

# ALL SAINTS

CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL



*Love God • Serve Others • Form Disciples*



**December 7 & December 8, 2024;  
Second Sunday of Advent**

*Restore our  
fortunes, O Lord,  
like the torrents in the  
southern desert. Those  
who sow in tears shall  
reap rejoicing.*

*Psalm 126:4*

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	4:00 pm
Sunday	9:00 am

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday	8:30 am
Tuesday	8:00 am
Wednesday	8:00 am
Thursday	8:30 am
Friday	8:00 am

*We are called to make our hearts ready...*



Image: young-catholics.com



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@AllSaintsCedarRapidsIowa



@allsaintscr

All Saints Catholic Church † 720 29th Street SE † Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403 † (319) 363-6130

## Please Pray for the Following People

(Why people want prayers isn't important, *the prayers are!*)



† Fr. Dennis Conway, † Jim Barry, † Sharon Warden, † John Behounek, Brytta Fitzgibbons, Kim Truesdell, Ramona S., Judy B., Mark Dougherty, Kim Witte.

To add a name call Dan Alpers, at 363-6130, ext. 100. Names will be listed for four weeks and may be renewed. †, Recently deceased will be listed for two weeks.

## Stewardship Corner



During the Christmas shopping season, it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To live Stewardship and grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

## A Weekly Tip on Caring for Our Common Home



To conserve water, wash your car less frequently and use a commercial car wash. Estimates are that an average homeowner uses more than 100 gallons of water to wash a car, while most car washes use far less and properly dispose of the dirty water. Runoff from car washing in a driveway, street or parking lot can pollute the environment.

## Evening Eucharistic Adoration Announcement



Evening Eucharistic Adoration will be held on Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel on December 2nd, December 9th and December 16th. Please join us and take some quiet, prayerful time during this busy season! You can contact Peg Schmitz at [peg@schmitzia.com](mailto:peg@schmitzia.com) or 319-329-0155 with any questions.





# Everyday Metanoia



This is the second Sunday of Advent and we continue our preparation for Christmas, where we remember the gift of Jesus Christ as he entered our world for the first time, as we celebrate that he is a part of our lives now, and as we look forward to the day when we will see him again at the end of time.

Today's Gospel is from Luke and we hear the familiar passage from John the Baptist, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Stacy Cataldo, our Director of Catechesis, used some wonderful imagery and examples with our grade school students at All Saints Elementary School this week as she prepared them for Mass. As she began to help the students explore the meaning of this Gospel, she told the students to stand at one end of the room and placed baby Jesus at the other end of the room. The desks were pulled back and there was a straight path from the children to Jesus. She then asked them to think of something they had done or said at home that wasn't loving - like not listening to their mom or dad, not completing a chore, or fighting with a sibling. A few rocks were thrown onto the carpet; the pathway was no longer straight. It was fun and amazing to see the light bulb go on for the students!

We do the same thing in our lives - sins, whether venial or mortal, create obstacles in our path to the Lord. Advent is a time when we are invited to remove those boulders of sin and clear the path. Sometimes it is not always what we do or say to others, but the negative stories that we tell ourselves and believe. This creates valleys in our journey to know, love and anticipate the birth of Jesus - past, present and future. Prayer and adoration are both gifts that we can give ourselves to pause the destructive self-litany and allow God to communicate with us. Sometimes God sends helpers to us, also. Friends, co-workers, family and perhaps professionals. They can help us put a holy mirror to the distortions so that the picture clears, the valley is filled and the pathway to the Lord is made straight. Starting with Adam and Eve, we decided that we wanted to be our own "gods." The mountain of our ego and the hill of our self-will can create detours which prevent us from experiencing an open road to Jesus, too.

So with all of these potential roadblocks in our way - how do we navigate our way to Jesus by December 25? (really everyday!) In addition to prayer and Adoration already mentioned, we are given the gift of forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On top of what is offered already by our Catholic parishes in the metro area, there are three additional opportunities scheduled for December: Saturday, December 14 at 10:30 a.m. - All Saints Church; Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. - St. Matthew Church; and Saturday, December 21 at 10:30 a.m. - St. Pius X Church. Apps on your phone, such as Hallow, offer daily Advent prayers and reflection and the USCCB website has a great daily Advent calendar. All Saints still has Advent materials for you to incorporate into your journey, too. They will be on the tables near the coffee bar this weekend.

The Advent and Christmas reflection booklet for teens added this to contemplate for the week: "Advent, in many ways, is a microcosm of discipleship. It is a journey from self-deception to self-awareness. [There are] a mass of contradictions that exist in the human heart. We are lions, lambs, wolves, calves, oxen and vipers. This chaotic menagerie seems awfully problematic, but when we humble ourselves enough to let the little child lead us and save us, then we begin to instead become a harmony of love...Jesus, sometimes I do and say things that make me not recognize myself. Teach me how all the parts of my soul are meant to exist in harmony to bring glory to your name."

See you at Mass!

Tracy Huk, Business Manager, [businessallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:businessallsaints@gmail.com)

# 2024 Holiday Scrip Schedule



*The holiday shopping season is upon us, and gift cards make great gifts!*

To pick up your order on:	Place your <b>online</b> order before 8am on:	Drop off your <b>paper</b> order form before 8am on:
Dec 20	Dec 16	Dec 16
Jan 10	Jan 6	Jan 6

**The All Saints Scrip Office will be closed Nov 20-24 and Dec 21-Jan 5.**

Online orders will be available while the Scrip Office is closed. However, “Pay Coordinator” and “Ship to Coordinator” items will be delayed until the Scrip Office reopens.

Contact Lori at [scrip@allsaintscr.com](mailto:scrip@allsaintscr.com) or 319.535.3570 for more details.

*Thank-you for supporting All Saints!*

## Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



In 2024, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary will be observed on Monday, December 9th instead of the usual date of December 8th. December 8th falls on a Sunday, which takes precedence in the liturgical calendar, meaning the celebration is moved to Monday. At All Saints we will have one Mass at 8:30 AM. Please join us!

## Cedar Rapids Metro Advent Reconciliation Services



- All Saints Parish** 10:30 AM on Saturday, December 14
- St. Matthew Parish** 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 17
- St. Pius X Parish** 10:30 AM on Saturday, December 21

## Help Spread Christmas Cheer



The mailing labels and cards are now available to send Christmas cards with notes of thanks to the retired priests in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Please consider brightening the day of one or more of our retired priests.



# Advent Resources from Xavier



The liturgical season of Advent begins on December 1, 2024. As we wait with hopeful hearts, we don't just sit around—we actively wait and do something to draw us closer to the Lord. What things can you do to be intentional about your preparation for the birth of Jesus?

## Ideas to grow in your faith:

- Mass in the Chapel – 7:00 am every Friday
- Pray the rosary in the Chapel one day a week – Monday-Thursday, 7:15 am
- Girls Bible Study / Men Discernment Group / Women's Discernment Group – Thursdays during RTI
- Pray the St. *Francis Xavier Novena*
- A list of *Reconciliation opportunities* in Cedar Rapids
  - Reminder: Fr. Dunne is available for confessions by appointment throughout the week
- *Advent Resources*

## Help Wanted: Decorating All Saints for Christmas!



Our volunteers are planning to decorate the Narthex after the 4th Sunday of Advent Mass on December 22nd. We'll need lots of volunteers to help on this day.

The teardown this season will be after the Baptism of the Lord Sunday Mass on Sunday, January 12th.

## An Advent Activity for Your Family



Each Christmas ornament tells a story and carries a blessing. To counter the typical frantic rush of the season, let the Christmas tree stand bare for a week and then bless the ornaments while placing them on the tree. This is a good way to observe how Advent is a time of anticipation and longing.

Have each family member choose a favorite ornament and hold it. Select someone or ask someone to volunteer in leading the following blessing.

Leader: God, we ask you to bless these ornaments. Each one of these represents a thread in the tapestry of our family's life together. We gather today to be mindful of how you have been present with us through all our days. We know that you are present with us now as our family story continues to unfold. Help us to see one another as precious and dear, to treat one another with tenderness and care, and to enjoy and celebrate the joy that each one of us brings to the family. We ask you this in a spirit of memory and celebration.

All: Amen.

(After the blessing, your family might take time to share stories connected to some favorite ornaments.)

## A Challenge from Dan



I love to look around at the crowd at an Iowa Women's Basketball game when I get up and start a 'Let's Go Hawks' chant. It's invigorating to see a crowd deeply involved in something they love. As you all know, Christmas Eve Mass is right around the corner—the biggest show of the year, as I like to call it. And, just as I love to see a sold-out crowd at Carver for Hannah, Syd, and the Taylors, I love to see a full church and social hall on Christmas Eve.

Every year, we take steps to make the process of organizing Advent-related events easier, smoother, and more convenient for you, the parishioner. Christmas Eve Mass reservations and seating arrangements have been known to take nearly the entire month—for a 1 one-hour Mass! (insert eyes bugging-out emoji here). I know, right? This year, we're taking a huge leap to make the process a little easier on our weary office staff. We've diligently researched providers around the world and found one from all the way in Denmark called Ticketleo (as in Leo, the Lion for you Bruce more historians). Ticketleo will allow you to reserve your seats at Christmas Eve Mass just as if you were attending a movie at Collins Road Theatres. On Thursday, December 12, we will send you an email reminder to visit the All Saints website. Our talented website guru, Ethan has created a flashy holiday-themed button that will appear on the front page when that email is sent. I've seen what he's working on. You can't miss it, I promise. That link will take you to our Ticketleo page that will feature a rough layout of our church's seating arrangement. Just like at the movie theater, it will allow you to choose seats for you and your family. You'll then receive an e-mail confirming your chosen seat locations. It's as easy as that!

Now that we've found a smart, simple solution for parishioners and office staff, all that's left is to make sure that everyone knows about it. This is the biggest challenge of the entire process. Okay, I tell a lie. The most difficult challenge of the process is when calls come in the afternoon before Christmas Eve, reservations are full, and I have to politely inform the caller that there is no room at the inn (see the joke?). Your challenge is to help me prevent those calls. There will, however, be plenty of seats in the social hall. Knudge your neighbor in the pew this weekend at Mass. Send the parishioner nextdoor a text. Create a message group for the family on Facebook. Whatever it takes, let everyone know about the link that will take them to the Ticketleo website. If you're not on our bulletin email list, be sure that you are. (Click [HERE](#) to join.) Then show everyone around you how simple it was and how cool it is to be in-the-know. Our Facebook page has all kinds of great things to grab your attention and inform you of goings-on in and around the church. We'd love to have you grow our little community over there as well. As many of us know, probably by learning the hard way, communication is key. Together, we can create more effective communication. My challenge to you is to help me make this magic happen. Together, we can pack the house for Christmas Eve. Thanks in advance for your help. I appreciate you and your assistance, as does the person that I didn't have to sadly inform that they wouldn't have a seat on Christmas Eve because they were out of the loop.

## Help Wanted: Parish Advocate for Disability Inclusion



Do you have a passion to make a difference in the lives of those at All Saints with disabilities? It is the desire of our Archdiocese to have a *Parish Advocate for Disability Inclusion* in every parish. This Parish Advocate would serve as our contact person on behalf of persons with disabilities and their families, and serve as their liaison in our parish. If you feel called to this very important role and advocacy, or desire additional information, please contact Deacon Mike Klappholz at 319-361-0357 or [deaconmike@allsaintscr.com](mailto:deaconmike@allsaintscr.com). Please click [HERE](#) for the Parish Disability Advocate job description.



## Service to Others

### Metro Catholic Outreach



#### ***We Congratulate Our New Executive Director***

**Anni Thorn**, who joined the MCO team six months ago as Associate Director, has now been officially promoted to *Executive Director of Metro Catholic Outreach*.

Anni, a pastor, came to us in June after about ten years at First Presbyterian Church in Marengo. Prior to that, she spent eleven years at an inner city church in San Francisco, working with that city's most vulnerable, including the homeless population and prison inmates. Since her first day in early June, Anni has jumped in with both feet. She has already been such a great leader and role model for all our clients, our volunteers, donors, and staff!

#### ***Weekly Needs***

**Pantry Needs:** Canned Chicken/Tuna, Rice, & Pasta. **Personal Care:** Pet Food, Toothpaste, & Shampoo.

**Homeless Supplies:** Bus Passes, Underwear, Gloves, & Hormel *Compleats* Meals.

## All Saints Foundation



God gives us many gifts during our lifetime. As steward of the gifts you receive, you are entrusted with ensuring these gifts are used to their fullest. As you prepare your heart for Advent and Christmas we invite you to consider a planned gift or gift through your will to All Saints Parish, which will help perpetuate the mission of Jesus Christ and that of our parish to Love God-Serve Others-Form Disciples. For more information on how this can be done, please contact Tracy Huk at 319-363-6130 ext 111 or [businessmgr@allsaintscr.com](mailto:businessmgr@allsaintscr.com) to speak confidentially about your wishes. If you would like information about gift planning, please contact our planning partner at the Catholic Foundation at 563-552-0176 or [CFAD@OurCFAD.org](mailto:CFAD@OurCFAD.org).

## Young at Heart



Come join the All Saints' Church members for the Young at Heart Luncheon on Wednesday, December 18, 2024. The children from All Saints School will be joining us at noon with festive holiday songs. Come and enjoy seeing and hearing the children from All Saints. Join us and bring a friend. You are bound to enjoy this musical treat and wonderful fellowship with All Saints members and friends. There is no cost for the meal.

## Year-End Giving



Come join the All Saints' Church members for the Young at Heart Luncheon on Wednesday, December 18, 2024. The children from All Saints School will be joining us at noon with festive holiday songs. Come and enjoy seeing and hearing the children from All Saints. Join us and bring a friend. You are bound to enjoy this musical treat and wonderful fellowship with All Saints members and friends. There is no cost for the meal.

# The Disciple Maker Index Survey is Open!



Our parish, along with all others in the archdiocese, is participating in a parish Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey conducted by Catholic Leadership Institute. Many of us participated in the archdiocesan survey for the global synod during January and February of 2022. Archbishop Zinkula has reviewed the synod report generated by 16,000 household responses. The DMI survey is the next step in a process that will lead to new mission and vision statements, and pastoral priorities.

The DMI is an important survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at our parish. Please take the survey today! Click the link to take the survey: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/bpctab> or scan the QR code:

- Your input helps strengthen our parish.
- Results help our leadership councils prepare for the future.
- A report of the finds will be shared in early 2025.



The survey will be open until January 9. Paper surveys will be available by calling Tracy Huk at 319-363-6130 ext 111. I will be in the Narthex December 10-13 after each daily Mass for those wishing to complete a paper survey. I will also be in the Parish Library after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 15 with paper copies. Together we will identify our strengths and opportunities in greater detail as we strive to grow in missionary discipleship and help craft our common vision for the future. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Huk at 319-363-6130 ext 111 or [businessmgr@allsaintscr.com](mailto:businessmgr@allsaintscr.com).

## For the Married Couples



“John [the Baptist] went through the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” (Lk 3:3) The sacraments are essential to the Christian life. Encourage your spouse to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly. Participation in this sacrament will strengthen not only your relationship with God, but your relationship with your spouse.

## Reminder - Retirement Fund for Religious:



We will not be conducting this collection as a stand-alone collection this year.

\*\*\* As stated in the November 1 Official Bulletin, if you've received collection materials for the Retirement Fund for Religious this Fall, please DO NOT put these materials out in your parishes. Please recycle those materials\*\*\*

This collection will be a part of the Spring Our Call to Share Campaign in May, for which we will be producing our own materials.



# Surviving Divorce

CEDAR RAPIDS DEANERY

## Surviving Divorce

HOPE AND HEALING  
FOR THE CATHOLIC FAMILY

**SPRING SESSION**

**TUESDAYS**

6-7.30PM

**JAN. 7 - MAR. 25**

**AT ST. PIUS X**

4949 COUNCIL ST. NE  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52402

CONTACT CATE OR  
JACKIE FOR MORE INFO:  
catie22001@yahoo.com  
jseals33@aol.com

## Catholic Daughters of the Americas



Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Cedar Rapids Court #1768 will meet Tuesday, December 17 at St. Pius Catholic Church at 6:15.PM starting with a soup supper contest. Members bring sides and desserts. Please bring baby items to be donated to Bridgehaven. Also, bring a \$5 or \$10 wrapped Christmas gift for our gift exchange. Visitors are always welcome. Contacts: Roberta 319-366-0999 or Stephanie 319-540-7193.

There is no meeting in January

## Mass Intentions

- Mon. December 9 8:30 am  
For the People
- Tues. December 10 8:00 am  
† Kim O'Brien
- Wed. December 11 8:00 am  
Kim Witte
- Thurs. December 12 8:30 am  
David & Therese Cavin
- Fri. December 13 8:00 am  
† Bob & Mary Hook
- Sat. December 14 4:00 pm  
For the People
- Sun. December 15 9:00 am  
† David Sheffert

## Scripture Readings

Week of December 8, 2024

### Sunday:

Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6 (6)

### Monday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 (689)

### Tuesday:

Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14 (182)

### Wednesday:

Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30 (183)

### Thursday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/  
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 (690A)  
or any readings from the Common of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary (707-712)

### Friday:

Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19 (185)

### Saturday:

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13 (186)

### Sunday:

Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18 (9)

## Parish Life



Do you enjoy getting people together for fellowship and having fun as well? Parish Life Committee is looking for additional members to appreciate each event. If you are interested, please contact Ellen Mouw at 712-253-5540 or [eamouw@aol.com](mailto:eamouw@aol.com).

## Un-Committee



Don't have time for committees or meetings, but still want to help? Join the "Un-Committee" where you are contacted only for special events at All Saints Church. If interested, please contact Ellen Mouw at 712-253-5540 or [eamouw@aol.com](mailto:eamouw@aol.com).

## All Saints Nights at Green Square Meals




All Saints helps prepare and serve dinner at Green Square Meals soup kitchen, 2-3 times a month. Sign up to help at the link below or contact Melissa Peckosh (847-975-1785 or [missypeckosh@yahoo.com](mailto:missypeckosh@yahoo.com)).

ALL SAINTS NIGHTS: 2nd & 5th Tuesday, 3rd Monday  
All volunteers in sixth grade and up are welcome. Sign up at:  
<https://signup.com/go/vJYiFPm>

## Parish Office Hours



- Monday - Thursday - 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Friday - 8:00 am - 2:00 pm 
- Saturday and Sunday - closed

The parish staff knows that your time is valuable. Please **call** or **email** the staff member you wish to speak with to ensure that they are available.





# Bruins Beat

## Kindergarten Learning

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, e-news was not available. This week, we thought we'd share with you some wonderful photos of our kindergarteners getting their hands a little dirty and making some magic happen in the classroom.



[www.allsaints-crschool.org](http://www.allsaints-crschool.org)

## Ministry Schedule

*December 7, 4:00 PM Saturday*

### Sacristan

Not Filled

### Extraordinary Ministers

Jean Bell  
Kathi Grainger  
Aaron Kelly  
Suzanne Lammers  
Andrew Lang  
Gavin Miller  
Stephen Schmitz

### Altar Servers

Kennedy Blue  
James Lammers  
Logan Weininger

### Lectors

Kathy Ulrich  
Becky Weininger

### Hospitality Ministers

Sue Bright  
Ryan Donnelly  
Daniel Greene  
Peg Schmitz  
Tom Takes  
Mike Votroubek

*December 8, 9:00 AM Sunday*

### Sacristan

Chris Conway

### Extraordinary Ministers

Cate Biro  
Brian Conway  
Larry Hunter  
Ann Hunter  
Bill Knapp  
Dianne Knapp  
Dennis Mullarkey

### Altar Servers

Eli Shane  
Ellorie Shane  
Cayden Suby

### Lectors

Robin Brown  
JoAnn Hand

### Hospitality Ministers

Maureen Dale Ernst  
Maureen Ernst  
John Ernst  
Chase Philpott  
Pete Rethwisch  
Bea Rethwisch

# Ministry Schedule

December 14, 4:00 PM Saturday

## Sacristan

Cynthia Gunsolly

## Extraordinary Ministers

Riley Hoover

Sara Lang

Ellen Mouw

Mike Powell

Kourtne Powell

Daniel Prentice

Marvin Stallman

## Altar Servers

Joseph Cataldo

Lindsey Talyat

Megan Talyat

## Lectors

Stacy Cataldo

Lisa Stephenson

## Hospitality Ministers

Daniel Greene

Dick Kettelkamp

Tom Takes

Brian Talyat

Lauri Talyat

Mike Votroubek

December 15, 9:00 AM Sunday

## Sacristan

John Michael

## Extraordinary Ministers

Sherry Casey

Brian Conway

Stephanie Guzman

Wade Johnson

Ellen Mouw

Gregory O'Connell

Loesje Shema

## Altar Servers

Paige Ainsworth

Maeve Ainsworth

Everly Felland

## Lectors

Chris Conway

Tasha Tataara

## Hospitality Ministers

Kim Ainsworth

Jason Ainsworth

Maureen Dale Ernst

Maureen Ernst

John Ernst

Diane Weimer

# Family Ministry

December 8, 2024 • 2nd Sunday of Advent • Luke 3:1-6

## *John the Baptist Prepares the Way*

*John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, was a prophet who came to prepare the people for Jesus. John was a holy man who spent most of his time praying in the desert. When he left the desert, he traveled throughout the region of the Jordan calling people to repent and change their lives: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" (v. 4).*

God calls each of us to a close, intimate relationship. Toddlers and teens, grown-ups and elders are all invited to share in God's love. The invitation is extended in all sorts of ways: through Scripture and study; through friends, relatives and acquaintances; in quiet spaces and noisy places.

But God especially counts on parents to issue the invitation to children, to introduce them to a loving God and to nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ. Our church baptizes infants because we trust that children will be nourished by their parents' faith until they are old enough to claim their own.

Like John the Baptist, parents are expected to prepare the way so their children will be open to accepting God's personal invitation.

This can be done in subtle ways, such as creating a Christian environment at home with crucifixes and Bibles or beginning family rituals, such as nightly prayer or seasonal devotions (such as praying together around an Advent wreath).

But the most effective way for children to know who God is and what God asks of them is by listening to and watching the people who are most important to them. If God is going to be a reality in their lives, children must see in actions and hear in words that God is a reality in the lives of their mothers and fathers. For children, God's invitation to a forever relationship is best delivered personally through the words and example of their parents.

## FAMILY RESPONSE

Ask each family member to find something in the house that makes him or her think about God or faith. Talk about what each person finds.

## PERSONAL RESPONSE

Are you comfortable talking about your faith with your family? Why or why not?

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# The Gospel at Home

## This Week's Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

In Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist urges people to prepare the way of the Lord and to make straight his path. Saint John quotes the prophet Isaiah who also states that the mountains and hills will be made low, the winding roads made straight, and the rough ways smooth. The prophet also says that everyone will see the salvation of God. December 9 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception—a special holy day to celebrate Mary our Mother. And December 12, is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe—the patroness of the Americas.

## Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Your child learned that the world around us is a gift from God. Ask your child to show the family the prayer pocket created in class. During the week, use little slips of paper to add to the pocket other works of God for which your family is especially grateful. Take time to look at what's in the pocket and talk about God's gifts.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** Your child's lesson this week is all about preparing for the coming of the Lord. Check out your child's selfie drawing with John the Baptist from the cover of Promise for the week. Ask your child how he or she is preparing his or her heart for Jesus. Share how you are doing the same thing this Advent. Ask your child to tell you the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, too.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** This week your child learned how the Old Testament—its events and characters—prepared for the coming of the Messiah. The class heard the promises God made to Noah, Moses, Sarah and Abraham, and David. They learned, too, the words of John the Baptist echoing the prophet Isaiah asking people to prepare the way of the Lord. Talk about the road your family is taking to prepare for Christmas this year.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** Your youngster's class learned the role of prophets who preached about God's faithful love. The class also played a game called, "Advent Is a Journey to Christmas." Play together as a family. Talk about ways your family can be more focused on the coming of Jesus. Ask your son or daughter to share with the family the lesson's final page that tells the story of Saint Nicholas.

**Visions (Grades 7-8):** In class this week, your youngster continued the journey to Christmas by listening to the message of the prophets. The class also discussed ways to respond to John the Baptist's call to turn to God and clear a path for the coming of the Savior. Ask your son or daughter to share with the family the story, "Surfers Make the Way Smooth." How can your family help smooth the way for others?

**Awaken (Teens/Adults):** Discover a new level of spiritual growth for parents with *Awaken*, the new adult level of the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies*, developed to deepen your faith journey alongside your children. Scan the QR code to learn more.



## Pray Together

To celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, add the praying of the Hail Mary to your Advent Wreath prayer this week. As a reminder, place a statue or picture of Mary near your wreath.



# National Days of Prayer for Inclusion

December 6, 2024 - Catholic Schools  
December 7-8, 2024 - Parishes

Please join Catholic Schools & Parishes across the country in prayer as we ask for God's blessing on children, teachers, parents and families.

## **LIVING AND TRUE GOD,**

YOU CREATED ALL THAT IS GOOD AND HOLY IN YOUR IMAGE. BE CLOSE TO US, YOUR SERVANTS, WHO GATHER HERE TODAY. BE OUR CONSTANT HELP AND PROTECTION AS WE LOVINGLY REACH OUT TO WELCOME AND EMBRACE ALL YOUR CHILDREN, REGARDLESS OF THEIR ABILITIES, IN OUR PARISHES AND SCHOOLS. BLESS OUR CHILDREN AS THEY GROW TOGETHER IN FAITH, KNOWLEDGE AND FRIENDSHIP. AND BLESS THEIR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS WHO GUIDE THEM THROUGH CHALLENGES, WHO CELEBRATE THEIR SPECIAL GIFTS AND WHO ENCOURAGE THEM TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL. WE ASK THIS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, OUR LORD, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, FOREVER AND EVER.

**AMEN**

[www.firefoundationneiowa.org](http://www.firefoundationneiowa.org)





# Grief & the Holidays

Holidays are often difficult for people for people who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The sounds, sights, and smells of the holiday season may trigger feelings of sadness, loss, emptiness and anxiety.

You're Invited to Join the  
**Grief Support Group**  
**December 3rd & 10th 6:00 PM**

Open to anyone grieving the loss of a significant person in one's life. The time together will focus on how to be gentle with oneself and suggest ways to bring comfort as loved ones are remembered for the holidays.

No registration is required. The Grief Support Group meets in the Pastoral Center Raphael Room weekly. For more information, please call 563.588.0558.



Catholic  
Charities

Archdiocese of Dubuque

[www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org)



**Parish Office (319) 363-6130**  
**Mon.-Thurs., 8:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
**Fri., 8:00 am - 2:00 pm**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. John R. Flaherty	<a href="mailto:fatherjack@allsaintscr.com">fatherjack@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 116
<b>Deacon</b>	Mike Klappholz	<a href="mailto:deaconmike@allsaintscr.com">deaconmike@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 107
<b>Deacon</b>	Ed Martin	<a href="mailto:deaoned@allsaintscr.com">deaoned@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 105
<b>Business Manager</b>	Tracy A. Huk	<a href="mailto:businessmgr@allsaintscr.com">businessmgr@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 111
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Jeremy Lutz	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@allsaintscr.com">bookkeeper@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 108
<b>Medical Emergencies &amp; Funerals</b>	Rev. John R. Flaherty	<a href="mailto:fatherjack@allsaintscr.com">fatherjack@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 116
<b>Dir. of Music Ministries</b>	Matthew Burrier	<a href="mailto:music@allsaintscr.com">music@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 106
<b>Dir. of Adult Formation</b>	Bob Lillibridge	<a href="mailto:adultformation@allsaintscr.com">adultformation@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 109
<b>Dir. of Children's Formation</b>	Stacy Cataldo	<a href="mailto:catechesis@allsaintscr.com">catechesis@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 114
<b>Office Manager</b>	Dan Alpers	<a href="mailto:officemgr@allsaintscr.com">officemgr@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 100
<b>IT Director</b>	Ethan Weiland	<a href="mailto:it@allsaintscr.com">it@allsaintscr.com</a>	Ext. 104
<b>Scrip Coordinator</b>	Lori Giacinto	<a href="mailto:scrip@allsaintscr.com">scrip@allsaintscr.com</a>	(319) 535-3570

**Parish School (319) 363-4110**

<b>School Principal</b>	Kelly Starr	<a href="mailto:kelly.starr@crxcs.org">kelly.starr@crxcs.org</a>	Ext. 234
<b>School Office Manager</b>	Elaine Collins	<a href="mailto:elaine.collins@crxcs.org">elaine.collins@crxcs.org</a>	Ext. 233
<b>Early Childhood Director</b>	Kelly Starr	<a href="mailto:kelly.starr@crxcs.org">kelly.starr@crxcs.org</a>	Ext. 234
<b>Regis Middle School Principal</b>	Zach Zeckser	<a href="mailto:zach.zeckser@crxcs.org">zach.zeckser@crxcs.org</a>	(319) 363-1968
<b>Xavier High School Principal</b>	Lynn Holverson	<a href="mailto:lynn.holverson@crxcs.org">lynn.holverson@crxcs.org</a>	(319) 294-6635



## Sacrament Information

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays at 3 p.m.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Baptism preparation class is required for parents. Contact Deacon Ed Martin ([DeaconEd@allsaintscr.com](mailto:DeaconEd@allsaintscr.com) or 319-364-7524) to schedule a class and date for the baptism (some date restrictions may apply).

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Couples are to make arrangements at least six months before the intended date of the wedding in order to fulfill the necessary requirements. Please contact Deacon Mike Klappholz ([DeaconMike@allsaintscr.com](mailto:DeaconMike@allsaintscr.com)) to begin the process.

**Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA):** Classes are scheduled for Monday evenings beginning in the Fall. Contact Bob Lillibridge, Director of Formation, for more information ([adultformation@allsaintscr.com](mailto:adultformation@allsaintscr.com)).

**Confirmation:** Classes will be led by Father Jack Flaherty after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays in the Social Hall. Start date TBD ([fatherjack@allsaintscr.com](mailto:fatherjack@allsaintscr.com)).

**First Reconciliation & Eucharist:** Second graders combine home study and retreats to prepare for these sacraments. Contact Stacy Cataldo, Director of Catechesis, for more information ([catechesis@allsaintscr.com](mailto:catechesis@allsaintscr.com)).

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please contact the office at 319-363-6130, ext. 100 to schedule anointings.

## Miscellaneous Information

**Newcomer Registration:** Call the Parish Office at 363-6130, ext. 100, or register on line at <http://www.allsaintscr.com>.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Items must be submitted electronically to the parish office by Noon on the preceding Monday to: [bulletin@allsaintscr.com](mailto:bulletin@allsaintscr.com).

## Opportunities for Prayer

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Thursdays, 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM in the Church.

**All Saints Prayer Group:** Tuesdays at 3:00 PM in the church lower level.

**Prayer Tree:** Available to anyone who would like us to pray for their intentions. Please call Darlene Fandel at 319-560-4844.

**Women's Prayer Group:** Tuesday mornings after 8:00 AM Mass.

**M.O.M.S Rosary:** 7:30 PM 1st Monday of the month, Queen of All Saints Chapel.

**Prolife Rosary:** Fridays after 8:00 am Mass.

**Parish Website:** You may both submit and view prayer intentions any time at: <https://allsaintscr.churchcenter.com/people/forms/413117>.