

ST. JOHN

THE BAPTIST

CATHOLIC CHURCH

212 7TH ST. SE
MOUNT VERNON, IA

LISBON - MOUNT VERNON, IA
AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah

Office: 895-6246

Email: DBQ137@dbqarch.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 6:00 pm @ St. Isidore

Sunday: 8:30 am @ St. John

Weekday Mass Schedule

As stated in the weekly bulletin

Confessions Sunday: 8 am or by appointment

Main Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:

8 am - 5 pm

Friday:

7 am - 3:30 pm

Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper

Loraine Kula

Parish Office: 895-6246

E-mail: l.kula@dbqarch.org

FAX #: 319-895-0973

Web: <http://www.stjohnmv.org>

Director of Faith Formation

Linda Hansmeier: 895-6758

E-mail: l.hansmeier@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Youth/Young Adult Ministry

De Wagner: 895-6758

E-Mail : DBQ137YM@dbqarch.org

Coordinator of Music

Theresa Sundstrom: 563-451-2054

E-mail: t.sundstrom@dbqarch.org

Prayer Chain Contacts:

Thelma Rife: jtbr2@q.com

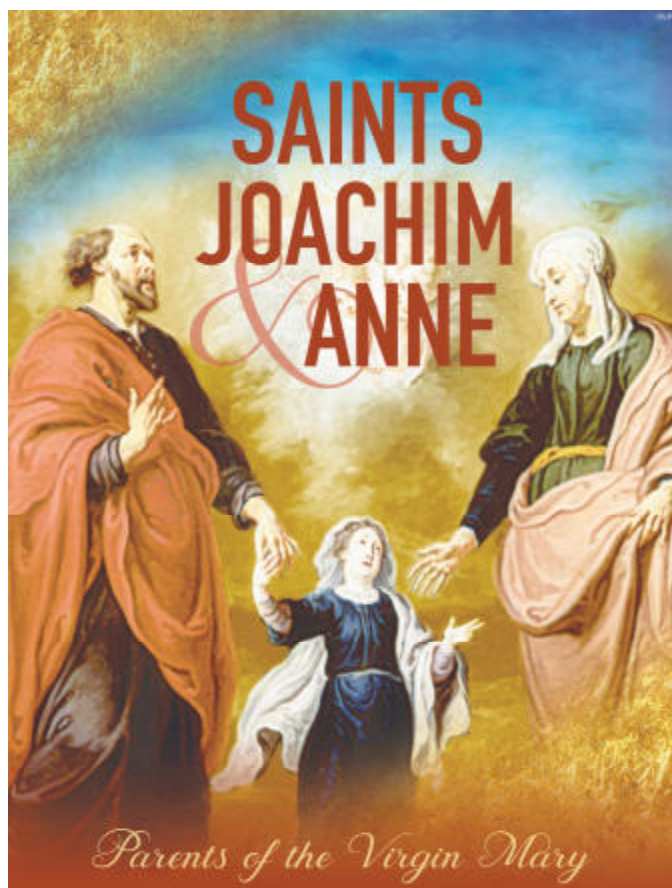
Loraine Kula: (w)895-6246 or (c)319-350-8874

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Catholic Charities: 1-800-772-2758

Birthright: 319-393-3251 or 1-800-550-4900

*Working Together To
Build the Kingdom of God*



Year of Seeking and Healing through Prayer and Kindness

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Can You Walk the Walk?

I've met and talked with enough people to feel confident that if you polled 100 fallen-away Catholics about why they didn't want anything to do with the Church, the term "**accountability**" would pop up in almost all of their answers.

And to be fair, a lack of accountability isn't just a Catholic problem. Talking the talk but not walking the walk has been a shortcoming handed down throughout the ages, across all creeds and nationalities.

Loving our neighbor, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, feeding the poor it all sounds fantastic, especially when we're the ones saying it. But the doing well, that's a different story, isn't it? We would do well to remember that Christ calls one of his best friends "Satan" when Peter tries to convince Jesus to stray from his destiny.

Have you ever been called Satan by one of your good buddies? I'll bet it's not a great feeling. But think about what Peter was doing. He had just said, "**You are the Christ.**" And now, mere moments later, he's saying: "**Don't say these things. Don't say you're going to suffer. Don't say you'll be killed.**"

He was telling Christ to squander what the Lord had given him. He was telling him that having faith was fine, but being faithful? It's just a little too hard. God has a destiny for you, too, and He's asking you to be open to it. Maybe it's not in your comfort zone. Maybe you don't think you can do it.

Lord, give us faith — but help us, also, to do the work.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Faith Formation Information by Linda Hansmeier

September 15:

4th – 8th Grade @ 6-7:15

9th – 12th Grade @ 7-8:30 p.m.

September 19:

Preschool-dismissed from Mass

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade 9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

September 19th: is Catechetical Sunday and an opportunity to recognize, reflect on, support, and celebrate the ministry of Catechesis all those who teach the Catholic faith and share the Church's teachings.

Congratulations: Devon Olberding a parishioner of St. John parish and Mariah Andrews on their new transformational business, "**The Plentiful Pantry.**" For more information go to www.plentifulpantry.com.



COATS FOR ALL:

The annual **Coats for All** which is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus has begun. There is a box in the gathering area designated for coats. Please only donate good slightly used coats and jackets in the box. This will run for the next two weeks and will end on Sunday, September 26th.

All coats will be cleaned and given to SE Linn Community Center in Lisbon and local area's. The KC's thank you in advance.

welcome

Welcome Fr. Dennis Juhl:

While Fr. Andrew is visiting family and presiding over two funerals while back in Ghana, Fr. Dennis Juhl will fill in for the Friday and Sunday Masses. We thank Fr. Juhl for helping out while Fr. Andrew is gone.

Note that there will be no Wednesday Masses at St. John's while Fr. Andrew is gone.



Liturgical Ministers - September 19, 2021

Pray that we do not ignore the cries for help from the unborn and their mothers & fathers.

40 Days for Life is a cross-denominational, faith-based effort. Join us for the **kick-off rally at 2:00 pm Sunday, September 19th** at First Open Bible Church, 1911 "E" Avenue NW in Cedar Rapids. Rev. Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans for Life will present encouragement and guidance speaking up for life through all of its stages with the theme "FEAR NOT". This rally will inspire and motivate you to pray and fast for an end to legal abortion.

The Coalition for Life of Iowa is looking for people to commit to pray in front of Planned Parenthood for **40 Days for Life** campaign. Sign up for an hour any day or night! Join us in prayer and fasting for an end to abortion in front of Planned Parenthood Sept. 22-Oct. 31st

Web: <https://40daysforlife.com/cedar-rapids>
Phone: Call Pat 319-721-9730
Email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Sacristan: Jim Kendall

EM: Larry Poduska Judy Poduska
Dave Klostermann Bev O'Connor
Volunteer

Lectors: Erin Moeller Stephen Poduska

Servers: Jackson Rhomberg Kiersten Swart

Hospitality: Chuck & Marylynn Murray
Tim & Abby Keegan family
Jeremy & Abbie Stolte family

Wednesday, September 15th
NO MASS



Friday, August 17th
8:30 am - Doris McElmeel

Sunday, August 19th
8:30 am - Carl & Marie Morrison

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them. ©LPi

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