#### **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

Lector: Mark

#### Schedule for December 25, 2024

#### Schedule for December 29,2024

Greeter/Gifts: Denniston Family

Money Counters: Mark/Mary A M

of the Eucharist: Mark/ Mary A M

Servers: Kevin/Declan

**Extraordinary Ministers** 

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

# **Today's Mass Intention Treyton Lange**

Mass Intention 12/25 Josephine Behn

Mass Intention 12/29 Paul and Mary Lasack

# **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: bdmoorman@gmail.com

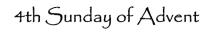
# **"BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY** OF SACRED HEART: LOVE, **PRAYER & SERVICE**"

309 Church Street • PO Box 98

Oxford Junction, IA 52323

Mass Schedule: 10:30am Sunday

www.sacredheartoj.org



### Ladies of the Sacred Heart:

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 & 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

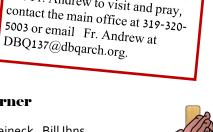
Ron Nowachek

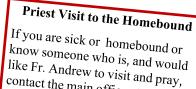
Kris Leeper

Mark Denniston









# **PASTOR SPEAKS**

#### 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.



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 Ahhrendsen. 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 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 survery. 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.

WEEKLYOFFERING

### 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