



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](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

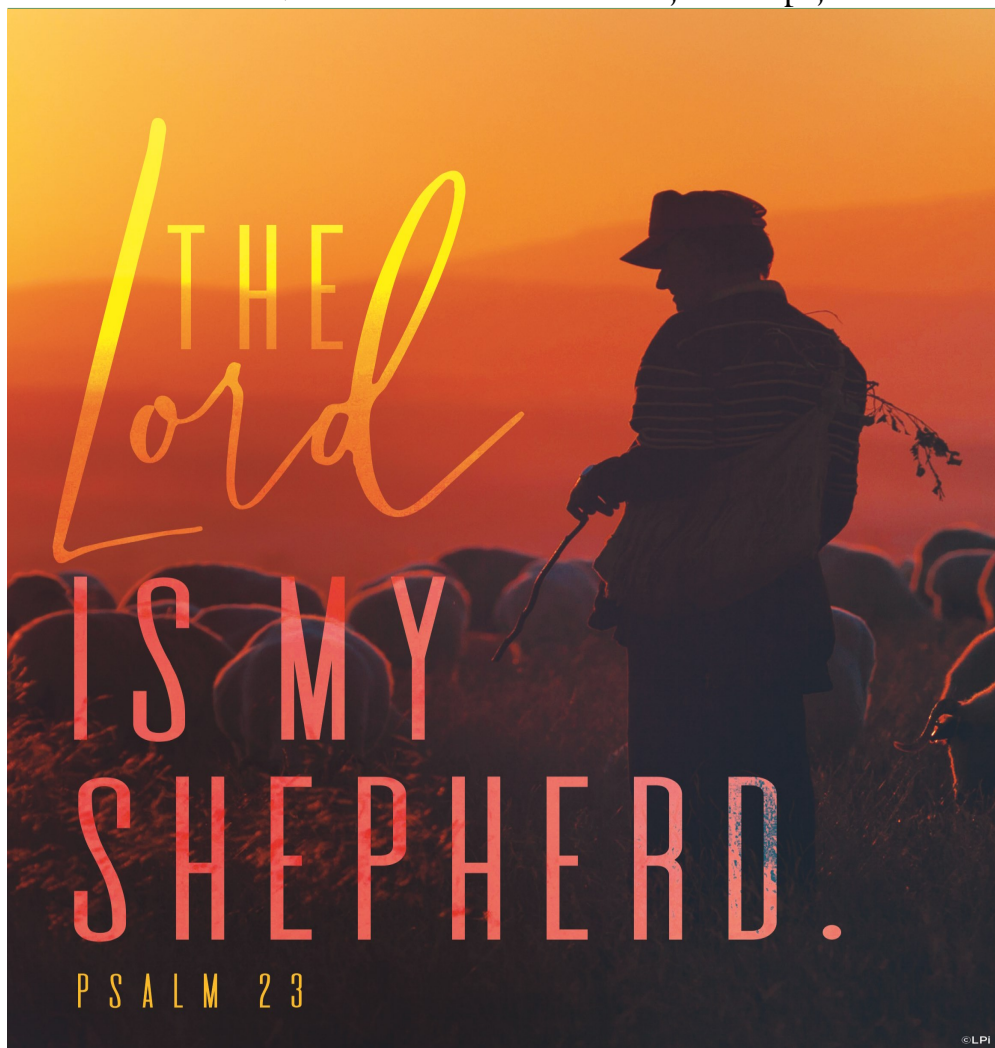
Email: [stclareclarinda@mchsi.com](mailto:stclareclarinda@mchsi.com)

Mass Time: Sunday 8:30 a.m.

### Reconciliation:

1st Sundays after Mass or  
by appointment

Bookkeeper: Gary Poen



May 2nd/3rd, 2020– Fourth Sunday of Easter—Cycle  
A 907

Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]  
1 Pt 2:20b-25  
Jn 10:1-10

### Understanding the Word

When Peter declares that God made Jesus both Lord and Christ, the people are cut to the heart with remorse. They realize that they put to death the Holy One, God's anointed. The openness with which they receive Peter's words of testimony and accusation shows that all of the Jewish people were not hard-hearted, as some have suggested. Peter then exhorts them to repent and be baptized. The promise of which Peter speaks is probably a reference to the promise of the Spirit that was initially made to the ancestors of the people in Peter's audience. The promise of the Spirit is now made to them.

The author of First Peter claims that when we suffer precisely for having done what is good, we have the example of Christ to follow. Afflicted though innocent, he did not resort to vengeance. The description of the innocent suffering of Christ recalls a passage from one of the Suffering Servant Songs of the prophet Isaiah (53: 4-7). This passage also contains the image of the shepherd. It is employed here to indicate that Jesus is the shepherd and his disciples are the sheep. Although at times they wander away from him, they will be safe and will prosper only if they follow his lead.

In the Gospel, Jesus uses figures of speech to make his points. Characterizing himself as a shepherd, he contrasts himself with those who try to steal into the sheepfold. He seeks to guide, guard, and nurture the sheep; strangers want to snatch the sheep. The true shepherd will be recognized by both the gatekeeper and the sheep. Then, using the technical phrase "I am", he characterizes himself as the gate. Those who go through Jesus will be safe within the pen. As both shepherd and gate, Jesus shows concern for the welfare of the sheep. He insists that he has come so that they may have life and have it more abundantly.

### Responding to the Word

At the end of the day, shepherds would bring their sheep to a common sheepfold, leading them through a gate that was guarded during the night. Shepherds would give names to their sheep and call to them when daylight came, leading them back out to pasture. Because the sheep recognized the shepherd's voice there was no mix-up with sheep that belonged to others.

The idea that shepherds had a name for each of their sheep brings home the difference between a good shepherd and a stranger. The good shepherd was concerned not only for the flock but for each sheep in it. He knew them and they knew him. "They will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers" (John 10:5).

There are two words in Greek for "good"—*agathos* and *kalos*. *Agathos* refers to moral goodness, as in being a "good person." *Kalos* refers to being "good at" something. Certainly Jesus is the Good Shepherd in both senses, but the word used here is *kalos*, emphasizing his being "good at" shepherding.

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

Let us pray...

God of the invitation, you knock upon the door of everyone's heart.

We seek the courage to open that door, for we know the responsibility of saying yes.

We humbly ask you for your wisdom to serve your church with compassion and acceptance.

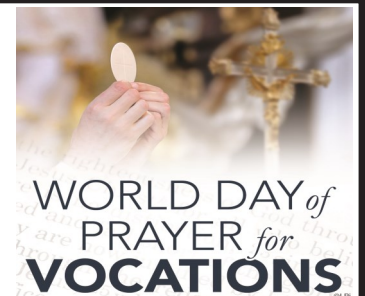
We believe that when we say yes, you will provide the grace for the work ahead.

Give grace to those men and women who have dedicated their lives to constant service to your church.

Also give grace to those couples and single men and women who work for the church in their secular lives.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord and brother, who live and reign with you and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



"How long has Jesus been knocking at the door of your heart, waiting to enter?" -St. John Baptist de la Salle



### Let's Learn about the Saints:

**Cardinal St. John Henry Newman**—was born on February 21, 1801. Originally an Oxford University professor and priest in the Church of England, he, along with colleagues, left teaching and became Catholics. He was ordained a Catholic priest and then Cardinal, and remained a religious leader in England. Newman also wrote important books, poems and music. He died on August 11, 1890, and was canonized on October 13, 2019. His feast day is October 9th.

**St. Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero Y Galdamez**—Born August 15, 1917, St. Archbishop Oscar was the Archbishop of San Salvador, El Salvador. He spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassination, and torture amid a violent civil war. In 1980, Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass. Though no one was ever convicted for the crime, investigations by the UN-sponsored commission concluded that an extreme right-wing politician had given the order to kill him. Romero denounced human rights violations and defended life, human dignity and opposed all forms of violence. He was declared a martyr (someone who dies defending the faith) by Pope Francis and canonized on October 14, 2018.







## Diocese of Des Moines launches COVID-19 Relief Fund

*Contributions can be made at [dmdiocese.org/giving](https://dmdiocese.org/giving)*

The Diocese of Des Moines COVID-19 Relief Fund has been established with a two-fold purpose: help individuals and families struggling with COVID-19, and to help the most pressing needs in Catholic parishes and schools in the diocese. The fund offers an opportunity for those who can, to help those who need a helping hand during this historic time.

"As we enter the fifty days of the Easter Season, we recognize how much upheaval and loss our society and church has experienced in this pandemic, and the long process it will take to restore human lives," said Bishop William Joensen. "Catholics and Iowans have always shown themselves to be true neighbors to one another as Jesus calls us to be, and this is a signal moment when each of us is afforded the chance to draw closer in prayer and spiritual solidarity, and material support as we are able."

The [Diocese of Des Moines COVID-19 Relief Fund](https://dmdiocese.org/giving) was created in partnership with Catholic Charities and the diocese to provide immediate assistance to the most vulnerable individuals and families. Individuals and families could receive help with their monthly rent, utilities, medical bills, etc. thereby allowing them to spend money on basic needs like groceries, gas and other essentials during this time of uncertainty. Catholic Charities will administer this aspect of the relief fund through a grant application process. Payment will be made directly to vendors such as landlords, utility companies, hospitals/clinics, etc.

"We are grateful to Bishop Joensen in creating this special relief fund for our diocese, to include Catholic Charities. In our 95-year social ministry legacy, our Catholic Charities mission continues to empower individuals and strengthen families through its many programs and services. Thank you in advance to all who can help contribute to this relief fund," said Barbara Q. Decker, executive director, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Des Moines.

The Diocese of Des Moines in partnership with the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa will identify the urgent needs of the most vulnerable parishes and schools and, in coordination with ministry leaders, offer temporary relief in the midst of declining parish collections.

"Our parishes and schools are adapting to new challenges both financially and operationally. While many are financially positioned to endure the COVID-19 crisis, some will face difficulties especially as the crisis lengthens," said Maureen Kenney, diocesan director of Stewardship. "The fund will go a long way to strengthen our parish and school communities in their efforts to serve individuals and families."

Parishes and schools are also working to apply for and receive financial assistance from the federal government.

## 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 occasions, 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 your Masses through: 1) the Parish offices 2) Parish E-mails 3) by surface mail addresses of our Parishes 4) Phone, via our respective Parish phones 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 intentions to our good, gracious, listening, caring, and benevolent Father all year round. May His peace, love and blessings be with us, both now and for all eternity. Amen.

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

5-2 Noah Wellhausen

5-3 Helen Lowe

5-3 Morgan Hartley

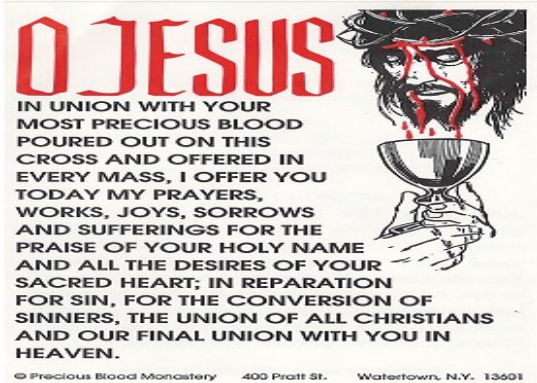
5-4 Cecilia Baldwin

5-7 Teya Stickler

5-8 Mariah Mullen



# BIRTHDAYS



### 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, Alice Varley, Beth Kline, Jerry and Jean Schweitzer, Pat Kasha, Keith Holderfield, & Renee Rogers.



## BOOK MARK

# How to Pray the Rosary

Reprinted from *Outlines of Catholic Teaching* by  
Rev. John J. Keating, C.S.P.  
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED  
ISBN: 0-8091-5064-6 \$ .15



PAULIST PRESS  
997 MacArthur Blvd.  
Mahwah, N.J. 07430  
www.paulistpress.com

## TRADITIONAL DAYS ON WHICH TO SAY THE MYSTERIES

**The Joyful Mysteries**  
Mondays and Saturdays

**The Luminous Mysteries**  
Thursdays

**The Sorrowful Mysteries**  
Tuesdays and Fridays  
and Sundays during Lent

**The Glorious Mysteries**  
Wednesdays and Sundays



Celebrate May,  
the month of our  
Blessed Mother,  
Mary, in saying  
the Rosary.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross and say the "Apostles' Creed."
2. Say the "Our Father."
3. Say three "Hail Marys."
4. Say the "Glory Be to the Father."
5. Announce the First Mystery; then, say the "Our Father."
6. Say ten "Hail Marys."
7. Say the "Glory Be to the Father."
8. Announce the Second Mystery; then, say the "Our Father." Repeat 6 and 7.

## PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY

### THE SIGN OF THE CROSS—

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

### APOSTLES' CREED—

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day he arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.*

### OUR FATHER—

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. *Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

### HAIL MARY—

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

### GLORY BE TO THE FATHER—

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

## THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

- 1st—The Annunciation
- 2nd—The Visitation
- 3rd—The Nativity
- 4th—The Presentation
- 5th—Finding of the Child in the Temple

## THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

- 1st—The Baptism in the Jordan
- 2nd—The Wedding at Cana
- 3rd—The Proclamation of the Kingdom
- 4th—The Transfiguration
- 5th—The Institution of the Eucharist

## THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

- 1st—The Agony in the Garden
- 2nd—The Scourging
- 3rd—The Crowning with Thorns
- 4th—The Carrying of the Cross
- 5th—The Crucifixion

## THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

- 1st—The Resurrection
- 2nd—The Ascension
- 3rd—The Descent of the Holy Spirit
- 4th—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 5th—The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

## Concluding Prayers\*

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee we send up our sighs, mourning, and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and, after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O pious, O sweet Virgin Mary! V. Queen of the most Holy Rosary, pray for us: A. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

## Let Us Pray

O God, whose only begotten Son, by his life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain, and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

\*These prayers are a fitting conclusion, but are not an essential part of the Holy Rosary.



Your Gifts for God's Work	April 20-26, 2020
The Weeks Offering	\$535.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,562.50
Over/(Below)	(\$1,027.50)
Monthly Goal	\$6,250.00
Total for Month of April	\$3,425.00

**Mass Intentions @ St. Joseph, Villisca:**  
 April 30: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 3: Mark & Helen Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 7: Bob & Linda Schiltz from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

**Mass Intentions @ St. Clare, Clarinda:**  
 May 1: Alfred & Leonetta Kenkel and Silverius & Mariann Muenchrath from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 2: Andy & Mildred Bruck from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 3: Leo & Marie Dresen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 5: Mary Feser from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 6: Joe & Irene Leuschen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling  
 May 8: Betty Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

**Mass Intentions @ Sacred Heart, Bedford:**  
 May 2: Gene & Lois Sibenaller from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

*A Guest Bearing Gifts taken from Every Day with the Savior*

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the "Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the apostles, endowing them with power and many gifts. These gifts included the ability to speak in other languages, as well as knowledge of the Word of Christ, which the Spirit restored to their memories.

*Prayer suggestion:* Give thanks for the Holy Spirit, the heavenly Guest who comes, bringing choice gifts.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 2 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4 PM  
 Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6 PM
- May 3 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30 AM  
 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 10:30 AM
- May 5 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 5PM
- May 6 St. Clare Holy Mass at 9AM
- May 8 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4PM  
 Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6PM
- May 9 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).

As of April 24th, St. Clare has had 15 donors respond with pledges and gifts of \$7,850 to bring the remaining balance to \$8,664 from the initial \$16,514 that we have been assessed. Thank you!



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

*"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

## 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