

Cluster Parishes

Nov 29, 2020

Riverside Richmond Wellman

"To Know God and Make God Known Through Word, Worship, Fellowship, and Service"



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." - Mt 25:34

Mass Intentions

Dec 2 to Dec 6

Wed 8:30am	SJ	TBA
Thu 8:30am	HT	Verliena Becker
Fri 8:30am	SM	Ed Brophy
Sat 5:00pm	SJ	People of the Cluster
Sun 8:00am	HT	Tom Kallaus
Sun 10:00am	SM	Paul Schnoebelen

St. Mary's

Weekly Goal	\$ 1,677
Actual	\$ -
YTD* Collection	\$ 27,899
YTD Goal	\$ 35,217
Under/Over	- \$ 7,318

Holy Trinity

Weekly Goal	\$ 1,542
Actual	\$ -
YTD* Collection	\$ 16,775
YTD Goal	\$ 32,382
Under/Over	- \$ 15,607

St. Joseph's

Weekly Goal	\$ 644
Actual	\$ -
YTD* Collection	\$ 3,712
YTD Goal	\$ 13,524
Under/Over	- \$ 9,812

Pastor

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roushw@diodav.org

Deacon

Dcn. Derick Cranston
Pastoral Associate
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Cluster Parish Staff

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Director of Religious Ed

Rosemary Fiagle
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Merging

As some of you have read in the Catholic Messenger, we have been contemplating merging in order to be in accordance with the Pastoral Plan of the Diocese. Some things to note:

- Within the next year—out of our 55 active priests in the Davenport Diocese - 12 will be 70 years old and eligible for retirement. That will leave us with 33 active priests
- Within the next 10 years, it is expected there will be only one priest per county
- There are no plans of closing any parish in our Cluster if we merge, and each parish will get the individual attention they have always received
- Our parishes have nothing to lose, but will gain in assets and investment from each other

After we merge, most parishioners will not see any real difference in how we operate, or even recognize that a merger has even taken place.

Please note though:

- “Cluster Parishes” is not a canonical name and we will have to be creative in renaming our Cluster
- Some examples would be “St. Joseph’s of the Holy Family, St. Mary’s of the Holy Family, or Holy Trinity of the Holy Family”, keeping our individual identities
- Another example could be “St. Mary’s and St. Joseph’s of the Holy Trinity” (again, keeping our individual identities)

No names have been decided, but I would like for everyone to contemplate upon this. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. We will be three small voices in our Diocese, but one family with a stronger voice. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

May God Bless You
- Fr Bill

Fr. Bill's Weekly Reflection

Below is Fr Bill's Reflection from last week

What is the role of a king? To wear fine clothes and a glittering crown? To host glamorous parties for the nobility and aristocrats of his kingdom? To rule his subjects with a firm hand and obtain glory and honors for himself? Maybe. But that is not how Jesus portrays a king in this Sunday's Gospel.

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, but the readings do not give us a picture of a haughty monarch. Instead we read, "As a shepherd tends his flock...I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest...The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal..."

When we speak of Jesus as King, we must discard our earthly and historical notions of kingship. Forget about palaces and thrones, royal purple garments and crowns made of gold. Instead, picture a shepherd who lives and dwells among his sheep, rescuing them and protecting them.

And what about those he rules over? A historical and earthly king would see his subjects as a source of personal revenue through taxation. Or maybe as fodder to serve in his armies to bring him personal glory through domination and conquest. Not so, with Jesus our King.

To enter Christ's Kingdom, we are expected to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, comfort the sick, and visit the imprisoned. In other words, to have love and compassion for the most vulnerable.

Jesus our King gave us the supreme example of compassion and love when he sacrificed Himself on the cross for us. We too are called to make sacrifices to help the most vulnerable. During this pandemic, there are things we can do to protect those most vulnerable to COVID-19.

We can make the small sacrifice of wearing a mask in public at all times. We can make it a habit to sanitize our hands frequently, and avoid indoor gatherings. By doing our part, we can protect the elderly and those most compromised. Will you do your part to protect the most vulnerable?

May God Bless You Always!
- Fr Bill

Vocations Awareness - Male Religious Orders

Religious brothers usually live in a community with other religious brothers. They can work outside the community in any other occupation. Often they are teachers. Some brothers are cloistered which means they spend all their time in a monastery praying and working. New Melleray Abbey near Dubuque Iowa is an example of a cloistered community. It was founded in 1849. More information about new Melleray is available at the follow website: newmelleray.org

For more information about men's religious orders go to davenportvocations.org. Click on "HOW AM I CALLED" then click on "Religious Life".

Condolences

Condolences to the family of Joseph Martinez who passed away on Nov 16th. "Eternal rest, grant unto him O' Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him."

Prayer Requests

Please contact Fr Bill or Dcn Derick if you have any Prayer Intentions. We will put them in the Prayer Intentions Basket and offer them up at Mass.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Please continue to send birthday and anniversary announcements to Fr Bill or Dcn Derick. We will announce them after Mass.

Gift of Grain

If you farm, one way to help financially support your parish is to donate a load of grain. It may be tax deductible and benefit you as well.

Know Someone Who Needs a Bulletin?

If so, please let us know and we would be happy to mail them a hard copy of the bulletin. Please email Jane Duwa at rvsec@iowatelecom.net with the person's name and mailing address.

Facebook Scams

Fr. Bill does not communicate through Facebook Messenger. If you need to communicate with him please use cell phone or e-mail.

Wounded by Abortion?

Project Rachel can help. They understand the emotional pain that follows an abortion. Please call the Helpline: [563-333-4107](tel:563-333-4107) or [1-888-456-HOPE](tel:1-888-456-HOPE). Mon, Wed, and Fri from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Prayer for Vocations

Almighty God, you created us to share in your divine life. Pour out your spirit on our diocese that we may be a fruitful church.

Bless us:

With zealous priests and deacons;

With prayerful religious sisters and brothers;

With faithful married couples;

With loving persons who live for the kingdom of heaven.

Grant us discerning hearts,
To love you more deeply
And to serve as Jesus served,
In whose name we pray.
Amen.

Mary, model for all vocations,
pray for us.



Emmaus Groups

Please consider joining a “Discipleship Quad” to participate in an Emmaus Group.

These are four-person prayer groups that are very infor-

mal and flexible to accommodate your schedule. Information and videos can be found at clusterparishes.org. Click the “Communications & Resources” tab, and click on Emmaus Groups.

You may also contact Dcn Derick derick-cranston@gmail.com (319) 936-0927, or Fr Bill roushw@diodav.org (319) 430-6888.

Let Us Pray For an End to This Pandemic

As a priest, we have a prayer for each vestment that can be prayed as we put it on in preparation for the Mass. I suggest that each of us make this a new habit when we done our mask for the first time each day during this pandemic.

A Prayer for Putting on a Face Mask

Creator God, as I prepare to go into the world, help me to the sacramental nature of wearing of this cloth. Let it be a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbors, as I love myself.

Christ Jesus, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes. Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit, as the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully and caringly to all those I meet. May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner, and may each breath that it holds, be filled with Your love. In Your name and in that love, I pray. Amen

Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator
Presbyterian Church of Canada

We must keep in mind that wearing a mask is not just a device that we put on out of fear that we may catch Covid. But that it is an act of love for our neighbor that helps prevent the spread of Covid to those who are elderly and compromised, ie our parents grandparents. My hope is that this helps us realize the value of compassion for the other.

May God Bless You Always!

Fr. Bill, Deacon Derick and the Staff of the Cluster Parishes

clusterparishes.org



New Website! clusterparishes.org

You will find a new and modern look with added features that our old website lacked. These features include:

- A Rotating Calendar
- Maps to Each Parish
- A History of Each Parish
- Lots of Photos

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