

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. Luke Tieskoetter*
Rev. Mr. Mark Campbell
Rev. Mr. Juan Bustamante

Business Manager:
Bookkeeper:
Pastor's Secretary/Office Manager:
Office Assistant:
Director of Religious Education &
Adult Faith Formation, RCIA Coordinator:
Holy Family School Principal:
Music Director:
Altar & Rosary President:
Knights of Columbus:
Finance Council:
Pastoral Council:
Hispanic Ministry:

Charles Stastny (244-3101, ext. 205)
Karen Hoff (244-3101, ext. 205)
Barb Kean (244-3101, ext. 0)
Pamela Meis (244-3101, ext. 0)

Margaret Stastny (244-3101 ext 204)
Martin Flaherty (Office: 262-8025)
Gail Johll (515-462-1266)
Lisa Chicchelly
Council 644 (515-244-3101 ext 300)
Hugh O'Hagan
Seth Sojka
Fr. Reynaldo Hernandez, Chaplain (515-554-7138)
Rev. Mr. Juan Bustamante (515-868-9218)
Elvia Garza (515-771-3900)
Rev. Mr. Luke Tieskoetter (249-1327)
Rev. Mr. Mark Campbell

Hispanic Office-Secretary:
Homebound Ministry:
Baptism Preparation/Youth Ministry/Annulments:

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. 0
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



The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This is already the last Sunday of Advent! During these final days of preparation let us open our hearts to the coming of the Lord so that we may celebrate his birth with great joy!

By order of His Excellency Bishop Joensen, the WEARING OF A MASK IS MANDATED FOR ALL CHURCHES IN THE DIOCESE OF DES MOINES FOR ALL FUNCTIONS WITHIN THE CHURCHES. This includes Mass and any other liturgical functions, as well as in the vestibule until you have exited the Basilica. This mandate is in place until at least 02 February 2021. ALL SOCIAL FUNCTIONS ARE ALSO TO BE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. Those with physical or psychological reasons are exempted from the mandate. Please heed the Bishop's wishes in this matter.

You have received my annual Christmas Appeal in the mail by now. As always, we rely on your generous response to this appeal each year to make up our deficit and to carry us along into the new year. I ask that you generously respond to the appeal and make whatever extra sacrifice you are able to help in this regard. If you wish credit for this year's tithing, please have your donation in by December 31st.

The schedule of Masses for Christmas is in the bulletin, on the website, and posted on the bulletin board. There will be an extra Mass on Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m. this year. There will be no Children's Mass as such. I ask that you spread out for these Masses, especially since there is an extra Mass on Christmas Eve. Seating in the Basilica will be on a first come basis. Please do not remove the ribbons that mark off the pews not to be used. There will be the opportunity for the overflow to watch the Mass in the Mulvihill Hall. Holy Communion will be brought down to the hall at the appropriate time. There will be a second collection at all the Masses to help reduce our debt as we go into the New Year.

We are also in need of donated poinsettias to beautify our Basilica for Christmas. All who are able are asked to help decorate the Basilica today after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Many hands make less work! May the Lord continue to bless you all!

Devotedly in the Lord,

Aquinas M. Nichols

(The Very Reverend) Aquinas M. Nichols
Pastor

WEEKLY INCOME – 12/13/20

Total - \$16,010.62
Need - \$17,372.08

Year to Date (YTD) – Fiscal Year July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021
YTD Total - \$337,678.85
YTD Need - \$416,929.92

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.



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 19 TO DECEMBER 27

TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS

SAT 4:00PM +Joseph
19 6:00PM Spanish Mass

SUN **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
20 8:30AM +Deceased Members of Nguyen, Pham & Le Families
10:30AM Parish & Benefactors

MON
21 12:00PM +William Manion

TUE
22 12:00PM +Madeline James

WED
23 12:00PM +Walt McManus

THU *The Nativity of the Lord*
24 12:00PM (Last Mass of Advent) +Fr. Tan Tran
3:00PM Church Open
4:00PM +Ryan Jones
6:00PM +Mark Bailey
11:00PM Church Open
FRI No Choir Concert
25 12:00AM Solemn Midnight Mass of Christmas:
+Parish & Benefactors
10:30AM +Sheila Gallop



SAT **NO MORNING MASS AT THE BASILICA**
26 9:00AM +Judy Tatz

(Vigil Mass)
4:00PM +James Teehan

SUN **THE HOLY FAMILY**
27 8:30AM +Helen Homan
10:30AM Parish & Benefactors

THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:
www.BasilicaofStJohn.org home page, scroll down to "Streaming Masses" & click on the 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 or Terri at 321-2743 or sinc2@aol.com.

CATECHISM CORNER:

Last week's question: ***From where do the sacramental signs come?***

ANSWER: Some come from created things (light, water, fire, bread, wine, oil); others come from social life (washing, anointing, breaking of bread). Still others come from the history of salvation in the Old Covenant (the Passover rites, the sacrifices, the laying on of hands, the consecrations). These signs, some of which are normative and unchangeable, were taken up by Christ and are made the bearers of his saving and sanctifying action.



The Basilica of St. John
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
DECEMBER 21 THRU DECEMBER 27

MON 9:00AM NO Adoration
 21 6:30PM NO RCIA(H)

TUE 8:00AM Organ Practice
 22

WED 9:00AM NO Adoration
 23 6:45PM Prayer & Adoration (Ch)

THU **Parish Office closed at noon**
 24 8:00AM Organ Practice
Church opens at 3pm for 4pm Mass
Church opens at 11pm for Midnight Mass

FRI *Merry Christmas!!*
 25 **Parish office closed**
 9:00AM NO Adoration
Church opens at 9:30am for 10:30 Mass

SAT 8:30AM NO Chaplet of Divine Mercy
 26

SUN 8:00AM NO Vietnamese Prayer Group
 27

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of December 21, 2020:

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
 Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
 Thursday: Day: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
 Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25
 Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
 Friday: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
 Saturday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:22-40

LIFELINES: The Incarnation-"By his incarnation the Son of God has united himself in some fashion with every human being" (Vatican II, GS 22). This saving event reveals to humanity not only the boundless love of God who "so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (Jn 3:16), but also the *incomparable value of every human person*. The Church, faithfully contemplating the mystery of the Redemption, acknowledges this value with ever new wonder. She feels called to proclaim to the people of all times this "Gospel", the source of invincible hope and true joy for every period of history. *The Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel*" (Pope John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, n.2). (*Priests for Life*)

LIVESTREAMING CHRISTMAS MASSES: We will be Livestreaming all of our Christmas Masses starting on Christmas eve at 4pm, 6pm and the Midnight Mass. Christmas Day Mass will be Livestreamed at 10:30am. You can find these Masses on our website, Basilicaofstjohn.org/livetelecast; Facebook; or YouTube. You can also attend our daily Masses at 12:00pm, and Sunday Mass at 10:30am through Livestreaming.

BAKE SALE THANK YOU: On behalf of the Altar & Rosary Society and the Youth Group, we would like to thank everyone who made a baked item or money donation for the bake sale. It was a great success and we appreciate everyone who stopped down after Mass last weekend and picked up a sweet treat. We could not have done it without you. Thanks again and look for more opportunities to purchase the frozen cinnamon rolls!

END OF YEAR TITHING STATEMENTS: Due to the large number of "end of year" tax/tithing letters not picked up this past year and in order to save money, the 2020 tax letters will not be pre-printed in bulk. They will instead, be printed at each person's request. Please call ahead of time (515-244-3101, ext. 0) to ensure your letter is ready for pickup or to be mailed. If you come in without calling ahead, it may not be available the same day. **The statements will be ready by the end of January.**

O COME, LET US ADORE HIM: Join us every Wednesday night during Advent for prayer and Adoration of our Lord, from 6:45pm until 8pm. The evening will begin with a brief reflection and prayer before exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR NEWS: The Catholic Youth Choir of Central Iowa will be offering last year's Christmas CD, *O Light Most Blessed*, after Masses for a small donation of \$15 or more to the Basilica of St. John. This makes a lovely Christmas gift! They will be available at the parish office and Divine Treasures.



2021 CALENDARS ARE HERE! They are located in the back of the church. One per family, so everyone has a chance to get one!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CYC Registration: Open Registration for the best summer ever is open! Head to stmcenter.com to secure your spot for CYC 2021! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1LMHvS56U9E>

The Third Option: Meet some great people while spending some time with your spouse at The Third Option. This is a program for couples that are hurting and for couples that want to make a good thing better! We go through 14 skill-based workshops that help couples develop better understanding, sensitivity and trust. We meet the second and fourth Monday of each month, from 7-9 p.m. at All Saints Church in Des Moines, 650 NE 52nd Ave.

Catholic Charities needs help: Catholic Charities food pantry in Des Moines needs volunteers on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Personal protective equipment and safe working conditions are in place. If you can help, email Holly at hackermann@catholiccharitiesdm.org





Basilica of Saint John

The Very Rev. Aquinas M. Nichols
Pastor

Advent 2020

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are preparing for the great feast of Christmas in this holy season of Advent. I pray it will be a time of many graces and blessings for all of you.

Bishop Joesnen has issued guidelines for the Christmas Masses as we continue to fight the Covid Pandemic. First of all, our Christmas schedule will be the following:

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. (Church will open at 3:00 p.m.)

6:00 p.m.

Midnight (Church will open at 11:00 p.m.)

Christmas Day

10:30 a.m. (Church will open at 9:30 a.m.)

This year there will be no Children's Mass. A small gift will be on tables in the vestibule for the children. The music will be limited to the organ and one Cantor and there will be no choir concert before the Midnight Mass. You are asked to try and spread out evenly among the scheduled Masses, especially at the Saturday Masses. I know this will require some sacrifice, but the Bishop would prefer not to have the church overly packed. The Mulvihill Hall will be used for the overflow for all Christmas Masses. There will be a screen set up in the hall and Holy Communion will be brought down at the appropriate time.

The Bishop has mandated the use of masks in all the churches in the diocese. This is important for Christmas since there will be many different people in attendance from all over. Please take his instruction seriously, as well as using the hand sanitizer. Please do not try and sit in the pews that have been taped off. The other restrictions continue to be in place such as distancing, especially when coming up for Holy Communion, and coming up last if you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue.

Let us do all we can to keep ourselves, and others, safe. I wish you all a most blessed and joyous Advent and Christmas Season!

Devotedly in the Lord,

(The Very Reverend) Aquinas M. Nichols
Pastor

Christmas and New Year's Schedule 2020/21



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH:

12:00p.m. *Last Mass of Advent*
4:00 p.m. *Christmas Vigil Mass / Church opens at 3:00 p.m.*
6:00 p.m. *Christmas Vigil Mass*
11:00 p.m. *NO Basilica Choir Concert / Church open at 11 p.m.*
12:00 a.m. *Solemn Midnight Mass of Christmas*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH:

10:30 a.m. *Solemn Mass of Christmas Day / Church open at 9:30 a.m.*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26TH:

*Mass Times: NO 9:00 a.m. Mass; 2:45p.m.-3:45p.m.-Confessions;
4:00 p.m.- Sunday Vigil Mass; 6:00 p.m.-Spanish Mass*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH: *Mass: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28TH THRU FRIDAY, JANUARY 1ST: *Mass at 12:00 Noon*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1ST 2021:

Mass at 12:00 Noon

The Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 2021:

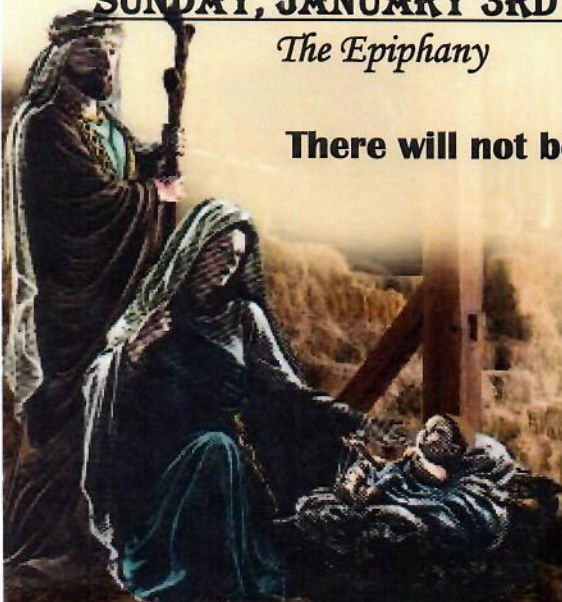
NO 9:00 a.m. Mass; Regular Saturday Mass Schedule

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3RD 2021:

Mass: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The Epiphany

There will not be a Pastor's Open House this year!



*May the Lord's blessing be yours, both
now & throughout the New Year of 2021
Father Aquinas*

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