

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

From Father Michael

Change of Heart

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Mark 1:4).

The advice we receive is often predetermined by our choice of advisor. Those who made the journey into the desert to hear John the Baptist did not expect to hear soft words. They knew they would be challenged by his message, that he was fearless in denouncing injustice and sin. So bold was he that he pointed an accusatory finger even at King Herod Antipas, and was murdered for his trouble. Beneath the specific sins he railed against was a fundamental attitude of resistance to grace. That is why John the Baptist called for a change of heart, a theme Jesus himself used in his early preaching.

Placing the figure of John the Baptist before us in Advent, the Church repeats this summons to repentance and change of heart. We can all too easily become hardhearted by too much soft living. Our sense of sin becomes dulled to the point that we lose the capacity to distinguish between good and evil. Has this not already happened in television and the entertainment industry as a whole? We, too, may need to take more seriously our call to holiness, to live our lives in a manner befitting our Christian vocation and perhaps embrace a simpler or even more austere lifestyle. Do we really need to watch the next program or see the latest film? Such practical conversions are essential to effect a change of heart and prepare ourselves to welcome our coming Savior.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mk 13:33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Questions of the week:

Children: What can you do to be ready for God to come into your heart and your life?

Adults: As you prepare to re-welcome Christ into your heart while you prepare for Christmas, what does Isaiah call you to do? What does Isaiah call us as a people to do?

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

ST. JOHN / ST. BERNARD

Pastor Father Michael Erpelding 712-423-2656
 stjohndparishhall@msn.com www.stjohnnonawa.com
Secretary / DRE Colleen Maule 712-423-1004
 stjohndparishhall@msn.com
Office hours: 7 am–12pm Monday thru Thursday

MASS SCHEDULE :

Mon	No Mass..	0:00 am
Tue	Tom Heisterkamp.....	9:00am
Wed	Mahlon Pekarek.....Blencoe)..	7:30 am
Thurs	No Mass.....	0:00am
Fri	Special Intention.....	9:00 am
Sat	No Mass.....	0:00 am
Sun	Joe Fouts.....	9:00am

Stewardship 11/15/20 St. John

Envelopes/Loose	\$ 1643.00
building	\$ 100.00
Candles	\$
E-offering	\$ 329.40
Needy Fund	\$
Grain	\$
Hall rental	\$ 100.00
All Souls	\$
St. Bernard	\$ 420.00

Total: \$ 2592.40

St. John Registered Families.....185

ST. JOSEPH

Pastor Father Michael Erpelding 712-946-5635
 stjoseph@longlines.com WWW.STJOESALIX.COM
Secretary Mary Lynn Nelson 712-946-5635
 stjoseph@longlines.com Cell 712-281-0107
DRE Kathy Jo Mitchell 712-212-3867

MASS SCHEDULE:

Mon	No Mass.....	0:00am
Tue	No Mass.....	0:00am
Wed	No Mass.....	0.00pm
Thurs	Stanley Johnson.....	9:00am
Fri	No Mass.....	0:00 pm
Sat	Parishioners of Sts.Joseph, John & Bernard..	4:00 pm
Sun	Bud Mareau, Rhonda Mareau Johnston....	11:00 am

STEWARDSHIP 11/15/20 St. Joseph

Envelopes	\$ 2265.00
Loose:	\$ 33.00
Candles:	\$ 18.00
Cemetery PC	\$
E-offering:	\$ 583.70
Maintenance	\$ 155.00
Emergency	\$ 205.00
Food Pantry	\$
Mow & snow	\$ 10.00
World Mission	\$
St. Joseph Ed	\$
Choir	\$ 15.00
TOTAL:	\$ 3284.70

St. Joseph Registered Families209

ST. JOHN				
LECTORS	SERVERS	EMS	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS
		Elmwood		
ROSARY		Homebound	Greeters	
ST. JOSEPH —				
LECTORS	SERVERS	EMS	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS
—Rosary			14- Greeters	
Stewards		Homebound		Liturgy/ Word



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES:

Father Patrick O'Kane, Midge Stanley, Madonna Dodd, Pam Turner, Loretta Simoff, Pete Mortensen, John Heisterkamp, Charlotte Zortman, Florence Ibsgaard, Gina Mortensen, Chris Metzger, Judson Bramow, & Sherry Wince. If you know of someone who is ill and needs our prayers, and would like to be listed, or if you no longer need to be listed, contact Colleen @ office 423-1004

Knight of Month: *Mike Lage...for his donation of time and expertise as videographer of our virtual Sunday Masses aired on YouTube.*

Family of Month: *The widows and families of our deceased brother Knights.*

As Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Father will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sat. Dec. 12@ 10:30 am with a Rosary and a Litany of the Blessed Virgin. Masks and social distancing is required. All are welcome!

Christmas Flower Memorials: It is wonderful at Christmas time to make a contribution for Christmas flowers in Memory of Loved Ones. We are asking for a contribution of \$25.00. If you wish to participate, we ask that you write the name of your loved ones on paper, clearly mark your envelope "Christmas Flowers", or use the Christmas Flower envelope in your packet and place in the collection basket.

Please remember to return & pick up your packets for Religious Ed.

The new missalettes for the 2021 Church year are here. They are on the pew in the vestibule of the Church. Please feel free to take one home with you. If you come to mass, you can bring it with you and then take it home again. If you cannot come to mass, you will have it at home to follow along while watching Mass virtually. The Church is usually open Monday – Thursday, 7am til noon. If you need another time, call the office and make an appointment.

It is not too late to give. If we do not make our goal, the diocese will bill our Parish for the remainder of the amount. Our goal amount is \$15,965. We are at 48% of our goal. Let's work Together As One to help support our future. With your help, we will get there. You can give online, at www.scdiocese.org.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES.

Father O'Kane, Fran Mitchell, Nainna Gnat, Jeri Greiner, Mike Franken, David Bogenrief, Linda Donnelly, Sue LaCroix, Bryson Harder, Justin Lamoureux, Sophie Helvey, Doreen Becker, O Roger Huot, Tristan Parks, Colleen Ebner, Bailey Cleveland, Christian Case, Brady Worrell, Cal Worrell, Connie Wagner, Kathy Clayton, Helen Martin, Glenda Ullrich, Stella Serviss, Gerrie Lamoureux. Darrell Lux, Richard Hentges, Paula Wagner, & Carol Lux. For all who travel, grieve, those in the military, veterans their families and our nations leaders. The candles burning on the Blessed Mother's altar are for the military serving in foreign lands.

YOUTH GROUP will be meeting on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 6:30pm

Together as One is now underway, our Goal is a Big One \$20,142.00 but we are up to it. Let's get this one done if we do we will have \$8681 dollars returned to us. We are climbing slowly a lot of you have not answered the call. To date we have raised \$11,305.00 let's move this up we are a little over half way there but as you know Half Way is not good enough for St. Joseph Parishioners.

Cemetery, Thanks to all of you who have picked up their flowers there are still some remaining, please get these taken care of and in the spring it will be a lot less work for Jim and Joan. Thanks again to those who have taken care of their graves.

————— ***What Makes Us Laugh:*** —————

A little girl is sitting on her grandpa's lap and studying the wrinkles on his old face. She gets up the nerve to rub her fingers over the wrinkles. Then she touches her own face and looks more puzzled. Finally the little girl asks, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "He sure did honey, a long time ago," replies her grandpa. "Well, did God make me?" asks the little girl. "Yes, He did, and that wasn't too long ago," answers her grandpa. "Boy," says the little girl, "He's sure doing a lot better job these days isn't He?"

Father Erpeldings' classes are now cancelled due to the new covid regulations and restrictions by the Diocese and the State.

As and when things change, we will let you know. Until then, please check back here for updates and check out each parish's website for helpful information. Until then, stay healthy and safe.

This first Sunday in the season of Advent is a time for us to joyfully await the coming of Christ for the first time, at birth; for the second time, into our everyday lives; and looking forward to the last time when he will come to take all of creation back to his Father.

Prayer for Hope

Father God, every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of Christ Jesus. The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope because the old testament is full of glimpses of your plan to redeem your people and restore them into a relationship with you, but we are able to truly begin to see and understand just how great your love for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture.

Help us to see that you are with us. Nothing is too difficult, too messy, or too dirty for you. Jesus came to give us the gift of eternal life through the [salvation](#) that only you, our Heavenly Father, can give when we believe in your Son, repent of our sins, and confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of HOPE wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.
([Hope Bollinger](#))

