

## MASS INTENTIONS



### Monday, March 30

No Mass

### Tuesday, March 31

6:00 PM Mass Special Intention  
Eucharistic Adoration following 6 PM Mass

### Wednesday, April 1

7:15 AM Mass † Jennifer Carlson Mapes

### Thursday, April 2

St. Francis of Paola

9:00 AM School Mass † John and Mary Dvorak

7:00 PM Confirmation Liturgy

### Friday, April 3

First Friday of the Month

7:15 AM Mass † Gene Kruser

### Saturday, April 4

St. Isidore

4:00 PM Mass † David Gudenkauf

### Sunday, April 5

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion

7:30 AM Mass St. Ludmila Parishioners

9:00 AM Mass Personal Intention

### **Pilgrim Statue in the home of:**

Bruce/Kathy Tentinger - 7416 Idledale Rd NE  
March 29-April 3. Rosary prayed at 7:30 PM.

**Prayer Line:** Let us pray for your needs 390.1277

### **Readings for the Week of March 29, 2009**

**Sunday:** Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or  
13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

**Next Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16;  
Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1---15:47 or 15:1-39

**Note the communal reconciliation service** at St. Jude Church at 7 PM on Monday, March 30. Give God and yourself the gift of your contrition this Lent!

**The Church of the Archdiocese of Dubuque** gathers to celebrate the Chrism Mass at St. Raphael Cathedral (3<sup>rd</sup> & Bluff) in Dubuque on Tuesday, April 7 at 2 PM. All are invited to celebrate as Archbishop Hanus blesses and consecrates the holy oils to be used in parishes throughout the coming year. Also at the Chrism Mass, the priests of the archdiocese renew their commitment to priestly ministry.

### **Sacramental Preparation**

**First Eucharist Retreat** for families is **today** Sunday, Mar 29 from 1PM to 3:30PM in the Social Hall. All parents/students preparing for First Eucharist are to attend. Please remember to bring your child's Eucharist book.

## FROM THE PASTOR

**"Sir, we would like to see Jesus"** said the Greeks to Philip in the Gospel this weekend. Since his name indicates that Philip had a Greek background of some sort himself, it makes sense that he could be this mediator between them and Jesus. In an "its who you know" sort of way, they sought out one like them who was also close to Christ.

As I read through the letters of our youth preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this coming Thursday evening, I hear in their reflections a readiness to be like Philip... ready to introduce their peers, and their fellow parishioners, to the Christ they have come to know. I am encouraged by their willingness. I am grateful for the families and for Mr. Gardner and his team that have given of their time and faith to help these young men and women embrace their faith in this way. Please do come and express your happiness for them and for their witness by being present as Archbishop Hanus confirms them in the Holy Spirit on Thursday April 2, at 7:00 PM.

Its worth noting that when they ask to "see Jesus", the view of himself Jesus offers is of the grain of wheat that must die to produce fruit. What the Holy Spirit *confirms* in us is a readiness to make that pattern of Jesus the template of our lives: I will die to self, to bear the fruit of God's love in this world. When I can think of no other sin for which to ask God's forgiveness, I have yet to have a day go by that selfishness has not touched some opportunity to die to self-concern! "Whoever serves me must follow me" says Jesus, and he means follow as a grain of wheat!

As this week moves us toward Palm Sunday and Holy Week, let us prepare by letting the grain of wheat remain before our eyes. Let it be what others see in us, when they ask us "we would like to see Jesus." Fr. Tom



**The Holy Land**, the birthplace of Jesus and the location where the Gospel was first proclaimed, is a part of our worldwide spiritual patrimony and represents a treasure whose value is unique. Violence plaguing the Middle East threatens not only the security of the people there but also the holy places which are revered by much of humanity. Please be generous with your Good Friday donation, which supports the Christian community of the Holy Land and the preservation of the sacred places entrusted to their care.

**Iowa Resource for International Service** Is looking for caring, capable volunteer host families in the Midwest willing to open their hearts and homes to high school students from Africa. If you would like more information, please check the flyers on the bulletin boards in church. You can contact IRIS at 515-292-7103 or send an e-mail to [info@iris-center.org](mailto:info@iris-center.org) You can also check our website for more information at [www.iriscenter.org](http://www.iriscenter.org)

**Appreciation**

**Thank you to** Carol Steiner for repairing the lower level sound system in preparation for Palm Sunday!

**Thank you to** Jayce/Jared Smith and Jim Berger for making the altars; to Joan Sylvester for sewing the banners for the First Eucharist students.

**Thank you to all** who helped with the oiling of the pews. Much was accomplished in a little over 2 hours. Those helping included: Trudy Plotz, Janet/Carol Hayek, Paul/Leanne Junko, Nancy Macek, Chelo Collier, Linda Trevino, Shirley Sheetz, Sally Welch, Helen Cigrand, Jim Berger, Linda Meineke, Denise Benish, Bette Krall, Clarice/Wayne Holland, Bob/Karen Doyle, Betty Schulze, Clem Ryan, and Kathy Shelton. Apologies to any helpers not mentioned.

**Another opportunity** to help clean our worship space will be on Mon, March 30 at 9AM when a crew will be scrubbing and waxing the floors.

**Thank you to our bingo volunteers Mar 1-24:** Bob/Velma Leuenberger, Carolyn Schulte, Tim Gradoville, Mary Myers, Paul/Leanne Junko, Karen Billick, Sue Tresnak, Frank Roman, Bernie Drahozal, Jeanne Ross, Fran/Kathy Musel, Barb Glass, Paul Zillman, Dan/Sue Martinek, Jackie Novak, Shirley Kane, Maggie Beitzel, Gary/Michael Lamparek, Tony Hlas, Dale Feye, Denise Benish, Connie Been, Alexis Vondracek, Tami/Richie Richardson, Matt/Barb Teply, Mark/Rosann Sandersfeld, Denise Pudil, Carol/Janet Hayek, Colleen Camp, Bernadette Pigsley, and Mary Vosdingh. Thanks to Paula Wilhelm, Sue Berger, and Mary Stallman who baked cakes. Thank you to all who volunteered this month we couldn't do it without you!

**Thank you to God's Housekeepers** for the week of **Mar 15:** Karen Doyle, Mary Brecht, Denise Pudil, Kelly Hiserote, Denise Benish, Fran Musel, Rosann/Natalie Sandersfeld, Jim/Lorilei Christner, Joyce Janovec, and Angie Rohret.

**A special thanks to** Maury Streit and Marge Zalesky from St. Patrick's!

**Thank you to our parish volunteer secretaries** for the week of **Mar 15:** Mary Lou Roman, Darlene Chmelicek, and Mickey Betz.

**Sacrament of Confirmation**

**Confirmation candidates are reminded** that your special liturgy to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Thursday, April 2, at 7 PM in St. Ludmila Church. Practice for you and your sponsor begins promptly at 5:45 PM. A reception for you and your guests will follow the Mass in the Social Hall.

**ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS**



**SUNDAY, March 29**

- 8:00 AM RCIA Retreat, SC-CH
- 8:30 AM \$crip, CH
- 10:00 AM Children's Catechumenate, SH
- 1:00 PM First Eucharist Jesus Day, SH
- 3:30 PM Brass Rehearsal, CH
- 4:00 PM Sunday by Sunday, PC
- 4:00 PM Divorce and Beyond, PC
- 4:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6 PM

**MONDAY, March 30**

- 9:00 AM Scrubbing of Church Pew Floors, CH
- 6:00 PM Lenten Evening Prayer, CH

**TUESDAY, March 31**

- 5:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6:30 PM

**WEDNESDAY, April 1**

- 8:15 AM Sunday by Sunday, SH
- 5:15 PM Adult Faith Formation, PC
- 5:15 PM Early Session Religious Education, SC
- 6:45 PM Late Session Religious Education, PC-SC-SH
- 6:45 PM Sunday by Sunday, PC

**THURSDAY, April 2**

- 1:15 PM Legion of Mary, PC
- 6:30 PM Liturgy, PC

**FRIDAY, April 3**

- 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross, CH

**SATURDAY, April 4**

- 4:00 PM RCIA Retreat, CH-SC
- 5:00 PM \$crip, CH

**SUNDAY, April 5**

- 8:30 AM RCIA, SC
- 8:30 AM \$crip, CH
- 1:00 PM Baptism Class, Blessed John XXIII
- 4:00 PM Sunday by Sunday, PC
- 4:00 PM Bingo (school doors open) games begin 6 PM

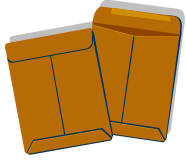
**C/CH: Church, PC: Parish Center, SC: School, SH: Social Hall**

**Make the Mission** scheduled at St. Patrick's in Fairfax part of your Lent. The mission opens Sunday evening, March 29 with a 6PM performance by Xavier High School Vocé Choir. Fr Michael Podhajsky from Saint Jude's will give us instruction on the Three Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights, at 7PM, March 29, 30 and 31. Evening retreats will last about one hour, and include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; a Gospel reading and reflection by Fr. Podhajsky; and Benediction. Let's fill the church each night and live the faith we profess! Thank you.

**Linn Area Pro-Life United** sponsoring, *How To Stop The Radical Abortion Agenda*, a free public event at the Commerce Club, Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cedar Rapids on Monday, April 6, at 6:30 PM. Guest speaker is U.S. Representative Steve King. Congressman King is a pro-life advocate; member of the Pro-Life Caucus; and co-sponsor of many bills promoting protection of human life.

**Religious Education**

**Brown envelopes will be sent home** this Wed, April 1. Please be aware the registration form (**Note:** tuition increase) for 09/10 school year and the VBS registration form are included in this packet.



**Holy Family**

**Mrs. Rita Brown**, 4th grade teacher at St. Ludmila, was chosen as this year's recipient of the Educare Award for Excellence in Catholic Education. The Educare Company of Cedar Rapids and the Kevin and Rebecca McCarville family present this award yearly during Catholic Schools Week to an outstanding teacher in our Cedar Rapids Metro Catholic Schools. Mrs. Brown received a plaque and a \$1,000 unrestricted cash gift. Congratulations, Rita, on your deserved award and thank you for your 31 years of dedicated service to Catholic Schools.

**Youth Ministry**

**Middle School Fun Night:** Attention all 6th-8th graders! Don't miss out on our wild 'n crazy Fun Night at Planet X on Friday, April 17, from 7 PM to 9 PM. The cost is only \$15 (food and drinks not included) for 2 fantastic hours of fun, fun, fun! Registration forms will be distributed to all LaSalle and Religious Ed students on Wednesday, April 1, but extra forms will be available at the Religious Ed Office in St. Ludmila School or in the commons at LaSalle. The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 15, so don't delay . . . bring your friends and join the party at Planet X!

**Xavier**

**All Xavier parents** are invited to join us for our Holy Week Liturgy Mon, April 6 at 9:50 AM in the gymnasium.

**Be part of the church environment.  
Wear something RED on Palm Sunday.**

**In Our Community**

**We invite you** to attend the Green Square Meals and Witwer Centers' Open House today Sun, Mar 29 from 1:30-3 PM at our new building located: 605 2nd Ave, SE.

**American Cancer Society - I Can Cope** is sponsoring, *Spirituality During Your Cancer Journey*, an educational program for cancer patients, their families, and friends • Guest speaker is Fr. Mark Osterhaus • Thurs, April 2, 5:30-7:30 PM • Oncology Associates, 525 10th St, SE • Everyone welcome • Cost: FREE • Pre-register: 365.5242.

**Lenten Fish Fry**, K.C. Club 5677 • Every Friday, through April 10 • Serving 5:30-8 PM • Baked/Fried Fish, Grilled Cheese sandwiches, & all the trimmings including pie & free coffee or pop • Adults \$8; children under 12 \$4 • Mt Vernon Rd/Hwy 13 behind Casey's, 247-2000.



**Gems of Hope** is taking registrations for the free program, *What About Us?* The three 90-minute sessions are designed to help children cope with a loved one's cancer diagnosis through group sharing, children's literature and yoga! Our next program will begin April 16, 23, 30 at St. Luke's Resource Center from 5:30- 7PM. Call today to sign up! Gems of Hope: 393-9681.

**The Sisters of Mercy** will host Rev. Paul Ouderkirk on Tues, April 7 at 6:30 PM in the dining room at Sacred Heart Convent located at 1125 Prairie Drive NE. Rev. Paul Ouderkirk will speak on the experience of St. Bridget's Parish, Postville in the aftermath of the immigration raids last May. The public is invited to attend and learn more about the issue of immigration and the needs of the people in Postville.

**Spring is HERE!** It's the season of rebirth, new life, when nature seems to take a fresh start. Why not **wake up your marriage this Spring** as well! Marriage Encounter weekend gives married couples the time, place, and tools they need to dust off their relationship. Experience Spring in your marriage. The next Weekend is May 29-31, in Dubuque. To register: contact Roger/Marsha Luensmann at 563-927-4352. Please register 6 weeks in advance. Visit <http://www.iowa-wwme.org> for more info or call Mark/Rosann Sandersfeld at 848-8228.

**Easter plants and flowers:** You are welcome to make a financial donation to the parish flower fund for the Easter season. We will purchase plants from those who advertise in our parish bulletin. Cut and return coupon with your donation to the collection basket next Sunday.

**Select ONE:**

I wish to donate the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to donate this amount to the Easter plant fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

