

# The Basilica of St. John

1915 University Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50314 • 515-244-3101 • Fax: 515-244-3165  
email: basilicadm@msn.com • www.basilicaofstjohn.org



Named to the National Historic Registry, September 8, 1987  
Elevated to the rank of Minor Basilica by Pope John Paul II, October 4, 1989

Pastor: *The Very Reverend Aquinas M. Nichols*

Deacons: *Rev. Mr. Frank Lopez*  
*Rev. Mr. Luke Tieskoetter*  
*Rev. Mr. Mark Campbell*

Business Manager:

Bookkeeper:

Pastor's Secretary/Office Manager:

Receptionist:

Director of Faith Formation & RCIA Coordinator:

Holy Family School Principal:

Director of Religious Education:

Music Director:

Altar & Rosary President:

Knights of Columbus:

Finance Council:

Pastoral Council:

Hispanic Ministry:

Marriage Ceremonies:

Homebound Ministry:

Baptism Preparation/Youth Ministry/Annulments:

Charles Stastny (244-3101, ext. 205)

Karen Hoff (244-3101, ext. 205)

Barb Kean (244-3101, ext. 0)

Margaret Voss (244-3101, ext. 0)

Jenifer Parsons (244-3101, ext. 204)

Martin Flaherty (Office: 262-8025)

Margaret Stastny (515-244-3101 ext 220)

Gail Johll (515-462-1266)

Lisa Chicchelly

Council 644 (515-244-3101 ext 300)

Hugh O'Hagan

Jenifer Parsons (244-3101, ext. 204)

Fr. Reynaldo Hernandez, Chaplain (515-554-7138)

Rev. Mr. Frank Lopez (288-1287)

Rev. Mr. Frank Lopez (371-2575)

Rev. Mr. Luke Tieskoetter (249-1327)

Rev. Mr. Mark Campbell

Masses:	Saturday:	9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Sunday Vigil), 6:00p.m. (Spanish Mass)
	Sunday:	8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. (Festive Sung Mass)
	Holy Days:	Usually 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. (check voicemail for Mass Schedule changes)
	National Holidays:	Usually 9:00 a.m. (or check Mass Schedule on the inside of this bulletin)
	Weekdays:	12:00 noon

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament:

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Baptism:

Marriage:

Visit to Sick:

New Parishioners:

Mass Homily:

Pregnancy Hotline:

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Saturday: 2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. or by appointment

Parishioners contact the parish office - (515)244-3101 ext.204

Parishioners contact the office at least 6 months prior to requested date of marriage

Please inform office of any illness or hospitalization in the family

Please contact the Parish Office to register as a member of our parish

BasilicaofStJohn.org click on Live Telecast tab.

For those considering abortion: 1-800-848-LOVE

# A light of revelation to the Gentiles and glory for your people Israel.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Lord's Presentation in the temple. Jesus, indeed, is the Light of the World. As his faithful disciples we are called to carry his light to the ends of the earth. We do so by reflecting Christ in our lives to all those that we meet. May he give us the grace and strength we need to be his faithful disciples.

This past week our oldest parishioner, Frances Dubiel, died on Monday evening. Frances was 106 years old. For many years she cared for our altar linens until she became homebound about 10 years ago. Some of the lace on our altar clothes, which she made, came from her brother's albs. He was a Monsignor. Let us remember Frances in our prayers. She was a good, kind and holy person. She will be buried next to her husband in Illinois. May she rest in peace.

Don't forget the upcoming Chili Cook-off sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Further details are in the bulletin. The money raised will go to help pay for the new, bound missalettes.

May the Lord continue to bless all of you!

Devotedly in the Lord,

*Aquinas M. Nichols*

(The Very Reverend) Aquinas M. Nichols  
Pastor

## WEEKLY INCOME – 1/26/20

Total - \$14,010.36

Need - \$21,311.35

## Year to Date (YTD) – Fiscal Year July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

YTD Total - \$651,120.55

YTD Need - \$639,340.50

**REMAINING ELEVATOR DEBT: \$53,970.87**

**DEBT TO FOUNDATION: \$20,000.00**

New ways to give to the Basilica of Saint John: Text-To-Give phone number. With Text-To-Give you simply put in a dollar amount and send a text to the following: (515) 293-4810. Scan the following QR Code for a one-time gift or setup an account.



**FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING:** There will be a meeting Wednesday, February 5 for all parents of children preparing to receive First Communion on May 3, 2020. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the school. This meeting is for all parents registered at the Basilica whose children are being prepared for First Communion in the Basilica Religious Education program and those registered, Basilica parents whose children are home schooled or who are receiving religious education in another faith formation program. This is a very important meeting. Please bring a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate to this meeting. We must receive the Baptismal Certificate before your child can receive First Communion. If you are unable to attend, please call either Margaret at 515-244-3101 ext. 220 or Jenifer at 515-244-3101 ext. 204.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 1 TO FEBRUARY 9 TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS		
<b>SAT 01</b>	4:00PM 6:00PM	Special Intention Spanish Mass
<b>SUN 02</b>	8:30AM 10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors +Deceased Nguyen Family Members
<b>MON 03</b>	12:00PM	+Marguerite Claerhout
<b>TUE 04</b>	12:00PM	+Cody Henritz
<b>WED 05</b>	12:00PM	+Donna Blaskovich
<b>THU 06</b>	12:00PM	Intentions of Fr. Thomas DeCarlo
<b>FRI 07</b>	12:00PM	+Don Biddle
<b>SAT 08</b>	9:00AM	+Living/Deceased Members of Altar & Rosary
<b>(Vigil Mass)</b>		
	4:00PM	+Kathryn Mauro
<b>SUN 09</b>	8:30AM 10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors +Dorothy Halliburton

THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:  
[www.BasilicaofStJohn.org](http://www.BasilicaofStJohn.org) and click on the link...  
..... "LIVE TELECAST" tab to watch daily Mass and the Sunday Mass.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Do you know someone who is in need of prayer? The Basilica Prayer Chain can help. To request prayers email Deacon Luke Tieskoetter at [tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com](mailto:tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com) or Terri at 321-2743 or [sinc2@aol.com](mailto:sinc2@aol.com).

## CATECHISM CORNER:

Last week's question:

**In what does the final judgment consist?**

**ANSWER:** The final or universal judgment consists in a sentence of happiness or eternal condemnation, which the Lord Jesus will issue in regard to the "just and the unjust" (Acts 24:15) when he returns as the Judge of the living and the dead. After the last judgment, the resurrected body will share in the retribution which the soul received at the particular judgment.



Your 2019 tithing/tax letters are ready. You can pick them up in the parish office Monday thru Friday, 8am-4pm. If you have questions please call the office at 244-3101, ext. 0.





# The Basilica of St. John

## The Presentation of the Lord

### February 2, 2020

Respect  
Life



#### YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK FEBRUARY 3 THRU FEBRUARY 9

MON 03	9:00AM 6:30PM 6:30PM 7:00PM	Adoration Begins@ RCIA** KC Council Meeting+ Hispanic Choir Practice**
TUE 04	8:00AM 12:45PM 6:30PM	Organ Practice+++ Youth Choir+++ Adult Faith Class**
WED 05	9:00AM 6:15PM 6:30PM 7:00PM	Adoration Begins@ Religious Ed. **+ Youth Group** First Communion Parents Meeting**
THU 06	8:00AM 5:45PM 7:00PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice+++ Bell Choir+++ Choir+++ Hispanic Choir Practice**
FRI 07	9:00AM	Adoration Begins@
SAT 08	8:30AM 9:45AM 10:00AM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy## Altar & Rosary Meeting+ Carmelite's Meeting+
SUN 09	8:00AM 12:00PM	Vietnamese Prayer Group% Pro Life Meeting+

**KC Chili Cook-Off**

**Daily Scripture Readings for the week of February 3, 2020:**  
**Monday:** 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20  
**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43  
**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6  
**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13  
**Friday:** Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29  
**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34  
**Sunday:** Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

**LIFELINES: The "Choice" is Ours at the Ballot Box (cont'd):** Cardinal Egan and the Catholic bishops of New York released a statement (Our Cherished Right, Our Solemn Duty) urging voters to make pro-life issues their first priority when voting. They say the destruction of 60 million children and the injury of countless millions of women eclipses any other political issue. The bishops warn against voting solely out of party loyalty or self interest and say voters should be guided by the pro-life teachings of the Catholic Church. "The inalienable right to life of every innocent human person outweighs other concerns where Catholics may use prudential judgment, such as how best to meet the needs of the poor or to increase access to health care for all," they add. "The right to life is the right through which all others flow," they wrote. "To the extent candidates reject this fundamental right by supporting an objective evil, such as legal abortion, euthanasia or embryonic stem cell research, Catholics should consider them less acceptable for public office." Today, in America 3,500 innocent babies lose their lives each day and in the words of Pope John Paul II "the blood of the victims cry to God for justice." Tragically, that figure could be even greater depending on the outcome of this election. (Pro-lifearticles.org)



**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH:** Adam & Terri Nichols & Family.



**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Congratulations to **Remi Ward** and her family on the recent celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism.

**40 Days for Life:** Sign up for this Lenten campaign has begun. It goes from February 26 through April 5. The Basilica Pro-life group has chosen Friday, March 27 to pray at the Drake Planned Parenthood and Friday, April 3, to pray at the Army Post Rd. location. This campaign has been very successful worldwide and has been a pro-life witness for our community. The unborn are grateful for all you can do. Thank you. The Basilica Pro-life Group



**ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY:** Altar & Rosary will meet on Saturday, February 8 following the Saturday 9:00 a.m. Mass. Linda Murphy's Band #4 will host.



**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL:** Registration is open to our currently enrolled families. Please contact the school office with any registration questions you may have. **An informational meeting will be held for all parents who are interested in their child attending Holy Family Catholic School's Pre-K and Kindergarten classes for the 2020-2021 school year. This meeting will be held in the school gym on Wednesday, February 19, at 6:00 p.m. Admission procedure, financial aid, immunization requirements, curriculum, and the school mission will be shared at this event.** Holy Family Catholic School is looking for substitute teachers, if you can substitute please call the school to set up a meeting.

The Des Moines St. Serra Club is hosting a "new member recruitment and orientation" dinner on Sunday evening February 23<sup>rd</sup> hosted by Fr. John Bertogli. It will be held at Tumea & Son Restaurant. This recruitment is to give our Club more balance of members across all parishes in the area. We would really like to encourage Basilica parishioners to consider joining. Our members work to support our priests, seminarians, sisters, deacons and religious in a variety of ways, especially through prayer. If you are interested in attending this **complimentary "orientation" dinner** please contact the Basilica parish office at 515-244-3101, ext 0 or email [basilicadm@msn.com](mailto:basilicadm@msn.com). The St. Serra Club will need to have this information in by the end of this week, February 7th, in order to send out invitations.

#### AROUND THE DIOCESE

**Ladies' MOSAIC Luncheon:** This free luncheon series provides women the perfect opportunity to invite their friends out for fellowship food and an inspiring presentation! The next luncheon will be Thursday, February 13 at St. Theresa's Catholic Church, 1230 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines. Doors open for lunch at 11:30am, the programs runs 12pm-1pm. The presentation will be given by Chris Magruder, founder and president of "The Veil Removed", a short film project about the Mass. She is also a co-host of "Catholic Woman Now" on Iowa Catholic Radio. Her presentation will be on "The Miracle of the Veil Removed." Reserve your seat today, contact [IowaCatholicRadio.com/events](http://IowaCatholicRadio.com/events) or call 515-223-1150.

**Man-Up West Power Lunch, February (Catholic Fellowship for Men):** Friday, February 14th at Noon/St. Francis of Assisi Parish, West Des Moines. St. John Paul II said man cannot live without love, and that our lives are meaningless until we encounter love, experience it and make it our own. On Valentine's Day there is a lot of talk about love, and at our power lunch Adam Storey, Director of the Marriage and Family Life Office, will explore what love really means, how to identify counterfeits of love, and concrete ways to respond more fully to God's invitation to love found in our marriages, families, and homes. **Wives, girlfriends and mothers are invited to join us (at this meeting only) for this special event.** Lunch from Chick-fil-A/ Fellowship/Program: 12:00pm, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church- 7075 Ashworth Rd, West Des Moines. Please register **all** who plan to attend this event at [iowacatholicradio.com/events](http://iowacatholicradio.com/events).

## Parish Lenten Study

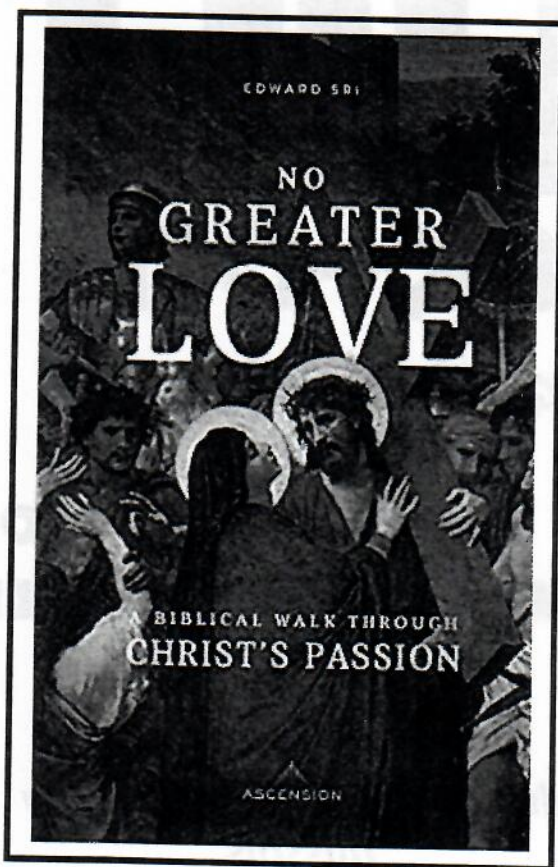
### No Greater Love. A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, Dr. Edward Sri guides us through the last hours of Christ's life. As we walk with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to Calvary, we will experience a deeper understanding of God's immeasurable love for us.

This six-week study will be offered two times each week:

Tuesday evenings 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. and

Wednesday mornings 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.



### No Greater Love A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion

**Tuesday evenings:**

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Begins March 3, 2020.

**Wednesday mornings:**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Begins March 4, 2020.

Materials needed: Book and workbook.

Please bring a Bible.

Call Jenifer at 515-244-3101 ext. 204 to register.

Please pre-register by February 19, 2020.

Cost: \$25.00 for the book and workbook.





January 4, 2020  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

OFFICE of the BISHOP

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Even in our often secularized culture, many lament the rise of a digital “dystopia” where words are wielded with abandon and human dignity is a drive-by casualty. This presidential election year whose entr’acte coincides with the Iowa caucuses and extends through November intensifies the stakes and the passions that can poison the well of civic friendship and mutual respect for our neighbors, regardless of their religious, political, or other affiliations.

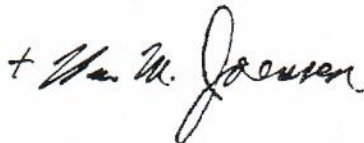
As Catholic Christians and persons of good will, we recognize how easily we, too, can be drawn into the contentious climate and fall short of basic charity in our attitudes and our speech. St. Peter cautions the early Christian community: “Rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, insincerity, envy, and all slander” (1 Peter 2:1). And St. Paul likewise counsels: “Therefore, putting away falsehood, speak the truth, each one to his neighbor, for we are members one of another” (Ephesians 4:25).

With a desire to lift up society in accord with our “better angels,” the Diocese of Des Moines is collaborating with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops by participating in a campaign that transcends partisan sentiment: “Civilize It: Dignity beyond the Debate 2020.” The hope is to encourage greater **civility**, **compassion**, and **clarity** in dialogue and engagement that will deepen our appreciation for varied voices, grounded in the belief that each of us by nature is inclined toward the true, the good, and the beautiful. None of us has a monopoly on the truth, but all have been leavened with “seeds of the truth” that we cultivate by forming personal conscience and through communal conversation so we can bear fruit in civic friendship and achievement of the common good.

Our “Civilize It” campaign is not an exhaustive, time-consuming parish program; it is more about cultivating the “how” and the dispositions of dialogue that will free us to discern and affirm the “what” of ordered goods that reflect our priorities and decisions as a political society. This year-long effort begins in earnest the weekend of February 1-2, 2020, and concludes after the U.S. general election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I sincerely hope you will join me in promoting this initiative and most importantly I pray that we might meet our neighbor with civility, compassion, and clarity during this election season.

Faithfully in Christ,



Most Rev. William M. Joensen, Ph.D.  
Bishop of Des Moines



# CIVILIZE IT



DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

===== 2020 =====

## **Civil Dialogue: A response to Jesus' call to love our neighbor**

Jesus uses the parable of the Good Samaritan to answer a question that is both searing and simple: "Who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10: 29). Our familiarity with this parable makes it easy for us now to identify as "neighbor" those on the margins of our society such as those experiencing homelessness or poverty. But how often do we see our neighbor in the person who disagrees with us?

As Catholics, our strong tradition of social teaching compels us to be actively engaged in the building up of our communities. This is achieved by being involved in the political process—and yet today, many shy away from such involvement because our national and local conversations are filled with vitriol and harsh language, often directed at people themselves. When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities.

What is needed is good, honest, civil dialogue. This means that we must treat everyone as worthy of being at the table, worthy of our respect, and worthy of being heard. In short, it means treating everyone as our neighbor.

We undermine our commitment to human life and dignity when we fail to see the dignity of those who have a different viewpoint. We must detach from the bitterness that surrounds us and seek a better path. A commitment to civil dialogue

can help us make real and authentic human connections, which breaks down the barriers that divide us.

Engaging in civil dialogue can help our faith communities create a new space to model love for our neighbors and respect for the dignity of all.

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### Tips for Engaging in Civil Dialogue:

1. Listen first and seek to understand the whole picture.
2. Ask questions for clarification.
3. Use 'I' statements; pay attention to body language.
4. Listen to what feelings are present and pay attention to how you respond.
5. Summarize what you've heard and ask for feedback.



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Civil dialogue can best be defined as the ability to enter meaningful conversation with people whose viewpoints may be different from our own, who have a different background or experiences, or who come to a different conclusion about the best way to promote the common good. We enter into civil dialogue because we want to build a community that is rooted in understanding one another. God's love for each person requires us to remember that someone who disagrees with us is still a beloved child of





God who deserves our love, respect, and care.

An important ingredient to civil dialogue is commitment to the truth. While respecting the dignity of all, we acknowledge that not all viewpoints are equally valid. We have the responsibility to speak truth with love. In addition, all who exercise their freedom of speech have an obligation to ensure that they come to conclusions based on data from credible and reputable sources, and that care is taken to avoid seeking the truth selectively, that is, only when it is convenient to us.

Civil dialogue is different than remaining silent in the face of disagreement. Listening to opposing views is a part of seeking clarity and can be a creative process. In civil dialogue, all are invited to bring and share their values, beliefs, and questions. We seek first to understand how our views on a topic are different and why. We ask questions to be sure we understand one another. In thinking critically about how we arrived at our own view points and listening to the experiences of others, we can sometimes arrive at new understanding and even find common ground.

Pope Francis has remarked, "Dialogue allows people to know and understand one another's needs. Above all, it is a sign of great respect, because it puts the person into a stance of listening, and into a condition of being receptive to the speaker's best viewpoints. Secondly, dialogue is an expression of charity because, while not ignoring differences, it can help us investigate and share the common good. Moreover, dialogue invites us to place ourselves before the other, seeing him or her as a gift of God, and as someone who calls upon us and asks to be acknowledged."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis, *Jubilee Audience at St. Peter's Square*, October 22, 2016.

Just like any authentic human connection, the process of dialogue is complicated, often uncomfortable, and requires vulnerability and trust. We must rely on our faith in Christ who taught us that everyone is truly our neighbor. Promoting civil discourse is one way we can put this teaching into action.

Interested in learning more about civil dialogue or about how your community can engage in civil dialogue more often? Join USCCB's *Civilize It* Campaign to help promote dignity beyond the debate. A version of this campaign was first implemented by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and is a call for all people to civilize our conversations. Visit [civilizeit.org](http://civilizeit.org) for more information, to take the pledge, or plan an opportunity for civil dialogue in your community.

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If you are part of a group looking to create an opportunity for civil dialogue in your community, it may be helpful to consider these questions:

1. Is our intention to facilitate greater understanding, or merely win a debate?
2. Whose voices are we including? Whose are missing? Who else should be invited to the conversation?
3. How can we remember our shared human dignity and deescalate the situation when we feel ourselves become tense?
4. What guidelines could the group set together that will keep the conversation centered on dialogue instead of debate, and honor the dignity of all people present?



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**Notifications can be sent to more than one email or cell  
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**Sign up online at *basilicaofstjohn.org*  
or complete this form and return it to the parish office.**

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Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

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from the Basilica of St. John. You can revoke your consent at any time.



## PHOTO CONSENT FORM

**Please fill out this form to give the Basilica of St. John permission to publish photos of your children in our newsletter or online.**

At various times of the year, materials will be published with pictures of children from the Basilica of St. John. These publications could include, but are not be limited to, newsletter and newspaper articles, promotional materials, web site articles, Powerpoint presentations, iMovies, and the like.

Please indicate below whether your child's picture can be published. We will not identify your child by name. Only the picture will be used.

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Name(s) Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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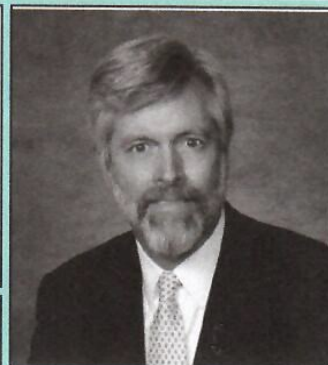
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Basilica of John, Des Moines, IA

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