







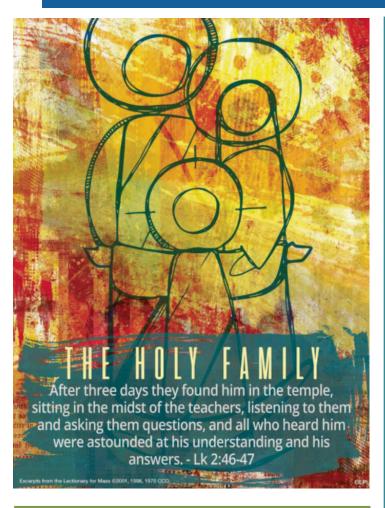


ST. ELIZABETH PASTORATE

104 1st ST SE, PO Box 286 Epworth, IA 52045 https://stelizabethpastorate.com

Catholic Communities of Bankston, Epworth, Farley, Peosta and Placid

563.876.5540





- Cade Marbach, son of Tony and Kayla Marbach of St. John the Evangelist, Placid
- John Theisen of St. Patrick, Epworth
- Luella Hammerand, mother of Jim Hammerand of St. Joseph, Farley
- Daniel Pregler, father of Diane Stecklein of St. John the Baptist, Peosta

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Pastorate Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 30 and 31 for the holidays!

The Holy Family December 26, 2021

FROM THE PASTOR

Merry Christmas to one and all. I hope the celebration was festive and you had a chance to gather with some family and friends. Today, Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. This Feast is always the first Sunday after Christmas and celebrates the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Family is essential to our society; in fact, St. John Paul II called the family unit, "the most important unit in society." It is within the family unit that we learn love, respect, compromise, etc. These are values that knit all of us together and are an essential good to every community. Pray for families, there are many who are under stress.



Other items to note:

- Thank you to everyone who helped plan our Christmas liturgies and decorate our churches. You are wonderful.
- I appreciate the priests who come to the Pastorate to celebrate liturgy on Christmas Eve. It really is a blessing to work with so many wonderful and generous priests who allow us to maintain our liturgical schedule.
- In particular, thank you to our Divine Word priests who help us throughout the year.
- I will be taking some time off after Christmas and will be away from the office for several days. I have accumulated a lot of personal time throughout the year and may be in and out throughout the month of January.
- Blessings to all of you as we approach a New Year. I hope 2022 is good to all of you.

End of the Year Church Donations—If you would like to have your 2021 contributions recorded this year, please have it turned in no later than Wednesday, December 29 at noon. You may also give ONLINE.

Go to our website: https://stelizabethpastorate.com and scroll down to Online Giving and then to your parish. Your support throughout the year is greatly appreciated!





There will be NO Friday Community Meals until Friday, January 7.

Mark your calendar for the next upcoming Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, January 4 from 1:00-6:00 PM at Farley Memorial Hall, Farley sponsored by Farley American Legion.



December 25/26

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 25 4:00 PM St. John the Evangelist, Placid

December 26 7:30 AM St. Patrick, Epworth

9:00 AM St. Clement, Bankston

9:00 AM St. Patrick, Epworth

9:00 AM St. Joseph, Farley

9:00 AM St. John the Baptist, Peosta

9:00 AM St. John the Evangelist, Placid

December 31/January 1—Solemnity of Mary

December 31 6:00 PM St. John the Baptist, Peosta

January 1 9:00 AM St. Joseph, Farley

January 1/2—Epiphany of the Lord

Regular Liturgy Schedule

May the joy and beauty of a new Christmas find peace in your heart. Wishing you many wonders of the season. I pray that this was a season of spiritual growth while waiting for the birth of our Lord and Savior. The St. Elizabeth Pastorate is truly blessed with remarkable generosity of its parishioners. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare for Advent, especially through the ongoing challenges we faced from the pandemic. You continue to be a beacon of light that truly reflects the light of Christ. A sincere thank you to Fr. Schueller, Fr. Kruse, Fr. Boone, our deacons, guest presiders, musicians, decorators, hospitality ministers, liturgical ministers, and liturgy committee members. Your support, time, and talent are greatly appreciated. I'm grateful for the blessings you brought us through your heartfelt generosity; I wish you many blessed thanks!

Best Christmas wishes, Krystal Smith, Director of Liturgy



FINANCE

There are no budget amounts due to the early bulletin deadlines.

TIME AND TALENT

- St. Clement—About six people gave a total of 40 hours towards construction of the ballpark concession stand with more work to do.
- St. Patrick—One person worked eight hours sorting hundreds of donated Christmas/All Occasion cards for gift bags for nursing home residents.
- St. Joseph—Nine people give nine hours of time in adoration every Friday at St. Joseph.
- St. John, Peosta—Two people worked 40 hours raising the chickens that were used for the Mary's Meals fundraiser.
- St. John, Placid—Three people worked six hours putting up shelves in the Epworth Food Pantry.

WEEKLY ROSARY

Farley

Jan. 1 at 4:00 PM—Dorothy Schieltz Jan. 2 at 9:00 AM-Janet Hingtgen

Peosta

Jan. 2 at 9:00 AM—Gary & Lou Ann Switzer



Consider taking time for yourself to Christian make а Experience Weekend (CEW)! Cost is \$40 for the weekend. Meals and lodging included.

The Women's weekend is January 7-9 and the Men's is January 14-16 and will be held at Seton Catholic School in Farley. Applications are available in the church entrances. If you have questions, contact Judy Gotto at 563-599-4088 or Gordon Dossey at 563-543-3328.

ST. PATRICK - EPWORTH NEWS



Thank you to everyone who came to help with the cleaning of church before Christmas. It is very much appreciated!

Congratulations to Don and Kay Link who are celebrating their 66th wedding anniversary on December 28. Wishing you many more!

ST. JOSEPH - FARLEY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who worked at or donated to the Thanksgiving breakfast. We made a profit of \$8,322.71.

ST. JOHN - PLACID NEWS



Church Cleaning-Marlene Koopmann, Kayla Marbach, Mary Casey, Sarah Fine, Leigh Ann Reisner and Sally Koopmann

Community Pep Band!!

On Tuesday, January 4, any and all members of the Beckman community and Alumni are invited to join the band for a community pep band. It doesn't matter if you played your horn yesterday or if it has been years: we want you to join us for fellowship and music! Email Mr. Denner at adenner@beckmancatholic.org with questions. Optional rehearsal at 6:00 PM with regular call time at 6:40 PM.



Please pray for: Duane Ostwinkle, Bud Steppan, Pat Simon, Jolene Stelken, Mike Vandermillen, Jeff Maiers, Oliver Schmitt.

Connolly, Amy Niemer, Mark Klostermann, Don Hermsen, Tom Coyle, Pat Kennedy, Elise Wischmeyer, Cindy Mueller, Kenneth Neumann, Laverne Erdmann, Helen Clemens, Mary Mormann, Betty McPoland, Deacon Jim and Kathy Kean, Joan Demmer, Tom Schmitt and Jim Wolf.

The Our Faith STO and Catholic school families have reasons to celebrate!

Thanks to the support of almost 1,200 donors across the Archdiocese, the Our Faith School Tuition Organization has reached its 2021 fundraising goal of \$5,391,464. This total is dramatically higher than what was donated during the pandemic and derecho year of 2020 and will enable us to help many more school families with tuition assistance in the 2022-23 school year! Thank you to everyone who helped make this milestone happen. If you'd like to learn more about making a donation for 2022, please visit our website at www.OurFaithSTO.org, or contact Deacon Brian Zeman at b.zeman@dbqarch.org or 563-556-2580 x296

We're hiring! St. Elizabeth Pastorate and Seton Catholic School is looking for a full or part-time person to clean. Responsibilities include, but not limited to, cleaning bathrooms, sweeping, mopping, and taking out trash. Full-time position offers flexible hours and benefits, and it would require cleaning at St. Patrick Church, the Pastorate Office and Faith Formation Building all in Epworth, St. Clement Church, hall, and pavilion in Bankston and Seton Catholic in Farley. Part-time position offers flexible hours and is available at Seton Catholic in Farley only.



If interested, contact Chad Lukes at c.lukes@dbgarch.org or 563.876.5540.

Bulletin Information: Email office@stelizabethpastorate.com

Submission deadline is Tuesday at noon.

Office hours: M-Th 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Fri 8:00 AM-1:00 PM Pastorate Office....563.876.5540 Fax....563.876.9062

Website: https://stelizabethpastorate.com

Facebook: @stelizabethpastorate

Fr. Michael Schueller, Pastor.....641.430.2796

Email.....m.schueller@dbqarch.org

Twitter @SEPastorate

Fr. Scott Boone, Sacramental Priest......563.663.7744

Email.....s.boone@dbqarch.org
Fr. Phil Kruse. Sacramental Priest

Email......p.kruse@dbqarch.org

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Shirley Simon, Communications Coordinator

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Krystal Smith, Director of Liturgy

Email.....k.smith@dbqarch.org

Sr. Benjamin Duschner, Minister of Care

Phone....563.513.7354 Email...b.duschner@dbqarch.org

Deacon Dan O'Connell, Minister of Care

Phone....563.580.2454 Email...d.oconnell@dbqarch.org

FAITH FORMATION

Jim Hammerand, CRE

Email.....j.hammerand@dbqarch.org Mindi McDermott, Faith Formation Assistant

Email....m.mcdermott@dbqarch.org

SETON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Website: https://setonschool.org

Farley: 563.744.3290 Peosta: 563.556.5967

Eric Meyer, Principal

Email.....e.meyer@dbqarch.org

Facebook: @setoncatholicschoolpeosta

WEEK OF DEC. 26, 2021

Readings Week

Mon: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Tues: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18 Wed: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35 Thurs: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40 Fri: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18 Sat: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 Sun: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-

3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Dec. 27 St. John the Apostle & Evangelist

8:00 AM Peosta † Francis & Esther Fangman

RECONCILIATION at Peosta 8:30-9:00 AM

ADORATION at Peosta following Mass until 8:00 PM

Tue., Dec. 28 Holy Innocents

6:30 AM Peosta † Pete Finger

Wed., Dec. 29 St. Thomas Becket

6:30 AM Peosta † John Fagerlind ADORATION at Peosta following Mass until 12:00 noon for vocations

ADORATION with RECONCILIATION at Placid 8:30-10:00 PM

Thu., Dec. 30

6:30 AM Placid Jerry & Joann Koopmann

(50th Wedding Anniversary)

8:00 AM Epworth † Joan Hamilton (Birthday)

RECONCILIATION at Epworth 8:30-9:00 AM

ADORATION at Epworth following Mass until 12:00 noon

Fri., Dec. 31 St. Sylvester

8:00 AM Bankston † Bud & Eileen Rauen 8:00 AM Farley † Vaske & Rauen Families 3:00 PM Bankston Kluesner/Lake Wedding 6:00 PM Peosta † Wayne (Jim) & Laura Beitzel

ADORATION at Bankston 7:00-8:00 AM, RECONCILIATION 7:15-7:45 AM

ADORATION at Farley following Mass until 11:30 AM

Sat., Jan. 1
9:00 AM
Farley
Tarley

4:00 PM
Farley

4:00 PM Peosta † Don Dougherty

4:00 PM Placid † Deceased of Art Miller Family

RECONCILIATION at Farley 3:15 PM-3:45 PM

Sun., Jan. 2 Epiphany of the Lord 7:30 AM Epworth † Linda Lamp

7:30 AM Epworth † Linda Lampe 9:00 AM Bankston † Florabelle (Babe) Kluesner (Anniversary)

(Anniversary)
9:00 AM Epworth † Leo T. Oberfoell

9:00 AM Farley † Mary Jane Reichenauer

(Anniversary)

ninhany

9:00 AM Peosta For the People of the Pastorate 9:00 AM Placid † Herb & Irene Kramer

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: For pre-baptismal preparation or to schedule a baptism, contact Lynne McDermott. At least one parent must be a registered and practicing member of the pastorate.

MARRIAGE: Contact the Pastorate office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date. At least one of the parties must be a registered member of the pastorate.

PASTORATE PRAYER LINE

Direct prayer intentions to: Donna Gibbs at 563.744.2006 or email step.prayerline@gmail.com, Kim Koetz at 563.451.4024 or email kkoetz@yousq.net or Mary Rauen at 563.581-1828 or email rickandmaryr@aol.com.

Faith Formation

January Intergenerational Faith Formation sessions for Summer Faith Formation families to be held at Seton Catholic School in Peosta are listed below:

> Sunday, January 9 at 5:00 PM Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30 PM Sunday, January 30 at 5:00 PM

Plan on attending 1 of these opportunities.

Sunday Faith Formation Families classes for January are listed below - please note a date change:

Sunday, January 2—Class 10:15 AM – 11:30 AM

Sunday, January 16—CANCELLED due to Men's CEW

Sunday, January 23—9:00 AM Mass at Farley

Sunday, January 30—Class 10:15 AM – 11:30 AM

Seton News— In language arts, Mrs. Horsfall's first graders spent the week discussing the book, 'The Gingerbread Pirates'. The story is about a gingerbread pirate who meets several challenges in an attempt to be reunited with his crew. Through-out the week the students learned vocabulary from the story, talked about how the main character persevered when things got difficult, and learned how to determine who is telling the story in fiction



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books. The students made their own gingerbread men.







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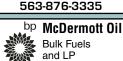
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