

Pilgrim Cluster Catholic Parishes

December 10, 2017 – Second Sunday of Advent

A trinity of people on pilgrimage to nurture, teach, serve, witness, and celebrate, so as to evangelize.

Rev. Daniel Greving – dmgreving@hotmail.com – (712) 840-1709
 Sr. Patrice Klein, Pastoral Minister – (712) 752-8857
 Deacon Dan Goebel – danpgoebel@gmail.com – (712) 441-0861



Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment any time. WEEKLY BULLETIN ONLINE: PilgrimCluster.org.

St. Mary Parish
 609 10th Street, Alton, 51003
 (712) 756-4224
 OFFICE HOURS:
 Tue – Fri - 8:00 AM – Noon
 & Tue 1-3 PM; Wed-1-5 PM
altonsmc@midlands.net

St. Joseph Parish
 528 Elm Street, Granville. 51022
 (712) 727-3551
 OFFICE HOURS:
 Mon – Thu 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
christec@mtcnet.net

St. Anthony Parish
 506 Elm Street, Hospers, 51238
 712 (752-8784)
 OFFICE HOURS
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday
 9AM to 1:30 PM
stacc@nethtc.net

WEEKLY BULLETIN ONLINE: Our web site (PilgrimCluster.org)

Sacrament of Baptism: Make an appointment for baptismal preparation and set a date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses.

Sacrament of Anointing: Call priest in the event of a serious illness or medical emergency.

Sacrament of Marriage: Contact the pastor nine (9) months in advance.

MASS INTENTIONS: December 12 thru December 17

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|---|
| Tues. (12/12) | 8:00 am @ Granville | Agnes Vonderharr |
| Wed. (12/13) | 8:00 am @ Hospers | Ed & Eleanor Schnurr |
| Thu. (12/14) | 8:30 am @ Alton | Helen Dehner |
| Fri. (12/15) | 8:00 am @ Alton | Heather Whitmore, Jack Schneider, Ken Konz, Francis Konz, Irma Dreckman |
| Sat. (12/16) | 5:00 pm @ Granville | Dale Gergen, Luella Klein |
| Sun. (12/17) | 8:00 am @ Hospers | Marvin Reuter |
| Sun. (12/17) | 10:00 am @ Alton | For the People |

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

For the weekend of December 16/17:

Lectors

5:00 pm Tom Hansen, Deacon Dan Goebel
 8:00 am Steve Robinet

10:00 am JoAnn Vandermyde

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

5:00 pm Dennis Friedmann, Jacki Goebel, Colane Friedmann
 8:00 am Joe Pohlen, Mike Jungers, Deacon Dan Goebel

CHOIR: Steve Robinet

10:00 am Gaylen Schneider, Bob Stoll, Mary Ann Pottebaum

Altar Servers

5:00 pm Sage Goergen, Isaia Lammers, Trinity Goebel
 8:00 am Jamie, Cindy & Larissa Pohlen

10:00 am Kiera Rogers, Kyle & Cody Hansen

Gift Bearers

8:00 am Bernie & Marlene Jungers
 10:00 am Dan & Theresa McCarty

December Ushers

5:00 pm Don & Maretta Budden, Chris Hunt, Dan & Faye Hunt
 8:00 am Tom Jungers, Kent Willett
 10:00 am Roger & Mary Ann Pottebaum, Randy Pottebaum,
 Mike Richter

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them, and their families, for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior."

PILGRIM CLUSTER

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Advent Communal Penance Services are scheduled as follows:

Sunday, December 17 at 1:30 pm @ St. Marys, Alton, and at 3:00 pm @ St. Marys, Remsen. Several priests will be available for individual Confession.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

Holy Fathers December Intentions:

Universal.... That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving. **Evangelization...** That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.



A herald's voice in the desert, crying

Make ready the way of the LORD!

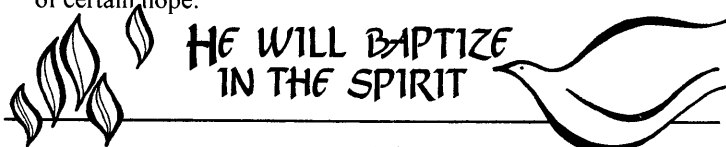
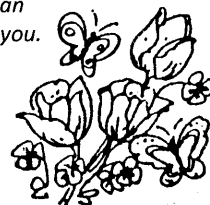
Holy Fathers December Intentions:

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Prayer to Saint Lucy: Saint Lucy whose beautiful name signifies 'LIGHT' by the light of faith which God bestowed upon you increase and preserve His light in my soul so that I may avoid evil. Be zealous in the performance of good works and abhor nothing so much as the blindness and the darkness of evil and sin. Obtain for me, by your intercession with God Perfect vision for my bodily eyes and the grace to use them for God's greater honor and glory and the salvation of souls. St. Lucy, virgin and martyr, hear my prayers and obtain my petitions. Amen.

Thank You from Sr. Patrice

I want to thank those who planned and hosted the lovely farewell reception on December 3. I know who you are, too, but will forego listing names in case I miss someone. It was such an overwhelming experience to visit with so many of you. The line never stopped!! I realize, too, that other commitments prevented some from attending. The basket of cards was overflowing and as I go through them, I am stunned with the heart-felt messages, enclosures, etc. I think the card stores must all be thanking you right now, too, since you certainly depleted the supply. They were such BEAUTIFUL cards. I, on the other hand, am depleting the Kleenex supply. I need to give serious time and energy to sorting and packing these days (a lot accumulates in 15 years) and I may not get the time right now to write the personal thank you notes that are appropriate and well deserved. I need to tell some of you, too, who are inclined to send Christmas cards and gifts that I noticed, or at least hoped, that you likely combined the two occasions, and I will not be looking for a Christmas card as well. Some of you actually wrote two cards! Anyway, for now, please just know how much I appreciate your special gestures of appreciation in person, or by mail, or however we have connected. Bless you.



By God's grace, Family Crisis Centers helps victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and survivors of homicide and other violent crimes. FCC provides advocacy support and emergency/transitional housing to victims and their children. Last year, FCC supported over 1,000 victims in our communities and answered over 20,000 calls from all over Iowa. FCC is blessed to carry on its mission in this caring, supportive and compassionate community. Consider helping to bring hope to hurting families in our local communities by donating—PO Box 295, Sioux Center, IA 51250.

December 16 Michael Hofman
December 17 Patty Kiernan, Hunter Kramer



To instill a belief in God and self
and provide excellence in learning through
Mutual support, service and Catholic leadership.

Our Lady of Lourdes, patron of Spalding, please pray for us!

Like our Facebook page, "Spalding Catholic School, Prek-6" to see what our students are experiencing...

-- A wonderful group of supporters joined us for Rockin' Readers reading a variety of stories to our K-2 students.
- Staff and students celebrated the gift of a new bus which was made possible through memorial gifts from the Ahlers family. Students got the chance to "inspect" it and then Father Dan blessed it.

SAVE THE DATE -- Spalding Catholic is excited to announce our Gala theme this year will be: **Spalding Winter Olympics 2018!** The event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Stay tuned for more details



Please log on to www.gehencatholic.org for more information on upcoming events.

Pilgrim Cluster Religious Education Program News:

- The Pilgrim Cluster Religious Education Program meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the St. Joseph Parish Center in Granville. If you would like more information, please contact Tami List at Tamara.List.1958@outlook.com or 712.548.8375.
- The Pilgrim Cluster Religious Education Program December class schedule is:
(Wednesdays - Dec. 13th & 20th, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Parish Center in Granville), and then break for Christmas. We will resume classes on Wednesday, January 3rd (2018) at the normal time/location: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Parish Center in Granville.

Adult Bible Study: The Adult Scripture Study will not be meeting December 20 or 27. Our normal gatherings will begin again at 6:30pm on January 3 in the St. Joseph Parish Center. To begin our new semester, we will be discussing the topic of prayer. Please come and join us in our journey.



As we continue to prepare for the birth of Christ, please spend some extra time preparing your hearts for the Christmas event. **Formed.org** has dozens of resources to help lead you to Christ. Just type in "Advent" in the search bar and begin your journey with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. **PARISH CODE: ZPMV49**

CHRISTIAN BOOK STUDY: We will continue through the Holidays on every other Thursday evenings with our Christian Book Study, Resisting Happiness by Matthew Kelly. Come if you can. You are welcome any time and can jump in at any time! Next gathering is 12/14 at 7 pm at St Joseph Rectory. We will be studying. Ch. 22, 23, & 24. ??? Contact Cindy Klein 540-6962 or Tera Oldenkamp 348-3566.

Please welcome to our Pilgrim Cluster
Nathan Kliegl and Amanda Pugh to St. Mary Parish.

There will be a public meeting on Wednesday, December 13th, at 7:00 PM, at the Town Hall (by the City Clerk's office) for all military Veterans and anyone else who is interested in the Veterans Memorial in Granville.



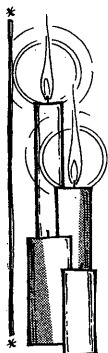
ZESTOS/FUNDRAISER -- The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a meal for The Shepherd's Table Thursday, December 14 at 6:00 pm. Zestos would like to incorporate a fundraiser for the family of Jose Trejo who was a member of Christ the King parish in Sioux Center. He passed away on November 19 leaving behind a wife and four children. Everyone is welcome to come for a free meal and enjoy fellowship with family and friends. Please come and help make everyone feel welcome

St. Anthony Birthdays/Anniversaries:

- December 11 Terry Jungers, Phyllis Jungers
- December 14 Brenda Gloden
- December 15 Janice Klein
- December 16 Steve Robinet
- December 17 Ken & Pam Schmit, 23 yrs.

St. Joseph Birthdays/Anniversaries:

- December 1 Grace Kreber
- December 13 Harvey Grady, Jim Klein
- December 14 Justin Hunt, Heather Niichel
Dennis Ormond, Nancy Shafer
- December 17 Easton Wagenaar



St. Mary Birthdays/Anniversaries:

- December 11 Aaron & Cecilia Salazar-24
- December 12 Corey Buckholtz; John & Elsa Schmidt-44
- December 13 Melissa Schmit
- December 14 Payton Kramer, Kelly Schmidt
- December 15 Angela Pottebaum

GEHLEN CATHOLIC EVENTS:

- Monday, December 11
 - JH B BB vs Hinton at 4 PM; 7th Grade AT Hinton; 8th Grade HOME
- Tuesday, December 12
 - JV G & V G/B BB vs Hinton, HOME: JV 4:30 PM; V 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 13
 - Two hour early dismissal for Teacher In-Service
 - Vespers at All Saints Parish, St. Joseph Church, 7:00 PM
 - Reconciliation for grades 2-12; Advent Gift Bab Assembling
- Thursday, December 14
 - Elementary Christmas Concert, Marvin Langel Memorial Gym, 7:00
- Friday, December 15
 - Grades 7-12 Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
 - JV G & V G/B BB at MMC-RU: JV 4:30 PM; V 6:00 PM

ST. ANTHONY PARISH

St. Anthony Stewardship December 3, 2017

- Adult Envelope: \$ 4,070.00
- Allan Donation: \$ 800.00
- Grain Donation: \$127.02
- Adult Loose: \$ 66.00
- Youth Envelope: \$ 6.00
- Bunkers Rebate: \$100.00
- Catholic Charities: \$100.00
- Missionary: \$200.00
- Total Income: \$ 5,469.02

Open your
Hearts and
welcome the LORD

Thank you for exceeding our budgeted weekly income!

Bills Paid: HTC Communications, \$262.90, telephone, internet, cable; MCI, \$18.80 and \$19.95, long distance; Access Systems, \$144.11, copier contract; City of Hospers, \$37.19, utilities; World Library Publications, \$22.90, Living the Word subscription; Diocese of Sioux City, \$305.00, Campaign for Human Development; Golden Hour CRC, \$320.00, Christmas flowers

DAA Status:

DAA Donations this week: \$ 175.00
Total number of pledges turned in to date: 59
Total amount of donations to date: \$ 5,470.00
DAA 2017 Goal: \$ 6,504.00
The Diocese will bill the parish for the balance if we do not make the goal. To date, we will owe \$1,034.00. You have received your reminder call and need to help us close this appeal. Please get your pledge card and money turned in! Thank you for your participation!!

Scripture

Scripture Sharing will meet on Dec. 13 from 8:30 – 10:00 AM at the St. Anthony Room at Church. We will discuss *the WORD among us* article "What do YOU see?" (p. 17-22) along with the Sunday readings.

The Giving Tree has been up in the lobby at church since the end of November. Please bring your gifts wrapped or in gift bag with the ornament attached to church by Sunday, December 17th. Thank you! Any questions contact Peggy Pohlen.

We will be **decorating for Christmas** on Sunday, Dec. 17th following the 8am mass. All help is greatly appreciated! Thank you for your dedication to our parish.

St. Anthony Parish continued:

We have purchased Christmas flowers through the CRC church youth group Golden Hour Society. The cost was \$320.00. Any donations you can make toward this purchase is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Auction Update: Co-chairs are needed for the upcoming Church Auction. Kent and Brandy Willett are the chair couple this year. Please consider this worthwhile contribution to our parish and give Kent and Brandy a call.

*****Church Cleaning for month of December 2017.*****

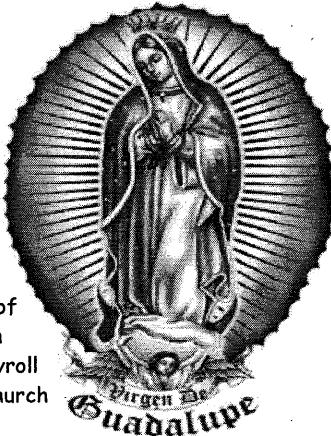
Church Proper Chairlady: Debbie Wanderscheid **Committee:** De Atsma, Susie Jungers, Nancy Stoll, Mary Auchstetter **West Area and Church Basement Chairlady:** Nancy Thompson **Committee:** Susie Budden, Sarah Otto, Angela Solsma, Louise Auchstetter, Peggy Pohlen *****Please make sure that the cleaning gets done during the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month. List of cleaning duties and cleaning supplies are in the south basement closet. *** If you have questions, contact Mary Auchstetter or Susie Jungers. Thank you for your service!*****

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

St. Joseph Money Counters, Monday, December 11, 9:00 AM,
St. Joseph rectory: Joe Gaul, Mike McDermott

Stewardship, November 26, 2017:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----|-------------------|
| Adult | \$ | 1,085.00 |
| Young | | .82 |
| Grain | | 2,621.97 |
| Loose Collection | | 140.26 |
| Building/Grounds | | 1,240.00 |
| World Missions | | <u>100.00</u> |
| TOTAL: | | \$5,188.05 |
| Penning Farm - Grain Sold | | \$14,151.72 |



ST JOSEPH BILLS PAID: Propagation of the Faith, \$700.00; Office One Solution (bulletin paper), \$67.89; Visa (Intuit-payroll update), \$465.00; St. Mary's Catholic Church (The Word Among Us), \$23.20; City of Granville (water/sewer), \$220.32; Salaries, \$2,189.74; Town & Country (garbage), \$54.00; Culligan Water Conditioning, \$19.26; First Cooperative Association (softener salt), \$40.80; Neal Chase Lumber Co. (repairs to outside church door - to the basement).

We wish to thank those parishioners who have so generously continued to support our parish with the stewardship of their time, talent and treasure! May God's blessings be upon you.

DAA STATUS:

DAA Pledges: \$7,555
Total Number of Pledges Turned in to Date: 73 out of 174
Total Amount of Donations to Date: \$7,255
DAA 2017 Goal: \$13,713

SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE RETURNED YOUR DAA CARDS. IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO (WE HAVE 104 FAMILIES WHO HAVE NOT) PLEASE RETURN YOUR DAA CARD ASAP! Thank you!!

If you are interested in dedicating a poinsettia in honor of someone living, or in memory of someone deceased, please place \$14 in an envelope, marking it "Poinsettia at St. Joseph's". Be sure to include the name of the person for whom it is being purchased. A listing will be published in the Christmas bulletin. Donations for Christmas decorations are also being accepted.

This year, St. Joseph's will again have a "giving tree" for clients at the Mental Health Institute in Cherokee. Please place unwrapped items in the box by the tree in the back of church. Last date to donate is December 16th; items will be picked up on the 17th and delivered to Cherokee Dec. 18th. ADULTS (There are more male clients than female):

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Puzzles (500 pcs or less) | Toothpaste/toothbrush | Gum |
| Stationary/envelopes | Conditioner | Ink Pens |
| Small (4oz) can of nuts | Candy Bars | Socks |
| Body Wash | Hard Candy | Pencils |
| Little Debbie Snacks | Hand Lotion | Deodorant |
| Bars of Soap (men) | Deck of Cards | Gloves (men) |
| Stocking Hats (men) | Puzzle Books (Search A Word, etc.) | |
| Shampoo | Sweatshirts/Sweatpants - Larger Sizes | |
| Hair Mousse or Gel | Fingernail polish and remover (women) | |
| Journal Books without wire spirals | | |

CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Colored Pencils | Playing Cards | Socks | Games |
| Fuzzy Posters | Stuffed Animals | Lotion | Candy |
| Gloves/Mittens | Stoking Hats | Shampoo | Conditioner |
| Candy Bars | Deodorant | Body Wash | Toothpaste |
| Puzzles (100-250) | Magic Marker | Non Sharp Craft Items | |

ST. JOSEPH GUILD NEWS:

- If you are 70 years and older (or have a health condition that prevents you from serving on the guild) and would like to go on the honorary circle list, please let Nikki Heying know 712-348-3119 or 727-3804
- We will have a Guild meeting on Tuesday, December 12th, 5:30 PM, in the St. Joseph Parish Center cafeteria! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**

ST. JOSEPH PARISH CENTER GYM:

We have had many inquiries about using the gym - for sports practice, to walk in, etc. It has been a work in progress. Just for the liability on the building, we pay \$8,130.90 per year. That does not include utilities, repairs, etc. Our main goal now is to have work done on the gym floor as it is very slick and we want to avoid anyone falling on it. We will update as soon as this is taken care of.

ST. MARY PARISH

St. Mary Stewardship

Adult-\$4020.00
Adult Grain Donation-6712.11
Loose Offerings-57.00
Candle Box-46.00
Unrestricted Donation-52.00
Total: \$10887.11



St. Mary Bills paid: Alton Municipal Utilities-\$623.75; Neal Chase Lumber (4 bags water softener salt) \$30.13; Orange City Sanitation-\$23.13; Our Sunday Visitor (Dec. adult envelopes) \$103.84; Sioux City Diocese (Campaign for Human Development) \$174.54; Sioux City Diocese (property & liability ins.) \$1026.55; Salaries & taxes-\$1274.95.

DAA Donations: 6810.00

Total number of pledges turned in to date: 108
Total amount of donations to date: 6810.00
DAA 2017 Goal: \$9236.00

Please return your DAA cards in ASAP! This would be very much appreciated! Thank you.

St. Mary's Guild is in need of a Vice-President for the year 2018. Please contact LeAnn Kleinhesslink at 756-8946.

The Giving Tree will be in church on **Saturday, November 25**. If you would like to give a gift to a child in need, take an ornament and record your name & info on the sign up sheet. Please bring your gifts (wrapped or in a gift bag) with the attached ornament to the church by **Sunday, December 17**. Thank you for your generosity!! Questions: Contact Theresa McCarty - #737-8902

Sponsor a poinsettia to beautify the Christmas altar. Envelopes for this are in the lobby. The flowers are \$11.00 per poinsettia. On the envelopes is the opportunity to dedicate this flower in honor of someone living or in memory of someone deceased. All dedications will be published in the Christmas bulletin. Drop off in the collection, parish office or mail. Orders should be in by December 18th.

AREA NOTICES:

Christmas Acres 2017, 21st year by Rob, Joyce & Shaunna Scheitler! Lights, displays, inflatables, music...open from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM at 18481 Impala Ave, Le Mars (7 miles west on HWY 3, left on Impala Ave.) If it is raining, or there is heavy snow, the display will not be on. All donations go to the Christian Needs Center. More info... go to christmasacreslemars.webs.com or call 712.541.0577 or 712.533.6176. **COME AND ENJOY!!!**

The Sheldon Recreational Trails Committee is sponsoring a Belgian Waffle Supper on Monday, Dec. 11, from 5 - 7 pm in the Sheldon Community Services Center. Cost of advance tickets for the supper that will be served by Dad's Belgian Waffles is \$7 for youth and adults. Tickets are available at the four Sheldon banks or from a Trail member. Cost at the door will be \$8. Children ages 5 and younger are free. Proceeds go towards Sheldon Trail.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend has something in it for every married couple. The Weekend has value for couples married one year on up to 50 years or more. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends on Feb. 9-11 @ Ankeny, Mar. 9-11 @ La Crosse, Apr. 20-22 @ Dubuque. Early registration is highly recommended. For information and to register go to iowa-wwme.org or call 563-608-3305 or email: JLwwme08@gmail.com

Hope Haven International presents "Rejoice! The Gift of Mobility" featuring Nashville recording artist Jill Miller and the Sioux Falls Christian School hand bell choir on Tuesday, December 19 at 7pm. Tickets are \$15. are on sale Friday, November 3 at the Washington Pavilion Box Office.

