

HOLY FAMILY PARISH**Sacred Heart
Grundy Center****Queen of Heaven
Reinbeck****St. Mary
Dike****St. Patrick
Parkersburg****Rev. Dennis J. Quint - Pastor
204 G Ave. Grundy Center, IA 50638
Office 824-3572****Parish Website: <http://www.holyfamilycatholicparish.org>**Ann Nicklaus Schmelzer, DRE
dbq095re@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us**January 7, 2007
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**Liz Nilles, Secretary
dbq095sec@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us**MASS INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 9-14**

Tues. 7:00 a.m. (Parkersburg)	Prayer Service
Wed. 8:00 a.m. (Dike)	Prayer Service
Thur. 7:00 a.m. (Reinbeck)	Prayer Service
Fri. 7:00 a.m. (Grundy Center)	Prayer Service
Sat. 4:00 p.m. (Grundy Center)	Cletus McCormick
6:00 p.m. (Parkersburg)	Special Intentions MER
Sun. 8:00 a.m. (Dike)	For the People
10:00 a.m. (Reinbeck)	Bruce Stephan

The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

From the Pastor

Well done good and faithful servants of the Lord! Our attendance at the Christmas Masses was amazing. We had approximately 840 people at our four Masses, up about 50 from last year. Granted, having nearly 350 people at Mass in Dike was over the top (after all, the church really only seats 200 on a very good day), but you were very patient and understanding. Thanks be to God there were no fires and only one or two people got a little woozy! Our Christmas collection was also outstanding. We generated \$10,672 in contributions, up well over a thousand dollars from our budgeted amount.

You also came through for adult envelope contributions. At the beginning of December we were nearly \$7,000 short of budget. By the end of the month, we were \$3,500 over budget. Congratulations! Granted, we need to be ahead of budget by the end of the calendar year because typically fall contributions are higher than spring, but it never hurts to get a pat on the back.

Now we prepare to keep up with our building fund pledges. You likely already have noticed the monthly envelopes in your boxes. Please utilize them as a regular means to offer your gifts if possible. The more we are able to avoid lump sum contributions at the end of the year, the less our expenses on loan interest will be. Recall that we can also receive donations of grain, securities such as stocks or mutual funds, and even real estate. A reminder for those age 70 ½ or older to investigate making contributions to us via your IRA.

God loves a cheerful giver and he must be very pleased, as am I, about your generosity. I hope you feel good about it as well.

Other items:

- Thank you for your donations to our poinsettia fund. The plants were beautiful. Now that the Christmas season ends tomorrow (Monday) with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, please feel free to take a poinsettia home after Mass today. May those remembered by our plants know the fullness of God's love and mercy.
- On Monday I'll be leaving for vacation, returning on January 19. Three of my priest classmates from Minnesota and I will head to our usual destination at St. Pete Beach. Pray that I'm successful at Yahtzee! Please contact Liz, our parish secretary, at the office or at her home 824-3590 if you need anything. She can assist in finding a priest in an emergency. Msgr. Steimel will be here next weekend to celebrate the Masses. Thanks to our lay leaders of prayer for facilitating worship during the week. The prayer services they conduct are beautiful and meaningful.
- Despite challenging roads, we had a nice turnout for Mass on New Year's Day. Keep up with your spiritual new year's resolutions.
- Our middle school retreat scheduled for Saturday had to be canceled for lack of interest (only 2 registered). It's hard to respond to criticism about not offering events for our students when wonderful opportunities like this that are offered are passed by.
- Please pray for those from our parish that I invited to come to the vocation night sponsored by the diocese, Operation Andrew. I also sent a few letters to younger boys encouraging them to pray and think about priesthood. Age 11 and grade 11 are pivotal points in discernment.

First Eucharist Parents Please plan to attend the First Eucharist parent meeting at 11 am Sunday, Jan. 7, following Mass at Reinbeck. The meeting will last about an hour and childcare will be provided.

Bible study meets to begin the study of the book of Revelation at **7 pm** (please note the change of time) this Sunday, Jan. 7, at Grundy Center. Please be ready to discuss lesson 1.

CCD News All progress reports will be mailed by early this week. Parents, please use this as an opportunity for faith discussions with your children. Also, look for more information at CCD this week and in next week's bulletin about **CCD Fun Night** activities at each site on Jan. 17.

Confirmation Our next confirmation session will be at 6pm Sunday, January 14, at Dike. Our topic will be "Baptism: Born in the Holy Spirit." Please invite your confirmation sponsor or parish mentor to attend this session with you.

Women Foresters meeting will be Sat, January 13, 8:30 am at Park Place, Grundy Center.

Scriptural Rosary on Mon, Jan 8 join fellow Catholics as we pray the scriptural rosary 7 pm at Helen Lang's home, 1005 H Avenue, Grundy Center.

Sympathy Our parish mourns the death of Carl Hoffman of Parkersburg whose funeral was celebrated December 28. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family, especially his wife Luebertha. May the fullness of God's love be his in heaven.

RCIA does not meet this week.

Quest Retreat We all have our quest in life. Discover yours at this year's Quest Retreat for those in grades 9-11. This retreat will bring together teens from throughout the Waterloo area as we journey through what it means to love ourselves, others and God. Quest will be Feb. 24-25 at Parkersburg. Registration forms will be given out at CCD sessions Jan. 3.

Respect Life January 22 has been designated by the U.S. Bishops as a “particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life.” As some elected leaders in Iowa threaten to relax the ban on human cloning, we must be especially vigilant and prayerful about life issues. Join fellow parishioners and our local Knights of Columbus for the scriptural rosary that night at 7 pm in Parkersburg.

Christian Experience Weekend As the cold weather approaches; take time to pamper yourself with a weekend away. You will reflect, relax, laugh, enjoy and pray. It's a spiritual renewal for the body. Upcoming weekends in Cedar Falls are Feb 2-4 for women and Feb 16-18 for men. Call Cathy at 266-1562 for more information and registration forms.

Catholic Worker House will host a Mass on Monday, January 15, 7 pm. 321 E. 8th St, Waterloo. All are welcome to worship.

Congratulations to Lucy Ann Lebo, daughter of Ann Rouse and Andrew Lebo, who was baptized December 23 at Sacred Heart. Washed clean of original sin, may she always live as a faithful member of God's family.

UNI Family Fun Night will be Saturday, Feb 3, beginning with Mass at 6 pm. This year the event will be held at the UNI Recreational Center and includes access to the leisure pool, racquetball, basketball, and volleyball courts and climbing wall, as well as card playing (500) and other fun activities. Bring a snack to share. Pizza and pop will be prepared. That evening there will be no 6 pm Mass in Parkersburg.

Sympathy Our parish mourns the death of Rosemary McIntire of Grundy Center whose funeral we celebrated on Tuesday. We extend our prayers and sympathy to her son, Bob, and her other family members. May God grant her eternal rest with the angels and saints.

Liturgy Committee meets on Tuesday, Jan 30 at 7 pm in Dike.

Knights of Columbus meet on Thursday, Jan 25 at 7 pm in Dike.

“Happy They Who Dwell In Your House” Come and see what graces are available to your marriage on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Upcoming weekends: Feb 9-12, Cedar Rapids or June 8-10, Dubuque. Call Roger & Marsha Luensmann to register. 563-927-4352

Retrouvaille Does your marriage cause you stress? Do you want a chance to eliminate the pain? If both of you want a meaningful relationship, consider participating in a Retrouvaille (Rediscovery) weekend. The next Retrouvaille will be in Waverly January 19-21. For registration information, contact Mike and Lisa Jackson, 515-956-4205 / 800-470-2230; or the Family Life and Adult Faith Office, 563-556-2580.

Young Adults A retreat is being offered for folks around age 18-35 on January 26-27 at the American Martyrs Retreat House in Cedar Falls. It will focus on assisting individuals with praying with Scripture. *Lectio Divina* is an easy way to learn aspects of praying with Scripture in the quiet of your heart. Fr. Jim Brokman of Cedar Rapids will be the facilitator. Retreat begins at 6 pm with dinner and closes at 3:30 on Saturday. Contact the parish office or the retreat house (266-3543) for more info.

Vocations The vocation crucifix will be handed out each week during the month of January. All of us should hold the cultivation and promotion of vocations to the religious life and priesthood in our thoughts and prayers during this month. On January 23 the Archdiocese is sponsoring an evening for men age 17-45 to come and learn more about the priesthood, discernment, and formation towards ordination. The event includes supper, prayer, and an opportunity to ask questions and hear a couple of talks about priesthood. If you or someone you know would benefit from this event, please let Fr. Quint know. He will be sending out some invitations next week.

	January 13 4 pm @ SH	January 13 6 pm @ SP	January 14 8 am @ SM	January 14 10 am @ QH
Music	Rita Forker	Lindsay	Ann Nicklaus Schmelzer	Jean Stephan
Cantor	Don Davidson	Kyle	Larry & Connie Rohach	Jon Steimel
Extraordinary	Tim Melloy	Jeff Badger	Eileen Welzien	Judy Jewett
Ministers	Barb Melloy	Nancy Flanigan	Laura Barringer	Mary Linder
of	George Centeio	Mary Schwennen	Pat Boe	Paula Gorres
Holy	Kathy Zeiner	John Tuve	John Schreck	Brenda Davis
Communion	Sue Halbach	Bill Hammar	Luann Schreck	Joe Davis
Greet	Paul Samo Family	Linda Heffner	_____	Rod Brockett Family
Gifts	Paul Samo Family	Bob & Peg Neavins	Mike Freese Family	Rod Brockett Family
Lector 1	Julie Grunklee	Brittany Brannon	Ryan Folkerts	Joe Davis
Lector 2	George Centeio	Arnold Schwers	_____	_____
Server	Katy Sevcik	Meghan Flanigan	Ashley Hensley	Courtney Seekins
Server	Kristy Sevcik	Jack Flanigan	Nichole Hensley	Shelby Seekins
Usher	Roger Dostal	Marty Petersen	Darrell Folkerts	Randy Gorres
Usher	Max Girres	Kate Petersen	Don Gunderson	Wilbur Kielly
Voc Crucifix	Paul Samo Family	Chris Mack Family	Mike Freese Family	Steve & Pam Heithoff
Sacristan	Jerry & Kathy Zeiner	Nancy Brannon	Agnes Biersner	Video: Mary Seekins