

ST. MARY PARISH

518 South 2nd Street; PO Box 847; Guttenberg, Iowa 52052

Newsletter: Feb 15, 2024 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY: In the Wilderness

source: *young-catholics.com*

The Gospel of Mark for this first Sunday of Lent presents a compelling juxtaposition to the story of Noah with Jesus' temptation in the wilderness.

This narrative is rich in symbolism, portraying Jesus as the new Adam who, unlike His predecessors, withstands the temptations of Satan. His time in the wilderness, among wild beasts and attended by angels, echoes the harmony of creation envisioned in Isaiah's prophecy. This setting underscores the peace and reconciliation that Christ brings to all creation, including humanity and the natural world.

Jesus' resistance to temptation in the wilderness is emblematic of the Lenten journey. It challenges us to confront our own wilderness, the deserts of temptation, and spiritual dryness we may face. His victory offers us hope and a model for overcoming our own struggles with sin and temptation. By following Jesus' example of prayer and reliance on God's word, we can navigate the wilderness of our lives, fortified by the grace of God.

PARISH LIFE will be hosting coffee, juice and donuts this Sunday after Mass in Brinkmann Hall. All are welcome! They will also present the current Scripture Study program — come see what it is all about!



Baptism Into the Family of God and our Faith Communities

Sun., Feb. 18, 2024 at St. Mary, Guttenberg, 2:30pm

Harper Margaret Hoefler

daughter of Anthony & Tierney (Schneider) Hoefler
(Delegated to baptize - Rev. Austin Wilker)



May you grow in age, knowledge & wisdom in the Lord!

ARCHBISHOP ZINKULA VISIT!

Archbishop Zinkula will be visiting and speaking with 7th-12th grade Faith Formation students from 7PM-8PM on Wednesday, February 21st, at St. Mary Church, Guttenberg. The public is welcome to attend!

Support the Local Ministry of Catholic Charities: Did you know that your donation to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque stays in the 30 counties of the Diocese and serves the most poor and vulnerable in our local communities? Since its founding in 1931, Catholic Charities of Dubuque has continuously evolved to respond to the ever-changing needs of people in our communities. Through these changes, Catholic Charities remains a leader in providing direct social services to families right here in Northeast Iowa. Join our community of salt & light today at <https://catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/donate>.

Roof Replacement

Funds Received:

Church Roof:	\$ 5,575.00
Church & School Roof:	<u>\$36,054.85</u>
Total:	\$41,629.85
Estimated Cost:	\$425,646
50% down:	<u>\$212,823</u>
Balance Due at Completion:	\$212,823

Mass Schedule: Feb 19 – Feb 25, 2024

Mon., Feb 19: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Feb 20: [No Mass Scheduled]

Wed., Feb 21: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg

Loris Kickbush & Joyce Kinest

Thur., Feb 22: 8:30 A.M. - Guttenberg River Living Center -

Janice Ulbrich & Amy (Steffen) Clay

Fri., Feb 23: 4:30 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, *Day of Abstinence*

Way of Cross & Mass *Amy Hoeger & Angeline Berns*

Sat., Feb 24: Vigil of Second Sunday of Lent

St. Joseph, Garnavillo:

3:40 P.M. – Way of the Cross

4:00 P.M. – Mass, *Janaan Bauer & Mary Jane Steger*

St. Mary, Guttenberg:

5:10 P.M.– Way of the Cross

5:30 P.M. – Mass, *John Ertl (Month Mind) & James Auer*

Sun., Feb 25: Second Sunday of Lent

Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista:

8:00 A.M. – Way of the Cross

8:30 A.M. – Mass

St. Mary, Guttenberg:

9:40 A.M. Way of the Cross

10:00 A.M. – Mass, *live streamed*

Frank & Jackie Spielbauer

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Repent and Believe

source: Dick Hauser, S.J., Creighton University

In today's gospel Jesus makes his first public appearance calling out to his fellow Galileans: "Repent and believe in the gospel." Recall that for thirty years Jesus had lived unobtrusively in Galilee. No one paid any special attention to him. He was simply "the carpenter's son." Recall also that Jesus had left Galilee to be baptized in Judea in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. While praying after the baptism the sky opens, a dove appears and he hears the words "You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased." Jesus spends forty days in the desert "unpacking" his experience — driven by the Spirit. Then returning to Galilee Jesus boldly he proclaims God's new call to Jews: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel" Jesus announces that Jews can no longer be faithful to God's covenant simply by following God's revelation to Moses on Mount Sinai and observing the Torah. God is calling the Jews to "repent" and to observe the path he now preaches.

Peter's letter unabashedly echoes Jesus' call. Yes, Christ was indeed put to death, but now he has been miraculously resurrected through the Spirit and he now saves us through the waters of baptism. Peter reminded his readers of that earlier covenant God established after the flood with Noah and his sons. Never again will God destroy all bodily creatures. God gives the rainbow as the sign of this covenant. Just as Noah had been saved from the waters of the flood so now we who respond to Christ's call will be saved by the waters of baptism. His audience is taken aback. Could any Jew ever have imagined this new moment in their history! Jews are called to "repent" -- to turn away from their previous path -- and to turn toward the path now proclaimed by Jesus. The Jews faced a momentous decision.

We Christians this first Sunday of Lent also face a momentous decision. Will we heed the words spoken to us on Ash Wednesday when we received ashes on our foreheads: "Turn away from your sins and be faithful to the gospel." Are we willing to reexamine the depths of our heart and probe our fidelity to the new covenant presented by Jesus? Are we willing to examine attitudes that have consciously or unconsciously arisen from our materialistic and individualistic culture regarding material prosperity and career fulfillment, relationships and sexual gratification, indifference to the needy and marginalized, callousness regarding the environment.

Lent is much more than simply giving up a few favorite indulgences. It is an invitation for total renewal of our hearts. Our hearts will be renewed to the degree we open them to God, seek God's grace, turn way from our sins and embrace the good news proclaimed by Jesus. We pray with the psalmist: "Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are my God and savior."

A Stewardship Moment

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the Sacrament of Baptism...that people place their gifts, their resources – their selves – at God's service in and through the Church."

Upcoming Parish Events . . .

- (BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)
- Feb 15: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30pm, PC
 - Feb 18: Coffee & Donuts after Mass, BH
 - Video Presentation of Matthew Scripture Study**
 - Feb 20: Scripture Study, 7:30-10:30am, PC
 - Readers & Euch. Ministers, 6:30pm, PC
 - St. Mary Alumni Mtg, 6:30pm, PC
 - Choir Practice, 7pm
 - Feb 21: Sacred Seed Sowers Book Club, 1pm, PC
 - Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
 - Archbishop Zinkula, 7-8pm
 - Feb 22: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30pm, PC
 - Feb 26: Friends of St. Mary, 6:30pm, Convent
 - Mar 5: Catholic Daughters, Noon, BH
 - KC Mtg, 7:30pm
 - Mar 6: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
 - Mar 10: KC Breakfast, 8-11:30am, BH
 - Mar 17: Movie presentation...**Family Camp**, BH

Please email items for the bulletin by 7:30am Wednesday morning to OfficeOfStMary@gmail.com

Fish Fries at St. Joseph Parish, Garnavillo

February 23, March 1 and March 8; 5-8pm;
Adults \$15; Kids 5-12 \$10; under 5 free
Raffle Drawing; Carryouts Available

St. Mary Alumni meeting Tuesday, Feb 20, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome in support of our parish event. Come share your opinions, thoughts and ideas as we continue to celebrate our exceptional St. Mary heritage.

New and Current Reader & Eucharistic Ministers Mtg. Feb 20, at 6:30pm in the Parish Center. Questions call Sue Bahls 563.252.3253 or Lois Bries 563.252.3026.

REQUESTING FAMILY PARTICIPATION.....

Asking for families willing to participate in the "Way of the Cross" procession to carry the Cross & 2 lit candelabras on **March 02, 09 or 10**. Please call Jerry Balk at 563-580-4539 for information. A reader will be provided.

Priest: Rev. Marvin J. Bries, 563-252-1247
Deacon: James Pfaffly, 563-880-9696
Faith Formation: Erin Schmelzer, 563-880-7471
Parish Life: Lois Bries, 563-252-3026
Stewardship/Liturgy: Sue Bahls, 563-252-3253
Social Justice: Gerald Bormann, 563-419-6967
Choir: Gina Dahlstrom-Osburn, 563-213-9021

Finance:
Jim Schlueter 563-252-1490
Steve Bahls
Marv Althoff
Jeff Burr
Al Schlueter
Tom Augustyn

Parish Council:
Don Scherbring 563-252-1556
Gerald Bormann
Lois Bries
Sue Bahls
Adam Scherbring

Parish Center: Lora Kolker, 563-880-9111
Parish Center Reservations: 563-252-1577
Knights: Adam Scherbring, 563-880-3808
St. Anne: Maggie Schlueter, 563-252-1490
Cath Daughters: Lois Bries: 563-252-3026
Prayer Line: Betty Evers, 563-252-1666
Friends of St Mary: Jane Parker, 563-880-5469

Stephen Ministry: Becky Shaffer, 319-393-1234