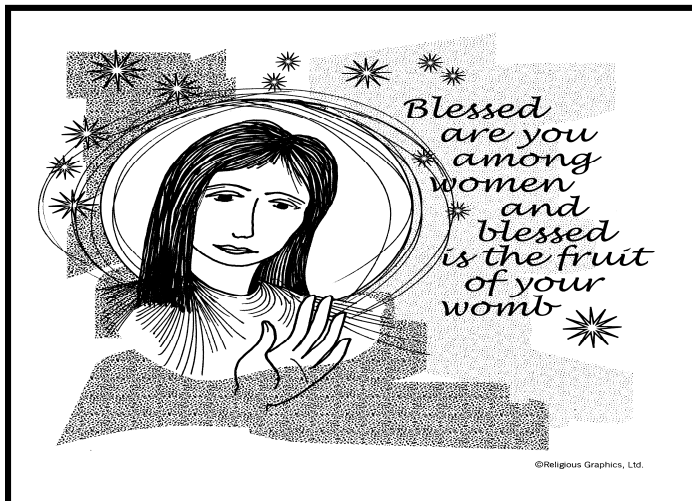


# HOLY SPIRIT/ST. EDWARD

December 19/20, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Advent



## FROM FR. KEN:

Merry Christmas! Jesus has come again!

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled... [And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.](#)

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. [The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear.](#) The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. [And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.](#)" And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

We again celebrate the coming of our savior. During this Christmas season we have so much to be thankful for, our faith, family, and friends. This is the time of year in which we get so many greeting cards and gifts, as well as giving so them. I have been given so many wonderful gifts throughout my life and being here is a gift in itself. Thank you on behalf of myself, Kay, Barb, Jennifer, and the entire faculty and staff of St Malachy School for your gifts this Christmas, as well as throughout the year.

## 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

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[www.stedwardafton.parishesonline.com](http://www.stedwardafton.parishesonline.com)

[www.crestonstmalachy.org](http://www.crestonstmalachy.org)

Diocese of Des Moines: [www.dmdiocese.org](http://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.

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

## WELCOME VISITORS

We hope you have enjoyed celebrating with us. Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. We have much to offer for all ages and stages of faith. If you are a visitor from out of town, we hope you enjoyed your visit with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Registration forms are available in the back of church if you are new to the area and wish to register.

## FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

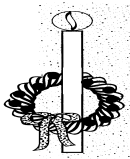
Family activities:

- ◆ Set up the Christmas crèche. Ask a member of the family to offer a blessing prayer that reflects the joy and peace of the season.
- ◆ Look at your children's baby pictures with them. Tell them what a blessing they were when they were born and what a blessing they will always be. Share some joyful memories such as their first tooth, their first steps, etc.
- ◆ Ask each member of the family to share how each other member of the family has been a blessing or brought them joy in the past year.

## HOLYDAY: JANUARY 1ST

Mass times for the holyday are:

December 31 5:15 p.m., Holy Spirit  
7:00 p.m., St. Edward  
January 1 9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit



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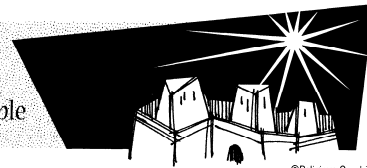
## RAFFLE DRAWING

The Catholic Daughters have used their profits from the recent soup supper to purchase gift certificates at the ReRun Shop. Stop at the ReRun this coming Tuesday and Wednesday and sign up to enter into the drawings!

## CTO

Are there tax credits left for 2015? YES. You can take advantage of the 65% Iowa tax credits which reduces the amount of the Iowa income tax by 65% of your gift. *Example:* a \$1,000 donation to CTO will reduce your Iowa taxes by \$650! PLUS, you get to deduct \$1,000 on your federal return when you itemize. It's that EASY! Go online to CTOIowa.org or call Jeanne, 515-237-5010 or talk to Fr. Ken (he is on the CTO Board).

From Bethlehem  
shall come forth  
a ruler for my people



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**Monday**  
**December 21** Adoration, 5:00-6:00 p.m., Holy Spirit  
Mass, 6:00 p.m., Holy Spirit  
Glen Hayes

**Tuesday**  
**December 22** Adoration, 7:30-8:30 a.m., St. Edward  
Mass, 8:30 a.m., St. Edward  
Patricia Auffert

**Wednesday**  
**December 23** 7:00 a.m., St. Malachy Chapel  
Frances Pesik

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**Thursday**  
**December 24** Christmas Masses  
4:00 p.m., Holy Spirit  
Mert Link  
7:00 p.m., St. Edward  
Ann Brosnahan  
10:00 p.m., Holy Spirit  
For the People

**Friday**  
**December 25** 9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit  
Rev. Art McCann

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**Saturday**  
**December 26** Mass, 5:15 p.m., Holy Spirit  
Harry Schlapia

**Sunday**  
**December 27** Mass, 9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit  
For the People  
Mass, 10:45 a.m., St. Edward  
Lorraine Brown

## BULLETIN/OFFICE NOTES

- ◆ The December 27th bulletin will be for two weeks. Please have all information for those dates to the office by noon, Monday, December 21st.
- ◆ The parish office will be closed December 24th and 25th for Christmas.
- ◆ Kay will be on vacation the week of December 28th.

## SINCERE SYMPATHY

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of Kirk Levine, husband of Ann Levine (1st grade teacher at St. Malachy School). May he and all who sleep in Christ, rest in peace.

# News from Holy Spirit Parish



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday	December 22	ReRun Shop, Noon-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	December 23	ReRun Shop, Noon-5:00 p.m.

## GIFTS TO GOD:

Weekly tithes needed	\$8,154.00
Dec. 13th tithes received	\$4,145.00

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

This dinner is served from 3-5 p.m. on Christmas Day at St. Malachy School. It is free to all who attend. Home deliveries can be requested to those in the city of Creston. Please call the parish office, 782-5278, if you wish to be added to the home delivery list. Day of the dinner please call, 641-202-2064. Walk ins are welcome.

## NEEDED AT THE RERUN

- ◆ Hooded sweatshirts in good condition
- ◆ Size 2X winter coats
- ◆ Warm blankets
- ◆ Volunteers: Especially on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to noon to help at the check out counter.
- ◆ ReRun phone number: 641-202-4488
- ◆ The ReRun Shop will be closed Saturday, December 26th.

## A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR THE SOUL

Tickets are now on sale for this life changing event. Go to [www.christourlifeiowa.com](http://www.christourlifeiowa.com) to order your tickets online for the Christ Our Life Conference scheduled for September 24th/25th, 2016. There are also bookmarks available at the back of the church.

## PHONE NUMBERS NEEDED

If you have dropped your landline, please give the office a call (782-5278) and give us your cell phone number. Thank you.

## CREST AREA FOR LIFE

No meeting December 22nd. The next meeting will be January 5th at Holy Spirit Church. Meetings are open to the public.

## SCRIP

Local Scrip cards are available after the weekend Masses. **Thanks** to our local businesses who participate in the program. We greatly appreciate your support of St. Malachy School. **Thanks** to all the parishioners who participate in this program!

## FOOD PANTRY

The United Church of Christ Congregational located at 501 W. Montgomery, has a food pantry open every Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. This is open to those in the Creston area who could benefit from this service. The food consists of frozen products, dairy, produce, bakery, and non-perishable items. On your first visit you will sign-up with your name, address, names and birth dates of dependents in the household. You will also verify by signature that your income is within the guidelines established by the Food Bank of Iowa. If you would like more information or have questions regarding the Food Bank, please call Kathy Goodrich, 641-202-4513.

(Holy Spirit Parish's monthly food/personal care drive is split between the Food Bank and MATURA)

## MARCH FOR LIFE

- ◆ Iowans for LIFE trip to the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. is accepting applications or reservations for the pilgrimage until the buses are full. Contact Maggie DeWitte at [iowansforlife@msn.com](mailto:iowansforlife@msn.com) or 515-255-4113.
- ◆ The Midwest March of Life in Des Moines is January 16th. Join us for Mass at 9:30 a.m. at St. Ambrose Cathedral with Iowa's four bishops. The march begins at 11:00 a.m. on the west steps of the Capitol. A 12:30 p.m. luncheon follows with keynote speaker Melissa Ohden, founder of Abortion Survivors Network. Go to [IowaRTL.org](http://IowaRTL.org) for details.

## CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve:

**4:00 p.m.: Greeters:** Butch Miller, Virginia Aguilar  
**Ushers:** Butch Miller, Virginia Aguilar & James Hayes, Tom Sevier  
**Lectors:** Marsha Mohr, Mark O'Riley  
**Servers:** Grace Root, Keegan Bailey, Kolbey Bailey  
**E.M.:** Mary S. McDonald, Linda Hartsock, Dennis & Lois Nelson  
**Musicians:** Julia Weisshaar, Bill Mullin

**10:00 p.m.: Greeters:** Joe & Teresa Latus  
**Ushers:** Joe and Teresa Latus  
**Lectors:** Steve Heffern, Phyllis Allen  
**Servers:** Marie Mullin  
**E.M.:** Margy Gammell, Jean Miller  
**Musicians:** Linda and Aubrey Taylor

### Christmas Day, 9:00 a.m.

**Lectors:** Jean Miller, Joanne Gibson  
**E.M.:** Francis Doyle  
**Musicians:** Lynn Baker, Mike Peters

*We are short ministers, please fill in if you can.*

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Dec. 26/27 5:15 p.m. 9:00 a.m.**  
**Lectors** Dennis Nelson Karen Fries  
Alice Reed Steve McCann  
**E. Minister** Betty Baker Paul Baker  
B. & L. Miller E. & M. Gammell  
G. & J. Bucklin  
**Ushers** L. & MJ Dorgan A. & F. Saturno  
R. & J. Brown Family  
J. Taylor Fam. Francis Doyle  
**Servers** N. Kuhlman Kara Kinsella  
Devon Buls Madalyn Kinsella  
Daniel Buls Aubrie Mohr  
**Greeters** R. & J. Brown R. & Amanda Mohr  
**Rosary** Bob Jansen Mary S. McDonald  
**Musicians** Janet Schulte Janet Schulte  
Rose Wignall Mike Peters  
Kateri Foster

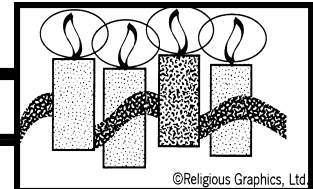
**Money Counters 2 sets:** Elaine Haines, Karin Freml, June Huewe to count Christmas; Tom Dunphy, Tim Dunphy, Luke Baker to count weekend

*Please find a substitute if you are unable to fulfill your assignment.*

# News from St. Edward Parish

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday December 20 Decorate Church for Christmas after Mass



## GIFTS TO GOD

Weekly tithes needed	\$ 909.41
December 13th tithes received	\$1,303.00

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

A sign-up sheet was posted in the back of church. Please fill in if we are short in any areas.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**December 27 10:45 a.m.**  
**Lector** Dan Rosener  
**Euch. Min.** Deb Weaver-Ripperger, Kathy Simmerman, Darren Moore  
**Usher/Greet** Mark Weis Family  
**Servers** Olivia Moore, Ansley Waigand  
**Money Counters** Darren Moore, Sharon Swanson

## CHURCH DECORATING

We will be decorating St. Edward's for Christmas after Mass this Sunday. We need strong backs and willing hands! There will be pizza and cookies for lunch as a thank you to all the volunteers.

## CRHP RETREAT

A women's Christ Renews His Parish weekend will be held January 16th/17th at St. Malachy School. A sign-up sheet is in the back of church.

## WE PRAY TO THE LORD.....

That we will constantly remember all we have comes from our God and as good stewards, we will use the gifts of time, talent and treasure that we have been given to us in order to build up the Kingdom of God.