

St. Andrew Parish

333 West Lotte Street
Blue Grass, Iowa 52726

Parish Office (563) 381-1363

E-Mail: BlueGrassStAndrew@diodav.org
website: www.StAndrewBlueGrass.org



Deacon Terry Starns, Parish Life Coordinator, (563) 381-1363 or (563) 726-4852 (Cell)
Rev. Robert "Bud" Grant, Sacramental Minister (563) 343-2203 (Cell)
Very Rev. Thom Hennen, Priest Moderator (563) 324-3257 (Office)
Parish Secretary, Wendy Schnack/Mary Lucas (563) 381-1363

January 9, 2022

We celebrate The Baptism of the Lord this Sunday.

We are open for Mass at **10:30 am on Sunday's**. While we remain in Stage 3 of the Pandemic, meaning that if you are not fully vaccinated, we ask you to wear a mask and social distance. If you are fully vaccinated, you do not have to wear a mask or social distance. However, due to the increase in COVID-19 cases and the two new Variant Virus's, it is strongly recommended that everyone wear a mask. Some pews are still roped off for those who want or need to social distance.



We will continue to live stream the Mass on FaceBook until the Mass dispensation is lifted.

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Andrew-Church-111666438870042>

Mass Ministries for Sunday, January 16th, 2022

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<i>Sunday - 10:30 AM</i>	
<i>Mass Intention</i>	Eleanor Schaefer
<i>Hospitality</i>	Al and Deb Ehrecke
<i>Lector</i>	Brenda Todd
<i>Ushers/Greeters</i>	Volunteer

Protecting God's Children

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002; vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

**The Rosary is recited 30 minutes before Mass begins.
Please feel free to join us!**



The Knights of Columbus will be meeting in person on the second Monday, January 10th @ 7pm in the Parish Center! An email will be sent out along with the January agenda and minutes from December's, 2021 meeting. If you have not received emails from the council, please contact Chris Rubley 563-594-9851 *or* Clemente Escalante 563-554- 0787.

Hope to see you there!

Welcome Newcomers!

We are happy you're here!! Please register with us to become members. There are cards on the bulletin board and on the large table in the Gathering Space you can fill out and put in the collection basket or give to Deacon Terry. Or, just talk to Deacon Terry after Mass and he will get you all set up!!



PLC Corner

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas! Our Christmas in Milwaukee with the family was very nice until... we found on Monday morning that one of our daughters was positive with COVID. She had a mild cold and had actually taken two tests before Christmas, a Rapid and a PCR. It turns out she took them a little too early to detect her infection. So, 3 of us in the family got infected on Christmas day! Since Becky didn't get infected, I decided that I would live in the basement for over a week. The basement wasn't bad too bad of conditions, and I even had a gas fireplace! My symptoms were quite mild, just some cough and congestion for a few days. Myself and all the family were fully vaccinated. We were so glad that Becky didn't get infected because she was then able to be with her mother during her passing. Becky's mom, Eleanor Schaefer, was the most congenial woman and loved by everyone who knew her. Eleanor, and her husband Al, were charter members of St. Andrew Parish living on a farm just a few miles north of the Church. Alvin passed away in 2002. Eleanor always said she wanted to be buried from St. Andrew parish and I am making sure that happens!

We celebrate the Baptism of Jesus today, which marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. The Baptism of Jesus begins to give us a vision of what God's plan is for us.

In His birth, God's Son becomes one with us. In His baptism by John the Baptist, God's Son becomes one with us in our sinful state, (in our state of alienation from God the Father.) Christ actually becomes immersed in our tainted human nature. The word "baptism" means immersion. Jesus is being totally immersed in our human alienated condition. This allows Jesus to meet us and that allows us, in turn, to meet Jesus from where we are.

In addition to Christ's birth, we also have to look at the second point. By that, we need to jump ahead to Holy Week and also look at Christ's redemptive suffering and death. As he got nearer to Good Friday, Jesus told His disciples: "There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!" (Luke 12:50).

Jesus was totally immersed into our humanity, which meant even a humanity that is subject to death. You could even say He was immersed in our death.

Be safe and be blessed,

Deacon Terry



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eleanor Schaefer. Former charter member of St. Andrew Parish. Eleanor passed away on January 1, 2022 at the age of 97. She is the mother of Kathy Schaefer and Becky Starns. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2026!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL 8TH GRADE PARENT MEETING.

WHEN: JANUARY 19TH FROM 6:30-7:30 PM

WHERE: AHS SUNDERBRUCH AUDITORIUM

On Wednesday, January 19th, 2022 there will be a meeting for current 8th grade parents and guardians from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Sunderbruch Auditorium. We will discuss the admissions process, our course offerings, and introduce representatives from Administration, Student Services, Admissions, Athletics, Band, Choir and Drama. They will be available to answer any questions you have. This also marks the time when we can begin accepting freshman applications for the 2022-2023 school year.

We hope you can join us! If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Schroeder, AHS Director of Admissions, at stephanie.schroeder@assumptionhigh.org or (563) 326-5313 ext. 230.

BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, ROCK ISLAND, IL Contact Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108, retreats@smmsisters.org or online at <https://smmsisters.org/retreats> to register for the programs mentioned below. 3-Day Directed Retreat (on-site only): John Testifies About Jesus (Jn 2:1-11) The Wedding at Cana, Sun. Jan 16- Wed. Jan. 19. Participants will receive daily personal time with a Spiritual Director. In addition to daily Eucharist, there will be opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Eucharist, Centering Prayer and Liturgy of the Hours. Spiritual directors: Fr. Mark DeSutter, Toni Petersen, SMM Oblate and Sr. Mary Schmidt, OSB. (Arrival: 4 pm; Vespers: 5 pm; Dinner: 5:30 pm; Conference: 7 pm); ends at 4:00 p.m. the last day. Fee: \$375 (includes private room, all meals and all direction sessions.) Space is limited, register soon.



Anointing of the Sick - Anyone having surgery or experiencing illness may ask for the Rite of Anointing of the Sick. Please see Father Bud or Deacon Terry prior to the Mass. Father Bud will anoint after Mass.

An Open Letter to Fr. Bud Grant

Thank you, Father Bud, for your presentation on December 5 titled Care for Creation. My takeaway was we cannot reverse whatever environmental damages done by humankind to date. But we can mitigate any harm we cause in the future.

What was critical for me is your optimism that people will come together, and actions will be taken, and we will do what is necessary for our planet's future. You are an expert in the field of environmental ethics, so I take what you said to heart.

You gave us the names of 4 organizations to consider. The links are below. The first 2 are national in scope and the last 2 are local.

Below are links you gave us.

www.worldwildlife.org

www.nature.org/en-us

www.livinglandsandwaters.org

www.riveraction.org

My first step was to investigate the websites and sign up for correspondence from them. I want to learn how to be more proactive.

I hope my fellow parishioners will investigate lending support, whether it be donating or volunteering. We may feel powerless as individual humans, but humanity is not powerless.

A St. Andrew Parishioner



OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND

To register by email contact: olpretreat@gmail.com or call 563-336-8414. To register online and learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit www.theprairieretreat.org. Scholarships available.

[Go here](#) to learn more about the following offerings:

☑ **Online: How to Embrace Fear in our Life and Discover Hope and Courage!** Tues. Jan 4, 11, 18, 25 | 9:00-10:30am

☐ **The Complexities of Caregiving and Self Care: How Can We Manage Both?:** Thurs. Jan 13 | 9:00am-3:00pm

☐ **Photography for Beginners:** Sat. Jan 15 | 3:30-5:30pm

☐ **Come to the Quiet:** Wed. Jan 19 | 9:30am-3:30pm

☐ **How to Plan your Funeral Service:** Wed. Jan 26 | 9:30am-noon and 6:00-8:30pm *Choose one*

2021 Contribution Statements: Wendy will have your 2021 contribution statements available for you to pick up in the Gathering Space on Sunday, January 16, 2022. All contributions that were received up until December 31st will go on your 2021 contribution statement. A statement of your contributions to the Annual Diocesan Appeal will be mailed to you from the Diocese. Thank you for keeping your financial commitment to our parish and Diocese.



Women's Choice Center - Sanctity of Life Remembrance
Saturday, January 22; 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.



Heritage Church, 2700 Middle Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722

Join us at 2:45 P.M. at WCC Prayer Wall or in the WCC Children's Chapel for Rosary



This month's **June Urmie's Church Ladies Lunch** will be on **Monday, January 10th.**

We will meet at the Corner Grill in Blue Grass at **11:30 a.m.**
All ladies of the parish are invited. We hope to see you there!

The **Parish Council** meets on **Wednesday, January 12th**
at 7:00 pm.

We meet in the parish hall conference room.
All parishioners are welcomed to attend.



A big Thank You goes out to Bobbi Barton-Burk here in Blue Grass for the wonderfully decorated cookies for our holiday Masses. She and her son Owen put a lot of time and effort into these. They do these for all holidays and occasions and are located in Facebook under:

Bobbi Barton-Burk and Owen Burk Treats - (563) 349-3696
309 Cypress St., Blue Grass

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him.

And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son,* with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:13-17