



God of Justice, God of Mercy

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Life is not fair. Even though we know this, we expect God to be fair, which may be what irks so many about the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a part of our skewed human nature that agrees with the older son in the story. It certainly seems that the younger son was able to have his cake and eat it too, while the older son could only sit by and watch, missing out on the devil-may-care part of life. It didn't seem fair, and the older son said so.

The point of the story does seem to be that God is both just and merciful, but if ever one of those virtues seems to give way to the other, then, from God's perspective, divine mercy always trumps worldly justice. We,

however, think that's not fair. We grow suspect of deathbed conversions, worried that the person is trying to have life both ways. But do we give thought to the suffering such a life without God might entail? The humiliation and near starvation of the younger son as he lived his self-indulgent life?

We think we want God to be fair, but do we really?

Reflect

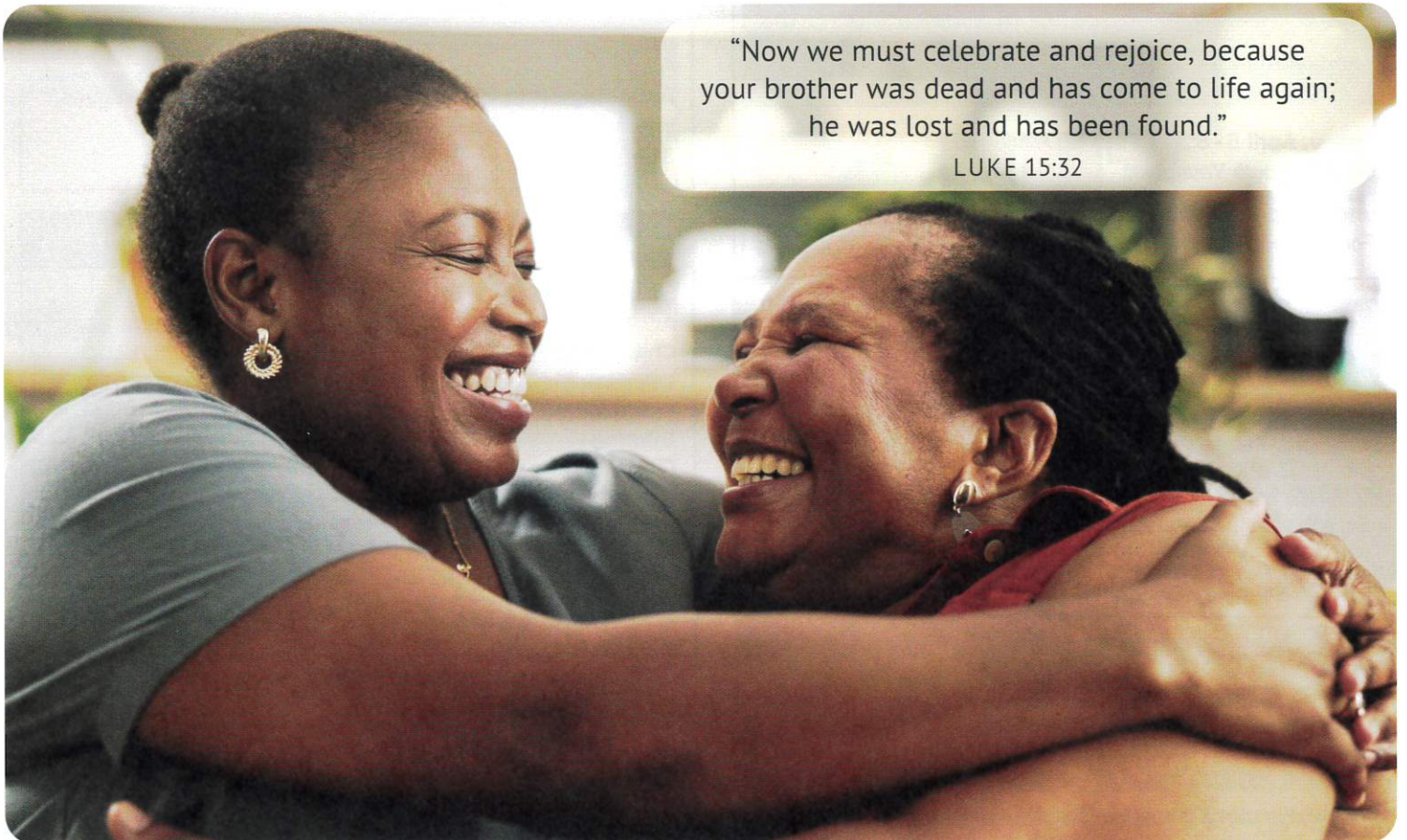
Does my life seem unfair? More fair or less fair compared with others?

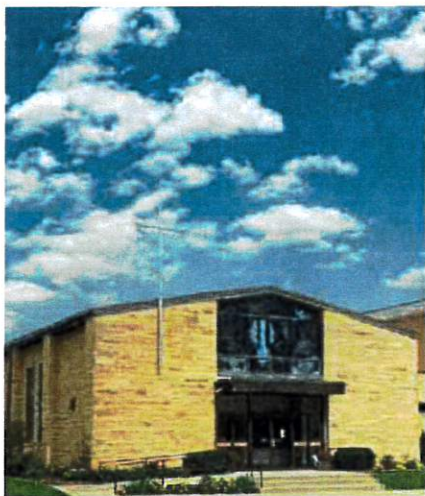
In C.S. Lewis' novel, *Till We Have Faces*, one character asks another if the gods are just, to which is replied, "Oh, child, pray that they are not!" Do we really want to be treated with justice, getting exactly what we deserve and no more?

Or do we want to let God be God and be treated with mercy? ●

"Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

LUKE 15:32





St. Athanasius Church

St. Athanasius Church

Fr. John Gossman, Pastor

319-827-6682 or 319-290-5342

623 Stevens St. (PO Box 316), Jesup, IA 50648

www.saintaparish.com

Parish Office Hours: M-F, 8-4

Lori Schutte, Director of Faith Formation | dbq109ff@dbqarch.org

Kris Kayser, Parish Secretary | dbq109sec@dbqarch.org

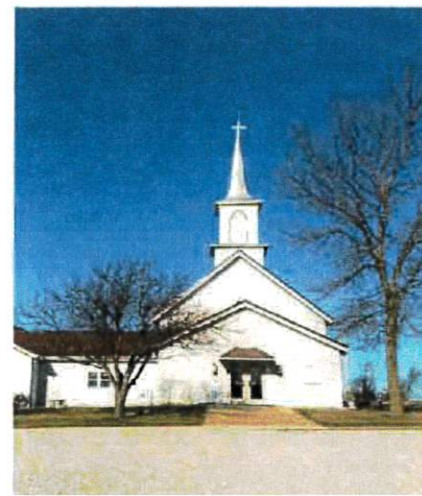
St. Francis, Barclay

Fr. John Gossman, Pastor

7837 E Airline Hwy, Dunkerton, IA 50626

Carol Steffen - Secretary | dbq010sec@dbqarch.org

Office: 319-822-7477



St. Francis, Barclay

"We, the people of St. Athanasius, are a faith community called to pray and worship together, to witness and teach the Gospel, and to serve and minister to others."

Mass Times & Intentions

Tuesday, April 1 - 5:30 p.m. at St Athanasius

- *Cletus & Maxine Even*

Wednesday, April 2 - 8:00 a.m. at St Francis, Barclay

- *Leo Ortner*

Thursday, April 3 - 8:30 a.m. at St. Athanasius (School Mass)

- *Don Reiter*

Friday, April 4 - 7:45 a.m. at St Athanasius

- *Eugene Youngblut*

Saturday, April 5 - 4:00 p.m. at St. Athanasius

- *Tom Heffernen*

Sunday, April 6 - 8:30 a.m. at St. Athanasius

- *Cleo Elizabeth Youngblut*

Sunday, April 6 - 10:30 a.m. at St. Francis, Barclay

- *For the People of the Parishes*

Sacraments

Baptism: New parents need to participate in a preparation session. Please contact the Parish Office to set up a session or schedule a Baptism.

Marriage: Preparations take at least six months. Contact the Parish office for more information.

Becoming Catholic/RCIA: If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Lori Schutte at dbq109ff@dbqarch.org.

• Next RCIA session is March 30th.

Anointing of the Sick: If you or a loved one are homebound, in hospice or admitted to the hospital, please call 319-827-6682 or Fr. Gossman at 319-290-5342.

Stewardship – March 22nd & 23rd

St. Athanasius Parish:

Adults -	\$2,090.00
Children -	\$21.00
Offertory -	\$328.78
Sacramental	
Offering -	\$500.00
CDA-	
Domestic Abuse	
second collection	\$751.58
Flowers -	\$560.00
Maintenance -	\$100.00

Total: \$4,351.36

St. Francis Parish:

Budget -	\$755.00
Children -	\$18.00
Offertory -	\$28.00
Miscellaneous -	\$378.88

Total: \$1,179.88

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!



By appt, call 319-827-6682, or scheduled times listed.

• **St. Athanasius** - Tuesday at 4:30-5:15 p.m. before 5:30 Mass and Saturday at 4:00-4:45 p.m. before 5:00 p.m. Mass.

• **St. Francis** – Second Sunday of the month following Mass.

Upcoming Meetings

April 1 - School Board Meeting at 6:30 pm

April 3 - Liturgy Committee Meeting at 2:00 pm Parish Center

April 10 - Finance Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm Parish Center

April 10 - Pastoral Council Meeting at 7:00 pm Parish Center

Children's Offering

My Good Deed Was...

- "I PLAYED WITH MY COUSINS."
- "choosing kindness."
- "helping get help."
- "helping my cousin up when he fell down."
- "helping out around my cousins house."

St. Athanasius School Calendar

- **April 1 - ISASP Testing** Grades 6th - 8th grade 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
- **April 2 - ISASP Testing** for 5th grade 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- **April 3 - ISASP Testing** 3rd - 4th grade: 9:30 - 11:25 a.m., 5th grade: 12:50 - 1:50 p.m. 8th grade: 12:50 - 1:50 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE:

Kris Kayser,
Parish Secretary,
will be on
vacation from
April 4-11



Friday, April 4- 9:00-3:00
Monday, April 7- 8:00-4:00
Tuesday, April 8- Closed
Wednesday, April 9- 11:00-4:00
Thursday, April 10- Closed
Friday, April 11- 9:00-3:00

We invite you to join us in our upcoming *Stations of the Cross* events, commemorating Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man.

- **Wednesday, April 2nd at 6:30 p.m.**
-Hosted by Parish Society
 - **Wednesday, April 9th at 6:30 p.m.**
-Hosted by St. Athanasius Lent Committeel students
- Watch for more upcoming dates for this opportunity.

Stations OF THE Cross



Saint Athanasius Parish

St. Francis News



- **Stations of the Cross** - will be after the 8:00 am Mass on Wednesday mornings.
- Finance Meeting followed by a Pastoral Council Meeting on Thursday, April 24th.

Thank you Fr Gossman, the Mass servers, Brett Hershberger, Ann Rigdon and the choir for the beautiful Mass for my son, Eugene Youngblut.

Thank you to the Parish Society, Gin Vogel, Mike Reiter and all who served a delicious meal.

- Linda Youngblut

The Knights of Columbus Council 8227 Jesup

We would like to send out a **HUGE THANK YOU** to those who were able to patronize our KC Omelette Breakfast at St Athanasius on Sunday, March 23, 2025.

A HUGE shout out to our many volunteers as well!! We served 296 meals. These funds help support our student scholarship fund. Thank You for your support. Have a Blessed Lenten Season! *Vivat Jesus!!*



Faith Formation News

SAVE THE DATE

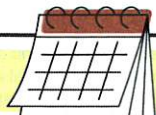
St. Athanasius will be hosting TOTUS TUUS once again this summer, July 13-18!

1st - 6th grade will be Monday, July 14 thru Friday, July 18 from 9 a.m - 2 p.m. 7th - 12th grade will be Sunday, July 13 thru Thursday July 17 from 6:30 p.m-9 p.m
Registration coming soon.

The Chosen Movie is on March 30th.

If you have signed up and paid for your tickets you will need to find Lori at Marcus Theater Waterloo to collect your tickets. Movie starts at 1:00 p.m.

YFF classes April 2 and 9



First Communion Retreat for our St. A school and YFF students will be on Saturday, April 26th from 9 am-noon. Parents and students should meet in the lunchroom.



First Communion will be celebrated at our regular mass times this year. Saturday, April 26 at 5 pm and Sunday, April 27 at 8:30 am. Please be aware of reserved seating at these special masses.

DONUT *sunday*

Join us on **Sunday, April 6th**
Please join us for coffee, donuts and fellowship.
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Set Your Alarms!

St. A's Saturday, April 5th Mass



is rescheduled for 4:00 p.m. to help individuals who are planning to attend the Out of Hibernation Event.

St. Athanasius News

Last weekend collection will be for Jesup Ministerial Association. Please be generous.

Spahn & Rose Lumber Co.



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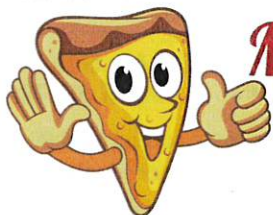
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Let us show you what St. Athanasius Catholic School is all about. Schedule your tour today!

Amy Kies Bautista - Principal
Byron Manternach - Board President
www.saintaschool.com

641 Stevens St. Jesup, IA. 50648 | 319-827-1314



Saint Athanasius
Your future StArts with us.



Praying for Our Sick

If you have someone in the hospital, please contact the office at **319-827-6682**. It's likely that Fr Gossman will visit.

Dear God, we place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us. Amen.

**Deb Andrews • Greg Barber • Erin Jeffries • Debbie Kester • Joyce Lukes
Linda Lukes • Craig Maurer • Dale Nation • Sarah Staebell • Jean Welter • Rosie Youngblut**

News and Calendar of Events

- **KC Scholarships**- The Knights of Columbus Council 8227 Jesup, is offering scholarships to graduating seniors from Don Bosco High School and Jesup Community High School. For more information and applications contact your Guidance Counselor.
- **CDA Scholarships**- The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Pius X #1714 (Jesup), is offering two scholarships at \$250 each to be awarded to Catholic individuals (male or female), within the court community, who wish to continue their education: a high school student going into college, or a current college student and/or adult furthering their education. Scholarship recipients will be chosen on the criteria listed on the application. Application forms are available at St. Athanasius Church in Jesup, St. Francis Church in Dunkerton, Immaculate Conception Church in Gilbertville, Don Bosco High School, or Jesup Community High School. Completed applications may be mailed to: CDA Court St. Pius X #1714, %Darlene Phillips, 334 Purdy St., Jesup IA 50648 or submitted by email to jphillips@jtt.net by April 11, 2025.
- **Fish Fry** - sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, will be held on Friday, April 11 from 4:30-7:00 pm at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center, Fairbank. Menu is cod, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw, roll and desert. Dine-In or Take-Out is available. Cost adults \$15, 10-6yrs \$7, 5 yrs and under are free.
- **Flower Donations for Easter** - Please use your envelope or put in a plain envelope your donation for Easter flowers along with the name of the person/family you are donating in memory of and drop into the collection basket during Mass or leave at the Parish Office. Donations must be turned in by March 30.
- **SAVE THE DATE** - Agnus Dei Ministry will present a concert featuring the middle and high school choirs from the Bosco Catholic School System. and Cedar Valley Catholic Schools on Sunday, April 6, at 2:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church in Gilbertville. This is a free event.
- **Catholic Daughters Court #1714 Upcoming Events** - April 22nd CDA Blood Drive at the American Legion 1-5:30 p.m., Monday April 28th CDA Banquet 6 p.m. in St. A's Lunchroom. Please RSVP Monica 415-5275 or Nancy Kies 415-8819 by April 11th. Speaker-Troy Belmer, Alive & Running, Suicide Prevention.
- **CDA National Scholarships** - National CDA is offering scholarships. Three Graduate Scholarships for an undergraduate who wants to pursue a graduate degree. Also two scholarships for an 8th grade student who will be attending a Catholic High School. All scholarships are due before April 1st. Application forms are available in the main entrance of St. Athanasius Church. If you have questions please contact Monica Bengston at 319-415-5275.
- **Cinnamon Rolls** - may be picked up on Sunday, March 30, from 10-12:00 a.m. in the St. Athanasius School Gym. Extra rolls may be available, but not guaranteed. *Thank you for participating in this fundraiser.*



Sanctuary Personnel - April 5th - 6th

	4:00 pm - St. Athanasius	8:30 am - St. Athanasius	10:30 am - St. Francis	Folding Bulletins
Greeters (Main, West & East)	Bernie & Connie Kremer	Tom & Ann Tempus Mike & Carol Reiter Denis & Ann Weber	Helen Steffen	Mary Fox Michelle Corkery
Servers & Cross Bearer	Kale Harrold Briley Nolta	Toby Franz, JD Schmitz & Hayden Schmitz	Murch's	
Music & Cantor	Marion Woods Todd Rohlfen	Brooklyn Pint Susie Sigwarth		
Commentator Lector	Barb Hershberger Lori Schutte	Diane Youngblut Tom Youngblut	Maynard Murch Herb Murch	
Eucharistic Ministers & Dishwashers	Ian Farrell Kurt & LouAnn Frush	Jim & Annette Ingles Adam Peterson	Audrey Steffen	
Ushers	Dave Sabers, Duane Schmit Gary & Rita Smith	Andrew Sadler, Lee Bader, Fritz Kies & Wyatt Fettkether	Mike Smith Tony Gamerdinger	
To Shut In's (Sunday) Collections (Monday)	Judee Alexander, Sue O'Loughlin & Marcia Sproul Linda Youngblut, JoAnn Seliger		Count Collection: Maynard & Mary Jean Murch	

Dear Padre,

Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day? Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish, even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should “receive the Lord’s Body” (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important.

In response to a specific “dubium” or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church’s understanding of this practice. It mandated that “the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day” (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, 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
March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
Is 65:17-21 Jn 4:43-54	Ez 47:1-9, 12 Jn 5:1-16	Is 49:8-15 Jn 5:17-30	Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47	Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	Jer 11:18-20 Jn 7:40-53	Is 43:16-21 Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11



THE PRODIGAL SON, PETER PAUL RUBENS / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

There was a pop theatre production...about the prodigal son.... [The son writes a letter]: “Father, I have repented, I want to come back home.... If you want to welcome me, please put a white handkerchief in the window.” And when he was near home...what did he see? Not one handkerchief: it was full of white handkerchiefs, the windows, everywhere!

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 27, 2022