

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



BE STRONG
and courageous...
for the Lord
your God
will be with you
wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

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

stjosephmilford.org

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: _____

Irish Tenor In Concert

St. Joseph is excited to welcome internationally acclaimed Irish tenor Mark Forrest to St. Joseph on Sun., Sept. 6, 3 p.m. for a concert. The concert is free, but a free will offering will be taken. Light refreshments will be served following the concert.

Forrest, who has performed in concert halls and cathedrals around the world, has performed for figures such as Pope John Paul II, Mother Teresa, Charlton Heston, and Maureen O'Hara, yet his mission extends beyond music. Inspired by profound personal trials, including the loss of his infant son Francesco and the ongoing challenges faced by his son John Patrick, who lives with severe disabilities, Mark and his wife Muriel founded the Faith and Family Foundation in 1999. Through his concerts, inspirational music, and the Foundation's outreach, Mark promotes the dignity of every human life, supports individuals and families with special needs, and encourages a deeper appreciation of faith and family. All proceeds from his performances and recordings benefit the Foundation's charitable work, which includes awards programs and publications offering hope and encouragement to families facing difficult circumstances.

Scam Emails and Texts

Be aware of email or text messages asking you for a gift card of money for the pastor or staff member. Those messages are scams. Please do not reply to those emails or texts.

Capital Campaign

St. Joseph is seeking contributions to our building fund for the Capital Campaign to pay for the new roof and parking lot. Specially marked envelopes are in the pews. Donations can be made online at stjosephmilford.org, in person at the office, or in an envelope in the weekly collection at church.

Clothing Room Update - Please remember that clothing donations to the Clothing Room must be on hangers. No bags or boxes are being accepted. Thanks to all who have stopped to volunteer their help.



IT'S PIE TIME...the Knights of Columbus will make their mouth-watering pies Aug. 22, 29 and Sept. 12. Pies will be available for sale on Aug. 29-30 and Sept. 12-13. Only three weekends so respond quickly. Pies will also be available at the parish office during regular business hours. Cost is \$15 each. Once they are gone, they are gone!



✓ **THANK YOU** for your generous donation. We always appreciate your tremendous support and kindness! **Jason Peterson - UDMO**

✓ Dear Works of Mercy Members: Thank you so much for your generous gift to Meals on Wheels. Your donation will mean so much to our homebound seniors.

Angela Kofoot

Executive Dir. Voluntary Action Center

✓ **THANK YOU** to the wonderful volunteers who covered the parish office while I was on vacation. I appreciate your willingness to assist to keep things running at St. Joseph in my absence.

✓ **THANK YOU** to all who contributed to, shopped or worked the Treasure Chest Ministry garage sale Thurs., Fri. and Sat. It is a big undertaking. Results of the sale will be in next week's bulletin. We plan one more "free" sale but need to plan around the parking lot project. Watch for more details.

News From St. Joseph Parish



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

Sat., and Sun., 29-30 and Sept. 12-13: KC pies on sale at Mass. \$15 each. Limited number available this year.

Tues., Sept. 1: OCIA begins at St. Joseph, basement, 6:30 to 8 p.m. and continues each Tuesday evening.

Sat. and Sun., Sept. 5-6: Rosary/Altar cinnamon roll sales. Final sale for the season. Volunteers needed.

Sun., Sept. 6: Mark Forest in concert at St. Joseph, 3 p.m.

Wed., Sept. 9: Religious Ed classes begin from 5:15 to 6:15 and 7 to 8 p.m.

Thurs., Sept. 10: 5:30 p.m. CDA meets in Nazareth Hall.

Homebound Ministry

If you or someone you know is Catholic and homebound and would like to receive communion at home, please contact the parish office at 338-2274 to be added to our homebound ministry list.



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

Non-Members: Raymond Wenzel, Lyle Calvert, Janaan McGinness, Ryan Naatjes, Rhonda Witrock 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.

Sign Up for Notifications

If you would like to be notified by email or text message when Adoration and/or Mass is cancelled or rescheduled, please contact Susan in the parish office at sjoffice@thelakescatholic.church. Please include your first and last name, email address, and phone number in the request, and indicate whether you would like to be notified of schedule changes for Adoration, Mass, or both and/or church updates.

To God Be The Glory!

Ministry Schedule

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 5th @ 4 p.m.

EMHC: Deb Bode, Patrick Carr, Eldon Kraninger, Brad Shell

LECTOR: Diane Frank

SERVERS: John Garcia, Thomas Henningsen

HOSPITALITY: Larry Arndt, Anne Donovan, Monica Koeppen, Irene McCoy, Dan & Mona O'Neil

Sunday, September 6th @ 7 a.m.

EMHC: Steve Eral, Connie Hinrichs, Bernie Kramer

LECTOR: Ron Swartz

SERVERS: Cadence Knudtson

HOSPITALITY: Marshall & Shelly Matuska, Joel & Karen Naber

Sunday, September 6th @ 9 a.m.

EMHC: Nicki DeVos, Cheryl Houseman, Pete & Sara Laven, Jim & Laurie Murray, Jean Schmidt

LECTOR: Joseph Schmidt

SERVERS: Brody Titterington, Zach Titterington

HOSPITALITY: Bill & Cheryl Aumer, James Nelson, Abby Walleck, Curt & Susan Willette

LIVESTREAM: Jack and Julie Kliegl

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 29

4 p.m.: +Dr. Al Kennedy

Sunday, August 30

7 a.m.: For The People

9 a.m.: +Michael Newman

Monday, August 31

No Mass Today

Tuesday, September 1

5:30 p.m.: +Nancy Meinen

Wednesday, September 2

7:30 a.m.: +Bernie Schreiber

Thursday, September 3

7:30 a.m.: +Nancy Meinen

Friday, September 4

7:30 a.m.: +Mike Willison

Saturday, September 5

4 p.m.: +Roland Taylor

Sunday, September 6

7 a.m.: For The People

9 a.m.: +Thomas Muhlbauer

Hope For Tomorrow



Monday, August 31

No Mass Today

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

Tuesday, September 1

2 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration

5:15 p.m.: Benediction

5:30 p.m.: Mass

6:30 p.m.: OCIA, basement

Wednesday, September 2

7:30 a.m.: Mass

Thursday, September 3

7:30 a.m.: Mass

8 a.m.: Bible Study

Friday, September 4

7:30 a.m.: Mass

Saturday, September 5

R/A Cinnamon roll prep and sales

4 p.m.: Mass

Sunday, September 6

7 a.m.: Mass

9 a.m.: Mass

3 p.m.: Mark Forest Concert

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DURA LIFT MARINE



Knights of Columbus

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: Jed Skogerboe,
712-330-8892.

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

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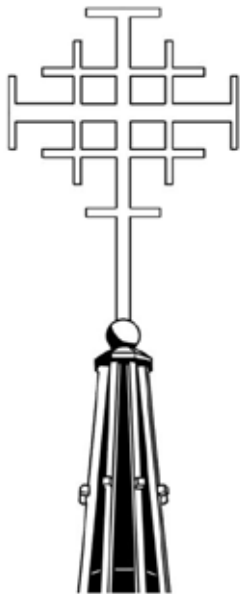
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News From St. Mary's Parish

Tootsie Roll Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be distributing Tootsie Rolls after the Labor Day weekend Masses on September 5th and 6th. This fundraising event raises money to help people and families with intellectual and physical disabilities. The Knights of Columbus for decades have been helping to recognize the dignity of every person. Thank you for your generosity!

CDA Meeting

The next Catholic Daughters meeting will be on September 1st at 5:30 p.m.

Religious Education for Preschool-12th Grade

Classes begin soon! Please register your children for Religious Education on the Parish website!

OCIA

OCIA begins September 1! Contact Erin for more info at 712-339-4555!

COR Men's Prayer and Faith Discussion

The next COR Men's Prayer & Faith Discussion session will take place on Monday, August 31st at 6:30 a.m. at St. Mary's. All men of the parish are invited to attend! Bring your coffee and join in lively and heart warming discussion!

Updated Weekend Mass Schedule

This weekend is the last weekend of our summer Mass schedule. Beginning next weekend, September 5 & 6, we will go back to having only two Masses: 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Rachel's Vineyard is an extraordinary opportunity for any person who struggles with emotional and spiritual pain of abortion(s). The weekend is a unique and effective process designed specifically to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. For more information and a list of upcoming dates, email rachelshelpersofiowa@gmail.com or call 712-898-5550.

Upcoming Day of Lenten Renewal

Gus Lloyd is coming to our parishes for a Lenten Renewal on March 6, 2027. Gus is the former host of the national daily morning show on the Catholic Channel on Sirius XM (Channel 129). What is a Day of Lenten Renewal? Gus Lloyd will share his conversion story to Catholicism, Catholic teachings and how we can live out our Catholic faith! Squealers Smoke Shack on Wheels will be catering lunch. No need to register or sign up, just mark your calendar! To find more about Gus, you can go to his Facebook page, website or YouTube page. Gus posts a daily reflection on the readings from the daily 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 (stmarysspiritlake.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!

Married Couples

Give your marriage a well-deserved vacation. Plan to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy! For more information, call Greg and Denise at (563) 920-9419 or drubner9419@gmail.com.



WELCOME TO SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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
stmarysspiritlake.org

Parish Office Hours:

Open 8 a.m. to Noon

Monday-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:

Summer:

Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

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News From St. Mary's Parish

This Week's Mass Schedule

Monday, Aug. 31

12:00 noon: +Viola Haven

Tuesday, Sept. 1

No Mass Today

Wednesday, Sept. 2

12 noon: +Mike Koenecke

Thursday, Sept. 3

5:30 p.m.: +Darwin Rosener

Friday, Sept. 4

12 noon: +Richard and +Doris Martin

Saturday, Sept. 5

5:30 p.m.: +Mary Bohlke

Sunday, Sept. 6

8:30 a.m.: +Gerald Irlbeck

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

✠ **PRAYERS and SYMPAHTY**
from the St. Mary's Parish
Family to Jerry Harbst and
family on the death of his wife,
+Linda, who died Sun., Aug. 23.

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Monday, August 31

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Tuesday, Sept. 1

5:30 p.m.: CDA meeting (classroom)

Wednesday, Sept. 2

11:30 a.m.: Confession

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Thursday, Sept. 3

2 p.m.: Adoration

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Friday, Sept. 4

12:00 p.m.: Mass

Saturday, Sept. 5

4:45 p.m.: Confession

5:30 p.m.: Mass

Sunday, Sept. 6

8:30 a.m.: Mass

9 a.m.: Lectio Divina Group, clsm

9:45 a.m.: Confession

10:30 a.m.: Mass

Charitable Giving with a Donor-Advised Fund

Would you like to streamline your charitable giving? A donor-advised fund is easy to create and can offer immediate tax benefits while simplifying your yearly charitable giving, including your generous gifts to our parish. To find out what a donor-advised fund through the Catholic United Financial Foundation can do for you, contact the Diocese of Sioux City Office of Stewardship & Development at 712-233-7523 or e-mail michelles@scdiocese.org.

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.

Build a New Life Workshop

The Diocese of Sioux City has partnered with Abounding Joy Ministries and their upcoming Build a New Life Workshop! Build a New Life is a Christ-centered, online support and healing Intensive created especially for Catholics experiencing the pain of marital stress, separation, divorce, or annulment. Led by certified Catholic Divorce Healing Coach Carolyn Klika Catino, this 12-week journey provides tools for emotional healing, spiritual renewal, and practical rebuilding — grounded in the truth and love of the Church. The next workshop begins on September 3! Use coupon code SIOU-100F26 for a discounted rate. Unsure if this is for you? Join an informational webinar on August 4. Visit www.aboundingjoyministry.com/events for more information.

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.

Ministry Schedule

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 5th @ 5:30 p.m.

EMHC: Patty Delaney, Jean Mohr, Eileen & Jed Skogerboe

LECTOR: Josh Zigrang

SERVERS: Alex Crowley, Jacob Crowley

HOSPITALITY: John Delaney, Joe Endres, Mark & Kim Ingwersen

Sunday, September 6th @ 8:30 a.m.

EMHC: Deb Brown, John & Joleen Brown, Virginia Pruss

LECTOR: Doug Zemler

SERVERS: Braxtin Byro, Hayes Steichen

HOSPITALITY: Bob Emgarten, Dale Vortherms, Jim Wiese

Sunday, September 6th @ 10:30 a.m.

EMHC: Don Breuker, Shawna Ditsworth, Brian & Michella Koppen

LECTOR: Stephanie Jacobsma

SERVERS: Layne Jacobsma, Brian Oyler

HOSPITALITY: Mike Davis, Alan Ditsworth, Kim Kirschbaum

ONLINE: Julia Oyler

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 Cynthia at smoffice@thelakescatholic.church or 712-339-4554 to schedule a pre-baptism class.

MARRIAGE:

Contact Ali Oyler at 712-320-8527 or lurgy@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

Climbing Down to Greatness

Dear Brothers and Sisters
in Christ,

Our world is fascinated with addition. We are constantly encouraged to acquire more, achieve more, accumulate more, post more, and become more. Yet the Gospel often reveals a very different path. Jesus teaches what we might call a "theology of subtraction." In the Kingdom of God, growth frequently begins not by adding something, but by surrendering something.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples: "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Greatness, according to Christ, is found not by climbing higher, but by willingly climbing down. The lowest seat becomes the place to where God can raise us up.

This is difficult for us because pride prefers the spotlight, while humility is content with the shadows. Pride seeks recognition; humility seeks faithfulness. Pride asks, "How important am I?" Humility asks, "How can I serve?"

The saints understood this paradox well. The closer they drew to God, the less concerned they became with their own importance. They knew that heaven is not reached by standing taller than others but by kneeling before God. They discovered that less ego often means more joy, less self-centeredness means more freedom, and less grasping means more peace.

The theology of subtraction does not mean becoming less valuable. Rather, it means removing whatever blocks God from filling our hearts. Subtracting pride makes room for gratitude. Subtracting resentment makes room for mercy. Subtracting the need to be first makes room for charity. As St. John the Baptist beautifully said, "He must increase; I must decrease."

Jesus Himself is our greatest example. Though He was Lord of all, He chose the path of humility, taking the form of a servant and offering His life on the cross. His descent became our salvation. His humility became His glory.

This week, perhaps we can each practice a little spiritual subtraction. Let us relinquish the need to have the last word, the desire to be noticed, or the temptation to compare ourselves with others. In doing so, we may discover a surprising truth of the Gospel:

Less can indeed be more.

And when we willingly climb down in humility, we often find that God is lifting us up in ways we never expected.

May the Lord bless you and your families.

Fr. David Hemann

Fr. David Hemann

Pastor

- Common Ground -

*OCIA starts Tues., Sept. 11 at St. Joseph.

*Mark Forest in concert at St. Joseph Sun., Sept. 6, 3 p.m. Free Will.

Stewardship REPORT

In today's second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Romans to *total* stewardship. Brothers and sisters, he urges, "...offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God."

ST. JOSEPH

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Aug. 23-24, 2026 Att: 1,010

Adult: \$6,222.00

Online Offertory: \$765.00

Loose: \$6,206.00

Quilt: \$40.00

Candles: \$257.50

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ST. MARY'S

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Aug. 23-24, 2026 Att: 1,025

Adult: \$5,922.00

Loose: \$2,181.76

Online Offertory: \$580.00

Votive: \$68.25

Dollar Collection: \$5,108.00

YOUR GIVING
MATTERS!

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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