

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

THE MASS OF TPALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD APRIL 5, 2020

.Coronavirus- COVID-19 3/19/2020

UPDATED DIOCESAN GUIDELINES

Following the recommendations released by the Centers of Disease Control to “cancel large event-
sor gatherings that could contribute to the spread of COVID-19,” Bishop Walker Nickless issued the mandate to suspend all Sunday and public Masses effective immediately.

This suspension will extend for eight weeks, and then will be re-evaluated as the coronavirus situation develops. The CDC recommends no gathering of groups of 50 or larger during this crisis, whereas the State of Iowa has mandated gatherings of groups no larger than 10.

Parishes within the diocese will resume normal activities when it is safe to do so.

“This has been the most difficult decision I have made during my time as bishop,” Bishop Nickless explained after making the decision to cancel all Masses, which will include Holy Week, the high point of the Catholic Church’s liturgical year. “The health and well-being of all people in the diocese, as well as all Catholics, is of the utmost importance at this time. I ask all the faithful for their understanding and to join me in prayer for the end to this public health crisis.”

During this period, Catholics in the Diocese of Sioux City are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, according to the bishop’s mandate.

Liturgical and parish guidelines for this 8-week period will include:

- Celebration of public Masses - All public celebrations of the Mass will be suspended.

Pastors are encouraged to broadcast private Masses via electronic means for their parishioners.

- Holy Week – Holy Week liturgies are suspended. New directives have been received from the Vatican and details will be released soon.

- Baptisms – Baptisms will only be celebrated with immediate family and godparents. There will be no large group baptisms.

- Weddings – Only immediate family members and witnesses are to attend weddings. Clergy are not to attend related social functions. Parishes are not to host receptions.

- Funerals – Funerals may be celebrated only with immediate family members. Parishes may not host funeral dinners.

- Confessions - The sacrament of reconciliation (confession) will be conducted by appointment only.

- Sacrament of Confirmation - All spring celebrations of the sacrament of confirmation are suspended.

- First Communion - The celebrations of First Communion are suspended.

- Quinceañeras - Quinceañeras are suspended.

- Eucharistic Adoration - The formal exposition of the Eucharist or adoration will be suspended.

- The Eucharist - Will be administered to the sick only as viaticum (danger of death).

Additional Directives:

- Church buildings are to be closed.

- All conferences, retreats, festivals or similar events in the diocese and the parishes are to be suspended.

- All religious education, faith formation classes, RCIA and related activities are suspended.

- Parish staff are to conduct meetings if essential, and if possible, electronically.

- Parish staff members are asked to telecommute, if possible.

WEEK OF APRIL 5, 2020

ST. JOHN / ST. BERNARD

Pastor Father Michael Erpelding..... 712-423-2656
 stjohndparishhall@msn.com www.stjohnonawa.com
Secretary / DRE Colleen Maule..... 712-423-1004
 stjohndparishhall@msn.com
Office hours: 7 am–2pm Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
 7am -Noon 4pm-8:30 pm Wednesday 7am-11am Friday
MASS SCHEDULE : NO MASSES

RESOURCES FOR MASS

EWTN online and on TV: <https://www.ewtn.com/> --
 televised, radio, and online each day at 7AM, 11AM, 6PM
Sioux City area: 88.1 <https://www.fhcradio.com/>--Mass at
9AM on Sunday
Carroll: 103.1 Trinity Radio Station --EWTN program-
ing (I could not find a web link)
Western Iowa:<https://spiritcatholicradio.com/> 7AM Sun-
day Mass from EWTN
Iowa Catholic Radio: [https://](https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/)
www.iowacatholicradio.com/ 7AM Sunday Mass from
EWTN
You Tube –you can do a search for Catholic Mass and
find many.
Watchthemass.com

Stewardship	St. John	3/22/2020	St. Bernard
Envelopes/Loose building	\$ 210.00		\$ 120.00
Candles	\$ 0.00		
E-offering	\$ 300.00		
Needy Fund	\$.00		
Easter Flowers	\$.00		
Total:	\$ 630.00		

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: NO MASSES

RESOURCES FOR MASS

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Iowa Catholic Radio: [https://](https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/)
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STEWARDSHIP St. Joseph 3/21 –3/22

Envelopes:	\$ 570.00
Loose:	\$.00
Candles:	\$.00
E-offering:	\$ 318.00
Maintenance	\$ 100.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 5150.00
FLOWERS	\$ 5.00
TOTAL:	\$ 6143.00
St. Joseph Registered Families209
St. Joseph Debt February 2020.....\$ 12,796.97
St. Joseph Debt April 2017.....\$324, 880.66

**DURING THIS TIME, THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC MASSES. THE CHURCH WILL NOT BE OPEN DURING MASS TIMES
 FATHER WILL BE CHECKING HIS VOICEMAIL FREQUENTLY AND THE SECRETARIES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU GET IN
 TOUCH WITH HIM IF NEEDED.+
 ACCORDING TO UPDATED GUIDELINES FROM THE DIOCESE, WE ARE TO KEEP THE CHURCH AND THE BUILDINGS LOCKED.
 PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY IN THE SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE OF YOUR OWN HOME**

ST. JOHN MARCH 29				
LECTORS	SERVERS	EMS	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS
ROSARY			Greeters	
ST. JOSEPH —MARCH 28-29				
LECTORS	SERVERS	EMS	GIFT BEARERS	USHERS
28–Rosary			28- Greeters	
➡		➡		

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES:
 Father Patrick O’Kane, Midge Stanley, Madonna Dodd, Shirley Turner, Esther Mac Clure, Loretta Simoff, Doe Walker, Pete Mortensen, John Heisterkamp, Charlotte Zortman, Rosemary Kirby, 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, please contact Colleen @ office 423-1004

You tube recordings of the weekend Mass, celebrated by Father Erpelding will be available on the websites of our parishes. www.stjohnonawa.com or www.stjoesalix.com. Please check the websites daily for some weekday masses and updates.

A reminder that your weekly contributions are still needed. You can contribute online, in the mail or drop it off at church. You can do a drive-up, call the office @ 423-1004 and we will come out and pick it up from you... Thank you

Doing our best to keep “social distancing”, please call if you need to get into the church. We are trying to comply and still serve the needs of our parishioners.

April 5th is Loretta Simoff’s 95th birthday. Please join us in wishing her a very Happy Birthday by sending her a card with your wishes to 1308 10th St. Onawa

Father continues to say Mass, privately. The Mass intentions for this week are:

April 5– Sunday	Charles Zobel Sr
April 7– Tuesday	Carl Lenz
April 8– Wednesday	Mahlon Pekarek
April 9– Thursday	Paulette Rice
April 12– Sunday	John & Marjorie Zink

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, 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., Virginia “Pat” Huot. 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.

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Father continues to say Mass, privately. The Mass intentions for this week are:

Thursday, April 9th, Khamphay Sayavong

Saturday, April 11th, Maurice & Gloria Welte

Sunday, April 12th, Parishioners of St. Joseph’s, St. John’s & St. Bernard’s

*What Makes Us Laugh:*_____

**Joke: Did you hear about the crook who stole a calendar?
 He got twelve months**

From Father Michael

Why Palm Branches?

In the ancient Middle East kings could enter a city in two ways. Horses were used for war, so if the king rode on a horse, it usually meant trouble. If they came in peace, they would ride a donkey, a humble act. Jesus was sending two clear messages to the people of Jerusalem. The first was that he is a king. The second message is that his intentions were peaceful. The point was not lost on the religious leaders. Jesus came down the Mount of Olives into the Kidron valley, to the east of the temple. It is a very steep descent. The road was a dirt path. The spring rains made the passage slippery. The people hailing Jesus placed branches and clothing on the road so that the footing was safe. John is the only gospel that mentions that the branches were from palm trees. Matthew and Mark only refer to "branches". Luke leaves out the branches entirely and simply says that the people put their clothes on the road. In medieval Europe, people used willow and other branches to celebrate this day, rather than palms which were rare. Some people braid three or more strips of palm to make crosses or crowns of thorns. Next year we will burn the palms to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.

WHY DO WE READ THE PASSION TWICE?

This Sunday we will read the story of the Last Supper and Good Friday. We will also hear these stories on Thursday and Friday. Why do we repeat them? The reason is that for many people, Holy Week only lasts 60 minutes. There are beautiful ceremonies this week that help us relive the events that saved us and bring us eternal life. Unfortunately, some people do not share these important experiences. The Church has to present a condensed version of Holy Week for them. So we cram it all in on Palm Sunday, almost ignoring what Palm Sunday is all about: Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. This is one week in which we should not short-change God. He has given his life for us, so that we can live forever. We should observe this as a different kind of week, a truly HOLY week. We should participate in all of the reenactments of Jesus' last days before his death. If we spend time with him now, we can be certain that he will be there when we need him. Don't settle for a Reader's Digest version of Holy Week. For just this week, let's give God the unabridged version.

Questions of the Week:

Children: *Share how you sometimes make sacrifices for the good of others.*

Adults: *Name one specific way that you live your baptismal call to enter into the death of the Lord by forgiveness, generosity, hospitality, or other ways.*

HOSANNA



“Hosanna to the Son of David / blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

MATTHEW 21:9



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” - Mt 21:9