

Community of

# Blessed Sacrament

650 Stephan Avenue • Waterloo, IA 50701

December 26, 2021

The Nativity of our Lord

Jesus Christ



**Pastor, Fr. Anthony J. Kruse**  
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### Weekend Liturgy

Saturday.....4:30pm  
Sunday.....8:30 & 10:30am

### Weekday Liturgy

Wednesday-Friday.....8:00am  
Tuesday.....5:30pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday.....5:00pm  
Friday.....7:40am  
Saturday.....3:30pm

By appointment, call the Rectory

**Sacrament of Marriage**-Details should begin one year before wedding. Registration/active membership at Blessed Sacrament is required.

**Sacrament of Baptism**-Preparation classes are required for parents before Baptism of infants or small children. Call for registration.

### Parish website:

www.blessedsacramentwaterloo.org



Blessed Sacrament Church

### Rectory Office Hours

Monday-Friday.....8:30am-4:30pm

### Blessed Sacrament Early

Childhood Center 319-236-6131

### Director of Faith Formation

Dave Cushing .....319-233-0498  
dbqwcfa@dbqarch.org

### Director of Youth Ministry

Annie Zeets.....319-239-0163  
anniezeets@gmail.com

**Associate Director of Child-Family Catechesis & Sacramental Preparation**  
Gen Wandro.....319-233-0498  
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### Young Adult Faith Formation

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dbqwcya@dbqarch.org

### Faith Formation Secretary

Becky McElroy.....319-233-0498  
dbqwcsec@dbqarch.org



**Pastor's Corner** On behalf of the parish staff, I wish you and your loved ones a very happy and blessed Christmas! I pray that the Spirit of the newborn King will fill you with joy and reassurance of God's presence in our lives. Even in the challenges that we face, we are never alone. The beauty of the newborn King is that he is the sign of God's presence among us. God is not far away and distant. God is very close to us and lifts us up if we are open to it. I pray that we will have a renewed encounter with the newborn King, that he will open our hearts, and fill us with his divine life. Christmas Day is just the beginning of the Christmas season which runs until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 9<sup>th</sup>. So, leave the Christmas lights on and the decorations up -- let us celebrate!

Next Saturday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Mary is called "Mother of God" because she is the mother of Jesus. Since Jesus is God and human, we rightly call her "the Mother of God." Having said that, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation THIS YEAR because it falls on a Saturday. Because it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year, there will be no Mass the Solemnity at Blessed Sacrament for this day; however, we can still take an opportunity to say thank you to God for Mary's faith and to say thank you to Mary for her "yes." Read the scripture passages for the day, pray the rosary or another Marian devotion. These are things that we can do to still celebrate the gift of Mary's motherhood. For those who are truly seeking a Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, Queen of Peace Parish are offering Masses in Spanish on December 31 at 7:00pm and in English on January 1 at 9:00am, OR St. Edward Parish is offering a Mass at 9:00am on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

I will be leaving for Kansas City later this week for the wedding of my cousin and then off for my family Christmas gathering. I will be out of the office from Thursday, December 30<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fr. Solomon Farinto, from MercyOne Hospital, will be covering the Masses next weekend for the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>).

**Have a joyous week! Fr. Tony**

#### Winter Weather Mass Cancellations

I will continue to celebrate the scheduled daily Mass (except in cases of a funeral), even if school is cancelled. However, with that being said, parking lots and sidewalks may not be cleared in time for daily Mass. Please use caution, stay safe, or even stay home. Mass will still be live streamed. If out of necessity the daily Mass needs to be cancelled due to weather, we will try to publish a notice of cancellation through KWWL and KCRG TV stations. **Fr. Tony**



#### ONLY A FEW DAYS REMAIN FOR YOUR 75% STO TAX CREDIT!

Hurry, there may still be enough time to make an online gift to the Our Faith STO! Check the OurFaithSTO.org website to see whether 2021 tax credits are still available. Don't miss out! Funds contributed in 2021 will provide tuition assistance to qualifying families attending an Archdiocese school during the 2022-2023 school year. When the clock strikes midnight on December 31, this 75% opportunity for the 2021 tax year 2021 will be gone. Please visit [www.ourfaithsto.org](http://www.ourfaithsto.org) or contact Deacon Brain Zeman- Our Faith STO Director at, (563) 556-2580 x296.

#### Readings for December 24, 2021

Is 9:1-6/ Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/ Ti 2:11-14/ Lk 2:1-14

#### Readings for December 25, 2021

Is 62:11-12/ Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/ Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20

#### Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Su-1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

M-1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tu-1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

W-1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Th-1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

F-1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Sa-Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

#### The Week Ahead

Available online at our Parish website or Facebook page

#### Monday, December 27, 2021

#### Tuesday, December 28, 2021

9:00am Bible Study in the Gathering Space

5:00pm Reconciliation

5:30pm Liturgy (Larry Hullerman)

6:00pm Adoration

#### Wednesday, December 29, 2021

8:00am Liturgy (Cyril Friedman)

#### Thursday, December 30, 2021

8:00am Liturgy (Albert & Margaret Jennings)

8:30am Bible Study in the Gathering Space

6:30pm Marian Rosary & Chaplet in Church

#### Friday, December 31, 2021

Rectory Closed

7:40am Reconciliation

8:00am Liturgy (Ann Finger)

#### Saturday, January 1, 2022

Epiphany

3:30pm Reconciliation

4:30pm Liturgy (JR Hanson)

#### Sunday, January 2, 2022

Epiphany

8:30am Liturgy (Sean Eherenman)

10:30am Liturgy (People of the Parish)

#### Pray for the Ill

Clair Coughlin

Jean Draude

Michael Lathrop

Steve Kerns

Betty Hesseling

Dick Cool

Fred Worple

Faye Graham

To request to have a family-or-friend's name put on the above prayer list call the Rectory at 319-233-6179. **Prayer Chain:** Call Margaret Corson 319-415-8738 or Rhonda Maifeld 319-239-4860.

#### Parish Update

**Death:** Sonny Glass

Terri Tuchel, sister of Jack Meyers

*May they rest in peace*

## Our Mission Statement

Because our hearts are burning within us, we the Community of Blessed Sacrament are disciples of Christ, witnessing the love of God through worship, service and lifelong faith formation.



### Looking for some Spiritual Companionship

Our Faithful Companions small groups offer individuals an opportunity to meet regularly with spiritual companions to examine how they experience God's presence and challenges in daily life. The Faith Formation Team is forming new Faithful Companions now. More online at: [waterloocatholics.org/faithful-companions](http://waterloocatholics.org/faithful-companions) or contact Faith Formation Office, 319-233-2874.

### Are You an Inactive, Alienated or LGBTQ Catholic?

Our faith formation team is eager to visit with you about your past, present or future relationship to the Catholic Church in a safe, discreet environment. Send an email to Dave Cushing at [dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org)



### Becoming Catholic

Are you or someone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church? Our Faith Formation Team would be happy to visit with you about the opportunities available for adults and young adults who wish to join the Catholic faith community. Contact the Team at 319-233-0498 or email:

[dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbqwcaf@dbqarch.org)

Learn more at: [waterloocatholics.org/rcia-rcra](http://waterloocatholics.org/rcia-rcra)

### Online Opportunities for Prayer

- **Lectio Divina** -- Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. For registration and more information email [pfiffnercarolyn@gmail.com](mailto:pfiffnercarolyn@gmail.com).
- **Centering Prayer** -- These 30 and 20-minute sessions are led by members of Contemplative Outreach of Northeast Iowa Monday nights at 6:00pm; Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:30am and Sunday afternoons at 3:30pm. For information contact Julie Rowell at [julirowell@mchsi.com](mailto:julirowell@mchsi.com)



### Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program

The Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) provides funds to assist low income households with water and wastewater bills. This program is available to those with a disconnect notice or who are currently disconnected. To learn who qualifies for this new federal assistance and to apply, please contact your local community action agency. (Operation Threshold)

### Adoption Law Updates: Attention Birth Parents

If you or someone you know placed a child in an adoptive home and you desire to remain anonymous, please read the following information carefully. Per the Iowa Department of Public Health: Bureau of Health Statistics, adoptees may now receive a noncertified copy of the certificate of birth prior to adoption. **If you want to remain anonymous, this requires your immediate attention.**

For more information from call the IDPH at 515-281-7689. Or you can email [www.idph.iowa.gov/Adult-Adoptees-Can-Now-Apply-for-Non-certified-Copy-of-Original-Certificate-of-Birth](http://www.idph.iowa.gov/Adult-Adoptees-Can-Now-Apply-for-Non-certified-Copy-of-Original-Certificate-of-Birth)



### Stewardship

**Christmas** Rejoice! The Word became flesh and dwells among us! Oh, come, let us adore Him!

### Feast of the Holy Family

The first reading today provides a challenging blueprint for the good stewardship of our family relationships. How do I measure up?

**FORMED** is back in action for Blessed Sacrament Parish! Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies ... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church. Signup is easier now than ever before. Simply visit: [signup.FORMED.org](http://signup.FORMED.org) then enter our zip code: 50701 Select Blessed Sacrament, enter your name and email, and that is it, you are in! Questions? Call the office at 319-233-6179.



### Fr. Putz Legacy

Think about the people, organizations, and charities that are the most meaningful to you. Make sure your will is written so your intentions are clearly spelled out. Make sure your loved ones also know about these intentions.

We pray that you consider Blessed Sacrament in your estate planning. If you would like more information about a legacy gift to Blessed Sacrament, call Fr. Tony Kruse, 319-233-6179.

### Estate of Grace Sale Services

Are you downsizing and have things to get rid of? Are you clearing household goods from an estate? Blessed Sacrament parishioners are offering Estate of Grace Sale Services for those willing to donate the proceeds back to Blessed Sacrament parish. At your location, we will set up for a sale, advertise the sale, staff the sale, and dispose of what remains after the sale. If you are interested in discussing or scheduling a sale with us, please call Margaret Klein at 319-429-1907.

### Altar Flowers



If you would like to honor a loved one on an anniversary or celebrate a special occasion in your life – birthday, graduation, anniversary or just because you like to see fresh flowers on the altar, contact Donna to make arrangements at 319-240-8703.

We would also welcome flowers from your garden any time during the summer and fall.

### How can We help You?

Find out how we can help you connect, participate and grow in the spiritual and sacramental life of the Catholic faith community at: [waterloocatholics.org/help](http://waterloocatholics.org/help)

**Learn More**-More information about current and future Faith Formation opportunities for Catholic adults is available online at: [www.waterloocatholics.org/bulletin-announcements](http://www.waterloocatholics.org/bulletin-announcements)

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**2022 Archdiocesan Men's Conference**  
**Saturday, March 19, 2022 – Xavier High School**  
**Cedar Rapids (with live-stream available)**

Mark your calendar for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Conference! This conference will be held on the Feast of St. Joseph and will highlight the example of St. Joseph as a model for all men. The keynote speaker will be Mark Hartfiel, vice-president of Paradisus Dei, a ministry that produces the "That Man is You!" men's program. The lunch session will be presented by Devin Schadt, the founder of the Fathers of St. Joseph men's ministry. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Michael Jackels. For more information and registration, please visit [www.archmensconference.org](http://www.archmensconference.org).

**Learn to Grow**

Here are some of the formation, enrichment and spiritual growth opportunities for adults and young adults offered by Waterloo Catholic Faith Formation:

**Catholicism-Journey to the Heart of Faith** is an 8-week series which explores the fundamental elements of Catholic faith and life.

**Bishop Barron's 'The Sacraments'** is a six-part discussion of the seven sacraments hosted by Bishop Robert Barron.

**Bishop Barron's 'The Eucharist'** is an 80-minute discussion which examines the Eucharist as sacred meal, sacrifice and real presence.

**Bishop Barron's 'The Mass'** is a six-part series exploring the format and meaning of the Mass.

**Bishop Barron's 'The Creed'** A six part series which examines the meaning of faith & content of the Nicene Creed.

**Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** is an 8-week overview of the Bible, from the book of Genesis to the Gospels.

**Know Your Faith** is a continuing series of monthly online discussions which examine various aspects of the Catholic faith in an informal, non-threatening environment.

**Spiritual Growth Discussions** an introductory opportunity for adults and young adults who want to examine and deepen their spiritual life.

• Find a guide to formation and enrichment programs at:  
[waterloocatholics.org/adult-formation-guide](http://waterloocatholics.org/adult-formation-guide)

• Indicate opportunities you're interested in at:  
<https://bit.ly/Learn-to-Grow>

**Liturgical Roles**

**Saturday, January 1, 2022** 4:30pm

**Lector:** Maggie England

**Eucharist Ministers:** M Dutkowski, P Ironside,  
J & D Christopher

**Sunday, January 2, 2022** 8:30am

**Lector:** Ken Frost

**Eucharist Ministers:** B McDonald, L Puhl, M & L Rolinger

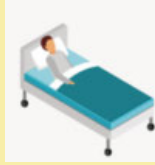
**Sunday, January 2, 2022** 10:30am

**Lectors:** Brandon Kelly

**Eucharist Ministers:** C Davis, T Glidewell, B Grete, B Wetzel



Please save Hy-Vee grocery receipts and drop in the collection basket.



**If you go to the hospital or are in the hospital...** We hope you don't need hospitalization, but if you end up in the hospital, call Blessed Sacrament rectory (319-233-6179) or have your family, the

chaplain, or nurse call and ask the office secretary to notify Fr. Tony and Deb Lundberg.

Please give the **name of the hospital** and **room number**.

**Upon admission answer the following 3 questions:**

- 1. Do you have a religious preference?**
- 2. Do you have a church?** These 2 questions will place your name on a list for receiving **Communion** if you wish.
- 3. Would you like your name to appear on a list for your pastor/church to know that you are in the hospital?** Question 3 is required for your privacy and important for you to answer so your name will appear on the clergy list. Fr. Tony and Deb Lundberg will be able to receive your name and come to visit you at the hospital.



### **Tornado Relief**

It is not hard to put ourselves in the shoes of our neighbors in Kentucky and other southern and midwestern states that experienced devastating tornadoes on December 10. The loss of life is gut-wrenching. Grieving families and communities are in our prayers as they face the long road of recovery and rebuilding. Susan Montalvo-Gesser of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro, one of the hardest-hit regions, noted in an email that, *"At least four of our parishes were damaged, some heavily so ... Many of the parishioners in St. Joseph in Mayfield (heavily immigrant community) were out cleaning up and assisting people before the National Guard got there."*

If you wish and if you can, please consider supporting the local disaster recovery efforts through Catholic Charities by mailing your support at the address below. **Thank you, and God Bless! Fr. Tony Kruse**

**Catholic Charities USA  
2050 Ballenger Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22314**



### **Beauty in Christ Women's Conference**

You are invited to host the **2022 Beauty of Christ: Holy Women of the Visitation** virtual conference, Saturday, January 29, 2022, right in your own parish. Imagine filling your parish center with women of all ages, eager to gather, excited to hear national speakers, and elated to pray together! Contact us and we'll be happy to walk you through the process for a successful conference!

For more information about the conference: [www.archwomensconference.org](http://www.archwomensconference.org)

Or to see the hosting packet, go to: [www.archwomensconference.org/parish-event/](http://www.archwomensconference.org/parish-event/).






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