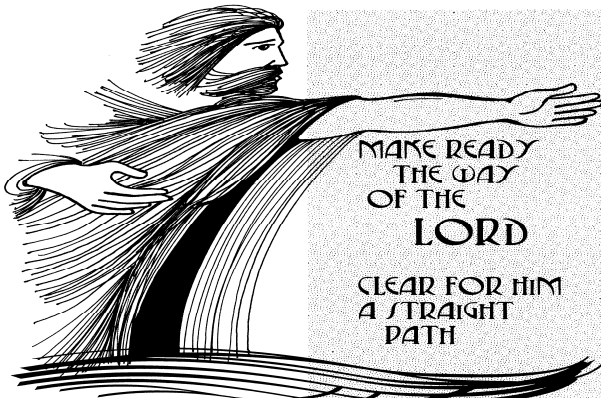


# HOLY SPIRIT/ST. EDWARD

December 5/6, 2015

Second Sunday of Advent



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## 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

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

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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:

This Sunday is the feast of St Nicholas! So how do we get from celebrating the feast day of a saint to celebrating Santa Clause which began. First of all the name change, tradition holds that the Dutch first brought the saint to the Americas with the Dutch name of Sante or Sancte (saint) Claus (Nicholas) which morphed Santa Claus. The tradition holds that Nicholas who was born of wealthy parents in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century in Patara, a village in what is now Turkey, and later became a Bishop of Myra. He had a strong faith and took to heart the words of Jesus to go and sell what you have and give to the poor. He used his whole inheritance to help the sick, the poor, and those who were suffering. He is often pictured with the staff of a bishop and three gold balls or bags of gold in his hands because the story goes that there was a poor man who had three daughters and he did not have enough for a dowry. Without a dowry, it was unlikely that the girls would be able to get married and often times ended up as slaves. On three separate occasions, Nicholas tossed bags of gold through the window for the dowries and they landed in the shoes or stockings that were set by the fire to dry. Originally gifts were left in stockings or shoes and not under a Christmas Tree, which came much later. St Nicholas was imprisoned during the persecution of the Roman Emperor Diocletian, but the prisons became so full from all of the bishops, priests, and deacons that they did not have room for the real criminals, most of the religious prisoners were released after Christianity made legal in 321. He eventually died on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 343. He was a man who was known for his generosity and love of God and is a great example for us to follow.

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

## ADVENT ACTIVITIES

- ♦ Make a banner that reads: "Prepare the Way of the Lord." Use poster paper and decorate the banner with crayons or markers. Ask each family member to share what he or she can do this week to clear the way for the coming of Jesus.
- ♦ Discuss what "rocks" need to be cleared from your family so you will be a more loving family.
- ♦ Take out family photos and symbols of your child's baptism. Share stories of that special day.
- ♦ John the Baptist was a herald of the good news of the kingdom of God. Talk about the people and families who have been heralds of the good news for you. Send them a note to thank them for sharing who they are.

## MILLION ACTS OF MERCY

This week kicks off the Jubilee of Mercy, when the Church focuses on God's loving mercy. There are probably a million ways folks in our community give and receive mercy. Snap a picture and post it on social media with the hashtag #MillionActsofMercy. Let's affirm those who are living the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and encourage others to be the presence of God in the lives of others.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE

Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, keep Christ in Christmas Catholic Christmas cards are available at Maple Street Memories, 222 N. Maple St. All proceeds are used to fund the good work of the Knights.

## WEEKEND GET AWAY

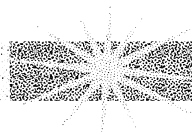
A women's Christ Renews His Parish weekend will be held January 16th/17th at St. Malachy School. A sign-up sheet is in the back of church.

## DISCERNMENT RETREAT

This is a unique opportunity for men seniors in high school or older to consider if God is calling them to the priesthood. The retreat is December 18th-20th. If interested, please contact Vocations Director Father Joe Pins at 515-237-5050

## SINCERE SYMPATHY

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of James (Jim) Collins, husband of Jane Collins. May he, and all who sleep in Christ, rest in peace.



COME  
LORD JESUS

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### Holyday: The Immaculate Conception

<b>Monday December 7</b>	<b>7:00 p.m., St. Edward</b> Patricia Auffert
<b>Tuesday December 8</b>	<b>9:15 a.m., St. Malachy School</b> Albina Pesik <b>7:00 p.m., Holy Spirit</b> For the People
<b>Wednesday December 9</b>	<b>7:00 a.m., St. Malachy Chapel</b> Frances Pesik
<b>Thursday December 10</b>	<b>7:00 a.m., St. Malachy Chapel</b> Jessica Moeller
<b>Friday December 11</b>	<b>7:00 a.m., St. Malachy Chapel</b> C. J. Miller
<b>Saturday December 12</b>	<b>5:15 p.m., Holy Spirit</b> For the People
<b>Sunday December 13</b>	<b>9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit</b> Carroll Boden, Sr. <b>10:45 a.m., St. Edward</b> JoAnn Allman

## SUPPORT ELDERLY RELIGIOUS

In the United States there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. An envelope is attached to the bulletin if you wish to give to this collection.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

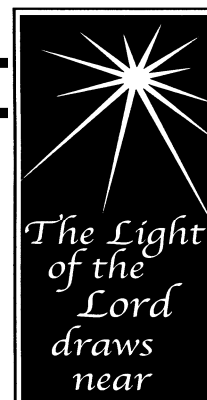
Masses for Christmas will be:

December 24 4:00 p.m., Holy Spirit  
7:00 p.m., St. Edward  
10:00 p.m., Holy Spirit  
December 25 9:00 a.m., Holy Spirit  
(Sign-up sheets for ministries are in the back of both parishes.)

# News from Holy Spirit Parish

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat./Sun.	December 5/6	Monthly Food Pantry Drive
Sunday	December 6	CRHP Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Parish Office
Tuesday	December 8	ReRun Shop, Noon-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	December 9	ReRun Shop, Noon-5:00 p.m. High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m., St. Malachy School Rel. Ed. Classes + Reconciliation, 6:45 p.m., St. Malachy School
Thursday	December 10	Liturgy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Hall RCIA, 7:00 p.m., Hall
Friday	December 11	ReRun Shop, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday	December 12	ReRun Shop, 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Sunday	December 13	Gifts for Adopt-A-Family must be returned by this date



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## GIFTS TO GOD:

Weekly tithes needed	\$8,154.00
November 29th tithes received	\$3,688.00

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Your support and help is needed to prepare and serve the 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. Please let us know how you can help. We have not had many forms returned and we need them by December 15th at the latest. Flyers/forms are available in the back of church.

## ‘TIS THE SEASON

Thanks to all who helped assemble the float for the Christmas parade. Also, thanks to those who walked and distributed candy and Mass cards.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN

- ♦ The CCW will meet December 14th at 11:00 a.m.. This is a Christmas potluck with entertainment by St. Malachy music students. They will also be eating with us. Please bring a dish to share (there is a food sign-up sheet at the back of church). Please, come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, food and music!
- ♦ Dues: If you have not paid your \$10 dues, please put your dues in an envelope marked “CCW Dues” and place in the collection basket or mail to Barb Bennett, 1476 Eagle Ave., Creston.

## RETURN BY NEXT WEEKEND

If you took a tag from our giving tree, please return the gift *unwrapped with the tag* and place under the tree by next Sunday, December 13th. Thank you for your generosity to help neighbors in need.

## LITURGY COMMITTEE

Meeting: Thursday, December 10th, 6:00 p.m., at the parish hall. Come join us!

## FUNERAL DINNERS

All Catholic ladies are members of the CCW and provide food for funeral dinners. If you would like to have your name on the list that can provide food more often, please contact Marsha Mohr, 641-278-0705. Also, if you would like to help serve/work the dinners, please let Marsha know. If you are unable to provide food and need to have your name removed from the band list, please let us know.

## THANK YOU

We received a thank you note from Open Table for serving dinner on November 24th. Special thanks to Holy Spirit’s Social Concerns Committee and Gerilyn Fleming for heading up this project.

## PRAYER TREE

Our parish has a prayer tree whose members pray for families/friends who are in need of our prayers. If you would like to be a member of the prayer tree or know someone in need of prayer, call Mary Wichhart, 782-2289, or Pat Pokorny, 782-4291. Email: Mary at dmwichhart@iowatelcom.net or Pat at ppokorny@windstream.net.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

**Theme:** *We are getting ready to welcome Christ into our hearts.*

**Question for Children:** What things do you do to get ready for a big event or celebration?

**Questions for Youth:** How do you share the Good News of Jesus with others?

**Question for Adults:** Name one thing you can do to help "prepare the way of the Lord".

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 8th, 7:00 p.m.

**Lector:** Mark O'Riley, Dottie Dunphy

**Euch. Ministers:** Gary & Joanne Bucklin, Mary S. McDonald

**Ushers:** Dick & Betty Baker, John & Retta Baker, Elaine Haines, Francis Doyle

**Servers:** Andrew Hribal, Jackson Kinsella, Marie Mullin

**Greeters:** John and Retta Baker

**Musicians:** Janet Schulte, Rose Wignall, Kateri Foster

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Dec. 12/13**      **5:15 p.m.**      **9:00 a.m.**

**Lectors**      Steve Heffern      Pat Pokorny

Phyllis Allen      Al Pokorny

**E. Minister**      Jean Miller      R. & J. Huewe

Linda Hartsock      Karin Fries

Pat Miller      Missy Sickels

Berry Baker

**Ushers**      T. & L. Root      Mary S. McDonald

Terri Koets      Sue Bissell

Monte Neitzel      Paul Baker

J. & C. Mansour V. Aguilar & J. Hayes

**Servers**      Keeley Coen      Jacob Zachary

S. Hartsock      Reese Glynn

Danika Schultes      Molly Sickels

**Greeters**      T. & L. Root      Virginia Aguilar

Sue Bissell

**Rosary**      Bob Jansen      Al Pokorny

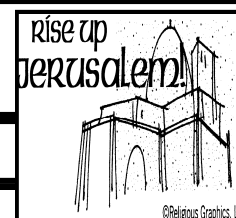
**Musicians**      C. Fredrickson      Bill Mullin

Danna Buls      Julia Weisshaar

**Money Counters** Scott Coen, Paul Varner, Ryan Mohr

*The new schedule will soon be printed. Call the parish office if there are additions or deletions that need to be made.*

# News from St. Edward Parish



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday      December 9      Rel. Ed. Classes, 6:15 p.m.

High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m., St. Malachy School

Sunday      December 13      Return Gifts for Adopt-A-Family

## GIFTS TO GOD

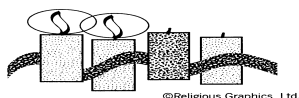
Weekly tithes needed      \$909.41

November 29th tithes received      \$975.00

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Holyday Vigil Mass, December 7, 7:00 p.m.**

Please volunteer



**December 13**      **10:45 a.m.**

**Lector**      Randy Pettit

**Euch. Min.**      Karen Jones, Georgia Pettit,  
Mara Weis

**Usher/Greet**      Terry Smith Family

**Servers**      Gabrielle Valencia, Joshua Lopez

**Money Counters**      Darren Moore, Sharon Swanson

## HELPING OTHERS

We have adopted a family this year. We will have tags in the back of the church on the bulletin board. Please take the tag, purchase the gift and return to the church either wrapped or unwrapped **with the tag attached.** Please return next weekend, December 13th to the church. Thank you!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO....

Levi and Kody Exline who were baptized last weekend at St. Edward's. They are the sons of Adam Exline and Sara Exline.

## NEW SCHEDULE

A new ministry schedule will soon be printed. Please contact Sheila Brown if there are any additions or deletions. New ministers welcome!