

The Basilica of St. John

1915 University Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50314 • 515-244-3101 • Fax: 515-244-3165
email: basilicadn@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:

Annulments and Hispanic Ministry

Hispanic Office-Secretary:

Homebound Ministry:

Baptism Preparation/Youth Ministry:

Charles Stastny (244-3101, ext. 205)

Karen Hoff (244-3101, et. 0)

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 (641-919-5431)

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 (515-868-9128)

Elvia Garza (515-771-3900)

Rev. Mr. Luke Tieskoetter (249-1327)

Rev. Mr. Mark Campbell

Masses:

Saturday:

4:00 p.m. (Sunday Vigil), 6:00 p.m. (Spanish Mass)

Sunday:

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

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:

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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

Baptism:

Parishoners contact the parish office - (515)244-3101 ext. 0

Marriage:

Parishoners contact the office at least 6 months prior to request date of marriage

Visit to Sick:

Please inform office of any illness or hospitalization in the family

New Parishoners:

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

Mass Homily:

BasilicaofStJohn.org click on Live Telecast tab.

PregnancyHotline:

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



BEHOLD, I AM THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD. MAY IT BE DONE TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are at the final Sunday of Advent. Today in the Holy Gospel we have the Blessed Mother visiting her cousin Elizabeth and staying to help her until the birth of St. John the Baptist. Mary, who is bearing Christ, goes to her cousin and the baby in her womb leaps for joy because of the presence of the Lord. It is this joy that should permeate our lives as we approach to joyous celebration of the Lord's birth.

Please note carefully the Mass times and Mass obligations which are printed on the insert for the celebration of Christmas this year. The schedule is there for the Christmas Season. Please plan ahead to come to the Pastor's Open House on January 2nd. Bring a snack to share with others.

Thank you for the extra donations which have been coming in from my Christmas Appeal. We are striving to build up our Building Fund for a number of projects which we hope to complete in the coming year, as well as pay up the schools through the end of the fiscal year. Your generosity throughout the fiscal year up to the present has indeed kept us very much ahead of things.

In these final days before Christmas let us meditate on the great mystery of the Lord's Incarnation. May his presence in the Holy Eucharist fill us with joy! May your Christmas be full of joy and peace for all of you. May the Lord bless you in every way!

Devotedly in the Lord,

Aquinas M. Nichols

(The Very Reverend) Aquinas M. Nichols
Pastor

WEEKLY INCOME – 12/12/21

Total - \$14,760.60

Need - \$17,895.19

Year to Date (YTD) – Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

YTD Total - \$500,311.68

YTD Need - \$429,484.56

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.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING: Everyone is welcome to come after the 10:30am Mass TODAY, December 19, to help set up and decorate the Christmas trees!



2022 CALENDARS are now available. They are located in the vestibule of the church and in the parish hall, just outside of the office.



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 18 TO DECEMBER 26

TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS

SAT 18	4:00PM 6:00PM	+Kathryn Mauro Spanish Mass
SUN 19	8:30AM 10:30AM	4th Sunday of Advent +Judy Ritchie McNeerney Parish & Benefactors
MON 20	12:00PM	+Maria Hanian
TUE 21	12:00PM	+Ryan Jones
WED 22	12:00PM	Deceased Family of Bernald & Mary Richter
THU 23	12:00PM	+Joe Koesters
FRI 24	12:00PM 4:00PM 12:00AM	Christmas Eve +Margaret Murray +Leland Harris +Sheila Gallop
SAT 25	4:00PM	Nativity of the Lord Parish & Benefactors
SUN 26	8:30AM 10:30AM	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Parish & Benefactors Intentions of Brooke DePaula



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:

Question: **Is it possible to be saved without Baptism?**

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

(Look for the answer in next week's bulletin)

We want to hear from you! Help the Evangelization Committee by filling out a survey. We want to grow our Parish community and our faith in the Holy Eucharist. Look for the Pink Survey Papers with the candy canes at the entrances to the Basilica on the weekends of December 18/19, 25//26, and January 1/2.



The Basilica of St. John

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK DECEMBER 20 THRU DECEMBER 26

MON 20 9:00AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament@
5:30PM Choir Practice+++
6:30PM NO RCIA**

TUE 21 8:00AM Organ Practice
1:00PM NO Youth Choir
5:30PM Choir Practice+++

WED 22 9:00AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament@
6:15PM NO Religious Ed.

THU 23 8:00AM Organ Practice+++
6:30PM NO Dead Theologians Society**
7:00PM NO Choir Practice+++

FRI 24 11:00PM *Parish Office Closed*
Choir Concert

SAT 25 *Merry Christmas!!*



SUN 26 6:00PM Vietnamese Adoration##

SIGN INDICATORS

+++ = Choir Loft; ** = School; @ = Chapel; * = Rectory; + = Fr. Mulvihill Hall;
= Church; % = Conference Room; (NH) = (North Hall); (SH) = (South Hall)

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of December 20, 2021:

Monday Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
Friday: 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
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Saturday: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

LIFELINES: Choice - Abortion advocates do not want to talk about facts or science, but they love to talk about "choice". They refuse to be called "pro-abortion", but they gladly accept the label, "pro-choice". Indeed, nothing has so clouded and confused the politics of the abortion debate more than the misconstrued application of this word. For years, abortion advocates have sought to bestow upon "choice" a nobility of its own, thereby avoiding discussion of what is being chosen. The fact is that "choice" is nothing apart from the context to which it is applied. Laws against rape, murder, assault, theft, and drunk driving (to name a few) are all "anti-choice". They remove choice in order to protect a more fundamental freedom. In the final analysis, we are only free to choose so long as that choice does not harm another person. For example, a person cannot choose to rape another person because rape is a violent assault on another human being. And so is abortion. Pro-Life Articles



POINSETTIAS: Please consider donating a poinsettia to the Basilica this year to help decorate the church. You can have it delivered/dropped off by Thursday, December 23. If possible, have it wrapped in gold foil. You may attach a card to the poinsettia with a loved one's name on it, in their memory. An insert will be placed in the bulletin after Christmas acknowledging the memory of your loved one.

PLEASE NOTE: If you wish to make a final gift/tithe offering for the year, please be sure to have it post marked by December 31, 2021.



MUSIC NEWS: The annual Basilica Christmas Concert will be held at 11:00 pm on Friday night December 24, Christmas Eve, prior to the Midnight Mass. Consider making your holiday plans to include this sacred time to usher in the celebration of Christ's birth!



ADORATION & SOCIAL: On DECEMBER 31, everyone is invited to the Last Friday Adoration and Social sponsored by our Dead Theologians Society Chapter. We will have a holy hour from 7-8pm with snacks and social to follow in the parish hall until **MIDNIGHT!** Please join us next Friday, December 31 for our New Years Eve celebration!.

To view the bulletin online go to: basilicaofstjohn.org, click on home, click on the current week's bulletin.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Keep the Christmas Spirit Alive: New this year! We have family faith resources at dmidiocese.org/christmas2021 to help parents keep the celebration of the birth of Jesus alive throughout the Christmas liturgical season.

We're Hiring: Catholic Charities has job openings and signing bonuses. See all the opportunities where you can empower individuals and strengthen families. Go here to see the openings: <https://catholiccharitiesdm.bamboohr.com/jobs/>.

FRIPod Podcast: Check out all the latest episodes from the "Friends, Romans, Iowans" podcast, also known as FRIPod. Weekly casual conversations with Catholic leaders around our Diocese can be found on Spotify, Apple Podcast and just about anywhere else you get your podcasts. You can find more information at dmidiocese.org/fripod.

CTO Offers 75% Iowa Tax Credits: Did you hear the good news? You'll now receive 75% Iowa tax credits on every dollar you donate to CTO! You receive amazing tax benefits while providing essential tuition assistance to families right here in our diocese! Donate or learn more at CTOIowa.org today.

Communications Coordinator: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church of West Des Moines, is seeking a full-time Communications Coordinator. This position facilitates the day-to-day communications which includes the bulletin, website, social media, e-newsletters and marketing materials. The ideal candidate will have a demonstrated success in marketing communications, digital and social media, and media relations; with strong writing, editing, communications, and project implementation skills. Candidates should hold a Communications, Marketing, or Journalism degree with a minimum of 3 years of relevant experience. Must have strong computer skills with proficiency in Microsoft Office and web-based content management systems. Practicing Catholic preferred. Please submit Resume and Cover Letter to: Human Resources Coordinator, 7075 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, IA 50266. Or by email: communications@saintfrancischurch.org.





Basilica of Saint John

The Very Rev. Aquinas M. Nichols
Pastor

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With Christmas falling on a Saturday this year please note the following:

Christmas Obligation: This obligation is fulfilled by the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve
The Midnight Mass
The 4:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day

Please note that there will be no morning Mass on Christmas Day since the Mass at 4:00 p.m. must be of the Christmas Solemnity. There will be no confessions on Christmas Day.

Sunday Obligation: This obligation is fulfilled by either of the two morning Masses on Sunday but not by the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, since the Saturday Mass must be of Christmas Day. The Sunday Masses will be for the Feast of the Holy Family.

The following weekend there is no Mass for the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God this year, since there is no obligation because it falls on a Saturday. The 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday and the two Sunday morning Masses will be for the Solemnity of the Epiphany, and they all fulfill the Sunday obligation. There will be no confessions again on Saturday, New Year's Day.

I hope this makes everything clear for this year. The Lord's blessings be with all of you during this holy time.

Father Aquinas

Christmas and New Year's Schedule

Friday, December 24th: **(Parish Office Closed)**

12:00 Noon Last Mass of Advent
4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass
11:00 p.m. Choir Concert
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass of Christmas

Saturday, December 25th: **NO CONFESSION** ****NO Morning Mass****

4:00 p.m. Mass of Christmas Day
6:00 p.m. Spanish Mass

Sunday, December 26th:

8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Mass—*Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

Monday, December 27th: **(Parish Office Closed)**

12:00 Noon Mass—*Feast of St. Stephen*

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28TH THRU 30TH:

Masses are at 12:00 Noon

Friday, December 31st: **(Parish Office Closed)**

Mass at 12:00 Noon

Saturday, January 1st, 2022: **NO CONFESSION**

4:00 p.m. Sunday Vigil Mass of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 2nd, 2022:

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass of the Epiphany

5:00—8:00 P.M. **PASTOR'S ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE IN THE RECTORY**

*May the Lord's blessing be yours both
now and throughout
the New Year of 2022
Father Aquinas*





BASILICA OF ST. JOHN

New Year's Eve Bash

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP & FUN
TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR

7:00-8:00pm
Adoration

8:00pm to Midnight
Food, Bingo(25c per card),
Games, & Prayers on the hour

Balloon Drop at Midnight

ALL AGES WELCOME!
FEEL FREE TO BRING A GAME TO SHARE
AND QUARTERS FOR BINGO

Peace
You are cordially invited to

The Pastor's Open House

On

Sunday, January 2, 2022

from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Come and enjoy some
good refreshments
and share the spirit of
this holy season with each other.**

Fr. Aquinas

Please bring an appetizer to share.

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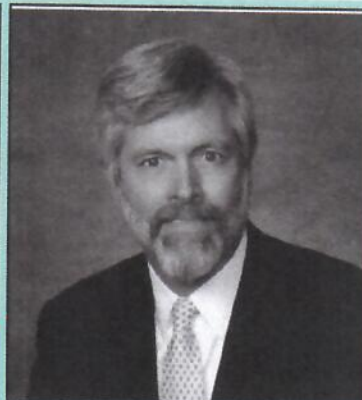
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