

ALL SAINTS

CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL



Love God • Serve Others • Form Disciples



**December 6 & December 7, 2025;
Second Sunday of Advent**



Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.
Matthew 3:10

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 8:30 am & 5:30 pm
Tuesday 8:00 am
Wednesday NO Daily Mass
Thursday 8:30 am
Friday 8:00 am



The Spirit and the Fire



Image: young-catholics.com



Please Pray for the Following People

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



Dawn Bembenek & Sarah Rollins

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



Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused? Our Stewardship time, talent, and treasure are gifts from God. What we do with these gifts is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

For the Married Couples



“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Matt 3:2). John the Baptist calls for a change of heart, a turning of one’s life from rebellion to obedience towards God. How might you, your spouse, or your children be called to a “change of heart” today?

Christmas Collection Goal and End-of-the-Year Giving



As the calendar comes to a close, the Finance Council invites you to remember All Saints as end-of-the year and Christmas gifts are planned. The goal for our Christmas collection is \$70,000.00. All Saints depends on your generosity at Christmas to cover operational costs such as snow removal and the extra cost for heating and lighting during January, February and March. End-of-the year financial gifts will be accepted for 2025 through the Vigil Mass for Mary, Mother of God on December 31. Additionally, any gifts received via USPS with a postmark of December 31 or prior will be credited for 2025. Thank you for your generosity - Come Holy Spirit! If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to one of our Finance Council members or Tracy Huk, Parish Life Coordinator.

Everyday Metanoia



Welcome to the second Sunday of Advent. We continue our walk together this Advent Season: Making purposeful choices on where to spend our time; being fully present to the life we are living; getting more comfortable with silence and learning to grow from stillness.

This story from the Blessed is She Advent reflection book sparked the idea for our December interactive bulletin board: “Imagine your Heavenly Father giving you a gift. He puts a perfectly wrapped little package into your outstretched hands, and giddy with suspense, you loosen the satiny ribbons and let them fall to the floor. Slowly you lift the box’s lid and inside you see - nothing. It’s empty. It holds nothing but space. You lift your eyes to the Father’s face, disappointed and questioning. Why would he give you emptiness? He kneels down and looks into your eyes with such tender love. ‘I’ve given you a special grace’, He says. ‘This hollowness is openness, a capacity for the greatest gift I can give you.’ He pauses. ‘The gift is nothing less than Me.’ Gathering you into His arms, He whispers, ‘Guard my gift carefully. The world will want to steal it from you. It doesn’t like emptiness because it doesn’t understand it. It will try to stuff your box full - full of itself. When I come, I and I alone will fill this nothingness. But there must be room. So keep vigil. Hold this space and keep it sacred.’”

That box is our soul; our heart. Humanly, we fill it with many things and crowd out room for God. We fill our soul with unnecessary emotions like fear, worry, jealousy, greed, pride, lust, envy, vengeance, and indifference. Not only do these take up space, but when we don’t attend to these feelings in a healthy way, they expand and cause even more pain and suffering. We fill it with people and activities that do not support our growth and relationship with God. We fill it with busyness, becoming so preoccupied in the process that we don’t hear the voice of God. We fill it with things, baubles and trinkets that keep our focus on our own pleasures and ego; no longer able to see the injustice in and needs of the world. Advent is a gift of time given by our heavenly Father to take stock of what is in our hearts. Not unlike a good household cleaning, we need to name what is there and through prayer, reflection and time with God, decide what stays, what is given away and what is discarded.

Our December bulletin board is an opportunity for you to name that one thing (or more!) that you are willing to give away or discard. One may wonder why we would give something away rather than discard it. Sometimes in life people give us problems or situations with others that do not belong to us. If this is true, then consider giving it back to them this Advent. Sometimes this requires us to be bold and brave. Others will not like it when we no longer carry a burden for them. This burden is not ours, though, and we need to be vigilant in our Advent quest to make room for God. Some of the excess in our soul we have placed there ourselves. Sort through those and make a decision to discard them, knowing that God’s outcome will far exceed that which we will achieve by trying to control it ourselves.

The ego is a great deceiver. It tries to make us feel lonely and insecure when we “let go and let God.” When we experience these feelings we may lose faith and hope if we do not see or achieve the results we want in the timeframe we want. That can make us grab those items back and crowd our soul even more. Sometimes the ego deludes us so much that we use tape or glue to make sure that those things stay put. We mistake the feeling we allow ourselves to feel with a full heart for safety and security rather than admitting that we feel empty and miserable because there is not room for the only one who can make us whole and alive: God.

This process requires times of purposeful silence. It is only in the silence that we can hear God’s encouragement and know his praise and love as we make more room for him in our heart. God knows how hard this is for us. We have been crowding him out for centuries. And yet, time after time, God shows us his love and mercy. Advent is the time to read and reflect on the stories of God. It is a time to remember that no matter the length of time, God always shows up; God always comes through on His promises.

Let’s be brave and vulnerable this Advent. Write down at least one thing in our heart that we are willing to turn over to God and in prayer, pledge that no matter how long it takes, we will trust, we will be faithful, we will remain hope-filled and we will not take it back. That one small space that we clear out, done over and over again, will create a welcoming openness in our heart to receive God. The joy we will experience will be a lamplight that will never extinguish.

Let’s prioritize waiting with God this Advent Season. Let’s be a people who wait in hope.

Come Holy Spirit!

Praying with you always, Tracy Huk, Parish Life Coordinator

Christmas Decorating



In preparation for the Christmas season, the church will be decorated after Mass on Sunday, December 14th. Good times will be had by all while we make this special place beautiful and festive. Many hands make light work. We'd love to have you join us!

Mass Intention Stipends



Archbishop Zinkula has issued a decree that beginning with all Mass stipends accepted on January 1, 2026 or after, the customary offering will go from \$5.00 per Mass to \$10.00 per Mass. All Mass stipends accepted prior to January 1, 2026 will still be honored at the \$5.00 offering. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email Dan Alpers, Office Manager at 319-363-6130 ext 100 or officemgr@allsaintscr.com.

Adoration During Advent



This year, we will once again offer Adoration on Monday evenings during Advent, combining it with the Advent Stations. Please note: there will be no Adoration on Monday, December 8th due to the holy day of obligation, evening Mass is at 5:30 that day. The schedule will be as follows:

****Advent Stations**** will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

****Adoration**** will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel and conclude at 6:30 p.m.

We invite you to sign up for a volunteer position for Adoration using the following link: <https://signup.com/go/FgWeKJS>.

To sign up:

1. Click the link above.
2. Review the available options and select the spot(s) you prefer.
3. Sign up! You do not need to register an account or manage a password on SignUp.

*Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me directly at peg@schmitzia.com or 319-329-0155, and I will sign you up manually.

Thank you, Peg Schmitz

Archdiocesan News



Advent: A Season of Hope and Preparation: Advent is here - a holy season of waiting, prayer, and hope. Parishioners are invited to begin simply, with prayer - taking a moment each day to connect with the Lord and prepare their hearts for Christ's coming. Follow the Archdiocese of Dubuque's Advent Journey on social media (Facebook, Instagram, or X@DBQArch) for daily reflections inspired by the saints:

*Saint Francis Xavier calls us to make disciples,
Mary teaches us trust,
Saint Nicholas shows generous love,
and Saint Juan Diego carries the Gospel with peace.*

Let Scripture direct our steps and remind us that Christ is our light, even in darkness. Join the Archdiocesan Advent reflections online and be renewed in hope.

Journey in Faith



1. **Updated message from Archbishop Zinkula - [CLICK HERE.](#)**
2. **Article published in the Dubuque Telegraph Herald;** Wednesday, November 26, 2025 by Archbishop Zinkula:

As someone who was born and raised - and now lives and serves - in the Archdiocese of Dubuque, I have a deep love for the people and parishes of this area. The Catholic faith that my parents and parish community shared with me and my siblings shaped my vocation and continues to guide me as Archbishop. That is why I am extremely grateful that so many people in the Archdiocese took part in our Journey in Faith process over the past several months. Many have asked why the Archdiocese is embarking on this Journey in Faith. When we began this process a year ago, more than 22,000 Catholics completed the Disciple Maker Index, offering honest, heart-felt reflections on their parish and faith life. These reflections affirmed that our society and our Church have changed. We are up against shifting populations, declining Mass attendance, fewer priests, and a secular culture that often discourages faith of any kind. Correspondingly, the mission of evangelization has never been more urgent. I am committed to proactively addressing these challenges through the Journey in Faith process. I want to prayerfully plan for our future, where our parishes are driven by our mission, faithful to the Gospel, and equipped to form disciples. I want us to face these realities with hope, not fear, and to plan proactively rather than wait for circumstances to force difficult decisions. Across the Archdiocese, we held more than 300 parish meetings, welcomed over 16,500 total participants to those meetings, and received more than 5000 submissions through our feedback form. Every voice matters. I have been deeply moved by the honesty, faith, and love people have for their parishes. For nearly every opinion expressed, there was one to the contrary; this diversity is a sign of vitality. It shows how deeply we care about the Church and her mission. Even when we see things differently, we share a common goal: ensuring vibrant, sustainable Catholic parishes for generations to come. I know these conversations have not been easy. Many have asked heartfelt questions that arise from love for their parish. A frequent question is: Why can't we rotate weekend Masses so every church has one at least once a month? This approach is already occurring in nearly 20% of our parishes, where Masses are rotated on a biweekly or other schedule. These rotations, focused mainly on the use of churches, are not always effective in building consistent relationships or vibrant communities. They can strain both human and financial resources needed to maintain church buildings - resources that might

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Journey in Faith (cont.)



otherwise support ministry, evangelization, and outreach. Our goal is to ensure that parishes provide leadership formation and engage in pastoral planning so they thrive and are mission-focused. This will allow us to achieve the vision of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Another common question is: Why can't deacons or lay people do more to help with Mass? Deacons and lay leaders already contribute in invaluable ways - reaching, leading prayer, and serving in ministries. But only a priest, acting in the person of Christ, can consecrate the Eucharist. This isn't a diocesan rule; it is based on the universal Church's sacramental theology. For that reason, our planning must reflect the number of priests available to serve. And some also wonder: Why can't we use Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest (SCAP) or live-streaming with distribution of Communion? Christ intended the celebration of Mass as the memorial of his death and resurrection, not simply as consuming Holy Communion. SCAP and livestreamed liturgies fail to capture the full meaning of the Eucharist as a banquet (food and drink are consumed) and sacrifice (the Lamb of God is offered). SCAP is permitted only in true emergencies when Mass was anticipated but could not be celebrated because, for example, the presiding priest became ill. Livestreamed liturgies are only for those who are homebound. I encourage anyone who has additional questions to visit the Archdiocesan website and explore the Frequently Asked Questions section at: dbqjourneyinfaith.org/faq. Change is never easy, especially when it touches something sacred. I understand the uncertainty some feel, but I am filled with tremendous hope.

As we approach the season of Advent, we are reminded that God's people have always been on a journey - waiting, watching, and preparing for Christ's coming. Advent calls us to hope and trust, even when the path ahead is uncertain. The Holy Spirit is at work among us, even in this time of transition. I encourage Catholics to continue to pray for our parishes, our pastors, and for me, that we may be guided by the Holy Spirit. May God bless you and your families during the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas, as together we continue our Journey in Faith.

More Archdiocesan News



3. News from Catholic Charities:

As we enter the holiday season, our HUD-Certified Financial Counselors at Catholic Charities encourage everyone to approach spending with peace, purpose, and practicality. Setting a simple budget, choosing meaningful experiences over expensive gifts, and tracking small purchases can help keep financial stress at bay. Avoiding high-interest credit and planning ahead for extra holiday costs are ways we honor both our households and God's call to wise stewardship. Open conversations with loved ones about expectations can also relieve pressure and create more intentional, joyful celebrations. May this season bring clarity, contentment, and the freedom to focus on what truly matters. For more information on our Financial Literacy Program, visit CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org/financialcounseling.

For many years, Catholic Charities USA has published daily reflections during Advent and the Christmas Octave, connecting Scripture and liturgical observances with the Church's social ministry. These reflections are written by Catholic Charities leaders and representatives of collaborating organizations that share our mission. They are emailed each morning at 5:00 am ET and are read by thousands. *Please consider subscribing at this link.*

continued on next page:

More Archdiocesan News (cont.)



4. The U.S. Bishops issue a Special Message on Immigration

For the first time in 12 years, during its November Plenary Assembly, the USCCB issued a Special Message expressing concern about the evolving situation affecting immigrants in the United States. In an overwhelming show of support, 216 bishops voted in favor of issuing the Special Message, while only eight either voted no or abstained. In this statement, the bishops shared that “human dignity and national security are not in conflict” and that our nation should recognize the dignity of all persons, including immigrants. To read the entire statement, visit: usccb.org/news/2025/us-bishops-issue-special-message-immigration-plenary-assembly-baltimore. To watch the Bishop’s visit message, go to youtube.com/@UsccbOrg

5. Vocations

“The kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Matthew 3:2)

John’s call to prepare for Christ echoes in every family. In holy matrimony, love and faith creates the foundation where God’s kingdom flourishes. Is God calling you to build a holy family? Ask Him to show you His way by praying for your (future) spouse and children.

2025 Holiday Scrip Schedule



2025 Holiday Scrip Schedule

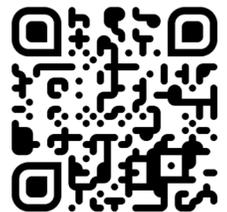


To pick up your order on:	Place your online order before:	Drop off your paper order form before:
Nov 14	Nov 10	Nov 10
Nov 21	Nov 17	Nov 17
Dec 5	Dec 1	Dec 1
Dec 12	Dec 8	Dec 8
Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 15
Jan 9	Jan 5	Jan 5

The All Saints Scrip Office will be closed ██████████ **Dec 19-Jan 4.**

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

Contact Lori at scrip@allsaintscr.com / 319.535.3570 or scan the code to visit scrip.allsaintscr.com for more details.



❄️ *Thank-you for supporting All Saints!* ❄️

Mass Intentions

Mon. Dec. 8	8:30 am	For the People
Mon. Dec. 8	5:30 pm	For the People
Tues. Dec. 9	8:00 am	Fred Brown
Thurs. Dec. 11	8:30 am	Mary Ellen Kenney
Fri. Dec. 12	8:00 am	Scott & Dave Bush
Sat. Dec. 13	4:00 pm	Barbara Scherrman-Hunt
Sun. Dec. 14	9:00 am	For the People

Scripture Readings

Week of December 7, 2025

Sunday:

Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12 (4)

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:

Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15 (184)

Friday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 (690A),

Saturday:

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

Sunday:

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11 (7)

Metro Catholic Outreach

Calling All Volunteers



Can you give a couple of hours once or twice per month to help those with food insecurity right here in our city?

Our volunteer shifts only last about two hours, morning or afternoon, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays.

Our pantry volunteers organize incoming donations, check expiration dates, stock shelves, bag up snacks, toiletries, produce, and pack the food boxes.

Our distribution volunteers add the fresh items to the food boxes on the dock, greet our clients as they arrive to pick up their groceries, and help load the cars.

Our volunteers in the office answer the door and phones, schedule clients for their food pick-ups, assemble and distribute the homeless bags, organize clothing donations and other supplies.

We are in need of more volunteers, in the pantry, the distribution dock, and in the office. We promise you will never be bored!

Contact us if you would like a tour and maybe try out a shift to see if it is a cause you would enjoy. You won't regret giving your time to help families in need! 319-739-5490.

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 Bea Rethwisch (319-651-4831 or pbr8675@msn.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>

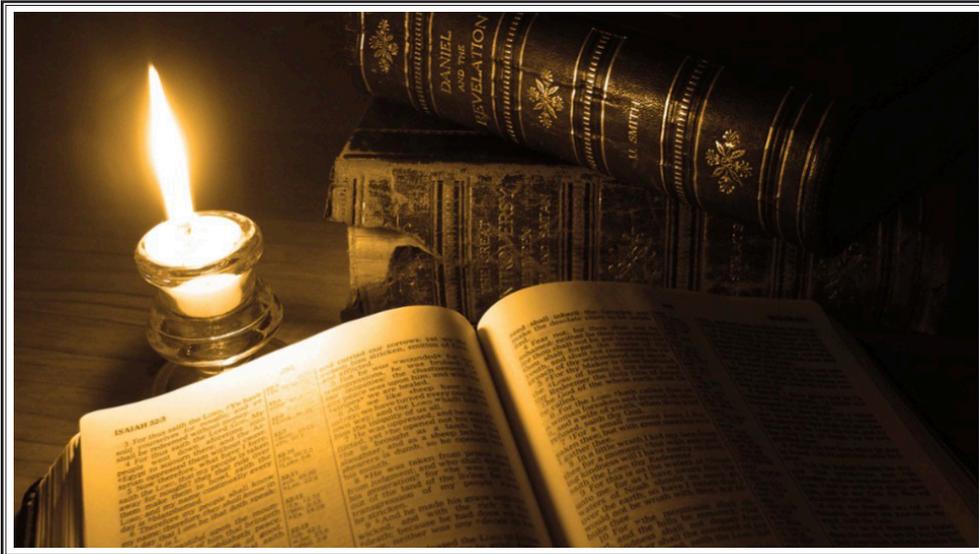
Parish Office Hours



- Monday - Friday - 8:00 am - 4:00 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.

Catholic Evangelization Outreach



THE BIBLE MADE ME DO IT!!!



The one scripture verse that changed everything...

God used one date with a Christian girl and just one scripture verse to change his life forever. Ray's newfound love of scripture and persistent 40 year search for truth lead him ultimately to embrace the Catholic faith.

Where: St. John XXIII Catholic Church
8100 Roncalli Dr SW, Cedar Rapids, IA
When: Monday, December 15, 2025
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 PM
A light meal will be served. Childcare is not available. There is no charge and all are welcome. Please scan QR code for live stream.

CRCEO.ORG



CEO
Catholic Evangelization Outreach

Catholic Daughters



Catholic Daughters, Cedar Rapids Court #1768 Will meet Tuesday, December 9th, starting at 6:00 PM a Christmas Party Soup Supper and Ugly Sweater Contest. A gift exchange (\$5-\$10) collections of Baby Items for Birthright or Bridgehaven. This event will be held at St. Pius. Questions? Contact: Roberta - 319-366-0999 or Stephanie - 319-540-7193.

Ministry Schedule

December 6, 4:00 PM Saturday

Sacristan

Jean Bell

Extraordinary Ministers

Connie Deutmeyer

Andrew Lang

Ellen Mouw

Mike Powell

Kourtne Powell

Daniel Prentice

Alison Prentice

Altar Servers

Ainsley Bosch

Veronica Cruse

Zachary Prentice

Lectors

Theresa Harker

Kathy Ulrich

Hospitality Ministers

Sue Bright

Ryan Donnelly

Dick Kettelkamp

Peg Schmitz

Tom Takes

Mike Votroubek

December 7, 9:00 AM Sunday

Sacristan

Chris Conway

Extraordinary Ministers

Cate Biro

Brian Conway

Bob Helgens

Mary Beth Helgens

Wade Johnson

Dennis Mullarkey

Loesje Shema

Altar Servers

Mason Osen

Ben Richards

Evelyn Richards

Lectors

Robin Brown

JoAnn Hand

Hospitality Ministers

Mike Klappholz

Stephanie Klappholz

Diane Weimer

Theresa Werner

Maureen Wolf

Dave Wolf

Ministry Schedule

Immaculate Conception

December 8, 5:30 PM Monday

Sacristan

Cynthia Gunsolly

Extraordinary Ministers

Joseph Cataldo

Gregory O'Connell

Altar Servers

Lewis Benfield

Tucker McGee

Ilyzza Shea

Lectors

Mick Erdman

Kathy Ulrich

Hospitality Ministers

Maureen Dale Ernst

John Ernst

Tyler Martin

Beth Martin

Bea Rethwisch

Diane Weimer



Family Ministry

December 7, 2025 • 2nd Sunday of Advent • Matthew 3:1-12

Produce Good Fruit

John the Baptist let his followers know that he was baptizing with water, but the one who was coming after him, Jesus, would baptize with the Holy Spirit. He reminds us that it is not enough to be sorry for our sins or shake our heads helplessly over the wrongs of the world. We must be people of action and do something to change things.

John's baptism promoted a turn away from sin. The baptism Jesus offers not only turns us away from sin, it propels us into loving action. Our baptism into the Body of Christ empowers us to carry Christ's love to the world. If it doesn't do that then we are like the chaff of wheat, the useless husk covering the seed that John the Baptist talks about in this reading.

Our baptism marks us as children of God, a people of love. Not just the hearts-and-flowers-love that musicians sing about or even the platonic love between really good friends. As a matter of fact, we don't even have to like someone in order to love him or her in Christian love.

The love we share as God's children is more like a bond. It is the God-glue that links us to one another, binding us in a relationship closer than brothers and sisters or husband and wife. It makes all people, all creation, one with each other and with God.

This is the love God wants us to share with our children. It may not have the same euphoric feeling we felt for our children when they were born, but it is no less honest or deep. Somehow in those first few years of their lives we have to help our youngsters carry the familial love they experience at home to the whole family of God.

We can do this by introducing them early to the community of faith: bringing them to Mass as babies, enrolling them in the parish preschool program, taking them as they grow older to serve at the soup kitchen or sort food for the Thanksgiving baskets. If we get involved in our parish community, our children can meet and interact with their peers as well as adults and experience the love that binds God's community. Healthy seeds can be planted to bear all sorts of good fruit in their futures.

FAMILY RESPONSE

Talk about how brothers and sisters should treat each other. Come up with a list of ten things they should expect from each other. Make sure standing up for each other and protecting each other is on the list.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

How can people tell that you are a Christian? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2025 Judith Dunlap. Published by the Pastoral Center, PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved. Scripture passages have been taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., and used by permission. All rights reserved.

Service to Others

Metro Catholic Outreach



Thankful and Grateful Our Shelves Are Full!

We are so thankful for all our very generous donors -- corporations, businesses both large and small, our churches, parishioners, schools, students, compassionate folks not affiliated with a church, and the list goes on.

We so grateful for our nearly 200 volunteers, who continuously give of their time and talent to unpack and inspect every donation, stock and organize the pantry shelves, bag the groceries, add the fresh items, greet our clients, load groceries into cars, answer phones, greet visitors, assemble and distribute homeless bags.

This is the most full our shelves have been in months and months! Thanks to ALL of you, our pantry is bursting with food to help local folks in need during this holiday season and beyond.

[Link to our Amazon Wish List](#)

Thank You!



On behalf of the All Saints Pastoral Council and Finance Council, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the members of the All Saints Journey in Faith Team. The All Saints Journey in Faith Team includes Stacy Cataldo, Steve Schmitz, Stephanie Klappholz, Ann Jeffries, and Ed Martin. Their leadership during this process exemplified stewardship and the giving of their time, talent and treasures as they walked our parish through some uncertain times. We want to thank them for their time, dedication, and love for our parish in all they said and did. We appreciate their guidance during this process!

Giving Tree Thank You



Thank you to everyone who participated in the All Saints Giving Tree. We were able to provide gifts for many families and seniors in our community. Your support of this project is greatly appreciated.

Ministry Schedule

December 13, 4:00 PM Saturday

Sacristan

Mary Pat Wilkinson

Extraordinary Ministers

Connie Deutmeyer

Joan Fishburn

Sara Lang

Ellen Mouw

John Myers

Stephen Schmitz

Marvin Stallman

Altar Servers

Dylan Lang

Alexandra Lang

Caleb Lang

Lectors

Joan Murrin

Becky Weininger

Hospitality Ministers

Elie AbouRaad

Ryan Donnelly

Daniel Greene

Dick Kettelkamp

Barb Lindstrom

Mike Votroubek

December 14, 9:00 AM Sunday

Sacristan

John Michael

Extraordinary Ministers

Tom Amosson

Sherry Casey

Stephanie Guzman

Bob Helgens

Wade Johnson

Mike Klappholz

Gregory O'Connell

Altar Servers

Willa English

Charlie Hamilton

Stella Lippe

Lectors

Mary Beth Helgens

Chase Philpott

Hospitality Ministers

Jason Ainsworth

Kim Ainsworth

Tony Satariano

Diane Weimer

Maureen Wolf

Dave Wolf

Christmas Eve Mass



REMINDER: At **9:00 am this Tuesday, December 9**, we will send an email reminder to visit the All Saints website. If you've recently visited our website, you may have already noticed the flashy red and green button. Thank you to our IT guy, Ethan for making that happen. Clicking that button will take you to the Ticketleo reservation system. Just like at the movie theater, Ticketleo 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! No more showing up at 2 p.m. to throw coats over seats to hold them for family and friends. That time is much better spent celebrating the holiday.

The email I mentioned earlier will be sent using the same system that we use to distribute this bulletin. If you or someone you know is not yet on that email list, please sign up now by visiting: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/AC8HJ6J>. As always, please be sure to tell your friends, neighbors, and family members all about how to reserve their seats. We look forward to seeing everyone here.

Save the Date - Beauty in Christ



Start the New Year off right! Join All Saints to virtually to attend the 2026 Archdiocesan Women's Conference, Beauty in Christ: Grace for the Journey on Saturday, January 31, 2026, 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the All Saints Social Hall. Inspirational speaker and singer/songwriter Kitty Cleveland and Kelsey Kaiser, authentically joyful wife and mother from Bellevue, IA



will help us begin the new year by sharing their stories of how the Lord has filled them with "Grace for the Journey"! Their witness will captivate our hearts and lead to conversation, praise, and thanksgiving. Check out the website for more information about the speakers, invite your sisters and friends, and be ready to receive His grace! For more information about the speakers go to: <https://www.archwomensconference.org/>.

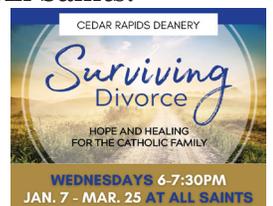
Information on how to register to attend this event at All Saints will be coming soon! We will have breakfast, lunch, prizes and great conversation!

Divorce Ministry



Surviving Divorce is a facilitated, small-group Catholic conversation that is endorsed and promoted by the Archdiocese of Dubuque. The sessions are a 12-week process and are led by trained facilitators using the program: Surviving Divorce, published by Ascension. The local team for Surviving Divorce has planned the Winter session: The sessions will run on Wednesday evenings, January 7th to March 25th 2026, from 6-7:30pm at All Saints.

This is our thirty-second session in the Cedar Rapids metro area since beginning in the winter of 2009. We have trained staff members who function as the directors of the program from each parish in our Deanery. All session facilitators are parishioners who have personally experienced divorce and are trained through our Archdiocese.



The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist urges people to turn toward God. He baptizes people when they want to change their lives. John insists that Baptism expresses a real change of heart and not a shallow safeguard against God's judgment. Note: For this year, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation that will be celebrated Thursday, December 8.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child is continuing his or her journey to Jesus' birth by learning more about John the Baptist and preparing for Christmas. The class learned about Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Ask your child to tell you about Jesus' human mother. Talk with your child about how we receive messages from others. Be sure to ask about the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which the class discussed this week.

Promise (Grades K-1): In the spirit of John the Baptist's preaching, your child's class discussed their experiences of preparing for an event, such as what it takes to get ready for a new baby in the family; they also talked about how Mary and Joseph got ready for the coming of the Baby Jesus. Your child made a booklet about that preparation. One page of the booklet is a day-by-day calendar. Starting on December 6, the Feast of Saint Nicholas, remind your child to outline one of the boxes on that page each day until Christmas. Discuss how each image relates to your celebration of Advent and Christmas.

Good News (Grades 2-3): This week the class learned how the prophet Isaiah and John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Ask your child to tell you what a prophet does. Talk about how your family can prepare the way for Jesus by making good choices and doing what is right. Your child can tell you stories about loving leaders.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Ask your youngster to share with the family what God trusted the prophet Isaiah to do. Discuss how your young person will "be a star" during Advent. Let your youngster lead the family in choosing things to do for the coming feast of Christmas. He or she can use the suggestions from the Week 2 Calendar List featured on Page 5.

Visions (Grades 7-9): The lesson this week started with an explanation of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That feast day falls on December 8. Your youngster should be able to tell you what the Immaculate Conception refers to. This week your youngster's class also created a Jesse Tree. This activity can help your family focus on the season as a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus and for the rebirth of love in your hearts. Ask your son or daughter to explain the significance of the Jesse Tree to your family, and to lead everyone in creating one for your home. Be sure to spend some time talking about John the Baptist's call for all people to have a change of heart as they prepare for the coming Savior.

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 the Immaculate Conception, add the Hail Mary prayer to your Advent wreath prayer this week. You may even want to place a statue or picture of Mary in the center of your wreath.



Parish Office (319) 363-6130

Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Life Coordinator	Tracy A. Huk	plc@allsaintscr.com	Ext. 111
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School Principal	Kelly Starr	kelly.starr@crxcs.org	Ext. 234
School Office Manager	Elaine Collins	elaine.collins@crxcs.org	Ext. 233
Early Childhood Director	Jenna Ackman	jenna.ackman@crxcs.org	Ext. 275

For a complete listing of Xavier Catholic Schools, go to <https://crxcs.org>



Sacrament Information

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays at 3:15 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism preparation class is required for parents. Contact Deacon Ed Martin (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) to begin the process.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA): To schedule classes, contact Bob Lillibridge, Director of Formation, for more information (adultformation@allsaintscr.com).

Confirmation: Classes have begun. For more information, contact Alisa Pfab (alisapfab@hotmail.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).

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.

Opportunities for Prayer

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays, 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM in the Chapel.

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 submit prayer intentions any time at: allsaintscr.com/prayer.