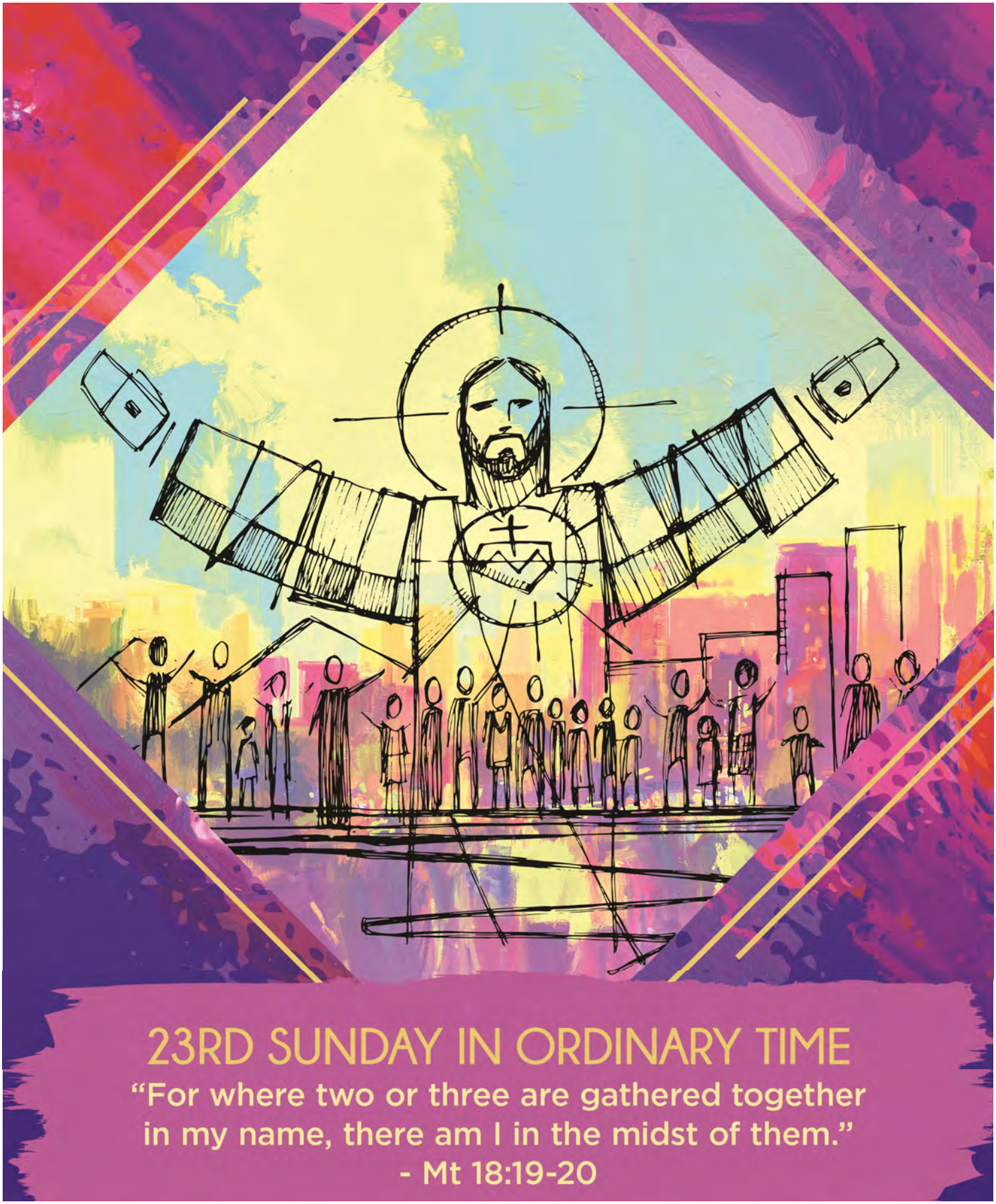
Sep 6, 2026

Holy Family Parish



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
- Mt 18:19-20

"To Know God and Make God Known Through Word, Worship, Fellowship, and Service"

Mass Intentions

Sep 8 - Sep 13

Tue	9:30am	PV	People of Holy Family Parish
Wed	8:30am	SJ	Steve Slaubaugh
Thu	8:30am	HT	Marian McQuaid
Fri	8:30am	SM	LeRoy Yeggy & Jim Humston
Sat	5:00pm	SJ	Richard & Joan Horesowsky
Sun	8:00am	HT	Rick Surly

Sep 16 - Sep 20

Wed	8:30am	SJ	Colleen Carlson
Thu	8:30am	HT	Pauline Murphy
Fri	8:30am	SM	Bob Wieland
Sat	5:00pm	SJ	People of Holy Family Parish
Sun	8:00am	HT	Dean Tucker
Sun	10:00am	SM	Bob Duwa

**PV = Pleasntview in Kalona*

Friday Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration and Confession is every Friday following the 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's *except on first Fri of the month when we have Coffee Club*

New Parishioners

To register please go to website and find the registration form under the New Parishioners tab. You can also call the office 319 648-2331.

Confession

- **Fri 9:00am - St Mary's**
- **Sat 4:00pm - St Joseph's**
- **Sun 7:15am - Holy Trinity**



How To Financially Support Your Parish

If you're considering year-end giving, now is a meaningful time to support the Holy Family Parish - and potentially receive a tax benefit in return. For those age 70½ or older, a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA offers a smart, impactful way to give. A QCD allows you to make a direct, tax-advantaged contribution to the Parish that can:

- Reduce your taxable income (even if you don't itemize)
- Satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)
- Must be made directly out of your IRA
- Directly support your parish

A person can take out more than their Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). For example, if a person was required to take out $500 from their IRA, but wants to take out $800 from their IRA to give to charity, they can. The 2026 IRS limit a person can use from their IRA is $111,000.00 with no more than $55,000.00 going to one charity. Consult with your tax or investment advisor.

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178. If the abuse involves clergy or church personnel, also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Davenport at 563-349-5002 or vac@diodav.org.



Fr Ben Snyder
Parish Priest
snyderb@diodav.org
712-320-0098
for emergencies



Derick Cranston
Deacon
(319) 936-0927
derickcranston@gmail.com



Tami Plank
Finance Sec
(319) 648-2331



Kelly Schnoebelen
DRE/Youth Minister
(319) 936-1596



Jane Duwa
Secretary
(319) 648-2331

Holy Family Parish Office
P.O. Box C
360 N. Washburn St
Riverside, IA 52327

Lay Directors
Dee Simon
(319) 648-4149
Junell Duwa
(319) 330-8882

Finance Committee

Jim Hauth	Claude Greiner
Heather Stumpf	Cindy Michel
Bret Hochstetler	Marcy Musser

ACH Withdraw

ACH withdrawal is a way to transfer money from your bank account and deposit it as a donation to the parish. To learn more contact Dcn Derick 319.936.0927.

Mass Offerings
As of Aug 16, 2026

YTD Budget	$TBA*
YTD Collection	$33,858
Difference	+$TBA*

**New Fiscal Year Budget In Progress*

Upcoming Events

Sep 7 - Labor Day Celebration
11:00am at St Mary's Riverside

Sep 8 - Pleasntview Mass
9:30am in the Friendship Center

Sep 19 - Iowa Eucharistic Procession
9:30am - at St Patrick's in Iowa City

Sep 26 - Christ Our Life Bus Trip
One day bus trip to COL in Des Moines

Sep 27 - Monthly Collection For Charity
Proceeds will go to the Laboure Society

Oct 4 - St Joseph's Fall Dinner
Save The Date: more info to come



St Gemma Galgani

St Gemma Galgani was a young Italian mystic whose short life was marked by an extraordinary love for Jesus Christ, especially in His Passion and in the Eucharist. Often called the "Daughter of the Passion," Gemma became known for her deep prayer, remarkable mystical experiences, and willingness to unite her sufferings with those of Christ.

Gemma was born on March 12, 1878, near Lucca, Italy, into a devout Catholic family. Sorrow entered her life early. Her mother died while Gemma was still a child, and her father died when she was eighteen, leaving the family in financial hardship. Despite these losses, Gemma's faith continued to deepen. She developed a strong devotion to the Eucharist and longed to give her entire life to God.

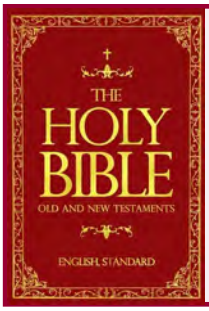
Gemma hoped to enter the Passionist Sisters, but poor health prevented her from becoming a religious sister. Instead, she lived much of her later life with the Giannini family in Lucca while following a life of prayer, simplicity, and sacrifice. Her spirituality became closely associated with the Passionist tradition and its emphasis on remembering the suffering and death of Christ. Beginning in 1899, Gemma reported extraordinary mystical experiences, including visions of Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary, her guardian angel, and several saints. She also experienced what appeared to be the stigmata—the wounds of Christ's crucifixion. Church authorities and her spiritual directors approached these experiences cautiously, and Gemma herself was repeatedly called to obedience and humility.

Saint Gemma reminds us that holiness does not depend on a long life or great accomplishments, but on how completely we allow Christ to love us. Her story asks a challenging question: if we truly believed how deeply we are loved by Jesus, how differently might we live?

Yet the extraordinary experiences were not the heart of Gemma's holiness. At the center of her life was a simple but intense desire to love Jesus and to return the love she believed He had shown humanity on the Cross. She also possessed a profound devotion to the Eucharist, where she encountered the same Christ whose Passion she contemplated so deeply.

Gemma's health declined from tuberculosis, and she died on April 11, 1903, Holy Saturday, at only twenty-five years old. Pope Pius XI beatified her in 1933, and Pope Pius XII canonized her in 1940. Her feast day is celebrated on April 11.

St Gemma Galgani Pray For Us!



Bible Study Groups

- **Bible Study** (Men & Women's)
  Mondays 6:00pm at Holy Trinity
- **Women's Bible Study**
  Tuesdays 2:00pm at St. Mary's



Fr Ben's Weekly Reflection

23rd Sunday Ordinary Time

What's Wrong With The World?

There is the classic fable of the "Emperor's New Clothes" in which an emperor gets tricked by hooligans. They tell him that they can weave a magic cloth that only the truly wise and trustworthy can see. Naturally, it's all a ploy to get money, but everyone is afraid to say they can't see anything. It's only when the emperor is parading around town in his "new clothes" that a child says, "the emperor isn't wearing any clothes!" Like that, the "spell" is broken and the emperor is embarrassed as people laugh.

There is a version of the emperor story I laid out where once the kid speaks up, the emperor continues in his parade as prideful as ever. He tells himself everyone in his kingdom are fools. If we were to create a "modern day 10 Commandments" I think "Thou shalt not judge" would be #1. Egos are very inflated today and often times any criticism or even suggestion is met with "How **dare** you judge me!" That's a common reason many people stay away from church: "Everyone there is so judgy and judgmental."

I've been talking about confession the past couple weeks because our sins are like those hooligans in the story. They are trying to convince us the reverse that our sins aren't **really** there and that we are really awesome amazing people! Everyone else has a problem, see. You are perfect and wonderful and awesome 1000% of the time. But deep down, we know the truth…and it scares us.

Scripture is like that child saying to us, "The emperor has no clothes." As St. Paul lays out for us once again, the commandments remind us "Hey, don't steal; don't covet; don't commit adultery; don't kill." Jesus says it too: "If your brother sins against you, **tell him**."

We are always making judgments. We **must** to survive. When you come to the four way intersection of Highway 1 and 22 in Kalona, you have to make a judgment on if the other guy is going or not. We can judge actions based off the commandments God has laid out for us. We cannot judge internal motives. That is for only God and the individual to know.

The British essayist G. K. Chesterton in a reply to a paper editorial asking "what is wrong with the world" replied by letter simply saying "I am." His point is that our world (and our Church) is made up 100% of sinners. To say or think otherwise is foolish. Confession is the means of being continually redeemed and "worked on" by God. However, confession takes great humility. It means tossing out the hooligans and listening to the child. We aren't that great on our own. We need God and others to correct and guide us to living like Christ as He intends us to live.



The Obscurity Of Deep Faith

Excerpts From The Diary Of St Faustina

Normally, when one begins a journey of faith, there are countless insights and revelations that are enjoyed. Various aspects of the life of faith come alive and understanding of the many mysteries in life is received. This gift of spiritual insight and understanding is a great gift and guide as one begins to walk down the path God has chosen. But as time goes on and a soul enters deeply into the mysteries of faith, a certain obscurity can begin to set in. If this is caused by sin or by a spiritual sloth, it should be remedied through Confession. But this experience can also be the result of a deepening of one's faith.

There comes a time when God's communication is one of darkness and obscurity. The soul begins to understand that it cannot understand. This is a gift in that the deeper mysteries of faith cannot be communicated through a concept or insight. The deepest communications from our Lord must be communicated through a darkening of the mind. Knowledge becomes dark, yet the certainty of God's voice remains (See *Diary* #1205).

Lord, I desire to be drawn in deeply to the silence and obscurity of a life of faith. Help me to commune with You on this deepest level and to be transformed in the depths of my soul. Jesus, I trust in You.



Day Lilies

Gina Snyder is selling day lilies with the proceeds going to St. Mary's Garden Project. pictures and plant fans available later this month and at our Labor Day celebration

Caregivers Support Group

If you are caring for a family member or friend, you are invited to join the Caregivers Support Group at Pleasantview in Kalona. For more info contact Jessica Janecek (866) 516-2421 .

Rosaries

There are knotted handmade rosaries at the back of church for those who would like one.

Food Pantry

Nonperishable items are needed for Wellman Food Pantry. You can drop them off at the back of St Joseph's church any time.

Birthdays

Sep 1 Grant Friederich (7yrs old)
Sep 5 Nathan Michel
Sep 6 James Colbert
Sep 12 Jesse Hammes
Sep 12 Tanner Troyer
Sep 14 Randy DeGood
Sep 14 Mary Langr
Sep 15 Pat Troyer
Sep 16 Nate Robinson
Sep 16 Matt McClellen
Sep 17 Bri Wilson
Sep 18 Aiden Nebel (4yrs old)
Sep 18 Katrina Strabala
Sep 21 Charlie Williams (78yrs old)
Sep 21 Evan Watts (4yrs old)
Sep 23 Lucas Troyer
Sep 24 Jackson Robinson
Sep 25 Kim Cranston
Sep 25 Tate Stumpf (18yrs old)
Sep 29 Ren Askling (5yrs old)
Sep 30 Dan Snyder





Anniversaries

Sep 7 Larry & Jan Marek (63 yrs)
Sep 10 Randy & Barb Eash (43 yrs)
Sep 7 Doug & Shelly Michel
Sep 10 Joseph & Christina Taormina (30 yrs)

ADA

Next week, our parish will join churches throughout the Diocese of Davenport in launching the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

As Bishop Dennis Walsh reminds us, while each parish has its own unique ministries, we are united as one diocesan family. Through the Annual Diocesan Appeal, we support ministries that form future priests and deacons, strengthen families, nurture faith at every age, care for those in need, and provide resources that benefit every parish.

LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, September 7, 2026



SERVING 11:00am – 2:00pm

	Prices
Smoked Iowa Chop Dinner	$17.00
Fried Chicken Dinner	$15.00
Hot Dog Kid's Meal	$ 6.00

Kids under 5: FREE Hot Dog Meal!

Meal includes: mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, *homemade* noodles, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls, dessert and drink.

Carry Outs Available

COME AND JOIN US!!!



FESTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- **FARMER'S MARKET**
- **BINGO** & other GAMES of fun and skill!
- **KIDS GAMES**
- **TRACTOR PULL**: 1:00pm (sign up @ 12:30)
- **RAFFLE**: Purchase tickets for your chance at **hundred$$ in prizes!!**
- **PRESERVATION RAFFLE**
- **AUCTION—BEGINS AT 2:30PM**:
  The highlight of the day! Items to be auctioned include: quilts, handcrafted furniture, garden ornaments, pews for Christmas Eve mass, and many more items to be announced on Labor Day!









PRESERVATION RAFFLE

Purchase tickets for $100 each for a chance to win!

GRAND PRIZE— $1,500
Second Prize - $1,000
3—$500 WINNERS
1—$250 WINNER
10—$100 WINNERS

Tickets can be purchased at Mass, at the Parish Office, or by contacting Dee Simon 319.648.4149 (leave message)

ALL PROCEEDS FOR UPKEEP OF CHURCH BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Well-Read Mom

READ WELL. GROW DEEPLY. LIVE BEAUTIFULLY.

Well-Read Mom accompanies women in the reading of great books and spiritual classics to encourage personal growth, friendship and meaningful conversations in order to explore the human condition and re-orient ourselves to what is good, beautiful and true.



Well-Read Mom groups read one book per month and meet to discuss once per month. Book selections for each year correspond to the themes of a woman's life. This year we are excited to dive into the theme of 'woman'.

DATE/TIME:	2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00–8:30 PM
LOCATION:	Pam Ockenfels House
CONTACT:	Maggie Ockenfels (502) 758-4783
EMAIL:	maggieecyd@aol.com

Kindness

"Kindly people benefit themselves,
but the merciless harm themselves."

- Proverbs 11:17

I go to a lot of funerals in my community. Here are a few observations:

People who are younger or die suddenly often have more guests at their funeral than older people who die from chronic illnesses. People with large families have longer services. People who held public office or owned businesses receive lots of flowers. But the most interesting part of a funeral or visitation for me is listening in on the private conversations of the attendees. Other than a few words of obligatory condolence to the family members, much of the conversation at funerals has little to do with the deceased person. The guests and family members use the opportunity to catch up with each other's news. But there are exceptions.

I was once at a funeral for a friend who died from a long battle with cancer. She was older. She was not a prominent member of society. She was not wealthy. She had no children or siblings around. She spent all her life in one small town. She was consistently available to those around her. Her funeral was full of people who loved her. This woman had spent her life in ***quiet kindness***.

She was thoughtful, tender, and sincere to everyone. As the guests made small talk with each other, I noticed how the conversations were different than usual. They were all eagerly sharing stories about how this woman was always there for people, about her selflessness, and about her quiet acts of kindness.

Here are some of the lessons I learned from this person's life:

Kindness starts in the heart of a person. It is motivated by Divine love and pours out selflessly.

Kind people have deep roots. In contrast, those who live for themselves are like tumbleweeds who blow away in the wind. They may show random acts of kindness, but they are not dependable.

Loyalty is cultivated by consistent care. A person who is sincere and compassionate is highly valued.

Kindness makes a positive impact on those around you. It distributes an inheritance to all those who receive your tenderness. It leaves a legacy of love.

Lord, enable me to be consistently kind. Let me look at others with the eyes of Divine love and forgiveness. And let others feel the compassion of Jesus through me.

Naomi Ruth

stewardship

Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!"