# "We Are An Easter People and Alleluia Is Our Song!"



~ Feast of the Ascension ~May 29, 2022~ The Emmaus Pastorate Parishes of St. Patrick, St. Mark, St. Joseph, St. Mary and Sacred Heart~

#### **Worship This Week**

#### Monday. May 30

Rdgs: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68; Jn 16:29-33 No Morning Eucharist (Father John's day off)

#### Tuesday, May 31

LIVE /

LIVE /

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rdgs: Zep 3:14-18 or Rom 12:9-16; Ps s 12:2-6' Lk 1:39-56 8:00 a.m. Word & Communion (St. Patrick) 8:00 a.m. Word & Communion (Sacred Heart)

#### Wednesday, June 1

St. Justin, Martyr Rdgs: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68; Jn 17:11-19 7:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Mark) Jim & Kathy Funke †

#### Thursday, June 2

Sts. Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs Rdgs: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16; Jn 17:20-26

#### 8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Mary)

Ivan Opperman †
No Adoration at St. Mark until September

#### Friday, June 3

St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs Rdgs: Acts 25:13-21; Ps 103; Jn 21:15-19 8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Joseph) Ben & Lee Zuercher †

#### Saturday, June 4—Pentecost

Rdgs: Acts 28:16-31; Ps 11; Jn 21:20-25 **4:00 p.m. Eucharist (St. Joseph)** For the People

#### Sunday, June 5—Pentecost

Rdgs: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3-13 or Rom 8:8-17; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-26 **8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Patrick)** Les & Carol Simons (60th Wedding Anniversary) **10:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Mark)** 

#### LIVE /

Bob Fishel †
5:00 p.m. Eucharist (St. Mary)
Colleen & LaVern Koch †
Please note the change in time
for St. Mary Eucharist

Thank You to Rob and Anette Myers, Dunkerton, live-stream and KMCH 94.7 FM radio sponsors for the Ascension of the Lord, May 29.

Don't forget
Wear red!
PENTECOST is the
weekend of June 4!

#### Salt for the Weak



In our last Pastorate Confirmation night, one of the students was really 'freaking out" about what happened at the Ascension. She just couldn't wrap her brain around the reality—but the scripture attests, "Men of Galilee, why

are you standing looking up at the sky?" (Acts 1:10) Jesus did indeed ascend before their eyes! So now what?

The Ascension of the Lord is significant for us, in that, with Jesus ascended, the mantle falls to us. In today's Gospel account from Luke (24:7) Jesus says "You are witnesses of these things." That's right—witnesses. You, me, all of us baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus are now called to be witnesses. Sadly, for many, faith has become privatized... "me and Jesus." We've been instructed never to talk about religion or politics in public. Good thing the apostles never followed that advice—we'd never be here today!

Next weekend we celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church. We revel in the promise of Jesus that we would never be alone, for He would send the Holy Spirit, the "advocate" to be with us always. The Spirit prays for us when we cannot, and supports and guides us in our trials and tribulations. We join with the universal church praying "Come Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit, renew the face of the earth!"

After all, we ARE an Easter people, and Alleluia IS our song!

#### **Reflection Questions for This Week**

- 1. Recall a time when someone you loved went away either for a long time, or due to a death. What did you feel? How vivid was your memory?
- 2. Try to imagine the mindset of the apostles at this time... What do you think was in their hearts?
- 3. Christ's message of repentance for the forgiveness of sins is clothed in this death and resurrection. His whole purpose was of forgiveness. What are the implications for us as present day followers of Christ? How should this shape our relationships today?





**The Emmaus Pastorate Prayer Chain Ministry** is available to pray for any needs you or someone you know may have. Call your parish

representative to be placed on the Prayer Chain list. Your intention remains private.

#### **Prayer Chain Contacts**

St. Mark Parish	
Carlyn Hunt	563-928-7089
Norma Venteicher	563-920-9660
St. Joseph Parish	

Rose Clark 563-880-1987 St. Mary Parish

**Deb Schloss** 563-920-8263 Sacred Heart Parish

Mary Jo Fettkether 563-880-0077 St. Patrick Parish

**Dorothy Roling** 563-856-4655

#### Prayer Requests—In an effort to keep this list up-todate, names will be left on for 30 days.

St. Mary
JoAnn Delong
Bonnie Hayes
Kathy Kirkpatrick
Dean Tucker

St. Joseph Maureen Bergan Dan Collins Dave Dennler Irene Evans Diane Finley

Ray Piorkowski Pat Roach Abby Samuelson Bob White

Becky Wilke

#### **Sacred Heart**

Randei McTaggart Rich Petsche Anna Mae Shea Mary Schaefers Clementine Walz

#### St. Mark Zach Fisher Annette Hoffman Josephine Hunt LuAnn Hunt Al Kruse **Bob Mescher** Verla Mullins Julie Sexton

Jan Tschirgi

St. Patrick Mark Brown Jean VonHandorf Jerry Vorwald Shirley Waterman

#### Our Sympathy and Prayers to~

 Mike Rentschler on the death of her son, Therin Rentschler, who passed away May 16 in Fredericksburg.

#### Welcome New Parishioner~

St. Mark Parish is pleased to welcome new parishioner, Ruth Hamilton, to our faith community.

#### Congratulations to~

- Brandon and Nichole Carpenter, whose son, Hardin Scott, was baptized May 21 at St. Mary.
- Matthew and Kaci Bailey, whose daughter, Espen Nicole, was baptized May 29 at St. Mark.



SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE Heads UPI CHANGE—Beginning the weekend of June 4-5 (Pentecost), Saint Mary Saturday night Mass will change to Sunday 5:00 p.m.

until after Labor Day weekend. The 6:00 p.m. time has many conflicts during the summer and it is more difficult to get ministers. This way, you can be gone for the weekend and not miss Mass! Tell your friends and get the word out! We hope this trial will help your summer worship plans! We will also be changing up our music at this Mass! If you would like to play quitar or other instruments, contact John Uhal (Music and Liturgy Director—563-245-2548).

Congratulations and Blessings to all of our 2022 Graduates in the Emmaus Pastorate. Never forget your



parish family, but, more importantly, always keep Jesus as a companion and guide as you go forward in life!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR CONFIRMATION **2022** which will be celebrated WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, at 7:00 p.m. in Saint Joseph Parish, with Archbishop Michael O. Jackels as celebrant. Please continue to pray for these young women and men as they complete their Sacraments of Initiation. This will be a combined celebration for Sacred Heart and Saint Joseph candidates.

Sharing Summer Flowers... As you enjoy the fruits of your yard and garden, don't forget church! We love to come to church in the summer and see (and smell) lilacs, bridal wreath, roses, irises, etc. If you think you'll have something for the sanctuary for an upcoming weekend, give your parish Liturgy Coordinator a call! Thanks in advance for sharing your beautiful bounty!



Please Note—Adoration at St. Mark, and adoration and reconciliation at St. Joseph and St, Mary has been discontinued for the summer and will resume again in September. The starting date will be posted in the Bulletin.

"ALLELUIA" is our song—THANK YOU to all the parish Sacristans and Art & Environment volunteers and custodians who keep our houses of worship so beautifully attended during these great FIFTY Days of Easter! The churches are a source of pride and guests always make positive comments about them.



Congratulations to Les and Carol Simons as they celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary. May God continue to bless them.

#### **POSITIONS OPEN**—

Saint Joseph and Sacred Heart are looking to fill vacancies for Coordinator of Faith Formation. This individual (or co-directors)



**FAITH FORMATION** 

serve along with the Pastor and Faith Formation Commission members in scheduling and providing for the week-to-week needs of the youth Faith Formation Program and in assisting with surfacing and recruiting catechists. There is, of course, a stipend accompanied with these responsibilities, and they work with the Faith Formation Commission in the carrying out of their duties. A fuller job description is available upon request. Interested persons or questions can be directed to Father John (563-543-5873).

Parishes of the Emmaus Pastorate Weekly Tithing Reports—May 21-22, 2022		
St. Mark, Edgewood		
Budget	\$663.00 \$270.75 <u>\$60.00</u>	
St. Joseph, Elkader		
Budget Offertory  Total Received	<u>\$216.00</u>	
St. Mary, Strawberry Point		
Budget ACH Offertory Energy	\$1,315.00 \$130.00 \$184.50 <u>\$50.00</u>	
Total Received	\$1,679.50	
Sacred Heart, Volga Budget Offertory Total Received	<u>\$175.00</u>	

The Annual Greeley Memorial Day
Mass at St. Joseph Cemetery will be
held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 30.
The Mass will be followed by a
Veterans Service. Feel free to bring a
lawn chair. The inclement weather site for both
events will be the Greeley Legion Building.



Congratulations to Father John who celebrated the 38th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Thursday, May 26. Congratulate him and thank him for all he has done for us.

Apologies to Father for the lateness of the notice.

#### REMEMBER TO PACK JESUS FOR YOUR TRIP—

As the school year winds down and summer plans begin, make sure to include prayer and the weekly celebration of Eucharist in your plans. 4-H, FFA, summer sports leagues and camps, county and state fairs all teach young people the value of commitment, hard work and keeping priorities. No activity or club or event should ever take precedence over weekend worship, the bridge to our relationship with Jesus. Young people learn quickly about priorities from their parents. What Mom and Dad think is primary, shapes and forms the values of the next generation. These values need to be lived and reinforced—just like schoolwork, care of animals and athletic training. Let's not have our parishes participate in the "4 Generation Fade":

- starting with parents who don't make church a high priority for their kids
- these kids grow up and make it less a priority for their kids
- the next generation grows up and makes it no priority for their kids
- and now we have a generation who grow up with no concept of God at all.
- Today's decisions impact the generations of tomorrow. Keep Jesus a part of your summer.
   Take Him along on vacation, He's an easy traveler!

"ALLELUIA" is our song—The Emmaus Pastorate has received several notes of gratitude throughout the Pastorate parishes, for assistance given through our Pay-It-Forward programs. Parishes provide monetary help, guidance and miscellaneous assistance to a wide variety of people with a wide variety of needs. Make sure you check to see when your parish "Pay-It-Forward" Sunday occurs and continue to give generously. (These collections and initiatives are separate from Food Pantry programs.)

## SYNOD SURVEY UPDATES— A few more highlights that we have received are: Of the 88 Clustered/Pastorate Parishes

- They offer 111 weekend Masses
- March 2022 Mass attendance was up 18% from September 2021

#### Archdiocesan Highlights

- 281 Masses celebrated every weekend in the Archdiocese of Dubuque
- The average Mass filled up 38% of the church capacity
- There were 14 parishes whose attendance exceeded October 2016, which was the last year we did attendance counts throughout the whole Archdiocese.

STAY TUNED for more statistics, interpretations and directions from the SYNOD SURVEY.

# SUMMER SUNDAY NIGHT MASS!

The Emmaus Pastorate is now offering another worship option for you during the busy summer months! Saint Mary Strawberry Point will change from 6:00 p.m. Saturday to **5:00 p.m.** Sunday Nights beginning in June and going through Labor Day weekend! (Note there will be NO Saturday 6:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, June 4). This change will begin with PENTECOST MASS on Sunday, June 5, at 5:00 p.m.

Come for a refreshing end to your weekend and a great start to the new week! Bring the kids! Summer readers, servers, and Eucharistic Ministers from any parish are welcome. Just check in when you arrive!

St. Joseph Circles' Stock the Shelves—Every weekend in June, St. Joseph Parish Life members are encouraged to help the Clayton County Food Shelf stock its shelves and get to know the members of your circle. We hope you get in the mood to donate food. We will have a friendly competition between circles to see who can donate the most food. When you bring your food or cash donations to Mass each Saturday, your donations will be tallied for your circle.

St. Mark Famous Rodeo Chicken
Supper is just around the corner. It
will be held on Saturday, August 20.
As the committee starts its
preparations, they are asking
parishioners who plant gardens to help them out by
planting some cabbage, peppers and carrots for the
supper. Thank you to everyone who can assist us.



St. Joseph Cemetery Spring Clean-up—Please dispose of any flowers, pots, decorations, etc., that

are weathered or broken. These may be placed in the two-wheel cart that has been placed on the river side of the cemetery. **PLEASE—NO YARD WASTE.** Reminder that for the safety of the maintenance crew, **NO** glass jars, vases or other glass materials will be allowed. Anything deemed a safety hazard will be immediately removed. Thank you. **St. Joseph Cemetery Committee** 

St. Mark Parish Online Newsletter—Did you know that St. Mark Parish has an online monthly newsletter? This informative newsletter, edited by Judy Lueken, contains numerous photos of events from the previous month, calendar of events/ schedules, monthly Mass intentions, available ministry opportunities, Faith Formation information and more! The newsletter is sent out to 235 registered email addresses at the beginning of each month and up to 62% of registered parishioners open/read these emails. This is a quick and easy way to keep up with what is happening in your parish. Hey, 38% of you are missing out! If your family is not receiving this newsletter, please call the parish office (563-928-7200) to update or add an email address.



**St. Mark Cemetery—Thank You** to everyone who donated to replace the flags and poles in our cemetery. We have reached our goal and we are grateful to all of our parishioners who contributed

**Sacred Heart** thanks all who brought food for fellowship after the May 22 Mass. Today's collection was designated to the Pay-It-Forward fund which amounted to \$155.

Sacred Heart also thanks all who participated in the May crowning; all did a spectacular job!!! Thank you to Jennifer who organized the crowning.





Parish Life is about the LIFE OF THE PARISH, the lifeblood of our community! For years many churches relied mostly on weekend worship, occasional galas or fundraisers, and, of course, the "funeral ladies" who took

care of the luncheons. But parish life should be (actually IS) more than that! Aside from worship and faith formation, a central part of the lifeblood of any church is outreach! Days are gone (should they ever have been?) of just waiting for people to come or call. People in need come in all ages and life situations. Developing and networking relationships, strengthening families and marriages, young people making vocational choices, providing counseling or just a listening ear for persons in crisis—are just a few of the ways your parish is of service to people in our area and beyond. And while organizing the funeral dinner is a wonderful work of mercy, our service and outreach go much further, AND need to include many more people! The parish is not a "committee," but is made up of committees! And the deeper and broader and more inclusive our parishioners are, the more vibrant and effective we are in sharing the Gospel of Jesus by the way we live our lives. Jesus teaches in Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35 about this relationship and the scriptural name for it is DISCIPLESHIP. "This is how all will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." The Parish Life organization in each parish is the laboratory for discipleship. This love, this discipleship, flows naturally from the Eucharist we celebrate. Above my desk I have a sign which says: "May our Worship turn into Action and our Action turn into Worship!" These two both feed off of, and are signs of, the other. You are called beyond membership to be actual parishioners, parishioners are disciples, coming together to be signs of the "Good News" to a weary world.

BIG THANKS to Jennifer Willenbring for spending her time Monday doing the new plantings at St. Mark around the Church and Rectory! You did a great job. (Thanks, too, for St. Joseph having the plant sale that supplied them!)

The St. Mary Community Food Pantry served 16 households on May 18. The community meal served 73 people—20 deliveries, 27 carry outs, and 17 dine-ins. The next pantry date is June 15 from 3:00-6:30 p.m.. If someone would like a delivery in Strawberry, call Delaine (563 920 2753) before 3:00 p.m. on that date. The next meal will also be on June 15, serving from 5:00-6:30. The menu will be beefburger with bun, potato salad, baked beans, and chocolate chip cookie. If someone would like a delivery in Strawberry, call Kris (563 419 5329) or Delaine (563 920 2753) before 3:00 that day. Some items needed by the pantry: sugar, mandarin oranges, peaches, pineapple, pasta sauce, rice, mac n cheese, chicken noodle soup, peanut butter, dish soap, Kleenex, detergent (HE), and paper towels.

VOCATIONS CORNER—"Christ's works testified to what he was; our works will testify to what we are."

Father Emil Kapau

His left foot shattered, Sgt. Herb Miller lay helpless in a ditch as the American position was being overrun during the Battle of Unsan. The rifle of a Chinese soldier aimed at Sgt. Miller's forehead was shoved aside by Father Emil Kapaun who lifted the young man on to his shoulders. The Chinese soldier was so stunned by this act of selfless courage, that he let the two men live.

For at least 60 miles Father Kapaun helped Sgt. Miller, sometimes carrying him, sometimes supporting him as they were marched to the camp where they were imprisoned. Father Kapaun encouraged the other U.S. soldiers to do the same for their wounded brothers in arms. Without Father Kapaun's brave action, Sgt. Miller and many others would have died.

We pray: Father Kapaun, I ask that you pray for me, as I struggle to do the heavy lifting of being a witness to the love of Jesus Christ. I pray that like you, I'll have the courage to travel the path that Jesus wants for me. I pray that I will find the courage to endure the suffering I encounter as I walk this earth. Amen (researched and composed by Marsha Hauser. More to follow!).

**PRAY that more young people respond** with lives of generous service through vocations to religious sisters and brothers, deacons and priests. *Dubuque Patron Saint John Mary Vianney, PRAY FOR US!* 

For the week of May 28 St. Joseph lights the Candles for the Downey and Manternach Families.

Results of Parish Elections— Thank you for your willingness to serve your parish.

**St. Mark: Pastoral Council**—Larry Pape and Matt Venteicher; **Faith Formation Commission**—Josh Steffen and Patty Rezende

**St. Joseph: Pastoral Council**—Jay Farmer and Carla Clark; **Faith Formation Commission**—Andrew Clark and Wanda Casper.

**St. Patrick: Pastoral Council**—Sandy Klaus and Matt Mensen.



Ministering to Those Who Have Lost a Child. If you have lost a child, there are trained parish ministers available who can provide

listening, resources and guidance through the **Behold Your Child Ministry**. Contact Kathy Riniker (563-245-3775 or if there is no answer 563-920-4772).

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#### **Emmaus Pastorate Staff and Volunteers**

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**Knights of Columbus Grand Knight** 

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