St Isidore the Farmer
AREA FAITH COMMUNITY

The Catholic Parishes of
• St Francis, Benson • St Bridget, DeGraff •
• St Malachy, Clontarf • Sacred Heart, Murdock •
• Visitation Oratory, Danvers • St John, Appleton •
Fr. Jeremy Kucera, Pastor

AFC OFFICE

508 13TH ST NO, BENSON, MN 56215
Web ..... stisidorethefarmerafc.org
Email..... office@stisidorethefarmerafc.org
Phone 320-842-4271
Fax 320-843-2264

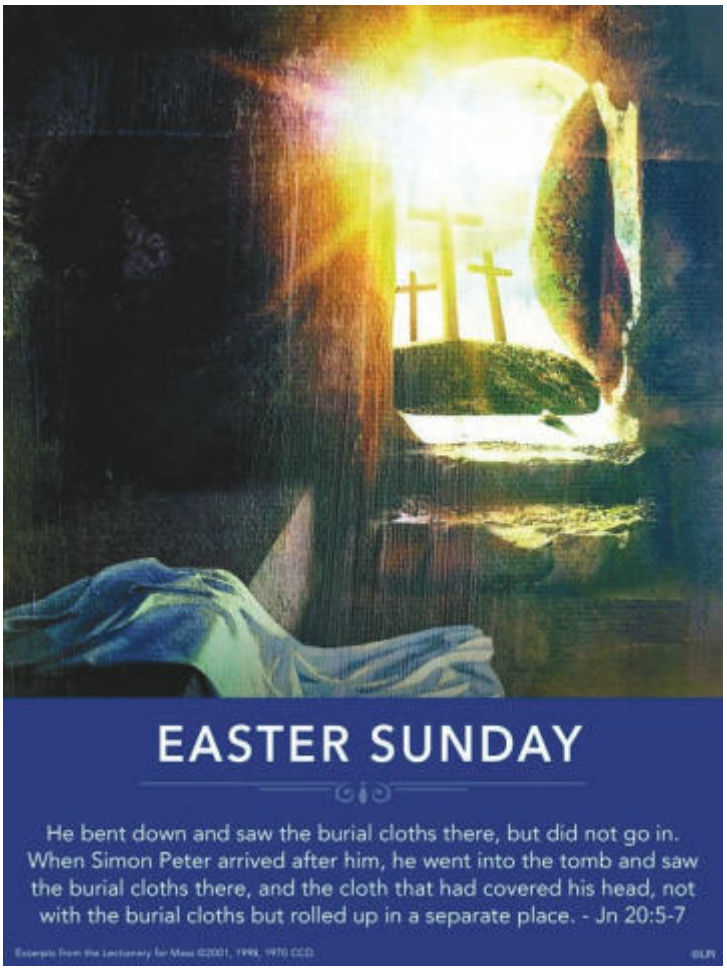
AFC Office Hours
Mon-Thurs ..... 8:00 am-12:00 pm, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm
Friday..... 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Murdock Office
Phone 320-875-2451
Kitchen 320-875-4320
Mondays..... 8:30 am-12:00 pm

Appleton Office
Phone 320-289-1146
Email..... stjccao@gmail.com
Mon-Thurs ..... 10:30 am-1:30 pm

Staff
Pastor ..... **Fr. Jeremy Kucera**
507-828-5247..... fatherjeremykucera@hotmail.com

Occupancy limits have been lifted, but may need to be adjusted as social distancing is still required. Catholics continue to be dispensed from the religious obligation to attend Sunday Mass. You may also consider attending one of our daily Masses. Masses from St. Francis Parish now available on our You Tube channel: Saint Francis Benson MN - YouTube



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 6	8:30 am	Benson w/Holy Hour & Confessions	† Jason Nordaune
Wednesday, April 7	9:00 am	Appleton	† Tom Rice
Thursday, April 8	8:30 am	Murdock	† Fr. Casimir Mociun
Friday, April 9	8:30 am	Clontarf	† Michael Fennell
Weekend Masses			
Saturday, April 10	5:00 pm	Benson	† Judy Grossman
	7:00 pm	Appleton	† John Carruth
Sunday, April 11	8:30 am	Murdock	†† Deceased members of Maki Family
	10:30 am	Appleton—Confirmation Mass	For the People

Please, only Confirmation Families at this Mass: Others, please attend Saturday evening or another Mass in our AFC.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays: 4:30 pm Benson

Marriage Preparation
Please contact AFC Office at least six months ahead of time to plan and prepare for your wedding. If one party has been previously married, the wedding cannot move forward unless an annulment has been granted by the Catholic Church

Baptism Preparation
Please call Samantha Johnson at 320-304-3857.

Pastoral Care
If any parishioner or family member needs a pastoral care visit and Holy Communion, please call the parish office. Today's privacy laws do not permit hospitals to contact churches when a patient needs a pastoral visit. We are made aware of it only when the individual or their friends and family contact us. We are also not always aware of parishioners that are homebound and would desire a pastoral visit.

Catholic Charities
Offers personal, marriage, family and pregnancy counseling at 1-866-670-5163

Prayer Line
If you would like to put someone on the prayer line, please call the Area Office at 320-842-4271. After hours, please call Patricia Walsh at 320-843-2226.
St. John Prayer Chain—please call Anne Bonk at 320-394-2160 if you have someone to put on the prayer chain.

RCIA
Anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church please call the Area Office at 320-842-4271

Registration/Moving
To register in a parish or if moving, call the AFC Office at 320-842-4271 or the Sacred Heart office at 320-875-2451 or St. John's at 320-289-1146.

We are now livestreaming Masses at St. Francis Church on our YouTube channel. You can also view them at a later time. Here is the link: Saint Francis Benson MN - YouTube

St. Francis Church Office Hours: Some staff will be working from home more often. We will try to keep our office hours as normal as possible, but if you need to see someone in particular, please call ahead. You can still contact the office via phone and email as usual. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Names will be on Prayer List for one month
Please pray for all those in the military & their families.
Kenny Haas
Kathlena
Justin
Please pray for our priest, Father Jeremy. To add a name to the prayer list call 842-4271 or send an e-mail to office@stisidorethefarmerafc.org
Please give your name and phone number so we can call you if there are any questions. If person is other than a **close** family member, ask the person's permission to add their names to the prayer list.

The Vocation View
The Lord has risen; it is true! Proclaim it to the world! Pray for an increase in vocations to priesthood and religious life. (Matthew 28:1-10)

Confirmation Mass will be held Sunday, April 11 at 10:30 am at St. John in Appleton. An extra Mass for St. John has been added on Saturday, April 10 at 7pm. **Please, only Confirmation families should attend the Confirmation Mass.** There will not be enough room for other parishioners. Please attend the Saturday Mass or another of our area Masses.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday, April 5	5:00 pm Rosary in Benson – that our Lenten prayers, fasting, and almsgiving bring God's favor to our country.
Tuesday, April 6	9-10 am Holy Hour & Confessions in Benson
Wed., April 7	3:30-4:45 pm 2nd/3rd Grade class at St. Francis Gathering Space 6:45 pm Grade 10 & 11 class at St. Francis Church 7:00 pm Patriotic Rosary in Benson
Thursday, April 8	Confessions following Mass in Murdock
Saturday, April 10	Raffle drawing following 5 pm Mass in Benson
Sunday, April 11	10:30 am Confirmation Mass in Appleton. Please, Confirmation families only. Others, please attend the Saturday night Mass in Appleton or another Mass in our AFC

HAPPY EASTER! - We prayed, fasted and gave alms—and now we rejoice because Christ is risen! Our Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl challenges us as we begin the Easter season to share the joy of having a loving God that is alive and accompanies us always. Let's do the same by being present to our global family by caring for their material and spiritual needs. Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl.

American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

GIVE BLOOD . . . HELP SAVE LIVES! There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive ~ Tuesday, April 6th from 12:00 Noon – 6:00 pm at St. John's Catholic Church. Sponsor Code: Appleton Area Health . . . To schedule your appointment, please call April Molden at 289-8504 or visit www.redcrossblood,.org. All eligible donors are encouraged to give. Every 2 seconds someone in the US needs Blood. **Give the GIFT OF LIFE ~ GIVE BLOOD!**

Word On Fire Engage—If you have not been receiving the Word on Fire Engage videos we've been sending out this Lent, please sign up by texting STIS to 84576 or sign up at Flocknote.com/StIsidoretheFarmer1. It has never been easier for you to better understand, or maybe discover for the first time, the beauty of the Catholic faith. You will have access to all of Bishop Robert Barron's high-quality videos for free! If you have any questions or problems, please call Margie at the Area Office: 320-842-4271.

St Francis Family Groups will be conducting a raffle on Saturday, April 10 following the 5 pm Mass at St. Francis. Tickets may be purchased from the office, $5 each. Raffle prizes are: One $500; one $250; five $100 and five $50 cash prizes.

Day of Recollection, April 13 10 am—3 pm at The Abbey of the Hills Inn and Retreat Center., Marvin SD

"Learning to Paddle Upstream: Missionary Discipleship in a Secular Age". Father Scott Traynor, Vicar of Lay and Clergy Formation for the Diocese of Sioux Falls, will be presenting on how every believer can make a big impact and help the faith grow even in the face of our aggressively secular culture. Come to be encouraged and inspired to respond to God's call in your life. Contact 605-398-9200 or visit www.abbeyofthehills.com.org to register

The Diocese of New Ulm will be offering summer organ lessons for current organists seeking deeper exploration of the organ or pianists interested in discovering the gift of this incredible instrument! Lessons will be personalized to your schedule. For more information call 507-233-5320, worship@dnu.org, www.dnu.org/worship. Registration deadline is May 10, 2021.

COVID-19 Protocols

- **Church Occupancy** limits have been lifted, but capacity must be adjusted to allow for Social Distance of 6 ft. between households
- **Mass Obligation**: The bishops of the state have removed the religious obligation to attend Mass on Sunday, so no one should feel the obligation to come if he or she does not feel safe. You may consider attending other Masses during the week to spread out the numbers.
- **At Risk Individuals**: Those over the age of 65 or with a compromised health condition are strongly encouraged not to attend Mass. However, you are still welcome if you choose to come.
- **Showing Symptoms:** Anyone showing any symptoms of sickness, or anyone who has a household member who is sick or showing symptoms of sickness should not attend; this includes priests or other ministers who are sick or showing signs of sickness.
- **Holy Communion:** Communion will be the consecrated host, in the hand, no sharing of the chalice. Please maintain 6 foot distance between other parishioners while in procession**.** The priest will wear a mask and sanitize his hands before distributing communion.
- **Protective Wear:** . Parishioners will need to wear a mask while attending Mass. Cloth face masks are available in the churches.
- **Greeting:** People will be instructed not to greet each other with touching.
- The same protocols for attending Mass should be used when visiting any of our offices.

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Your Adult Sunday Offerings are vital to the core ministries of our parishes. You are encouraged to continue your financial support of your parish. St. Francis parishioners can use the MyEoffering online giving. A link is available on the parish website. You can also mail in your contributions to your parish office. St. Francis donations can be mailed to 508 13th Street North, Benson, MN 56215. Sacred Heart to PO Box 9, Murdock, MN 56271. St. John to 349 East Reuss Ave, Appleton, MN 56208.. Thank you for your continued support of your parishes.

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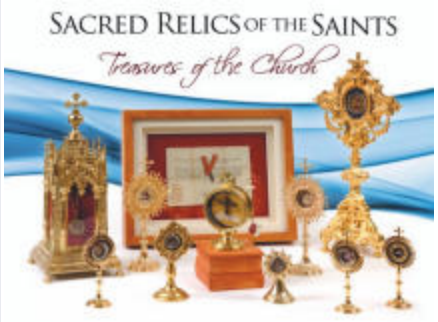
Our churches are open for those who wish to pray:

⇒St. Francis, Benson – will be open Monday through Friday during business hours

⇒Sacred Heart, Murdock will be open 7 am–7 pm daily

⇒St. John, Appleton–will be open 9 am—3 pm daily

We ask that you practice good hygiene when entering the church (wash hands, use hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, etc. and practice social distancing)



EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS

Two opportunities for a teaching and exposition of over 150 Sacred Relics. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Andrew, St. Paul, St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Anthony of Padua. In addition there will also be present a piece of a veil which belonged to Our Lady and one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world. Presented by Fr. Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross.

- Thursday, April 29, Holy Rosary, Graceville, MN
- Tuesday, May 4, St. Andrew, Granite Falls, MN

Both presentations are at 6:30 pm. For more information see www.treasuresofthechurch.com

SYMPATHY

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Denise Hess who passed on March 19. Denise's funeral Mass was held on Saturday, March 27 at St. Francis in Benson. May the Holy Spirit bring consolation and healing to all her loved ones.

OLD PALMS ~ Please bring Palms to the box/basket in the Gathering Spaces at church. Old Palms may also be burned or buried in a garden or field. **DO NOT THROW PALMS IN THE GARBAGE.**

OUR WEEKLY OFFERING

Due to early bulletin deadlines, some collection figures will appear in next week's bulletin.

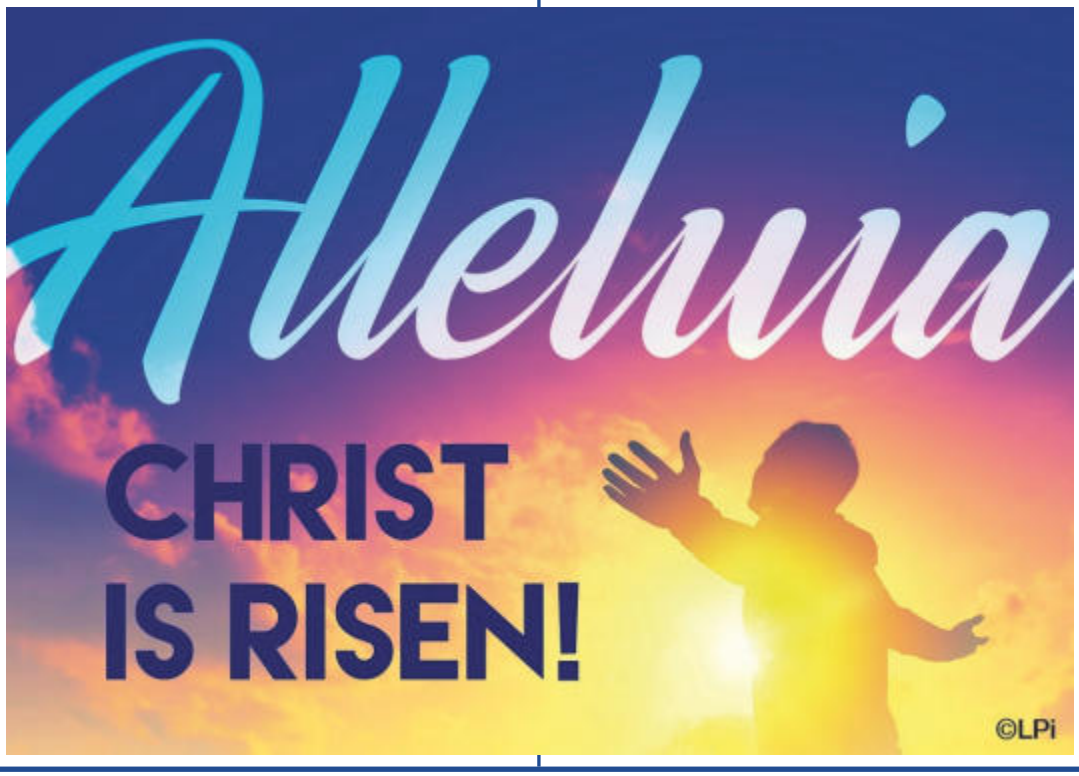
Sacred Heart: Murdock

Adult	$1,098.00
Student	$40.00
Loose Plate	$36.00
DUF	$10.00
Fuel	$20.00
Easter	$20.00
Black & Indian Mission	$10.00
Catholic Relief Services	$50.00
Holy Land	$10.00
San Lucas	$10.00
Easter Decorations	$10.00
Parish Cemetery	$10.00
Initial Offering	$5.00
Ash Wednesday	$15.00
Sacred Heart Youth Group	$1,000.00
Srs. Of Mary Morningstar	$100.00
Total	**$2,444.00**

Thank you for sending in your contribution envelopes. Your continued financial support is much appreciated and necessary to help pay church expenses during this difficult time.

Reflections for the weekly readings are part of this bulletin. This publication is sponsored by the *Knights of Columbus Council #2129.*

RICE BOWLS . . . Please return to your home parish collection during Holy Week or Easter Sunday. Thank You.



Sunday, Apr 04, 2021

SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)

Race to understanding

Does it matter who gains insight first, so long as we all get there? Competition is overrated, which may be why evangelists don't agree on who arrives at the tomb first. Mark reports that Mary Magdalene; Mary, mother of James; and Salome got there at dawn. Matthew asserts it was the Magdalene and the "other Mary." Luke claims it was Mary Magdalene; James' mother, Mary; Joanna; and assorted "others." In John, the Magdalene arrives alone. You may be a cradle Catholic, or this may be your first Easter. Welcome to the recognition that death doesn't have the final say.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Victimae Paschali Laudes; John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7 (42, 41) or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35 (46). *"They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first."*

Monday, Apr 05, 2021

EASTER MONDAY

Weave a life of meaning

Everyone knows the joy of creating—whether it be a work of art, a meal, or a family. It's a way of expressing ourselves, sharing our love, and using our talents to serve. It's also a consolation during tough times. Maybe you took up some new, creative pastimes during the pandemic. Saint Maria Crescentia Höss, whose feast is today, was a weaver in 18th-century Bavaria before she became a nun, and when she was assigned to servitude and living in a cubbyhole in the monastery, she kept weaving. Maybe that helped sustain her until she eventually rose to be elected the mother superior. Holy creativity can feed your soul.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15 (261). *"They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage."*

Tuesday, Apr 06, 2021

EASTER TUESDAY

Sing the Octave

Happy Octave of Easter—the eight days between, and including, Easter Sunday and Divine Mercy Sunday. By relishing the Resurrection for eight whole days instead of just one, the church declares it the cornerstone of belief. What's more: In contrast to the Christmas Octave, we observe no other feast days during Easter Octave, keeping the Resurrection our only focus. Why eight? Christianity's Jewish roots feature ritual celebrations that end on the eighth day—a week, when you count both the first and last days. Make every day this week a "mini-Easter," as our church intends. Sing Alleluia for eight days.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18 (262). *"Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' "*

Wednesday, Apr 07, 2021

EASTER WEDNESDAY

Pray for all who heal a world in pain

On April 7, 1948, the World Health Organization was established as a leading global health authority within the United Nations system. In 2021, the WHO counts 7,000 members from 150 countries. It declares that the health of all people is essential to attaining peace and security, and among other things chooses a particular health theme each year to mark its anniversary. Past themes include mental health, maternal and childcare, and climate change. Mindful that the world's aging population is living longer, the WHO set this year's theme as "Aging and Health." On this Easter Wednesday, as we take note of the healing miracles within the early Christian community, ask the Lord to bless all who work to safeguard the health of humanity.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35 (263). *"And a man crippled from birth was carried and placed at the gate of the temple."*

Thursday, Apr 08, 2021

EASTER THURSDAY

Keep it going

We are still in the Octave of Easter, the eight days following Easter. The Octave is meant to keep the celebration going, to keep savoring the joy of the Resurrection. The gospel for each day focuses on the Risen Christ. In the early church, those who were baptized at the Easter Vigil would continue wearing their white garments all week in recognition of the life-changing, festive event. You've likely been changing your clothes during the Octave, but try keeping your focus on the Resurrection. Meditate on a time that God has blessed you with new life.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:11-26, Luke 24:35-48 (264). *"He stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"*

Friday, Apr 09, 2021

EASTER FRIDAY

It all adds up

Numbers play a key role throughout salvation history: Yahweh, the *one* true God; the *5,000* fed; the cock crowing *three* times; the *Triduum*; the *Trinity*; and the *third* time Jesus appears to his disciples after his death, which we read about in today's beautiful gospel story of Jesus cooking breakfast for his disciples on the seashore. Numerologists love to explore all the hidden meanings packed in the biblical numbers. But the gospel message is actually quite simple. Jesus alone feeds us. Remember that next time you are looking for sustenance elsewhere.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14 (265). *"Jesus said to them, 'Come, have breakfast.'"*

Saturday, Apr 10, 2021

EASTER SATURDAY

Faith takes time

What would you think if you heard that someone you knew was dead had risen from the grave? It's no wonder the disciples doubted the story. No less a witness than Mother Teresa of Calcutta expressed serious doubts about God's existence over the course of her life. "Where is my faith?" she wrote. "There is nothing but emptiness." And she's a saint! So when loved ones stop going to church and express doubts about God—or if you yourself face such doubts—accept it as a part of the spiritual journey each of us walks. Keep praying and be patient. Faith takes time and hits dry spells. But in God's heart, there's all the time in the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15 (266). *"When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time

Take Five for Faith

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