



St. Benedict Parish



First Holy Communion

WELCOME TO THE TABLE OF THE LORD!

SUNDAY,
APRIL 24, 2022

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Donald Hertges, Pastor
Nick Francois, Deacon
Steve Haluska, Principal
Bonnie Breja, Business Manager,
Development Director
Tyler Wheeler, Pastoral Associate
Karie Valkosky, Parish Secretary,
Director of Religious Education

CONTACT US

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ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL

563-382-4668
WEBSITE: www.st-ben.pvt.k12.ia.us

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Deadline: Wednesdays, 8:00am
Email to: k.valkosky@dbqarch.org

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Counseling: 563-382-1231
Immigration: 319-364-7121

WEEKEND MASSES

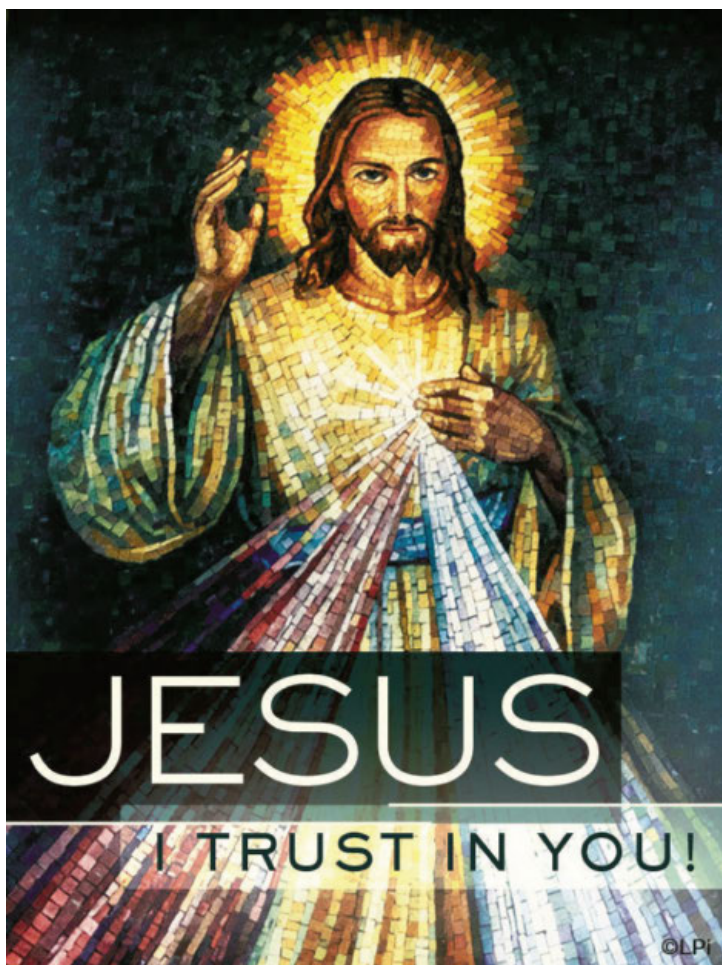
Saturday Mass: 5:30pm
Sunday Masses:
7:30am, 10:00am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday: 5:30pm, Church
Wednesday & Thursday: 7:00am, Church
Fridays through the school year: 9:00am, St. Ben's School

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:30-5:00pm, Confessional
Sunday: 9:00-9:30am, Confessional
Other times, by appointment



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER HERTGES

Please keep in your prayers *all* our children who are making their First Holy Communion this Sunday and their families, as the reception of this second sacrament of initiation is truly a spiritual milestone in the life of every young Roman Catholic.

I also like to especially remind parents that now that your son or daughter has received Jesus in the Eucharist, *they have a right to receive Him truly present (Body, Blood, Soul and Dignity) every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation hereafter.* In other words, no sporting or other secular events held on weekends should be permitted to hinder families and individuals from attending Mass and partaking in the most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.

While I am on the topic of Eucharist, sacrament, and blood, I wish to communicate with everyone that *I do not plan to reintroduce the cup containing the Blood of Christ to the lay faithful at the present time.* Just prior to our March celebration of the sacrament of confirmation, I telephoned Archbishop Jackels to ask his advice on offering the common cup to the laity at Mass. His response was to the effect that the pastor still has final say in what is or isn't offered at Mass, but at the same time he shared with me that he thought it is still good for us to exercise due prudence in this regard. In addition to this, he expressed his thoughts more fully through a communique with all the priests just prior to Holy Week that I will share with you in its entirety below:

Of late, I've heard some priests are pondering or planning to resume distributing Holy Communion under both species to the congregation. A Pastor may resume the practice, but isn't required. Nor are congregants required to receive both species; if they're concerned about contagion, they can abstain. For my part, in keeping with the 2003 norms developed by Archbishop Hanus, I don't intend to place any restriction on the practice of Communion under both species. It's not only permitted, but encouraged to offer the cup whenever Mass is celebrated, especially on Sundays and other holy days of obligation, because it provides...A fuller form of the sacramental sign; an option for those who are gluten intolerant; and defense against clericalism, if only clerics were to receive both species. Speaking of clerics, when a deacon assists at any Mass, he should receive under both species, from the same or a separate chalice, even if the cup isn't offered to the people.

Having stated and quoted all that, my thoughts on this are as follows in that I do not know what people's comfort levels are regarding drinking out of cups offered to the liturgical assembly at Mass. I am just ecstatic that people are coming back to church consistently in good numbers over the past six weeks. Even in pre-pandemic times it was always a guessing game of sorts as to how many hosts and wine to prepare for consecration at Mass as *some-one* must consume the remainder of the Precious Blood of Christ at the altar if the lay faithful do not partake in sufficient numbers.

Continued on page 4...

CELEBRATE DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Please join us in praying the Chaplet together at 3:00pm in the Church.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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<https://www.stbenedictcc.com/donate>

BUDGET FOR APRIL.....	\$79,445
Received April 1-9.....	\$16,483
Received April 10-16.....	\$14,383
Received April 17-23.....	40,859
Needed in April.....	\$7,720
YEAR TO DATE BUDGET.....	\$583,618
YEAR TO DATE RECEIVED.....	\$599,255
YEAR TO DATE OVER.....	\$15,637

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

9:00am Mass, School: Carl & Rosina Wiederin

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

5:30pm Mass, Church: Wendy Dotzenrod Ney and Jayme Neubauer

SUNDAY, APRIL 24 | DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

7:30am Mass, Church: The People
10:00am Mass, Church: Darlene Elsbernd
1:00pm First Communion Mass: The First Communicants
3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church

MONDAY, APRIL 25

7:00am-8:00pm Adoration, Church
4:00pm Widow's Group, GS
6:30pm Mass, Mediacom Channel 15
8:00pm Benediction, Church

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

5:30pm Mass, DiAnn Svenson

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

7:00am Mass, Church: Jeffrey Kenney
7:30am Coffee after Mass, GS

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

7:00am Mass, Church: Conrad & Ruth Huber and Cecilia Leuenberger

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

9:00am Mass, School: Deceased Members of the Keune Family

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

5:30pm Mass, Church: Jerry Samuelson

SUNDAY, MAY 1 | FAMILY WEEKEND

7:30am Mass, Church: The People
10:00am Mass, Church: Herb & Charlene Zweibohmer and Joe Weis
11:00am Family of Faith at Coffee and Rolls
6:00pm Final StBenYouth for the year



CDA NEWS

We hope everyone had a Happy and Blessed Easter from the Catholic Daughters!

At our April 10th meeting we voted on activities we want to do in the coming year. Top choices included things we already do such as: Nursing Home Outreach/Bingo, Coffee Sunday, Egg Bake Brunch, and Salad Luncheon

And some new activities including: Death by Chocolate Event, Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser, a Weekly Pot Luck Lunch, Marian Shrine Pilgrimage, and May Day Baskets for Shut Ins.

It seems Food and Outreach are our passions.

At our next meeting May 15th (note change of date to avoid Mother's Day) we will be reassigning standing committee membership and forming committees to accomplish these new activities. We hope to see you there.

AREA NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PLAN MARCH FOR LIFE

This Saturday, April 30th, students, community members, and pro-life supporters will gather at St. Benedict's Prayer Garden at 10:00am for a pro-life rally and march through downtown Decorah. An optional Mass will be held at 10:00am, with sign making, rosary making, and vendors beginning at 10:30am. Zach Gignac will provide live music till 12:00pm when speakers will start. The speaker lineup includes pro life advocates, student organizers, and Father Robert Gross. At 1:00pm, the march will begin through downtown Decorah, passing by the Winneshiek County Courthouse and Water Street. Facebook Event Page: <https://fb.me/e/1XhqW5EqV>

DECORAH CHORALE PRESENTS "ON OUR WAY"

Spring concert Sunday, May 1st, 3:00pm at Decorah Lutheran Church

8TH GRADE CLASS FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST

May 1st, 8:00am-noon. Free will donation for their D.C. trip.

LAURA'S SACK LUNCH DRIVE THRU MEAL

Sunday, May 1st, 11:00am-1:00pm, Burr Oak Lutheran Church
Ribeye Steak Sandwich Meal: \$12, Cheeseburger Meal: \$10

JIM WOODFORD PRESENTATION

An encouraging story of spending eleven hours in heaven. Saturday, May 7th, 1:00pm, Hugeback Johnson Funeral Home, New Hampton. For reservations: 641.394.4334

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, May 26th, 12:30-5:30, Stone Ridge Church. Call 800.287.4903 for appointments.



First COMMUNION

...FATHER HERTGES CONTINUED

Meanwhile I would like to do some more liturgical catechesis and will communicate with all of you well in advance of the cup being offered. This is timely and appropriate because significant theme of the Easter Season is the "Bread of Life Discourse" from John's Gospel.

For several years, large segments of the Church have been experiencing quite an embarrassing and, dare I say, scandalous aberration regarding the reception and attitude towards Holy Communion, in that the option of offering the Eucharist under both species had become a fairly widespread practice, but statistical analysis, bolstered by basic pastoral observation, reveals *just how few Roman Catholics actually believe in the Real Presence at Mass.*

To illustrate this point a bit further, if we had a higher belief and adherence to this central doctrine, we would be ordaining a lot more priests and would not be contemplating closing and/or clustering more of our parishes. Nor would we allow others to schedule sports events on weekends (especially Sunday mornings) or permit recreational activities to take precedence over worshipping God and receiving His Son in the Eucharist.

These aforementioned pursuits, in and of themselves are not sinful, but they have been doing a stellar job of distracting and preventing entire families from regularly making it to church on weekends.

More to come on this fundamental tenet of our faith. Have a great week, and Happy Divine Mercy Sunday!

Congratulations to our students receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend.

Anthony Christopher
Thomas Crain
Lydia Dahl
Claire Elsbernd
Parker Friederick
Keaton Hageman
Vaughn Hayek
Aiden Hemesath
Grady Huinker
Maya Kuehner
Roslynn Lensing
Regan Miner
Marlee Panos
Colin Pechota
Avery Riehle
Bryer Tarwater

BAPTISM

Congratulations to Beckett Jamison Luther,
son of Austin & Teage Luther.
Becket was baptized April 23, 2022.
We welcome you to God's family!!!

Easter Flowers

GIVEN IN
Loving Memory of...

Ryan Monson.....by Rick and Jan Monson
Arnie Fortman.....by Janet Fortman



Please keep all of our students and their families in your prayers.



SECOND GRADERS AT HOLY THURSDAY
 Our second graders preparing for First Communion took part in the procession of the Eucharist at the end of Mass on Holy Thursday.



SAVE THE DATE



TOTUS TUUS (TEENS):
 JUNE 19-23 FOR KIDS
 ENTERING 7TH-12TH GRADE,
 EVERY NIGHT FROM 7:00-9:15PM.

TOTUS TUUS (VBS):
 JUNE 20-24 FOR KIDS
 ENTERING 1ST-6TH GRADE,
 EVERY DAY FROM 9:00AM-2:30PM.

TOTUS TUUS (LATIN FOR TOTALLY YOURS) IS A FUN, AND ENERGETIC SUMMER CATECHETICAL PROGRAM FOR BOTH GRADE SCHOOL AND JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH.

DECORAH FOOD PANTRY

The Decorah Community Food Pantry board invites members of your congregation to an "open house" at Whalen Cabin, Phelps Park on Monday, May 9th from 5:00-7:00pm. The event will honor former staff, welcome the new director, and celebrate all the churches, volunteers, donors, and community members who have supported the Pantry and helped us serve food insecure people. Refreshments will be served. Masks are recommended.

REGISTER NOW!

Use the link below for registration.

Grandchildren, nieces and nephews, friends, classmates, neighbors...ALL are welcome!!!

Registration link: <https://bit.ly/TotusTuusSummer>

NO STBENYOUTH THIS WEEKEND

Please note, there will be no youth group this Sunday, April 24th. We'll meet for the final time this year on May 1st. Watch for more details about that night to come!

WIDOW'S GROUP THIS WEEK

The Widow's Group will meet on Monday, April 25th at 4:00pm, in the Gathering Space. Whether you're newly widowed or have been for many years, we'd love to have you join us!



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