



WELCOME!

Our Three-Parish Cluster
Sts. Mary and Joseph Catholic Churches
Lone Tree, Nichols and Hills

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 18, 2022

Church of St. Mary, 201 Short Street, Box B, Nichols, Iowa, 52766 319-330-5324
St. Mary Church, 216 West Jayne Street, Box 416, Lone Tree, Iowa, 52755 319-629-4225
St. Joseph Church, 209 Brady Street, PO Box 187, Hills, Iowa, 52235 319-679-2271

Rev. Hai Dinh, Pastor; 319-679-2271; email: dinh@diocav.org
Mrs. Carol Kaalberg, Pastoral Associate; 319-330-5324; email: kaalbergc@diocav.org
Nancy Waldschmidt, Director of Faith Formation, 319-331-2077; email: nwaldschmidt@gwaea.org
Cluster Website: stsmariandjoseph.com Cluster Facebook: www.facebook.com/stsmariandjoseph
Rev. Lou Leonhardt (retired priest); PO Box 454, Lone Tree, IA 52755 319-629-4339

Cluster Mass Intentions September 17, 2022 to October 9, 2022

Sat	Sept17	4:00pm	Lone Tree	Donald Kout	Wed	Sept28	8:30am	Atrium	Veva Jenn
Sun	Sept18	8:00am	Nichols	Ron Wieskamp	Thur	Sept29	8:30am	Atrium	Xuan Tran
Sun	Sept18	10:00am	Hills	Spec. Int. Marvin Goody Fam	Thur	Sept29	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners
Mon	Sept19	8:00am	Lone Tree	Gladys Zibilich	Fri	Sept30	8:30am	Atrium	Julia Ruppenkamp
Tue	Sept20	8:00am	Lone Tree	Ashton Family	Sat	Oct1	9:00am	Lone Tree	Cluster Parishioners
Tue	Sept20	8:30am	Atrium	Alma Funk	Sat	Oct1	4:00pm	Lone Tree	Donna Crawford
Tue	Sept20	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners	Sun	Oct2	8:00am	Nichols	Jennifer Salemink
Wed	Sept21	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone	Sun	Oct2	10:00am	Hills	Hartl Family
Wed	Sept21	8:30am	Atrium	Gary Hotka	Mon	Oct3	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone
Thur	Sept22	8:30am	Atrium	Degenhart Family	Tue	Oct4	8:00am	8:00am	MP MASS—Fr. Lou gone
Thur	Sept22	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners	Tue	Oct4	8:30am	Atrium	Bob Mellecker
Fri	Sept23	8:30am	Atrium	Eileen Klein	Tue	Oct4	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners
Sat	Sept24	4:00pm	Lone Tree	Donald Kout	Wed	Oct5	8:00am	8:00am	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone
Sun	Sept25	8:00am	Nichols	Special Intention	Wed	Oct5	8:30am	Atrium	Veva Jenn
Sun	Sept25	10:00am	Hills	Kenneth Swenka	Thur	Oct6	8:30am	Atrium	Alma Funk
Mon	Sept26	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone	Thur	Oct6	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners
Tue	Sept27	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone	Fri	Oct7	8:30am	Atrium	Degenhart Family
Tue	Sept27	8:30am	Atrium	Dave Ipsen	Sat	Oct8	4:00pm	Lone Tree	Donald Kout
Tue	Sept27	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners	Sun	Oct9	8:00am	Nichols	Willard Salemink-Intention
Wed	Sept28	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone					

Music Ministry: St. Joseph, Hills: Lily Westemeyer, Lura Loan, Robynn Anderson. Church of St. Mary, Nichols: Jean Mengel and Rhonda Meredith. St. Mary, Lone Tree: Steve Moore

St. Joseph Prayer Line: Lucille Duwa 679-2404; Joan Gringer 679-2406

Church of St. Mary, Nichols Prayer Line: Toni Wilson, 319-723-4468; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324

St. Mary, Lone Tree Prayer Line: Nancy Ford, 319-430-0882; Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324

Sts. Mary and Joseph Cluster Confession Schedule

Father Hai is available to hear confessions before Mass at the below times:
St. Mary, Lone Tree 3:30 p.m. to 3:50 pm on Saturdays
Church of St. Mary 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 am on Sundays
St. Joseph, Hills 9:30 a.m. to 9:50 am on Sundays
Let us come to reconcile to God and others!

First Saturday Masses Next First Saturday Mass and Confirmation Retreat is October 1, at St. Mary Lone Tree Church. Reconciliation at 8:30 a.m. Mass at 9:00 a.m. Adoration follows until 11:00 a.m. Signup sheets for Adoration times at all churches.

Local food pantries have an ongoing need for food items.

Containers are available at all times at Lone Tree and Nichols, and items can be dropped off at Hills in the Food Pantry in the parish hall. Thank you for your generosity to our food pantries.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE - Our body language says a lot. Crossed arms can signal anger or defensiveness, while arms outstretched imply openness. It's unlikely Timothy researched nonverbal cues, but his encouragement to pray while "lifting up holy hands, without anger or argument" is good advice. I think this posture can carry into other areas of our life, including our relationship with money and/or possessions. If we cling to these, we risk closing ourselves off to life's true riches: our faith and our relationships, for example. As we learn in today's Gospel, we cannot serve both God and mammon. In our culture, it's easy to get caught up in accumulating more possessions or holding tight to what we have. Jesus challenges us to place our trust in God rather than the ups and downs of the stock market or our bank account. Let us, instead, approach Jesus in prayer, arms wide open.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT - We don't need grand gestures to keep our relationship with Jesus strong: setting aside time in the morning to focus on prayer; going to Mass even when we don't feel like it; talking with a friend about ways to grow spiritually. In his letter, Timothy reminds his followers that prayer and devotion are "good and pleasing to God our savior." Should we become discouraged, we can find comfort in knowing that God wills everyone to be saved. Through prayer and seemingly small changes in our routine, we can challenge ourselves and encourage each other to make our relationship with Jesus our first priority. ACT: Think about your daily routine. What small change can you make to enhance your relationship with God? It may be as simple as saying a good-morning prayer or beginning a list of people and things for which you are grateful.

STEWARDSHIP – The dishonest manager in today's parable knew how to manipulate money to his own advantage. But the Gospel warns that no one can serve both God and money. Which do I serve? Is my stewardship such that anyone can tell?

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA) – Please prayerfully consider your pledge to the ADA. Our cluster parishes goals are \$7,012 for St. Mary church in Nichols, \$8,334 for St. Mary church in Lone Tree and \$14,800 for St. Joseph in Hills. If you did not make a commitment this weekend, please return your pledge envelope to the parish this week. Please help to make our goals. Your support and prayers are greatly appreciated. Thank you very much for your generosity.

SOCIAL ACTION - Our sisters and brothers in Pakistan are suffering greatly due to severe flooding that has left over 1,000 people and 700,000 livestock dead, 33 million (15% of the population) displaced, and over 1 million homes uninhabitable. As fellow humans and stewards of the earth, we have the responsibility to respond to this tragedy. You can donate via Caritas International, of which Catholic Relief Services is an affiliate. These donations will help those in need gain access to food, shelter, clean drinking water, and medicine. Please be generous!

THANK YOU – I would like to say many thanks to our Lay Directors: Adam Gauger & Cindy Massey of St. Mary parish in Nichols, Marge Comer & Bruce Loan of St. Mary parish in Lone Tree, and Carol Kirkpatrick & Marty Boeckenstedt of St. Joseph parish in Hills who attended the Annual Parish Corporate Board meeting last Sunday and Tuesday with Bishop Zinkula. May God continually protect and bless them, their works and their loved ones!

Have a safe and nice weekend and a grace-filled week ahead!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Hai Dinh