

Dear Padre,

Is envy a sin? I find myself becoming very envious of people who have more than I do. I find it difficult to be content with what my family and I have now.

We live in a climate that encourages discontent with what we have. Advertising plays on our feelings of envy and our desire for possessions. In this almost universal rush to possess more and better material objects, Christians are called to a counter-witness. We are called to embrace a freedom and a poverty of spirit that actually rejoices in the blessings of others.

The Tenth Commandment alerts us to the danger of undisciplined envy: “You shall not covet...anything that belongs to your neighbor” (Exodus 20:17). In the New Testament, Jesus says that where our treasure is, there also will be our heart. (See Matthew 6:21.) The real antidote to envy, then, is prayers of thanks for all God has given to us and others. To feel envious, to desire or covet someone else’s possessions, is not in itself a mortal sin. But to let that feeling invade your mind, to indulge it and rationalize it, is to let that feeling harden into an envious frame of mind. Then you are flirting with real sin. The grave sin is to allow these envious thoughts to drive you to any injustice or evil. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* sums it up well: “Would you like to see God glorified by you? Then rejoice in your brother’s [and sister’s] progress, and you will immediately give glory to God” (2540). ●

Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 6	October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10	October 11	October 12
Weekday	Our Lady of the	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Twenty-eighth
Jon 1:1–2:2, 11	Rosary	Jon 4:1–11	Mal 3:13–20b	Jl 1:13–15; 2:1–2	Jl 4:12–21	Sunday in
Lk 10:25–37	Jon 3:1–10	Lk 11:1–4	Lk 11:5–13	Lk 11:15–26	Lk 11:27–28	Ordinary Time
	Lk 10:38–42					2 Kgs 5:14–17
						2 Tm 2:8–13
						Lk 17:11–19



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

There is so little dialogue around us; shouting often replaces it, not infrequently in the form of fake news and irrational arguments proposed by a few loud voices. Deeper reflection and study are essential, as well as a commitment to encounter and listen to the poor.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025



Never Big Enough

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Childhood daydreams come peppered with visions of heroes and heroines, movie stars and rock stars, fame and notoriety.

Eventually, however, we adjust our visions of what we can become as we are confronted by the reality of who we are. Seldom, however, are our daydreams and visions big enough. They tend to be only about ourselves, barely including others.

The same may be said about becoming people of faith. Too readily we think of faith simply as our personal decision to believe in God. Faith then becomes one-sided—the prayers we say, the Masses we attend, the Church’s rules we obey. Like the people of the prophet Habakkuk’s day, we may bemoan, “I cry for help and you do not listen.... [I] cry out to you, ‘Violence!’ and you do not intervene” (Habakkuk 1:2).

Then, too, our faith and its vision for life are not big enough, for we do not allow room for God to slip into our lives and do what God does. Then, faith is only about ourselves—our needs and struggles and pains. Faith needs to be a surrender to God’s vision, not simply for ourselves, but for all of life. [The LORD said,] “The vision is a witness for the appointed time...it will not disappoint. If it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late” (Habakkuk 2:3). The difficulty is that we want God to make life perfect for us the way we want it and when we want it. Then, it becomes our vision for life and not God’s. ●

Reflect

Have I ever given up my vision or plan and found God’s plan to be perfect for me?

God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control.

2 TIMOTHY 1:7



"We at St. Mary & Joseph Parishes strive for a deeper encounter with Jesus Christ through Scripture and Sacraments, form missionary disciples, and send them forth to transform the world."



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

Twenty-seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

October 4, 2025

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

Sts. Mary and Joseph Cluster Parish Office
209 Brady Street, P.O. Box 187 Hills, Iowa 52235-0187

Father David Paintsil, Pastor; 319-679-2271; email: paintsild@diodav.org
Mrs. Carol Kaalberg, Pastoral Associate; 319-330-5324; email: kaalbergc@diodav.org
Lora Sieverding, Administrative Assistant & Bookkeeper; hillsstjosephfin@diodav.org
Nancy Waldschmidt, Director of Faith Formation; 319-331-2077; email: nwaldschmidt@gwaea.org
Cluster Website: stsmarijoseph.com Cluster Facebook: www.facebook.com/stsmarijoseph
Rev. Lou Leonhardt (retired priest); PO Box 454, Lone Tree, IA 52755 319-629-4339
Bulletin deadline: 10am Tuesday. Contact Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324 or Lora Sieverding, 319-530-5560
Hills Church entry: Lora Sieverding, 319-530-5560 or Judy Stebral, 319-331-8727

Music Ministry: St. Joseph, Hills: Lily Westemeyer, 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: Carol Kaalberg, 319-330-5324
St. Mary, Lone Tree Prayer Line: Nancy Ford, 319-430-0882

Cluster Mass Intentions October 4 to October 12, 2025

Saturday	October 4	4:00 PM	Lone Tree	Kevin Welter
Sunday	October 5	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Nichols Hills	Darlene Sieren Filomena Winegardner
Monday	October 6	8:00 AM	Lone Tree R	Draker Special Intention
Tuesday	October 7	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Lone Tree R Atrium PP CC	Rosella Attig Service Of Prayer Cluster Parishioners
Wednesday	October 8	8:00 AM 8:30 AM	Lone Tree R Atrium	Draker Special Intention Service of Prayer
Thursday	October 9	8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Atrium PPCC	Veva Jenn No Intention
Friday	October 10	8:30 AM	Atrium	Clayton & Maryann Michel
Saturday	October 11	4:00 PM	Lone Tree	Norma Hartley
Sunday	October 12	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Nichols Hills	Gayle Kaalberg Janet Michel

Atrium , Atrium Village Chapel,
Atrium Village, Hills.

PP CC, Pioneer Park Care Center
located at Pioneer Park Villa,
Lone Tree.

Lone Tree R, St. Mary Rectory in
Lone Tree.

Confession Schedule

*Father David is available to
hear confessions before
Mass at these times:*

St. Mary, Lone Tree

Saturday 3:30 to 3:50 pm

Church of St. Mary Nichols

Sunday 7:30 to 7:50 am

St. Joseph, Hills

Sunday 9:30 to 9:50 am

*Let us come to reconcile to God
and others!*

Keep Fr. David in your prayers as he travels home to Ghana, Africa. Fr. David will spend all of October in Africa and will return Tuesday, November 4th.



The 25-26 ADA campaign has begun. Envelopes and QR cards will be located at entrances of the church. Your generosity supports the missions and ministries that serve parish communities across our diocese. The Diocese of Davenport has assigned the following goals for each of our parishes:

Hills = \$11,405.00

Lone Tree = \$10,670.00

Nichols= \$8,114.00



HEALTHY AGING FAIR

OVER 70 COMMUNITY RESOURCE TABLES & BOOTHS

Event Highlights

- Fall Prevention Screenings ◀ Protect your health with a fall prevention screening and learn how to remain steady
- Flu Shots ◀ Protect yourself against the upcoming flu season
- Tai Chi Demonstrations ◀ A great way to improve balance, fitness, and mobility
- Health Screenings ◀ Many different health screenings available

October 8, 2025
1:00PM - 4:00PM

NORTH LIBERTY COMMUNITY CENTER
520 W. CHERRY ST.
NORTH LIBERTY, IA 52317

Contact us
(319)356-6090
jkellbach@johnsoncountyiowa.gov



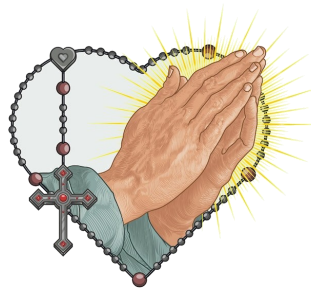
Classes begun!

Registration forms are on church entry tables & online.

Religious Education is after the 4pm Mass in Lone Tree and before the 10am Mass in Hills. Registration forms are on the church entry tables and on our website: stsmariyoseph.com under the bulletins and forms tab. Questions may be directed to Nancy Waldschmidt at 319-331-2077.

Bible Study

Bible Study will meet October 14 & 28 at *Atrium Village*, 2nd floor study/lounge at 6:30 PM. Contact Melody Hobert-Mellecker—319-936-3287, call or text — if you are interested, or just come!



We will be praying the rosary before all weekend Masses during the month of October. Join us 25 minutes before Mass as we pray to our Blessed Mother for the needs of our cluster and our world.

Lone Tree Fire & Rescue

Broasted Chicken Dinner Fund Raiser

Wednesday, October 15, 2025
5:00 PM until 7:00 PM
Lone Tree American Legion
Dine or Carry-Out



St. Joseph, Wellman
Annual Pork Loin & Fried Chicken Buffet Style Dinner
Sunday, October 5th
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Homemade dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, noodles, cranberry salad, green beans, rolls, desserts and drinks.
\$15 for Adults
\$6 for Kids 4-10



Eucharistic Adoration
every Wednesday
6 PM—7 PM
St. Joseph, Hills

St. Wenceslaus, Iowa City
Annual Fall Dinner
Sunday, October 5th
11:15 AM - 2:00 PM
Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, Czech green beans and rolls from Texas Roadhouse.
\$15 for Adults
\$5 for Kids

Liturgical Ministers—Lone Tree St. Mary Saturday 4:00 pm Cycle C Reading						
	10/04/2025 Fr. Lou	10/11/2025 Fr. Lou	10/18/2025 Fr. Lou	10/25/2025 Fr. Lou	Lone Tree	Parish Support
Greeter	Carter Parrish	Nancy Ford	Bernie Lorack	Barb Dinsmore	Envelopes	\$409.00
Lector	Landon Parrish	Jerry Ford	Jill Welter	Sherry Nicola	Offertory	\$73.00
Cross Bearer	Logan Parrish	Glen Gerot	Joel Yedlik	Joel Yedlik	ACH	\$245.00
Servers	Trudi Westfall/Maggie Anderson	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Religious Ed	\$20.00
Eucharist	Sherry Nicola	Nancy Ford	Judy Grothe	Sherry Nicola	Fuel	\$100.00
Eucharist	Trudi Westfall	Jerry Ford	Sherry Nicola	Judy Grothe		
Collection	Dani Parrish	Betty Gerot	Joel Yedlik	Joel Yedlik		
	Dani, Carter Parrish	Glen Gerot	Mary Ellen Yedlik	Mary Ellen Yedlik		
Gifts	Dani, Carter Parrish	Betty, Glen Gerot	Joel & Mary Ellen Yedlik	Joel & Mary Ellen		
Commentator	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg		

Liturgical Ministers—Nichols Church of St. Mary Sunday 8:00 am Cycle C Reading						
	10/05/2025 Fr. Lou	10/12/2025 Fr. Lou	10/19/2025 Fr. Lou	10/26/2025 Fr. Lou	Nichols	Parish Support
Greeter	Wayne Mengel	Wayne Mengel	Wayne Mengel	Wayne Mengel	Envelopes	\$240.00
Lector	Renetta Burlage	Tom Barr	Missy Lenz	Renetta Burlage	Offertory	\$122.00
Cross Bearer	Dave Ollendick	Adam Gauger	Michael Burlage	Michael Burlage	ACH	\$250.00
Server	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Religious Ed	\$50.00
Eucharist	Tom Barr	Tom Barr	Missy Lenz	Adam Gauger	Cemetery	\$500.00
Eucharist	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg		
Collection	David Ollendick	Joe Harper	Kory Kaalberg	Kory Kaalberg		
	Andrea Ollendick	Dennis Truesdale	Adam Gauger	Adam Gauger		
Gifts	Bruce & Margaret Matt	Brent & Meaghan Peters	Dennis Truesdale	Mary Lou Yedlik		
Commentator	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg		

Liturgical Ministers—Hills St. Joseph Sunday 10:00 am Cycle C Reading						
	10/052025 Fr. Lou	10/12/2025 Fr. Lou	10/19/2025 Fr. Lou	10/26/2025 Fr. Lou	Hills	Parish Support
Music Ministry	Robynn Anderson	Lily Westemeyer	Lily Westemeyer	Choir	Envelopes	\$295.00
Greeter	Gus & Lenore Manrique	Liz & Rich Lockhart	Judy Stebral	Liz & Rich Lockhart	Offertory	\$80.00
Lector	Bob Jenn	Mike Waldschmidt	Mike Waldschmidt	Lora Sieverding	ACH	\$948.00
Server	Emy Rivera, Wendy Berry	Jean Burr/Messi Akodegnon	Emy Rivera, Wendy Berry	Mike Sieverding	Catholic U	\$20.00
Eucharist -host	Jolene VanEschan	Mike Sieverding	Jolene VanEschan	Jolene VanEschan	Peter Pence	\$10.00
Eucharist - cup	Carol Kirkpatrick	Deanne Eden	Bob Jenn	Kristee Malmberg	Works of Charity	\$10.00
Eucharist - cup	Kristee Malmberg	Kay Evans	Carol Kirkpatrick	Bob Jenn	Catholic Communi	\$20.00
Collection	Jim Mills	Bryan Moran	Emy Rivera	Mike Waldschmidt	Assumption Mary	\$10.00
	MaryInn Mills	Alyssa Moran	Aboumou Akodegon	Nancy Waldschmidt	Church Lat Am	\$20.00
Gifts	Bob & Renita Rummelhart Family	Janet Michel Family	Volunteers	Family of Dean & Alice Cole	Home Missions	\$20.00
Commentator	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	Carol Kaalberg	St. Stan. Cemetery	\$20.00

If you are unavailable for the above ministry assignment, please find your own replacement. Thank you.

Cluster Parish Announcements

Bulletin deadline Tuesday at 10:00 am. Contact Lora Sieverding at 319-530-5560, hillsstjosephfin@diodav.org or Carol Kaalberg at 319-330-5324 or kaalbergc@diodav.org.

St. Joseph Church, Hills.

St. Joseph Food Pantry is open each Wednesday morning from 10 am to noon. Mike and Lucy Parker direct our food pantry and can be reached at 319-679-2420.

Hills Parish Council: Next meeting: October 20, 6:30 PM.

Parishioners are welcome to attend council meetings. Please see a council member if you have agenda items. Members include: Rick Cole, Kay Evans, Karen Karr, Thom Kirkpatrick, Kristee Malmberg, Shelagh McDonald, Brian Moran, and Jim Schneider (President).

Rest in Peace: Our parish sympathy is extended to the family of Howard Lewis, who passed away this week. Howard is the brother-in-law to Delores Eden and John & Joan Greazel, and uncle to Deanne Eden. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



ATTENTION ALL LAY DIRECTORS, ALL PARISHES

There will be a Mandatory Diocesan Board Meeting for all Lay Directors via ZOOM.

Attendance is required on one of the two dates:

Sunday, October 26, at 4 PM

or

Monday, October 27, at 7 PM

Rest in Peace: Our parish sympathy is extended to the family of Shirley Streb, Marvin’s wife, who passed away last week. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Social Justice Committee is collecting items to send to **Matt Waldschmidt** & his platoon, stationed in the Middle East. A list of suggested items, along with things that are restricted can be found on the church entry table. A collection box for items is at the church entry as well. The next shipment of goodies will depart for Matt at the end of October...this will arrive around the holidays, so let’s send some Christmas love from home...to Matt, and all of our soldiers working to keep us safe.

St. Mary Church, Lone Tree and Nichols

Lone Tree Food Pantry is open each Wednesday afternoon from 3:30-5:00 PM. For more information, please call 319-629-4900.

Nichols Parish Council & Finance Council: New officers were elected: Adam Gauger, President, Michael Burlage, VP, Carol Kaalberg, Secretary. Thank you to Kory Kaalberg, who retired as council president, but will now serve as treasurer of Finance Council. Next meeting will be in November.

Lone Tree Parish Council: Next meeting will be November 15th, following Mass at the church hall. A light luncheon will be served to all attending Mass that Saturday. Plan to join us for the hospitality.



Hi, My name is Alyssa Lenz. I am a senior at West Liberty High School and parishioner at St. Mary’s, Nichols. I have the opportunity to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana this November with other youth from the surrounding area. I will be having a **BAKE SALE after Mass at Lone Tree on Saturday, October 4th, and after Mass at Nichols on October 5th**, to help fund my trip. I am extremely eager to have this opportunity to deepen my faith before moving on to college next year. *Thank you for all your prayers and support.*

What is National Catholic Youth Conference? Catholic youth, high school age, from all across America will gather for three days in Indianapolis and will have the opportunity to hear multiple inspiring speakers, take advantage of many breakout sessions, attend mass and adoration, along with lots of singing and worshipping. It is a great time to gather with other Catholic students and grow in our faith.

St. Mary Cemetery entry is complete. The stone work is beautiful, pictures do not do it justice. Thank you to Kory Kaalberg who directed the restoration project.



Joe Harper, local Knights of Columbus member, will be leading the Tootsie Roll Drive October 18 & 19, following Masses. Please be generous to help benefit Special Olympics.