

Welcome to the Holy Family Parishes of  
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish  
Lost Nation & Toronto  
Sacred Heart Parish ~ Oxford Junction  
Ss Philip & James Parish ~ Grand Mound



January 5, 2020 The Epiphany of the Lord

Cluster Parish Information

**Pastor:** Rev. Francis V. Odoom  
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**Sacred Heart Church**  
309 Church Street  
Oxford Junction, IA 52323  
Web [www.sacredheartoj.org](http://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.
- Catholic Radio Station 92.5FM



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a

### **Guess what we witnessed elsewhere?**

At SSPJ, we were happy to welcome Christ during the Christmas vigil. Santa came at the end of the liturgy to adore the infant king and to give gifts to all the kids in Church. We use this gesture to send a message to our kids that Santa is not Christ; he is not the child in the manger. Emphasizing that Christ is the reason for the season is a great reminder to get into the real meaning of Christmas.



### **Many visitors at Church**

One of the wonderful things we notice during the celebration of Christmas (I suppose this is a universal phenomenon) is the filling up of all Churches. It is always a wonderful feeling to see how our churches fill up again. It is great to see everyone gathered and seated according to families and relations to say thank you to Jesus for all his blessings and peace. The question that comes to mind as these days wrap up is why we cannot have such attendance throughout the year? Can our celebrations be so joyful throughout the year? Perhaps, in the light of vision 2020 we must continue to ponder as a church the question of how we should engage our parishes to be a 'Christmas church', joyful and alive throughout the year. It's our prayer that the Lord of the harvest will continue to call people back to his fold and grant us the grace to rejoice in his divine gifts.

### **A Word of Thanks**

We say a big thank you to the various teams that helped out throughout all our cluster churches with Christmas decorations and set-ups. We applaud the great spirit of dedication and voluntarism that you put up to get us through in the course of the entire liturgical year.

### **Becoming a People of Prayer**

All lasting and meaningful relationships are sustained by conversation. They grow through listening and sharing, through asking for help and from gaining directly from what the other has to offer. Prayer is the way that we as Catholics grow in our relationship with God and bring the good news to others.

Prayer is essential to living a full, Catholic life. Talking with God each day, regardless of the form or words used, nourishes our relationship with God and helps it to grow. We encourage everyone to spend time in prayer each day whether we pray alone, simply speaking our thoughts to God or by praying familiar prayers like the Our Father or Hail Mary or pray with others, like participating in the Mass, saying a Rosary, or gathering for the Stations of the Cross.

Another type of prayer you may not be familiar with is *lectio divina* (pronounced "lec-tsee-oh di-vee-nah"), Latin for "sacred reading." It is a spiritual practice that has been in use for over a thousand years, originally practiced by monks who spent a large portion of their days praying and reading Scripture. While reading they noticed that at times individual words, phrases, or verses seemed to leap off the page with a special personal importance.

Practicing *lectio divina* can help draw us closer to God. We begin by reading a passage of the Bible and then meditating or thinking about a specific part of the passage that spoke directly to us. The next step is prayer where we simply talk to God and tell him what we're feeling. The final step is contemplation, to be silent in the presence of God, committing ourselves to "do" the truth that he has implanted in our hearts.

Our cluster evangelization team has been practicing *lectio divina* to enhance our own prayer lives, and we invite others to join us. If you are interested, we will meet the third Tuesday of the month and rotate among the three parishes, beginning January 21 in Grand Mound. Watch the bulletin for further details.

This new year let us all make a resolution to deepen our prayer life and be transformed by it. Please plan to come and join us.

Holy Family Cluster Evangelization Team



## PARISH CLUSTER NEWS

### NEWS AND EVENTS



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

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

#### OLOP January 2020 Events

- *Weaving Prayers & Baskets*: Tues, January 14 - 9:00am-3:00pm
- *Taizé Prayer*: Sun, January 19 - 6:30-7:30pm at Humility of Mary Center in Davenport
- *Stewards of God's Gifts*: Wed, January 22 9:00am-3:00pm at OLPR

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



In each of our Holy Family cluster parishes, the birth of our Savior was celebrated in song, worship, gathering of families, decorations and programs for or by children. We are a blessed community! Thank you to all who helped to make this season be filled with the Holy Spirit!

#### SS Philp & James-Grand Mound



Beginning January 2020, church ministries are assigned on a monthly basis versus weekly. Altar servers will change every week.

#### January Ministries

Lector: Tom Kinney  
 Euc. Min.: Joyce Barnes, Teresa Grimm, Anne Adams  
 Ushers: Josh Fox, Wayne Whitman, Victor Green

#### Altar Servers January 12 -

Natalie & Nathan Butler & Mitchell Maher

Your 2019 year-end statements are available in the back of the church.

The St. Phillip & James' Social Action Committee would like to thank the parishioners for their generous donations to our yearly "hat and mitten" collection. Again this year we received a donation from Thrivent Financial which enabled us to purchase several more items for the collection - thank you Michele Traver of Thrivent Financial for making this "action team" donation possible! The items were distributed to the Calamus-Wheatland and Ekstrand elementary schools before their Christmas break. Thank you again - your donations will be very much appreciated by the children in our community!

#### Religious Education News

Wednesday, January 8  
 NO CLASSES  
 Teacher's Meeting  
 Wednesday, January 15--  
 Class 6-7 pm  
 Bible Study 6-7 pm  
 Wednesday, January 22  
 Class 6-7P.M  
 Bible Study 6-7 pm  
 Wednesday, January 29  
 Class 6-7P.M  
 Bible Study 6-7 pm

#### Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

In an effort to notify parishioners as quickly and efficiently as possible, we are updating our parish email and cell phone list. Please check the current list in the back of the church and make any changes necessary. Thank you!



#### Sacred Heart - Oxford Junction



**Holy Family of Nazareth,**  
 keep our family safe from all dangers and evil. May Jesus always be the center of our life and of our home. Grant us peace in this life and in the next.

-Catholics striving for Holiness-

## GENERAL INFORMATION 4A



- **Our Lady of Holy Rosary:** Dick Nodurft, Melvin Duwa
- **SS Philip & James Church:** Deacon Mike Sheil, Natalie Regan, Elmer & Dorothy Hasenmiller, Grace Kinney, Betty Forret, Carolyn Schwien, & Greg Schwien
- **Sacred Heart Church:** Betty Anderson, Rich Kleineck, Dennis Koppes, Wendy Larive, Jerica Christensen, Marilyn Stevenson, Rhonda Murphy, Leonard Lasack.



## MASS INTENTIONS 4B

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Saturday  | 1/4/20/Lost Nation                         |
| 05:00pm   | Irene Duwa                                 |
| Sunday    | 1/5/20                                     |
| 08:00am   | Grand Mound/<br>Kathaleen Whitman          |
| 10:00am   | Oxford Junction/<br>Monk & Marguerite Coon |
| Monday    | 1/6/20/ No Mass                            |
| Tuesday   | 1/7/2020/Grand Mound                       |
| 08:00am   | Richard Nichols Family                     |
| Wednesday | 1/8/20/Grand Mound                         |
| 08:00am   | Harold Green                               |
| 10:00am   | Wheatland Manor/Manor Residents            |
| Thursday  | 1/9/20/Lost Nation                         |
| 05:30pm   | Scott Benischek                            |
| Friday    | 1/10/20/Oxford Junction                    |
| 08:00am   | Rosine Regennitter                         |
| Saturday  | 1/11/20/Toronto                            |
| 05:00pm   | Craig & Tom Simmons                        |
| Sunday    | 1/12/20                                    |
| 08:00am   | Grand Mound/<br>Syslo Family               |
| 10:00am   | Oxford Junction/<br>Mae Johns              |



### Readings for the week of January 5, 2020

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
[cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12  
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a  
[8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13  
[cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52  
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a  
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20  
[12a]/Lk 5:12-16  
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30  
Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17