

*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call. (Ephesians 1:17-18)*

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christians are to offer themselves as a living sacrifice, urges St. Paul in the second reading today. In the Jewish tradition, the priest offered grain, incense, or animals as sacrifices in the temple. But Christians themselves are to become the offering, holy and pleasing to God. St. Paul encourages the mostly Gentile community of Rome to use their head, so to speak. They are to discern God's desire, and they are to avoid the trappings and temptations of the current age. As the Letter continues, St. Paul warns against exalted thinking and encourages everyone to think soberly, according to the measure of faith given them by God. We are to die to our old self so that we can live the risen life of Jesus. It is only if we do this that we can become, like St. Peter, a rock that forms part of the living temple of God's people, and not be a stone of stumbling, an obstacle in the path of those who follow Jesus on the way to the Cross.

The parish office will be closed on Monday for Labor Day. There will be **one Mass at 9:00 a.m. and no noon Mass on Monday.**

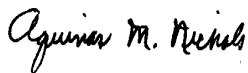
Please keep our ADA campaign for 2017 in mind. It is extremely important that we make our goal to take the burden off of our financial resources. I ask you to prayerfully consider making a pledge now in a spirit of good support for our parish. Blank pledge cards are in the back of the Basilica in the pamphlet racks. We are at about 50% of our goal. **We need 100% participation if we are to meet our goal. Please help us! Please watch the bulletin to see where we stand in this effort.**

**We also continue to make our timely payments to our elevator debt. I thank you for your contributions in this regards which keep coming in a little bit every week. We rely greatly on your fulfilling your pledge to the Sharing God's Gifts Campaign.**

I would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for all of their work for our annual parish picnic. A special thank you to the Wadle family for the use of their beautiful home and grounds. Thanks to all who helped clean up and get things back in order. It seems everyone had a pleasant afternoon.

May God's grace always grow in your hearts!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Pastor

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL:** \$66,026.41 has been paid on our 2017 assessment of \$132,297. We still owe \$66, 270.59 or 50%

**ELEVATOR FUND**

Current Donations.....\$ 668,403.90  
Goal.....\$ 800,000.00

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11:** RCIA classes begin on Monday evening, September 11 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the school. Participants will learn about basic Catholic beliefs as well as be provided with opportunities to develop and grow in a closer relationship with God by attending weekly Mass and through prayer. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact Jenifer Parsons at 244-3101, ext. 204.

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

**SEPTEMBER 02 TO SEPTEMBER 10**

**TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

<b>SAT 02</b>	4:00PM	+Carl & Florence Reelitz
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass
<b>SUN 03</b>	8:30AM	Intentions of Maria Nguyen Family
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
<b>MON 04</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>HAPPY LABOR DAY!</b> +Charles Duffy
<b>TUE 05</b>	12:00PM	+Lien Nguyen
<b>WED 06</b>	12:00PM	+Jose' & Ramona Rocha
<b>THU 07</b>	12:00PM	+Sam & Jeanette Kharouf
<b>FRI 08</b>	12:00PM	+Ron Weindel, Zach Walz, David Rachuy Andrew & Dorothy Wieberg
<b>SAT 09</b>	9:00AM	+Living/Deceased Members of Altar Rosary, Basilica Seminarians
		(Vigil Mass)
	4:00PM	+Donna Blaskovich
<b>SUN 10</b>	8:30AM	+ Kathryn Mauro
	10:30AM	Parish & Benefactors

**THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:**

[www.YouTube.com/BasilicaStJohn](http://www.YouTube.com/BasilicaStJohn)

<http://basilica.churchcastonline.com> (live from your computer)

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Do you know someone who is in need of prayer? The Basilica Prayer Chain can help. To request prayers email Deacon Luke Tieskoetter at [tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com](mailto:tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com) or Terri at 321-2743 or [sinc2@aol.com](mailto:sinc2@aol.com).

**CATECHISM CORNER:**

*In what way is the Church a mystery?*

**ANSWER:** The Church is a mystery in as much as in her visible reality there is present and active, a divine spiritual reality which can only be seen with the eyes of faith.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSISTANTS NEEDED:** We are in need of 3 teacher's assistants for various grades. If you are able to help with this rewarding ministry please contact Maria Walters at 515-953-9188 or [mlkluesner@gmail.com](mailto:mlkluesner@gmail.com). Classes start September 13, 2017.



*The Basilica of St. John*  
*Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*September 3, 2017*

Respect  
Life



**YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK**  
**SEPTEMBER 4 THRU SEPTEMBER 10**

MON 04	<b>Labor Day—Parish Office Closed</b> 9:00AM NO Adoration
TUE 05	9:00AM Organ Practice+++ 4:30PM Columbus Academy Class** 6:00PM Foundation Meeting+
WED 06	9:00AM Adoration Begins@
THU 07	8:00AM Organ Practice 6:00PM Choir Room in use+++ 7:00PM Choir Practice+++
FRI 08	9:00AM Adoration Begins@ 9:00AM Columbus Academy Class** 6:00PM Carmelite Retreat** 6:00PM Quincenara Practice##
SAT 09	8:30AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy### 9:45AM Altar & Rosary Meeting+ 10:00AM Carmelite Retreat until 4pm** 12:00PM Quincenara##
SUN 10	8:00AM Vietnamese Prayer Group+ 12:00PM Pro Life Meeting%

**SIGN INDICATORS**

+++ = Choir Loft; \*\* = School; @ = Chapel; \* = Rectory  
 + = Church Hall; ## = Church; % = Conference Room;  
 (N) = (North Hall); (S) = (South Hall)

**Daily Scripture Readings for the week of September 4, 2017:**

**Monday** 1 Thes 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30  
**Tuesday:** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Lk 4:31-37  
**Wednesday:** Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44  
**Thursday:** Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11  
**Friday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23  
**Saturday:** Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5  
**Sunday:** Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

**LIFELINES: In the 1960's and 70's the pro choice position was that legalizing abortion would drastically reduce child abuse. America legalized abortion and, child abuse has skyrocketed. Yet, despite this staggering increase in child abuse, the pro choice lobby continues to tie itself in knots by now arguing that making abortion illegal would cause an increase in child abuse!!! How many more millions of children do we have to kill before their scheme starts to work? (www.pro-lifearticles.org)**



**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL:** There will be no school on September 4 in observance of Labor Day. Classes will resume as usual on September 5. Holy Family Catholic school has openings in our All Day Pre-School for 4 year olds. There is no charge for Pre-School. Slots are also available in grades 1,2,4,5,6,7 &. Call 262-8025 for more information Financial assistance is available.

**ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY:** We will meet on Saturday, September 9, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the church hall. Band #3 will host. Membership forms are being distributed. Plan to attend and bring a friend. New members are always welcome! Questions? Call Chris Killough 279-6774.

**UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE-AN EIGHT WEEK STUDY COURSE:** If you would like to have a deeper relationship with God and a better understanding of your faith, then plan to attend an eight week study, *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*. Through eight 30 minute videos presented by Jeff Cavins, followed by discussion, you will be guided through salvation history and learn how the Bible reveals God's loving plan for your life. This is an eight week study course held Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the parish hall. The course begins on Tuesday, September 19 and ends November 7. Pre-registration is required in order to have the correct number of books. Cost is \$20.00. Call Jenifer Parsons at 515-244-3101, ext. 204 to register.

**MUSIC AT THE BASILICA:** We need you! Choir members, bell choir ringers, instrumentalists- there are spots ready and waiting! Please don't assume we will continue without new members every year. People come and go with health or schedule changes. Would you like to join this year? Please prayerfully consider offering your talents to the Lord! The Basilica Choir meets Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm beginning September 7. Contact Gail Johll. 641-919-5431.

**WANTED:** Due to the resignation of Tim Carlson, we are in need of another accomplished Organist. Where: The Basilica of St. John Catholic Church. 1915 University, Des Moines, IA. Requirements: Rehearsal Accompanist for choir practice Thursdays, 7:00-9:00pm. Play weekly for the 10:30 Sunday Mass. Warm-up at 10:00 with choir. Opportunity to play traditional and classical prelude and postlude music. Contact Gail Johll. 641-919-5431.

**How Can You Help the Basilica's Mission?** One of the goals at the Basilica is to promote the sacred. It is not defined as being traditional, it is defined as displaying the beauty of God! We are called to live holy lives in a very secular world. Sunday liturgies lift us up to accept this call, to energize us for this mission. Are we listening to God's call? How can we live out this call by supporting our Basilica family? Time, talent, treasure? Support comes in many forms. The Basilica needs everyone to help. A family doesn't blossom when only a few members keep it afloat. Think how much bread the Little Red Hen could have made if many would have helped her with the planting, weeding, harvesting, baking, and distributing. The Basilica is limited only by the number of committed members it has. Take a leap of faith. Make a commitment. Pray about how you can more fully experience the Lord's grace in your life by becoming active in parish life. Contact any of the staff for information on how to help and find your niche to serve!

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**Bishop Drumm Garage Sale:** All items are now half price and the garage sale continues each Thursday through September. Hours are 9:30am-1:30pm. The sale is located in the garage next to the Bishop Drumm Care Center. Come see all the bargains. All proceeds go back to the residents of Bishop Drumm.

**Fall Series of Ladies Mosaic Luncheons:** Begins Thursday, September 14 from 12:00-1:00pm at Christ the King. This is a great way to engage in your faith, meet new friends and learn about services in your community. The featured speaker for this Luncheon will be Stephen Quirk from Youth Emergency Shelter Services or YESS. Learn how YESS touches thousands of children's lives each year with their services. The lunch is free, but seating is limited so sign up early. For more information and to register go to [www.iowacatholicradio.com](http://www.iowacatholicradio.com) or call Leslie at 515-202-3176.