

PASTORAL MUSINGS: Bread of Life From the desk of Fr. Tom

It is a delight to meet, greet and get to know one another during July as I began my ministry with you. I received many cards, letters, and personal invitations to be with you and break bread together. It is an honor and joy to continue to build our relationship to serve the Lord and the community in the best way possible. Parish leaders have shared their appreciation of the family spirit and mutual support received from one another, making it a spiritual home and house of God. This sense o communion and friendship happens because we are intimately connected to the Lord, our bread of life, and the chalice of blessing. It is a delight to meet, greet and get to know one another during July as I began my ministry with you. I received many cards, letters, and personal invitations to be with you and break bread together.

I received many cards, letters, and personal invitations to be with you and break bread together. It is an honor and joy to continue to build our relationship to serve the Lord and the community in the best way possible. Parish leaders have shared their appreciation of the family spirit and mutual support received from one another, making it a spiritual home and house of God. This sense of communion and friendship happens because we are intimately connected to the Lord, our bread of life, and the chalice of blessing. Jesus continues to remind us," I am the bread of life that comes down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world" (John 6:51). Jesus assures us that he continues to come down to us in the Holy Eucharist and through his continued divine presence in our souls to energize and strengthen us as we live through challenging times.

One of the moving stories of the Tokyo Olympics is about the two world champions in the men's high jump category. Italy's Jeanmarco Tampere and Khather's Mumthas Isa Barshim had the same score: 2.37 meters. Barshim agreed to share the gold with his fellow competitor and created one of the most sensational moments of highest fraternity and generosity in Olympic history. May our lives be filled with such a sense of solidarity and generosity of heart to build our community and world beyond borders.

This Tuesday, all the priests met with the Bishop to take stock of the rising concerns regarding the emerging delta variant of Covid-19 happening in and around the country and the world. Bishop strongly encourages all parishioners to wear masks to protect themselves and be vigilant about the Corona cases rising within our counties and beyond. It was good that I could see your faces as I began my ministry here. I will be wearing the mask due to this caution and encourage others to do so.

The health of our soul and body is our primary concern. I do recognize that this is not easy for any one of us, and so I encourage all of you to be vigilant and take stock of the covid-19 new variant situation. United in Spirit, let us support one another to keep all individuals and communities healthy and safe. More practical directions will be forthcoming, and I will communicate them as soon as I receive the recommendations from the health experts and the officials.

Let us ask God to protect our parish families and guard our spirits, Peace and Blessings!

Fr. Tom



#### This Sunday's Readings—First Reading 1 Kings 19:4-8 The Lord feeds Elijah, strengthening him for his journey

to Horeb.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 34:2-3,4-5,6-7,8-9 A prayer of praise to God for his goodness

#### **Second Reading**

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

The Ephesians are encouraged to be imitators of Christ.

#### **Gospel Reading**

John 6:41-51

Jesus responds to the murmurs of the crowd, who wonders what he means when he says that he came down from heaven.

#### **Background on the Gospel Reading**

On this Sunday, we continue to read from the "Bread of Life discourse" found in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. Recall that we have been reading from this chapter for the past two weeks and will continue to read from it for another two. Last week, the crowd asked for a sign that would show that Jesus came from God. Jesus replied by saying that he is the sign and the bread of life sent by God

. At this point, our Lectionary omits six verses in which Jesus predicts the unbelief of the crowd and further develops his connection with God the Father. In these verses, Jesus says that he was sent by God to do the Father's will. Jesus promises that those who look upon the Son with faith will find eternal life

Today's Gospel begins with a report that the Jews complained about Jesus' claims regarding his identity. They knew his family, and they knew he was the son of Joseph. They could not comprehend what Jesus meant when he said that he came down from heaven.

Jesus responds to the complaints by saying that only those who are chosen by God will recognize him as the one that God sent. This is a recurring theme in John's Gospel, that God has chosen those who will have faith in Jesus.

In the verses that follow, Jesus talks more about his unity with the Father. He is the one who has seen the Father and, therefore, knows the Father. Those who listen to God will recognize that Jesus is the one sent from God. Those who believe will have eternal life. Jesus concludes with the central element of our eucharistic theology. He promises that the bread of life will bring eternal life to those who partake of it, and he tells us that the bread of life will be his own flesh, given for the life of the world.

In today's reading, we hear Jesus say again, as he did in last week's Gospel, that he is the bread of life. We also hear Jesus add that he is the living bread. Both of these statements help us understand better the gift that Jesus gives us in the Eucharist. We celebrate this gift of Jesus each time we gather for Mass. We believe that receiving Jesus in the Eucharist will lead us to eternal life.





The **Building committee** 

met with our Architect (Rick Emswiler) and contractorJay Gunther of Anderson Construction from Council Bluffs on Wednesday eve. As soon as we are granted a permit from the city, construction will begin! These are a few of the pictures as they get a look at the approximate size of the new building.

# The Perfect Role Model

Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. Ephesians 5:2a (NLT)

Based on Ephesians 4:25-5:2



W	Е	K	Q	Α	S	С	Е	G	D	D	Р	W	Р	Ε
Р	W	С	G	K	Q	R	Х	0	R	Т	Р	Е	٧	С
Е	0	Т	Н	I	Е	F	Α	0	Q	Q	R	I	J	U
Χ	R	Χ	0	G	K	Q	М	D	С	Α	S	U	K	W
Υ	D	Υ	Ν	K	S	Z	Р	K	0	U	Υ	R	Т	L
F	s	Α	0	Т	٧	Z	L	Z	В	J	F	Е	U	Н
0	Р	G	W	Т	J	0	Е	Α	В	U	S	F	Е	E
R	W	S	Т	Е	Α	L	I	N	G	0	Р	G	G	L
G	0	L	I	Е	S	J	F	0	U	L	Α	Α	I	E
I	R	K	L	U	Χ	R	М	J	Е	R	U	٧	Т	Т
٧	K	Т	0	Χ	Q	Т	Ν	Н	U	G	Е	Α	М	М
I	Р	В	V	K	I	N	D	0	N	D	Т	U	Υ	Ν
N	Т	R	Е	S	٧	Н	C	Α	I	I	М	٧	G	٧
G	Е	Р	U	I	В	N	L	Χ	М	D	Α	Z	٧	U
М	٧	Υ	U	N	Е	М	Т	I	Р	W	K	R	٧	K

STEALING	ENCOURAGE	DEVIL	WORDS	LOVE
IMITATE	FORGIVING	THIEF	KIND	WORK
TRUTH	LIES	ABUSIVE	HELPFUL	GOOD
LANGUAGE	FOUL	EXAMPLE	ANGER	SIN



Be sure and shop our 'Farmer Market' downstairs in the basement.

Enjoy fresh grown vegetables and fruit from the garden. All proceeds go to the Children's fund.

## **DRE** update

Monica Bissen has graciously accepted the position of DRE (Director of Religious Education). Welcome to our team Monica we look ford to working with you. If anyone would like to contribute some time towards the youth of our church, please contact her!

## " Hi everyone!

This year at the University of Iowa I will be participating in Dance Marathon for the second year. Dance Marathon is the largest student organization at the University of Iowa and is a yearround fundraiser supporting, celebrating, and remembering the families and children who are and have fought against cancer. My goal for this fundraiser is \$500.00 and allows me to participate in a dance marathon: dancing for 24 hours, For the Kids. In the past vear, we raised close to 1.5 million dollars despite COVID-19. If you would like to donate please reach out to Dan and/or Lori Goodman! Thank you all so much! With Love, Cara Goodman"

## Daily readings for the week of 8-1-21

**Sunday:** Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 [24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [2a]/Mt 14:13-21

**Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 [cf. 3a]/Mt 14:22-36 or

Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 [4a]/

Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a and 9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10

**Saturday:** Dn 6:4-13/Ps 18: 28, 3-4. 47 and 51/Mk 17:14-20

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51

# ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

## PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES
JOSH SIMMONS
JACOB ANDERSON
DERRICK HUBARD
STEVEN ANDERSON
COLBY MCGINLEY

# Your Contributions

August 1, 2021

Tithes—\$1160.00 Plate—\$40.00

Coffee—\$20.00

Thank You!!

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain."

-DOLLY PARTON-



- 8-5----Robbie Travis
- 8-6—-Audrey Goodman
- 8-10—Luke Sheldon
- 8-11—Alisha Ettleman
- 8-14—Scott Mayberry
- 8-14—Joe Hirner



8-5—Pat & Angie Sheldon

8-16—Vince & Susan Hilton

8–30—Mike & Kathy Moody



Greg Andersen **Grady Secht** Reese Kemp LeRov Herscheid Mary Lou Miller Dottie Dankof Isacc Durr Todd Quick Verona Mitchell Joel Loggins Kenneth Russell Bill Long Henry Johnsen Lawrence DuBois Pat Sheldon Joe Kirk Tim Konecny Esther McCowan Shawn Collins **Drake Travis** Martha Gude Bill &Gloria Green Larry Dalton Zavne Osborn Cathy Mason Anna Weber Alan Briggs Dee Ann Crews Robert Haughton Maurie Maher Janet Rummel Jennifer McAllister Dave Zavadil

2021	August 8 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30	August 15 Assumption of the Blessed virgin Mary 8:30	August 22 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time 8:30	August 29 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time 8:30	Sept. 5 23nd Sunday of Ordinary Time 8:30	
Lector	Dave Dowling	Scott Mayberry	Linda Dewhirst	Carolyn Maher	Kathleen Lorimor	
Mass Setup	Rosie	Joe	Rosie	Joe	Rosie	
Cantor	Beth	Kim & sons	Kate/ Margaret	Beth/Anna	Kate/ Margaret	
Accompanist	Donna	Donna	Nancy	Guitars	Nancy	
Server	JJ Hirner	Tate Mount	Isaac Hutt	Mia Foster	Evan Laumann	
Usher and Greeter	Jim & Cheryl Owen	Marty & Carolyn Maher	Denny & Joella Travis	Dan & Lori Goodman	Dave & Kate Roberts Family	
Coffee & donuts	N/A	Dave & Kate Roberts	Jeff & Lisa Phillips	Terry & Kim Travis	Dave & Kim Dowling	
PAST	ГОК	Pastoral	Assistant	Bookkeeper		
Fr. TomTha 712-246-1713 712-382-431	8 Shen(office)	712-350	Phillips .2668 (h) -0169 (c) @gmail.com	Anne Hendrickson Bookkeeper 712.382.2432 (h) 712.350.0368 (c)		

# Inspiration for August 8

The modern world, which denies personal guilt, which has no place for personal repentance but only public reforms, has divorced Christ from His Cross; the Bridegroom and Bride have been pulled apart. What God hath joined together, men have torn asunder.