

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 22 2022

Parish Staff

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

Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Rethman
(712) 202-6641
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: How have I observed the action of the Holy Spirit in the Church?

Children: When has the Holy Spirit guided me to follow Jesus way of love?

The Pastor's Toolbox

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM

Paul started a firestorm when he began accepting converts into the church. He did not insist that they first become Jews. The conservatives within Christianity saw this as a dangerous break from tradition. In particular they demanded that new conversions be accompanied by circumcision--a painful rite in those days before anesthetics.

The turmoil led to what has been called, "the first Ecumenical Council". The meeting probably took several weeks. We see only the start and the end. Essentially, the liberal wing won the day. The Council sent a letter to gentile Christians approving the new policy. It provoked great joy and a wave of new conversions.

I AM GOING AWAY

At the Last Supper Jesus announced that he was "going away." The Church interprets this as a reference to the Ascension. Where, exactly, did Jesus go and why? The people of the Middle East took things literally. They believed that heaven was somewhere beyond the sky--which they thought was a dome above the earth. Jesus did not come to teach astronomy, so he rose up into the sky as a way of saying that he was going to something "greater".

Why did he leave? He was probably teaching that his followers should no longer look for physical apparitions. He would remain spiritually with them through his Holy Spirit. This would force the disciples to begin their mission to "go out to all the world and preach the good news." They will love others as Jesus loves them.

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 23		No Mass	
Tuesday	May 24	9:00 AM	Lamoureux Family	St. Joseph
Wednesday	May 25	9:00 AM	Lee Christensen	St. John
Thursday	May 26	9:00 AM	Sue Lamoureux	St. Joseph
Friday	May 27	9:00 AM	Everette Bradshaw Sr	St. John
Saturday	May 28	4:00 PM 6:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Bernard, St. John & St. Joseph Mahlon Pekarek	St. Joseph St. Bernard
Sunday	May 29	9:00 AM	Peter Mortensen	St. John
		11:00 AM	Betty and Rhonda Mareau	St. Joseph

Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of the Gospel



Throughout my years of ministry, I have recommended several books on various topics such as apologetics, scripture, the Mass, and the saints, just to name a few. I have recommended books for the young, the newly initiated, and adults, all who desire to learn more about their Catholic faith.

Many of the books which I have read have affected me, but if I could make only one recommendation, the one title which I would recommend would be Fr. John Riccardo's *Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of the Gospel* (The Word Among Us Press, 2020). Fr.

John Riccardo has long influenced me and, by extension, my service to the Church, but this book changed *everything* for me. I purchased *Rescued* in 2021 to read during Lent, and it didn't disappoint. In fact, it renewed my heart and spirit in ways I *never* would have imagined. It opened my eyes to see myself as God sees me, or perhaps better written, to see the person He created me to be. I was reminded of the words of St. Catherine of Siena: "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire." The overarching theme of his book is proclaiming the Kerygma. (This is also the

mission of his ministry, Acts XXIX (www.actstxxix.org). You can discover much more on the website.) *Kerygma*, simply defined, is the proclamation of the Gospel, the Good News. In *Rescued*, Fr. John Riccardo breaks open the Gospel message under these four subheadings: *Created, Captured, Rescued, Response*. In this dynamic retelling of Salvation History, Fr. John Riccardo concludes, "The rescued *rescue*." In baptism we become sharers in God's plan of salvation. Paraphrasing a quote from St. Joan of Arc, Fr. John often encourages us in this mission:

Do not be afraid. God is with you, and you were born for this.

You and I were born for *this time*. I encourage everyone to read *Rescued*, visit the website for Acts XXIX, or listen to the podcast, *You Were Born for This*, and prepare to be strengthened and transformed to meet the challenges before the Church today.

Mass celebration at St. Bernard, Blencoe: Fr. Erpelding will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord at St. Bernard on Saturday, May 28, 2022, 6:00 PM.

Mass Celebrations for Memorial Day: On Monday, May 30th, Fr. Erpelding will celebrate Masses for Memorial Day:

- ◆ St. Joseph Cemetery, Salix, 8:00 AM
- ◆ Onawa City Cemetery, Onawa, 10:00 AM

Parish Offices Closed: The parish offices will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2022, in observance of Memorial Day. Our offices will reopen on Tuesday, May 31, 2022.

Michelle Rethman will be out of the office on vacation from Monday, May 23–Tuesday, May 31. She will return to the office on Wednesday, June 1st.

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering

May 8, 2022
Registered Families: 185

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$1365.00
E-Offering	\$224.70
Building Fund	
Hall Rental	
Needy Fund	\$40.00
Grain	
Easter flowers	
Candles	
St. Bernard	145.00
Retired/Infirm	
Total for May 8, 2022	\$1774.70

St. Joseph Weekly Offering

May 8, 2022
Registered Families: 209

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$2703.00
E-Offering	\$343.70
Stained Glass Windows	
Maintenance Fund	\$25.00
Emergency	
Candles	\$58.00
Food Pantry	
Boiler Fund	
Ascension	
Mow and Snow	
Retired & Infirm	
Peters Pence	
Total for May 7-8, 2022	\$3129.70

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: Our fellow parishioners who have been ill or are still struggling...that they be blessed by our Holy Mother's intercession through Jesus Christ for both physical and emotional comfort.

Family of the Month: Our servers, cantors, musicians, readers and EM's at St. John and St. Joseph...for their service to our parishioners and for their reliability and assistance to Fr. Michael..



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring Eucharistic Adoration on Sunday, June 12th from 10 AM - 10 PM. Come and spend some quiet time with Jesus and pray for all the aborted, and those women and men who have to live with the consequences of abortion. We also pray for the Supreme Court of the United States to overturn Roe vs Wade. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the Church. Please choose an hour and plan on spending some time with Jesus in prayer. God Bless you.

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.

Lighter Side : Where Do We Come From?

A little girl asked her mother, "Where did people come from?"

Her mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and that's how all mankind was made."

A couple of days later she asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys, which the human race evolved from."

The confused little girl returned to her mother and said, "Mommy, how is it possible that you told me that we were created by God, and Daddy said we came from monkeys?"

The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

— *God Laughs* —

My spouse and I had words, but I didn't get to use mine.

At pilots training back in the Air Corps they taught us, "Always try to keep the number of landings you make equal to the number of take offs you make."



Ministries Schedule for St. Joseph

May 28 @ 4:00 PM

Servers: Hudson Schuetz, Luke & Levi Willis

Eucharistic Minister: Paula Olson

Lector: Michelle Mareau

Greeters: Kenny & Mary Kay Miller,

Ushers: Bert Ullrich, Pete & Marge Rinaldi,
Monica Kavanaugh

Gifts: Pete & Marge Rinaldi

Ministries Schedule for St. Joseph

May 29 @ 11 AM

Servers: Addison Goodin, Vivian Johnson,
Joleigh Hensley

Eucharistic Minister: Doreen Becker

Lector: Mary Herbst

Greeters: Tom & Doreen Becker

Ushers: Kyle & Eric Eliason
Tom & Doreen Becker

Gifts: Tom & Doreen Becker

Stewards: Deanna Smith & Kathy Baker
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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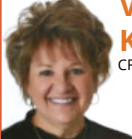
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