

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF



ST BERNARD

201 Main St, Blencoe, IA



ST JOHN

1009 13th St, Onawa, IA



ST JOSEPH

510 TIPTON ST, SALIX, IA

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 19, 2023

Parish Staff

Pastor, Rev. Michael J. Erpelding

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Secretary – St. John & St. Bernard, Colleen Maule

(712) 423-1004

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Secretary – St. Joseph, Mary Brady

(712) 946-5635

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Websites – St. John: www.stjohnonawa.com

St. Joseph: www.stjoesalix.com

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 30 min. before Mass or by appointment

Baptism: St. John – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

St. Joseph – Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Baptism Class: Contact the Director of Faith Formation

Marriage: Arrangements at least six (6) months prior to marriage. Interview with the pastor is required before date for marriage can be given.

Questions of the Week

Inspiring Us to Live in the Holy Spirit

Adults: Do I consider illness and suffering punishment for past sins?

Children: Do I criticize my friends or family and say nasty things behind their backs?



Oil and Anointing: Source of Strength

Throughout Lent, the Sunday readings have had themes of commission, sustenance, healing, and faithfulness to the Lord, just to name a few. The readings for Lent are so rich, and we could meditate on just *one* of these themes for an eternity, but the one which captured my imagination this Lent is the progression through the symbols of the sacraments in the readings. Last Sunday, “water” was a common theme; this Sunday, “oil and anointing” are a thread running through the first reading, responsorial psalm, and the Gospel.

Oil strengthens us. In the first reading from 1 Samuel, the Lord commissioned Samuel to anoint the second king of Israel. Samuel anointed the youngest son of Jesse, David, and “the spirit of the Lord rushed upon David.” (1 Sm 16:13a) The Gifts of the Holy Spirit strengthened David for his commission and kingship.

Psalm 23 – perhaps the most familiar psalm – moves from restful waters to anointing with oil, thereby bridging the readings from last Sunday to this Sunday. The water refreshes and the oil strengthens, another nod to the themes in the readings.

Oil and anointing heal us. In today's Gospel reading, Jesus' healing of the blind man symbolizes our physical birth and our spiritual birth. Jesus spat on the ground and made clay from his saliva. He smeared the clay on the eyes of the blind man and commanded him to go to the Pool of Siloam to wash. After washing, he was able to see. (Jn 9:6-7) In the physical order, the clay parallels the Story of Creation when God formed man out of dust from the ground. (Gn 2:7) In the spiritual order, the man's anointing with clay and washing parallels the Sacrament of Baptism.

Following his healing, the blind man is tested, just as Jesus was tested in the desert following His baptism. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that as followers of Jesus Christ, we will be tested, too. Fortunately, through the sacraments, we are refreshed and strengthened to live the commission which God gives to each one of us. *Michelle*

WEEK OF MARCH 19, 2023

Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Parish</u>
Monday	March 20		No Mass	
Tuesday	March 21	9:00 AM	Virginia "Pat" Huot	St. Joseph
Wednesday	March 22	8:45 AM	Charles Zobel, Jr.	St. John
Thursday	March 23	9:00 AM	Pauline & Walter Scott	St. Joseph
Friday	March 24	8:45 AM	Scott Ellis	St. John
Saturday	March 25	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Bernard, St. John, and St. Joseph	St. Joseph
Sunday	March 26	9:00 AM	Pat & Irma Morrow	St. John
		11:00 AM	Terry, Cathy and Mary Hughes	St. Joseph

GROWING IN OUR FAITH



Religious Education News

Below is the class schedule through the end of the year:

What	When	Time
Classes	Wednesday, March 22, 2023	6:30—7:30 PM
Classes	Wednesday, March 29, 2023	6:30—7:30 PM
Holy Week	Wednesday, April 5, 2023	No Classes
Classes	Wednesday, April 12, 2023	6:30—7:30 PM
Classes	Wednesday, April 19, 2023	6:30—7:30 PM
Classes	Wednesday, April 26, 2023	6:30—7:30 PM

High School News

Graduation Mass: St. John and St. Joseph Churches will celebrate our high school graduates on **Sunday, May 7, 2023**. St. John will celebrate at the 9:00 AM Mass, and St. Joseph at the 11:00 AM Mass. If you or someone in your family will graduate in May, please contact one of the parishes offices to RSVP for the parishes' celebrations.

Walking With The Lord

Celebration of the Sacraments

First Holy Communion: We will celebrate First Holy Communion on **Sunday, April 16, 2023**. St. John will celebrate at the 9:00 AM Mass, and St. Joseph at the 11:00 AM Mass. Please keep our children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to join the Lord's table!

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults: We have four candidates preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion on **Sunday, May 7, 2023, 10:00 AM at the Cathedral of the Epiphany**. Please pray for our candidates as they prepare to complete their sacraments or enter the Church.

JORNADAS DE ASCUAS

POR LAS VOCACIONES

Ayuno y oración

EMBER DAYS

FOR VOCATIONS

Pray & Fast

3/24/23

Rezar el Rosario por la santidad de los hombres y mujeres consagrados y porque se multipliquen las vocaciones a la vida religiosa.

Pray the Rosary for the holiness of consecrated men and women and for an increase in vocations to the religious life.

sdiocese.org/ember-days



ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering	
March 5, 2023 Registered Families: 185	
Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$1269.00
E-Offering	\$94.70
Building/ Tuckpointing	\$122.00
St. Bernard	\$455.00
Total for March 5, 2023	\$1726.70

Join us for Supper this Lent

The Knights of Columbus have scheduled one more Fish Fry this Lent, on March 24th, 5:30–7:00. The Knights of Columbus fish fries, catered by Staley's, are **Dine-In** or **Take-Out ONLY**.

The Knights will also host a dinner of (meatless) spaghetti & lasagna on Friday, March 31 from 5:30-6:30. Come socialize and enjoy the repast!

Knight of Month' ... Allen Staley: for his dedication to our fund-raising fish dinners during Lent; and passing on to us his savings from reduced prices for Alaska Pollock fish.

'Family of Month' ... our Knights & family members who are ill or recently deceased and are in need of comfort, solace, prayers and remembrance-in-memoriam.

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

IDEAS FOR LEARNING IN LENT

Get to know the Fathers of the Church and read selections from them along with Scripture. Short selections from the Fathers writing on Lenten Themes and ideas can be downloaded for free from the **Lenten Library of the Crossroads Initiative**.

Find a written biography of a Saint that particularly appeals to you and read it during the Season of Lent. If you have never read it, **Mark Twain's historical novel on St. Joan of Arc** is fantastic.

Instead of secular videos for weekend entertainment during Lent, try some videos that will enrich your spiritual life. Such as **Jesus of Nazareth by Franco Zeffirelli**.

While driving, turn off the secular radio and use your commute time to listen to some spiritual teaching or Rosary on your smart phone or Catholic Radio.

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

St. Joseph Weekly Offering	
March 5, 2023	
Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$3053.00
E-Offering	341.32
Candles	\$45.00
Easter Flowers	\$50.00
Food Pantry	\$50.00
Maintenance	\$150.00
Total for March 5, 2023	\$3689.32

Tabernacle Society Funeral Committee

The next funeral committee to serve: *Bev Weikel and Mary Lynne Nelson, chairladies*, assisted by Linda Adkins, Nila Braun, Pat Folsom, Lori Klemme, Karla Kluver, Kathy LaBrune, Mary Lander, Laura Lewis, Patricia Limoges, Roxie Maier, Mindy Mahlberg, Michele Mareau, Vickie McKenna, Deb McLarty, Shirley Menard, Patty Simonds, Nancy Small, Stephanie Small, Abigail Steele.



Mater Dei Parish invites you to join them for a tour of *the House of Mary Shrine* in Yankton, SD on **Wednesday, April 26, 2023**. The bus will depart from Immaculate Conception Church in Sioux City at 9:00am. Lunch will be at JoDean's Steakhouse and Lounge in Yankton. The bus will stop at the winery in Vermillion on the way home. Cost is \$35/person. Contact the Mater Dei Parish Office to reserve your seat (712) 276-4821 or (712) 226-4319.

American Legion BREAKFAST



American Legion Post 662
901 Topaz Dr, Sergeant Bluff, IA

Sunday March 19, 9:00am-Noon

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy,
Fresh Fruit, Beverage

Legion Auxiliary Ladies will be holding a bake sale during the breakfast.

A little boy got lost at the gym and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"



St. Joseph Minister Schedule for March 25-26		
Ministry	Saturday, March 25	Sunday, March 26
Altar Servers	Kellen Hunold Madelyn & Grady Olson	Lydia, Zackary & Allyson Harpenau
EMHC	Michelle Mareau	Deborah Harpenau
Lector	Michael Donnelly	Joni Greder
Greeters	Tom Ullrich	Ron & Margaret Wood
Gifts	Ryan & Lisa Willis Family	Thomas & Doreen Becker
Ushers	Richard Lucas, Paula Olson	Ty Hinrickson, Margaret Wood
	Pete & Marge Rinaldi	John & Heather Hensley
Stewards, Monday, March 20, 10 AM: Kathy Baker and John Janson		

"Pray with God's Word this Lent! Get the daily readings sent to your email each morning. Sign up for your free subscription from the USCCB here":



The USCCB (*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*) would like to make as many people as possible aware that they can get the daily readings sent to them, as opposed to searching for them each day on social media or the USCCB website. The free daily reading subscriptions are also available at bible.usccb.org for those who prefer to use a browser.



The bishops of the United States have called upon all the faithful to renew their belief and worship of the Eucharist. Each month the members of the three local churches will have the opportunity to pray during the exposition of the Eucharist.

- * **Sunday, April 23, 2023:** St. John, Onawa, 10 AM to 2 PM (in the main church)
- * **Sunday, May 7, 2023:** St. Joseph, Salix, Noon to 2 PM (in the daily Mass chapel)
- * **Sunday, June 4, 2023:** St. John, Onawa, 10 AM to 2 PM (in the main church)



- ✘ **Holy Thursday:** April 6, 7:00 PM, Salix
- ✘ **Good Friday:** April 7, 3:00 PM, Salix
- ✘ **Easter Vigil:** Saturday, April 8, 8:30 PM, Onawa
- ✘ **Easter Sunday:** Sunday, April 9, 9:00 AM, Onawa
Sunday, April 9, 11:00 AM, Salix

The Rescue Project

Join us for *The Rescue Project* on Monday evenings at **6:00 PM** at St. John Church. One of the primary goals of *The Rescue Project* is to help Christians reacquire a Biblical worldview. Each evening begins with dinner and fellowship, followed with a video and small table discussions.

- **Session 5:** March 20th
- **Session 6:** March 27th
- **Sessions 7 and 8:** *More information to come*
- **Session 9:** April 3rd