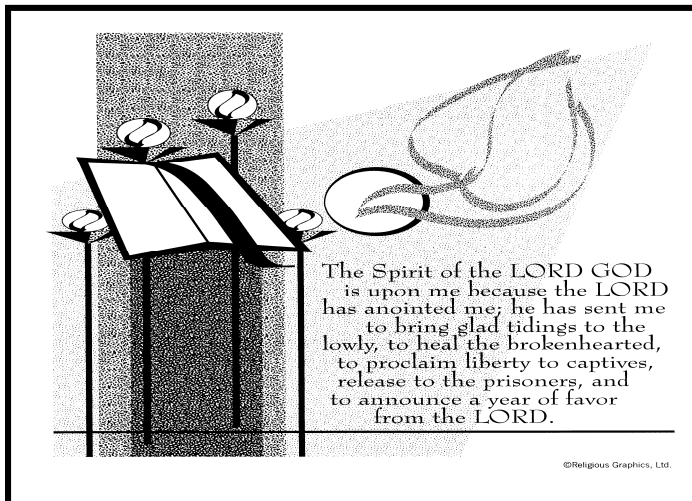


HOLY SPIRIT/ST. EDWARD

December 16/17, 2017

Third Sunday in Advent



PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

Pastor: Rev. Ken Halbur

Office Manager: Kay Boden

Director of Religious Ed.: Barb Hudson, Creston
Jennifer Valencia, Afton

St. Malachy School Principal: Jennifer Simmons

Rectory, Parish Office Phone: 782-5278

Parish Office Fax: 782-7628; ReRun Shop: 202-4488

St. Malachy School: 782-7125; Fax: 782-5924

E-mail: kboden@iowatelecom.net

jsimmons@crestonstmalachy.org

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jjvalencia@gmail.com

frken@windstream.net

holyspiritstedward@windstream.net

Websites: www.holyspiritcreston.parishesonline.com

www.stedwardafton.parishesonline.com

www.crestonstmalachy.org

Diocese of Des Moines: www.dmdiocese.org

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Call the priest for an appointment.

Reconciliation: Holy Spirit: Saturday, 4:30-5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:15-8:45 a.m.

St. Edward: Sunday after Mass

First Saturday of the month 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Marriage Preparation: Contact priest at least six months before making marriage plans.

Newcomers: Call the parish office to register.

FROM FR. KEN

I have been asked a question, since Christmas is on a Monday and Christmas Eve is on Sunday, does that mean I have to go to Mass twice. The answer is YES, yes you do! Mass on Saturday night or Sunday morning does NOT count for Christmas, and the Christmas Masses beginning at 4:00 on Christmas Eve, do NOT count for Sunday. I hear sometimes the slogan "Keep Christ in Christmas" also how about keeping Mass in Christmas. We should live our lives to say we get to go to Mass multiple times instead of I have to go to Mass. The entire reason for Christmas is the celebration of the coming of our Savior as a child, through the Blessed Virgin Mary, this should draw us to the celebration of the Eucharist. No gift any person can give us can even come close to the gift we receive when we receive the Body and Blood of Christ, the entire reason we celebrate Christmas. In many ways, I think that we have lost Christmas to either the materialism of the shopping, or to simply a time to spend with family and friends. While giving and receiving gifts is not a bad thing, it is not the primary thing in Christmas, just like it is not about a rotund guy in a red suit, and while taking that time to spend with family and friends is a wonderful thing, it is not the primary reason for Christmas. The primary reason for Christmas is the fact that God loved us so much that He chose to come down to the earth and to live our life from a humble and helpless child to also die a death for our salvation. So, this week, as we continue to prepare our hearts and minds in this Advent Season for the coming of our Savior, take the time to be reminded of the Christmas story in the Gospels.

Parish Office, 406 W. Clark Street, Creston
St. Edward Church, 104 W. Union Street, Afton

St. Malachy School, 403 W. Clark Street, Creston
Holy Spirit Church, 107 W. Howard Street, Creston

EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES

December 18th: 5:00-6:00 p.m., Holy Spirit
December 20th: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Holy Spirit
6:00-7:00 p.m., St. Edward

TWO WEEK BULLETIN

The December 24th bulletin will be for two weeks, so please plan accordingly. Bulletin items are needed by noon on Wednesday.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

Your donations help religious communities and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plans for long-term needs. Thank you to all who give to this retirement collection. Envelopes are available in the back of church if you wish to donate, please return your envelope next weekend and place in the collection basket.

REJOICE!
for the Lord is near

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DIACONATE ORDINATION

Have you ever witnessed an ordination? Join the diocesan community as we gather on Friday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m., at St. Ambrose Cathedral for the transitional diaconate ordination of Ryan Andrew (Ryan spent the summer with us). He will be ordained a deacon, one of the last major steps toward becoming a priest.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

Friday, December 22nd, 29th, and January 5th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Augustin Church Hall 42nd Street and Grand Ave. in Des Moines. What if the worst thing you think could happen does and you are widowed, separated or divorced? How do you cope? Beginning Experience can help give you the beginning steps of healing and are also an invitation to attend our weekend retreat January 19th-21st, 2018. Contact Dana Reed at 515-975-3745, Mike Losse at 515-360-8268, or Fr. Bob Schoemann at 515-418-1938.

WEEK BY WEEK DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Week 36: I weigh about six pounds and am about 20 inches long. The bigger I get, the more crowded it gets in here!

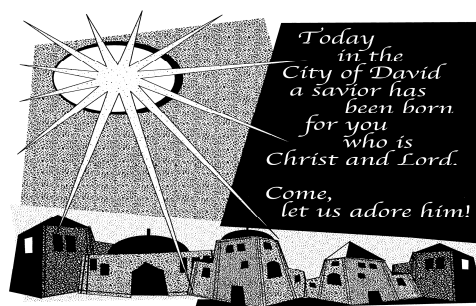
MASS SCHEDULE



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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- Monday** Adoration, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
December 18 6:00 p.m., Holy Spirit
Martina Breheny
- Tuesday** Adoration, 7:30-8:30 a.m.
December 19 8:30 a.m., St. Edward
Cal Hultman
- Wednesday** 9:15 a.m., St. Malachy School
December 20 Bernard Shea
- Thursday** 7:00 a.m., St. Malachy Chapel
December 21 Ann Lynn Crandall Bear
- Friday** 7:00 a.m., St. Malachy Chapel
December 22 Edmund Baker
- Saturday** 5:15 p.m., Holy Spirit
December 23 Joey Clear
- Sunday** 9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit
December 24 For the People
10:45 a.m., St. Edward
Steve Pettit

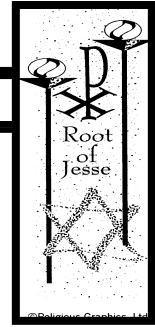


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CHRISTMAS

- Sunday** 4:00 p.m., Holy Spirit
December 24 Mert Link
7:00 p.m., St. Edward
For the People
10:00 p.m., Holy Spirit
Bob and Roberta Ambrose
- Monday** 9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit
December 25 The Pesik Family
(Albina, Frances, Rosalie, Sylvester, Alfred, Ed)

News from Holy Spirit Parish



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|--|
| Monday | December 18 | ReRun Sorting, 9:00 a.m. |
| Tuesday | December 19 | ReRun Shop, Noon-5:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday | December 20 | ReRun Shop, Noon-5:00 p.m. Rel. Ed. Caroling Night, 6:30 p.m., St. Malachy School |
| Thursday | December 21 | RCIA, 7:00 p.m., Hall |
| Friday | December 22 | ReRun Shop, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. |

GIFTS TO GOD

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly tithes needed | \$ 6,837.50 |
| December 10th tithes received | \$17,850.00 |

RERUN HOURS

The ReRun Shop will be closed Saturday, December 23rd and Tuesday, December 26th.

MINISTERS NEEDED

A sign-up sheet is in the back of church for those who can help with the ministries for Christmas Masses. Mass schedule: 4:00 and 10:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 9:00 a.m. on Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Christmas dinner will be served at St. Malachy School on Christmas Day. Serving from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The dinner is open to all people in the Creston area free of charge. Delivery/or transportation is available to shut-ins. Call the parish office at 782-5278 (day-time) to make a reservation or order a dinner. Evenings call: Barb Hudson 641-202-2064, Anita Studer 782-2286, or Terri Koets 641-278-0707. Please call today on how you can help.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

It's time to prepare the ministry schedule for January-March. Please call the parish office by noon Monday, December 18th, if there are any changes that need to be made. We are always in need of more ministers for all areas. Saturday nights are especially low in numbers.

CCW DUES

The Council of Catholic Women are collecting dues. All Catholic ladies of the parish are members of the CCW. Annual dues are \$10.00. You may mail your dues to Barb Bennett, 1476 Eagle Ave., Creston or place in the collection basket in an envelope marked "CCW Dues".

PRAYER TREE

- ◆ If you would like to be part of the parish prayer tree or wish to place a name on the prayer tree, please email or call: Mary Wichhart, 782-2289, or dmwchhart@iowatelecom.net or Pat Pokorny, 782-4291, or ppokorny@windstream.net.
- ◆ Remember our soldiers that won't be home for Christmas. The best gift is prayer.

CATHOLIC YOUTH CAMP

CYC is for students entering 3rd grade through high school graduation. Camp is located about an hour from Des Moines on beautiful Lake Panorama with over 20 outdoor activities. CYC offers a dynamic faith experience and adventures to be cherished for a lifetime.

- ◆ Endorsed by Bishop Pates
 - ◆ Voted FAVORITE summer camp by Des Moines Parent Magazine
 - ◆ Sponsorships are available.
 - ◆ A great gift to give a grandchild for Christmas!
- Registration is now open. Visit stmcenter.com

CREST AREA FOR LIFE

No meeting in December. Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 2nd, 7:00 p.m., at Holy Spirit Hall.

RE STUDENTS

A reminder that Wednesday evening is our caroling party. Please be at St. Malachy School by 6:30 p.m.

CHRIST OUR LIFE CONFERENCE

September 29th and 30th, 2018 at Wells Fargo Area in Des Moines. Mark your calendar!!!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Dec. 23/24 | 5:15 p.m. | 9:00 a.m. |
| Lectors | Phyllis Allen | Kelsey Bailey |
| | Steve Heffern | Mark O'Riley |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Dennis Nelson | Steve McCann |
| | Lois Nelson | Al Pokorny |
| | Terri Koets | Bob & Lisa Miller |
| | | Virginia Aguilar |
| Ushers | Paul Johnson | Missy Sickels Family |
| | D. & B. Baker | Barb Hudson |
| | Monte Neitzel | Dennis & Kay Kinsella |
| | T. & L. Root | |
| Servers | Daniel Buls | Madalyn Kinsella |
| | Sydney Strunk | Olivia Pellman |
| | | Reese Glynn |
| Greeters | Betty Baker | Dennis & Kay Kinsella |
| | Ann Johnson | |
| Rosary Musicians | Ted Willets | Al Pokorny |
| | C. Fredrickson | Lynn Baker |
| | Rose Wignall | Dan Gibbons |
| Money Counters | Scott Coen, Ryan Mohr, Paul Varner | |
| Ministers: | <i>Please find a substitute if you cannot fulfill your assignment.</i> | |

CHRISTMAS MINISTRIES

We are asking for volunteers for all Christmas Masses. Please check the sign-up sheet in the back of church and volunteer if there are still openings. Thank you!



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

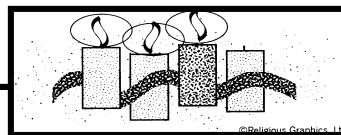
Theme: *God is doing great things for us.*

Question for Children: As we get closer to Christmas, name one thing you really want for your home or the world such as peace, friendship, or food for the poor.

Question for Youth: John tried to help people prepare their lives for the coming of the Messiah. What do you need to change about your life to be ready for Jesus' coming?

Question for Adults: If you were to write three suggestions for those who follow Jesus, to keep them strong in their faith, what would you write?

News from St. Edward



| | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|
| Wednesday | December 20 | Adoration & Confession, 6:00-7:00 p.m. |
| Thursday | December 21 | RCIA Class, 7:00 p.m., Holy Spirit Hall |

ANNUAL CEREMONY

The Annual Community Candle Service will be held this Sunday, December 17th, 5:00 p.m., at the Afton Methodist Church.

2018 TITHING ENVELOPES

The new boxes are available in the church entry. Names are on the boxes. There are extra boxes available if needed.

PRAYER TREE

- ◆ Please call Patty Bradley, 347-8812, if you know someone that needs to be added to our prayer tree. You may also call Patty if you wish to be notified of those added to the prayer tree.
- ◆ Remember our soldiers that won't be home for Christmas. The best gift is prayer.



GIFTS TO GOD

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Weekly tithes needed | \$ 844.86 |
| December 10th tithes received | \$1,789.00 |

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| December 24 | 10:45 a.m. |
| Lector | Retta Ripperger |
| Eucharistic Minister | Ellie Fry, Karen Jones, Darren Moore |
| Ushers | Jeff and Marge Welch Family |
| Servers | Draven Moore, Logan Findley |
| Money Counter | Eric Ripperger, Emily McNeill |

- ◆ Please volunteer to serve at the 7:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Mass.
- ◆ It is time to prepare a new schedule. Please notify Sheila Brown of any changes, additions, or deletions. New ministers are always welcome!!