

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 10, 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, Tues, Thurs, Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 2:00pm – 6:00pm

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: How has my faith journey resembled the journey of Nicodemus?

Children: Have I kept the Lenten promises I made?

Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if they are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good.

What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "**For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn**

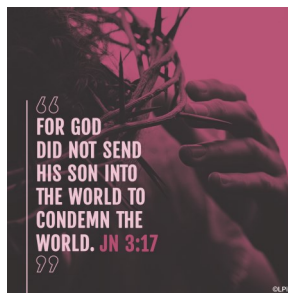
the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will accomplish it without an act of condemnation. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in

the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the least godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn.

— Father John Muir

©LPi



WEEK OF MARCH 10, 2024

Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Location
Monday	March 11		No Mass	
Tuesday	March 12	9:00 AM	Swerczek Family	St. Joseph
Wednesday	March 13	9:00 AM	William & Joan Samson	St. John
Thursday	March 14	9:00 AM	Kavanaugh Family	St. Joseph
Friday	March 15	9:00 AM	In Thanksgiving	St. John
Saturday	March 16	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. John, St. Joseph & St. Bernard	St. Joseph
Sunday	March 17	9:00 AM	Loretta Simoff	St. John
		11:00 AM	Dayle Ellis	St. Joseph

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

Religious Education Schedule

March	
13 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
20 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
27 th	<i>No classes – Holy Week</i>
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



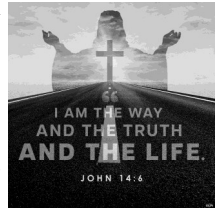
The First Communion Retreat for St. John will be this Wednesday, March 13th, 6:30 PM. We invite both parents to participate; however, we ask that at least one parent attend the retreat. The children will be painting, so please dress appropriately for this activity. Please contact Michelle Rethman, Director of Faith Formation, at 712-202-6641 if you have questions or concerns.

We will celebrate **First Communion** on Sunday, April 7, 2024. St. John Church will celebrate at the 9:00 AM Mass, and St. Joseph Church will celebrate at the 11:00 AM Mass.

Please pray for all of our parishioners who will receive the Easter Sacraments.

Westwood Ministerial Association Lenten Worship Series 2024

There are two weeks remaining in Lenten Series offered by the Westwood Ministerial Association. A Simple Soup Supper and Worship are offered at each gathering. 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, 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.

Sacred Chrism Mass

Cathedral of the Epiphany at 11:00 am
Monday, March 25, 2024

Parish staff, parishioners, RCIA participants, and Confirmation students are welcome and encouraged to attend the Chrism Mass. At the chrism Mass, Bishop Nickless will bless the sacred oils that will be used in sacraments throughout the diocese in the next year. Also, the bishop and priests will renew their ordination promises.

Prayer for Laetare Sunday

Dear Jesus,

We’ve been in this season of Lent for a few weeks now. I want to re-commit myself in this time — renew and strengthen my resolve. Help me to use these last few weeks to grow closer to you. Amen.

©LPi

ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering

Registered Families: 185

February 25, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$735.00
E-Offering	\$74.70
Food Pantry	
St. Bernard	\$15.00
Grain	
Easter Flowers	\$30.00
Total for February 25, 2024	\$854.70

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

St. Joseph Weekly Offering

February 24-25, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$2184.25
E-Offering	\$0.00
Candles	\$83.00
Emergency	\$75.00
Briar Cliff	\$25.00
Ash Wednesday	\$680.75
Aid to Global Churches	\$125.00
Total for Feb 24-25, 2024	\$2517.25



Lenten Fish Fry's

©LPI

Please plan on attending our second Fish Fry of the season, Friday March 22nd, from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM.

All You Can Eat for Dine-In only.

Take-Out is available or Drive-Thru on the west side of Church.

Menu: Alaska Pollack, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, coleslaw, roll and beverage.

Adults: \$12.00 Children: 5-12 \$6.00 4 & under: Free

A LENTEN JOURNEY EXPERIENCE

You are invited to view the photographic exhibit titled *REMEMBER YOU ARE DUST* in Decatur, Nebraska at The Sears Center. The exhibit is on display through Good Friday, March 29.

Viewing times are Mondays through Fridays between 9:00AM and 2:00PM. Lunch is served each day at Noon. Coffee and Rolls are served on Friday mornings. Broasted Chicken is served on Thursday evening, March 21. Call one day in advance to reserve a lunch, the Friday rolls and the March 21 evening meal. 402-349-5525.

EASTER FLOWERS

©LPI

Remember your loved ones this Easter by donating a flower in their honor/memory for our Easter altar decorations. A suggested offering is \$30 per plant. Envelopes are in your packets or you can place an envelope in the collection basket with your name and name of your loved ones. Thank you.



©LPI

We extend our sympathy to Margaret Hansen and the family of Wally Hansen who passed away on February 22, 2024. His funeral was held at St. Joseph on February 27. May his soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen.

Thank you to the Mary Johnson, Bev Weikel and the St. Joseph Tabernacle Society for providing food and hospitality at the funeral luncheon.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped our parish host the Westwood Ministerial Lenten Soup Supper and Worship. The variety of delicious soups was amazing and we served 92 people! Thank you to Mary Johnson for heading up the soup supper, Mike and Lori Donnelly for leading us in worship music, and to Father Erpelding for leading a wonderful worship service.

Live the Liturgy-Inspiration for the Week



The blind man showed great bravery by speaking of Christ's miracle in the face of the Pharisees' disdain. But then, how could he ignore the truth, once he had seen it? It would be a form of blindness worse than the absence of physical sight. To deny Christ would be a blindness he chose for himself.

©LPI

God Laughs

After a hardy rainstorm filled all the potholes in the streets and alleys, a young mother watched her two little boys playing in the puddles through her kitchen window. The older of the two, a five-year-old lad, grabbed his sibling by the back of his head and shoved his face into the water hole.

As the boy recovered and stood laughing and dripping, the mother ran to the yard in a panic. "Why on earth did you do that to your little brother?!" she asked as she shook the older boy in anger.

"We were just playing church, Mommy," he said. "I was just baptizing him in the name of the Father, and the Son and in the hole-he-goes, Amen."

PARISH	GOAL	PLEDGES	REMAINING
ST. JOHN	\$8,987.00	\$6,130.00	\$2,857.00
ST. JOSEPH	\$12,481.00	\$11,007.00	\$1,474.00



Bishop Nickless is grateful for the prayers and support of the faithful of our Diocese and for those who have made a gift or pledge to Together As One (TAO). Please consider a gift in support of his ministries that serve our Catholic community. Give online at scdiocese.org/tao.

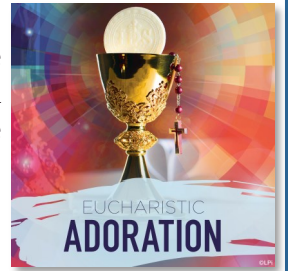


Knights of Columbus®

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 are 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.

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



Sunday, April 14

St. John, Onawa, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

2024 Men's Conference

MEN OF THE CROSS

Saturday, April 6, 2024 • 8am to 3pm

All Saints Parish • St. Joseph Church

605 Plymouth St. NE Le Mars

Featuring Keynote Speaker:

Jon Leonetti



\$40 registration fee per person

\$50 after the March 22 deadline

Father/Son discount \$5 off each registration

Register online at www.scdiocese.org/mensconference

Co-Sponsored by the Diocese of Sioux City and
All Saints Parish Men's Ministry



Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday (3/28)	7:00pm	St. John-Onawa
Good Friday (3/29)	3:00pm	St. John-Onawa
Easter Vigil (3/30)	8:30pm	St. Joseph-Salix
Easter Sunday (3/31)	9:00am	St. John-Onawa
Easter Sunday (3/31)	11:00am	St. Joseph-Salix