

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF



**ST BERNARD**

201 Main St. Blencoe, IA



**ST JOHN**

1009 13th St., Onawa, IA



**ST JOSEPH**

510 Tipton St., Salix, IA

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MAY 8, 2022**

## Parish Staff

**Pastor,** Rev. Michael J. Erpelding  
(712) 423-2656  
erpelding1962@netscape.net

**Director of Faith Formation,** Michelle Rethman  
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stjoseph6712@gmail.com

**Secretary – St. John & St. Bernard,** Colleen Maule  
(712) 423-1004  
stjohnparishhall@msn.com

**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday  
7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Secretary – St. Joseph,** Mary Lynn Nelson  
(712) 946-5635 or (cell) 712-281-0107  
stjoseph@longlines.com

## Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** 30 min. before Mass or by appointment

**Baptism:** **St. John** – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.  
**St. Joseph** – Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

**Baptism Class:** Contact the Director of Faith Formation

**Marriage:** Arrangements at least six (6) months prior to marriage. Interview with the pastor is required before date for marriage can be given.

## **Questions of the Week**

*Inspiring Us to Live in the Holy Spirit*

**Adults:** Do I get distracted by the voices of false shepherds? What helps me focus more on the voice of the Good Shepherd?

**Children:** How do I know that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is protecting and guiding me? When do I feel his love and care the most?

## **The Pastor's Toolbox**

### The Good Shepherd

The fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday, because the Gospel for each year of the Lectionary comes from the tenth chapter of Saint John, in which Jesus speaks of himself as the Good Shepherd. Jesus says that he knows his sheep and that they follow him because he “give[s] them eternal life, and they shall never perish” (John 10:28).

If we're not careful, the images of the shepherd and of knowing can be lost on us in today's modern, fast-paced society. The shepherd would put his very life on the line for his sheep. Their well-being, their safety, and providing for their needs were the shepherd's chief responsibility. Elsewhere in John's tenth chapter, Jesus says that “a good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep” (John 10:1).

To know, in the biblical sense, is much deeper and more personal than in the sense with which we may use it today. In the biblical sense, to know something or someone is to have an intimate, personal experience of the thing or person that is known. In the Bible, to know someone is to be in relationship with that person.

In the Gospel today, Jesus says that he knows his sheep. It is in this deeply profound, relational way that he speaks of us—the sheep for whom he has laid down his life. On this Fourth Sunday of Easter we continue to celebrate the great love of God shown to us in the Paschal Mystery. In this we, the members of Christ's Body, find our hope and our strength.-

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## WEEK OF MAY 8, 2022

### Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Mass Intentions</u>	<u>Parish</u>
Monday	May 9		No Mass	
Tuesday	May 10	9:00 AM	Lawrence & Eileen Topf	St. Joseph
Wednesday	May 11	9:00 AM	Maurice Benjamin	St. John
Thursday	May 12	9:00 AM	Glenda Ullrich	St. Joseph
Friday	May 13	9:00 AM	Paul Benjamin	St. John
Saturday	May 14	4:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Bernard, St. John & St. Joseph	St. Joseph
Sunday	May 15	9:00 AM	Father Patrick O'Kane	St. John
		11:00 AM	Delbert & Yvonne Heisterkamp	St. Joseph

## GROWING IN OUR FAITH

### *The Vineyard* Around the Area

Upcoming Event at St. Benedict Center, Schuyler, NE:

#### Creation-Destruction in the Spiritual Exercises of St.

Ignatius of Loyola: Join us May 19–22 for this retreat with Father Larry Gillick, SJ. These three days of prayer and reflection will consist of six presentations and three homilies and will focus on the central realities of the *Exercises*. There will be abundant time for personal prayer, reflection, and experiencing the invitation to enter into the relationship which God constantly offers to the human race. Thursday, 6:00 p.m. to Sunday after lunch. Register now at [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com) or call (402) 352-8819. Social distancing and wearing a mask is recommended.

**Month of Mary and Mothers:** In the Church, we traditionally celebrate Our Mother, Mary, and our earthly mothers in the month of May. Today especially is set aside to celebrate our mothers, but I love the Church in her wisdom to dedicate an entire *month* to moms! (Don't worry, dads, there's a month set aside for you, too, in March.) This is a wonderful month to begin a daily habit of praying the rosary, especially as a family. Parents, if you read to your children nightly, consider reading Anthony DeStefano's beautifully illustrated book *Our Lady's Wardrobe*. And let's not forget to honor the women who nurtured us, taught us, comforted us, and loved us. We find these women in all sorts of roles: biological and adoptive mothers, sisters, teachers, neighbors, and mentors, to name a few.

Over the past few years, I have reflected on miracles, love and sacrifice. Love and sacrifice. Images of my mother's many sacrifices immediately come to mind, and I know these sacrifices are manifestations of her love. St. Paul writes to the Corinthians:

*Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

*Love never fails.*

1 Cor 13:4 – 8

I often substitute the word *love* with the word *sacrifice*. To love is to will the good of the other, and I suspect to live that definition to the fullest means I must decrease so another may increase. Thanks, Mother Mary, and thank you, moms, for all your sacrifices, great and small, so we could grow in love.



## ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering	
April 24, 2022 Registered Families: 185	
Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$1660.00
E-Offering	74.70
Building Fund	
Hall Rental	
Needy Fund	
Grain	\$4054.91
Easter Offering	\$200.00
Candles	\$10.00
St. Bernard	\$235.00
Retired/Infirmary	\$150.00
<b>Total for April 24, 2022</b>	<b>\$6384.61</b>

Please pray for the sick of our parishes: Midge Stanley, Margaret Hansen, Pam Turner, Loretta Simoff, John Heisterkamp, Charlotte Zortman, Florence Ibsgaard, Gina Mortensen, Judson Bramow, Anita Gerum, Dana Herman, Denis Herman, and Eddie & Ann Womack. If you know of someone who is ill and needs our prayers and would like to be listed, or if you no longer need to be listed, contact Colleen at the parish office, 423-1004.

*Knight of the Month:* All women and men who choose LIFE when pregnancy enters their lives!

*Family of the Month:* The graduating seniors of St. John and St. Joseph... to honor their academic efforts.

We would like to thank the Finance Council for providing a closing night dinner for our Religious Ed teachers and staff. It was a fantastic way to end our Religious Education year and a great way to show appreciation to our teachers ( and their spouses) for their dedication and commitment to our children and our faith. Thank you!

Thank you to the Knights for providing a picnic style supper for our students. They had hamburgers, hot dogs, beans and chips. A great time was had by all and a good start to summer vacation for the students. Please stay safe thru the summer and we will see you in the fall!

Thank you to Mary Tramp & the Rosary Society for sponsoring the First Communion breakfast with the help of the 3rd grade parents.

Thank you to Mary Tramp & the Rosary Society for sponsoring the Senior breakfast with the help of the 9th & 10th grade parents.

## ST. JOSEPH NEWS

St. Joseph Weekly Offering	
April 23 and 24, 2022 Registered Families: 209	
Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$4413.00
E-Offering	\$210.00
Holy Land	
Maintenance Fund	\$50.00
Emergency	
Candles	\$26.00
Food Pantry	
Boiler Fund	\$3000.00
Easter Flowers	
Palm Sunday	
Retired & Infirmary Priest	\$15.00
<b>Total for April 23/24, 2022</b>	<b>\$7714.00</b>

Remember to pray for the sick of our parish: Doreen Becker, David Bogenrief, Christian Case, Vincent Choquette, Kathy Clayton, Ben Cooper, Linda Donnelly, Colleen Ebner, Mike Franken, Nainna Gnat, Jeri Greiner, Bryson Harder, Sophie Helvey, Richard Hentges, Roger Huot, Elliott Johnson, Sue LaCroix, Gerrie Lamoureux, Justin Lamoureux, Brian Mareau, Helen Martin, David Menard, Fran Mitchell, Tristan Parks, Mark Rinaldi, Mary Lue Schneiders, Stella Serviss, Nick & Ally Spohr, Kathy Stahmer, Connie Wagner, Paula Wagner, Brady Worrell, and Cal Worrell. For all who travel, those who grieve, those in the military, veterans and their families, and our nation's leaders.

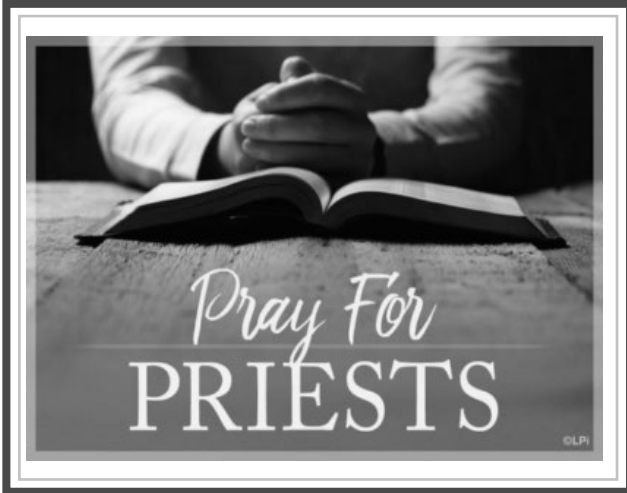
At the Mass on May 1, 2022, we gave special recognition to the graduating seniors of our parish. We would like to thank the following seniors for joining us on Sunday: Bostyn Hanner, Peggy Hinrickson, Mallory Holzerland, Josie McCluskey, Emma Shook, Samuel Tisher, and Logan Whitney. Congratulations on all of your achievements! Thank you to Jim Doyle and the Youth Choir for sharing your gifts and talents to enhance our celebration of the Mass, and in a special way we thank Peggy Hinrickson, Mallory Holzerland, Emma Shook, and Logan Whitney for leading the Youth Choir. We also extend our appreciation to the following parishioners who coordinated and served a delicious breakfast to the parish in honor of the Class of 2022 following Mass: Deb and Fred Craig, and Marilyn Topf, for decorations, food, and other planning details; and parents of our junior students for planning and volunteer service, especially Stacy Collins, Niki Dewald, Vicki Eliason, Laura Lewis, and Melinda Wait. It was a beautiful celebration, and we wish our seniors the very best in all of their future endeavors.

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## God Laughs

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As a five-year old boy and his mother were headed to McDonald's one day; they passed a car accident. Usually when they saw something terrible like that, they would say a prayer for those who might be hurt, so the mother pointed and said to her son, "We should pray." From the back seat I heard his earnest request: "Please, God, don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."



### Ministries Schedule for St. Joseph

**May 14 @ 4:00 PM**

**Servers:** Levi & Luke Willis, Landen Schuetz

**Eucharistic Minister:** Mary Parker

**Lector:** Al Stuhrenberg

**Greeters:** Pete & Marge Rinaldi,

**Ushers:** Bert Ullrich, Pete & Marge Rinaldi,  
Lawson Schuetz

**Gifts:** Paula Olson & Monica Kavanaugh

### Ministries Schedule for St. Joseph

**May 15 @ 11 AM**

**Servers:** Jaxton & Vivian Johnson , J.T. Dewald

**Eucharistic Minister:** Brenda Hinrickson

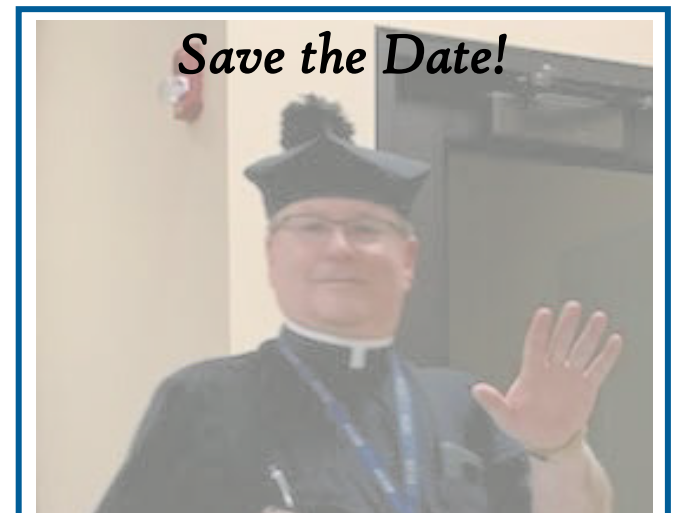
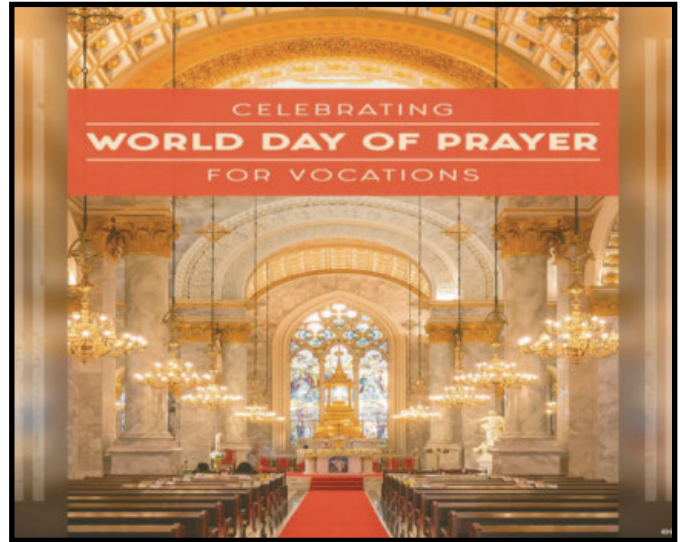
**Lector:** Joni Greder

**Greeters:** Tom & Doreen Becker

**Ushers:** John & Heather Hensley  
Ron & Margaret Wood

**Gifts:** Tom & Doreen Becker

**Stewards:** Don & Sue Mohning  
10 AM Monday @ St. Joseph



Please save the date for a celebration of **Fr. Michael's 60th Birthday and anniversary of his ordination on Saturday, June 4, 2022**, following the Mass at 4:00 PM at St. Joseph Church, Salix. We would love for your family to join us for food, fellowship, and fun! Looking forward to seeing you at our celebration of our wonderful pastor, Fr. Michael!

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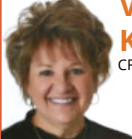
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