HOLY FAMILY CLUSTER

SACRED HEART PARISH
221 S. Jackson Avenue • Eagle Grove, Iowa 50533

ST. JOHN PARISH
608 Second Avenue N.E. • Clarion, Iowa 50525

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
1207 Third Street N.E. • Belmond, Iowa 50421

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4 pm St. Francis Xavier
8 pm Mass in Spanish St. John
Sunday: 8:00 am Sacred Heart
10:30 am St. John

CLUSTER OFFICE STAFF

Phone: (515)532-3586 (follow the prompts)
Pastor: Rev. Jerry Blake
Email: .....DBQ039@dbqarch.org
Pastoral Associate: Karen Newman
Email:.....dbq039s1@dbqarch.org
Pastoral Minister: Nancy Strub
Email:.....dbq039s2@dbqarch.org
RE Coordinator: Gloria Kisor
Email:..... dbq039re@dbqarch.org
Hispanic Ministry: Beatriz Garcia
Email:..... dbq039hm@dbqarch.org
Business Office Manager: Ann Shriver
Email:.....dbq039sec@dbqarch.org
Secretary: Candy Sheehan
Email:.....dbq039sec1@dbqarch.org

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Following weekday Masses at all locations and by appointment. Please see pg. 5
Baptism: Participation in the Baptismal Program required. Contact the Cluster Office.
Wedding: Contact the Pastor before setting the wedding date at 515-532-3586

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Submissions are due Mondays before 10 am. Please watch the bulletin for any early deadlines.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

Thank you for visiting our Cluster. If you would like to become a member of one of the parishes, please contact the Cluster office.

HOLY FAMILY CLUSTER OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: 608 2nd Avenue NE, Clarion, Iowa 50525
Phone: 515-532-3586 **Toll free:** 855-658-7837
Office Hours: *Mondays-Thursdays 8 am to 1 pm*

Office of Hispanic Ministry/Oficina del Ministerio Hispano Phone: 515-293-0009

Visit our website at www.holyfamilycluster.org

II DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO
06 DE DICIEMBRE DEL 2020
Pueblo de Sión, mira que el Señor va a venir para salvar a todas las naciones y dejará oír la majestad de su voz para alegría de tu corazón.

SACRAMENTOS: Confesión, antes de cada Misa del fin de semana o haciendo una cita con el padre Blake al teléfono de la oficina: 515 532 3586
Bautismo, en español, segundos y cuartos sábados de cada mes a las 2p.m., en la Iglesia de San Juan, Clarion, para niños menores de 7 años.
Matrimonio, contactar con el Padre Blake unos meses antes de la fecha programada para la boda**.**
Plática Pre-Bautismal: Lunes 14 de Diciembre, 7.00pm. Centro Parroquial, San Juan, Clarion.

LITURGIA DE ADVIENTO

PRIMER DOMINGO: Se centra en la venida del Señor al final de los tiempos.
SEGUNDO DOMINGO: nos invita a tener una actitud de conversión permanente.
TERCER DOMINGO: Anuncia la venida del Señor, la Iglesia invita a alegrarnos porque ya está por llegar el Señor! El sacerdote viste de rosa como signo de gozo.
CUARTO DOMINGO: Nos anuncia la llegada del Hijo de Dios al mundo para acogerlo en nuestro corazón.

SOLEMNIDAD DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCION 08 DE DICIEMBRE

"La Beatísima Virgen María fue preservada inmune de toda mancha de la culpa original desde el primer instante de su concepción por singular gracia y privilegio de Dios omnipotente, en atención a los méritos de Cristo Jesús, salvador del género humano", afirma la Bula "Ineffabilis Deus" sobre la Inmaculada Concepción de María. Siempre pidamos la intercesión de la Virgen María ante Dios y su Hijo amado. No olvidemos que este día es fiesta de guardar para todos los católicos.

MISAS EL DÍA 8 DE DICIEMBRE
Iglesia Sagrado Corazón, Eagle Grove, 12.00pm. (Inglés)
Iglesia San Francisco, Belmond, 5.30pm. (Inglés)
Iglesia San Juan, Clarion, 7.30pm. (Bilingüe)

CELEBRACIÓN A NUESTRA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

Cada 12 de Diciembre, millones de fieles se acercaban a las iglesias y santuarios a celebrar las apariciones de nuestra Virgen de Guadalupe, porque ella nos inspira fe y confianza. Ella representa esa figura materna que nunca nos abandona y en la que podemos encontrar consuelo. Sin embargo, este año, estamos viviendo de manera diferente debido a la pandemia del Coronavirus y por ello los invitamos a celebrar a nuestra Virgen de Guadalupe de manera distinta.
Como se nos sigue invitando a cuidarnos, tomar las medidas de seguridad necesarias para evitar más contagios; la

NOVENA DE ROSARIOS para la Virgen, se está realizando en la Iglesia de San Juan de Clarion, desde el jueves 03 de Diciembre hasta el 11 de Diciembre a las 7.30pm., para ser trasmitido por Online en la página www.holyfamilycluster.org haciendo click en la F de Facebook.
LA MISA DE NUESTRA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE, como coincide con la celebración de la Misa dominical en sábado, no podrá ser Misa Solemne. Este año tampoco podremos tener el compartir después de Misa ya que la asistencia sería muy limitada.
NOTA: El Rosario del día sábado 05 de Diciembre será a las 7pm., por la celebración de la Misa de 8pm. El día 08, fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción, el Rosario ser á a las 6.30pm por la celebración de la Misa bilingüe a las 7.30pm.

OREMOS A MARIA

Dios de poder y misericordia, bendijiste la América en el Tepeyac con la presencia de la Virgen María de Guadalupe. Que su intercesión ayude a todos a aceptarse entre sí como hermanos y hermanas. Por tu justicia presente en nuestros corazones, reine la paz en el mundo. Te lo pedimos por tu Hijo Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Amén.

REFLEXION DEL II DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO:

La liturgia de hoy presenta al profeta Isaías, en la primera lectura, clamando consuelo para su pueblo, el cual ha sufrido la servidumbre y el dolor. En un estilo poético, Isaías señala, con imágines de la naturaleza, el cambio de la historia de Israel. Vendrá "uno" que llevará a cabo la obra del Señor y acogerá a este pueblo exiliado entre todas las naciones. Para el evangelista san Marcos, ese "uno" no es otro que el Mesías, anunciado por Juan Bautista. San Marcos describe quién es Juan y cuál es su misión. Reflejando los antiguos textos de Isaías, en el Evangelio vemos que Juan se convierte para la Iglesia de los primeros cristianos en el precursor de la Buena Nueva que Dios quiere dar a toda la humanidad. Los primeros cristianos, que ya reconocían a Jesús como el Mesías esperado por tantos siglos, siempre pensaron que regresaría pronto para rescatarnos a todos del pecado y la muerte. Esta es la advertencia que hace san Pedro en la segunda lectura. Las lecturas de hoy, trasmiten una gran riqueza, destacando el mensaje de esperanza del pueblo abandonado en la historia.
Hoy, volvamos a descubrir el significado del Adviento. Tomemos conciencia de cómo estamos viviendo nuestra fe, y reconozcamos, sin culpa, cómo podemos cambiar aquello que está impidiendo la llegada del Señor a nuestras vidas y a la de los demás.

LECTURA DEL EVANGELIO PARA LA SEMANA DEL II DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO:

Lunes 07: Lucas 5: 17-26. Martes 08: Lucas 1:26-38
Miércoles 09: Mateo 11:28-30
Jueves 10: Mateo11:11-15. Viernes 11: Mateo 11:16-19.
Sábado 12: Mateo 9:35. 1

NEWS

PRAYER CORNER Would you like to add yourself or a loved one to the prayer corner list? Contact the Cluster office at 515-532-3586. We include names in the bulletin for four weeks then remove. Only requests from the individual or family are accepted.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION: **Please monitor your child for temps and if they do not feel good, please keep them home.** If you have any questions please call Gloria 515-835-8607.

Deepest Sympathies to the family of Lowell Lynch. Lowell returned to the arms of our lord on Friday, November 20, 2020.

Deepest Sympathies to Jo Ann Kramer and family, Joann's niece, Angel Gaines returned to the arms of our Lord on Thursday, November 19, 2020.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Novena will be live streamed at **7:30pm December 3-11** (except December 8, which will be at 6:30pm prior to Immaculate Conception Mass).

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to donate towards the purchase of poinsettias for the altar this year in memory or honor of a loved one, place your donation (checks made out to your parish) along with the name of your loved one(s) in an envelope and place in the collection plate at Mass or turn it in to the Cluster Office. Suggested donation is $20. Envelopes are in the parish entries. Donations must be received by December 10 in order to have the names of loved ones appear in the December 20 bulletin.

Stocks have seen many ups and downs this year, including some record highs. Giving long-term appreciated stock (stocks held for more than one year) may be a great way to donate. **If your stock has increased in value, then you are able to make an even bigger gift compared with what it cost you.** You **won't pay any taxes on the gains** and you receive an **income tax deduction for your gift**. With the updated standard deductions, you may not be able to itemize, but with a larger gift of stock, you may be closer to itemization and unlock other deductions as well. You can also make stock gifts to fund a donor advised fund, charitable gift annuity or other vehicles that have additional benefits. **Contact the Catholic Foundation in the Archdiocese of Dubuque at 563-552-0163 for more information on this or other tools to help with legacy giving.**

Archbishop Jackels Virtual Fireside Get-Together Invitation - December 9 at 6:30 pm—Pull up a chair to the virtual fireplace and join Archbishop Jackels for a family-friendly evening with warm conversation, entertainment and good cheer. Archbishop will be hosting a first ever virtual Fireside Get-Together on **Wednesday, December 9 from 6:30-7:30 pm**. The evening will include scripture, reflections by Archbishop on this crazy year we've had, surprise musical performances and opportunity to spread Christmas cheer….and much more. **You have to register in advance at www.dbqarch.org/fireside.** You'll be emailed a special link you will use to electronically join when you sign up. "See" you there.

Budget Boxes are at each location. Contact the Cluster office to have yours set out for pickup.

YEAR END GIVING: Contributions need to be received in the office or postmarked by December 31, 2020 in order to appear on your 2020 contribution statement. Contributions received after that date will appear as your 2021 contributions. This is in accordance with tax laws. Contribution statements will be mailed out towards the end of January 2021. As a reminder, St Francis Xavier and Sacred Heart do not have mail delivery. All correspondence should be sent to the Cluster office at 608 2nd Avenue NE, Clari-

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2020

Electronic Fund Transfers and Online Giving are included in the totals. Please note, that only those contributions that stay in the parishes are reported here. Contributions to the other funds that are outside of the parish will appear on a separate report inserted regularly. You may also contact the Cluster office for a more detailed list of fund contribution totals.

SACRED HEART PARISH

Needed Monthly: $11,050.00

Adult Budget:$12,731.00 Offertory: $00.00
Total Adult Budget & Offertory: $12,731.00
(3% to Social Justice: $381.93)
Candles $109.00 Renovations: $50.00
General Parish Repair $817.00
Haiti 2nd Collection: $50.00 Haiti Fund: $75.00
YFF Registration: $200.00 Holy Days: $20.00
Mass Intentions: $35.00

Total Given: $14,087.00

ST. JOHN PARISH

Needed Monthly: $15,167.00

Adult Budget: $13,795.00 Offertory: $0.00
Total Adult Budget & Offertory: $13,795.00
(3% to Social Justice: $413.85)
Elevator: $4,460.00 General Parish Repair: $435.00
Haiti: $555.00 Mass Intentions: $5.00
Mission Coop: $10.00 Other Giving: $280.00
Baby Needs: $55.00 Food Pantry: $155.00
Candles: $67.00 Religious Education: $199.00
Stole Fee: $55.00 YFF Registrations: $50.00
Holy Day: $270.00 Mass in Spanish $283.51

Total Given: $20,674.51

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

Needed Monthly: $11,484.00

Adult Budget: $7,370.32 Offertory:$0.00
Total Adult Budget & Offertory: $7,370.32
(3% to Social Justice:$221.10)
General Parish Repair: $295.00
Capitol Campaign: $18,875.00
Mass Intentions $85.00 Holy Days: $255.00
Initial Offering: $5.00 Mass Intentions: $85.00
Haiti: $108.00

Total Given: $26,993.32

OCTOBER CLUSTER HAITI CONTRIBUTIONS: Haiti Fund: $788.00 Medical Mission Trip: $00

Cluster and Parish NEWS

CLUSTER NEWS

Are you a Snow Bird? Then this is THE year to join the Virtual Archdiocesan Women's Beauty in Christ: **ON FIRE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT!** Saturday, January 30th, 2021, 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. From the comfort of your own home, you'll connect with your friends and experience all the great features of our annual conference: Archbishop Jackels, two national speakers, incredible prayer and worship, and great vendors! Speakers Maria Vadia and Caroline Gambale-Dirkes, will ignite women with the fire of the Holy Spirit! Invite your daughters, sisters, and friends to "meet" you virtually at the conference!! Register today (group discounts available): https://www.archwomensconference.org/. **A generous donor has donated 25 spots for our cluster! Contact the church office to reserve your spot.**

¿Eres un pájaro de nieve? Entonces este es EL año para unirse a la Belleza en Cristo: **¡ENCENDIDA CON EL ESPÍRITU** SANTO! Virtual de las Mujeres Arquidiocesanas. El sábado, 30 de enero del 2021 de las 9:00 am a 1:00 pm. Unirse desde la comodidad de su propia casa, usted establecerá una conexión con sus amigos y experimentará todas las grandes características de nuestra conferencia anual: ¡Arzobispo Jackels, dos altavoces nacionales, oración y adoración increíbles, y grandes vendedores! ¡Las oradoras Maria Vadia y Caroline Gambale-Dirkes , encenderán a las mujeres con el fuego del Espíritu Santo! ¡Invite a sus hijas, hermanas y amigas a que se "conozcan" virtualmente en la conferencia! Regístrese hoy (descuentos para grupos disponibles): https://www.archwomensconference.org/.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER:

Green Belt Bank and Trust has announced that their **Holiday Open House** will be a 'Drive Through". The bank will contribute $1.00 to the church of your choice if you turn in the donation slip. There will be donation slips in the entry of St Francis. Please pick yours up and put Tuesday, December 1 through Friday, December 11 from 9-4pm on your calendar.

Belmond Community Service Women $500 Back-to-School Scholarship Any female living in the Belmond-Klemme School District age 25 or older attending a post-secondary institution working toward a degree, certification, or diploma. To receive an application contact: Barb Soma 444-3928 or LuAnn Pals 444-4608. Application deadline is Mon., December 21, 2020. Winner will be notified & presented a $500 check by January 15, 2021.

St. Francis Capital Campaign – Thank you to all who have donated or pledged as we have recently made it ½ way to our financial goal! Work has progressed along as well. The floor in the sanctuary is complete, the pipe organ installed, sound system upgraded, and windows replaced in the rectory. Check it out if you have not already done so. There is still more work to do though in upgrading the parking lot and replacing the flooring in the parish hall and classrooms. Please consider helping with this campaign by placing a donation in an envelope marked "St. Francis Capital Campaign" and drop it in the collection box at your parish. Thank you for your generosity!

ST JOHN:

St. John's Altar Society, scheduled for December 8, will not meet because of COVID concerns. The budgeted holiday donations will be made as usual. Hopefully, we can meet in March!

The Gift of Giving-The pandemic has affected local children and families in unprecedented ways. You can help make a difference this Christmas Season by ensuring these local children & families receive The Gift of Giving. You can sponsor a child or a family—Stop at the Clarion Pizza Ranch or Iowa Specialty Hospital Giving Trees to pick up a gift tag. These are also the Public drop-off locations. Your support is crucial to the Success of the 2020 Gift of Giving Drive. Help create a sense of normalcy & joy for a local child and/or family. Contact Erica Lindaman at 515-293-2911 or email: elindaman1@gmail.com. Items can also be picked up for you.

SACRED HEART:

2020 Share Christmas with a Family- Share Christmas needs your help. We are in need of approximately $10,000 in cash contributions to purchase gift certificates for food. SC served approximately 120 families in 2019 in the Eagle Grove Area. Contributions are payable to Share Christmas and may be mailed to the Service Center at 510 S Jackson Ave, Eagle Grove, IA 50533; Canned goods and other non-perishable grocery items may be brought to the Service Center between the hours of 1pm and 3pm, Monday, Wednesday or Friday. This is an exceptionally tough year for many, your donation will make all the difference. **MAY THE SPIRIT OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU DURING THIS HOLY SEASON.**

GIVE BLOOD SAVE LIFE

Nick Mersch Memorial Blood Drive Tuesday, December 15 - 1:30 - 7:30 p.m. The goal is to save 100 people in honor of his 100th birthday. To make an appointment go to lifeservebloodcenter.org or contact Colleen Bartlett at 515-851-0061.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 24:
4 pm Mass at Saint Francis Xavier
7:30 pm Mass (Bilingual) at St. John

Friday, December 25:
9 am Mass at Sacred Heart

In the event of inclement weather we will celebrate one Mass at 2 pm on December 24 at St. John

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SH: Sacred Heart, SJ: St. John, SFX: St. Francis Xavier

Saturday, December 5: 2nd Sunday in Advent
4:00 pm Mass (**SFX**): † Vicki Quigley
8:00 pm Mass in Spanish (**SJ**):

Sunday, December 6: 2nd Sunday in Advent
8:00 am Mass (**SH & ONLINE**): All Parishioners
10:30 am Mass (**SJ**): † Colleen Johnson

Tuesday, December 8: Immaculate Conception
12:00pm Mass (**SH**) † Tena Skudlarek
5:30pm Mass (**SFX**) Special Intention for Dick & Virginia Merick
7:30pm Mass (**SJ Bilingual**) † Liz Trausch

Wednesday, December 9:
8:00am Mass (**SFX**) No Mass
6:30pm Mass (**SH**) † Jack Spangler

Thursday, December 10: (SH) No Weekday Mass

Friday, December 11: (SJ) No Weekday Mass

Saturday, December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe
4:00 pm Mass (**SFX**): † Virginia Barrett
8:00 pm Mass in Spanish (**SJ**) † Lorine Meyer

Sunday, December 13: 3rd Sunday in Advent
8:00 am Mass (**SH** & **ONLINE**) † Chuck McDaniel
10:30 am Mass (**SJ**): All Parishioners

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Father Blake is currently hearing Confessions by appointment and during the following times:

- Weekdays after Masses
- Saturdays before & after the 4 pm Mass at St. Francis Xavier in the SFX library
- Saturdays at St. John, from 1:30-2:30pm & 7:15-7:45pm
- Sundays following the 8 am Mass at Sacred Heart, and following the 10:30 am Mass at St. John.
- Father Blake is always available by appointment

SCRIP With the holidays approaching fast don't forget that you can order your gift cards from us and give to your Church at the same time. Contact Gloria for more information or to order your cards. With gift cards from over 750 top brands to choose from, you can do all of your gift giving while raising funds for our Youth Faith Formation program! Helpers are available selling cards after Masses in English the first and third weekend of the month. You can also order online by visiting www.shopwithscrip.com and using the code AA8356BD6L651.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

USHERS NEEDED TO SERVE AT WEEKEND MASSES.
IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CALL THE CLUSTER OFFICE.

St. Francis Xavier Parish
Wednesday, December 9, 8:00am:
Saturday, December 12, 4:00pm: Bernie Barrett

Sacred Heart Parish
Thursday, December 10, No Weekday Mass
Sunday, December 13, 8:00am: Cheryl Weber

St. John Parish: *Volunteers needed to lector.*
Contact Kathy Lester (515-532-2775) if you can help.
Friday, December 11, No Weekday Mass
Sunday, December 13, 10:30am:

FORMED: *THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND*

Join us for ***The Road to Bethlehem***, a journey that includes daily Advent reflections and enrichment from FORMED. We will be sending you handpicked videos, talks, and texts every day throughout Advent to nourish your spiritual life. Sign up today to prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus at Christmas! Log in by visiting https://formed.org.

Calendar Items

Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary Novena will be live streamed at 7:30pm December 3-11. (except December 8, which will be at 6:30pm prior to the Immaculate Conception Mass.

Immaculate Conception Masses will be **Tuesday, December 8.**
12:00pm Mass — SH & Live-streamed
5:30pm Mass — SFX
7:30pm Mass — SJ (Bilingual)

December is a month of **Early Bulletin Deadlines**.

Youth Faith Formation Masses for Christmas season will be held at each Parish.
SH Mass will be 6:30pm **December 9**
SFX Mass will be 6:30pm **December 16**

WINTER WEATHER POLICY: In the event of a weather related late start or cancellation at one of the Wright County schools, morning Mass is cancelled. If school is cancelled or released early due to weather, all parish meetings and other scheduled activities are cancelled. Meetings and events will still be held if there is a late start that day. Please tune in to your local TV stations and/or radio stations for cancellation of Mass on the weekend. Your safety is of utmost importance.

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Question...
Would you vote for an amendment that would make our constitution abortion-neutral; neither supporting or outlawing a persons right to abortion.
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