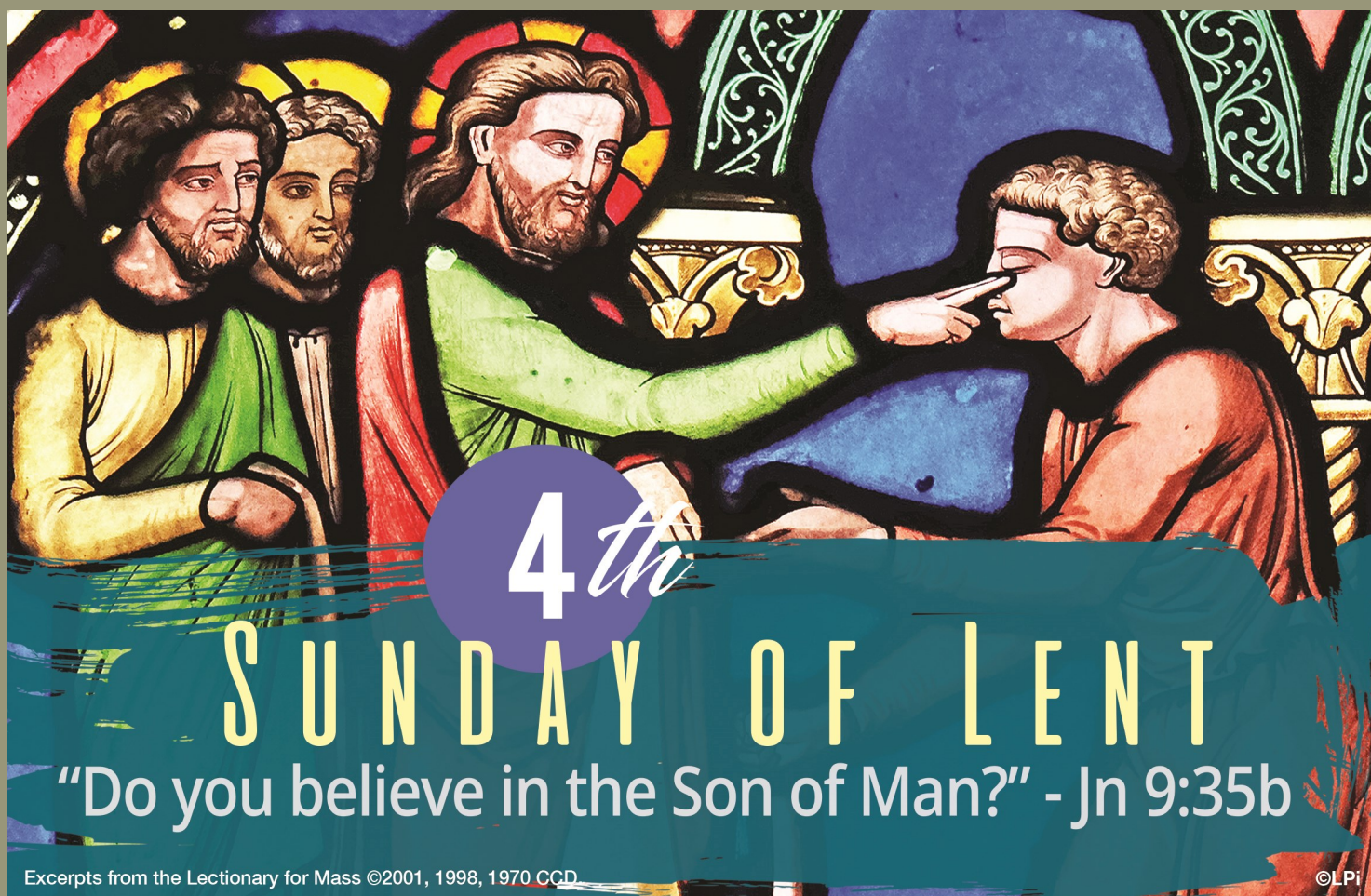


Welcome to the Holy Family Parishes of
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary
Sacred Heart
Ss Philip & James

Mission Statement

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent—March 22, 2020



Administration:

Pastor: Rev. Francis V. Odoom

Cell: 515-357-8798

Email: odoomf@diodav.org

Web: holyfamilycluster.com

Deacon: Michael Sheil

Cell: 563-613-0607

Address:

606 Fulton Street— P.O Box 7

Grand Mound, IA 52751

Telephone: 563-847-2271

Web: www.holyfamilycluster.org

Administrative Assistant

Christine Meyer

EM: grandmssphilipjames@diodav.org

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 wedding date.

The Importance of the Sign of the Cross

Making the sign of the cross seems like such a simple action. It takes less than a minute to complete, and, as Catholics, we do it so often that we often take it for granted and do it without giving it much thought. Since we make the sign of the cross before and after all of our prayers, many of us may not realize that the sign of the cross is not simply an action but a prayer in itself. Like all prayers, the sign of the cross should be said with reverence; we shouldn't rush through it on the way to the next prayer.

We make the sign of the cross when we begin and end our prayers; we make it when we enter and leave a church; and we start and end each Mass with it. We also make it after receiving the Holy Eucharist. Additionally, we are asked to make the

sign of the cross in a completely different way before the priest reads from the Gospel, where we trace tiny crosses on our foreheads, lips, and hearts. By doing this, we are asking God to enlighten and sanctify our thoughts, our words, and our souls with the Word of God, so that we may live holy lives that are pleasing to God.

In addition, we should try to make the sign of the cross a part of our daily lives. One simple way to incorporate this practice is immediately after waking and before sleeping making the sign of the cross as a powerful way to consecrate our day to God. There is a beautiful old Catholic tradition of crossing oneself while passing a Catholic Church in order to recognize Jesus is present in the tabernacle and to show him

honor and dignity; the next time you pass a church try it. And finally, in this time of uncertainty, making the sign of the cross any time during the day is an excellent way to drive away fear and to inspire courage.

When we make the sign of the cross, we profess the deepest mystery of our faith: the Holy Trinity -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is also a reminder that the cross is the sign of our salvation. The combination of the words and the action are in and of themselves a creed -- a statement of our belief and a vow to defend that belief. We should use this powerful sign frequently and reverently...and pay attention to what we are doing.

Colleen Burke
Evangelization Team

Step Three—With Modifications

On Saturday, March 14, Governor Reynolds announced new mitigation measures to help curb the spread of COVID-19 within Iowa. The social distancing interventions being called for are consonant with STEP THREE in our policy. At the same time, we are well aware that the time to act is now if we are to have a significant impact on how fast the virus spreads in our communities. Therefore, we will be going beyond what our STEP THREE calls for and beyond the guidance from the State.

We do not take these steps lightly, especially the cancellation of almost all public worship within the diocese. The sacraments, and especially the Eucharist, lie at the heart of who we are as Catholics. But the common good calls us to make this sacrifice. It is clear from accounts from around the world that urgent action is needed if we are to avoid overwhelming our health care system. Our prayer is that this form of Lenten fasting will put us in deeper solidarity with those going with so much less, with those who will be—and are being—severely affected by this outbreak.

It is impossible to foresee how long these restrictions will be in place. The CDC recently recommended that large group gath-

erings be suspended for at least the next eight weeks.

This is a list of the key changes being made to church life, until further notice. The details of the policy are included below:

All public celebrations of the Mass (and all other public liturgies or devotions) are to be cancelled.

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals may be celebrated with immediate family members only.

Individual Confession and Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated.

All Catholics in the Diocese of Davenport are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.

If you are sick, or if you are caring for someone who is sick, please stay home.

Those who are 60 years of age or older, and those with underlying health conditions, should stay at home and avoid all gatherings or other situations of potential exposure.

All large group meetings, conferences, retreats and the like in the diocese are to be cancelled.

All faith formation classes and activities are

to be cancelled (use electronic formats if possible).

Small office meetings may take place if essential, but it is preferable to meet electronically.

Encourage staff, especially those at risk for severe illness, to telework (when feasible).

Limit non-essential work travel.

All Catholic schools will be closed, at least until April 13. All extracurricular events are to be cancelled.

Further guidance will be forthcoming from the Office of the Superintendent.

This is also a time of great financial uncertainty. We can expect that income from investments and donations will be affected by the spread of COVID-19, calling for careful and prudent fiscal stewardship. Guidance from the Diocesan Finance Office will be sent separately.

As we move to STEP THREE, please submit the parish report form (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/diocesan-entity-report-form>) and continue to do so weekly.

From the Diocese of Davenport

PARISH CLUSTER NEWS—



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

Plan to join the Cluster Evangelization Team **Tuesday, April 21** at 6:30 pm in Grand Mound for *lectio divina*, a simple, insightful way to hear and experience the Word of God with one another. All are welcome!

The Diocesan Mass for Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA & American Heritage Girls for March 29, 2020 in Burlington has been cancelled, due to the implementation of Step 3 of the Diocesan Flu Policy. Congratulations to all youth who have earned religious emblems and their families. Please work with your parish priest and leaders to have these emblems blessed and presented at local parishes. Emblems can be obtained by contacting your unit leaders, who are encouraged to obtain emblems for a group of scouts. If you have questions, please contact your unit leaders or Colleen Darland - darland@davenportdiocese.org.

Women's Retreat: God's Simple Path: April 18, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Holy Trinity, Richmond. Drawing from the wisdom of St. Mother Teresa, join women from across the diocese for a day filled with Scripture, story, song, prayer and action. [Register \(https://www.davenportdiocese.org/women-registration\)](https://www.davenportdiocese.org/women-registration) by March 29 for early-bird pricing of \$30/person and \$40/person until April 13.

Men's Retreat: From Wild Men to Wise Men: April 25, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., St. Mary, Solon. Freedom is found, not in being wild, but in being wise. Join men from across the diocese for a day discovering what is needed to truly be wise men. [Register https://www.davenportdiocese.org/men-registration](https://www.davenportdiocese.org/men-registration) by April 5 for early-bird pricing of \$30/person and \$40/person until April 20.

OLPR Upcoming Events

All events are canceled until further notice.

Canceled !!

CLUSTER COMMUNAL PENANCE
Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 3:30 pm at Sts. Philips & James. No Adoration that day. Young Couples' Meeting at 4:30.
Be sure to check the mass schedule for Stations of the Cross.

SS Philp & James-Grand Mound

All Public Worship and Religious Education are canceled until further notice!

Lenten Baby Shower

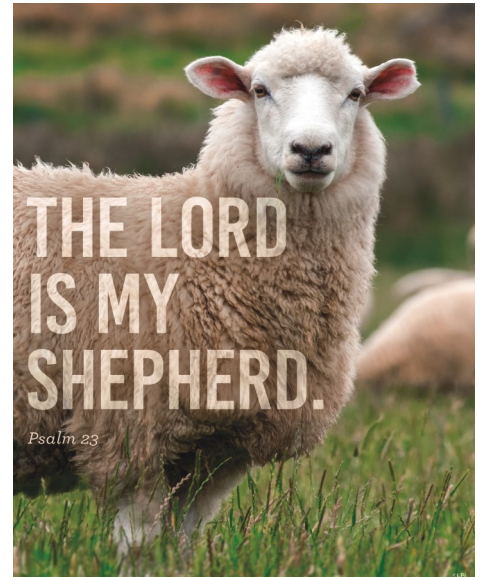
It's that time of year again! A baby bassinet has been placed in the church, and throughout the Lenten season we encourage donations of baby items. Donated items can include baby bottles, clothing, blankets, pacifiers, diapers, toys, etc. After Easter, these items will be donated and delivered to the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Clinton to be given to expectant and new mothers. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you to all those that helped change the light bulbs in the Church. It is an enlightening service you provided!

Please note that there will be no April coffee hour because it falls on Palm Sunday. The April coffee hour committee will be called to ask if they will assist with the May coffee hour at which time we will also recognize our graduating Seniors.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

All Public Worship and Religious Education are canceled until further notice!



Sacred Heart—Oxford Junction

All Public Worship and Religious Education are canceled until further notice!

Postponed

SAVE THE DATE: March 28 is our annual spring kolache bake. There are sign-up sheets in the hallway for donations for supplies and work schedules. The work schedule shows approximate times of the various stages of making kolaches. Please consider helping all day if possible and staying for clean-up. This is a money-making project to help with ongoing expenses of the church.

Please consider donating Spring flowers to decorate our altar during the Easter season. If you're not able to get somewhere to purchase a flower, please contact Doris Denniston at 319-480-6963 or Karen Bachman at 319-981-3906.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dear Cluster parishioners,
As we try to work through this difficult time, we want to make clear the changes that are being made until further notice.

All our public worship has been suspended.

However, we want to assure you that during this period we are still closer to you in spirit and prayer. In times of individual need, you could arrange with the office to request for prayer, individual confessions and Anointing/Communion to the Sick. Please contact the office by phone or email to schedule an appointment.

All Catholics are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. EWTN provides a live daily mass (including Sunday Mass) on the tv (check your provider for the channel) and the internet (<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings>)

All large group activity (no more than 10 people) are canceled. If you have a question, please contact our email.

Let us pray for everyone. We will let you know as soon as the diocese removes any restrictions. Remember, if you want to receive communion, have an individual confession or require Anointing of the Sick please contact the office. The email is checked regularly.

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 March

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

Bible quotation for the week

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. Jn 9:35-38



Knights served treats after Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Blain Crock, Steve Agnitsch and son Justin.

Our Knights of Columbus

Council 16694 with members from Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart and Sts Philip and James have been working together for almost three years. With the help of the members and all three parishes, we have been working on several projects to help in our communities. Some of the activities that the KCs have participated in are the annual Tootsie Roll sales with the proceeds going to the Special Olympics. Baby Bottles are handed out and collected filled with donations for the Pregnancy Center. The council has helped needy families. They have a Christ in Christmas poster contest for the kids. They hold a pie sales fundraiser during the holidays and serve food to many church gatherings. They also help with the Annual Blue Mass.

Members of the council are:

Gregory Adams, Steven Agnitsch, Steven Benischek, Bill Brauer, John Burke, Jacob Cram, Blain Crock, Mark Denniston, Nicholas Dexter, Daniel Donahue, Roger Kinney, Thomas Kinney, William Looney, Brett Moorman, Marvin Menke, Father Francis Odoom, Father David Paintsil, James Schroeder, Loren Stender, Martin Traver, Thomas Walter, David Whitman, Peter Whitman, and Paul Wisor.

Please consider joining us to serve our parishes.

DAILY READINGS

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54

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

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 [8a and 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53