

The Lakes Catholic Community

St. Joseph Parish

1305 Okoboji Ave.

Milford, IA 51351 712-338-2274

FAX: 712-338-2191

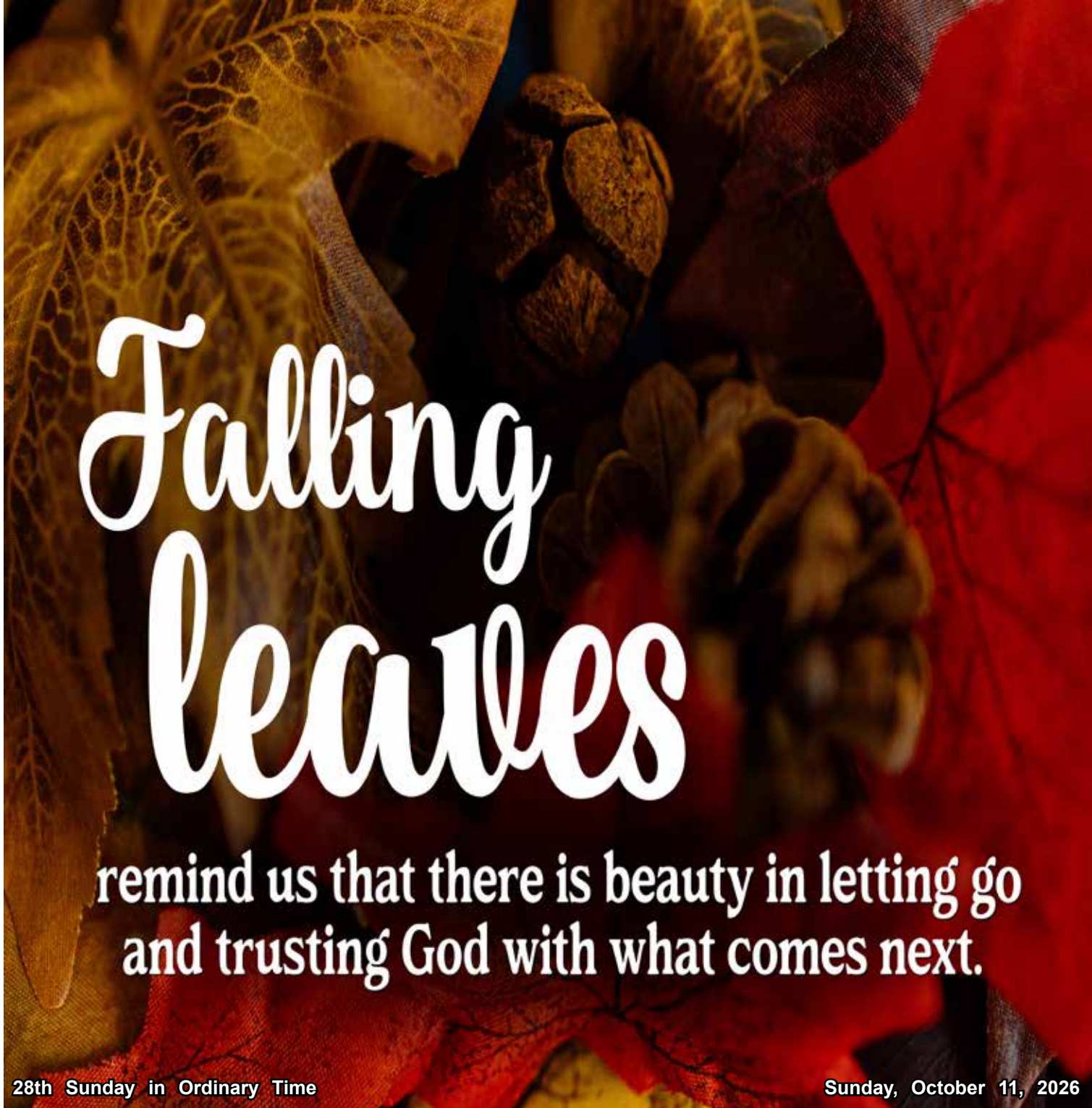
www.stjosephmilford.org

St. Mary's Parish

1005 Hill Ave.

P.O. Box 354
Spirit Lake, IA 51360 712-336-1742

www.stmarysspiritlake.org



Falling leaves

remind us that there is beauty in letting go
and trusting God with what comes next.

News From St. Joseph Parish



WELCOME TO SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

We hope your visit here will be a prayerful time as you enjoy the lakes region. Please consider St. Joseph's as your church away from home.

Contact us at the Parish Office if we may serve you in any way.

We are committed to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ and invite you to join us! May the Holy Spirit lead us in living as a welcoming Catholic community.

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

1305 Okoboji Ave.

Milford, IA 51351

OFFICE: 712-338-2274

FAX: 712-338-2191

thelakescatholic.church

Parish Office Hours:

Mon.- Thurs.: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fri.: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

Reconciliation:

3:15 pm Sat.

8:15 am Sun.

Bulletin Deadline:

Tuesday 12 noon

Mass Schedule:

Winter

Saturday at 4 p.m.

Sunday at 9 a.m.

Summer

Saturday at 4 p.m.

Sunday at 7 and 9 a.m.

Are you new to the community? Would you like to join St. Joseph Parish? Just fill out the coupon below and return to the office, in the collection basket or online.

NAME: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

NEW PARKING LOT THIS WEEK!

We have received word that crews will be here this week to mill off and lay a new asphalt parking lot. Be alert when visiting St. Joseph this week.



The Knights of Columbus are starting their Coats for Kids annual coat drive. Please drop off new coats, hats, gloves, etc. for kids. Items can be left in the office and will be distributed in November.



THANK YOU to the volunteers who watched the office on my recent vacation. I appreciate your willingness to assist.

Susan Reiser

THANK YOU to Funeral Group #1 who served the +Mark Foss prayer service luncheon on Sat., Oct. 10. Your assistance to a family in their greatest time of need is truly appreciated. Funeral Group #2 will handle the next funeral luncheon.



CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES to:

✓ Reid and Grace (Brinkman) Sorenson who were married at St. Joseph on Fri., Oct. 2 and to

✓ Kade and Abby (Erickson) Heikens who were married at St. Joseph on Sat., Oct. 3. May your new life together be filled with much happiness.



Seeking Livestream Operators

We need to add two livestream operators to our crew. On the job training provided. Volunteer position. Once we get at least two more, we will be able to livestream at 4 p.m. again. Please call Susan at the office, 338-2274.



PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY from the St. Joseph Parish Family to Jean Schmidt and family on the death of her brother, +Mike Schwarz, 67, of Marcus, who died Sept. 30. Arrangements are pending.

✓ A funeral service for +Don Ron-siek will be held Fri., Oct. 16, 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph. Don died Wed., Sept. 23, 2026.

Happy Birthday Msgr. Seifried!

Friends are cordially invited to a 90th birthday celebration open house for Msgr. Ken Seifried on Sunday, October 25th from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Cobblestone Inn in Holstein. His birthday is Monday, Oct 26th. Monsignor requests no gifts. Cards and best wishes may be sent to him at 513 E Mueller Street, Holstein IA 51025.

St. Monica's Holy Hour will be held Mon., Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. in the church.

Remembrance Table

Once again, the Catholic Daughters of St. Joseph's invite parishioners to place photos of your family and/ or friends who will not be at your table for All Saints and All Souls Day through Thanksgiving. The remembrance table will be set up Oct 28th by Mary's Grden and removed before the 1st Sunday of Advent.

THE LifeServe Blood Service bus will be in the St. Joseph parking lot on Fri., Oct. 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Appointments are recommended by calling 1-515-815-7242.



News From St. Joseph Parish



Take a moment now to mark your calendar with these events.

Mon., Oct. 12: 6:30 p.m. St. Monica's Holy Hour, church

Tues., Oct. 13: OCIA in St. Joseph, basement, 6:30 to 8 p.m. and continues each Tuesday evening.

Wed., Oct. 14: Religious Ed classes: CGS with Olivia: 5-6:30 p.m.; Grades 1-4 from 5:15-6:15 p.m.;

Grades 5-8 7-8 p.m.; High School at OB Conference Center, 7-8 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 18: CDA 75th Anniversary Party, parish center.

Fri., Oct. 23: 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. LifeServe bloodmobile bus in parking lot at St. Joseph

Sat., Nov. 7: 5 p.m. Annual CDA Veterans Soup Supper, parish center. All Veterans and their spouse or significant other are invited to attend.

Tues., Nov. 17: 5:30 p.m. Mass of Remembrance, CDA Rosary of Remembrance, to follow

Sun., Nov. 22: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Annual Harvest Dinner, parish center.



ROSARY/ALTAR CHRISTMAS BAKING PROJECT UPDATE

For anyone who would still want to help with the Rosary/Altar Cookie Box project, call the office. We have a job for you on Monday, Nov. 30

and Tuesday, Dec. 1. Holiday Fantasy, in Milford, will be Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4-5. We will sell our Christmas boxes on Sat., Dec. 5 during our annual Christmas Bazaar. After figuring our costs, the boxes will be \$20 each. Call the office now if you want to be a part of "the TEAM." We are now taking "orders" for goodie boxes. What better gift for a neighbor, a relative or a friend that has everything? You don't have to dust this gift!



PRAY for these members: Mike Laake, Kenneth Koeppen, Jolene Rubis, JoAnn Chaffin, Linda DeMuth, Rick Barry, Jan Nau and Terry Abbas.

Non-Members: Nathan Rizzo, Raymond Wenzel, Lyle Calvert, Jaanan McGinness, Ryan Naatjes, Rhonda Wittrock Repinski, Christine Petersen, JoAnn Baxter, Chris Swartz, Bennett Jones and Kate Jensen. Please call to place your loved one on the list. Requests must be made by family members.

Ministry Schedule

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 17th @ 4 p.m.

EMHC: Larry Arndt, Patrick Carr, Doug Heller, Holly & Paul Skopec

LECTOR: Karen Schwaller

SERVERS: Audry Johnson, Cecelia Johnson

HOSPITALITY: Bob & Donna Elser, Terri & Tom Rierson

Sunday, October 18th @ 9 a.m.

All liturgical ministries will be fulfilled by the Catholic Daughters

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 10

4 p.m.: For The People

Sunday, October 11

9 a.m.: +Tom Clary

Monday, October 12

5:30 p.m.: 4th Degree Knights

Tuesday, October 13

7:30 a.m.: +Charles McCabe

Wednesday, October 14

7:30 a.m.: +Bernie Schreiber

Thursday, October 15

7:30 a.m.: +Irma Reiser

Friday, October 16

7:30 a.m.: +Kurt Siepker

10:30 a.m.: +Don Ronsiek Funeral

Saturday, October 17

2 p.m.: Duffney/Steburg Vows

4 p.m.: For The People

Sunday, Oct. 18

9 a.m.: +Leo & +Barbara DeMuth Fam.



Monday, October 12

5:30 p.m.: 4th Degree KC Mass

6:30 p.m.: St. Monica's Holy Hour

7:30 p.m.: AA meets in Nazaeth Hall

Tuesday, October 13

2 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration

5:15 p.m.: Benediction

5:30 p.m.: Mass

6:30 p.m.: OCIA, basement

Wednesday, October 14

7:30 a.m.: Mass

Religious Education:

CGS with Olivia: 5:15-6:45 p.m.

1-4: 5:15-6:15 p.m.

5-8: @ 7-8 p.m.

High School: 7-8 p.m., OB Conference

Thursday, October 15

7:30 a.m.: Mass

8 a.m.: Bible Study

Friday, October 16

7:30 a.m.: Mass

10:30 a.m. +Don Ronsiek Funeral

Saturday, October 17

2 p.m.: Duffney/Steburg Vows

4 p.m.: Mass

Sunday, October 18

9 a.m. Mass

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**Knights of
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The Milford Council meets the 4th
Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.
Contact: Joel Naber, 712-330-8888.
The Spirit Lake Council meets the
1st Monday of each month at 6 p.m.
Contact: Dave Kollasch,
712-330-1004
For insurance questions, contact
Rob Waterhouse, 712-320-0289



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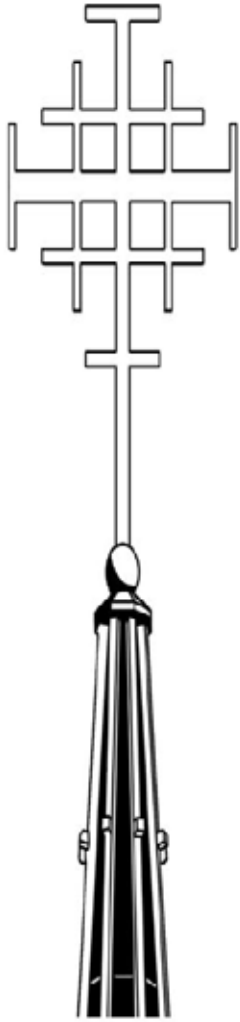
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News From St. Mary's Parish



New Website Update

The new website for St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Church is live! Visit thelakescatholic.church for registrations, parish contact information, live streams of Masses, and much more.

Religious Education Family Meals

Thank you to Jenny Pope and Erika Kuntz-this year's meal coordinators! In an attempt to offset the cost, we are asking parishioners to make a donation. It takes \$300 to provide a meal each week. If you'd like to help make weekly meals happen, please consider donating. Thanks for considering!

Weekend Mass Schedule

Our Mass schedule at St. Mary's is 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Daily Mass Schedule

St. Mary's will have Mass at Noon on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

Holiday Market

Please take note of a date change to the Holiday Market. The event will take place on Saturday, November 14. We are accepting any holiday/decorating items to add to the items we have. This is a collaboration between the St. Mary's Decorating and interested parishioners. Proceeds will go toward church decorations, music, Religious Education meals and more. Anyone interested in donating may call Teresa at 712-898-3728.

Knights of Columbus Membership

For current members interested in going to Third Degree and potential men looking to join the Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Council #5043 will offer another Exemplification Ceremony. This next ceremony will follow 10:30 Mass on October 11, 2026. Your family is invited to attend and watch the process of you becoming a Knight. Following the ceremony, there will be refreshments in the parish hall. Contact Grand Knight Dave Kollasch at 712-339-1004 and get on the list for the next Exemplification Ceremony.

Prayer Chain

All Confidential Prayer Chain requests may be directed to Jean Mohr, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, at 712-320-0748. Prayer intentions may be entered in the prayer request book, which can be found in the narthex of the church.

Offering Envelope Updates

If you have any updates for your offering envelopes (e.g., start or stop receiving envelopes, new address, name change), please contact Sara in the office at support@thelakescatholic.church or 712-320-8528.

Grain Donations

If you farm, you can provide support for your parish by donating your grain. If you would like to donate your grain, you will need to bring a Grain Ownership Transfer form to your elevator. Please contact Cynthia in the parish office (smoffice@thelakescatholic.church or 712-336-1742) to obtain this form. This form is needed to ensure that your donation will be a grain donation rather than a cash donation.



WELCOME TO SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We hope your visit here will be a prayerful time as you enjoy the lakes region. Please consider St. Mary's as your church away from home. Contact us at the Parish Office if we may serve you in any way.

We are committed to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ and invite you to join us! May the Holy Spirit lead us in living as a welcoming Catholic community.

SAINT MARY'S
1005 Hill Avenue
P.O. Box 354
Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360
OFFICE: 712-336-1742
thelakescatholic.church

Parish Office Hours:

Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday-Thursday;

8 a.m. to noon on Friday

Reconciliation:

4:45 p.m. Sat;

9:45 a.m. Sun; 11:30 a.m. Wed

Bulletin Deadline

Monday at 8 a.m.

Mass Schedule:

Winter

Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

If you are a new parishioner at St. Mary's, we welcome you to register with our parish. Simply go to our parish website (stmarys-spiritlake.org), and click on "Parish Registration" at the top of the page. Then complete the form, and click "Submit". We look forward to serving you here at St. Mary's!

News From St. Mary's Parish

This Week's Mass schedule

Monday, Oct. 12

10:30 a.m.: +John Folsom Funeral

Tuesday, Oct. 13

No Mass Today

Wednesday, Oct. 14

12 noon: +Jack and +Carol Walsh

Thursday, Oct. 15

5:30 p.m.: Jasmine Eubank & Family

Friday, Oct. 16

12 noon: Arlene Sekander

Saturday, Oct. 17

5:30 p.m.: +Mike Koenecke

Sunday, Oct. 18

10:30 a.m.: L & D of St. Mary's



Congratulations to Ruthie Jean Steichen, daughter of William and Brian-a Steichen, who was baptized on Sept. 20, 2026. God bless the Steichen family and welcome, Ruthie!

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Monday, Oct. 12

10:30 a.m.: +John Folsom Funeral

Tuesday, Oct. 13

No Mass

Wednesday, Oct. 14

11:30 a.m.: Confession

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Thursday, Oct. 15

2 p.m.: Adoration

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Friday, Oct. 16

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Saturday, Oct. 17

4:45 p.m.: Confession

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Sunday, Oct. 18

9 a.m.: Lectio Divina Group, clsm

9:45 a.m.: Confession

10:30 a.m.: Mass

New Parishioner Registration

If you are a new parishioner at St. Mary's, we welcome you to register with our parish. Simply go to our parish website (thelakescatholic.church), and click on "Registration" at the top of the page. We look forward to serving you here at St. Mary's!



4th Degree Monsignor McCoy Assembly K of C 4th Degree SWORDS

If you have a ceremonial 4th Degree sword from a family member, relative or for yourself that is just sitting in a closet somewhere, we would like to have you donate that sword to our Assembly so that new 4th Degree members could put it to use at First Communions, Confirmations, Funerals or other functions that provide Honor Guard. Please drop it off at your parish office. Thank you for doing this.

Homebound Ministry

If you or someone you know is Catholic and homebound and would like to receive communion at home, please contact our parish office to be added to our homebound ministry list (email support@thelakescatholic.church or call 712-320-8528).

How to Get the Diocesan News

Be sure you are signed up to receive the free LumeNotes e-newsletter in your email inbox. Receive links to news articles, briefs, photos, videos and the Illuminating Catholics podcast. Email news@scdiocese.org to sign up. Find the news anytime at lumenmedia.org.

Women's Gathering

Registration for "I will give you rest", the 2026 women's gathering, is now open! This even is scheduled for Saturday, November 14 from 10 am to 3 pm at St. Edmond Catholic School in Fort Dodge. Meg Hunter Kilmer, campus minister at the University of Notre Dame and presenter at the National Eucharistic Congress will be the keynote speaker. In addition to the keynotes, the day will include Adoration, confession, small groups, vendors, and more! Register at www.scdiocese.org/gathering. If you have any questions regarding the women's gathering, please contact Maddie McLarty at maddiem@scdiocese.org.

Ministry Schedule

The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 17th @ 5:30 p.m.

EMHC: Kevin Delaney, Linda Hansen, Kim Ingwersen, Jean Mohr, Sandi Smith

LECTOR: Dave Hansen

SERVERS: Jacob Kalkhoff, Katie Kalkhoff

HOSPITALITY: Jim Bunt, Jim Carney, Mark Ingwersen, Tom Kellen

ONLINE: Greg Rolling

Sunday, October 18th @ 10:30 a.m.

EMHC: Don Breuker, Kim Kirschbaum, Tom Lynch, Cyndy Powers, Pam Wingert

LECTOR: Margie Lynch

SERVERS: Brooks Mueting, Bennett Mueting

HOSPITALITY: Brian & Michella Koppen, Kerri & Korey Robinson

Following is general information that may be helpful to you.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Thursday from 2 to 5:15 p.m.

BAPTISMS:

Complete the Baptism In-Take form on the parish website. Contact Sara at support@thelakescatholic.church or 712-320-8528 to schedule a pre-baptism class.

MARRIAGE:

Contact Ali Oyler at 712-320-8527 or liturgy@thelakescatholic.church at least six months before the date of the wedding.

CONFESSIONS:

Wednesday at 11:30 a.m., Saturday at 4:45 p.m. and Sunday at 9:45 a.m.



A Note From Fr. Hemann

A review of last week's readings. Our Gospel reading presented a sobering but profound reality through the Parable of the Wicked Tenants. Jesus speaks directly to the pattern of rejection woven throughout salvation history, foretelling not only how the prophets were dismissed and harmed, but how He Himself would ultimately be rejected. Yet, in this divine tragedy, God's expansive mercy is revealed: the vineyard is entrusted to others, opening the doors of salvation to the Gentiles. It is a powerful reminder that God's desire to save humanity cannot be thwarted by human stubbornness, and His invitation to bear fruit in His kingdom is extended to the ends of the earth.

However, this wide embrace of the Gentiles does not serve as an automatic guarantee of salvation for anyone. No matter who we are, the grace of God is an invitation that requires a profound and active response from each of us. We cannot simply rest comfortably on the assurance that the invitation was offered; we must answer it with complete obedience and submission to the Most High God. Just as the original tenants were held accountable for the fruit of the vineyard, we too are called to actively cultivate our faith, surrendering our own pride and will to align fully with the divine purpose God has set before us.

The good news is that when we do truly surrender to the Lord, we are freed from the heavy burdens of fear and worry. Saint Paul beautifully reminds us in our second reading from Philippians that we need not have any anxiety at all; instead, in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, we should make our requests known to God. When we do this, the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Paul also gives us a practical spiritual exercise: to fill our minds with whatever is true, honorable, pure, lovely, and holy. What we choose to dwell upon directly shapes our emotions and our spiritual posture. By consciously focusing our thoughts on these good things, we open ourselves fully to the grace of God that brings lasting peace.

- Common Ground -

F.Y.I.: Two upcoming funerals this week.

Mon., Oct. 12: Funeral for +John Folsom at St. Mary's Church, 10:30 a.m.

Fri., Oct. 16: Funeral service for +Don Ronsiek at St. Joseph, 10:30 a.m.

Monsignor McCoy Assembly Meeting will be on Mon., October 12th. Mass at 5:30 at St Joseph. Social at Mill Creek at about 6:10. Meeting at 6:30.

Stewardship



REPORT

In today's second reading, St. Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity?

ST. JOSEPH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Oct. 3-4, 2026 Att: 694

Weekly: \$8,680.00

Online Offertory: \$1,480.00

Loose: \$2,047.00

Candles: \$19.00

WOMO: \$110.00

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ST. MARY'S FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Oct. 3-4 Att: 601

Adult: \$4,691.00

Loose: \$790.00

Online Offertory: \$2,600.00

Votive: \$120.17

Dollar Collection: \$370.00



The Lakes Catholic Community Staff

Fr. David Hemann, Pastor

pastor@thelakescatholic.church 712-320-8526 (direct) or 712-338-2274 (office)

The St. Mary Staff

Cynthia Gniadek.....Office Manager
smoffice@thelakescatholic.church .. 712-339-4554

The St. Joseph Staff

Susan Reiser.....Business Manager
sjoffice@thelakescatholic.church 712-338-2274

Joint Staff

Deacon Darwin Messerly and Deacon Ken Lindquist

Teresa Goehring.....Director of Youth Ministry
Steph Jacobsma.....Youth Ministry Assistant
Erin Lorch.....Director of Faith Formation
Sara Nelson.....Ministry Support Specialist
Ali Oyler.....Director of Liturgy/Music

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