

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 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Parish Staff

Pastor, Rev. Michael J. Erpelding
(712) 423-2656
erpelding1962@netscape.net

Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Rethman
(712) 202-6641
stjoseph6712@gmail.com

Secretary – St. John & St. Bernard, Colleen Maule
(712) 423-1004
stjohnparishhall@msn.com

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

Secretary – St. Joseph, Mary Lynne Nelson
(712) 946-5635 or (cell) 712-281-0107
stjoseph@longlines.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: How often do I speak for justice or act with generosity?

Children: When do I have a chance to make sure that others are treated fairly?

Musings from a Fellow Worker

Captured

The Gospel passage for last Sunday focused on God's radical love and forgiveness. The Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 51, perfectly underscored this theme, particularly in verse 12: "A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me." (Ps 51:12) The readings this Sunday starkly contrast last week's readings, especially the first reading and the Gospel. These passages focus on sin, particularly deception. Whereas last week's readings offer hope and gladden our hearts, this week's readings may just lead us to discouragement or despair. So why would the Church do this? Well, I am not a liturgist, but I offer this thought: Perhaps the Church wants to warn us about the dangers of sin.

God created us in his image and likeness which means we are oriented to the good, true, and beautiful. We may be oriented to the good, true, and beautiful, but because we live in a fallen world, it is very easy to fall into sin. Deception entered the world the moment the devil tempted Eve and Adam, and their disobedience allowed sin to enter God's paradise. We can look up and down Salvation History to recognize God's Chosen People struggled with sin, and sin continues to plague us. God created the world from love, but the devil captured us using tools in his toolbox: deception, doubt, denunciation, division, and discouragement. Daily we battle sin, and if we doubt that, then we are deceived. So, how are we to contend with our opponent, an opponent who hates us?

Jesus answers that question in the Gospel: We cannot serve two masters. We must choose between God and mammon. For practical ways to serve God, I defer to Blessed Carlo Acutis:

Prayer: "The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy." *So, pray constantly.*

Heaven: "Our goal must be infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. Heaven has been waiting for us forever." *So, daily examine your conscience.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation: "Our soul is like a hot air balloon. If by chance there is a mortal sin, the soul falls to the ground. Confession is like the fire underneath the balloon enabling the soul to rise again. . . It is important to go to confession often." *So, frequent the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*

Sacrament of the Eucharist: "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven." *So, attend Mass every Sunday.*

These are just a few of the ways we can defeat the enemy, but we can defeat him. So, in the words of Fr. John Riccardo, "Do not be afraid. God is with you, and you were born for this." *Michelle*

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

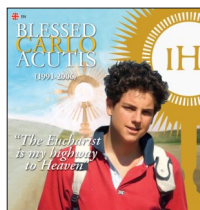
Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Mass Intentions</u> | <u>Parish</u> |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| Monday | Sept. 19 | | No Mass | |
| Tuesday | Sept. 20 | 9:00 AM | Bud & Ilene Mareau | St. Joseph |
| Wednesday | Sept. 21 | 9:00 AM | Deacon Glenn Heisterkamp | St. John |
| Thursday | Sept. 22 | 9:00 AM | Parishioners of St. Bernard, St. John & St. Joseph | St. Joseph |
| Friday | Sept. 23 | 9:00 AM | Midge Stanley | St. John |
| Saturday | Sept. 24 | 4:00 PM | Betty Mareau | St. Joseph |
| Sunday | Sept. 25 | 9:00 AM | Walt & Verna Powers | St. John |
| | | 11:00 AM | Bert & Ella Ullrich | St. Joseph |

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

Religious Education News

| What | When | Time |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Classes | Wednesday, September 21, 2022 | 6:30—7:45 PM |
| Classes | Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 6:30—7:45 PM |
| Classes | Wednesday, October 5, 2022 | 6:30—7:45 PM |
| Eucharist Miracles | Wednesday, October 12, 2022 | 6:00—8:00 PM |
| Eucharist Miracles | Wednesday, October 19, 2022 | 6:00—8:00 PM |



Eucharist Miracles Traveling Exhibit: Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991 – 2006) loved Jesus, and in his own words, he “lived [his] life without wasting even a minute of it doing things that wouldn't have pleased God”. One of his magnificent accomplishments is he electronically

catalogued every Eucharistic miracle, and this effort has been transformed into a lovely visual display. We are excited to announce that our parishes will have this display available for viewing from **October 10, 2022 – October 14, 2022** at St. John, and **October 15, 2022 – October 20, 2022** at St. Joseph. **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILIES:** PLEASE PLAN TO VISIT THIS EXHIBIT AS A FAMILY ON **OCTOBER 12TH** (ST. JOHN) OR **OCTOBER 19TH** (ST. JOSEPH). We will send more information, but please plan to experience this exhibit as a family!

The Rescue Project: Do you love God and your neighbor? Do you want to volunteer in the parish, but you aren't certain what you can do? Please contact Michelle Rethman to discover how you can get involved in *The Rescue Project*. Contact Michelle at stjoseph6712@gmail.com or 712-202-6641.

Volunteers: We welcome any adult, 18 years old or older, who would like to volunteer in our Religious Education Programs. Any adult who volunteers with our children must have a background check and take VIRTUS Training. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Michelle Rethman, Director of Faith Formation, at stjoseph6712@gmail.com or 712-202-6641.

Do you have an interest in becoming a Catholic? If you are a baptized Catholic who would like to complete your Sacraments of Initiation, or you would like to become a Catholic, or you simply want to learn more about the Catholic faith, please contact Michelle Rethman, Director of Faith Formation, at stjoseph6712@gmail.com or 712-202-6641.

Confirmation 2023: We will have a Parent Meeting for all high school freshmen regarding preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. These meetings will be on **Sunday, September 25, 2022: St. John, 10:00 AM, and St. Joseph, 12:00 PM.** Please contact Michelle Rethman for more information.



ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

| St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering | |
|---|------------------|
| September 4, 2022 Registered Families: 185 | |
| Envelopes and Loose Giving | \$753.00 |
| E-Offering | \$94.70 |
| Building Fund | \$25.00 |
| Hall Rental | |
| Needy Fund | \$10.00 |
| Grain / St. John | |
| Grain / St. Bernard | |
| Candles | |
| St. Bernard | \$115.00 |
| Missionary- Fr. Noel | \$1239.00 |
| | |
| Total for September 4, 2022 | \$2236.70 |

We will no longer list the names of the sick of our family and friends. Instead, a book has been placed on Mary's Altar. There, you can write the names of those in need of prayers. The current names on our prayer list have been transferred to this book. If you know of someone who is ill and needs our prayers, you can always contact Colleen at the parish office, 423-1004 and she will list the name .
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**THE ST. JOHN ANNUAL FALL CHICKEN DINNER
SPONSORED BY THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SEPT. 25TH AT ST. JOHN CHURCH
11:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
DINE-IN AND/OR CARRY-OUT.
CATERED BY STALEY'S.**

**THIS IS A CHURCH SPONSORED EVENT.
ALL PARISHIONERS ARE ASKED TO GET INVOLVED.
DESSERTS AND SALADS ARE NEEDED...LOTS OF THEM!
A DONATION OF YOUR TIME AND RECIPES IS WANTED.
AMY CHRISTENSEN (712-490-4484)
IS YOUR CONTACT PERSON.
PLEASE LET HER KNOW WHAT YOU WILL DONATE.**

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***Knight of the Month :*
*Franklin Heisterkamp...for chairing & or-
ganizing C.P.I.D. collections.***

***Family of the Month:*
*Marv & Marilyn Maly... for help presenting
donations; organizing pro-life events.***

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY OFFERING

| St. Joseph Weekly Offering | |
|---|------------------|
| September 4, 2022 Registered Families: 209 | |
| Envelopes and Loose Giving | \$2417.00 |
| E-Offering | \$462.02 |
| Cemetery Perpetual Care | |
| Maintenance Fund | |
| Emergency Fund | \$315.00 |
| Candles | \$25.00 |
| Food Pantry | \$150.00 |
| Assumption | |
| Retirement/Religious | |
| Boiler\$25.00 | |
| Stained Glass Windows | \$50.00 |
| Missionary | \$1365.25 |
| Total for Sept. 4, 2022 | \$4809.27 |

St. Joseph News.....

TODAY IS THE ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER, RAFFLE, COUNTRY STORE AND CAKE WALK SERVING FROM 11 TO 2 ALL YOU CAN EAT HOPE YOU HAVE SIGNED UP FOR A JOB AND ARE COMING TO EAT, IT TAKES ALL OF US TO GET THIS ONE DONE.....

TABERNACLE SOCIETY, Only 50 ladies have paid their Dues for 2022 think this is the worst showing in quite a few years. Dues are used for Funeral Dinners, First Communion, Graduation, Altar supplies etc. Year is almost over hope we can get our numbers up. Please send your Dues in Today. Dues are \$15. Thank You.



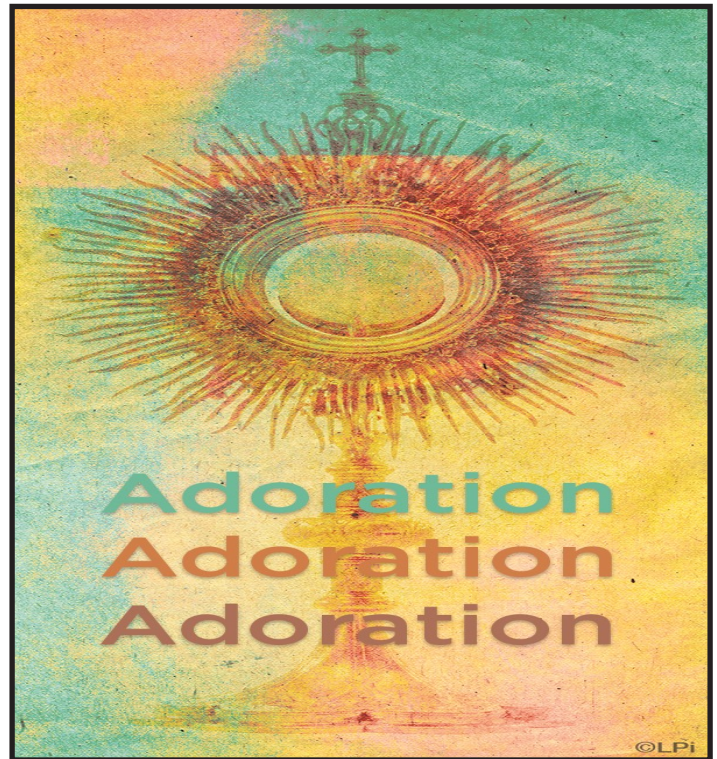
God Laughs

The huge college freshman decided to try out for the football team. “Can you tackle?” asked the coach. “Watch this,” said the freshman, who proceeded to run smack into a telephone pole, shattering it to splinters. “Wow,” said the coach. “I’m impressed. Can you run?” “Of course I can run,” said the freshman. He was off like a shot, and, in just over nine seconds, he had run a hundred yard dash. “Great!” enthused the coach. “But can you pass a football?” The freshman hesitated for a few seconds. “Well, sir,” he said, “If I can swallow it, I can probably pass it.”

Investing in the Journey:

A Retreat for Divorced or Widowed People,

October 1 - 2, retreat at Saint Benedict Center, Schuyler, with Sister Marie Micheletto, RSM, MA, LPC, LMHP. The changes around and within oneself when one is divorced or widowed are multiple. This workshop, designed with you and those changes in mind, will be about naming and claiming losses internal and external; identifying ways of dealing with the losses, the fears, and the moving on; claiming the positive memories; and utilizing your spiritual life as support for the journey. Saturday, 9:30 a.m., to Sunday after lunch. Register now at www.StBenedictCenter.com or call (402) 352-8819.



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, October 2: St. John, Onawa, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, in the main church.

Sunday, November 6: St. Joseph, Salix, Noon to 2:00 pm, in the daily Mass chapel.

| St. Joseph Minister Schedule for September 24-25 | | |
|--|---|---|
| Ministry | Saturday, Sept. 24 | Sunday, Sept. 25 |
| Altar Servers | Landen Schuetz Madelyn & Grady Olson | Luke & Levi Willis Grace Lewis |
| EMHC | Michelle Mareau | Brenda Hinrickson |
| Lector | Al Stuhrenberg | Kathy Baker |
| Greeters | Pete & Marge Rinaldi | Tom & Doreen Becker |
| Gifts | Pete & Marge Rinaldi | Tom & Doreen Becker |
| Ushers | Bert Ullrich, Paula Olson Pete & Marge Rinaldi | Kyle & Eric Eliason Ryan Willis Family |
| Communion to the Homebound: Deanna Smith & Shelli Goodin | | |
| Stewards, Monday, Sept. 26 @ 10 AM: John Janson & Kathy Baker | | |

