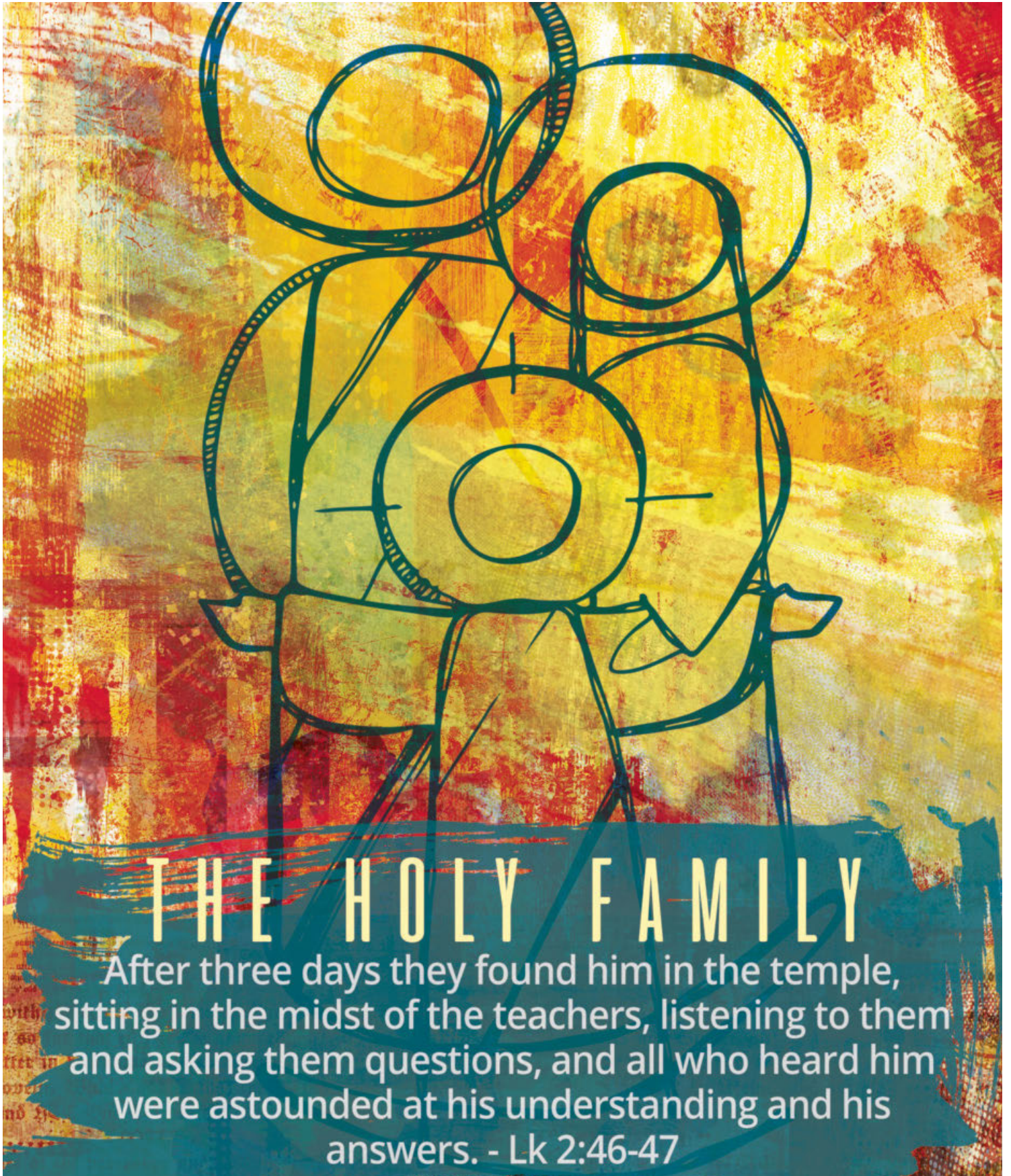


The Holy Family • December 26, 2021

# *John Paul II Cluster*



## THE HOLY FAMILY

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. - Lk 2:46-47

*ST. JOHN PARISH, INDEPENDENCE***Friday, 4:00 pm, December 31, 2021**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	B Fr. Beckman	n/a	n/a
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Linda Bagby		
<b>Hospitality Ministers:</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Lector:</b>	Donna Nabholz		
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	n/a
<b>Music:</b>	Bonnie O'Brien	Marisa Boss	

**Saturday, 5:30 pm, January 1, 2022**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	B Fr. Beckman	n/a	n/a
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Diane Williams		
<b>Hospitality Ministers:</b>	Sam O'Loughlin	Volunteer	Volunteer
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Lector:</b>	Sondra Cabell		
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	n/a
<b>Music:</b>	Karen Kremer	Kathy Kitner	

**Sunday, 10:00 am, January 2, 2022**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	B Fr. Beckman	n/a	n/a
	B Dc. Post	n/a	n/a
	B Volunteer		
<b>Hospitality Ministers:</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Lector:</b>	Volunteer		
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	n/a
<b>Music:</b>	Bonnie O'Brien	Jubilee Choir	

*ST. PATRICK PARISH, WINTHROP***Saturday, 4:00 pm, January 1, 2022**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	B Fr. Beckman	Dc. Post
<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	W n/a	
<b>Hospitality Ministers*:</b>	Volunteers	
	*Ushers - Please arrive at 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church	

<b>Lector:</b>	Tricia Zhiss
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	n/a
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Volunteers
<b>Music:</b>	St. Patrick Choir

**Sunday, 8:00 am, January 2, 2022**

<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	B Fr. Beckman	Dc. Post
<b>Eucharistic Ministers :</b>	W n/a	
<b>Hospitality Ministers*:</b>	Volunteers	
	*Ushers - Please arrive at 15 minutes prior to Mass to greet people as they walk into church	

<b>Lector:</b>	Randy Takes
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	n/a
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Volunteers
<b>Music:</b>	St. Patrick Choir

**Monday, December 27, 2021**

<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Lori Goedken	Faye Gallery
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*VOCATION VIEWS*

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

**Scrip Cash Table Volunteers January 1/2, 2022**

<b>5:30 pm</b>	Jennifer Schmitz & Joan Wieland
<b>10:00 am</b>	Joe & Lisa Kremer

<b>Altar Linen Schedule:</b>	All December	Debbie Michael
	January 2, 9, 16	Jane Gates
	January 23, 30	Denise Hawker

*MASS INTENTIONS*

December 27, 2021, through January 2, 2022

**St. John Parish, Independence**

Tues.	8:00 am	Josh Bainbridge
Wed.	8:00 am	Ted & Mary Jo Schmitz
Thurs.	8:00 am	Dean Wieland
Fri.	4:00 pm	Rick "Rona" Wendling
Sat.	5:30 pm	Frank & Dianne Brimmer
Sun.	10:00 am	Parishioners of the John Paul II Cluster

**St. Patrick Parish, Winthrop**

Mon.	4:30 pm	Alfred Hotchkiss
Fri.	8:00 am	Ted Wieland
Sat.	4:00 pm	Luke Kress
Sun.	8:00 am	Mike & Elizabeth Aberle

*THE WEEK AHEAD*Monday, December 27, 2021**Nothing listed on schedule/calendar**Tuesday, December 28, 2021**Nothing listed on schedule/calendar**Wednesday, December 29, 2021**St. John Religious Education:** No Classes**St. Patrick Religious Education:** No ClassesThursday, December 30, 2021**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Cluster Office, 10:00 amFriday, December 31, 2021**Confession at St. Patrick:** 7:30 - 7:50 am, before MassSaturday, January 1, 2022**Nothing listed on schedule/calendar**Sunday, January 2, 2022**Confession at St. John:** 9:15 - 9:45 am, before Mass*Cluster Finances*

St. John For Sunday, Sunday, December 12, 2021

Budget Envelopes	\$15,919.00
Offertory	\$122.00
Children's Collection	\$0
EFT donations for the month are:	\$5,090.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	\$11,814.00

**Last week we were short \$0.00 to meet our operational expenses! Thank you!**

This section includes all debt that the church owes to date.

Monies borrowed from DBQ	
for building projects:	\$0
Monies borrowed from	
Embrace Our Future/Debt Elimination:	\$0

St. Patrick For Sunday, December 12, 2021

Budget Envelopes	\$2,086.00
Offertory	\$93.00
EFT donations for the month are:	\$720.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Expenses	\$3,376.00

**St. Patrick's Parishioners:**

Just a reminder that the loose collection from both Masses the first weekend of each month goes to the Haiti Collection.

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

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Next Sunday: 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

**December 26, 2021****The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

**Remember in prayer:** Lillian Hemmen, Emmett & Bernadette Schumann, Eileen Barreca, Starla Himebaugh, Carolyn Erickson, Ken Magsamen, Darrell Stortz, Tex Pentecost, Cheryl Mills (sister of Peg Short), Rafael Saumell (son-in-law of Bill & Pat Offerman), Patricia Ehr, Steve Isley

**St. John Rosary Society meeting**

Please plan to attend the Rosary Society meeting, January 20, 2022, at 6:30pm. Discussion will be held on the Fall Festival Meal and St. John's School Bazaar. Are you interested in having the turkey and dressing meal, again? Are you interested in changing the menu of the meal; suggestions could be pork or beef, from the Pork or Beef Producers? Thoughts on combining FF Meal with St. John's School Bazaar? Are you interested in having the meal, or would you prefer to donate, without any meal?

**ALL are invited to attend.**

**Dad's Belgium Waffles**

Please join us on January 23, 2022 at St. Patrick Church Hall in Winthrop from 8:00 am - 12:00 (noon) for Dad's Belgium Waffles. Free Will Donation.

**\*\*Save The Date\*\*****- St. Patrick's Parishioners**

Fellow St. Patrick's Parishioners, please join us for a Valentine's Dinner, Fellowship, and Spiritual Growth on Sunday, February 13, starting with Fellowship at 4:30pm with a catered Meal to follow at 5:15pm. Stay tuned for more information in January on how to reserve your seats at this fun-filled evening to be held at our Parish Hall in Winthrop.

**THANK YOU!**

**Independence Area Food Pantry**

Your generous donation of 228 lbs of food to the Independence Area Food Pantry helps feed those local families in need. Thank you!

**~AREA EVENTS~**

**Aurora Legion & Auxiliary Sunday Breakfast**

Carry-outs available!

All you can eat pancakes, biscuits/gravy, ham, scrambled eggs, milk, juice or coffee.

Adults \$10 5-8 years \$5 Pre-school Free

1st & 3rd Sundays from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

January 2 & 16

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** is a catholic faith based marriage enrichment program and has been providing couples with better communication skills and tools for over 50 years. Find out what you've been missing by attending one of these upcoming experiences. February 11 - 13th in Ankeny; April 23 - 24th in Epworth. For more information or to register go to iowa-wwme.org or call 563-608-3305.

# School News

## November Students of the Month

Please join in Congratulating the November Students of the Month Elizabeth Hilliard & Taylor Frye

## 8th grade parents!

Indee H.S will hold their 2022-2023 "To Be" 9th grade registration night on Tuesday, February 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. This is a very important meeting for all current 8th graders and their parents/guardians to attend. They will go over freshmen schedules, four year plans, and how to register for next year's classes online. They will also create an account with Hawkeye Community College that evening. The purpose of creating an account with Hawkeye is because throughout the course of a student's high school career they will likely take at least one course which is worth college credit (most of our shop classes, several FCS classes are worth college credit!) and they must have an account created to do so. They ask students to bring their chromebook, a writing utensil, and their social security number (must have) in order to complete registration that evening. They look forward to seeing you on February 1st.

## Reminder

If you'd like to sign-up for cell phone announcements from me (abrupt changes in our schedule, ie. snow days) please visit [https://www.remind.com/sign\\_in](https://www.remind.com/sign_in), and join the @jgiery parent group. If that doesn't work please email me (gieryngj@sjs.pvt.k12.ia.us) and I will add you.

## Boys Basketball

Boys Basketball begins Monday, Jan 3 after school until 5:00pm. The parent meeting is Wednesday, Jan 5 at 4:45pm

## Busing

The Indee public schools do not return from Christmas break until Tuesday, Jan. 4th. SJS returns to school on Monday, Jan. 3rd. Therefore, there will be no busing for our students on Monday, 1/3/22.



## From the Desk of Fr. Beckman:

The Feast of the Holy Family offers an opportunity for us to reflect upon family life. Even Mary and Joseph were perplexed and distressed when they discovered Jesus missing from the caravan. Their desperate search for Jesus eventually found him back in Jerusalem in the temple. But there is another search, another finding that is of central importance. It hangs painfully on Jesus' response to his mother's question, "Son, why have you done this to us?" The first words of Jesus in Luke's Gospel are his response: "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I would be in my Father's house?" Jesus was discovering and discerning the affairs that will take him through a life of obedience to God the Father, through another Passover of pain, another three-day loss in the tomb and into his new and risen life. The most significant developmental task of adolescence is the search for and gradual finding of one's identity, and then how to use that giftedness to serve God. What defines one's identity: family ties, religious experience, a sense of vocation, a personal creed, and one's dreams, gifts, and ideals? Jesus found his identity by affirming his relationship with God. After this, Jesus returns to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and is obedient to them. In the verse preceding this Gospel (Luke 2:40), Luke had written of Jesus' growth in human and divine wisdom after his presentation in the temple. The last verse of this temple incident with which Luke ends his story of Jesus' childhood is again a comment that it was this human family that such growth continued. An aspect of doing his Father's will was his openness to being graced by a precious family life. Children and parents in every age and culture are meant to be graced for one another.

*Fr. David*

## New Year Mass Schedule:

St. John Catholic Church, Independence  
St. Patrick Catholic Church, Winthrop



## Friday, December 31

St. John 4:00 pm

**During the Holiday the Cluster Office  
will be closed on:**

Friday, January 1



## Ask For Your Budget Statement

Your 2021 statements for the amount you donated to St. Patrick Parish and St. John Parish will be available around January 20th. If you need a copy for your taxes, call the cluster office at 319-334-7191, drop a note in the collection, or email us at [sjparish@indytel.com](mailto:sjparish@indytel.com). We will mail your statement to you or you may stop in to pick it up.

## Financial Books Closing Date

The 2021 parish financial books for St. John's and St. Patrick's will close on December 31, 2021. Any donations post marked on or after January 1 will be applied to 2022.



## St. John Scrip Voucher

Please Support our Generous  
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**Name:**

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# Welcome to the Parishes of the John Paul II Cluster

## St. John the Evangelist

Independence, Iowa

&

## St. Patrick

Winthrop Iowa

*Pastor:* Rev. David Beckman

*Deacon:* Tim Post

*Pastoral Associate:*

Sharon Bainbridge

*Religious Education Coordinators:*

*St. John:* Sharon Bainbridge

*St. Patrick:* Jessica Gibbs

319-929-2301

*St. John School Principal:* Jim Gieryng

*Telephones:*

Cluster Offices: 334-7191

St. Patrick Center: 319-935-3871

St. John Church Hall: 334-2817

St. John School: 334-7173

*Cluster Mailing Address:*

209 - 5th Ave NE

Independence, IA 50644

*Cluster Email:*

sjparish@indytel.com

*Cluster Website:*

<https://stjohnstpat.org/>

**WEEKDAY MASSES:**

See Mass Schedule Page 1

**WEEKEND MASSES:**

*St. John the Evangelist - 97.1 FM*

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

*St. Patrick - 97.3 FM*

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

**RECONCILIATION:**

*St. John the Evangelist*

Sunday 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

*St. Patrick*

Friday 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.

**BAPTISM:**

Arranged after Pre-Baptism Classes.

Contact the cluster office.

**MARRIAGE:**

Please contact Fr. Beckman to arrange marriage preparations twelve to nine months in advance of the wedding date.



**New to the Area--**

## Welcome to the John Paul II Cluster!

We are delighted that you've joined us for worship during this great season, and we hope that you'll return to pray with us often. As a church community, St. John's and St. Patrick's, we offer lots of services to our members in addition to our weekly worship. If you have moved into the area or are now an adult with your own household, we invite you to become a member. Feel free to call the cluster office at 319-344-7191 if you would like to join, or have questions about our parishes.



## Christmas

Today marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season. We have lighted four candles these past four weeks and asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends. Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world.

Let us pray...

God,

you became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary.

Mary is our model of faith.

May we be faithful to your word as Mary was.

Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to you.

We ask this through the incarnate God,

who comes to us again during this Christmas season.

Amen.



## Baptism Class

Have you recently had a child? Are you expecting a child? Congratulations! We welcome children into our Christian community through the waters of Baptism.

To prepare for this celebration, we ask all parents, who would like to have their children baptized, to attend baptism class. The next class is, Thursday, January 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the parish office. Please call the cluster office at 334-7191 to register.

## Find Our Bulletin Anytime You Need It!

Do you leave your bulletin in the car after you drive home on Sunday? Does it get lost in the pile with the Sunday papers? Do you find yourself looking for it to get an update on a meeting time, or find the name of that plumber who advertises every week to support our parish?

Did you know you can find our cluster bulletin online, 24/7- 365 days a year? Go to <https://parishesonline.com> and enter "St. John the Evangelist" and "Independence, IA" in the search bar - - this is for both parishes!. Once that page has loaded, click on St. John the Evangelist (in blue lettering). On our page, you'll see a window called "Recent Publications" with small cover images of each week's bulletin. Click the one you want to view and it will download as a PDF. To get the bulletin conveniently and automatically delivered right to your inbox each week, click on "Subscribe" and enter your information. It's that easy to stay connected!



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