

Daily Readings for the Week of Dec. 14, 2025

Dec. 14: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10/ Psalms 146:6-10/ James 5:7-10/ Matthew 11:2-11
Dec. 15: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17/ Psalms 25:4-9/ Matthew 21:23-27
Dec. 16: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13/ Psalms 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23/
Matthew 21:28-32
Dec. 17: Genesis 49:2, 8-10/ Psalms 72:1-4, 7-8, 17/ Psalms 72:1-4, 7-8, 17
Dec. 18: Jeremiah 23:5-8/ Psalms 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/ Matthew 1:18-25
Dec. 19: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25/ Psalms 71:3-6, 16-17/ Luke 1:5-25
Dec. 20: Isaiah 7:10-14/ Psalms 24:1-6/ Luke 1:26-38

Liturgical Ministries

Schedule for Dec. 14, 2025

Lector: Margo
Greeters/Gifts: Leeper Family
Servers: Kevin
Money Counters: Margo/Kris
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Margo/Ron

Schedule for Dec. 21, 2025

Lector: Steve
Greeters/Gifts: Lasack Family
Servers: Kevin
Money Counters: Sharon/Mary
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Rick/Jon

Schedule for Dec. 25, 2025

Lector: Kate Greeter/Gifts : Mostaert Family
Servers: Grady/G\Kevin Money Counters: Volunteers
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Ron/Mary A M

Today's Mass Intention

Treyton Lange, Joyce Slauha and Beulah Feuss

Mass Intention Dec. 21, 2025

Deceased Members of
Schewe Family



PRAYER CORNER

Betty Anderson, Karen Kleineck, Bill Ihns,
Mary Hansen, Marilyn Stevenson, Julie Ahrendsen,
Carrie Leeper, Margaret Fowler, Larry Marek, Carl Koppes,
Marsha Lasack, Phyllis Ludwig, Marvin Ludwig,
Rhett James Leeper, Paul Rowan, Wendy Larive, 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



December 14, 2025

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:

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Parish Council Chairperson:

Jon Eganhouse: *egnhws@netins.net*

Finance Council Chairperson:

Brett Moorman: *bdmoorman@gmail.com*

3rd Sunday of Advent

Ladies of the Sacred Heart:

Mary Ann Mostaert:

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Director of Religious Education:

Stacey Moorman

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Music Ministry Leaders:

Carmie Nowachek:

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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

Dear Friends,

As we enter the third week of Advent and continue to pray for the archdiocese during the discernment time, when the archbishop and his team seek to reflect and make decisions, it is necessary that we stay in close contact with the archbishop and get to know everything he says to his flock. Hence, like the previous weeks, I share another reflection from Archbishop Zinkula intended for the people of God in the archdiocese with you

A reflection on the readings by Archbishop Zinkula:

The first followers of Jesus in His Way likely expected Him to return soon after His ascension into heaven. St. Paul promised that the archangel's voice would be heard with the sounding of the trumpet on the last day as Jesus arrives on the clouds. Therefore, in anticipation they gathered together each Lord's Day to celebrate the Lord's Meal. But Jesus didn't return after a whole year, and another year, and an additional year. No doubt they began to wonder and to grow concerned about the promises of Christ.

St. James, in our second reading, urged them to be patient. Faith and hope are virtues that require perseverance. He made an analogy between waiting for the coming of Christ and farmers who must be resilient as they hold out for favorable weather and the fruit of their labors. Jesus will return, but not on our terms and not according to our expectations. Patience doesn't excuse us from activity, allowing us to be completely passive, sitting back and doing nothing. But it does demand understanding, wisdom, and trust. Activities such as farming, teaching, or fishing call us to recognize the big picture—that for every problem there will be a solution and for each setback, a triumph will follow.

We likely wonder what parish life will look like in July. How will parish staff be impacted? Will our faith formation programs be altered? What about finances? What time will Masses be celebrated? Where will the priests live? For now, it's good to consider possibilities. It's important to pray for wisdom. During the interim period next year, from July to January, parishioners from parishes will work together to determine how to fulfill our purpose to know, love, and serve God. We will be invited to share our insights. Patiently working together, we will continue to prepare the people of God for Christ's return one day.

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah

Christmas Day Mass will be at 10:00am. Volunteers will be needed to assist with Mass.

Archbishop Zinkula has issued a decree regarding Mass Intentions/Stipend. **As of January 1, 2026, Mass Intentions/Stipends will increase to \$10.00 per Mass.** Any Mass Intentions all ready requested will be honored. A copy of the official decree is posted on the bulletin board in the hall and on the website.

Please consider donating a Christmas flower to help decorate our altar during the Christmas season. You may bring flower anytime before decorating, which will be done after December 22nd.

We will again be decorating a tree in the hallway with donated winter items to be given to the Midland Elementary School in OJ. If the tree is up when you bring in your donation you may hang them on tree or place underneath the tree. If the tree is not up simply put your donated items in the library.

Thank you to the Crock & Moorman families for again presenting the Live Nativity at the Crock home south of Clarence last Saturday evening.

A huge Thank You to all our choir members who were able to sing last Sunday at the Festival of Trees in Wyoming. We have a pretty dedicated group of folks that love to sing. Thank you Stacy for all of your organization and inviting us to sing. Thanks also to Blain for setting up all the equipment, the help of Ron and Monte. We're proud of our music and musicians, as well as our organist and director.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Nov. 7, 2025 Collection	
Envelopes	\$ 490.00
Offertory	84.00
Candles	13.00
Table of Plenty	149.00
Total	\$ 736.00

Baptism Information

If you wish to have your child baptized, please contact Wendy Swan at (319) 320-5003 or e-mail dbq155sec@dbqarch.org to get the process started.

Please have all bulletin submissions to Wendy Swan by Wednesday PM