

**Daily Readings for the
Week of December 22, 2024**

Sunday, 12/22: Micah 5:1-4/ Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19/ Hebrews 10:5-10/Luke 1:39-45
Monday, 12/23: Malachi 3:1-4,23-24/ Ps 25:4-5,8-10,14/ Luke 1:57-66
Tuesday, 12/24: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16/ Ps 89:2-527,29/ Luke 1:67-79
Wednesday, 12/25: Isaiah 52:7-10/ Ps 98:1-6/ Hebrews 1:1-6/ John 1:1-18
Thursday, 12/26: Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59/ Ps 31:3-4,6,8,17/ Matthew 10:17-22
Friday, 12/27: 1 John 1:1-4/ Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12/ John 20:1-8
Saturday, 12/28: 1 John 1:5- -2:2/ Ps 124:2-5,7-8/ Matthew 2:13-18

**Liturgical
Ministers**

Schedule for December 25, 2024

Lector: Nathan
Greeters/Gifts: Sauer Family
Servers: Grady/Kevin
Money Counters: Volunteers
Extraordinary Ministers
of the Eucharist: Rick/Mary A M

Schedule for December 29,2024

Lector: Mark
Greeter/Gifts: Denniston Family
Servers: Kevin/Declan
Money Counters: Mark/Mary A M
Extraordinary Ministers
of the Eucharist: Mark/ Mary A M

**Today's Mass Intention
Treyton Lange**

Mass Intention 12/25
Josephine Behn

Mass Intention 12/29
Paul and Mary Lasack

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, Bill Ihns,
Marilyn Stevenson, Julie Ahrendsen, Zoey Meyers,
Carrie Leeper, Larry Marek, Carl Koppes, Marsha Lasack,
Chris Gibbs, Wendy Larive, Fr. Andrew



SACRED HEART



December 22, 2024

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

Deacon:

Mark Sandersfeld

dbq137d@dbqarch.org

Administrative Assistant:

Wendy Swan: dbq155sec@dbqarch.org

Phone: 319-320-5003

Bookkeeper:

Sue Zeller: dbq155bk@dbqarch.org

Parish Council Chairperson:

Jon Eganhouse: egnhws@netins.net

Finance Council Chairperson:

Brett Moorman: bdmooman@gmail.com

**"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

4th Sunday of Advent

Ladies of the Sacred Heart:

Mary Ann Mostaert:

mamostaert@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education:

Sarah Rissler:

sahrissler10@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:

Monte Ahrendsen

Jon Eganhouse

Abby Inglis

Amber Fall

Colleen Coon

Julie Ahrendsen

Glenda Leeper

Finance Council Members:

Donna Schewe

Brett Moorman

Ron Nowachek

Kris Leeper

Mark Denniston

Celebrating the Incarnation and Hope of the World

Dear Parishioners,

Christmas commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ, a pivotal event in Christian theology. Believed to be the Son of God, the birth of Jesus becomes the incarnation of God in human form.

The incarnation becomes the hope of humanity, bridging the gap between God and us. As the gates of paradise shut to us by Eve's disobedience, it became wide open by Mary's Mary obedience and fiat.

As we read in the narrative of Jesus birth in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, we notice how Matthew focuses on the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, while Luke emphasizes the humility and joy surrounding the event.

Together, they proffer for our faith, convictions, and love some key elements of the Christmas story. We learn about the virgin birth, the angelic announcement to Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, the birth in a manger, and the visit of the shepherds and wise men.

A Time of Hope and Renewal

Friends, Christmas is a time of profound joy and hope. It's a celebration of God's love for humanity manifested in the gift of His Son.

The birth of Jesus signifies new beginnings, a chance for renewal and spiritual rebirth. At every Christmas, Jesus comes as the light of the world to illuminate the dark shadows of our lives and the world. He offers hope amidst darkness, guiding us towards peace and reconciliation.

Throughout the century, the Church has emphasized the uniqueness of Christmas as the incarnation, not only underscoring the significance of love, unity, and peace but also service and giving. Therefore, Christmas highlights for us our need to put others' needs before ours. Also, Christmas is a time to reflect on these values, to extend compassion to those in need, and to strive for peace and good will in our communities and the world.

Finally, let me take this moment to once again wish all our parish families and friends a Merry Christmas and a Blessed Happy New Year.

News

Thank you Parish Family for selling and purchasing tickets for the Beef Raffle. It was a great fundraiser and the profit from it will be posted on the bulletin board. Congratulations to Jim Vacek and Bob Coon who were each a winner of 1/4 beef, donated by Margo and Monte Ahrendsens. Processing of the beef has been donated by Carmie and Ron Nowacheck and Glenda and Kris Leeper. Thank you to those parishioners for their generous donations!

Check out the fundraising thermometer in the hallway. Thanks to the kolache bakes, the cinnamon rolls bake, the sweet corn sales, "Table of Plenty" and the beef raffles sales, we have made it to our fundraising goal of \$15,000, to help support our wonderful church and church family. Thank you to all who participated in these events in any way.

The Christmas Story in Song was presented last Sunday and was a huge success. We thank Fr. Andrew and Deacon Mark for their prayers, Colleen Coon and Carmie Nowacheck for producing and directing, Mark Denniston for being a great storyteller, our wonderful Sacred Heart Choir, the ladies of the Sacred Heart for preparing a super soup supper, and our church family and guests for supporting our presentation.

You still have time to bring winter items for the Christmas Trees in the church and hallway to be donated to the elementary school in Oxford Junction. Those items will be donated at the end of December.

Our next "Table of Plenty" will be January 5th, 2025

The Ladies of the Sacred Heart will meet again in 2025.

The DMI survey has received 24 online surveys at this time. We have also received 1 paper survey. Thank you to this individuals who have turned in their survey. We have until January 8th to complete all the surveys. It does not take long to complete. Please take part.

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/bty695>

REMEMBER: Christmas Mass will be at 10:00 am. Mass on December 31st, celebrating Mary, the Mother of God, is at 6:00pm.



December 15, 2024 Collection

Envelopes	\$ 235.00
Offertory	79.00
Candles	8.00
Donation	500.00
(Citizen State Bank)	
TOTAL	822.00

Parish Baptism Preparation Class for Families Seeking Infant Baptism at St. John, St. Isidore, and Sacred Heart.

Preparation Class Venue:
St. John the Baptist Mt. Vernon, IA
Time: 2:00pm

Scheduled Dates for Classes:

Coming Soon

Please have all bulletin submissions to Wendy Swan by Wednesday PM