



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

(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

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



June 27th/28th, 2020—Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Cycle A

Readings: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a
Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]
Rom 6:3-4, 8-11
Mt 10:37-42

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

Introduction

In our gospel today Jesus tells us we must die to ourselves: “Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” Today’s second reading from Paul tells us that through baptism we have died with Christ and rose with him to share in his divine life. Paul was making reference to the normal way baptism was administered in his day. A person was dunked in the water, symbolizing death and burial and then brought out of the water, symbolizing a resurrection. A person does not have to be baptized by immersion to experience the spiritual effects of the sacrament, namely, dying to selfishness and sin and beginning a new life in Christ.

There is a second theme in today’s readings: that of kindness to God’s holy ones. Jesus is about to send his apostles out as missionaries and he promises them that anyone who does a simple act of kindness for them will not lose their reward. In those days there were not hotels and motels. Travelers had to depend on the kindness of others when they traveled. The prophet Elisha in our first reading lived about 800 years before Christ. He often traveled to Mt. Carmel to pray and on his journey to Mt. Carmel he regularly stopped to stay at the home of a couple who lived in a town nearby. The story emphasizes the importance to being receptive to those sent to us by God, whether they be prophets or apostles. The story also shows that if one is kind to one sent by God, God will not let us outdo him in generosity.

Homily

We heard Jesus tell us not to let anything or anyone (even those who are closest to us, even our own lives) be more important than he is. He does not make this request for his own glorification. He isn’t looking for worldly glory. His life was a life of poverty and simplicity. Besides, he has all the glory he needs. He is, after all, Son of God. You can’t get any higher than that. He asks us to give him central place in our hearts and in our lives for our own sake and for our own happiness. We’ll never really be satisfied in life until we possess and are fully possessed by the life that Christ came to bring us. As St. Augustine said, “Thou hast made us for thyself O Lord and our hearts are restless until they rest in thee.”

There are two themes that flow from this basic truth. I think the first message is that the gospel is not always a “feel good” message. Some people only want to hear peace, love and joy when they come to Church. They want a Church that always makes them “feel good.” Peace, love and joy are wonderful and Jesus’ promises of lasting happiness fill us with hope, and all preachers love to preach about these things, but sometimes, like today, the gospel message is not easy to hear. Being willing to give up everything for Christ, even our own lives (and many people did), is a hard message. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran minister, who spent the last two years of his life in prison for resisting Hitler, wrote a lot about “cheap grace,” grace that didn’t cost us much. Cheap grace means hoping to gain eternal happiness while asking ourselves, “What is the least I can get by with.” One of Bonhoeffer’s most memorable lines is “When Christ calls a person, he bids him come and die.” Following Christ can cost us dearly. If we’re afraid of that, if we’re always looking for a Church that doesn’t really challenge us, then we are not wanting to hear Christ.

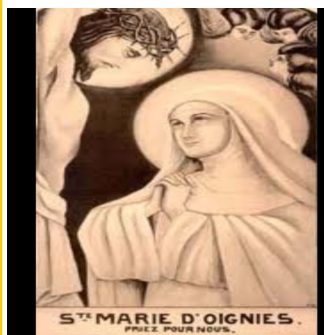
The second theme of today’s gospel is kindness, especially, to those who bring this message of life through death to us. That includes our hierarchy, the priests and the religious, but it includes parents and grandparents, neighbors and friends, teachers and spouses and all who have taught us about Christ and who have been models of faith for us. Most of us didn’t get our faith out of a textbook. We got it by God’s inspiration and by seeing how others lived it. I did come to know some wonderful priests when I was growing up, but most seemed to me to be stuffy and distant. My faith came primarily from my parents and those who taught me in school. And it still is enriched by people I have known and do know now at St. Boniface. When you are here faithfully every week and you pray and sing from your hearts, my spirits are lifted in prayer. So, this act of kindness to God’s messengers that Jesus promises to reward applies to anyone. A young girl told the story about needing to have her teeth repaired when she was in college. Being a struggling college student, she could hardly afford to have one tooth filled, but the pain was so bad she had to see a dentist. When she went, he wanted to fix all her teeth and she said I can’t afford it and started to leave. He understood and said “well, when you finish college you’ll get a job and make some money and you can pay me then.” He did the job, on credit, and it made a wonderful difference in the way she felt. She was able to pay him off after graduation. She called him a “woodwork angel.” She described “woodwork angels” as strangers who come out of nowhere, out of the woodwork, when a person needs help. They may help out with money, skills, protection from danger or from making a big mistake, they may offer us hospitality as the woman did for the prophet Elisha or they may simply offer us a cup of cold water. We all need them. We all need to be one to others. Herman Melville said, “We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow human beings.” And Elbert Hubbard said, “People are rich only as they give. He who gives great service gets great returns.” Jesus said, “whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple— amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”

Let's learn about the Saints:

Anatolius of Alexandria—was humble and deeply religious; he was an outstanding scholar, teacher, and writer. As head of a school in Alexandria, Egypt, he devoted himself to educating others as well as himself. Jerome heaped praise upon Anatolius for his books.

When the Romans laid siege to Alexandria during the rebellion of 263, innocent civilians starved along with those who were opposing Roman occupation. Anatolius negotiated the freedom of women and children, the sick and the elderly. Saving many lives, Anatolius received accolades as a peacemaker. One unexpected result of his success was that the city's noncombatants no longer exhausted supplies, and the rebels were able to continue their resistance for a long time. When they ultimately lost, Anatolius had few friends on either side and had to leave Alexandria.

Traveling to Palestine, Anatolius settled in Caesarea where he was welcomed with open arms. On his way to a meeting in Antioch, he passed through Laodicea, in Asia Minor. Church leaders in Laodicea were familiar with the writing of Anatolius and asked him to become their next bishop. He agreed and served them for fifteen years, dying a natural death in 283. Feast day is July 3.



Mary of Oignies—lived the simplicity and austerity of a Franciscan before there were any Franciscans. She grew up in Belgium, the daughter of wealthy parents. They forced her into marriage to the son of another wealthy family when she was only fourteen. She convinced her husband to respect her virginity and persuaded him to let their home become a hospital for lepers.

Mary's biography comes to us from Cardinal James de Vitry, who was her confessor and disciple. He speaks highly of her virtuous life, but cautions readers that her spiritual life was bizarre. She had what used to be called "the gift of tears," weeping uncontrollably when meditating. "Her steps might be traced in the church...by her tears on the pavement." References to the crucifixion of Christ would often cause her to faint.

Many came to visit Mary. In the final five years of her life, she sought solitude at the monastery at Oignies, where she filled her days and nights with prayer. She died at the age of thirty-eight in 1213. Feast

day is June 23.

BIRTHDAYS

6-29 Harper Graves
7-1 Whitney Henry
7-1 Tatum Prather
7-4 Mary Lou Wolhoy
7-4 Shawn Prather



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.

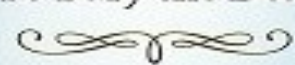


*"It is a favorable time to heal wounds,
a time to offer everyone the way of
Forgiveness and Reconciliation."
- Pope Francis*



Corporal Works of Mercy

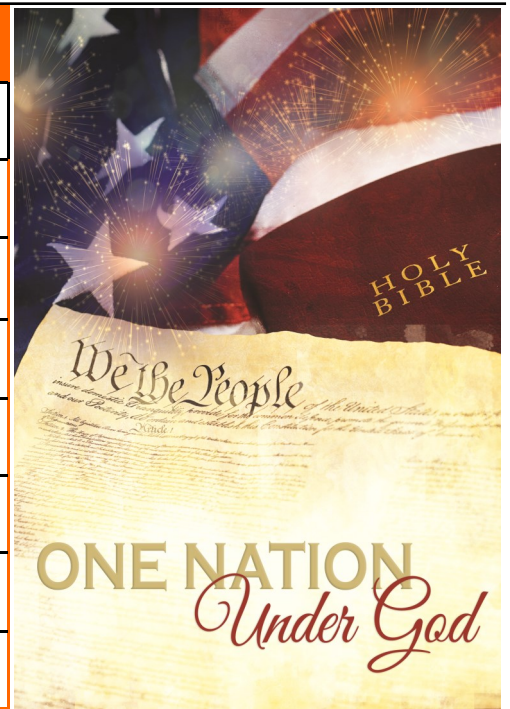
- To Feed the Hungry
- To Give Drink to the Thirsty
- To Clothe the Naked
- To Shelter the Homeless
- To Care for the Sick
- To Visit the Imprisoned
- To Bury the Dead



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

	Greeters / Ushers	Lector	Recorders
SATURDAY JUNE 27 St. Clare, 4PM	Paul & Cindy Morgan	Frank Nowakowski	
SATURDAY JUNE 27 Sacred Heart, 6PM		James Rogers	
SUNDAY JUNE 28 St. Joseph, 8:30AM			
SUNDAY JUNE 28 St. Clare, 10:30AM	Mary Grebert	Ellen Nothwehr	Ellen & Alan Nothwehr
SATURDAY July 4 St. Clare, 4PM	Mayer Family	Mayer Family	
SATURDAY July 4 Sacred Heart, 6PM		Sharon Hart	
SUNDAY July 5 St. Joseph, 8:30AM			
SUNDAY July 5 St. Clare, 10:30 AM	Hartley Family	Pat McAndrews	Greg & Brenda Samuelson



Complete Trust in God

Do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life with dread and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will deliver you from them.

He has guided and guarded you thus far in life. Do you but hold fast to his dear hand, and he will lead you safely through all trials. Whenever you cannot stand, he will carry you lovingly in his arms.

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. The same Eternal Father who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either he will shield you from suffering or he will give you the unfailing strength to bear it.

Be at peace then and put aside all useless thoughts, vain dreads, and anxious imaginations.

St. Francis de Sales

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.



www.BenedictineSisters.org

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. To register, please call Sr. Maria Victoria at (660) 944-2221 ext. 127 or e-mail vocation@benedictinesisters.org.

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

Your Gifts for God's Work	June 20th/21st, 2020
The Weeks Offering	\$865.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,562.50
Over/(Below)	(\$697.50)
Monthly Goal	\$6,250.00
Total for Month of June	\$4,093.00



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 27 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4 PM
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6 PM
- June 28 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30 AM
St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 10:30 AM
- July 1 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 5PM
- July 3 St. Clare Holy Mass at 9AM
- July 4 St. Clare, Clarinda: Holy Mass at 4PM
Sacred Heart, Bedford: Holy Mass at 6PM
- July 5 St. Joseph, Villisca: Holy Mass at 8:30AM
St. Clare, Clarinda: Mass at 10:30AM

Mass Intentions @ St. Joseph, Villisca:

June 25: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
June 28: Bob & Linda Schiltz from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 2: Jim & MaryLou Schimeroski from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

Mass Intentions @ St. Clare, Clarinda:

June 26: Leo & Marie Dresen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
June 27: Mary Feser from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
June 28: Joe & Irene Leuschen from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
June 30: Betty Langenfeld from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 1: Alfred & Leonetta Kenkel from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling
July 3: Silverius & Mariann Muenchrath from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling

Mass Intentions @ Sacred Heart, Bedford:

June 27: Gene & Lois Sibenaller from St. Joseph's Parish, Earling



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, 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 Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp.