



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](mailto:stclareclarinda@mchsi.com)

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

E-Mail: [eponvu@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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



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

“Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge... So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” - Mt 10:29, 31

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

**June 20th/21st, 2020—Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary  
Time—Cycle A 961**

**Readings:** Jer 20:10-13  
Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 [14c]  
Rom 5:12-15  
Mt 10:26-33

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time as taken from *Guiding Light: Steadfast to the Son, Homilies by Fr. Joe Robinson*

### Introduction:

The prophet, Jeremiah lived in Israel about 600 years before Christ. The Babylonian destruction of Israel was imminent. The Babylonians came from modern-day Iraq. Their capital, Babylon, was located just 100 miles south of Baghdad. Jeremiah was warning God's people that they could avoid the destruction that was on its way if they started living according to God's laws (most of which were being flagrantly ignored or violated). The people didn't like the message, so they decided to kill Jeremiah. His words in today's first reading reflect the pain and misery he experienced for being faithful to his mission. We should not be shocked when we hear him pray that God take vengeance on his persecutors. After all, he was human and not as perfect as Jesus who was able to pray for those who crucified him. Our first reading leads into the gospel. As Jesus prepares to send the apostles out as missionaries, he is warning them that their message will not always be well received, they may even suffer and die for it, but they must preach with courage and not be afraid of what might happen to them if they meet rejection.

### Today's Homily:

Pope John Paul II had as his motto: "Be not afraid." Of course, he was quoting our Lord whom we just heard give the same mandate to his apostles in today's gospel, "Do not be afraid." Since God knows how many hairs are on our head and is aware when even a little sparrow dies, then he's aware of every detail of our own lives. Although he is aware, and cares, he does not guarantee us that bad things will not happen to us. Ups and downs are part of our existence and they even happened to God's holy prophets and to Jesus himself. Because God is aware and he cares, he tells us not to fear, for he is in control and will make everything turn out right for those who are faithful to him.

"Be not afraid." Sometimes that's easier said than done. Fear is built into us and we feel it when we feel threatened. If fear were not a part of our nature, we wouldn't even exist today, because long ago our ancestors would not have had sense to get out of the way of charging wild animals, saber tooth tigers or poisonous snakes. Nor would we be moved to get out of the way of cars and trucks coming at us at 50 miles an hour. Fear enables us to survive, to know when to fight, to know when to run. But sometimes it gets out of control and takes over our life, whether that fear comes from a real threat or an imagined one. Faith is a big help to deal with fear, and sharing our fears with a trusted friend can be helpful, but sometimes fear is so controlling that counseling or medication is required.

I think when Jesus tells us not to fear, he's not talking about the spontaneous reaction we feel when we are threatened, he's telling us not to worry and to put our trust in him that things will come out alright in the end. The words of St. Paul, "We know that all things work for good for those who love God" (Rom 8:28), have been a constant help to me to stay together during very trying times. One thing Jesus does tell us to fear is God! "Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." In Old Testament times, Gehenna was a place of human sacrifice to pagan idols. At the time of Jesus it was a garbage dump, which was constantly burning. Thus, Gehenna became the symbol of evil and hell. Jesus' words confuse some people! Aren't we supposed to love God, but if we fear him, how can we love him? Doesn't St. John tell us "perfect love casts out fear?" All of that is true. For those who have a "reward and punishment" view of life, a little fear might help them stay on the straight and narrow. For those who have moved beyond the "reward and punishment" stage, this fear that Jesus talks about is the fear of being unfaithful to God or having a sense of awe, respect and reverence when we approach God. Those who fear God in this way will greatly reduce our fear of other things in life, including, death itself.

I know from many years of dealing with people that if we are at peace with God and know the Lord is with us, there will be fewer things in life that can upset us or frighten us. Amen.

### The No and Yes of Parenthood

*Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not turn from it. (Proverbs 22:6)*

In the chapel of Fredericksborg Castle in Denmark hangs Hendrik Krack's painting *Jephthah and His Daughter*. Jephthah, a judge in Israel, had vowed that he would sacrifice to God the first person he met at his homecoming if God would give him victory over an invading enemy. Jephthah won. But the first person he met was his one and only daughter. Nevertheless, he kept his vow.

Fathers are usually very fond of their daughters, providing for them, paying for their college education, and giving them into marriage without sparing the costs. There are exceptions, of course. In the story *On Golden Pond*, a crotchety father is not on good terms with his daughter. Sometimes it is daughters who contribute to strained relations with their fathers.

In any event, neither parent should make foolish or improper vows with regard to their children. Christian parents care for their children and teach them to love Jesus Christ, who gave His life for their salvation. But parents cannot live the children's lives for them. They should not prematurely commit their children to a certain vocation when it is not yet evident that they are fitted for it. They should not make irrevocable vows that could harm their children's future.

In one respect to be sure, all parents know they tread on safe and solid ground—that is, bringing up their children in the truths of God's Word, reminding them of their Baptism, instilling in them love for the Savior, and living their own lives as faithful Christian servants. God will surely bless such a parent-child relationship.

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



Let's learn about the Saints:



**Osanna of Mantua**—had a mystical experience when she was five years old. While walking beside a river, she felt herself swept up into heaven, and a voice told her “life and death consist in loving God.” This ecstatic experience influenced the rest of her life. It was the first of many. Some of her visions included traditional religious imagery, sometimes seeing Christ as a crucified child. Other mystic moments were sublime and beyond description. She attempted to keep these experiences a secret, but they would occur at unpredictable and awkward times.

Osanna (Hosanna) was born to wealthy parents in Mantua, Italy. Like most parents, they prayed that she would find a suitable husband. They were dismayed when she announced that she would rather join the Dominicans than marry. Because of her steadfast determination, they eventually agreed.

Continuing to live at home with her large family, Osanna acquired a reputation for holiness. She would spend hours in her room, praying silently, and was often at church. One of her relatives was the duke of Mantua. He began to turn to her for spiritual direction, and then for guidance in political matters. Her prayer life laid a foundation for an active ministry to the sick, the poor, and the afflicted. With her political connections, Osanna found ways to help many victims of injustice. Her life, given to serving others, corroborates her spiritual vision. Feast day is June 18.

**Bartholomew of Farne**—A simple hermit living on the Farne Islands off the Northumbrian coast, Bartholomew began life with the Scandinavian name Tostig. Because his twelfth-century playmates made fun of his odd name, he began to call himself William. Searching for his ancestral roots, he traveled to Norway for an education and became a priest.

Returning to England, he went to Durham to become a monk and received yet another name, Bartholomew. He then went to the Inner Farne Island, planning to occupy an ancient cell. Unfortunately, another hermit already called the cell home and resented Bartholomew's arrival. The lack of welcome was palpable, and eventually the other hermit left the island. Later, as the island became “crowded,” Bartholomew himself departed occasionally in disgust because of tangles with other personalities. Bartholomew insisted on wearing clothes made of ram skins that he never permitted anyone to wash until they became stiff with dirt and sweat. His motto: “The dirtier the body, the cleaner the soul.” The other monks at Durham commented wryly, “Bartholomew makes the island fragrant with his virtues.” He remained in the Farne Islands for forty-two years, cheerfully enjoying fishing, keeping a pet bird, and receiving guests, but mostly engaging in prayer and manual labor. Feast day is June 24.



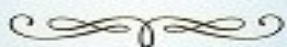
*“It is a favorable time to heal wounds,  
a time to offer everyone the way of  
Forgiveness and Reconciliation.”*

*- 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

## BIRTHDAYS

6-21 Tonia Baldwin  
6-23 Allison Barnett  
6-25 Laura Swanson  
6-26 Wyatt McAlpin  
6-27 Ava Phillips  
6-27 Kerrie Neihart



## 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.



**Prayer to St. Michael for Strength in the Spiritual Battle**

O Valiant St. Michael the Archangel, powerful among the heavenly host, through the strength of your holy obedience you vanquished Satan, casting him down into the fiery pit.

I am a mere mortal, weak and fallen. I pray to you to intercede for me, for my family, and for all who are most in need, that we may have something of your strength, something of your clear vision and resolve. Protect us from the enemy, the father of lies, when he makes evil look attractive, when he tries to lead us by dark and crooked paths. Shine with your great light; lead with your strength. By the grace of Jesus Christ: bind the evil one and shield us from harm, that one day we might sing God's praises with you in heaven.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Lord and ours. *Amen.*

**Prayer of a Father**

Father of mankind, you have given me these children and entrusted them to my charge, to bring them up for you, and to prepare them for everlasting life. Help me with your heavenly grace to fulfill this sacred duty. Make me gentle, yet firm, considerate and watchful. Grant that, by word and example, I may lead them in the ways of true wisdom and piety, so that they too will know the joy of loving you. Grant that we all some day may be united in heaven, praising your glory forever. *Amen.*


These prayers are taken from the book *Father's Prayers and Family Prayer from the Leaflet Missal Library*



**Walking With God? Walk with us!** The Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration invite single women, ages 18 - 40 who are considering religious life, to attend a Virtual Monastic Experience via Zoom July 12-14, 2020. We hope to digitally show discerners around, introduce some of our Sisters and share some tips on prayer and discernment. The experience will include one hour of input each day. There will also be an opportunity to connect with the vocation director one on one. There is no cost to attend. Visit our website to learn more:

[www.benedictinesisters.org](http://www.benedictinesisters.org). To register, please call Sr. Maria Victoria at (660) 944-2221 ext. 127 or e-mail [vocation@benedictinesisters.org](mailto:vocation@benedictinesisters.org).

## Virtual Monastic Experience

 *Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration*

July 12-14, 2020  
Via Zoom

The experience will include a digital tour, meeting with our Sisters, tips on prayer and discernment, and one hour of daily input. There will be opportunities to connect with our vocation director one on one.

For single women, ages 18-40, interested in religious life. Please contact Sr. Maria Victoria at (660) 944-2221 ext. 127 or [vocation@benedictinesisters.org](mailto:vocation@benedictinesisters.org).



Our heartfelt condolences go out to Loyd Herzberg and Jackie Schmitt on the passing of his mother, Luetta Herzberg, on June 13th, at age 93.

Condolences also to Pat McAndrews on the loss of her sister, Jan Farrell, who passed away on June 8th from pancreatic cancer. Please, keep all of Jan's family in prayer through this difficult time.



### 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	June 13th/14th, 2020
The Weeks Offering	\$1728.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,562.50
Over/(Below)	\$165.50
Monthly Goal	\$6,250.00
Total for Month of June	\$3,228.00

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

June 18: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

June 21: Bob & Linda Schiltz from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

June 25: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

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

June 19: Andy & Mildred Bruck and Leo & Marie Dresen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

June 20: Mary Feser and Joe & Irene Leuschen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

June 21: Betty Langenfeld and Alfred & Leonetta Kenkel from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

June 23: Silverius & Mariann Muenchrath from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

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

June 26: Leo & Marie Dresen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

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

June 20: Gene & Lois Sibenaller and Gussie Malony from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- June 20 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4 PM  
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6 PM
- June 21 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30 AM  
St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 10:30 AM
- June 23 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 5PM
- June 24 St. Clare Holy Mass at 9AM
- June 27 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4PM  
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6PM
- June 28 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  
19 donor pledges/gifts \$8,155  
Remaining balance \$8,359

**Let us Pray for the Sick of our Parishes:** Sandy Liner, Nancy Fahey, Dollie 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, Beth Kline, Jerry and Jean Schweitzer, Pat Kasha, Keith Holderfield, & Renee Rogers.



**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.