

*Working Together To
Build the Kingdom of God*

Mass Schedule:

St. John the Baptist, Mount Vernon
Sunday, Wednesday and Friday - 8:30 am

Parish Confession:

Sunday at 8 am or by appointment

St. Isidore the Farmer, Springville:

Saturday, 5 pm - Tuesday & Thursday 8 am

St. John Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:

8 am - 5 pm

Friday:

7 am - 3:30 pm

Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah

Office: 895-6246

Email: DBQ137@dbqarch.org

Main Office: Secretary/Bookkeeper

Lorraine Kula

Parish Office: 895-6246

E-mail: l.kula@dbqarch.org

FAX #: 319-895-0973

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

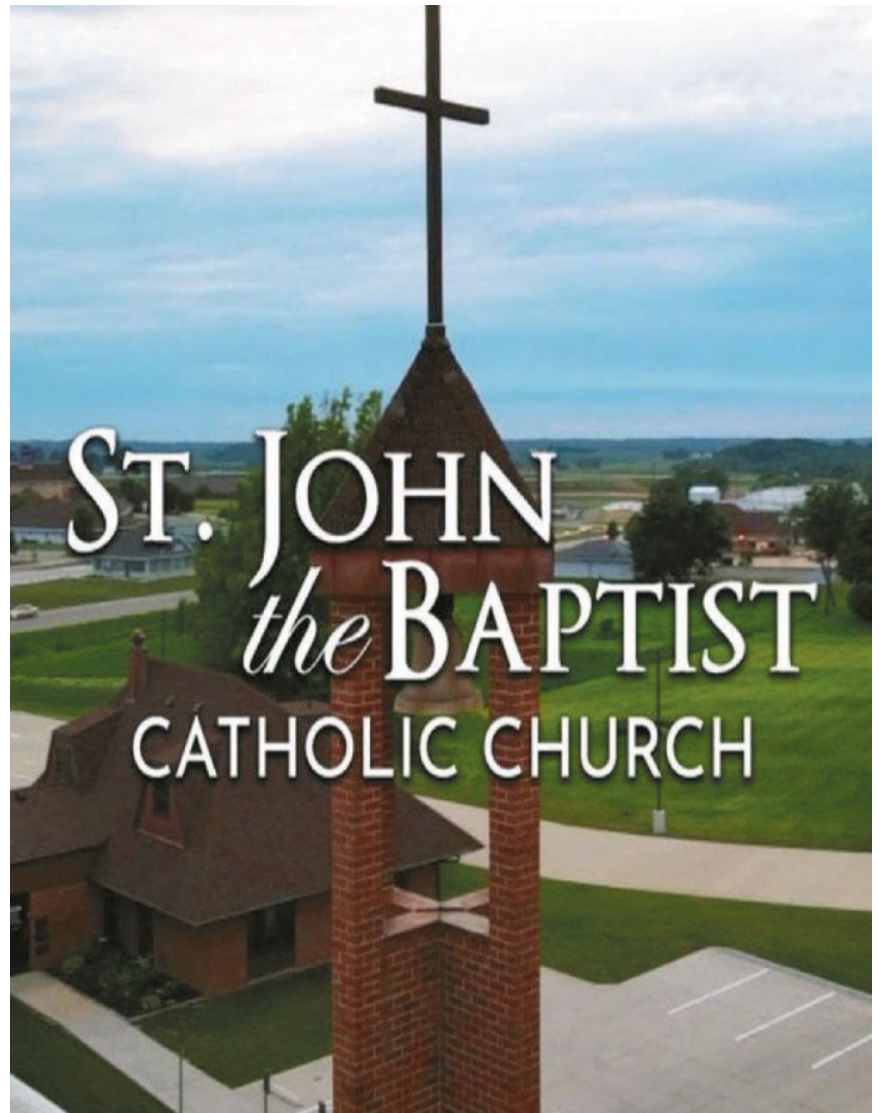
Lorraine Kula: (c)319-350-8874

l.kula@dbqarch.org

Catholic Charities: 1-800-772-2758

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*January 2, 2022
The Epiphany of the Lord*



LISBON - MOUNT VERNON, IA
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PARISH THEME: RETURN TO ME AND RENEW YOUR SPIRIT

The Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: *“Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.”* Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, *“Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being.”*

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

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2022

Today, *twelve days after Christmas*, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany, marking the end of Christmas. With these words, the Church proclaims that today’s feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent.

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated either on January 6, or according to the decision of the episcopal conference on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. The young Messiah is revealed as the light of the nation. The Epiphany is also known as Three Kings Day and Theophany. On this day we celebrate the revelation (theophany) of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men, but also in his baptism in the Jordan, and at the wedding at Cana.

Linda Hansmeier, Faith Formation DRE



We welcome Benjamin Daniel and Jacob Roland Henik who were both baptized on December 12, 2021 by Rev. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah.

Benjamin and Jacob's parents are Josh and Katlyn Henik. May our faith community of St. John the Baptist provide Christian witness to **Benjamin and Jacob**, and to assist their parents in helping the boys grow in **their** faith.

THE GIVING TREE Thank you to all of the parishioners who purchased gifts for those in need from the schools and SELCC or who donated financially to the sisters. Many gifts were collected and \$2,535.00 was collected for the sisters which was divided evenly between the sisters of Mercy and the Sisters of Charity, BVM. Thank you for your generosity,

Thelma Rife
Coordinator of the Giving Tree

Join us as we March for Life and Equality in the Womb on January 22. We will meet at St. Matthews First Avenue parking lot by 9:15. We will have signs available for your use as we march to Planned Parenthood. Once there we will pray and witness for an end to abortion. The Return March starts at 10:30 back to St. Matthew where in the lower level (Kern Hall) we will warm up eating some delicious chili and have a rally from 11:10-11:40 featuring Bernie Hayes. Those who are unable to march may drive and join in also. Another option is to join the Adoration and Rosary that will be led by the Archdiocesan Council of Women (ACCW) at St. Matthews church from 9:30-10:30. Info: Sue Martinek 319-270-0054.



Readings for the week of January 02, 2022

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
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17,
23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wed: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk
4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-
16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn
3:22-30
Next Sunday:
Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts
10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/
Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti
2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Wednesday, January 5th

8:30 am - Clarence & Nora Wilson

Friday, January 7th

8:30 am - Ed Ludwig

Sunday, January 9th

8:30 am - Doris McElmeel

Scheduled Actives of the Week

Wednesday, January 5th

9 am - St. Anne's Group
6:30 pm - Catechists In-service
7 - 9 pm - Adoration

NO FAITHFORMATION CLASSED TODAY

Thursday, January 6th

6:00 pm - RCIA Session
6:30 pm - Liturgy Committee Mtg.

Sunday, January 9th

8:30 am - Preschool Faith Formation
9:30 am - K - 3rd Grade Faith Formation
3:00 pm - Confirmation Inscription Ceremony



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly contributions needed \$5,423.08

Contributions Received

December 19, 2021	
Budget, Adult.....	\$ 2,330.00
Loose Coin/Currency	\$ 390.26
Snow Removal.....	\$ 25.00
Up-Keep of Faculty	\$ 25.00
Fuel.....	\$ 20.00
Christmas, Adult.....	\$ 625.00
Retired Religious	\$ 100.00
Total Collected	\$ 3,515.26
YTD collection needed.....	\$ 135,577.00
YTD collections received	\$ 139,385.62
YTD	\$ 3,808.60

Liturgical Ministers January 9, 2022

Sacristan: Jim Kendall

EM: Chuck Murray Stephen Poduska
Richard Povey Larry Poduska

Lectors: Ellen Bentley Sharon Grice

Servers: Joey Rhomberg Jackson Rhomberg

Hospitality: Mike & Ruth Clark family
Dave & Lesley Panos family
Troy & Tracey Louwagie family

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