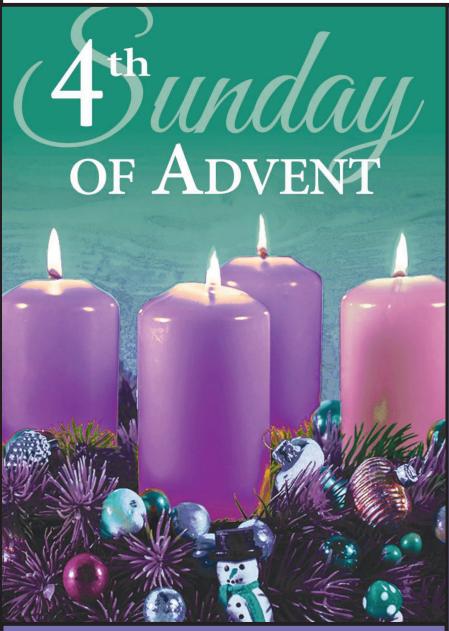


St. Joseph Catholic Church

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1790 14th Street, Marion, IA 52302 * PHONE: 319-377-4869 * WEBSITE: www.stjoesmarion.org



Liturgies

Weekend: Saturday 4:30 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Weekday: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:30 AM

Wednesday 8:15 AM

Adoration: Following 7:30 AM mass until 9:00 PM

(No Adoration on December 25 or January 1)

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 - 4:00 PM

December 24, 2017

Rev. David O'Connor, Pastor d.oconnor@dbqarch.org

Rev. Mark Kwenin, Associate Pastor m.kwenin@dbqarch.org

Deacon Dennis Ternes d.ternes@dbqarch.org

Deacon Ken Bauer k.bauer@dbqarch.org

Dawn Feltman, Pastoral Minister d.feltman@dbgarch.org

Tammy Martin, Parish Secretary t.martin@dbqarch.org

Bonnie Bluml, Music Ministry Coordinator b.bluml@dbgarch.org

Judy Ramsey, Adolescent FF Coordinator j.ramsey@dbgarch.org

JoAnn Starr, YFF Coordinator j.starr1@dbqarch.org

Casey Kettmann, Principal ckettmann@sjcsmarion.org

Peggy Brady, School Secretary pbrady@sjcsmarion.org

Parish Office 319-377-4869 Mon. Thurs. & Fri. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Tues. & Wed. 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Youth Faith Formation 319-377-8402 1430 14th Street, Marion

School 319-377-6348 1430 14th Street, Marion

2017 Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve 4:00 PM in the church and school gym

6:30 PM in the church 9:00 PM in the church

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day 9:00 AM in the church **New to the Parish:** *Welcome!* Please call the office to make an appointment to register at 377-4869.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Call the office and make an appointment with the priest or deacon.

Prayer Chain: Contact Dawn at 377-4869 or d.feltman@dbqarch.org.

Advanced Care Planning Consultants: Learn about Church teachings on health issues and find help with documents pertaining to durable power of attorney for health care and health care decision directives. Parish contacts: Theresa Alt, 319-447-1132 or alt.theresa@yahoo.com, Jean Randolph, 319-377-0497 or jmr926722@mchsi.com, Deacon Dennis Ternes, 319-377-4869 or dternes@dbqarch.org and Deacon Ken Bauer, 319-377-4869 or k.bauer@dbqarch.org.

Parish Library—Open during office hours.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue— Gather to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary by gathering from **December 24-29**, to pray the rosary at the home of Dan & Diana Richardson, 1200—19th St NW, Cedar Rapids, at 7:30 pm each evening. All are welcome.

Feed My Sheep: The Marion Food Pantry needs canned beef stew and chicken. Please place your offering in the basket on the altar or ask an usher to take it to the front.

Infant Baptism: The next baptism preparation session will be held on *Saturday, January 13, 2018*, in the St. Joseph Room of the parish offices from 9 to 11 am. Contact Deacon Dennis Ternes at d.ternes@dbqarch.org or 377-4869 to register and learn more.

St. Joseph Bulletin

Submission deadline Tuesday Noon for following Sunday Please send by email to: t.martin@dbqarch.org

Sunday Envelope Giving Week of December 18, 2017—Week 25		
Budgeted Sunday Envelope Needs	\$23,558.59	
Year-to-date budget	\$588,964.75	
Collected last weekend	\$28,305.50	
Actual Year-to-date envelope income	\$580,677.61	
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$8,287.14)	
Social Concerns (5% of Donations)	\$1,415.28	
Bricks and Mortar Envelopes	\$1,115.00	

December 25 - December 31 WEEKLY CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day—Office Closed 9:00 AM MASS † Jim & Joyce Recker

Tuesday, December 26 - Office Closed

7:30 AM MASS † **Bob Brown**

Wednesday, December 27

2

8:15 AM MASS † **Jim Burns**

6:00 PM AHG, Community Room

Thursday, December 28

7:30 ÅM MASS † Marian Peters 9:30 AM Crestview † Ken Enneking

Friday, December 29

7:30 AM MASS † Mary K. McGuire

6:30 PM Silent Prayer, Church

Saturday, December 30

3:30 PM Reconciliation

4:30 PM MASS † **Delores Schmidt**

Sunday, December 31

8:00 AM MASS † Lester & Irene Kula 10:30 AM MASS † For the People

Mass IntentionsPlease see Dawn Feltman in Parish Office

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 30 @ 4:30 pm Sunday, December 31 @ 8:00 am and 10:30 am (January 1, 2018 is not a Holy Day of Obligation)

Important Deadline for Parish Giving:

Please note in your planning that all donations to St. Joseph Parish must be received by December 31 to be included in your St. Joseph 2017 statement. Thank you.



17 200			
Ministry Schedule	Saturday, Dec. 30, 4:30 pm	Sunday, Dec. 31, 8:00 am	Sunday, Dec. 31, 10:30 am
Sacristan	Dan Carter	Julie Schmitt	Kathy Geers
Altar Servers	Kale Leymaster Kristin Gosch Nathan Westhoff	Cassie Hein Charlie McCurren Ethan Walz	Charles Bostwick Emily Geiser Sophia Youngblut
Lectors	Elinor Remington Ed Kovarik	Ann Weber-Holdgrafer Brian Reynolds	Roger Konzen Jeff Puffer
Ministers of Holy Communion	Dan Montague Joyce Helmick Julie Raymond Kim McAleer Marg Bowen Steve McAleer Vince Welsh	Cathy Walz Darwin Schuttloffel Donna Reynolds Janice McCusker Marjorie Jensen Mary Johnson Peg Detweiler	Barb Celichowski Bob Blockinger Dolores Dilger Jerry Dilger Joan O'Connor Steven Freemon Wendell Gan
Ministers of Hospitality	Darrell Holub Dave Bowen David Bengford Judith Farrell Kossivi Tomeddonou	Bill Kuennen Dave Adams Dennis Holdgrafer Dick Nurre Mary Nurre	Bob Anderson Norbe Boettcher Pat O'Connor Sharron Konzen Teresa Girard
Children's Liturgy	n/a	n/a	Megan Gan John Bostwick
Door Greeters	Gary Raymond Dawn Barnes Jeremy Vinluan	Cindy Dugenske Dale Dugenske Barb Gasaway Mary Jo Adams	Bob Buckley Chad Gloede Lindsay Gloede



Please remember in your prayers all those who have died, especially **Jerome David Jandik**, bother of Leonard (Joyce) Jandik and **Thomas Kopernik**, brother of Michael (Kim) Kopernik.

Women's Connection

Join us for lunch on December 28, 2017 @ 11:30 - Zio Johno's - Marion. For more information contact Carol Gonzalez at 654-6296.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Eucharistic Adoration: Normal adoration hours will resume on January 8, 2018.

New Scripture Study; Philippians: Life in Christ Please join us in this powerful study and learn how St. Paul was able to rejoice in the midst of suffering and discover what it means to share in the citizenship of heaven as St. Paul reveals the mind of Christ to his followers. This study will take place from 7-9 PM on Mondays and 9:30-11:30 AM on Wednesdays and run for 6 weeks beginning January 8th. Please sign up by December 27th so the study guides can be ordered and distributed before the 1st session. The cost of the study guide is \$10. Sign up online at https://stjoesmarion.org/scripture-study or by contacting Deacon Dennis at: d.ternes@dbgarch.org.

St. Joseph Book Giveaway: St. Joseph Parish would like to wish you a Merry Christmas by offering your family a free book to read during the upcoming Christmas season. The books will be located on the table in the vestibule and there is a limit of one book per family.

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Marion IA, seeks a part-time secretary for Youth Faith Formation.

The preferred candidate is a practicing Catholic who has strong people skills and a positive attitude, all while maintaining confidentiality.

Proficiency in computer skills across multiple applications as well as an ability to multi-task and collaborate in a team setting is necessary. Physical demands of lifting and moving up to 50 pounds are included in the qualifications of this job.

Please visit www.stjoesmarion.org/employment to find the employment application. Send resume, cover letter and completed job application to: Attention YFF Office, 1430 14th St. Marion, IA 52302, or by email to: j.ramsey@dbgarch.org by January 10, 2018.

Scriptural Rosary

Please join us at noon on Mondays during Adoration for the Joyful Mysteries Scriptural Rosary.



Bereavement Grief and Loss

A six session faith sharing group for those who have experienced death of a loved one or other traumatic incidents resulting in a lifestyle change. It is recommended that those considering these sessions allow six month since the death or change in family lifestyle before attending. The next group will meet Mondays, January 22-**February 26, 6:00 - 7:30 pm** at St. Matthew Parish-Faith Formation Room, Cedar Rapids. Contact either St. Matthew Parish (319-363-8269) or St. Joseph Parish (319-377-4869). Registration deadline is: Friday, January 15.

Director of Liturgy and Music

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Marion, IA, a parish of two thousand families, seeks a full-time Director of Liturgy and Music. The preferred candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church, has a bachelor's degree or higher in either Liturgy, Liturgical Music, Music Education, Music Performance or a related field. Skills for voice and piano are preferred as well as parish experience. The application for employment can be found at: www.stjoesmarion.org/employment.

Please send a cover letter, resume and completed employment application to jobs@stjoesmarion.org.

New Year's Eve Activity

Good morning during this busy time of year. Fr. Tony and the CR Young Adult Leaders will be hosting a New Year's Night of Praise and Blessing at Mt. Mercy University on December 31st from 9pm-12.01am for all Cedar Rapids Metro Area college students and young adults. The night provides the following:

- Free admission
- Appetizers and mocktails at 9pm
- Praise and Worship
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Rosary Procession
- Solemnity Mass at 11.01pm for Mary, Mother of God Open to All!

Please contact Fr. Tony (Mount Mercy Chaplain) at: tadawu@mtmercy.edu with any questions.

BLESSING OF A CHRISTMAS TREE

The use of the Christmas tree is relatively modern. Its origins are found in the medieval mystery plays that depicted the tree of paradise and the Christmas light or candle that symbolized Christ, the Light of the world. According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing. In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Response: Amen.

The leader may greet those present in the following words:

Leader: Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever.

Response: Amen

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

Leader: My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: his birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.

Leader/Reader: Brothers and sisters, listen to the words of the prophet Ezekiel:

Thus says the Lord God: "I, too, will pluck from the crest of the cedar the highest branch. From the top of a tender shoot I will break off and transplant on a high, lofty mountain."

Leader/Reader: The Word of the Lord. **Response:** Thanks be to God.

The intercessions are then said.

Leader: Let us ask God to send his blessing upon us

and upon this sign of our faith in the Lord. **Response:** Lord, give light to our hearts.

Leader: That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Christ accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, give light to our hearts.

Leader: That the joy of Christmas may always be in

our homes, let us pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, give light to our hearts.

Leader: That the peace of Christ may dwell in our

hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, give light to our hearts.

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.

The leader says the following prayer with hands joined:

Leader: Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, Godwith-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love. (Continue next column)

Leader Continued: Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: Amen

The lights of the tree are then illuminated. The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

Leader: May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and forever.

Response: Amen.

The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

All: O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadow put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

BLESSINGS OF A MANGER OR CHRISTMAS SCENE

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223. The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time. When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the cross:

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord. **Response:** Who made heaven and earth.

Reader/Leader: Brothers and sisters, listen to the gospel according to St. Luke:

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

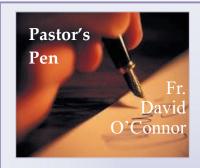
The leader prays with hands joined:

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Response: Amen.

—From <u>Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers</u>



<u>Christmas Greetings</u> - On this hallowed Christmas Eve, I wish to extend on behalf of the clergy, parish and school staff our warm greetings to you and your family for a Merry Christmas.

Even in the midst of the challenges, conflicts, toils and divisions we experience in our society, world and perhaps in our personal lives, we are people of hope because we believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, the Son of God. Christmas is a festive commemoration of the birth of Jesus two millennia ago rather than an annual replay of that sacred event. God's love knows no bounds as Jesus emptied himself and became a human being like us in all things but sin. The Incarnation of Jesus is a mystery, that he, fully God and fully man, would humble himself in a supreme act of self-abnegation in order to save us in and through our own humanity. God didn't have to do any of this; it was a choice made by his boundless love. Jesus is the Light that shines in the darkness and the voice of love that overwhelms the discordant cacophony that trumpets the air waves, cable connections and information super highway. Listen to and for the cry of the Infant King who even before the cross, draws all people unto himself. He is the only path to the solace and peace you seek. May we never lose sight of the gift we celebrate at Christmas.

<u>Christmas Mass Attendance</u>—to help you with planning which Christmas Mass you will attend, I offer some historical data regarding past Mass attendance:

- ➤ 4 PM in the church—packed
- ➤ 4 PM in the school—almost full
- ➤ 6:30 PM in the church—although a new time, it is nearly full
- > 9:00 PM in the church—although a new time, usually half full
- ➤ 9 AM in the church Christmas Day—approaching full but is roomy.

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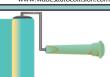
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