



Ss. John & Paul

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



1401 1st Ave S, Altoona, IA 50009 | www.ssjohnpaul.org | 515-967-3796

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Happy New Year! How is it that we continue to slowly and methodically work our way through the pandemic, with all of its pains and challenges, and yet I sit back in my office and ask myself, "Where did the year go?" I feel like I just recently mastered the change of years on my checks. Yes, I still write some old fashioned checks... some habits are hard to drop!

This Sunday Holy Mother Church celebrates the Baptism of the Lord in the river Jordan which brings the Christmas season to its conclusion. My Christmas wish for you and your family this year is to keep Christ close to you throughout the entirety of 2022. As we enter the secular New Year of the Gregorian calendar, may you walk with our Lord and his Church throughout the Liturgical calendar and keep Jesus and the Saints close to your heart.

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings to mind the mystery of Christ's person and mission. At the same time it is an opportunity for us to give thanks to God for the innumerable gifts that he has given us since the day

we were baptized. The Church exhorts us to renew with deep faith those baptismal commitments which we assumed through our parents and godparents, particularly our loyalty to Christ and our determination to struggle against temptation, (St. John Paul II).

Jesus did not have to be baptized as he is sinless, but he sanctified the water to offer this gift to us. There is no greater gift to give your children than to have them baptized into the church and open to them the doorway to all the other sacraments. For having been incorporated into Christ through Baptism, they are formed into the People of God, and having received the remission of all their sins and rescued from the power of darkness, they are brought to the status of adopted sons and daughters (Rite of Baptism) ...being made into a new creation by water and the Holy Spirit.

You will never give them a more important gift in the entirety of their lives!

Pax Christi,

Fr. Mark

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

- Lk 3:21-22a

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR SUNDAY'S READINGS

JANUARY 09, 2022

FIRST READING

The prophet Isaiah was called to bring words of comfort and good news to the beleaguered Israelites held captive in Babylon. How do you minister to those in your life struggling to find God's presence?

SECOND READING

Paul taught Titus that baptized believers are called "to live temperately, justly, and devoutly." How well do you think you live by this moral and ethical standard?

GOSPEL READING

We hear today the account of the baptism of Jesus and God's words from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." What do you imagine Jesus did (prior to the start of his public ministry) that was so pleasing to God?

LITURGICAL ROLES

JANUARY 16, 2022

Sat., Jan. 16: 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers:

Mary O'Brien
Chris Westhoff
Allan Zadow*

Lectors:

Barbara Majerus
Diane Zadow

Servers:

Sydney Miller
Lilly Westhoff

Greeters:

Doris & Ron Peterson

Usher Coordinator:

Ken Loneman

Sun., Jan. 17: 8:30 am

Eucharistic Ministers:

Pam Riley*
Joe Zelenovich
Brad Zelenovich

Lectors:

Annie Glaser
Ruth Johnson

Servers:

Lucy Morrison
Jack Riley

Greeters:

Don & JoAnn Freeman

Usher Coordinator:

Pierre Robichaux

Sun., Jan. 17: 10:30 am

Eucharistic Ministers:

Jan Johnson*
Lois Johnson
Kevin Reddy

Lectors:

Madonna Coates
Howard Johnson

Servers:

Maya Drake
Claire Jankowski

Greeters:

Joyce & Mike Villa

Usher Coordinator:

Pat Hurley

BAPTISM PREPARATION JANUARY 18

Are you expecting a baby or have you recently added to your family? The next session for parents seeking baptism for their child is Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 pm. This preparation session will be held virtually. To register contact Laurie Delvaux, 967-3796 or ldelvaux@ssjohnpaul.org. Visit our website, <https://ssjohnpaul.org/baptism>, for more information on the celebration of the sacrament of baptism.

CARING HANDS GARDEN INFORMATIONAL MEETING

For the past two years a garden team has been growing vegetables on a plot of land to donate to Caring Hands Food Pantry. With Caring Hands' purchase of the former Artistic Manufacturing site, this team is looking at expanding their garden operation, but they need more help! If you might be interested, plan to attend an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 25 at 5:30 pm at Lutheran Church of the Cross. Email Mike Kinnear, mikeydawgindm@gmail.com, to RSVP or for more information.

RAFFLE TICKETS FOR KC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Knights of Columbus is selling raffle tickets to fund up to eight scholarships for graduating seniors from Ss. John and Paul Parish. Cost of the tickets is \$25 each or five for \$100. There will be 54 chances to win: 12 grand prizes of \$100, 12 second place prizes of \$30 and 30 third place prizes of \$25. Tickets are available in the gathering space starting the weekend of January 15-16. Watch for an online option to purchase coming soon. For questions, contact Randy Majerus, 515-262-1623.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

The Bishop wants to hear from us. Bishop William Joensen invites us to take part in a brief survey that will assist our visioning process for the Diocese of Des Moines. We want to hear of your joys and disappointments, your hopes and priorities for our diocesan future. To complete the survey in English, go here: <https://forms.gle/lmp72lt5b8TfcAid8> or click on the QR code. The Bishop also invites us to pray that God will grace us with clear vision of His will for the way forward.



Man-Up January 14: Matt Willkom, Iowa Catholic Radio's Executive Director, will join us to launch our 4th year of ManUp West Power Lunch. A discussion of Lenten activities will follow. Join us on Friday, January 14 at 12 noon at St. Francis of Assisi Church, WDM. Lunch available for a free will offering. Register to attend at iowacatholicradio.com/events.

Pro-Life Mass January 15: All are invited to the pro-life Mass at Christ the King Parish, DSM, at 9 am on January 15th. There will be a Rosary at Planned Parenthood, E Army Post Rd, directly afterward, approximately 9:45 am. Following will be a Prayer Rally for Life and Liberty.

Young Catholic Network: All young adult professionals in their 20s and 30s are invited to join the Young Catholic Network Speaker Series on Tuesday, January 25th! Join us at 6 pm for an evening of networking and fellowship at the Catholic Pastoral Center in downtown Des Moines. Sharon Krause of Krause Group (parent company of Kum & Go) and Dalla Terra Ranch will be our featured speaker. Register at www.dmdiocese.org/vcn.

Job Opening at the Diocese: Internal Control Specialist - The Diocese of Des Moines has an immediate opening in the Finance Department working with parishes and schools. More information can be found at dmdiocese.org/about-us/employment.

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.

WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 09, 2022

SUN 1/09: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
MON 1/10 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20
TUE 1/11: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28
WED 1/12: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39
THU 1/13: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
FRI 1/14: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22/Mk 2:1-12
SAT 1/15: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1/Mk 2:13-17
SUN 1/16: Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 09, 2022

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

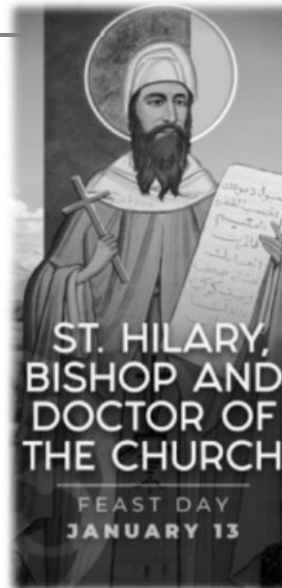
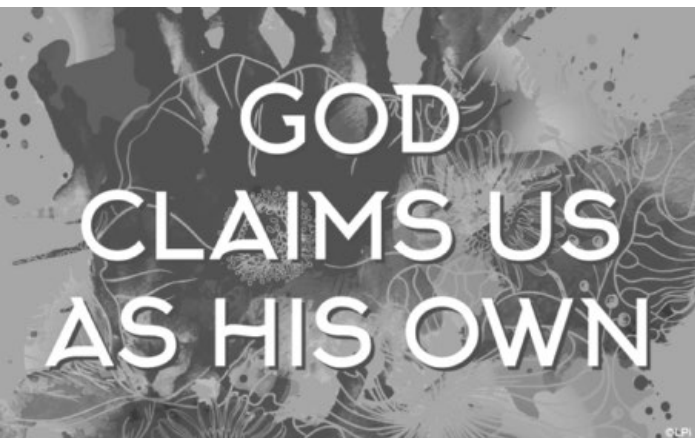
"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ." ~Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important, the likelihood of kneejerk choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims

us as His own and provides us with the purpose we need to properly live life. It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to the homeless, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding

our roles as stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear. ©LPi



EUCCHARISTIC INTENTIONS

Mon., Jan. 10: No Mass
Tues., Jan. 11: 5:30 pm
for +Jack Schauz
Wed., Jan. 12: 9:00 am
for the homeless
Thu., Jan. 13: 9:00 am
for global Unbound community
Fri., Jan. 14: 9:00 am
for a just world
Sat., Jan. 15: 5:00 am
for members of the parish
Sun., Jan. 16: 8:30 am
for +Geri Blunk
Sun., Jan. 16: 10:30 am
for +Ann McDonald

CONTACT US

Pastor: Fr. Mark McGeary
Business Mgr: Maxine McEnany
Office Manager: Laurie Delvaux
Director of Adult Faith Formation: Paulette Chapman 967-3796
Director of Music: Patty Hormann 967-3796
Coordinator of Faith Formation: Jenni Lihs 967-3796
Confirmation Coordinator: Janet Elwer 515-250-7088
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Junior High Youth Minister: Kristina Frank 319-269-8232
Faith Formation Office Assistant: Shelly Hiemer 967-3796
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Parish Nurse: Kris Flater 515-490-4843
Knights of Columbus: Jack Kopecky 515-577-0556
Website: www.ssjohnpaul.org
E-mail: ssjohnpaul@ssjohnpaul.org
FAX: 967-7197

Eucharistic Celebrations:

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
10:30 am
Online: 1st Sunday/mo. 8:30 am
Tuesday 5:30 pm
Wednesday - Friday 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 8:30-9:30 am
Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm
and by individual appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

every Monday 7:00 pm
every Tuesday 6:00 am
Wednesday-Friday 6 & 8 am

Prayer Chain: 967-3796 or
ssjohnpaul@ssjohnpaul.org

PARISH NEWS



Geraldine Blunk was buried from our parish on December 12th. May Geri and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Welcome New Members!

The West family, 35th St SW, Des Moines
The Collinworth family, Stone Creek Dr,
Pleasant Hill
The Riedemann family, 22nd Ave SW, Altoona
Please welcome these newcomers to our parish family!

SSJP'S TRIVIA NIGHT FEBRUARY 5TH

Plan on attending this great night of trivia fun to benefit Ss. John and Paul's Habitat for Humanity projects! Register your team of eight, or sign up individually and we will place you on a team. Cost is \$25/person, \$200/team of eight. There will be food, drink, prizes, 50/50 raffle and more! Registration will start in the gathering space the weekend of January 15-16. Watch for online registration coming soon. Find more information at <https://ssjohnpaul.org/trivia-night>.

PARISH CALENDAR

Mon., January 10:

Adoration, 7 pm, day chapel

Tue., January 11:

Holy Hour, 6 am, church

Staff Meeting, 10 am, FDC social room

Wed., January 12:

Holy Hour, 6 am, church & 8 am, day chapel

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 11:30 am, off campus

Parish Faith Formation LIVE, "See, I Make All Things New-Rev. 21:5, 5:30 pm, Francis Hall

Thu., January 13:

Holy Hour, 6 am, church & 8 am, day chapel

Kindermusik, 10 am, FDC rooms 3-4

Kindermusik, 11:30 am, FDC rooms 3-4

Small Faith Sharing Group, 6 pm, FDC social room

Council of Catechesis, 6:30 pm, FDC social room

Fri., January 14:

Holy Hour, 6 am, church & 8 am, day chapel

Sat., January 15:

Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am, FDC room 10

Lord's Day, January 16:

K of C Breakfast, 8:30 am, Francis Hall

CISS Meal, 5 pm, Central Iowa Shelter & Services

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



SIGN UP TO DONATE FOR CISS MEALS

Youth Ministry will be preparing and serving meals for homeless individuals at Central Iowa Shelter and Services on January 16th and 30th, and your help is needed! Stop at the table in the gathering space this weekend to sign up to donate needed groceries and supplies. Return your donations the weekend of January 15-16.

SNACK PACKS FOR THE BIG GAME

Support Youth Ministry purchasing Super Bowl Snack Packs! Each pack cost \$15 and will contain a variety of popcorn, nuts, cookies, chips and more. Look for the table to order your snack packs starting later in January.

CHILD CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of many childcare volunteers for upcoming events in January. Please check the SignUp Genius for dates and volunteer where you are able. Contact Jenni Lih, 9673796, with any questions. signupgenius.com/go/70a0e45a5ae2aa0fd0-ssjp2.

JANUARY INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION

"See, I Make All Things New"

Yes We Can **BEGIN AGAIN**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 | 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 | 5:30 PM

This month's menu

TACO LASAGNA	RICE KRISPIE TREAT
APPLE SAUCE	MILK, COFFEE & WATER

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WWW.SSJOHNPAUL.ORG

The poster features a background collage of diverse human faces. At the top, it reads "JANUARY INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION". Below this is a central graphic of a yellow sun rising over a black mountain range, with the text "See, I Make All Things New" in a circular path around the sun. Underneath the mountain are several colorful hands raised in a gesture of praise. A white banner across the middle contains the text "Yes We Can BEGIN AGAIN". Below the banner, the dates and times for the events are listed: "SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 | 5:00 PM" and "WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 | 5:30 PM". The bottom section is titled "This month's menu" and lists "TACO LASAGNA" and "APPLE SAUCE" on the left, and "RICE KRISPIE TREAT" and "MILK, COFFEE & WATER" on the right. At the very bottom, the church's name, address, website, and logo are provided.

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MEETING TIMES
 First Thursday of Month
 6:00pm Rosary
 6:20pm Dinner
 7:00pm Meeting

OFFICERS
 GK Jack Kopecky (515) 577-0556
 DGK Steve Moyna (515) 250-5530
 FS Marty DeDecker (515) 468-7772
 Mike Kockler (515) 681-2232

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