

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 11, 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 – Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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: Who are today's "lepers" that society fears? What is a Christian response to this?

Children: What is my favorite story about Jesus healing someone?

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.

This gut-level compassion is something like what the



Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, "If you will it, you can make me clean." At this, just before the healing, Jesus was "moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love."

In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it feels like to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will feel what we are feeling, and thereby heal us.

—Father John Muir

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WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Location
Monday	February 12		No Mass	
Tuesday	February 13	9:00 AM	Rita Brassfield	St. Joseph
Wednesday	February 14	5:00 PM	Brent Weikel	St. Joseph
		6:30 PM	Ray and Maryann Miller	St. John
Thursday	February 15	9:00 AM	Lawrence & Eileen Topf	St. Joseph
Friday	February 16	9:00 AM	Patricia Connealy	St. John
Saturday	February 17	4:00 PM	Glenda Ullrich	St. Joseph
Sunday	February 18	9:00 AM	Walter and Verna Powers	St. John
		11:00 AM	Parishioners of St. John, St. Joseph & St. Bernard	St. Joseph

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

Religious Education News

We won't have classes on **Wednesday, February 14th** because of Masses for Ash Wednesday, nor on **Wednesday, February 21st** because of reconciliation. Classes resume on Wednesday, February 28th.

February	
14 th	No classes – Ash Wednesday Masses
21 st	No classes – Lent Reconciliation
28 th	6:30 – 7:30 PM (Classes, K – 5); Soup Supper (6 – 10)
March	
7 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
14 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
21 st	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
28 th	No classes – Holy Week
April	
3 rd	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
10 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
17 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM

RECONCILIATION NIGHT

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.

St. Joseph-Salix 3:30-5:30pm
 St. John-Onawa 6:00-8:00pm

Westwood Ministerial Association

Lenten Worship 2024

The Westwood Ministerial Association is offering a Lenten Series of a Simple Soup Dinner 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.

Ash Wednesday, Feb 14: Hosted by Pastor Rich Moore and the Evangelical Covenant Church in Sloan. "I AM the bread of life" based on John 6:35, 38.

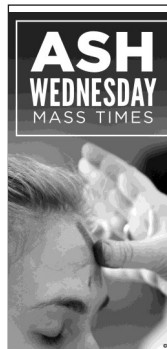
Wed, Feb 21: Hosted by Pastor Catie Newman and the Hornick United Methodist Church. "I AM the light of the world" based on John 8:12, 9:5, 12:46.

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.



St. Joseph-Salix
 Wednesday, February 14
 5:00pm

St. John-Onawa
 Wednesday, February 14
 6:30pm

ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering

Registered Families: 185

January 28, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$1897.35
E-Offering	\$209.40
Food Pantry	
St. Bernard	\$205.00
Grain	
Briar Cliff Sunday	\$25.00
Total for January 28, 2024	\$2336.75

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

St. Joseph Weekly Offering

Jan 27-28, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$3807.00
E-Offering	\$383.00
Candles	\$80.00
Total for Jan 27-28, 2024	\$4270.00



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

The first one is on **March 8th**, from 5 pm–7pm.
The second one is **March 22nd**, from 5 pm– 7 pm.
Help us to support our Knights and enjoy some community camaraderie.



"Ashes to ashes. Dust to dust."

You remind us today, oh Lord, of our origin and end.

In the beginning, You fashioned us in the Garden.

You dignified dust with the Breath of Life.

You made us in Your image and likeness.

You led Your people through the dust of the Sinai wilderness to the Promised Land.

You overcame temptation in the dry desert.

You healed the blind with dirt and clay.

Three times Your body stirred the dust as you fell on the road to Calvary.

Hear the cry of Your people!

One day we will return to dust.

This Lenten season, stir our minds to contemplate You, our hearts to love You, and our bodies to serve You in our brothers and sisters.

May our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving be Your breath alive in us.

Amen.

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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 6:00pm, and then Father Michael will present in the church at 7:00pm. *Everyone* is invited to attend. Let us feed your body and souls! We look forward to seeing you there!

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

We are taking volunteers to help with the ministries for the Ash Wednesday mass at 5:00pm. Please sign up on Ministry Scheduler Pro if you are able to help with a ministry. Thank you!

Prayer for Healing

Dear Jesus,

If you wish it, you can heal these wounds from my past. If you wish it, you can make me well again. I believe that you do will it. Heal me, in your name.

Amen.

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God Laughs

“The number of words dealing with income taxes in the Internal Revenue Code and IRS regulations rose nearly tenfold between 1955 and 2005, from 718,000 to more than 7 million. How is a mugger different from the Internal Revenue Service? Both take your money, but the mugger doesn’t make you fill out forms.” – Jacob Sullum in *Reason*



Together as One (TAO) supports the Office of Risk Management. This office administers the diocesan self-insurance program including property, casualty, auto and workers’ compensation matters. They also coordinate and conduct on-site safety inspections of all diocesan locations.

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

Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

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.

First Reconciliation

First Reconciliation, a Sacrament of Healing, is around the corner! We invite family members to attend First Reconciliation with the children. Father will hear first confessions during the parishes’ Reconciliation Night on Wednesday, February 21, 2024. Please contact Michelle Rethman if you have questions.



St. Joseph Church

First Reconciliation, 5:00 – 5:30 PM

St. John Church

First Reconciliation, 6:00 – 6:30 PM



Eucharistic Adoration

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