

## Mission Statement

To prepare the way of the Lord  
by connecting people to Jesus  
and to one another.

**Rev. Remigius "Remi" Okere C.S.Sp.**

**Pastor**, Rectory: 515-993-1056  
Email: okere.remi@gmail.com

**Parish Secretary, Lori Glanz**

Email: office@stjohnsadel.org  
Church Office: 515-993-4482  
Office Fax : 515-993-3973

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 am - 4 pm

**Faith Formation, Kelly Howard**

Email: re@stjohnsadel.org

Faith Formation Office: 515-993-4590

**Youth Minister & Confirmation**

**Coordinator, Jacque Seidl**

Email: youthminister@stjohnsadel.org

**Bulletin items** should be emailed to  
office@stjohnsadel.org. The deadline for  
the upcoming weekend is Tuesday at Noon.

# ST. JOHN'S



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

**December 13th, 2020**  
**3rd Sunday of Advent**

### Regular Mass Schedule

**Tuesday Mass:** 5:30 pm,  
outside weather permitting

**Wed., Thursday, & Friday:** 8:30 am

**Saturday Mass:** 4:30 pm

**Sunday Mass:** 9:00 am

**Reconciliation** is by appt. only at this  
time, please contact the office.

**Eucharistic Adoration** is held on  
Thursdays from 9 am to 9 pm.

**Join us for the Rosary** 30 minutes prior to  
weekend Mass.

Please call the office if you would like to  
**schedule a Baptism**, a class may be re-  
quired if you have not attended in the last  
3 years.

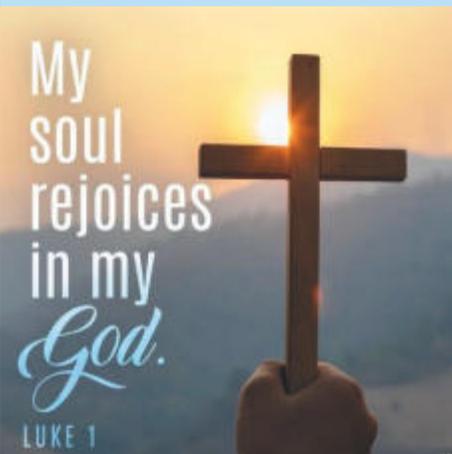
Please call at least 6 months in advance to  
**make Marriage arrangements.**

### Gospel Meditation, 3rd Sunday of Advent

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow. ©LPi



### Live the Liturgy

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you. ©LPi

**St. John's Catholic Church, 24043 302nd Place, P O Box 185, Adel,**

Go to [www.stjohnsadel.org](http://www.stjohnsadel.org) for more information, Catholic News and parish links!

Saturday, December 12th, 4:30 pm **Dorothy Meier**  
Sunday, December 13th, 9:00 am **Special Intentions for Truman Cook**  
Tuesday, December 15th, 5:30 pm **Special Intentions for Christine Gage and family**  
Wednesday, December 16th, *No morning Mass*, there will be an RE Mass at 6:30 pm, all are welcome to attend, **Special Intentions for Alecia Garrity and family**  
Thursday, December 17th, 8:30 am **Special Intentions for Catechist Martha Scanlan and family**  
Friday, December 18th, 8:30 am **Special Intentions for Catechist Lindsay Schwarte and family**  
Saturday, December 19th, 4:30 pm **Marv Dick**  
Sunday, December 20th, 9:00 am **Othmar & Dorothy Meier**



Please contact the office to schedule Mass Intentions.  
The suggested stipend is \$5 per Mass.



Fr. Remi will be offering the following opportunities for **Advent Reconciliation** downstairs in the old parish hall.

Tuesday, Dec. 15th, 6 - 7 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, 6 - 7 pm

If Fr. is meeting with someone you are welcome to wait in the lower level hallway chairs. Please wear a mask and social distance. There is no Advent Reconciliation Service this year.

Wednesday, December 23rd **No Faith Formation**

Thursday, December 24th **Christmas Eve Mass times 4 pm, 6 pm, and 8 pm.** We will be offering the opportunity to reserve a pew online beginning December 8th, No Adoration 11/24.

Friday, December 25th **Christmas Day Mass 9 am**

**We appreciate your generosity!** From celebrating daily Mass to calling parishioners, arranging outreach and more, our parish continues its mission of helping people know and love God. Please continue your tithing support so that we can continue our mission during these challenging times.



**Online Giving** is a secure and easy way to donate to our parish. If you wish to sign up for online giving you can do so by visiting our website and clicking on the give online link, if you would like help with that please contact the office.

**We have recently reached our 2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal Goal!** Thank you to everyone for your participation and generosity. Should we exceed our goal those funds will come back to St. John's and will be put into Building Savings.

### The Gift of a Christmas Concert

In a Christmas season darkened by disease, division, and discouragement, Bishop William Joensen invites you to celebrate the joy and hope of the nativity by watching *The Lessons, Reflections, and Carols of Christmas*, a livestream Christmas concert/prayer service presented by Umeri, the Drake University alumni choir, and representatives of the Diocese of Des Moines. This event, which features music, Scriptures, and reflections written especially for this celebration, was filmed at St. Ambrose Cathedral and can be accessed anytime between Dec. 12 and Jan. 6 at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd1rPwPhXYIWOod6Ln6npWg>.



December 13th, 2020  
SUNDAY'S READINGS

#### First Reading:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,  
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)

#### Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

#### Second Reading:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

#### Gospel:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.  
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### WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

\*There are now weekend Mass handouts available in the entry!

### Family-centered Advent Activities

Looking for a way to celebrate Advent at home? Check out [dm-diocese.org/Advent2020](http://dm-diocese.org/Advent2020). The diocese has put together some ideas from prayers to family friendly Christmas movies, a family activity to mark Las Posadas, suggestions for celebrating Advent feast days and more.

**Do you have Prayer Requests for the Prayer Chain?** They can be emailed or called in to the office during office hours Monday - Friday 9 am to 4 pm, 515-993-4482 or [office@stjohnsadel.org](mailto:office@stjohnsadel.org).



## The Knight Life

Thank you to those Knights who helped with the Bishop St. Nicolas celebration at the Wednesday evening RE classes.



There will be no December meeting. Our next meeting will be Jan 21st in the parish hall.

The executive council is putting together a "Power of 10" communication plan. You can help by ensuring we have current phone number and email address on file. If you have an email but have not been receiving emails from the council, send your current email contact to [finewinx2@aol.com](mailto:finewinx2@aol.com), we will get you updated. If your phone number has recently changed make sure we have that as well.

Our annual Christmas party in January is still in limbo. Please complete the survey on sign up genius to help us with this decision. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4ca4a72ca46-christmas1>

Thursday night Rosary is a great way to live your faith. It begins at 7:45 PM every Thursday. If you are looking for a way to enjoy the church in person, with a small, social distanced experience, there is usually only a few of us spread around the church as we pray the Rosary. There is room for more, come join us. If you prefer the online connection - we are live on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KofC9574>, or contact Chris O to get the conference call number.

Thank you! Your contributions of \$364 in the month of November allowed us to purchase 36 pairs of slip-on shoes, 2 pairs of sweatpants and 3 sweatshirts for the Veteran's. St John's Works of Mercy. See the thank you from the VA below!

## Faith Formation Update: Special invitation for our K-8 families and the entire parish.

This Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup> our 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade will be attending Mass led by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class. Class will follow the regular schedule and begin at 6:15 and end at 7:30. Mass starts in the church at 6:30 pm. We welcome anyone to join us, but we will be livestreaming the Mass so those who are not able to attend can still celebrate. This will be our final faith formation gathering for 2020. Have a Merry Christmas and we will see you in the New Year.

### December RCIA Part 2

Our next and last session of the year is scheduled for December 17 at 6 pm. The RCIA team and Candidates will be discussing the following:

- The Saints, our models for faithful living.
- Eschatology, which deals with what comes next.
  - At the end of a person's life
  - At the end of human history and creation
  - At the Second Coming of Christ

So far this year the RCIA journey has been very fulfilling with wonderful discussions of our faith, our church, the bible, the mass, our Lord and Jesus Christ.

Please continue to pray for the RCIA team members and Candidates.



The pew reservation sign ups for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be online through 12/23, the link is on our website. A copy of the manual reservations is in the entry. If you have changes to your reservation or need help with a reservation, please contact the office.

There will be overflow seating in the parish hall for the 4 and 6 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Seating charts will be posted at Christmas Mass for your convenience.

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
Voluntary Service

VACIHCS  
3600 30th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50310-5876

December 02, 2020

In Reply Refer To: 636A6/135

Angela Oberreuter  
St. John's Catholic Church  
30162 Meadow Rd.  
Adel, IA 50003

Dear Angela Oberreuter:

On behalf of the VACIHCS patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your donation of 36 pairs of slip-on shoes, 2 pairs of sweatpants and 3 sweatshirts.

It is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again for future events.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Timothy (Shawn) Hippen - Chief, Voluntary Service

### Registration for Catholic Youth Camp 2021 is open!

The staff at Catholic Youth Camp are busy planning to make this the most amazing summer ever! Campers driving up to the St. Thomas More Center in Panora next June, July and August will find new cabins, a renovated Dingman Lodge and double the number of paid summer staff hired to ensure safety procedures are followed so everyone can have a safe experience. **Parish families!** we will again offer a **\$150 off coupon code** for each child, made possible by our Children's Collection. Contact the office if you are interested in using a coupon code at registration. There are forms in the entry or go to [stmcenter.com](http://stmcenter.com).

**Tune in to Bishop's weekly radio show** at 9 a.m. on Fridays on Iowa Catholic Radio and the Spirit Catholic Radio Network. This Friday Bishop William Joensen will talk to a seminarian who is preparing to be ordained a transitional deacon.

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