



Our Lady of Lourdes
Lourdes, IA



Saint Bernard
Alta Vista, IA



Immaculate Conception
Elma, IA



Immaculate Conception
Riceville, IA



Saint Peter
New Haven, IA

Holy Rosary Cluster

Holy Rosary Cluster Office

Address: 203 7th Street Elma, IA 50628-8391

Phone: 641-393-2520

Website: <http://holyrosarycluster.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HolyRosaryCluster>

Staff

Rev. Jerry F. Kopacek, Pastor: dbq075@dbqarch.org

Nancy Theis, Business Manager: dbq075sec@dbqarch.org

Renee Burke, Secretary: dbq075sec2@dbqarch.org

Office Hours

The office this week: Closed - Monday

Staffed: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Reconciliation

Any time by appointment

15 minutes before weekday Mass in Elma

First Friday 3:00 - 3:40 p.m. at St. Peter, New Haven

First Friday 4:00 - 4:40 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Riceville

Lourdes - Saturday, 3:00 - 3:45 PM

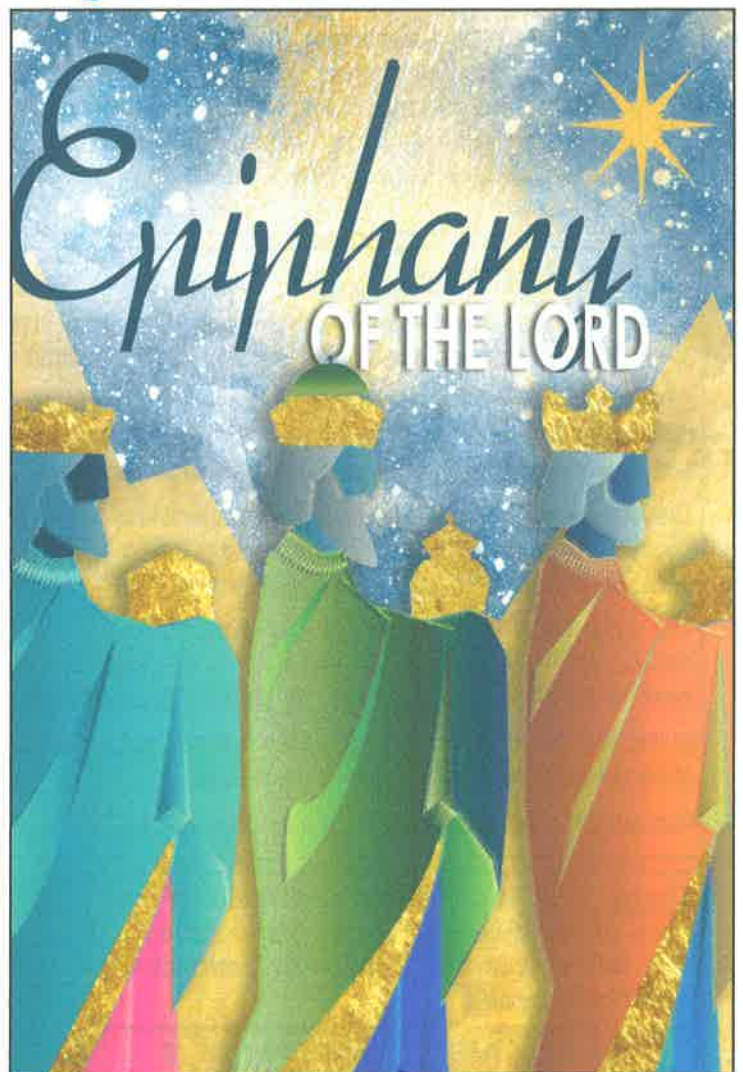
Alta Vista - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

Elma - Sunday, 6:30 - 7:00 AM

Riceville - Sunday, 8:15 - 8:45 AM; when there is no 7:15 AM Mass at Elma.

No confession time at the parish that does not have weekend Mass.

Regular Bulletin Deadline - Please have bulletin items to the office Friday before Noon the week before you would like the item in the bulletin. Thank you.



Marriage

Please contact the priest at least six months in advance.

Baptism

Make baptism arrangements by phoning the Cluster Office (393-2520) during office hours.

January 2, 2022

Holy Rosary Cluster

To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. In last week's bulletin I extended my deep thanks to all of you for all the Christmas cards, gifts and treats. Today, I want to extend those same 'deep thanks' to all who were involved in any way with decorating the cluster churches for our Christmas celebrations, preparing and leading the music for those Masses and all the other ways that led to a really beautiful and joy-filled celebration of Jesus' birth into our world. All those details add so much to remembering the incredible gift that God has given all of us and the whole human race: the gift of his Son which leads to the hope and the promise of eternal life and unimaginable joy in his kingdom. May God bless you all with his overflowing grace, peace and love.

2. Another reminder: I will be leaving after Monday morning Mass (January 3) for retreat at New Melleray Abbey near Dubuque; I'll return Friday afternoon, January 7. I look forward to a few days of quiet, rest and prayer. But I will return for any funerals that may be needed; Nancy will let me know. Know that I will be praying daily for all of you and all your loved ones while at the monastery; please keep me in your prayers as well. Thank you!

3. "Don't Forget to Laugh!" One of our cluster parishioners recently forwarded to me pictures of some very clever church signs:

"God didn't create anything without a purpose. But mosquitoes come close."

"Come hear our pastor. He's not very good but he's quick."

"Noah was a brave man to sail in a wooden boat with two termites."

"Keep using my name in vain; I'll make rush hour longer--God"

Once again, a very Happy New Year to all of you, and.....don't forget to laugh!

~Fr. Kopacek

The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?" That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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Cluster News

Live Streaming & Daily Reflections

Watch Mass or Daily Reflections live with Fr. Kopacek. Mass is Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in Riceville. Reflections are posted after daily Mass. Find them on the cluster website under '**Parish Happenings**' or on the cluster Facebook page.



Mass Intentions Week of January 3

Monday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus - 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7-8, 10-12/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

8:00 AM (Elma) + Maria Woods

Tuesday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

8:00 AM (Elma) + **NO MASS, Please Pray for Vocations**

Wednesday, January 5

St. John Neumann - 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

8:00 AM (Elma) + **NO MASS, Please Pray for Vocations**

Thursday, January 6

St. Andre Bessette - 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14-15, 17/Lk 4:14-22

Care Center + **NO MASS, Please Pray for Vocations**

Friday, January 7

St. Raymond of Penyafort - 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

8:00 AM (Elma) + **NO MASS, Please Pray for Vocations**

Saturday, January 8

Vigil of The Baptism of the Lord - Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

4:00 PM (OLL) + The Louis Praska Family

6:00 PM (AV) + Frank Goodale

Sunday, January 9

The Baptism of the Lord - Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

7:15 AM (Elma) + Merle McGrane

9:00 AM (Riceville-Live Streamed) + **NO MASS**

10:45 AM (New Haven) + For the People

The Chosen - DVD Series on the Life of Jesus

The next showing of **The Chosen** will be on **Sunday, January 16 at 2:00 PM** in the Elma church basement. Each episode runs 40-50 minutes. Light refreshments will be served.



Act of Kindness

Act of Kindness collections will be taken the weekend of January 8/9. Riceville's collection will be taken on January 16. Designated charity this month is: St. Bernard, Our Lady of Lourdes, I.C., Elma, I.C. Riceville & St. Peter - St. Stephen The Witness-UNI Catholic Student Center

MEETINGS

Social Justice - Tues., January 25 at 6:30 PM

Both meetings will be held in the Elma I.C. church basement.

Liturgy Comm. - Tues., February 1 at 6:00 PM

Meetings held in the I.C. Elma church basement.



Thank You to all the Volunteers

Thank you to all the volunteers in all five parishes who helped decorate the churches and prepare for the Christmas Season. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated and helped to enhance our celebration of this very blessed time of year.

Budget Envelopes

The 2022 budget envelopes are available to be picked up in the church entrances.

Please help out the office by:

1. **discarding your old 2021 envelopes and using the new 2022 envelopes.**
2. **writing your Name on your Budget Envelopes If using a plain envelope please write your Name, Parish and Envelope Number on it.** This is a great help and saves a lot of time in the office. Thank You!

+ St. Bernard +

Vocation Crucifix

January 1 - Mary McAvoy

January 8 - Fran & Jerome Boehmer

Church Cleaners

Pat Meirick, Kathy Meissen, Barb Pickar are church cleaners the week of January 2.

Rosary Society News

1. Members who no longer have a home phone, please call Lynn (364-5201) and let her know your cell number.
2. Next meeting and a meal is Tuesday, January 4 at Schucky's at 6:00 PM. All members, outgoing and incoming officers, chairs and co-chairs are encouraged to attend.

+ Immaculate Conception-Elma +

Rosary Society Meeting and

Installation of New Officers

The Elma Rosary Society will have a meeting Sunday, January 16, 2022 after the 7:15 AM Mass in the church basement. We will have installation of new officers and plan for the upcoming year. Hostesses and Co-hostesses please plan to attend. All members are encouraged to attend.

+ St. Peter +

Congratulations

We congratulate Ian and Jenna Flatgard on the occasion of the baptism of their daughter Marla Ann. Marla was baptized on December 19. Please welcome and pray for Marla Ann as she begins her new life in the Church.

Retirement Fund for Religious

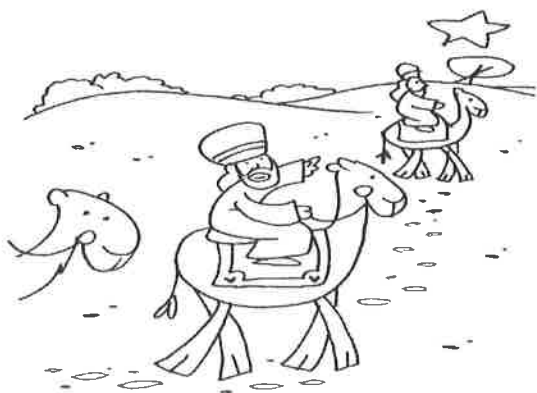
Give in thanksgiving. Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. The Retirement Fund for Religious, helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. **Please make checks payable to your parish and put in memo 'Retirement Fund for Religious'.** Donations are due by February 1, 2022.

The Our Faith STO and Catholic school families have reasons to celebrate!

Thanks to the support of almost 1,200 donors across the Archdiocese, *the Our Faith School Tuition Organization has reached its 2021 fundraising goal of \$5,391,464.* This total is dramatically higher than what was donated in 2020 and will enable us to help many more school families with tuition assistance in the 2022-23 school year!

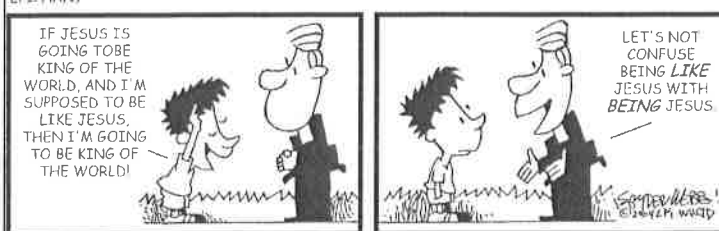
GROWING WITH THE Gospel

COLOR
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Epiphany of the Lord - Matthew 2:1-12

EPIPHANY



Calendar Events

Beauty In Christ Women's Conference

Archdiocesan Women's Conference Live Stream!

Saturday, January 29, 2022; 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The live stream will be hosted by St. John's School of Religion at 823 W. Main St., New Hampton (across the street from New Hampton High School). Doors open at 8:00 AM and live stream begins at 9:00 AM.

Contact Brian McGee, Director of Faith Formation at DBQ141FF@dbqarch.org or call 641-394-2105 for more information on how to sign up.

Admission price will depend on number of enrolled participants. **Deadline to enroll is Friday, January 7, 2022 by 4:30 PM.**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends

Consider attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience. This is a Catholic faith based marriage enrichment program and has been providing couples with better communication skills and tools for over 50 years. Upcoming dates are February 11-13, Ankeny and April 23-24, Epworth. Register at Iowa-wwme.org or call Jeff & Janet Francois at 563-608-3305.

† **STEWARDSHIP** †

God never asks more of us than we have.

Weekly Collection

Due to bulletin deadlines January 2 bulletin had to be submitted early, the financial stewardship for December 25/26 will be in the next bulletin.

Financial Stewardship

December 18/19

Our Lady of Lourdes	
Budget Envelopes	\$2,150.00
Offertory	78.00
On-Line Giving	195.00
St. Bernard - Alta Vista (NO MASS)	
Budget Envelopes	110.00
On-Line Giving	400.00
Immaculate Conception - Elma	
Budget Envelopes	3,052.00
Offertory	56.00
On-Line Giving	75.00
Immaculate Conception - Riceville	
Budget Envelopes	1,130.00
Offertory	179.00
On-Line Giving	100.00
St. Peter - New Haven	
Budget	8,436.40
Act of Kindness	103.52
On-Line Giving	80.00

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