



St. Clare, Clarinda



Sacred Heart, Bedford



St. Joseph, Villisca

# Catholic Parishes

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

## 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

(If stopping, best to call first)

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



## 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." - Mt 13:44

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

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## July 25th/26th, 2020—Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Cycle A

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]

Rom 8:28-30

Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

**Evelin Rodriguez**

1. Why do you want to be confirmed? I want to be confirmed because I want to practice my Catholic faith in every aspect of my life.
2. What does Confirmation mean to you? To me, confirmation is important and will lead me to share a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.
3. Why did you choose your Confirmation name? I chose my Confirmation name to be Evelin Adela. I look up to St Adela, which is why I chose her as my Confirmation name.

**Gael Rodriguez**

1. Why do you want to be confirmed? I want to be confirmed because it will bring me to share a closer bond with the Catholic church.
2. What does Confirmation mean to you? To me, Confirmation is important and means a step closer in my Faith.
3. Why did you choose your Confirmation name? I chose my Confirmation name to be Gael Abel. Abel compensates with positive connotations, which is why I chose him as my Confirmation name.

**Danielle Rogers**

1. I want to be confirmed so I can have a closer relationship with God.
2. Confirmation to me means sharing my growing relationship with God to my church family.
3. My church name is Mary and I chose it because it is Jesus mother's name and it was my Grandmother's name.

**Adam Johnson**

1. I want to be confirmed to move up in the church and take on different roles to serve the church.
2. Confirmation means taking the next step as a Catholic and moving up in the church.
3. I chose St. Andrew as my confirmation name because it is my father's first name and I look up to him for his dedication to the church, his religion, and our family.

I want to be Confirmed to help strengthen my faith, allow me to do more in the church, and to deepen my connection with the Holy Spirit. For me, Confirmation means strengthening my faith in the church and confirming my faith. The saint I picked is Saint John Vianney. I picked Vianney because of all of the works he did, especially in reconciliation, even though Satan tried to keep him from doing it. **By John Baldwin**

I want to be confirmed because, through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit will give me the increased ability to practice my Catholic faith in every aspect of my life, as well as witness Christ in every situation that I may face. To me, Confirmation is the acceptance of the responsibility for my faith and role in the church.

Now that we are young adults, many aspects of our lives are in our hands, including our faith. Along with accepting this responsibility and beginning a new, prolonged search for Christ in my life, we were asked to choose a Confirmation name.

The patron saint I have chosen to name myself after, St. Thomas Aquinas, is one that I admire for many reasons. Born in Italy in the thirteenth century, St. Thomas Aquinas was one of the most influential thinkers of medieval Scholasticism. St. Thomas Aquinas was a prolific writer, an exemplary scholar, and dedicated a great portion of his life to his education. St. Thomas Aquinas was known for his work combining traditional principles of theology with modern philosophy. I admire St. Thomas Aquinas, and aspire to be like him in the way that he dedicated his life to education, writing, traveling, public speaking, teaching, and preaching.

**Hayden James Stephens Morrison**

What is confirmation and why do I want to receive it?

Confirmation is a sacrament in the Catholic church. During confirmation you become a person in the church and deepens your relationship with the church.

I want to receive the sacrament of confirmation because it is important to my family

Why I chose my confirmation name-

I chose Luke as my confirmation name because my Uncle Luke passed away when he was 19. St. Luke was the patron saint of artists. He also wrote more of the new testament than anybody else.

Saint Martha is the patron saint of dieticians. I have chosen saint Martha because after high school I plan to go to college to become a dietitian.

Confirmation to me means reconfirming my beliefs in the Catholic Church. My baptism sponsors confined this for me when I was a baby and now I can confirm this for myself.

I want to receive the sacrament of confirmation so I can become a fully active adult member of my church.

I have asked my oldest sister Morgan to be my sponsor. She is a great role model both religiously and personally.

My name is **Michael Mayer** and I plan to be confirmed on July 19, 2020. I would like to be confirmed so that my faith in Jesus can be sealed for life. Confirmation is a commitment you make to have a more important role in the church, for example being a Eucharistic minister. I chose David as my Confirmation name because I liked the story about him in the Bible. He stood up to Goliath and defeated him.

Homily for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Understanding the Word

Solomon asks for an understanding heart so that he can rule his people wisely. This request shows his concern for God's people, not merely for himself. It is no wonder that God is pleased with him. The very last verse of the passage reinforces the tradition of Solomon's wisdom, claiming that no one before him or anyone after him could compare with him. The wisdom referred to here is not experiential wisdom, the kind that stems from reflection on experience; it is really a gift from God. God chose Solomon to be king, and gave him the wisdom he needed to rule wisely.

Paul's insistence that all things work for good should not be misunderstood as meaning that everything will work out in the end. Rather, it implies a profound trust that God can bring good even out of misfortune. Paul's teaching on predestination has often been misunderstood. He states that God foreknew from the beginning of time and with divine power predetermined who would be called, justified, and glorified. And who are the ones called? Nowhere does Paul suggest that some are predestined to salvation and others to perdition. Rather, the entire Christian tradition provides the answer to the question. All are called to be justified and glorified.

The parables of the treasure in the field and the pearl of great price both suggest that the kingdom of God is present though unperceived. However, only the very shrewd discover it and sacrifice everything in order to possess it. The parable of the net is quite different. Like the parable of the wheat and the weeds (see Matthew 13:40b-42), it describes a community consisting of both good and bad. Only at the end of the catch will the fish be separated. Jesus asks if the disciples understand his teaching, because they must see that, like the old and new treasures of the householder, the teaching of Jesus, though radically different, is grounded in the original tradition.

### Reflecting on the Word

If God were to offer you your heart's desire, what would you ask for? Solomon did not request health or wealth. Nor did he ask God to remove his enemies—either those inherited from his father or those acquired when he was given the crown at a very young age. Solomon asked for wisdom, for a heart that understands or listens. Such wisdom included the ability to judge justly and to distinguish right from wrong. God was pleased.

The gift of wisdom allows the heart to see: the letter to the Ephesians refers to “seeing with the eyes of the heart.” And wisdom brings the ability to hear the word of the Lord even when spoken in the sound of silence, as Elijah did. Such seeing and hearing lie at the heart of the first two parables. Seeing God's reign is likened to finding a treasure in a field or seeking a most valuable pearl—when one sees where it is hidden or hears where it can be found, one gives all one has to make it one's own.

The heart can spend many years and look in many places for happiness. We can bypass the kingdom again and again, going off into various dead ends, cul de sacs, and blind alleys. Paul reminds the Romans that all things work for good for those who look to God. God, who has predestined us to share the image of the Son, wishes to give us the wisdom needed to discover where the kingdom is hidden.

Please pray for our confirmation candidates as they have recently received or will soon be filled with gifts of the Holy Spirit:

July 12  
Adam (Andrew) Johnson

July 19  
Molly (Thomas Aquinas) Lihs  
Mayson (Martha) Hartley  
Hayden (Luke) Morrison  
Michael (David) Mayer  
Evelin (Adela) Rodriguez  
Gael (Abel) Rodriguez

July 25  
Danielle (Mary) Rogers

July 26  
John (John Vianney) Baldwin



## BIRTHDAYS

7-25 Morgan Irvan  
7-28 Becky Poen  
7-28 Jacob Slough  
7-29 Monty Boswell  
7-30 Joyce Graf  
7-31 Gina Schulte



### 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.\*\*\*





	<b>Greeters /Ushers</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Recorders</b>
<b>SATURDAY JULY 25</b> <b>St. Clare, 4PM</b>	Barb Garrett Suzette Olson	Terri Koets	
<b>SATURDAY JULY 25</b> <b>Sacred Heart, 6PM</b>		Theresa Rowen	
<b>SUNDAY JULY 26</b> <b>St. Clare, 10:30AM</b>	Vance & Dang Nelson	Ann Davison	Morgan Family
<b>SATURDAY AUG 1</b> <b>St. Clare, 4PM</b>	Mayer Family	Jane Mayer	
<b>SATURDAY AUG 1</b> <b>Sacred Heart, 6PM</b>		Kyle Rowen	
<b>SUNDAY AUG 2</b> <b>St. Clare, 10:30 AM</b>	Hartley Family	Pat McAndrews	Nothwehr Family

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.



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*"It is a favorable time to heal wounds, a time to offer everyone the way of Forgiveness and Reconciliation."*

- Pope Francis



## Corporal Works of Mercy

To Feed the Hungry  
To Give Drink to the Thirsty  
To Clothe the Naked  
To Shelter the Homeless  
To Care for the Sick  
To Visit the Imprisoned  
To Bury the Dead



## Spiritual Works of Mercy

To Convert Sinners  
To Instruct the Ignorant  
To Advise the Doubtful  
To Comfort the Sorrowful  
To Bear Wrongs Patiently  
To Forgive Injuries  
To Pray for the Living and Dead

[www.usccb.org/racism](http://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](mailto: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

Your Gifts for God's Work	July 18th/19th, 2020
The Weeks Offering	\$321.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,562.50
Over/(Below)	(\$1,241.50)
Monthly Goal	\$6,250.00
Total for Month of July	\$2,812.00

**Mass Intentions @ St. Joseph, Villisca:**

July 23: Mark & Helen Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

July 26: Jim & Mary Lou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

July 30: Bob & Linda Schiltz from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

**Mass Intentions @ St. Clare, Clarinda:**

July 24: Andy & Mildred Bruck from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

July 25: Leo & Marie Dresen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

July 26: Dean Gage given by Debbie Travis

July 28: Mary Feser from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

July 29: Joe & Irene Leuschen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

July 31: Betty Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

**Mass Intentions @ Sacred Heart, Bedford:**

July 24: Joe & Mary Reischl from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- July 25 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4 PM  
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6 PM
- July 26 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30 AM  
St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 10:30 AM
- July 28 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 5PM
- July 29 St. Clare Holy Mass at 9AM
- Aug 1 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4PM  
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6PM
- Aug 2 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](http://www.dmdiocese.org/giving/annual-diocesan-appeal).



DIocese of DES MOINES

St. Clare 2020 assessment \$16,514  
22 donor pledges/gifts \$9,955  
Remaining balance \$6,559

**Let us Pray for the Sick of our Parishes:** Sandy Liner, Nancy Fahey, Dolly 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 & 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 Ummnakwe, C.S.Sp.