

ST. JOSEPH'S MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2010

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Christopher Hartshorn
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PONDERINGS BY FR. CHRIS

Dear St. Joseph Parishioners,

Thanksgiving Day is coming up on November 25. Now think back to what you have learned about the first Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims endured death, disease and numerous hardships in their quest for freedom. The Pilgrims, being unfamiliar with the New World, knew little of how to grow the crops for food that they so desperately needed. The Native Americans showed them how to grow and harvest the necessary crops. The Pilgrims, given what they had been through, could have taken that knowledge and run with it, without giving a second thought to the graciousness of the Native Americans. Instead, the Pilgrims invited them to share in their bounty as a way of expressing their thanks.

Our reasons for being thankful this year differ greatly from those pilgrims on that first Thanksgiving Day. However, as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving Day again this month, we are given the opportunity once again to reflect on our reasons to be thankful and resolve ourselves to give thanks—both in word and in action—even after our Thanksgiving celebrations are over.

For us as Catholics, the act of thanksgiving is at the very heart of our celebrations and beliefs. Every time we share in the Eucharist (which means thanksgiving, gratitude), we thank God for the gifts God has given us. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says it well: “The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits, for all that he has accomplished through creation, redemption and sanctification. Eucharist means first of all ‘thanksgiving’” (#1360).

Every time we gather for Eucharist, we celebrate the promise of the living Christ through Jesus’ resurrection, but how many of us live out that promise throughout the year? How many of us take the thanksgiving of the Eucharist and make it active in our lives outside Mass?

The “Blessing in Thanksgiving for the Harvest,” contained in the *Book of Blessings*, further reminds us “...to maintain and live in an attitude of gratitude to God. Therefore, let us now bless the Lord, who has once again bestowed on us the fruits of the earth. Abel offered his firstfruits to God; let us also learn to share our blessings for the good of those in need, so that we

Mass Times

Saturday..... 5:00 PM
Sunday..... 10:00 AM
MondayNone
Tuesday..... 6:00 PM
Wednesday 8:00 AM
Thursday..... 8:00 AM
Friday..... 8:00 AM

Reconciliation

Saturday..... 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM
or by appointment



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may be true children of the Father, who bestows his gifts for the benefit of all the peoples of the earth.”

So as we gather around the table for Thanksgiving dinner this month, may we be inspired to remember that truly giving thanks is more than something we say. It's something we do each day of our lives.



With a Thankful Heart,
Fr. Chris Hartshorn

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



November 7, 2010 - *Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time* (2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14, 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5, Luke 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38) Do you truly believe that God will "raise you up to live forever"? How can you strengthen your belief? Can you imagine a resurrected life where people won't be divided, but where they will live in harmony with God and each other? How can you help those on earth and those in heaven?

November 14, 2010 - *Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time* (Malachi 3:19-20a, 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12, Luke 21:5-19) There is saying that comes from the American old West, "He died with his boots on." This means that this person died while living a full and active life, living his or her values right to the end of life on earth. Think back over the words of Jesus that you remember. (Love one another. Be merciful as your Father is merciful. Thy will be done, and many others!) Which one might help you to live a fuller Christian life right now? How do you plan to "die with your boots on" while walking the way of Jesus?

November 21, 2010 - *Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (Solemnity)* (2 Samuel 5:1-3, Colossians 1:12-20, Luke 23:35-43) "Greater love than this no one has, that he give up his life for his friend." We might say, "Greater love than this no king has, that he give up his life for his people." This is the kind of king Jesus was and is. Now he is a Risen King, and we rise with him each day? every time we respond to grace in our lives, every time we imitate our king by overcoming evil with good. What can you do this week to be like Christ the King in love, in forgiveness, in generosity, in works of peace and justice?

November 28, 2010 - *First Sunday of Advent* (Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:37-44) Sometimes it is hard for us to believe that what we do today matters for tomorrow and, really, for all eternity. Can you think of some examples of the way your actions today will matter for tomorrow and forever? How does what you do today help prepare you and the world for the coming of Christ?

PARISH CONTACTS



Church Office/Bookkeeper ☞ Vickie Williams • office@saintjosephchurch.net • 462-1083

Newsletter ☞ Heather Honkomp • hhonkomp@gmail.com • 468-0781

Parish Hall Reservations ☞ Church Office • 462-1083

Director of Religious Ed. ☞ Teresa Hoffelmeyer • 462-1083

Altar & Rosary ☞ Margaret Schleuter • 462-1404

Helping Hands ☞ Peggy Casper • 462-2419

Bulletin ☞ Mandy Couture • sgrblosm31@yahoo.com

Music Ministry ☞ Teresa Kordick • terkord@msn.com • 321-0825

Youth Ministry ☞ Gerene Farrell • 979-5156

Knights of Columbus ☞ Rich Corkrean • 462-2597

Prayer Line ☞ Rosemary Stuchel • 462-4152 ☞ Patricia Corkrean • 462-4251

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

MUSIC MINISTRY

We'd love to have you join us! Adult choir practice is Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00. Adult choir sings at 10:00 mass.

Youth choir practice, grades K-6, immediately after Sunday mass on October 31 and November 7, 14, and 21.

Also, if you have a group that would like to sing on occasion or cantor at Saturday evening mass, please give Teresa a call at 321-0825.

PICTURE DIRECTORY UPDATE

The final picture taking session by Olan Mills is Dec 2-3-4. Two previous sessions were in August and October. If you have not had your picture taken and have not scheduled for the final session you have 3 options:



- 1) Call Jo Snyder (evening 462-3682) and get one of the few times remaining on Dec 2 –3 in afternoon.
- 2) Submit a quality glossy picture by Dec 5 (no larger than 4 x 6).
- 3) Have your family picture taken in Parish Hall by directory committee after masses on Dec 4 and 5 (contact Jean Pletchette (evening 462-4119) to schedule).

We encourage all parish members to participate. To get your free copy of our new updated picture directory you must have your picture taken by Olan Mills or send in a quality picture by Dec 5. Committee is asking for volunteers to help with the check-in table on Dec 2-3-4. We also are looking for good photo's of parish activities, sacraments etc.

Contact: Jean/John Pletchette 462-4119 or Jo Snyder 462-3682

HOLY CROP!

5th Annual Holy Crop weekend is approaching!!

Begin the new year with a fun outing! Jan. 8, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., come join your fellow croppers/stampers for a fun day. Lots of prizes, food & fun.

For information, contact Mary Kordick at marykate2361@gmail.com (515-205-5842) or Nancy Ivers at nancers1@gmail.com (515-462-1563).

\$25 (mother/child is \$25 for mom, \$15 for child - must be at least school age and up to 18 for this).

ANNUAL HOUSEKEEPING

Annual Housekeeping for Saint Joseph Church is November 6th at 8:30 am. **Everyone** is encouraged to help clean and maintain our beautiful facility. Please bring cleaning rags and pails. The alternate date will be November 13th. If you have any questions please contact Sharon Lawson at 462-4677.



MORE ST. JOSEPH NEWS

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

The St. Joseph's Pastoral Council met on October 7, 2010. Jim Murphy, Jill Buckalew, Kathleen Kordick, Jeff Honkomp, Julie Wheeler, and Father Chris were present. Not present were Jim Heithoff and Terry McNamara.

The meeting opened with scripture and prayer. The council discovered that the word *eucharist* means "thanksgiving". A discussion was held around nominations for new council members. It was decided to table this until spring time. The council will continue with its present members, which will give them more time to work on this.

The council has been working diligently to decide on a focus around which to focus their efforts. It was decided that stewardship was the one issue they wanted to pursue. More reading about stewardship would be investigated by the council to assure that they had a firm grasp of its meaning. Jim Murphy will set up a format for the group to follow as we read, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response". Jeff Honkomp shared some information about a conference which he attended about stewardship. Jeff will e-mail a parish in Omaha where the church was transformed through their stewardship experience. It is hoped some of this information will be presented to the parish in the future.

A discussion was also centered around stewardship for the children of the parish. Several ideas were discussed including the children bringing up their own gifts to the altar, and the possibility of providing envelopes made especially for kids

The meeting closed with prayer. The next meeting will be November 4th at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Wheeler.

CGS CORNER

Dates to Remember

Sunday, November 7 - Pumpkin Brunch. Everyone in the parish is encouraged to bring something with pumpkin in it for the brunch. Breakfast casseroles, fruit, and other brunch items are also welcome. The money from this brunch will go to the needy of our parish. The Jr. High will be hosting this brunch.

Wednesday, November 17 - Parents of 7th and 8th graders should attend the 7:00 p.m. catechesis session with their children. There will be some important information regarding changes in the Confirmation process that are being implemented by the diocese. Mark your calendars. At least one parent should attend.

Sunday November 21, Monday the 22, & Wednesday the 24 - NO CATECHESIS

Fees

PLEASE NOTE: Any families who have not yet paid the registration fees for catechesis, please do so before the end of the year. The fees are: \$25 for 1 child, \$45 for 2 children, and \$65 for 3 or more children. (No child will be turned away if families cannot afford the fees.)

Atriums

The year has gotten off to a great start! In the *Good Shepherd Atrium* we were recently doing the Altar presentation. Afterwards a three year old told her mother that the plate on the altar is not called a plate. "It's a paten!"

In the *True Vine Atrium* we learned about the Saints. The kids were surprised to see that Saints are from all over the world and from all times.

In the *Covenant Atrium* we recently discussed the parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. This is the parable where some of the people hired worked all day and others only in the evening, yet all were paid the same. When asked what the denarius (the money they were paid) might represent, one child answered, "It is God's love for us and God loves us all the same so that is why they were all paid the same amount."



Happy Holiday Hop

Saturday November 20th

8:00 AM until 2:00 PM

Mark your calendar

Our Multi-church **Happy Holiday Hop** is just around the corner! Gather your family and friends and spend the day in town visiting all the churches and the library to shop for your Christmas decorations and gifts.

Pick up a card at your first stop and have it punched at all the others. You may win a door prize!



We will be selling our baked goods from our French Bakery section.

We will have some unique jewelry, children's aprons, doll clothes, plant holders, just to name a few, and a raffle.

A continental breakfast and a delicious lunch will be served. Lunch will consist of hot chicken salad, side dish, sweet breads, dessert and beverage - all for a good will offering.

We will also be selling our newest cookbook which carries the recipes of a number of items we will be selling and serving.

So forget the mall and plan on spending the day shopping in town for your holiday gifts and decorations!



The Lutheran Church begins at 8:00 a.m. and St. Joseph's begins at 8:15 a.m.

EXTRAS

Tend the Sheep- For Those Who are Weary In Ministry

Sheep is a great word. It can be singular or plural. We believe that our job is to tend the sheep, but really if we want to do youth ministry well, we need to tend to the sheep. Confused? Let me make it simple. You need to take care of your own spirituality. If you are broken in your faith, it will be hard to listen and pray for others who are the same. You may try to pray and listen, but it will leave you with a sense of hollowness. Many times youth ministers get burned out, but it isn't because the relational ministry has suffered, it is because they are spiritually weary. If you want to be a youth minister you need to have your relationship with Christ moving in the right direction.

The hard part about ministry is that often we believe that we are to think less of ourselves and more of others. This is true in some regard, but it doesn't mean we think nothing of ourself. God didn't put us in ministry to save everyone or anyone. He does the saving. But really why would we lead someone to God and then step out of line in our own relationship there. That is like telling someone about this awesome new vitamin that will make you as healthy as you have ever been and then not taking it for yourself. That's just stupid. Stay in line. Pull a ticket and wait. God wants us to be healthy in our love of Him as well. We become like the mother, who does everything for everyone else and then at the end of the day feels neglected or taken advantage. That is the beauty about mothers, always giving, but at the end of the day what is the goodness of all that giving if mom feels like a piece of trash. Mom needs to recharge.

Lets look at it from a different angle. Lets go back to the sheep. A shepherd can't tend to a flock if they are ill prepared. You wouldn't go up the mountains with a flock of sheep without the clothes that would keep you dry and warm, shoes that you could walk in, and your trusty dog to warn off danger. All too often though, that is what we do in ministry, we go in unprepared. We don't take what we will need. We don't have the support we need, the energy in our own relationship with God, or our families health in mind. We desert it all to run around looking for the lost sheep. All the time we are looking, the answer is under our nose. We are that lost sheep.

Ministry is a wonderful calling. Great people go into it all the time. God needs them. He needs you! But he needs all of You. He doesn't need a program, or a really hip, good looking person that kids will think is cool. He needs people who are in communion with him, that listen and understand that it is his work being done, not ours. We are an advocate for The ADVOCATE. If we don't know God, we can't do his work. I am not talking about knowing God from a distance, I am talking about getting our hands dirty and our souls clean in the reality of who He is and what our value is to Him. If you want to truly introduce someone to God you should know him or continue to grow in your relationship with Him.

How do we accomplish this.

- Block off a period of time everyday to pray. You don't need a blueprint or a map. Just talk to God and then LISTEN. Don't be embarrassed to take time to do it, on company time. Unless you are praying for hours a day no Priest or Office manager should be upset with you getting more connected to the Source.
- Find other people in ministry and meet somewhat regularly to share your joys and struggles.
- Find a spiritual advisor. Someone to keep you accountable.
- If you have a Priest, use him or find another nearby Priest to meet with. Find time for Reconciliation and Eucharist.

God bless all of you in your ministry. May we understand just a little more deeply God's love for us.

Terry Clark

St. Thomas More Center

NOVEMBER MILESTONES

Birthdays...

Bill Hatten1	Kaitlyn LaGrange 25
Jaimi Nelson.....1	Jacob Duncan 26
Jane Nelson1	Samantha Heithoff..... 26
Shawn Corkrean2	Brendan Jackson.....26
Murray Cline3	Christian Ochiltree 26
Jerry Hacker3	Marco Pintor 26
Angela Hill3	Megan Brownlee 27
David Anker4	Rosario Vallejo..... 27
Steve Aldridge5	Brian Downes..... 28
Jordyn Algreen5	Logan Jacobsen 29
Ronald Klein5	Dan Brownlee 30
Lauren Williams6	Richard Corkrean 30
Chris Brockmeyer.....7	Christopher Crawford 30
Nicholas Scott.....7	
George Creger8	
Nancy Ivers8	
Beth Lang8	
Lou Erpelding.....9	
Issac McCauley10	
Mira Imes11	
Scott Stover12	
Gerene Farrell.....13	
Mary Doughty14	
Bryan Lopez14	
Shirley Corkrean.....16	
Jim Jacobsen.....18	
Cassandra Wagner20	
Joseph Mortoza.....21	
John Pletchette.....22	
Ashley Couture23	
Gerald de Leon23	
Grace Erpelding23	
Zachary Brockmeyer..24	
Jeanette Neel24	
Cheryl Adams.....25	

Baptism Anniversaries

Ainsley Hughes ... 5
Kade White 9
Mariah White..... 9
Bryce Hatten 10
Liz McNamara..... 10
Kailey Beebe 11
Elijah Cowman ... 12
Mckenzi Davis 14
Anthony Klein 17
Logan Hall..... 17
Daniel Elliott..... 19
Jaycee Hatten 20
Casey Seidler 21
Josie Fairholm 22
Dillon Hatten..... 22
Nick Benes 23
Kacie Cowman 24
Hailey Bierl 30



Wedding Anniversaries

Mike & Sheila Waltz-----8
Christopher & Linda Crawford--- 10
Glenn & Kathleen Kordick----- 12
Roger & Vickie Williams----- 18
Larry Lantz & Maureen Roach -- 19
Randy & Jo Snyder----- 19
Chris & Kathy Donohoe-----20
Albert & Angela Hill-----23
Dean & Eileen Moore-----23
Daniel & Sharon Lawson-----25
Pat & Nancy Corkrean-----27
George & Kay Schmid-----27
Mike & Jean Teno-----28



AROUND THE DIOCESE



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Improve your Spanish skills: Bilingual volunteers needed for computer classes

Catholic Charities Hispanic Community Outreach Program offers computer classes for Spanish-speaking adults. Last year, 74 students participated in the program which offers job skills training in a non-intimidating environment as well as opportunities to learn about community initiatives and resources that help immigrants adapt to their new community and culture.

Volunteers are needed on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. and Thursdays from 9-11 a.m.

Contact Mireya Ramirez, Outreach Specialist/Colaboradora Comunitaria, at (515) 237-5047 for more information.

ESL & Bus Training Volunteers Needed for Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program

Did you know that a refugee is an individual who has fled their country of origin because of a "well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality or political opinion"? Catholic Charities is in need of ESL tutors and childcare workers for regular ESL classes to be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-Noon.

Volunteers are also need to assist refugees in learning to use the bus as well as apartment set-ups and organizing donations.

If you are interested please contact Katie Ryan, Volunteer/Donation Specialist, at 515-237-5090.

RETREAT OFFERINGS

The last few days, autumn seems to have come to northwest Missouri – the harvest is ongoing, the sunsets are colorful, and some mornings are downright cool. Autumn is a perfect time for personal reflection. The Abbey Guest Center at Conception Abbey has some retreat offerings for the late autumn this year.

Friday supper through Sunday lunch, November 5-7, 2010

Letting the Lord direct your heart: a fall retreat. Fr. Xavier Nacke, Karen Ceckowski and Oblate Kelly Lenhart will lead reflections on 2 Thessalonians 2:16 – 3:5. Enjoy praying with the monastic community and celebrating the Eucharist with the monks and seminarians. Ample time for personal prayer and quiet reflection. *(Suggested donation for lodging, meals and conferences: \$125 single, \$200 double accommodation)*

Friday supper through Sunday lunch, November 26-28, 2010

Silent private retreats. Spend a quiet weekend at Conception Abbey. The days will be punctuated with prayer with the monks at the Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharist. Opportunity for a personal spiritual direction session and/or celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. *(Suggested donation for lodging, meals and direction: \$125 single)*

If you'd like to make a reservation, please contact us at **660-944-2809** or at guests@conception.edu

JUST CARING SUPPORT

Help for women & families facing an unplanned pregnancy

Do you know someone who is facing a difficult or untimely pregnancy? A New Beginning, Catholic Charities Adoption & Pregnancy Counseling Program, offers caring support through free and professional counseling, parenting information and referrals to other agencies or resources, and access to adoption services, including open adoption.

For more information go to www.IowaPregnancyCounseling.org, call Wendy at 515-237-5082, or call toll free at 1-800-CARE-002.

"No Room at the Inn", homelessness awareness event and fundraiser Dec. 3-5, 2010

Did you know that families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population? Catholic Charities' annual homelessness awareness event and fundraiser for St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter will begin on Fri. Dec. 3 with a fundraising reception from 5-8 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center.

A Poverty Simulation will be held on Sat., Dec. 4, and the annual open house featuring music from local choirs will be Sun., Dec. 5 from 1-5 p.m.

Contact Trish Radke at trradke@dmdiocese.org or 515-237-5078 to learn more.

Help us make our house a HOME: Homeless shelter expansion almost complete

Construction at St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter is nearing completion! As the only emergency shelter in Polk County where entire families (including Mom, Dad and children of all ages) are able to stay together, the additional 5 bedrooms, playroom and expanded dining and kitchen areas are a welcomed addition for all involved. We still need help making St. Joseph a true HOME for families. Consider making a contribution toward items for the shelter. Financial donations enable us to provide necessary items and ensure that they meet all codes and regulations. There are several ways you can help:

- Donate online at www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org
- Purchase items from the Target Gift Registry by going to www.target.com (First Name: St. Joseph Shelter, Last Name: Catholic Charities)
- Host a "Housewarming Party" in your parish, friends, sports team or other group. Encourage the purchase of items from the gift registry, personal care items or bus tokens

Follow the expansion efforts by subscribing to our blog at www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org.

For more information contact Trish at 515-237-5078.

WORLD YOUTH DAY, MADRID 2011

The Diocese of Des Moines still has spots remaining for any young adult interested in traveling to Madrid in August 2011 for World Youth Day. WYD will gather together more than a million young adults from across the globe for a weeklong celebration with Pope Benedict XVI.

For information on itinerary, pricing, fundraising and registration, see our website at <http://www.dmdiocese.org/worldyouthday.cfm> or contact Jason Kurth at 515-237-5061 or jkurth@dmdiocese.org.



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

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TIDBITS

Newsletters, Bulletins, & More Online

Did you know that you can view this & past newsletters online?

Bulletins!

Liturgical Ministry Schedules!

Coffee & Rolls Schedules!

Music Ministry Schedules!

Religious Education Schedules!

Check it out:

www.saintjosephchurch.net

Keep in touch with the latest news from the diocese by becoming a fan of the diocesan Facebook page or signing up for the diocesan blog through the website at www.dmdiocese.org.



1911 - 2011

Diocese of Des Moines

*A Journey Together
Celebrating Evangelization:
Past, Present and Future*

November Newsletter Deadline is November 24th.