

# 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 LENT**

**FEBRUARY 18, 2024**

## Parish Staff

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

(712) 423-2656

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

**Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Rethman**

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[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:** What might I do to carry a friend or family member closer to Christ?

**Children:** How do my actions of love show God's love to others?

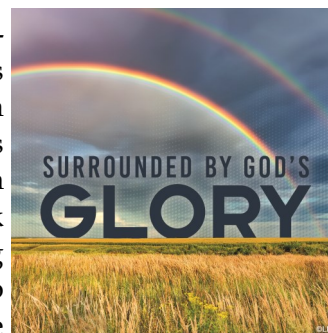
When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous "Double Rainbow" video on YouTube to feel better. It's hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. "Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!" he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, "What does it mean?" Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante's medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God's promise of peace. For Dante, it's even more: nature's encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment – but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

**Lenten challenge:** This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, "Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory." This Lent let's embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

—Father John Muir

©LPi



## WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 2024

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

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Location
Monday	February 19		No Mass	
Tuesday	February 20	9:00 AM	Paula Wagner	St. Joseph
Wednesday	February 21	9:00 AM	Loretta Simoff	St. John
Thursday	February 22	9:00 AM	Lawrence Topf	St. Joseph
Friday	February 23	9:00 AM	Mary Benjamin	St. John
Saturday	February 24	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. John, St. Joseph & St. Bernard	St. Joseph
Sunday	February 25	9:00 AM	Christieann Zobel	St. John
		11:00 AM	Eileen Topf	St. Joseph

## GROWING IN OUR FAITH

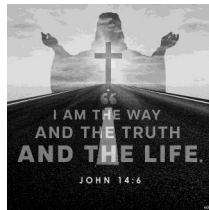
### Religious Education Schedule

February	
21 <sup>st</sup>	No classes — Lent Reconciliation
28 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 – 7:30 PM (Classes, K – 5); Soup Supper (6 – 10)
March	
7 <sup>th</sup>	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
14 <sup>th</sup>	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
21 <sup>st</sup>	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
28 <sup>th</sup>	No classes — Holy Week

### Westwood Ministerial Association

#### Lenten Worship Series 2024

The Westwood Ministerial Association is offering a Lenten Series of a Simple Soup Supper and Worship. This year the theme centers around the “I AM” statements in the Bible. Dinner is at 6:00pm and Worship is at 7:00pm. All faiths are invited.



**Wed, Feb 21:** Hosted by Pastor Catie Newman and the Hornick United Methodist Church. “I AM the light of the world” based on John 8:12, 9:5, 12:46.

**Wed, Feb 28:** Hosted by Father Michael Erpelding and St. Joseph Catholic Church-Salix. “I AM the door of the sheep” based on John 10:7.

**Wed, Mar 6:** Hosted by Pastor Catie Newman and the Salix Community United Methodist Church “I AM the good shepherd” based on John 10:11.

**Wed, Mar 13:** Hosted by Pastor Craig Bock and Skien Lutheran Church, Albaton “I AM the resurrection and the life” based on John 11:25.

**Wed, Mar 20:** Hosted by Pastor Rich Moore and the Evangelical Covenant Church and the Simple Soup Supper provided by Community Church of Christ. “I AM the way the truth and the life” based on John 14:6.



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is a Sacrament of Healing. Father will be available in the confessional on **Wednesday, February 21**. There will be no Religious Education classes that evening so that families can attend this sacrament together.

**February 21st** is also First Reconciliation for our beloved second graders. Father will hear their confessions during the parishes’ Reconciliation Night.

### St. Joseph Church

**Reconciliation, 3:30 – 5:30 PM**

☞ **First Reconciliation, 5:00 – 5:30 PM**

### St. John Church

**Reconciliation, 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

☞ **First Reconciliation, 6:00 – 6:30 PM**



Today, our parishes will send our catechumens to the Cathedral for the Rite of Election. This morning, at the Rite of Sending, St. John Church will

celebrate the children of the Bryan family: Drew, Ava, and Grant. Their mother, Emily, will have her own journey into the Church, as well as their youngest brother, Trent.

St. Joseph Church will send its catechumen, Summer Brenden. Her fiancé, Brandon Thompson, and their daughter, Georgia, will also enter the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass at St. Joseph on Saturday, March 30th.

We will focus on our catechumens, soon to be Elect, throughout Lent. Please pray for them as they prepare to receive the Easter Sacraments.



## ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

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

Registered Families: 185

February 4, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$1688.00
E-Offering	
Food Pantry	
St. Bernard	\$157.00
Grain	
Briar Cliff Sunday	\$115.00
<b>Total for February 4, 2024</b>	<b>\$1960.00</b>



Please remember in your prayers the following recently deceased of our Parish.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

**Barbara "Barb" Ross** January 7, 2024

**Loretta Simoff** January 8, 2024

**Marjorie "Marge" Parks** February 4, 2024

**Bless those who mourn**, eternal God, with the comfort of your love that they may face each new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given. May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.



Plan on attending our Lenten Fish Fry's, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council # 6249, featuring Staley's Catering.

The first one is **March 8th**, from 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm.

The second one is **March 22nd**, from 5:30 pm – 6:45

Help us support our Knights and enjoy some community camaraderie.

## ST. JOSEPH NEWS

### St. Joseph Weekly Offering

February 3-4, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$3826.00
Candles	\$51.00
Emergency/Maintenance	\$220.00
Cemetery Perpetual Fund	\$80.00
Solemnity of Mary/Ash Wed	\$35.00
Briar Cliff University	\$481.00
<b>Total for Feb 3-4, 2024</b>	<b>\$4270.00</b>



Please join us for the annual Westwood Ministerial Association ecumenical Lenten series at **St. Joseph** on **Wednesday, February 28, 6:00 PM**. We will begin in the Parish Hall with a simple soup supper at 6:00 PM and then Father Michael will present in the church at 7:00 PM. *Everyone* is invited to attend. Let us feed your body and souls!

**Middle School and High School Students:** Please come for the soup supper and stay for Father Michael's presentation.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*



Our sympathy goes out to the family of Nainna Gnat who passed away January 21, 2024. Her funeral will be held at St. Joseph Church-Salix on Friday, May 17, 2024. May she rest in peace and enjoy eternal happiness in heaven.

The St. Joseph Youth Choir is seeking new members. Any youth in grades 4th-12th are encouraged to join in this ministry. The Youth Choir sings the 1st Sunday of the month at the 11:00am mass. Practice is 1 hour before mass. Please join us on Sunday, March 3 for practice at 10:00am and mass at 11:00am. For more information, contact Jim Doyle at (712) 259-0654.



## God Laughs

### Wise sayings:

A man who runs in front of car gets tired.

A man who runs behind car gets exhausted.

A man who eats many prunes gets a good run for his money.



Together as One (TAO) supports the Office of Safe Environment. The Safe Environment program is to help ensure that all children and young people feel safe as they come to our programs designed to help them grow in their Catholic faith and in the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ in our parishes and schools.

PARISH	GOAL	PLEDGES	REMAINING
ST. JOHN	\$8,987.00	\$6,130.00	\$2,857.00
ST. JOSEPH	\$12,481.00	\$10,657.00	\$1,824.00

## Willow Workers 4H Club Soup Luncheon Sunday, March 3

10:30am-1:00pm  
Sloan Community Center  
\$8 per Ticket



## Carmelite Board Day of Recollection Tuesday, March 5, 2024

All parishioners and friends are invited to attend the annual Day of Recollection sponsored by members of the Carmelite Board. The Day of Recollection will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the Carmelite Monastery, 2901 So. Cecilia, with registration at 8:45am. The Day begins at 9:00am with a message from Rev. Roger Linnan followed by Mass at 9:45am. A hospitality brunch will be served from 10:30-11:00am. The Day will continue at 11:00am with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Day will conclude with Benediction at 11:50am and dismissal at 12 noon. There is no charge. For more information call 712-301-5352.

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



**Sunday, March 3**

St. Joseph, Salix, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Sunday, April 14**

St. John, Onawa, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm



# Knights of Columbus®

### Membership Drive

The Knights of Columbus is an International Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy, changing world. Our local Council #6249 will be holding a membership drive at all masses the weekend of March 2-3. Whether you become an individual member or a member of our council, you will find that Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. If you want to join today, visit [KofC.org/join](http://KofC.org/join) and enter our council #6249 for local information.

### Knights of Columbus Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus are conducting a food drive during Lent this year. Our goal is to have people donate one non-perishable food item for each day of Lent. There will be boxes in the rear of the church and we hope everyone can bring their items each week and help end hunger in our communities. The food will go to local food banks and our own food pantry. Thank you for your generosity.



## American Legion Pancake Breakfast Sunday, February 18

9:00am-Noon

**American Legion, Sergeant Bluff**

Adults: \$10; 6-12 years: \$5;

5 years and under: Free

