

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



For everything there is a **SEASON**,
and a time for every matter under heaven.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

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: _____



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.



PRAYERS AND

SYMPATHY from the St. Joseph Parish Family to:

✓ Molly Foss and family on the death of her husband, +Mark, who died Wed., Sept. 16. A prayer service will be held Sat., Oct. 10, 9:30 a.m. at St. Joseph. Funeral group #1 will assist at the funeral breakfast; and to
✓ Norma Ronsiek and family on the death of her husband, +Don, who died Wed., Sept. 23, 2026. His funeral will be Fri., Oct. 16, 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph. No funeral luncheon is being planned.



THANK YOU to the St. Joseph volunteers who assisted with Meals on Wheels during the month of September. The volunteers included: Terri Rierson, Jerilyn Streit, Susan Reiser, Randy Eckard, Grape Tree, Cheryl Houseman, Darlene Moritz and Pam and Jack Niggeling. If you would like to be a part of this important ministry, please call Terri Rierson at 712-320-3217. St. Joseph will be responsible for delivery again in December.



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.



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!



CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES to:

Hunter and Mary (Laughlin) Gorby who were married at St. Joseph on Fri., Sept. 25; and to Benjamin and Macy (Denbest) McKernan who were married Sat., Sept. 26 at St. Joseph. May your new life together be filled with much happiness.

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.

Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him.

Jeremiah 17:7

News From St. Joseph Parish



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

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

Wed., Oct. 7: 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.

Thurs., Oct. 8: 5:30 p.m.: CDA meets in Nazareth Hall.

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

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.

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

Ministry mission: The St. Monica Ministry is a dedicated community and prayer network offering hope and support to the families and friends of fallen-away Catholics. Our Holy Hour is a powerful time of prayer and devotion. In the presence of the Most Blessed Sacrament, we ask Our Lord's mercy and invoke St. Monica's intercession for the return of our loved ones to the faith. There is quiet prayer time and joined prayer with the Rosary of Supplication for Our Loved Ones, and the Litany of Our Lady of Consolation, St. Augustine, and St. Monica. This is our schedule: Holy Hour - St. Joseph's 6:30 p.m. 2nd Monday of each month. Holy Hour - St. Mary's 10:30 a.m. 4th Monday of each month



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, Janaan 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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday, October 10th @ 4 p.m.

EMHC: Deb Bode, Loretta Halbur, Eldon Kraninger, David Loebig, Irene McCoy, Molly Mulqueen

LECTOR: Brad Shell

SERVERS: Thomas Henningsen, Brian Oyler

HOSPITALITY: Larry Arndt, Jim Baumgard, Monica Koeppen, Can & Mona O'Neil

Sunday, October 11th @ 9 a.m.

EMHC: Steve Eral, Connie Hinrichs, Cheryl Houseman, Chris & Connie Jones, Bernie Kramer

LECTOR: Aaron Lorch

SERVERS: Alex Anderson, Jacob Anderson

HOSPITALITY: John Heller, James Nelson, Jennifer Prentice, Jon Sorenson

LIVESTREAM: Scott and Joni Neppi

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 3

4 p.m.: For The People

Sunday, October 4

9 a.m.: Dec. members of Moritz Fam.

Monday, October 5

No Mass Today

Tuesday, October 6

5:30 p.m.: +Tom Clary

Wednesday, October 7

7:30 a.m.: +David Stein, Sr.

Thursday, October 8

7:30 a.m.: +Barb & +Leo DeMuth

Friday, October 9

7:30 a.m.: +Nancy Meinen

Saturday, October 10

2 p.m.: Cedar/Olivaries Vows

4 p.m.: For The People

Sunday, Oct. 11

9 a.m.: +Tom Clary



Monday, October 5

No Mass Today

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

Tuesday, October 6

2 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration

5:15 p.m.: Benediction

5:30 p.m.: Mass

6:30 p.m.: OCIA, basement

Wednesday, October 7

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 8

7:30 a.m.: Mass

8 a.m.: Bible Study

Friday, October 9

7:30 a.m. Mass

Saturday, October 10

2 p.m.: Cedar/Olivaries Vows

4 p.m.: Mass

Sunday, October 11

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, 712-330-6868.
The Spirit Lake Council meets the
1st Monday of each month at 6 p.m.
Contact: Dave Kolasch,
712-339-1004

For insurance questions, contact
Rob Waterhouse, 712-320-0269



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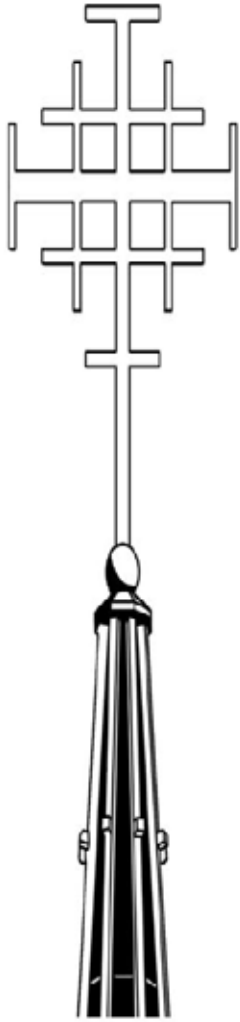
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News From St. Mary's Parish



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. 5

12:00 noon+Mary Ellen McDon-

Tuesday, Oct. 6

No Mass Today

Wednesday, Oct. 7

12 noon: +Jane Schmidt

Thursday, Oct. 8

5:30 p.m.: +Jack & +Carol Walsh

Friday, Oct. 9

12 noon: +Gerald Irbeck

Saturday, Oct. 10

5:30 p.m.: +Shannon Aeikens Jones

Sunday, Oct. 11

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



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE



Monday, Oct. 5

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Tuesday, Oct. 6

No Mass

Wednesday, Oct. 7

11:30 a.m.: Confession

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Thursday, Oct. 8

2 p.m.: Adoration

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Friday, Oct. 9

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Saturday, Oct. 10

4:45 p.m.: Confession

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Sunday, Oct. 11

9 a.m.: Lectio Divina Group, clsm

9:45 a.m.: Confession

10:30 a.m.: Mass

Donations for New Babies

During the month of October Catholic Daughter members are presenting a baby gift to all parents having a baby at Lakes Regional Hospital to thank them for choosing life. We invite parish members to join us in this fun and special event. A baby crib will be in the narthex to drop off gifts through mid October. We do ask any clothing items be new and no larger than 9 months. Thank you in advance for helping us support these parents.

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.

Married Couples

Register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend - it's the best gift you'll ever give to each other and your marriage! For more information, contact Denise and Greg at 563-920-9419 or visit wwme.org. Upcoming Dates: October 9-11, 2026, in Epworth, IA.

Ministry Schedule

The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 10th @ 5:30 p.m.

EMHC: Kevin Delaney, John Huigens, Kim Ingwersen, Eileen & Jed Skogerboe

LECTOR: Jean Mohr

SERVERS: Alex Crowley, Jacob Crowley

HOSPITALITY: Mark Ingwersen, Tom Kellen, Doug Zemler

Sunday, October 11th @ 10:30 a.m.

EMHC: John & Joleen Brown, Chris & Renee Quance, Jamin Trautman

LECTOR: Scott Trautman

SERVERS: Creighton Trautman, Kennedy Trautman

HOSPITALITY: Mike Davis, Bob Emgarten, Margie & Tom Lynch

ONLINE: Kaitlyn Trautman

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

The liturgy for the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time presents us with a profound and generous theme: God's open invitation. Our Heavenly Father has prepared a magnificent banquet for us, a feast of eternal joy and communion. However, as our Responsorial Psalm beautifully reminds us, "The Lord is my shepherd," and experiencing this heavenly feast requires us to remain close to Him. If we wander away from our Shepherd, choosing our own path over His, we step away from His guiding protection and abundant provision. But for those who surrender to Jesus and follow His voice, the promise is deeply comforting: we shall dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives and take our rightful place at His banquet table.

Yet, we must remember that while this invitation is freely offered to everyone, entry into the heavenly banquet is not automatic. Taking our seat at the Lord's table requires a profound internal response—we must come clothed in a garment woven from genuine faith and active love. God provides the boundless feast, but we must choose to participate by living out His Gospel in our daily lives. If our hearts are closed, lacking faith, and we refuse to extend love to those around us, we render ourselves unable to partake in the joy He has prepared. The banquet is a communion of love, and we must learn the language of that love here on earth to enjoy it in eternity.

This reality is vividly illustrated by a story of a good man who, upon arriving at the pearly gates, was shown both hell and heaven by Saint Peter. In hell, the man saw a magnificent banquet table laden with food, yet the people seated there were emaciated, miserable, and snapping at one another. They were given forks attached to the ends of their elbows instead of hands, making it physically impossible to bend their arms and feed themselves. Saint Peter then showed him heaven, which featured the exact same glorious banquet table and the exact same forks on the people's elbows. The difference was that the people in heaven were joyful, rosy-cheeked, and completely fulfilled because they had learned to reach across the table and feed their neighbors. Ultimately, God's heavenly banquet is a feast of selfless charity, and we accept our invitation today by how we love and care for one another.

- Common Ground -

THANK YOU ADVERTISERS

Please take a moment and review the new advertising section in the center of this bulletin. Be sure to thank the wonderful businesses who are supporting St. Joseph and St. Mary's this year.

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.

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

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

Susan Reiser.....Business Manager
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liturgy@thelakescatholic.church 712-320-8527

Stewardship



REPORT

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his Father's bidding, but did not. The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked. What service is God calling me to do? Which son am I more like?

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Online Offertory: \$1,190.00

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