

# 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

## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2023**

### Parish Staff

**Pastor, Rev. Michael J. Erpelding**

(712) 423-2656

[father@stjohnparishonawa.com](mailto:father@stjohnparishonawa.com)

[father@stjoeparishsalix.com](mailto:father@stjoeparishsalix.com)

**Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Rethman**

(712) 202-6641

[michelle@stjohnparishonawa.com](mailto:michelle@stjohnparishonawa.com)

[michelle@stjoeparishsalix.com](mailto:michelle@stjoeparishsalix.com)

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

(712) 423-1004

[secretary@stjohnparishonawa.com](mailto:secretary@stjohnparishonawa.com)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday  
7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Secretary – St. Joseph, Mary Brady**

(712) 946-5635

[secretary@stjoeparishsalix.com](mailto:secretary@stjoeparishsalix.com)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Websites – St. John:** [www.stjohnonawa.com](http://www.stjohnonawa.com)

**St. Joseph:** [www.stjoesalix.com](http://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

**Adults:** Which has deepened your faith more: Being treated justly, or being treated with love and care? Who needs you to treat them with care this week?

**Children:** When have you been very fair? When have you been very generous?

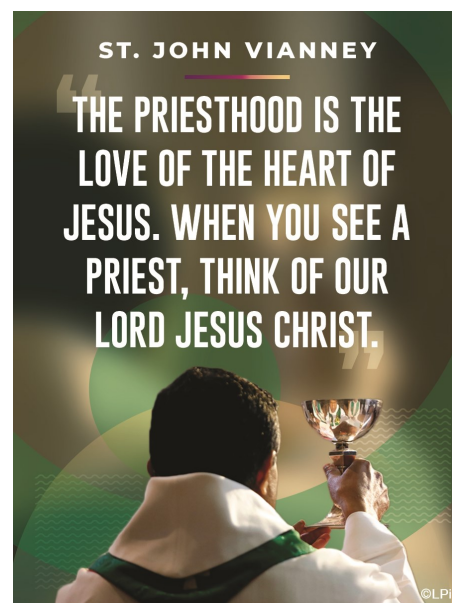
### Priesthood Sunday

Whenever we interact with our priests, do we see them as human and frail like the rest of humanity? Or on the other hand, do we see them as supermen, able to withstand all the stresses and strains of being human?

I hope you see your priest as very human. Quite possibly, even more human than most of us. Why? Because they not only have their own struggles being human, but they accompany us in our humanness too.

Therefore, this Priesthood Sunday, turn the tables. Attempt to be the listener to the human side of your priest. Do not automatically tell him your troubles; begin by asking him what is going on in his life.

Thank him warmly for giving up so much to spend his life in service to others. Try it. You might be surprised to find out your priest is just like you!



*With appreciation to our priest, Father Michael Erpelding, because God created him to be a blessing to many. He makes a wonderful difference in our lives because of all of the ways he allows God's love to shine through him.*

*Fr. Michael, thank you for all that you do for us.*

## WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

### Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Parish
Monday	September 25		No Mass	
Tuesday	September 26	9:00 AM	Bert & Ella Ullrich	St. Joseph
Wednesday	September 27	9:00 AM	Joe Fouts	St. John
Thursday	September 28	9:00 AM	Glenda Ullrich	St. Joseph
Friday	September 29	9:00 AM	In Thanksgiving	St. John
Saturday	September 30	4:00 PM	Gloria Welte	St. Joseph
Sunday	October 1	9:00 AM	A.J. Benjamin	St. John
		11:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Bernard, St. John & St. Joseph	St. Joseph

## GROWING IN OUR FAITH

### Blue Mass with Bishop Nickless

The tradition of a Blue Mass has origins dating to 1934 “when police officers gathered to pray for their fallen comrades and seek God’s blessing for their own safety,” according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. “The name ‘Blue Mass’ comes from the traditional color of many officers’ uniforms.”

Bishop Nickless will be celebrating a Blue Mass **Friday, Sept. 29 at 5 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Epiphany**. All first responders are invited to attend and be honored for their service along with their families.

The public is welcome to attend. First responders are asked to RSVP to [info@sccathedral.org](mailto:info@sccathedral.org) but may attend without an RSVP. A reception will be held after the Mass.

### Religious Education Schedule

September	
27 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
October	
4 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
11 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
18 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>St. Joseph</b> , Classes 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
	<b>St. John</b> , Special Event, 6:30–7:30 p.m.



## CONFIRMATION

**Confirmation 2023:** St. Joseph and St. John Churches will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop R. Walker Nickless on **Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 6:00 PM** at St. Joseph Church.

- **Student/Parent Meeting:**
  - **St. John:** Sunday, October 1, 10:00 AM, Room 10
  - **St. Joseph:** Sunday, October 1, 12:00 PM, Parish Center
- **Rehearsal:**
  - Sunday, October 8, 12:00 PM, St. Joseph

If you are a high school sophomore, please contact Michelle, (712) 202-6641, for more information.

**Confirmation 2024:** St. Joseph and St. John Churches will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the fall of 2024. The Office of the Bishop hasn’t yet posted the schedule for Fall 2024; however, we will have a brief informational meeting on **Sunday, October 22, 2023:**

- **St. John:** 10:00 AM in Room 10; and
- **St. Joseph:** 12:00 PM in the Parish Center.



If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Catholic Church, please contact Michelle, Director of Faith Formation, (712) 202-6641.



## ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

### St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering

Registered Families: 185  
September 10, 2023

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$2003.00
E-Offering	\$94.70
Building	\$25.00
St. Bernard	\$225.00
Food Pantry	\$50.00
<b>Total for Sept 10, 2023</b>	<b>\$2397.70</b>



The **St. John Chicken Dinner** is today, **Sunday, Sept. 24**. This event is sponsored by the parishioners of St. John and underwritten by the Knights of Columbus. All proceeds stay with St. John Church. Please plan on supporting our dinner today. Serving from 11am—1 pm.



The Life Chain is a time to join hundreds of thousands of fellow Americans in prayer. Please plan to attend the life chain which

will be held on the sidewalk in front of the Monona County Courthouse from 2:00 pm-3:00pm on Sunday October 1, 2023.



Gifts to Together As One (TAO) are part of our stewardship of treasure. Our goal as a Diocese is higher this year so we may continue to impact lives through Diocesan ministry. Join us today in support of TAO with a

gift or pledge through the brochure that was mailed to you or giving online at [scdiocese.org/tao](http://scdiocese.org/tao). The goal for St. John-Onawa this year is \$8,987. Thank you for your generosity in helping reach our goal.

## ST. JOSEPH NEWS

### St. Joseph Weekly Offering

September 9-10, 2023

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$2987.00
E-Offering	\$215.70
Food Pantry	\$100.00
Candles	\$30.00
Maintenance	\$120.00
<b>Total for Sept 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>\$3452.70</b>



**THANK YOU** to all who helped make the St. Joseph Bazaar and Chicken Dinner a HUGE success. We were graced with a beautiful fall day, delicious food catered by Staley's along with fabulous homemade salads and desserts provided by our parishioners, wonderful raffle prizes donated by generous businesses and individuals, and amazing goodies, produce, canned goods and crafts for our Country Store.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who gave their time, talent and treasure to make this a community building event. A special thanks goes out to those who stepped up to serve on the planning committee:

Deb Craig and Mary Herbst, Bazaar co-chairs, along with Mary Johnson, Mary Parker, Rachel Wright, Monica Kavanaugh, Bev Weikel, Marge Rinaldi and Deanna Smith.

Thank you to each and everyone who helped at the Bazaar. It takes many volunteers to set up the parish hall, sell dinner and raffle tickets, serve 533 meals, and run a Country Store. You were awesome!

Next week we will share all of the raffle prize winners and totals for this fundraising event.



The TAO parish goal for St. Joseph-Salix is \$12,481. Please prayerfully consider your donation to help our parish meet this goal.

## God Laughs

A student asked his father to do his homework for him. The father replied that it would not be right. The student responded, "Probably not, but give it your best shot."

# FALL Retreat

## The Heart of Gratitude Retreat

*Take a day away this fall to steep yourself in gratitude.*

Receive God's gracious gifts, cultivate grateful hearts, and share generous blessings in the beauty of God's creation at this retreat. The retreat will be on Saturday, October 21, 2023, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Creighton University Retreat Center, one hour east of Omaha in Griswold, Iowa. (Check-in and fellowship begin at 8:30 a.m.) The retreat will be facilitated by Retreat Leaders & Spiritual Directors Brenda Stalbaum Martin & Kathy Kemler. \$60 fee includes lunch. To register, email [CURC@Creighton.edu](mailto:CURC@Creighton.edu), or call 712-778-2466, or scan this QR code:



We look forward to you joining us!



**Our desire  
for God  
can only  
grow when  
we place  
ourselves in  
His presence.**

*-Pope Francis*



## Eucharistic Adoration

- \* **Sunday, October 1, 2023: St. John, Onawa**  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (in main church)
- \* **Sunday, November 5, 2023: St. Joseph, Salix**  
Noon to 2 p.m. (in daily Mass chapel)
- \* **Sunday, December 3, 2023: St. John, Onawa**  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (in main church)



The 40 Days for Life commemoration for 2023 will be held from Sept. 27 to Nov. 5 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Please prayerfully consider signing up for an hour a week (or whatever time you can) for the prayer vigil at [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com) and select the Sioux City campaign.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are the days Planned Parenthood is open and most important to fill for the prayer vigil, but any time you can give the cause is appreciated.

There will be a kickoff Mass at Immaculate Conception Church in Sioux City, September 26th at 6 p.m. with fellowship following.

The Sioux City prayer chain will be held Oct. 1 at the corner of 19th Street and Hamilton Blvd. and the corner of Stone Avenue and Gordon Drive from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.