



St. Clare, Clarinda



Sacred Heart, Bedford



St. Joseph, Villisca

Catholic Parishes

ST. CLARE, CLARINDA

300 E Lincoln Street, Clarinda, IA 51632

Office Phone: 712-542-2030

Office email: stclareclarinda@mchsi.com

Fr. Eze's Phone: 660-215-0757

E-Mail: eponvu@yahoo.com

Bulletin: <http://parishesonline.com/find/st-clare-church-clarinda>

Mass Times:

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday 5 p.m.

Wednesday 9 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: First

Wednesday of the Month: 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 3:00-3:40 p.m. or
by appointment

Religious Education: Emily Akers/
Mark B.

Office Hours: 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m. M-F
(Best to call first if planning to stop)

Office Manager: Jackie Schmitt

SACRED HEART, BEDFORD

707 Main Street, Bedford, IA 50833

Mass Time: Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Reconciliation:

1st Saturdays after Mass or
by appointment

Religious Education: James Rogers/
Theresa Rowan

Bookkeeper: Glenda Stockwell

ST. JOSEPH, VILLISCA

131 W High Street, Villisca, IA 50864

Email: stclareclarinda@mchsi.com

Mass Time: Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation:

1st Sundays after Mass or
by appointment

Bookkeeper: Gary Poen

Rev. Fr. Eze Venantius Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp., Pastor



14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I
will give you rest." - Mt 11:28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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July 4th/5th, 2020—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Cycle A

Readings:

Zec 9:9-10

Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]

Rom 8:9, 11-13

Mt 11:25-30

Today's Homily

Understanding the Word

The passage from Zechariah is an oracle of salvation, containing an idealized picture of an Israelite king and the peaceful kingdom over which he will rule. Though this is a vision of the future, the verbs are prophetic perfect, indicating that in God's time the future is already present. The king is seated on the foal of an ass, a purebred animal born of a female ass rather than of a mule. While this may be a depiction of a victory march, it is devoid of military ostentation. Instead, the king proclaims peace to all nations. This king is the agent of God's blessings to all people.

Paul contrasts two ways of living: life in the flesh and life in the spirit. For Paul, flesh is human nature in all of the limitations that sometimes incline one away from God; by spirit he means a life that is attuned to God. Paul argues that life in the flesh cannot please God, while life in the spirit is a form of union with God. Sin may still exact physical death, but it cannot quench the spirit that lives because of righteousness. Just as Christ conquered death and lives anew, so those joined to Christ will share in his victory and through the Spirit will enjoy new life.

Jesus describes the intimate relationship that he shares with God in terms that can only be considered a high Christology, and emphasizing of his divine rather than his human nature. He claims that only the Father can really know him, because only God has this kind of experiential knowledge of the Father. If anyone else knows the Father it is only because Jesus has revealed God to that person. In this sense, Jesus is the mediator of knowledge of God. If his hearers learn from him, they too will be blessed with the revelation of the Father.

Reflecting on the Word

When you think of a king coming before his people, the image of someone riding on a donkey does not come to mind. If the Lone Ranger had Silver and Roy Rogers had Trigger, a similar white stallion would seem most fitting for a king. Not an ass, even a purebred one. But this image from the prophet Zechariah is one that must have planted itself in the imagination of Jesus, for that is how he made his great entrance into Jerusalem and was greeted as the Messiah. It was not the entrance of a powerful warrior, but of a gentle king whose rule would bring peace to the nations.

I have sometimes regretted the loss of St. Christopher from the calendar of saints. That legendary saint, whose name means "Christ-bearer," signaled that the risen Lord had now chosen to be carried by his disciples. We bear him in our bodies, minds, and hearts. We bring him to the world when we work to bring peace and healing and knowledge of the Father.

This necessitates being willing to take on the yoke of Jesus. I remember once hearing that the yokes Jesus made in the carpenter shop under Joseph's guidance rode easily on the shoulders of the animals, distributing evenly the weight they pulled. The yoke Jesus offers us is his teaching about the kingdom of heaven and how to live in it while in the world. This means putting on his attitude and spirit of attentive listening for the will of the Father—home schooling in the best sense.

Consider/Discuss

- How do you believe Jesus will return at the end of time?
- Have you accepted the yoke of the Lord? How does it guide you?

Responding to the Word

Lord, give us the rest only you can give when we feel burdened by life's labors and sorrows. Open our hearts so that we learn from you to seek and accept the yoke that is easy. Give us the strength to help others with the burdens that weigh them down.

Taken from *Living the Word: Scripture Reflections and Commentaries for Sundays and Holy Days*

Enrolled in the School of Humility

"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble of heart." (Matthew 11:29)

Ralph Waldo Emerson, American essayist and poet, said that the secret of the scholar is this: "Everyman I meet is my master in some point, and in that I will learn from him."

Jesus had a special quality that we can learn from Him: humility. Jesus taught humility by words but mostly by what He was. He, the Son of God, was born in a stable from a poor virgin. He, the Creator of the universe, had no place to call His own. He, the Savior of all mankind, was crucified and His body was laid in another man's grave. All this was humility personified.

All this comes as no surprise. By His own words, Jesus had come to serve and to give His life as a ransom for all sinners. St. Paul testified that Jesus, the Servant of servants, "humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!" (Philippians 2:8).

Faith in Jesus Christ, as our complete Savior and a Friend whose love constrains us to follow in His steps, enables us to lay aside pride and to put on humility. It is like going to school to learn humility and its related qualities: love, gentleness, sympathy, friendliness.

When He speaks of our taking His yoke upon us, we are not to think of a device laid on the necks of draft animals. It is rather like a tie that binds us tenderly to the One who has borne all our sins. It unites us so closely to Him that, in the words we can "cast all [our] anxiety on Him: (1 Peter 5:7).

Prayer Suggestion: *Tell your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that you want to enroll in His school of humility.*

Taken from *Every Day with the Savior: Daily Devotions by Rudolph F. Norden*

Let's learn about the Saints:

Elizabeth of Portugal—was the daughter of King Peter III of Aragon, a kingdom in modern Spain. The Spanish and Portuguese usually call Elizabeth “Isabella.” For political reasons, Elizabeth married King Denis of Portugal when she was twelve years old. They had two children, Alonzo and Constance, but King Denis turned out to be an uncaring and unfaithful husband and father. Their relationship became a public scandal.

Queen Elizabeth kept a regular schedule of prayer, morning and evening. She provided food and lodging for the poor and for travelers on pilgrimages. Her son, Alonso, angered by the rule of his father, wanted to lead a rebellion against King Denis, but Elizabeth calmed the passions between father and son. People began to call her “the peacemaker.” She once used her ability as a negotiator on personal and rational levels when she prevented a war between Portugal and Castile.

King Denis became seriously ill in 1324, and Elizabeth took an interest in his care, praying for his conversion and never leaving his room, except to attend church. During his long illness, the king repented of his immoral life and asked Elizabeth to forgive him. When he died the next year she became a lay Franciscan, living the final eleven years of her life in a house she built near the Poor Clare convent she had founded years before at Coimbra. This allowed her to retain control of the royal treasury rather than turn it over to her son, Alonzo, who would have spent it foolishly instead of using it to help the people of Portugal. She loved her son, but she also understood his character. By remaining a layperson, Elizabeth did not take a vow of complete poverty, but only a vow of simplicity. Elizabeth emerged into the world of power politics on several occasions, usually arbitrating struggles involving her relatives. Feast day is July 4.



Francis (Gabriel) Possenti—Here is a saint who as a teenager earned the nickname Il Damerino, “the Lady’s Man.” His friends in Assisi, Italy, observed his great interest in fine clothes, theater, and dancing. Handsome and popular, he was the life of the party. When two serious illnesses threatened his life, he vowed to enter a monastery. Both times, after recovering, he changed his mind. Still, life as Il Damerino was not satisfying. He had a deep hunger in his soul for the things of God, and partying became tiresome and dull. When a religious procession passed through the streets, Francis saw the procession-ers carrying a picture of the “Sorrowful Mother,” Mary. An inner voice said, “Francis, the world is not for you anymore.” This was a life-changing event.

Entering a Passionist monastery at the age of eighteen, he exchanged his given name for Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother. Humility and obedience became driving forces in his life. But the thing others noticed most about him was his cheerfulness. Even in the monastery he was enjoyable to be around. Tuberculosis took Gabriel’s life when he was only twenty-four. Great numbers of people continue to visit his shrine. Feast day is February 27.

From an email dated June 25:

With heavy heart joined to hope in the Resurrection, I share with you that Fr. Tom Kunnel died last evening at Kavanaugh House in Des Moines, completing his journey to his ultimate homeland. His family in India has been notified.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 AM this Monday, June 29, at St. Ambrose Cathedral. His body will be waked Sunday, June 28, also at the Cathedral, beginning at 1 PM. The Rosary will be recited at 1:30 p.m., with visitation and concluding Vigil prayer service at 4 p.m. at the Cathedral.

We are grateful for this joy-filled, gifted priest who ministered so effectively in India, the St. Paul-Minneapolis Archdiocese, and in our Diocese during the course of his priesthood. May he be enfolded in the arms of the Good Shepherd and drawn to eternal peace. Please remember Fr. Tom in your celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours and at the altar, including in your intentions Fr. Tom’s family and all who are touched by his death.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Faithfully in Christ,
+William

*Rest in
Peace*

BIRTHDAYS

7-6 Denise Rankin
7-7 Kyle Yehle
7-8 Sharon Hart
7-9 Theresa Koets
7-9 Brenda Samuelson
7-10 Mark Baldwin



The grass is green—it’s time to mow!!

If you are able to help in mowing the lawn around the church and rectory, and since we really don’t have access to a sign up sheet, please contact MaryLou Wolhoy at 712-303-0100.

It costs \$45/mowing to have someone do it and saving on yard care would be great! Please consider making a donation if you are unable to volunteer time and equipment. Any amount would be helpful and can also be sent/given to MaryLou.

A friendly reminder to volunteer mowers: Please be mindful to not drive over the downspouts as a few needed to be replaced. Thank you.



	Greeters and Offertory Gifts	Lector	Recorders
SATURDAY JULY 4 St. Clare, 4PM	Mayer Family	Mayer Family	
SATURDAY JULY 4 Sacred Heart, 6PM		Sharon Hart	
SUNDAY JULY 5 St. Clare, 10:30AM	Hartley Family	Pat McAndrews	Greg & Brenda Samuelson
SATURDAY JULY 11 St. Clare, 4PM	Jennifer Herrington Georgia Nelson	Terri Koets	
SATURDAY JULY 11 Sacred Heart, 6PM		Kirby Welch	
SUNDAY JULY 12 St. Clare, 10:30 AM	Johnson Family	Andy Johnson	Paul & Cindy Morgan

St. Clare will be providing the meal for **Faith, Food, and Fellowship** on August 2 at First United Methodist Church. The last couple of months, organizations have been providing a sack lunch for pick up instead of a sit down meal at the church. The organizers will be re-evaluating and possibly changing back to the sit down meal. Please watch the bulletin for further details or contact Mary Lou Wolhoy at 712-303-0100 with questions, suggestions, or any donations.



Prayer to Overcome Racism

MARY, FRIEND AND MOTHER TO ALL, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other.

We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another.

We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society.

We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person.

Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us.

Amen.



Oración para superar el racismo

MARÍA, AMIGA Y MADRE DE TODOS, a través de tu Hijo Dios ha encontrado un camino para unirse a todos los seres humanos, llamados a ser un solo pueblo, hermanas y hermanos entre sí.

Pedimos tu ayuda al recurrir a tu Hijo, buscando el perdón por las veces en que hemos fallado en amarnos y respetarnos.

Pedimos tu ayuda para obtener de tu Hijo la gracia que necesitamos para vencer el mal del racismo y construir una sociedad justa.

Pedimos tu ayuda para seguir a tu Hijo, para que el prejuicio y la animosidad no infecten ya nuestras mentes o corazones sino que sean reemplazados por el amor que respeta la dignidad de cada persona.

Madre de la Iglesia, el Espíritu de tu Hijo Jesús alienta nuestros corazones: Ruega por nosotros.

Amén.



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www.usccb.org/racism

PLANNED GIVING: WILLS, BEQUESTS, BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS, RETIREMENT PLANS, AND LIFE INSURANCE:

TO: ST. CLARE, CLARINDA; SACRED HEART, BEDFORD; AND, ST. JOSEPH, VILLISCA:

The legacy we leave lies in the acts of charity, support and moments of kindness we provide to people we touch along the way. As Catholics, we are called to give in any way we can.

The mission of the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa is to promote a legacy of giving and support within the parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations within the Diocese of Des Moines.

Planned Giving through wills and estate bequests along with beneficiary designations of IRA, retirement plans, and life insurance plans are avenues that allow an individual to share their gifts with their parish. The Catholic Foundation can also facilitate gifts of real estate, stock, and gifts of grain to your parish, school, or Catholic organization/ministry that you feel a connection to and want to support.

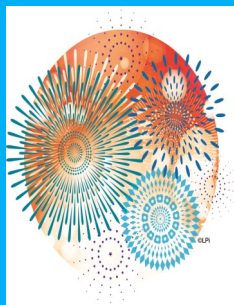
The Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa is here to support your wishes and look forward to having the opportunity to work with you. Please contact, Brooke Pulliam at 515-237-5080 or bpulliam@catholicfoundationiowa.org to answer any question or set up an appointment today.

You may also contact your parish office to get more information.

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Since the bulletin submission was early due to the July 4th holiday, there will be two weeks detailed in next week's bulletin.

Have a happy
and safe Fourth
of July weekend!



Mass Intentions @ St. Joseph, Villisca:

July 2: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 5: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 9: Mark & Helen Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

Mass Intentions @ St. Clare, Clarinda:

July 3: Silverius & Mariann Muenchrath from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 4: Andy & Mildred Bruck from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 5: Leo & Marie Dresen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 7: Mary Feser and Dorothy Muenchrath from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 8: Joe & Irene Leuschen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 10: Betty Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

Mass Intentions @ Sacred Heart, Bedford:

July 4: Joe & Mary Reischl and Vince Stinn from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 4 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4 PM
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6 PM
July 5 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30 AM
St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 10:30 AM
July 7 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 5PM
July 8 St. Clare Holy Mass at 9AM
July 11 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4PM
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6PM
July 12 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30AM
St. Clare, Clarinda: Mass at 10:30AM

Thank You to everyone who turned in their pledge cards for the Annual Diocesan Appeal thus far. Our parish goal is 100% participation so please prayerfully consider the amount you can contribute to reach our goal. Every gift, regardless of the size, is vital to the success of the appeal. A one time gift or a pledge to pay within a certain number of months can be made using the pledge card you may have received or visit www.dmdiocese.org/giving/annual-diocesan-appeal.



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

St. Clare 2020 assessment \$16,514
19 donor pledges/gifts \$8,155
Remaining balance \$8,359

Let us Pray for the Sick of our Parishes: Sandy Liner, Nancy Fahey, Dolliy Nowakowski, Gustavo Rodriguez, James Dowling, Sally Davison, Gene Fahey, Louvada McAlpin, Kathy Holmes, Lou Ludington, Wade Schuetz, Midge Stanley, Connie Gage, Fr. Paul Koch, Ivan & Barbara Friend, Kelly Tobin, Dr. Tonia Baldwin, Sue Schaub, Gerald Long, Yan & Russell Shum, Jerry and Jean Schweitzer, Pat Kasha, Keith Holderfield, Renee Rogers, Betty Tatro, & Judy Haas' daughter and granddaughter.



A CALL FOR MASS INTENTIONS AND INFORMATION ABOUT IT:

Dear Parishioners, I have observed, since my arrival, that we always have very few Mass Intentions and Stipends (offerings) in all our three parishes. Masses can be booked for various reasons and occasion, such as, anniversaries, (such as, death, weddings, graduations, etc.), birthdays, funerals, memorials, graduations, travel mercies, success in exams and projects, thanksgivings, job interviews, opportunities, and promotions, for the sick (healing, recovery, etc.), fruits of the womb, marriages, Baptisms, First Holy Communion, confirmation, vocations, seminarians, the Religious, Priests, Bishops, the Pope, families, Local, State, and Federal Governments and leaders, peace, reconciliation, name-feasts/Patron Saints, for our Parishes/Churches, unity, God's blessings and protection, etc. For Mass Stipends, the Catholic Diocese of Des Moines recommends a minimum donation of \$5 for an intention. However, one can donate more than \$5 for an intention in a Mass. You can book you Masses through: 1) the Parish offices 2) Parish E-mails 3) by surface mail addresses of our Parishes 4) Phone, via our respective Parish 5) by dropping them into the offertory collection baskets in sealed envelopes at Masses. You may indicate the particular days you may like to have the Masses said or celebrated in the Church. If the donor of the Mass Intention/s will be physically present at the chosen day, that will be wonderful. If not, the Mass Intention can still be celebrated. The Intentions will be published in our Parish Bulletin, indicating the names of the donor and the beneficiaries. There are many openings in our Mass Intention Books now. All the Mass Stipends belong to the Parishes where they are donated and where the Masses will be celebrated. Please, let us always pray for one another and for any other intention to our good, gracious, listening, caring, and benevolent Father all your round. May His peace, love and Blessings be with us, both now and for all eternity. Amen.
Fr. Eze Venantius Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp.