Parish Center 319-233-8060

Parish Staff

Rev. Scott Bullock Pastor

Toni Pint-Burke **Business Manager**

Coordinator of Parish Outreach Joan Dalan

Brad Kneeland Deacon Tom Lang Deacon Ray Larsen Deacon Steve Lathrop Maintenance Rick Lynch Deacon

Anastasia Nicklaus Coordinator of Liturgy & Music

Jannette Serafin Bookkeeper



PARISH

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The mission of St. Edward Parish is to be an evangelizing community by faith, with love, in hope.

Jesus among us...

BLESSED ARE WE



St. Edward Elementary School 233-6202 Aaron Becker, Principal Bl. Maria Assunta Pallotta Middle School 232-6592 Aaron Becker, Principal Columbus Catholic High School 233-3358 Tom Novotney, interim principal **Blessed Sacrament Early Childhood** 236-6131 Carley Epling, Director Waterloo Faith Formation Office 233-0498 www.waterloocatholics.org Jacob Rosswurm Pastoral Council Chair 239-3220 Chris Starbuck Finance Chair 269-2929 Jim Thielen **CVCS Parish Board Representative** 493-1313 Al Schott

Prayer Chain online at www.sted.org/prayer-requests

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Mass Schedule

5:15pm

Weekdays See Inside

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00pm

Upon request immediately following weekday Masses. Excludes school

Sacrament of Baptism

waterloocatholics.org/baptism-

Sacrament of Matrimony

Arrangements should ideally be made

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Pastoral Care of Sick & Homebound: Please call the Parish Center office or visit www.sted.org/member-care

Membership & Registration: Please register at www.sted.org/join-us or request an appointment to visit the Parish Center office.

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 27—St. John the Evangelist
1 Jn 1:1-4 / John 20:1a, 2-8
7:30am MASS CANCELLED

Tuesday, December 28—Holy Innocents
1 Jn 1:5—2:2 / Mt 2:13-18
7:30am Bruce & Katie Anderson (Anniversary)

Wednesday, December 29—5th Day in Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35

5:30pm MASS CANCELLED

Thursday, December 30—6th Day in the Ocative of Christmas 1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40

7:30am Nancy Golinvaux[†] (NO School Mass)

Friday, December 31—7th Day in the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:18-21 / Jn 1:1-18
7:30am Sharon Pint[†]

Saturday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7 / Lk 2:16-21 9:00am Nick Miller[†]

5:15pm William Lynch[†]
Sunday, January 2—Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12
8:00am Jeanne Weilein-Harper[†]
10:30am People of the Parish



We are grateful for the generosity of our parish family during this past fiscal year! We know some choose to make year-end charitable contributions, so we remind you that contributions for 2021 must be received in the parish office by the end of business on Friday, December 31, and checks must be dated 2021.

Contributions will be posted in 2022 if they are 1) received during the weekend Masses on January 1st or 2nd; 2) received in the mail on or after January 1st; or 3) made by check with a 2022 date, regardless of the date received.

Feel free to contact Toni at the parish office with any questions or to discuss your annual giving.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Looking for a chance to serve God by serving your parish? Prayerfully consider if either of these might be for you!

- New Parishioner Welcoming: A new committee of members will consider the important work of welcoming new members of the parish family.
- **Funeral Dinners:** After a hiatus due to the pandemic, we expect to resume funeral dinners in our parish hall, soon in the new year. Veterans and new volunteers needed!

If you are interested in either, contact Joan at the parish offices or leave a message at the parish website, *sted.org*

FROM THE PASTOR:

Welcome to all who have come to join us this weekend, particularly at our Christmas Masses, where we commemorate and celebrate the birth of our salvation in the Child born in Bethlehem! I recall many years ago having the privilege of visiting Nazareth, a small town in the north of modern-day Israel, maybe 15 miles from the Sea of Galilee. While the scriptures report Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, it was in this small town where he was raised. My reaction to it was that it was exceptionally . . . ordinary. I'm not sure what I expected, but it was a town like most—cars, people, houses—with lots of tourist shops. While there was an initial reaction of disillusion, further reflection led me to recognize that this was the point of Christmas. Jesus came at Bethlehem in the fullness of the human condition (though without sin) to meet each human heart just where we are and then, by bringing the divine, exalted us and restored our dignity by His power as God. Here in Waterloo, there's a lot of rather ordinary things and ordinary folks, but the extraordinary message of Christmas is this: God so loved the world that He sent His Son into our ordinariness to exalt us and make us his beloved sons and daughters. Christmas is our celebration of God coming in humanity right into the heart of our joys and sorrows, our trials and successes, our times of anxiety and times of peace, to deliver all our ordinary living into God's extraordinary promise of full, eternal life, beginning now. So... Merry Christmas to all—and by the Christ Child, welcome to extraordinary life!

Open Wide the Doors to Christ! These were some of the first words uttered by the then new pope, St. John Paul II, when he emerged on the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome in 1978 as the new leader of the Roman Catholic Church. In doing so, he reminded us of our sacred mission as a church—to lead others to Christ by opening wide the treasures of our faith that have been entrusted to us (the greatest of these being the Eucharist that we celebrate as Mass). For the Eucharist is our joining that eternal and heavenly wedding banquet of the Lamb that will be our eternal joy—a banquet of union with God that we already join here on earth. And... wherever we celebrate a Mass (even in a middle school gym!), we are joined to "the saints and angels" around the heavenly throne and offer a perfect sacrifice of praise. Our construction project at St. Edward, begun in the late Summer and expected to be completed in the Spring, is for the singular purpose of providing a safer and more accessible entry into our Church where we meet no one less than Christ Jesus! This effort of our whole parish family will produce effects beyond our seeing—for generations to come and ...into eternity! Thanks for all who have given generously to this sacred work. If you have not yet done so, please consider joining this project with a donation to the project. We all know it's been an unpredictable year—so give what you can—but let's all give something, that we'll all have a share in this sacred work—opening wide the doors to Christ!

Blessed and Merry Christmas to all! Fr. Scott Bullock

OPEN WIDE THE DOORS TO CHRIST!



For those who might not be familiar with the current construction project at St. Edward Church, a review of the timeline to this point:

- About one year ago, it became clear that something would need to be done with the existing front steps into the vestibule of the church. Not only were they structurally unsound, but they had become increasingly a hazard for those who might struggle with stairs. While the parish had been considering the addition of an interior gathering space with office and meeting spaces, dealing with the steps could not wait.
- After consultation with the parish's pastoral council and finance council, the decision was made to modify our vestibule, to remove the steps (both interior and exterior) to allow an "at-grade" entry into our sanctuary.
- In the course of planning for this renovation, it was recognized that another issue needed to be addressed: the long-time problem of the disposal of storm water from our campus, which could no longer be directed to the city's sanitary sewer. Thus, the project became two-fold: to provide a safer and more accessible entry into our vestibule and to meet city code to direct our rain water into the city's storm water system.
- Final plans were completed for both aspects of the project and were approved by the city of Waterloo and our parish leadership in the early summer of 2021. Construction began simultaneously on both aspects of the project in August 2021.

- The storm water aspect (directing the water to a detention pond in Miller Park) is largely completed. The new entry into our vestibule, with a new circular drive, additional handicapped parking, and at-grade entry into the parish center offices, will be completed in the Spring of 2022.
- An appeal to raise the funds for the project is underway. While the monetary goal is nearly reached, we are still hoping for a larger percentage of participation from our families. See the information below. If you have not yet done so, please consider a gift to your parish family. A gift of any size is most appreciated to "Open Wide the Doors to Christ!"



OUR MISSION: TO BE AN EVANGELIZING COMMUNITY, BY FAITH, WITH LOVE, IN HOPE.



Beauty in Christ: Holy Women of the Visitation at the St. Edward Church Basement, Saturday, January 29th, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 Archdiocese of Dubuque Women's Conference p.m (Space is Limited).

We are hosting the 2022 Archdiocesan Women's Conference, Beauty in Christ in our own parish. Women can listen to incredible national speakers, hear beautiful music, and pray with Archbishop Jackels on the big screen—and then, in-person, engage in warm conversation, enjoy good food, and pray together—all at an incredibly low cost (\$15.00 per person includes ticket and food!). For further information or to make a reservation, please call Becky Hargreaves 319-290-6005 or Mary Pedersen 319-290-5488.

> To check our speakers, go to: www.archwomenconference.org



ST. EDWARD & HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

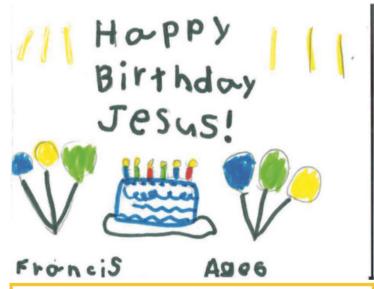
Gather your crew—family, fellow parishioners, neighbors and friends—for fellowship and service in Christ to give back to the community. No experience or tools necessary—just a willingness to jump in and pick up a hammer to build a home for a family in need. As part of our parish's ongoing partnership, we'll help to build and repair homes for families in need in our own community.

We need eight volunteers each month (Jan.—Aug.) to work at the site and others to pack sack lunches for the team ahead of the work session. If swinging a hammer isn't for you, please sign up to gather, chat and pack lunches. St. Edward's is reigniting our partnership with Habitat and we can use everyone's help, regardless of ability—there's a place for everyone!

Our project will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. the second Saturday of the month, beginning Saturday, Jan. 8th coming right up! Volunteers younger than 18 are welcome, provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.

To sign up, go to www.sted.org and you'll be directed to www.webuildhabitat.org to complete a one-time sign up form. For questions, use the "Contact Us" button on our website, and a coordinator will be in touch.

"Whatever you did for the least of mine, you did it for me." (Mt. 25:40)



Merry Christmas from our St. Edward Elementary School!



SOCIAL OUTREACH: Christ's birth at Christmas is the definitive "social outreach," God's reaching into the heart of all humanity to show the love of God to all! We who have been joined to Christ have been em-

powered at baptism to bear the love of Christ to others! We proclaim the birth of Christ when we serve others. Use this QR code to discover opportunities to serve as part of our parish's social outreach mission. Now is the time!



SUPPORTING OUR SISTER PARISH IN HAITI

Thanks to your donations to our sister parish, St. Therese in Grison-Garde and the Adopt-A-Student program, we met our financial commitment in 2021 and now look to do the same in 2022. Please consider a one-time or ongoing gift. Our support helps pay teachers in the parish school and ensures every child has a meal at school.

Designated checks may be placed in the weekly offertory or sent to the Parish Center. EFT forms are available online or by contacting the Parish Center. Thank you for your generosity!



FEREDAY

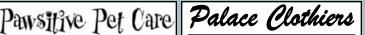
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