



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

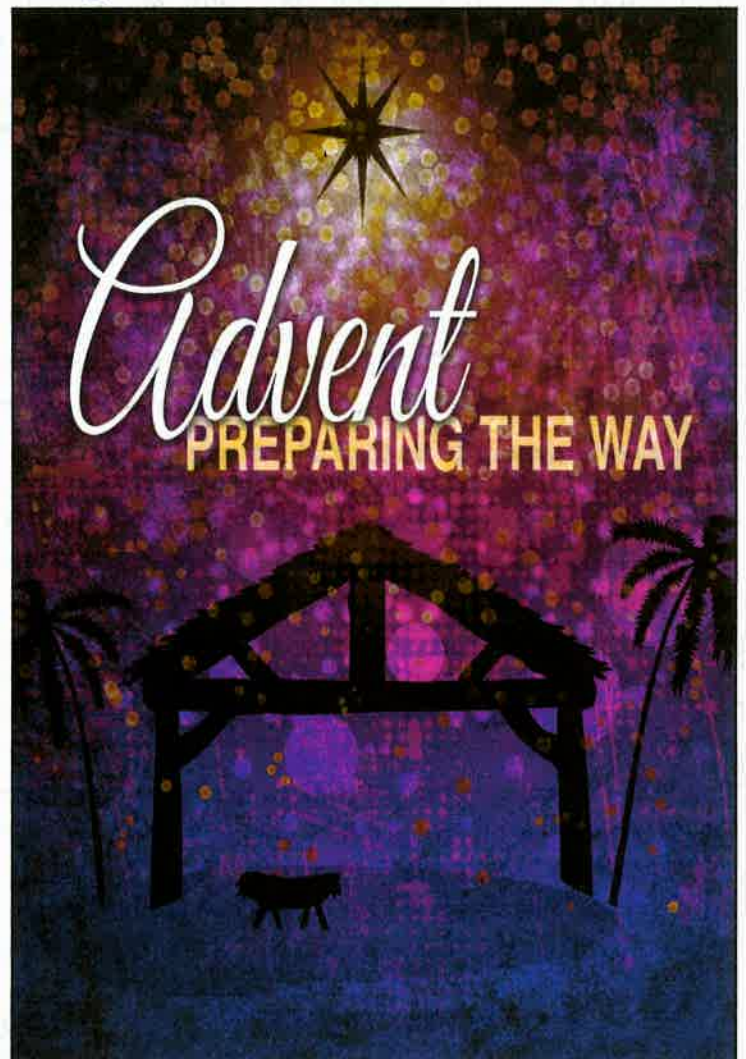
Alta Vista - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM
Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

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.

November 27, 2022

Holy Rosary Cluster

To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. Please note in the weekday Mass schedule: there will be **no 8 a.m. Mass in Elma on Tuesday, Nov. 29**. I'll be going up to the Twin Cities on Monday the 28th to baptize my new little grand-niece that afternoon, and then will return to Elma by midday on the 29th. There will be 8 a.m. Mass in Elma on Mon. Nov. 28.
2. We begin the new church/liturgical year this weekend on this first Sunday of Advent. At the church entrances you will find booklets with daily reflections based on the Sunday and weekday Mass readings for this Advent season--I invite and encourage you to take one for your Advent prayer time.
3. If you send a text to my cell phone, please indicate your name. Every once in a while I'll get a text with no name, and I'm not always able to determine who sent it from the content of the text.
4. Here is the third and final portion of Archbishop Jackels' recent statement on gender issues titled "Gender: Bend but Don't Break" (see the last two bulletins for parts one and two):

"Conclusion: Catholics must respect the dignity that every person enjoys, assure them that they are loved by God and us, and protect them from harm, and certainly not be the cause of it. But at this point in the gender discussion, we aren't able to go along with the idea that people can choose and change their gender, rather than see it as a fact of nature. We aren't sticks-in-the-mud. We're open to other perspectives, to see if we might find truth there, or to seek common ground, or to promote acceptance, even if we don't agree. Others may consider Catholics unenlightened, but we too deserve respect when in our various ministries we aren't able to accommodate someone's preferred gender expressions. What we can do though is imitate Jesus: accompany transgender people, feel their pain, listen to their story, tell them another side of the story, share life and love with them (Luke 24:13)."

~Fr. Kopacek

Do We Watch Jesus from a Distance? (A look back at the Gospel from a couple of weeks ago.)

It seems to me that Zacchaeus may have gotten more than he bargained for when he scaled that sycamore tree.

We can only speculate as to what the original intentions of the wealthy tax collector were. We know he wanted to see Jesus, of course — but what does that mean? Was he simply curious about this famous and controversial man? Was he moved by what he heard of Jesus' teachings? Was he trying to catch a glimpse, or to get close?

Whatever his initial motivations, we can safely assume he did not expect Jesus to look up and say: "Get down. I am coming to your house today."

I often find myself taking the same posture as Zacchaeus in the tree. Perhaps I have a problem I'm wrestling with or a personal fault I need to overcome. At times I know I need to give of myself in ways that scare me. Whatever it is, I am watching Jesus from a distance. I am removed. Because I worry that when he gets close, he will get in my space. He will see whatever it is I don't want to deal with or tackle.

I need to remember that Jesus does not come to condemn, but to assist. It is God's desire to make us "worthy of His calling." To do that, He knows we need help. He knows we need Him in our space.

I'll say this for Zacchaeus — he was ready. He jumped right down, acknowledged what he had to be ashamed of, and vowed to do better. He brought Jesus home.

May we all have that same courage.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Pray For Those in Need

Jean Cerwinske, Michelle Cerwinske, Roger Dunn, Ed Durnan, Sara Folkers, Ken Gebel, Joann Heying, John Heying, Rose Heying, Jimmy Holmen, Diane Kovarik, Arlene Kuenen, Joe Ludwig, Ann Foxen Maas, Gladys McGrane, LaVern McGrane, Roger Nibaur, Virginia McBride, Fran Palmersheim, Tom Rouchka, Abbey Sculley, Rosemary Schwick-erath, Pat Smith, William 'Bill' Smith

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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 November 28

Monday, November 28

Advent Weekday - Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-9/Mt 8:5-11

8:00 AM (Elma) + Eleanor Burke

Tuesday, November 29

Advent Weekday - Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17/Lk 10:21-24

NO MASS + Please Pray for Vocations

Wednesday, November 30

St. Andrew - Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22

8:00 AM (Elma) + Ed & Peggy Beecher

Thursday, December 1

Advent Weekday - Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Care Center + Elsie Ludwig

Friday, December 2

First Friday - Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

8:00 AM (Elma) + Grant Saul

Saturday, December 3

Vigil of Second Sunday of Advent - Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + For the People

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + NO MASS

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday of Advent - Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

7:15 AM (Elma) + Leroy & Luva Mae Mohrfeld, Laurie Mohrfeld Nock

9:00 AM (Riceville) Live Streamed + Nick & Mary Kolbet

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Jerry Fox

Early Bulletin Deadlines

Holidays are fast approaching so **Please** keep in mind these dates for early bulletin deadlines:



Mon., Dec. 5-Items due for Dec. 11 bulletin

Fri., Dec. 9-Items due for Dec. 18 bulletin

Thurs., Dec. 15-Items due for Dec. 25 bulletin

Thurs., Dec. 22-items due for Jan. 1, 2023

Year End Contributions

IRS regulations require that any 2022 contributions must be given or post-marked by December 31. The parish books close on December 31, 2022.

Christmas Flowers

We are currently accepting donations and memorial contributions for Christmas flowers. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please put your donation in an envelope by Sun., December 11 and **write "Christmas Flower Donation"**, include the names of your loved ones as well as your parish. **If writing a check, make it payable to your parish.** Suggested donation is \$10.00 a plant.



Act of Kindness

Act of Kindness collections will be taken the weekend of December 10/11. Lourdes' collection will be taken on December 17. Designated charities this month are: St. Bernard - MercyOne North Iowa Hospice; Our Lady of Lourdes - Marine Toys for Tots; Elma, I.C. - Marine Toys for Tots; Riceville - Riceville Food Pantry; St. Peter - MercyOne North Iowa Hospice.

Advent Daily Prayer Books

Advent daily prayer books will be available in each of the church entrances on Sunday, November 27 for anyone wishing to take one. We have two different books available. They are "The Magnificat Advent Companion" and "Daily Reflections for Advent & Christmas".

MEETINGS

Tues., November 29 - Faith Formation at 6:30 PM
Meetings are in the I.C., Elma Church basement.

"The Chosen" - DVD Series on the Life of Jesus

November 20th was the last episode for Season 2. We will resume watching **The Chosen** when Season 3 is available.

Young Adult Discussion Group - Young adult discussion group date is December 4.



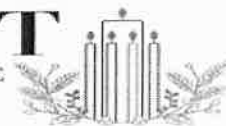
Eucharistic Holy Hour

Tuesday, December 13 at Elma from 5 - 6 PM. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is at 5:00 PM, closing with Benediction at 6:00 PM. Fr. Kopacek will be available for confessions.



ADVENT

HOPE - PEACE - JOY - LOVE



+ St. Bernard +

Vocation Crucifix

November 26 - Mildred Brus

December 3 - Mary McAvoy

+ Immaculate Conception-Riceville +

First Friday Confessions

Confessions will be heard on First Friday, December 2 from 4:00 – 4:40 PM at Immaculate Conception in Riceville.

Thank You

St. Anne's Rosary Society for the donation to go towards Immaculate Conception Church liturgy expenses.

+ St. Peter +

First Friday Confessions

Confessions will be heard on First Friday, December 4 from 3:00 – 3:40 PM at St. Peter in New Haven.

IRA Rollover Gift

If you are 70 1/2 or older you can make a charitable gift of up to \$100,000 from your IRA. The best part is, if you must make an IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) your gift will qualify for that RMD and you will not have to pay federal income tax on the amount given. To make an IRA Rollover gift, simply contact your IRA administrator to see how you can roll over into tax savings while helping support your parish. There is a specific process and forms that need to be used and they can help you through those simple steps.

GROWING WITH THE Gospel
CYCLE A

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



1st Sunday of Advent • Matthew 24:37-44

Calendar Events



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
(Holy Day of Obligation)



Mass Schedule

Wednesday, December 7

6:00 PM - Immaculate Conception, Riceville

Thursday, December 8

7:00 AM - Immaculate Conception, Elma

5:30 PM - St. Bernard, Alta Vista

Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24 - 4:00 PM (New Haven)

- 6:00 PM (Alta Vista)

- 8:00 PM (Lourdes)

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25 - 9:00 AM (Elma)

- No Mass (Riceville)

Financial Stewardship

November 12/13

Our Lady of Lourdes

Budget Envelopes \$550.00

Act of Kindness 80.00

On-Line Giving 75.00

St. Bernard - Alta Vista

Budget Envelopes 760.00

Act of Kindness 65.00

On-Line Giving 60.00

Immaculate Conception - Elma (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes 85.00

On-Line Giving 85.00

Immaculate Conception - Riceville

Budget Envelopes 2,485.00

Act of Kindness 187.00

On-Line Giving 90.00

St. Peter - New Haven

Budget Envelopes 560.00

Act of Kindness 66.00

On-Line Giving 95.00

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT





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