



WELCOME!

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

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 25, 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 24, 2022 to October 15, 2022

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 Saleminck-Intention
Wed	Sept28	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone	Sun	Oct9	10:00am	Hills	Gary Hotka
Wed	Sept28	8:30am	Atrium	Veva Jenn	Mon	Oct10	8:00am	Lone Tree	Ashton Family
Thur	Sept29	8:30am	Atrium	Xuan Tran	Tue	Oct11	8:00am	Lone Tree	Gladys Zibilich
Thur	Sept29	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners	Tue	Oct11	8:30am	Atrium	Rick Soukup
Fri	Sept30	8:30am	Atrium	Julia Ruppenkamp	Tue	Oct11	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners
Sat	Oct1	9:00am	Lone Tree	Cluster Parishioners	Wed	Oct12	8:00am	Lone Tree	Gladys Zibilich
Sat	Oct1	4:00pm	Lone Tree	Donna Crawford	Wed	Oct12	8:30am	Atrium	John&Bess Gorman Family
Sun	Oct2	8:00am	Nichols	Jennifer Saleminck	Thur	Oct13	8:30am	Atrium	Keith Stevens
Sun	Oct2	10:00am	Hills	Hartl Family	Thur	Oct13	10:00am	PP CC	Gladys Zibilich
Mon	Oct3	8:00am	Lone Tree	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone	Fri	Oct14	8:30am	Atrium	Don Mahanna
Tue	Oct4	8:00am	8:00am	NO MASS—Fr. Lou gone	Sat	Oct15	11:00am	Lone Tree	Confirmation Candidates
Tue	Oct4	8:30am	Atrium	Bob Mellecker	Sat	Oct15	4:00pm	Lone Tree	James&Donabell Moore
Tue	Oct4	10:00am	PP CC	Cluster Parishioners					

Music Ministry: St. Joseph, Hills: Lily Westemeyer, Lura Loan, Robynn Anderson, Melody Mellecker. 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 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 - Don't let the purple garments and fine linen throw you. We who are fortunate enough to not have to think about our daily needs being met don't have to be dressed in fancy clothing. But it would not hurt to reflect for a moment on the unsettling parable of Lazarus and the rich man. Why? As Amos reminds us in the first reading, complacency isn't an option. Perhaps one of the simplest elements of this teaching of Jesus is the fact that the name Lazarus comes from the Hebrew name Eleazar, which means "God is my helper," or "God will help." Lazarus had no one on earth to help him and so he trusted in God completely. Although this may not be easy for us to do, it is what God asks of us. This coming week, seek to know the Lord better through studying his word and seeking him in prayer more often. Allow him to walk beside you.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT - Who is "Lazarus" today? He could be the homeless person who smells of cigarettes and hasn't bathed in a while, or the mentally ill woman who shouts at us as we walk by. Today's readings challenge us to move out of complacency and judgment and, instead, see the poor as human beings deserving of dignity and care. Unlike the rich man in today's parable, we still have time to reorder our priorities and find ways to close the "chasm" between rich and poor. As Pope Francis said during the Mass for the World Day of the Poor in 2021, indifference is not an option. The Church "asks us not to turn aside, not to be afraid to take a close look at the suffering of those most vulnerable." Then, act. Today's psalm tells us all we need to know: "Blessed he who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry." ACT: If you encounter someone in need on the street, consider giving away socks, a gift card to an area restaurant, or simply offer a nod and a smile. Then perhaps seek volunteer opportunities near you. (Grow + Go)

STEWARDSHIP – The sin of the rich man in today's parable was not that he was rich, but that he failed to share his wealth with the beggar at his gate. He knew Lazarus, perhaps walked by him every time he came in or out, but did nothing to relieve his suffering. Is there a Lazarus in my life? What am I doing to help?

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA) - Please prayerfully consider your pledge to the ADA. Our cluster parishes goals are \$7,012.00 for St. Mary parish in Nichols, \$8,334.00 for St. Mary parish in Lone Tree and \$14,800.00 for St. Joseph parish 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. When a parish goes over its goal, 100% of that overage paid amount is returned to the parish for its use. Your support and prayers are greatly appreciated. Thank you very much for your generosity. May God continually protect and bless you, your works, and your families!

CONFIRMATION – Let us keep going with our cluster Confirmation candidates, their sponsors, and their teachers through our prayers and support as they get closer to the date that they will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, October 15. May almighty ever-living God strengthen their faith, hope, and love and grant them the gifts of Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Fear of the Lord, and Piety!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will begin soon within our Cluster. This process is for those who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith. Both Catholics and non-Catholics are invited to attend. Classes will begin in November at the St. Joseph church hall on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Contact Carol Kaalberg at 319 330-5324 to register or volunteer to help with these classes. Please pray for those individuals making this important commitment within our Cluster parishes.

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

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Hai Dinh