

# Cluster Parishes

Jan 10, 2021

Riverside Richmond Wellman

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



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

**Mass Intentions**  
Jan 13 to Jan 17

Wed 8:30am SJ Richard & Dorothy Stumpf  
Thu 8:30am HT Virginia McAndrew  
Fri 8:30am SM Robert Ruth  
Sat 5:00pm SJ Patricia Sieren  
Sun 8:00am HT Kathy Thompson  
Sun 10:00am SM People of the Cluster

**St. Mary's**

Weekly Goal \$ 1,677  
Actual \$ 2,985  
YTD\* Collection \$ 40,857  
YTD Goal \$ 45,279  
Under/Over - \$ 4,422

**Holy Trinity**

Weekly Goal \$ 1,542  
Actual \$ 6,861  
YTD\* Collection \$ 31,741  
YTD Goal \$ 41,634  
Under/Over - \$ 9,893

**St. Joseph's**

Weekly Goal \$ 644  
Actual \$ -  
YTD\* Collection \$ 3,712  
YTD Goal \$ 17,388  
Under/Over - \$ 13,676

**Pastor**

Rev. Fr. Bill Roush  
319-648-2331  
319-430-6888  
[roushw@diodav.org](mailto:roushw@diodav.org)

**Deacon**

Dcn. Derick Cranston  
*Pastoral Associate*  
319-936-0927  
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**Cluster Parish Office**

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**Cluster Parish  
Staff**

**Business Administrator**

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**Financial Secretary**

Tami Edwards  
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Rosemary Fagle  
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**Parish Council  
Commissions**

**Liturgy**

**St. Mary's** - Barb Simon  
email: [rbsimonia@aol.com](mailto:rbsimonia@aol.com)

**Holy Trinity** - Mary Capper  
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**St. Joseph's** - Junell Duwa  
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**Faith Formation**

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**Holy Trinity** - Lisa TeBockhorst  
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**St. Joseph's** - Angie Goodwin  
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**Church & Parish Life**

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**Justice, Peace, & Social Action**

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**St. Joseph's** - Leslie Slaubaugh  
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**Stewardship**

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**Holy Trinity** - Karen Brandt  
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**St. Joseph's** - Jeff Horesowsky  
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**Family Life**

**St. Mary's** - Jean Lenz  
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**Holy Trinity** - Hayley Hershberger  
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**St. Joseph's** - Barb Eash  
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## Weekly Reflection

The stunning beauty of God's Grace working through creation, is an amazing thing to behold. Fourteen billion years ago, hydrogen isotopes came into existence with the creation of the universe. These isotopes formed enormous gas and dust clouds which spread throughout space, and eventually cooled and coalesced into stars.

Hundreds of millions of years later, these stars exploded and spread "interstellar dust" across the cosmos. Trapped inside these dust clouds were the elements of hydrogen, as well as oxygen, which had been created in a nuclear fusion just before the star exploded.

After billions of years, planets were formed out of these revolving dust clouds and one of these planets was earth. When earth's temperature began to cool, molten rocks released water vapor which had formed from the hydrogen and oxygen trapped inside them.

When the Earth's surface had cooled below the boiling point of water, rain began to fall—and continued to fall for centuries. As water drained into the great crevices and hallows of the earth's surface, oceans, seas, and rivers were formed.

One of these rivers was named the Jordan, and 2000 years ago within its flowing waters, a man was baptized. In the beginning this man was the Word, and "...the Word was with God, and the Word was God." All things came to be through him - including the waters of the Jordan river in which he was baptized, and revealed as the Son of God.

These transformative events, which started 14 billion years ago, still continue to have a glorious effect on us today. During the rite of Baptism, an invocation is said over the water reminding us that, "...in the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, a mighty wind swept over the waters."

The prayer goes on to eloquently state that: it was through the waters of the great flood that Noah found new life; that through the waters of the Red Sea, God led Israel out of slavery to become an image of God's holy people; and in the waters of the Jordan Jesus was baptized by John.

From the formation of miniscule elements at the beginning of time, a series of cosmic events, and the baptism of Christ the Grace of God comes down upon us through baptism. Quite and amazing thing to behold, isn't it.

*God Bless*

## Blood Drive

Sponsored by the Optimist Club of Kalona Mon Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 2:30 – 7:30 pm at Kalona Mennonite Church - 902 6<sup>th</sup> St, Kalona, IA. Masks and Appointments are required. To schedule please contact Donna Merck at 319-430-9283 [donnamerck371@gmail.com](mailto:donnamerck371@gmail.com) or Deanna Poe at 319-330-5765 [deannakctc.net](http://deannakctc.net). Please eat before donating and bring a photo ID.

## Confession

If you would like me to hear your confession, I encourage you to contact me if you would like me to hear your confession. My phone # is (319) 430-6888, and we can meet before or after Mass, or a better suited time. - Fr Bill

## Ritzinger Scholarship

Applications for the Marguerite Ritzinger scholarship of the Diocese of Davenport are being accepted now through Feb. 1, 2021. Catholic Individuals who plan to attend a college or university next fall may apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. Nontraditional students may apply for the scholarships

## Birthdays, Anniversaries, Prayer Intentions

Please continue to contact us if you have a birthday, anniversary, or prayer intention.

## Stimulus Money Scams

Please be on the alert for Stimulus Money Scams. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reminds Americans to keep in mind the following:

No government agency will ask you to pay anything up front to get your stimulus check. "Anyone who does is a scammer," the FTC says.

The government also will not call, text, email, or contact you on social media to ask for your Social Security, bank account, or credit card number.

You cannot get your money earlier or faster through third parties. The FTC says, "Anyone who says they can hook you up now (or soon) is both lying and a scammer."

## How to Get Help

If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, report it to the FBI at 1-800-225-5324 or Department of Health and Human Services at 1-800-447-8477 or the Iowa Attorney General's office at 515-281-5926.

## 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, and 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*

There is  
always, always,  
always something  
to be grateful for.

Rhonda Byrne



### **What is Consecrated Life?**

Consecrated life is a gift given by Christ who chooses a person individually to respond to His great love in a special relationship. He asks that person to leave some aspects of the world (such as marriage and following secular goals) to put themselves at the service of their brothers and sisters.

Furthermore, consecrated life is a vocation just as marriage and diocesan priesthood are. Both men and women can choose to consecrate their lives to Christ as a way to seek an intimate relationship with Him.

These men and women live the truth that only Christ can satisfy the deepest longings in a person's heart and witness that this union provides a deeper joy than the secular world can give. In effect they are previewing the way we will relate to Christ in heaven.

If you feel called to learn more about religious life, please contact the Office of Vocations at [davenportvocations.org](http://davenportvocations.org) or 563-888-4255

*Courtesy of Kansas City, Kansas Office of Vocations and Vianney Vocations.*

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