

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER — SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

APRIL 7, 2024

Parish Staff

Pastor, Rev. Michael J. Erpelding

(712) 423-2656

father@stjohnparishonawa.com

father@stjoeparishsalix.com

Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Rethman

(712) 202-6641

michelle@stjohnparishonawa.com

michelle@stjoeparishsalix.com

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

(712) 423-1004

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

Office Hours: Monday, Tues, Thurs, Friday
9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 2:00pm — 6:00pm

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

Adults: What personal experience of forgiveness strengthened my confidence in the gift of the Holy Spirit?

Children: How can I be a peacemaker among my friends?

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?" The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chide.

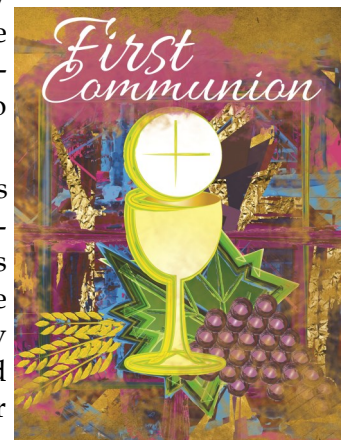
The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?" My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi



WEEK OF APRIL 7, 2024

Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Location
Monday	April 8		No Mass	
Tuesday	April 9	9:00 AM	No Mass	St. Joseph
Wednesday	April 10	9:00 AM	No Mass	St. John
Thursday	April 11	9:00 AM	No Mass	St. Joseph
Friday	April 12	9:00 AM	No Mass	St. John
Saturday	April 13	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. John, St. Joseph & St. Bernard	St. Joseph
Sunday	April 14	9:00 AM	Joe & Mabel Hewitt	St. John
		11:00 AM	Margaret Ann Miller	St. Joseph

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

Religious Education Schedule

Parents and guardians, please see the remaining schedule for Religious Education below. The last evening for the **St. Joseph Religious Education Program** is **April 24, 2024**. The last evening for the **St. John Religious Education Program** is **May 1, 2024**.

April	
10 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
17 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
24 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM – <i>St. Joseph Last Night</i>
May	
1 st	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM – <i>St. John Last Night</i>

ICC Advocates for Public Policy Guided by Catholic Teaching

On behalf of the Iowa bishops, the Iowa Catholic Conference (ICC) advocates for policies at the State Capitol that respect the life and dignity of the human person and apply the principles of Catholic social teaching to critical issues of the day. Sign up for the ICC weekly news update by clicking on “Take Action or Sign Up for Alerts” at iowacatholicconference.com.



Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

We find unfathomable mercy and everlasting love in the wounds of Christ – even when we are skeptical, even when we carry doubt. God meets us there in the confusion. He reaches for our hand and places them at his side. We just have to call his name.

©LPi

MASS ANNOUNCEMENT

Father Erpelding will be attending a retreat following mass on **Sunday, April 7 through Friday, April 12**. There will be *no daily mass* at either parish that week.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Question:

Where did the feast of Divine Mercy come from?

Answer:

If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers – the Divine Mercy Chaplet – and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.



Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young woman, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, “a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come.” ©LPi

ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering

Registered Families: 185

March 24, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$863.00
E-Offering	\$164.40
Candles	
St. Bernard	\$50.00
Easter Flowers	
Total for March 24, 2024	\$1156.40



Today, our second grade children will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

Lord Jesus, we come to your sacred table to nourish ourselves, not with bread but with Yourself, true Bread of eternal life. Help us to recognize and celebrate your presence everyday in our lives. Walk with us on our journey of faith as you once did with the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

St. John Church

Rowen Archer	Ellodie Lewis
Holly Dehn	Drake Pekarek
Lennon Gibler	Elise Sturgill
Zthan Gualazzi	Mason Wusk
Colt LeClair	

St. Joseph Church

Bryce Goodin	Dusti Mahlberg
Evelyn Hansen	Holden Schuetz
Audrey Hunold	Ava Willis
Calen Johnson	

Welcome, children, to the Table of the Lord!

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

St. Joseph Weekly Offering

March 16-17, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$2634.00
E-Offering	\$583.00
Candles	\$65.00
Easter Flowers	\$180.00
Cemetery Perpetual Fund	\$80.00
Emergency/Maintenance	\$120.00
Special Collections	\$406.00
Total for March 16-17, 2024	\$4068.00



Individuals and families interested in joining our parish, please fill out a registration form found on the table in the entryway. Any families who are registered, but not receiving the weekly giving envelopes, please email the office (secretary@stjoeparishsalix.com) so our records can be update.

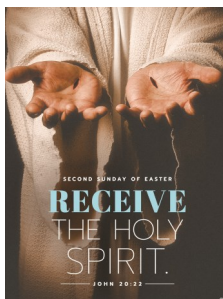
The WORD among us

The Easter edition of "the WORD among us" is available on the table in the entryway. All families are welcome to take a copy. This edition covers March 31-April 30.



Thank you to everyone who donated food items to the food pantry this Lenten season. We are grateful to all of you and the Knights of Columbus for organizing the food drive. If you or someone you know could benefit from the food pantry, please contact the parish office to schedule a time for food pick up.

Prayer for the 2nd Sunday of Easter



Dear Jesus,
As you greeted your disciples after you rose, fill us, too, with your peace.
As you breathed your spirit on them, breathe on us, too.
As your presence was known to Thomas, make it known to us, too.
Help us to live in your peace, power, and presence.
Amen.

©LPi

God Laughs

A taxi passenger tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask him a question. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the footpath, and stopped inches from a shop window. For a second everything went quiet in the cab, then the driver said, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the daylight out of me!"

The passenger apologized and said, "I didn't realize that a little tap would scare you so much." The driver replied, "It's okay; that's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a cab driver. I've been driving a funeral van for the last 25 years."



PARISH	GOAL	PLEDGES	REMAINING
ST. JOHN	\$8,987.00	\$6,130.00	\$2,857.00
ST. JOSEPH	\$12,481.00	\$11,007.00	\$1,474.00



Thank you to all who have supported Together as One through prayer and meaningful gifts. This weekend we invite all those who have yet to make a gift to join their fellow parishioners in an expression of gratitude. Every gift, no matter how large or small, makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity.

**SUNDAY
APRIL 14TH**

**11:30AM
-4PM**

**7YR+
\$13**

**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

**1212
MORNINGSIDE
AVE**

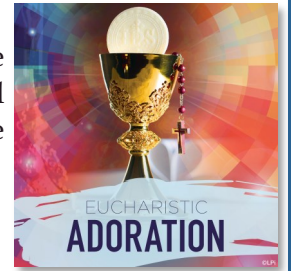
**6YR &
UNDER
\$5**

**★ MATER DEI ★
CHICKEN DINNER**

**TAKE-OUT ORDERS
AVAILABLE
11:15-3:30**

**STOP IN TO PLACE YOUR ORDER &
WE'LL GET IT READY FOR YOU!**

The Holy Eucharist will be available for Adoration. All are invited to spend some time with the Lord.



Sunday, April 14

St. John, Onawa, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

2024 Men's Conference

MEN OF THE CROSS

Saturday, April 6, 2024 • 8am to 3pm

All Saints Parish • St. Joseph Church

605 Plymouth St. NE Le Mars

Featuring Keynote Speaker:

Jon Leonetti



\$40 registration fee per person

\$50 after the March 22 deadline

Father/Son discount \$5 off each registration

Register online at www.sediocese.org/mensconference

Co-Sponsored by the Diocese of Sioux City and All Saints Parish Men's Ministry



**Mater Dei Bus Trip
to the West Bend
Grotto**

Saturday, April 27th



All are invited to join a trip to the Grotto of the Redemption in West Bend, IA. The bus will leave Immaculate Conception Church in Sioux City at 8:00am. Cost is \$40/person; \$75/couple. This includes the bus ticket, donation to the Grotto and a small tip to the bus driver. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. Please call Sam Hacker at (712) 226-4318 to reserve your seat.