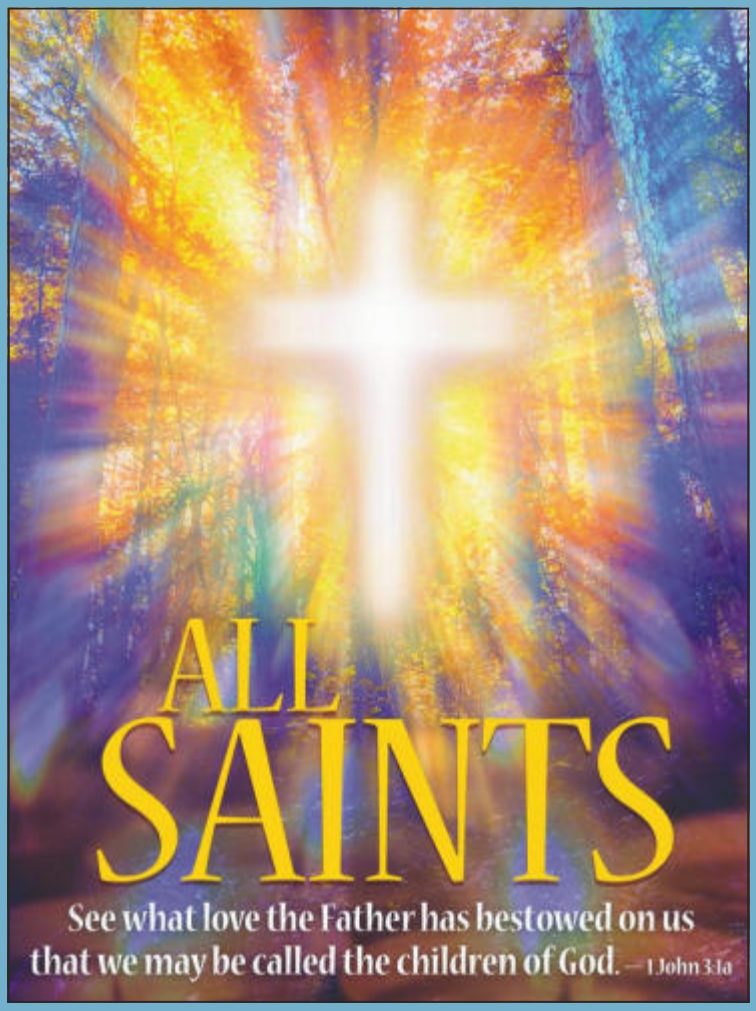
The 31st Sunday
In Ordinary Time
October 31, 2021

607 South Jackson St.
Mt. Pleasant, IA
52641
319-385-8410

St. Alphonsus Catholic Church

Our Mission Statement

We, the family of St. Alphonsus Catholic Parish, strengthened by Word and Sacrament, strive to live out Jesus Christ's call to discipleship by worshiping faithfully, serving willingly, and growing spiritually.



Synodality: Let the dialogue begin! Within our church walls, outside our church walls, in our families, our circle of friends and among groups small and large outside of our comfort zones. We need to talk, to listen, and to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading our Church. We must dare to reach out to others who feel alienated or excluded. This is the work of Synod 2021-2023, a universal journey of faith beginning in every diocese in the world. *Barb Arland-Fye*

The Fellowship Cup

"Offering a little help along the way"

Congratulations!

On 40 years of service in Henry County!

Kelley's Korner

Scan the QR code to visit the Parish Faith Formation website

Have you been feeling the call to help out at the parish, but your schedule won't allow for a regular repeating time commitment? Contact me to learn more about a one-time commitment to give a presentation to parents in our Family Formation program. At our monthly Family Formation gatherings, parents meet while children are with their catechists. There is a presentation on the theme of the month to help prepare the parents for leading their home lessons that month. The topics are already set and there are resources and sample presentations that you can refer to as you craft your own presentation.

The topics that still need a presenter are:

- December - The Lord Keeps His Promises
- January - The Sacrament of Marriage
- March - The Sacrament of Reconciliation
- April - Holy Week

Besides being a parent presenter, the entire parish is encouraged to join us on our faith journey. You can learn the monthly memory verse that the families are learning. Or challenge yourself and memorize the books of the Bible in order. You can find a handy reference of the Bible books on the bulletin table in the Gathering Space.

What's going on in our Faith Formation programs?

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (ages 3-7) - is meeting every week during the 8 am Mass. No registration is required. This is a wonderful opportunity for young ones to hear the Word read at their level of understanding. *We are looking for more volunteers to help lead CLOW sessions. Contact me if you are interested.*

FAMILY FORMATION (grades K-6) - NEXT WEEK is our next Family Formation gathering. Children will meet with catechists while parents meet to learn about the theme of the month. Have your memory verse ready for a prize in the treasure box! Also, remember to bring in the two quizzes from the October home lessons. Sacramental Preparation families should have received their Reconciliation books and have started the lesson using the online platform. Contact me if you have any questions.

YOUTH MINISTRY (grades 7-12) - This past week we discussed the Catholic Church and Science. We learned about Catholic contributions to science, such as Fr. LaMaitre who crafted a theory that would later be called "the big bang theory" and Fr. Gregor Mendel whose studies contributed to the understanding of evolution. Faith and Science are not opposites. `Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth…" (Pope St. John Paul II, Fides et Ratio, no. 1)

RCIA - We are continuing on our journey, exploring faith and getting familiar with each other and the parish. Contact the office if you have questions.

COLLEGE OUTREACH - is brainstorming ideas for reaching out to our IWU neighbors.

Upcoming Dates to note on your calendar:

Sundays at 8 am Mass - CLOW for children ages 3-7.
Wednesdays from 7-8:30 pm- Youth Ministry/Confirmation (7-12)
November 1 @10am - RCIA meeting
November 7 9:15-10:45 am- Family Formation Monthly Gathering
November 10 @ 5:30 pm - Youth Ministry Team meeting
November 24 - There is NO Youth Ministry this week.
November 28, 2021, 2-3pm - Advent Wreath Making & Blessing Keep an eye out for registration information

A schedule will be sent out for Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors & Greeters beginning in November. We are still in need of Altar Servers. If you have a child or grandchild that is in 4th grade or older & has made their 1st Communion, please be watching the bulletin for Altar Server training.

FALL FOOD DRIVE

The Social Action Committee is holding a Food Drive to help the Tolson Community Action Pantry. At this time any non-perishable food or toiletry items are welcome. They are especially in need of **Personal Hygiene products.** The drive will run the week of November 6th thru the 14th. Items will then be sent to the Pantry on November 15th. Please have your items in early.

- Tooth paste and brushes
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Toilet Paper
- Baby Wipes
- Laundry Soap
- Can Openers
- Feminine Products
- Soups
- Cereals
- Canned Meat
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Boxed Meals
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Peanut Butter

Thank You!

Official Mass count at each Mass on the weekends of Nov 6&7 and Nov 13&14.

Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

Thank you for your generous response to the request from Bishop Zinkula to make a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. We are now 37.54% toward our parish goal of $62,290. For those who have not returned their pledge envelope, I am asking, as your pastor, to do so next week. We will meet our goal quickly when you respond sooner rather than later. *Thank you!*

Victims of Earthquakes and Abortions

It is heartening to see so many countries and people worldwide opening their hearts and their pocketbooks to help the victims of terrible earthquakes. It shows that when a disaster strikes, we can come together to help our fellow man with love and compassion. It shows that some of us believe in the preciousness of life. What I don't understand is our lack of compassion toward our own unborn babies! Millions have been killed by abortion. If the people who lost their lives in earthquakes had time to pray before they died, I believe it would have been to beg God for help - to let them live. If the babies in the womb could pray, they too would say "Let me live." But no, we turn a deaf ear to their cries and they are the most vulnerable of us all.

Ruth Weber, Davenport

"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother." *St. Therese of the Child Jesus*

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Logan Borders	11	Lynn Fedler
1	Megan Borders	12	Jordan Crooks
1	Su Phung	13	Laurie Parks
1	Drew Spinner	14	Jeff Baker
2	Rose Alaniz	14	Judi Collora
2	Tom Bainbridge	14	Michael Richtman
2	Brandon Harrison	14	Kellen Shelman
2	Paul Maher	14	Charlie Yoder
2	Pat McCabe	15	Doug Perry
3	Jim Richardson	15	Heather Sutherland
3	Evelyn Richey	16	Jason Denning
4	Molly Baker	16	Nick Tansey
4	Jerry Keeley	18	Emersen Dodds
5	Allan Miller	18	Haylee Orr
5	Lucas Schnicker	18	Charles Syfert
7	Yvonne Ogles-Tish	19	Addison Clark
7	Steven Slobodnik	20	Argelia Koller
7	Nancy Vens	20	Nancy Longwell
8	Liz Perry	21	Cole Smith
9	JP Keomala	22	Jo Beavers
9	Addison Striegel	22	Pat McCormick
9	Larry Todey	24	Patrick Donnolly
10	Susan McBride	24	David Smith
10	Brenda McCabe	25	Eleanor Longfield
11	Michaela Burgmeier	25	David Stevens
11	Ronnie Denning	26	Dennis Fraise

WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

Question:
What is a pilgrimage? Why do people go on them?

Answer:
A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey to visit a holy site, such as the shrine of a saint, a place where the Blessed Virgin Mary has appeared, or an historic church or chapel. What makes a pilgrimage different from a vacation and a pilgrim distinct from a tourist is the spirit in which the journey is made. Pilgrimages are really a symbol of our spiritual journey in life, reminding us that this world is not our true home and that we spend our lives journeying to our homeland, which is the Kingdom of God.

Pilgrimages — which can be as involved as a trip to Rome or the Holy Land or as simple as visiting the Blessed Sacrament in a local parish church — are also an opportunity for us to step out of the rhythms and limits of our daily lives to seek out connection with God in a special way, by visiting a holy place. At times, such as on a special feast, a jubilee, or the anniversary of the dedication of the church, special graces (called "indulgences") can also be offered to pilgrims, helping to enrich our experience of the celebration.

In the end, pilgrimages are an ancient act of devotion and something that each of us can put into practice, helping us to discover how God is present in the world around us, in places both near and far. ©LPi

Giving for the weekend of October 23 & 24

Envelopes……..…….....$1,845.00
Offertory……..……...$71.00
Newman Sunday…….....$50.00
World Mission Sunday……..$720.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Total: $2,686.00

Changes in Mass Schedule

Monday, Nov 1 - All Saints Day Mass at 6:30pm
Tuesday, Nov 9 - No Mass Fr. at Clergy Days
Thursday, Nov 25 Thanksgiving 9:00am Mass
Friday, Dec 24 Masses 5:00pm & 10:30pm
Saturday, Dec 25 Mass 9:00am
Sunday, Dec 26 8:00 & 11:00
Saturday/Sunday Jan 1&2 5:30, 8:00 & 11:00

Readings of the Week

Readings for the week of Oct. 31

Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34
Monday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 6]/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Tuesday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1 or 4ab]/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40a
Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9 [5a]/Lk 14:25-33
Thursday: Rom 14:7-12/Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 [1b]/Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

Mass INTENTIONS

For the week of October 31

11/1	**6:30 pm**	**LeAnn Miller †**
11/2	**Noon**	**Leo Brau †**
11/3	**Noon**	**Sandy Wenz †**
11/4	**Noon**	**Phyllis Humphrey †**
11/5	**Noon**	**Buenna Messer †**
11/6	**5:30**	**Dan Mertens †**
11/7	**8:00**	**For the People**
	11:00	**Dick Looker †**

Church Office hours:
8:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday ~ Closed 11:00 - Noon

YouTube Masses - St. Al's MP Livestream

St. Alphonsus Web Site
http:/www.mtpstalphonsus.org

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Carmen Heaton, Director of Music
319-385-9342

Ben Bly, Parish Council President
Tom Holtkamp, Finance Council President

Saturday, October 30
5:30 pm Mass
Sunday, October 31
8:00 am Mass and CLOW
9:00 am KC Breakfast in Manning Hall
11:00 am Mass
Monday, November 1 - All Saints Day
6:30 pm Mass ~ All Saints Day
Tuesday, November 2 - All Souls Day
6:30 am Early Morning Women's Scripture
9:30 am Mid Morning Women's Scripture
Noon Mass ~ All Souls Day
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday, November 3
Noon Mass
7-8:30pm Youth Ministry 7 thru 12 every week
Thursday, November 4
Noon Mass
Friday, November 5
10:00 am Mass at Sunnybrook
Noon Mass
12:30-1:00 Adoration
Saturday, November 6 - FOOD DRIVE
5:30 pm Mass
Sunday, November 7 - FOOD DRIVE
8:00 am Mass and CLOW
9:15 am Family Formation
11:00 am Mass
Monday, November 8
No Mass
Tuesday, November 9
6:30 am Early Morning Women's Scripture
9:30 am Mid Morning Women's Scripture
NO MASS TODAY
Wednesday, November 10
Noon Mass
7:00-8:30 Youth Ministry 7-12 every week
Thursday, November 11 - Veterans Day
Noon Mass
Friday, November 12
10:00 am Mass at Silver Palms
Noon Mass
12:30-1:00 Adoration
Saturday, November 13 - FOOD DRIVE
5:30 pm Mass
Sunday, November 14 - FOOD DRIVE
8:00 am Mass & CLOW
9:00 am KC Breakfast in Manning Hall
11:00 am Mass
2:00 pm Spanish Mass

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