



WELCOME!

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

Divine Mercy Sunday April 24, 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: dinhh@diodav.org
Mrs. Carol Kaalberg, Pastoral Associate; 319-330-5324; email: kaalbergc@diodav.org
Cluster Website: stsmariandjoseph.com Cluster Facebook: www.facebook.com/stsmariandjoseph
Trudi Westfall, Director of Religious Education, 319-629-4364; 319-330-2238
Rev. Lou Leonhardt (retired priest in residence at the Lone Tree Rectory); PO Box 454, Lone Tree, IA 52755 319-629-4339
Bulletin deadline: 10:00 am Tuesday. Contact Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324 or Judy Stebral, 319-331-8727

Cluster Mass Intentions April 27, 2022 to May 19, 2022

Table with 4 columns: Day, Date, Time, Location, Intention. Lists mass intentions for various parishes from April 27 to May 19, 2022.

Music Ministry: St. Joseph, Hills, Lily Westemeyer. Church of St. Mary, Nichols, Jean Mengel. 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!

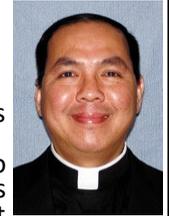
First Saturday Masses with Confessions and Adoration on May 7 in Hills; in June there will be no first Saturday Mass; and then First Saturday Mass on July 2 in Nichols.

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,

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 24, 2022



GROW: In today's Gospel, Thomas gets singled out as the one who doubts that Jesus had risen from the dead. But the other Gospels reveal that the other disciples doubted too. I understand why they had trouble believing that Jesus was alive. To think that God loves us enough that he chose to become human to die for our sins is incomprehensible. To accept that he loves us this deeply is almost unbearable. It seems doubtful anyone can love us that much. It seems doubtful that we deserve to be loved that much. It is much easier to doubt than to believe. But Thomas was the first to publicly proclaim the man Jesus as also God: My Lord and my God! he says. The risen Jesus had come into the room, although the doors were locked, and called them back into belief. Through Christ, God shows the disciples - and us - the extent of his love and mercy. We are worth it, even when we doubt, even when we fail. His death and resurrection are testament to that. He will walk through whatever walls exist to tell us. No doubt about it.

GO: The reading from the Acts of the Apostles today describes the reaction to the apostles' joyful and confident proclamation that Jesus was Lord and God after receiving the Holy Spirit. The crowds drew near just to have Peter's shadow fall upon those who were sick. God's mercy has no bounds. How can we be like the first disciples? In what ways do our lives reflect God's mercy on us? Where can our own "shadows fall" so that God's goodness and grace can bring healing and comfort to others? Let us begin our days by giving "thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting," and trust that the Holy Spirit will both remind us of our blessings and continued need for mercy, and guide us to encounters with others who need the same. PRAY: During this Easter season, read a passage from the Acts of the Apostles each day and immerse yourself in the history of the early Church. End your time of reflection by praying the Apostles' Creed, the statement of beliefs of Christians in the first centuries after Jesus' death and resurrection. (Grow + Go)

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified." There are three main themes to the Divine Mercy devotion: to ask for and obtain the mercy of God, to trust in Christ's abundant mercy, and finally to show mercy to others and act as a conduit for God's mercy towards them.

Reconciliations - To celebrate Divine Mercy of the Lord, there will be some priests in Iowa City Deanery available to help with confessions at St. Wenceslaus church from 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm this Sunday, April 24. All are welcome!

Many thanks to those who have spent time, talents and treasure to serve and help in Lenten and Triduum Liturgies and to make our cluster churches look beautiful and sacred. May God continually protect and bless you and your loved ones!

Wishing you and your loved ones a grace-filled Divine Mercy Sunday and a great week ahead!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Hai Dinh