

The Mission of St John's parish is to love God, love our neighbors, share the Gospel and build the kingdom of God.

ST. JOHN'S



CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 11th
2nd Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday

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

**Director of Liturgy & Music,
Sarah Graf**

Faith Formation, Kelly Howard

Email: re@stjohnsadel.org

Faith Formation Office: 515-993-4590

Youth Minister & Confirmation

Coordinator, Jacque Seidl

Email: youthministry@stjohnsadel.org

Bulletin items should be emailed to the office by Tuesday at 11 am.

Regular Mass Schedule

Tuesday Mass: 5:30 pm,

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

Saturday Mass: 4:30 pm

Sunday Mass: 9:00 am

Reconciliation is offered on Saturday from 3:30 to 4 pm in the lower level hall.

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

Holy Hour is Friday beginning at 6 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 required if you have not attended one in the last 3 years.

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

Gospel Meditation

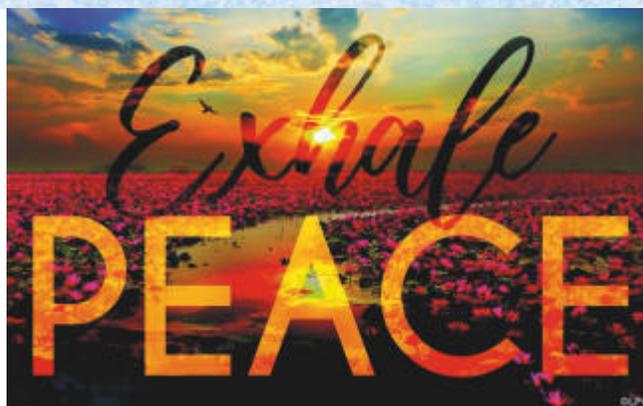
What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God's mercy, allow the wind of God's presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace.

Live the Liturgy

Alleluia! Forgiveness has risen from the grave! What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. When experienced, we are moved to do all in our power to avoid sin and embrace the loving presence of our risen God. God stands ever ready to receive us and wants nothing more than for us to come home. How reluctant we are to believe this truth! We want proof, tangible evidence and absolute assurance that what we have been told is true. Jesus has risen from the dead and brings us peace. It is the gift of wholeness and holiness that is breathed upon us by God's life-giving and healing mercy. May the rays of love that flow from the heart of Christ pierce ours! ©LPi

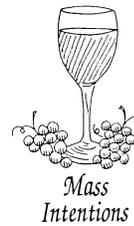


St. John's Catholic Church, 24043 302nd Place, P O Box 185, Adel, IA 50003

Go to www.stjohnsadel.org for more information, Catholic News and parish links!

Saturday, April 10th, 4:30 pm, **Marlene Ramsey**
Sunday, April 11th, 9:00 am, **Kathryn Fitzgerald**
Tuesday, April 13th, 5:30 pm, **Special Intentions for Seminarian Jake Epstein**
Wednesday, April 14th, 8:30 am, **Evelyn Bentley**
Thursday, April 15th, 8:30 am, **Special Intentions for Seminarian Reed Flood**
Friday, April 16th, 8:30 am, **St. John's Parish**
Saturday, April 17th, 4:30 pm, **Mike Schnoes**
Sunday, April 18th, 9:00 am, **Margaret Downing**

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



We welcome all who come to worship with us today!

If you are new to St. John's and would like to know more about becoming a member please contact the office or pick a welcome packet in the entry.

GRADUATING SENIORS

If you are a son or daughter of a Knights of Columbus from St. John's Council and planning on attending school next year to further your education, YOU qualify to apply for a KC Scholarship. Please contact Mike Cooper in person or at mccoop@mchsi.com or 993-3565 or 201-4200 to obtain a short application form to be completed by April 19th. So DO IT NOW! Application forms also available in Youth Office or the Church Office itself.



Knights of Columbus will be hosting Spring **Clean Up at St. John's Saturday, April 24th**, starting at 8 AM. Inside and out. Lots of help needed. We will also put together a team on this day to change out the lights in the new parish hall. Yes student help is appreciated. This can be used for honor cord hours.



Ever wonder what the Knights are all about. Sunday, April 25th after the 9 AM mass the Knights will have an Exemplification. This is the induction ceremony to join the Knights. If you are interested in joining the Knights let us know! Everyone is welcome to attend this Exemplification.

Do you have Prayer Requests for the Prayer Chain? They can be emailed or called in to the office during office hours Monday - Thursday 9 am to 4 pm, Friday 9 am to Noon. office@stjohnsadel.org or 515-993-4482. Contact Lori if you would like to join the email prayer chain.

Thank you to the 70 families who have already donated to the 2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal! We have 66% of our goal! It will take everyone's participation to reach our goal. Your gift ensures that the Church's mission of serving the people of God in southwest Iowa can continue. You can donate via a pledge card (they are available in the entry if you don't already have one) or you can give online via this link; <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving/annual-diocesan-appeal>

 Our community changed lives this Lent, and CRS Rice Bowl wants to say **THANK YOU!** Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl in the drop-box in the church entry or donate online at crsricebowl.org/give.

If you would like to set up Online Giving visit our website at www.stjohnsadel.org and click Give Online!

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)/April 11th

First Reading:

With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. (Acts 4:33)

Psalm:

Give thanks to the Lord, for his is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)

Second Reading:

Everyone who believe that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. (1 Jn 1:1a)

Gospel:

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

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. ©LPi



Blessings to Lucy Hoffman as we welcomed her to the Eucharistic Table for the first time this weekend. Our 2020-2021 sacramental preparation children will be making their First Communion during the weekend Masses on May 1, 2, 8, and 9. All First Communion Masses will be live streamed and the parish hall will be available for overflow seating. We hope you can join us for these beautiful liturgical celebrations.



St. John's will offer the opportunity to pick up a **Staley's Chicken Dinner** on **Friday, April 23rd, from 5-7 pm**. This will be a drive through dinner modeled after the Knights Fish Fry dinner. It will include a breast, leg, mashed potatoes, gravy, and green beans. The price will be \$10 per dinner. The proceeds from this dinner will go to help our youth ministry participants with the cost of the upcoming NCCY (National Catholic Youth Conference) in November. Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for scheduling this event! If you would like to sign up to help there will be a sign up sheet in the entry soon.

**Staley's has a reputation for serving great chicken!
Please share with your friends!**



Knights Life

April 15th is our monthly meeting. There will not be an online version for this meeting. Rosary at 6:15, meal by Dayton at 6:30, Meeting at 7 pm.

April 24th, spring clean up and light bulb change out at the church. NEED LOTS OF KNIGHTS. Leather gloves and rakes for outside work. Rubber glove, step ladders, and shop vacs for inside work. We will start at 8 AM.

April 25th after Mass Exemplification - get your recruits here, we can make star council this year! If you are still a 1st degree, attending this Exemplification will advance you to the 3rd degree.

April 30, May 1, and May 2 - State convention, in person in Sioux City, or online virtual Let Scanlon know if you want to represent us at this convention.

May meeting will be nominations to offices - prayerfully think about taking on a leadership role in our council. Let Scanlon, Sweers or any other officer know you are interested.

Companions on the Journey is the name of our Inter generational Faith Formation Program that we have been offering all year. Our April Session, From Turmoil to Mission, focuses on our new life in the Easter Season and will be available soon. To learn more and access past sessions go to the Companions page of the parish website <https://www.stjohnsadel.org/companions>

RCIA

Easter Sunday has come and past. We have two new members at St. John's! Please welcome Michael and Tracy Wright to our congregation. They are great people and a wonderful addition to our church family.



That said, RCIA is not over yet. This week we broke down and studied The Lord's Prayer and started Mystagogy. This is the final period of the initiation of adults. During this period, the meaning of the Sacraments is explained to those who have newly received them. The purpose of the mystagogy is to enable our new members to draw from their sacramental experience a new sense of faith, the Church and the world.

The Works of Mercy Committee invites you to take part in helping fill 3 different needs. You can choose to donate to one or all causes, any help is greatly appreciated. We've tried to offer various ways to participate - online or paper.

Please pick up a tag(s) in the entry at St. John's or sign-up to donate items via Sign-up Genius. Please return all items to St. John's entry by April 25th! Visit our website for the Sign-up Genius link under News: Works of Mercy Spring Cleaning Collection. Thank your for your participation in these worthy causes!



Catholic Youth Camp at the St. Thomas More Center at Lake Panorama is planning for the best summer ever! Head to stmcenter.com to **secure your spot for CYC 2021**. Contact St. John's office for a coupon code that will allow you to save \$150 per child, made possible by the children's collection!

In 2020 St. John's committee members completed a new strategic plan for St. John's based on parishioner input. One of the goals created from that plan was to strengthen, nurture, and enhance the sacramental and liturgical life of our parish by offering a more planned approach to liturgy and music. That and the coordination needed to livestream Mass indicated the need to hire a part time director of music and liturgy.

We are very happy to announce that we filled the new position after interviewing 3 applicants and are confident that our new director has the expertise and experience to help us meet our goals. Sarah Graf will begin working at St. John's the week after Easter and will join us for Mass on April 10th and 11th when Fr. Remi will formally introduce her.

Mike Cooper has served an invaluable role in our parish and music program for nearly 50 years. In addition to leading our music program and liturgical ministries, he has worn many other hats while serving St. John's. Mike, "thank you" seems inadequate for everything you've done for our parish throughout the years. We hope you will continue sharing your gift of music with our parishioners for years to come! We are grateful to all of the musicians and choir members who continue to share so much of their time and talent and look forward to the day when we can once again sing together at Mass!



Meet our new Director of Liturgy and Music, Sarah Graf!

A native of the West Des Moines area, Sarah Graf grew up in the Sacred Heart parish. During high school, she attended St. Francis of Assisi where she first learned to play piano for Mass. In 1996, she toured with Joe Mattingly's Newman Singers. Upon graduation from the University of Iowa, she got a job working in Chicago as a project manager in financial services. She rejoined music ministry in 2008 after a parishioner at Old St. Pat's heard her singing at Mass and invited her to meet the music director afterwards.

Eventually discerning that she should return to music full-time, Sarah re-enrolled at the University of Iowa for a second bachelor's - this time in Vocal Performance. Led home, she taught general music and choir for 5-8th graders at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School for three years. In 2018, she joined St. Boniface as their Director of Music and general Jill-Of-All-Trades, which included training and coordinating liturgical ministry volunteers, designing and launching a live-stream solution, graphic design, and communications (bulletin, website, social media, and electronic newsletter). Sarah is on the board for the Des Moines Diocese chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM), an organization dedicated to fostering the art of musical liturgy.

Sarah is thrilled to be joining the St. John's community and looks forward to meeting everyone! Her passions are teaching children to sing for liturgy, coaching others, making really good music, tennis, RAGBRAI, and her dickens of a miniature schnauzer, Snickers.

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