

Parish Offices—Neumann Hall

563-562-3045 cfosparishes.org 107 E. South Street, P.O. Box 819 Calmar, IA 52132

Pastor and Parish Staff:

Rev. G. Robert Gross, Pastor dbq019@dbqarch.org St. Aloysius Rectory: 563-562-3603

> Deacon Dan O'Brien dbq019d@dbqarch.org 563-737-2580

Denise Uhlenhake, Business Manager dbq019sec@dbqarch.org 563-562-3045

> Patty Frana, Pastoral Minister pfrana76@gmail.com 563-419-5070

Ruth Bily, Secretary, St. Wenceslaus Parish bilyfarm@mchsi.com 563-562-3450

Faith Formation and Youth Programs

Yvette Andersen, Director of Faith Formation 107 E. South St., P.O. Box 819 Calmar, IA 52132 yandersen.cfsr@gmail.com 563-562-3045; 319-415-5719

Education and Faith Formation

St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School Kristin Kriener, Principal kkriener@st-teresa.pvt.k12.ia.us

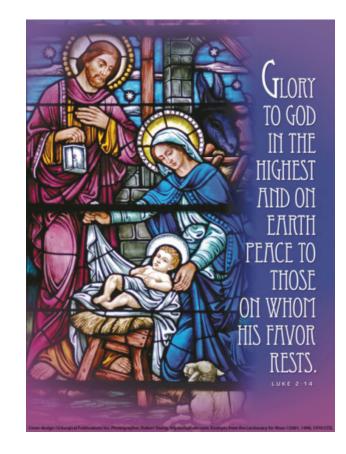
Ossian Site and Central Office: 414 E. Main St., Ossian, IA 52161; 563-532-9353 Spillville Site: 208 Church St., Spillville, IA; 563-562-3617 Jenni Busarow, Lead Teacher jbusarow@st-teresa.pvt.k12.ia.us

Calmar PK Site: 302 S. Maryville, Calmar 563-562-1018

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday—Festina 4:00 p.m.; Spillville 6:00 p.m. Sunday—Ossian 8:00 a.m.; Calmar 10:00 a.m. (livestreamed) Facebook.com/CFOSparishes

December 25 & 26, 2021 *Readings are found at #796-799*



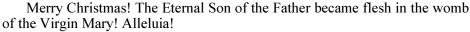
Office Hours: 8 a.m-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday

Bulletin Deadline: <u>Wednesday at 8:00 a.m.</u> Email to DBQ019sec@dbqarch.org Or mail to P.O. Box 819, Calmar, IA 52132

The Holy Family

Dear Parishioners,

December 26, 2021



I want to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas! I pray that this time

together with family and with the community of the Church will strengthen your hope as we worship the newborn King of Peace, Jesus Christ!

During this Advent season, I've had a lot of conversations with young people at school, at faith formation, and other settings. I found out something about our children and young people. Many, many of them love the Church. They love going to church and they love the Mass. Here's a story to illustrate that.

Last month, Mrs. Angie McIntyre videotaped a touching and powerful moment in the pre-school. Two of the students came into the pre-school, got their binders out that they have for their classes and activities. Before school started they started to play a game and it was "play church," time. They pretended that their blue binders were hymnals and they started to sing the Lamb of God and the Alleluia from Holy Mass.

These two preschool students come to Mass each week and from that little video we see how Mass is starting to get inside of them. They are singing the most powerful words, "Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us...Alleluia." Those words filled with praise of God for what he has done, comes from the lips of little children.

It reminds me again, children are like sponges. They are soaking up everything whether we know it or not, whether we perceive it or not. These two students love church and Holy Mass. I pray that love never fades or cools.

Children love God. Children need God and the Church is where they learn about Jesus. Please bring them to Mass and along with your children allow God to feed your souls. You will be fed with the Lord and his goodness. What is important to us will be important to our kids. I pray the Lord Jesus will be the great treasure that we will share with our children because He is the only gift that endures forever!

Merry Christmas and may God bless you!

E. Kren

Pastor St. Aloysius Parish, Calmar Our Lady of Seven Dolors Parish, Festina St. Francis de Sales Parish, Ossian St. Wenceslaus Parish, Spillville



Leadings for the

Monday, December 27—No Mass Reading 1: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Responsorial: Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12] Gospel: Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday, December 28—No Mass Reading 1: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Responsorial: Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7] Gospel: Mt 2:13-1

Wednesday, December 29—No Mass 10:30 a.m. Prayer Service—Ossian Senior Hospice Reading 1: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Responsorial: Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a] Gospel: Lk 2:22-35

Thursday, December 30— No Mass Reading 1: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Responsorial: Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a] Gospel: Lk 2:36-40 **Friday, December 31**— No Mass Reading 1: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Responsorial: Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a] Gospel: Jn 1:1-1



The parish office will be CLOSED this week from noon December 27 through the 31st so our staff may celebrate the Christmas season with their families.

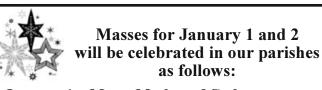
Fr. Gross will be with family and will preside at the wedding of his niece in Texas December 27-January 7

In case of an emergency requiring the service of a priest, please contact Fr. Dan Knipper 563-568-7913 or Fr. Don Hertges 563-543-8238

Please note that, due to many early bulletin upload deadlines ahead of Christmas and the New Year, financial reports for the parishes are not available. We will resume again in January.



The Holy Family



January 1—Mary, Mother of God 4:00 p.m. Our Lady of Seven Dolors 6:00 p.m. St. Wenceslaus

January 2—The Epiphany 8:00 a.m. St. Francis de Sales 10:00 a.m. St. Aloysius

Please remember your parish as you plan your endof-year giving. <u>All donations must be received or</u> <u>postmarked no later than December 31, 2021</u>, to be posted to the current year's contributions. Thank you for your generous and continuing support of our parish ministries!



Thank you for remembering us this Christmas and for your kind words, cards, and acts of kindness now and throughout the year. It is our blessing to serve you.

May you also be blessed abundantly in the coming year.

- Fr. Gross
- Deacon Dan & Kim O'Brien
- Patty Frana, Pastoral Minister
- Yvette Andersen, Director of Faith Formation

8:00 a.m. Early Bulletin Deadline

Like us, our bulletin publishers are looking forward to the upcoming New Year holiday, so please make note of this early deadline:

◊ January 2 bulletin items due Monday, Dec. 27

December 26, 2021

Our Lady of Seven Dolors

Saturday, January 1— 4:00 p.m. Mass Mass Intention: People of the Parishes

Servers:	Bailey & Bentley Kuennen, Cameron Einck
Rosary:	JoAnn Franzen, Elaine Heying
Lector:	Judy Busch
Ushers:	Larry Lechtenberg, Jerry Busch
Offertory:	Richard & Linda Heying

Thank you for the generous donation to Our Lady of Seven Dolors Church by the John Kopecky Trust of Altoona. Gifts such as this are an important part of our calling to be stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us to be used glorifying God, His Church and His people.

Better odds than a Lottery Ticket! St. Teresa's family are selling MarketMania Tickets. Purchase a ticket and "own" 3 different stocks. the stocks with the largest gain and largest loss each week win. 10 weeks of winning! Odds of winning: 1 in 13.5. Price: \$20/ticket. These tickets make great Christmas Gifts. Purchase from a St. Teresa family or contact Jergen Teslow at school.

Inquiries regarding availability of the Festina Parish Center may be directed to this team of volunteer managers:

Justin & Angie Einck 563-419-4766 or 419-4877 Steve & Marilyn Einck 563-534-7724 Terry & Mary Ann Wenthold 563-534-7739

St. Wenceslaus

Saturday, January 1 — 6:00 p.m. Mass Mass Intention: +Dwayne & Phyllis Hauber +Edward & Mildred Silhacek

Servers:	Tessa Phillips, Evan Bushman
Music:	Sharon Kleve
Lector:	Barb Spencer
Ushers:	Linus Kleve, Mark Balik
Offertory:	Dave Mashek
Communion:	Connie Hauber
Counters:	Alan Hauber, Mark Balik, Volunteers

Sanctuary lamp burns in loving memory of Joseph & Corine McNeil the week of December 26th.

A big thank you to St. Wenceslaus Parish for the outstanding reception for the opera performers on Saturday evening, December 11. The curtain calls and standing ovations were truly awesome - a sign of appreciation! They hope to schedule a future encore performance. Ken Zajicek - President of the Czech Heritage Partnership.

Our parish is in need of more volunteers to lector, usher, serve, bring up offertory and count money. Please contact Rochelle Bushman to offer your ministry in these important ways.

The Holy Family

St. Wenceslaus is in need of someone to do the ministry scheduling starting with the April 2022 schedule. Many thanks to Rochelle Bushman who has been doing the scheduling for 10 years! As she steps down, Rochelle will gladly train a new person. Please contact Rochelle and offer your service to the parish in this important way.

If anyone has something that was donated either by them or their family to the historical museum in the convent and would like it back, please contact Delores Ira, 562-3691. Thank you!

St. Francis de Sales

Sunday, January 2 — 8:00 a.m. Mass Mass Intention: +Living/Deceased of Herbert Wenthold Family +Daniel Lee Brincks

Sacristan:	Terri Wenthold
Greeters:	Mike & Lori Lechtenberg
Rosary	Terri Wenthold
Servers:	Claire & Charlie Becker, Landon & Josie
	Hemesath
Music:	Deb, Mike, Clark, Regan & Trey
Readings:	Terri Wenthold
Offertory:	Ron & Barb Moellers
Communion:	Deacon Dan, Diane Henning, Lee Hageman

Eucharistic Ministry to Ossian Senior Hospice: December 26—Joan Ameling, January 2—Paul & Carolyn Rael, January 9—Sandy Meyer

Thank you for additional flower donations made to date (at early publication time) in memory of: Eric Rodas & Shane Rodas by Barb & Ron Moellers; Elmer Hemesath by DeAnn; Monte Martin, Palmer, Florence & Mark Johnson, Robert & Shirley Sadler by Jean Martin & Family; John Zweibahmer by Teresa; Martha & Karen Mikota by Ed, Ken Wiltgen from Carol & Family; and from Richard & Colleen Uhlenhake

As our church looks forward to celebrating the 25th anniversary of its dedication (March 28, 1998), we are looking at various improvements and maintenance needs. If you are interested in serving on a decorating committee which is now being formed, please contact Denise at the parish office: dbq019sec@dbqarch.org or 563-562-3045.

Thank you and many blessings to Kassia Zweibohmer who has accepted the role of First Vice President to Brandi Hemesath in 2022! If you are willing to serve as Second Vice, please contact Brandi or Kassia.

December 26, 2021

Better odds than a Lottery Ticket! St. Teresa's family are selling MarketMania Tickets. Purchase a ticket and "own" 3 different stocks. the stocks with the largest gain and largest loss each week win. 10 weeks of winning! Odds of winning: 1 in 13.5. Price: \$20/ticket. These tickets make great Christmas Gifts. Purchase from a St. Teresa family or contact Jergen Teslow at school.

St. Aloysius

Saturday, January 2 — 10:00 a.m. Mass Mass Intention: +Stephen & Arlene Lensing +Conrad & Gert Hageman

+Brad Hurst Sr.

Sacristan: Servers:	Sharon Huber Logan Hageman, Braiden Todd, Peyton Elsbernd
Lector:	Kristi Creek
Communion:	Carol Cameron, Dawn French

Prayerful condolences to family and friends at the death of Pat Timp whose funeral was Monday. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace! May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Congratulations and blessings to Jergen and Christina (Timp) Teslow as two souls were united as one for a lifetime of love this week. May Jesus always be the center of your married life!

Any person, couple, or family who would like to be on the rotation list to present the offertory gifts at Sunday Mass is asked to give Mary Hageman a call at 563.419.6850.

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Christmas Vacation ~ December 20th-January 3rd Merry Christmas and God's blessings to you all!

Thank you for your dedicated support throughout the year as we strive to fulfill our mission to educate our students to their highest level of achievement in an educational environment permeated by faith and Gospel values. Without you, our school could not exist. Thank you for your support, your presence, and your prayers all year long!



Welcome to our parish community! If you come as a visitor, we hope you leave as a friend. Thank you for celebrating with us. If you're returning to Mass for the first time in a while, welcome back! We invite you to join us regularly. If you are not Catholic, we welcome you and encourage your participation in prayer. Sing, make the sign of the cross, kneel, bow, or genuflect as you feel comfortable in worship. While we cannot invite you to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward at communion time with arms crossed to receive a blessing, if you wish. We are happy you are here!





We lift our prayers to all the ill or suffering in our parishes and families, especially:

- Peggy Novak, St. Wenceslaus
- Marian Wiltgen, St. Francis de Sales
- Anna May Schneberger, Our Lady of Seven Dolors
- Elyse Meyer Eastman
- Special Intention (EH)
- Pat Heying, St. Francis de Sales
- Evelyn Hruska
- •Sharon Riha
- •Alan Heying, St. Francis de Sales
- •All sick and suffering in our parishes and families

Names will be removed from this list after four weeks unless the parish office is notified. **We want to pray for you!** To add or remove a name from this prayer list, please contact Denise at the parish office in Calmar.

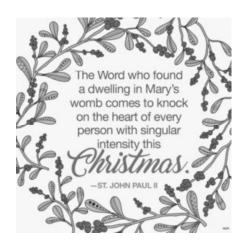
Good help is hard to find! Without providers, our Child Care Center will not be able to continue in operation. St. Teresa of Calcutta Child Care Center is in dire need of childcare providers for all ages in Ossian. Please contact Kristin Kriener at kkriener@st-teresa.pvt. k12.ia.us to apply for full-time or part-time positions.

Are your friendships a visitation? Are you eager to learn more about the Visitation? To gain insights into Mary and Elizabeth? To join in prayer with your sisters in Christ? Please join hundreds of other beautiful women for an extraordinary morning reflecting on Mary, Our Blessed Mother and her cousin, Elizabeth! 2022 Virtual Women's Conference, Beauty in Christ: Holy Women of the Visitation, Saturday, January 29, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Whether you join from the comfort of your own home or gather with other women from your parish, you'll experience all the great features of our annual women's conference: Archbishop Jackels, two national speakers Emily Jaminet and Liz Kelly, music, prayer, worship, conversation, and prizes! Invite your daughters, sisters, and friends to this extraordinary conference!! To read more about our speakers and to register (group discounts available): https://www.archwomensconference.org

One of the aspects of marriage preparation is a retreat weekend or retreat day which emphasize areas important to a marriage. Many events are available throughout the Archdiocese. Dates and locations, registration, and other information are available at the following links:

- Pre-Cana: www.dbqarch.org/pre-cana
- Engaged Encounter: www.dbqarch.org/engagedencounter
- Two Become One Remarriage: www.dbqarch.org/ TwoBecomeOne

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.



HOLY FAMILY EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.



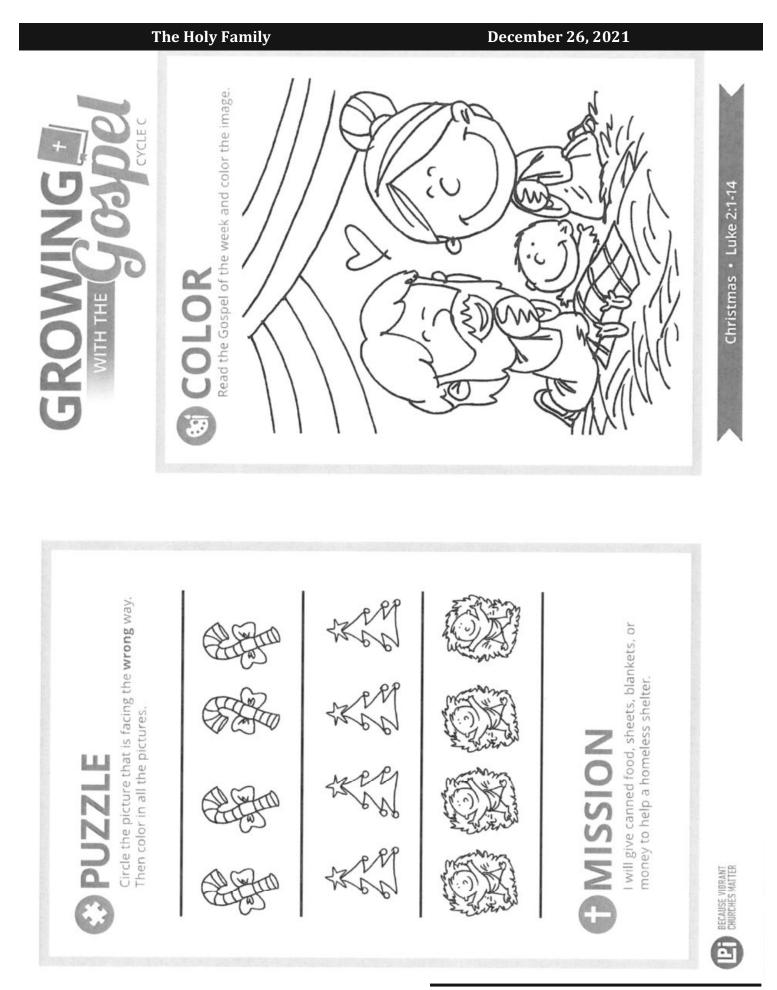
The Joy of Christmas

The Christmas joy is of contagious—but not primarily because of our gifts of dolls and trucks, bikes and pretty dresses, sweaters and ties...The joy of Christmas is contagious because of the spirit behind the gifts. The glory of Christmas is that a gracious God became one of us to tell us that He loves us. And, in his or her Christmas giving, the genuine believer symbolizes his or her inner desire to spread this Good News.

In Christmas we celebrate Incarnation! On Christmas Day we rejoice! The eternal God comes into the flesh and blood of humanity. Christmas cards portray the little Babe, the Manger, the Magi, the shepherds. Little children learn that Christmas is Jesus' birthday. But these pieces of the story only touch the edge of the mysterious event which brings us together. The Good News is that the God of Mercy has come into the history of humanity to bring us perfect peace. For the peace of mind and heart and soul that the world cannot give, follow Jesus. And when you follow Jesus, do not be surprised to see others following you. After all, the spirit of Christmas is contagious.

> Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

> > LUKE 2:14





For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

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