

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Feb 22, 2024 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY: Ups and Downs

source: *young-catholics.com*

In the Gospel for the 2nd Sunday of Lent, the Transfiguration of Jesus offers a profound lesson for navigating the ups and downs of life. Imagine ascending a mountain with Jesus and His closest disciples, Peter, James, and John, on a serene day, away from the bustling crowds. This quiet hike suddenly unveils a miraculous moment: Jesus shines with an unearthly light, and Moses and Elijah, the revered heroes of faith, appear.

Peter's wish to remain in this celestial moment underscores a universal longing for the divine. Yet, the voice of the Father declaring Jesus as His "Beloved" Son invites us to embrace both the mountain top experiences and the inevitable return to daily life, carrying with us the light of Christ's presence and the Father's love.

The transfiguration of Jesus on the mountaintop helped the apostles understand that he was truly the Son of God, the Light of the World.

Think about your own life's ups and downs. Moments when you felt incredibly close to God—how do they shape you, especially when you face hardships or mundane tasks? Just like the apostles, you might find that remembering these mountaintop experiences gives you strength and perspective. It's not just about longing to go back but carrying forward what you've learned, letting those moments of closeness to God illuminate your path through darker or more ordinary times.

MOVIE: On March 17, the **FAMILY CAMP** movie will be presented, after the 10:00 Mass, about 11:30, in Brinkmann Hall after a **FREE** lite luncheon, by the PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE. The film, **FAMILY CAMP**, demonstrates that we are all flawed. This is a family-friendly movie that is based on the Christian faith and teaches important lessons. Sometimes the most unexpected relationships we form are the ones that help us reflect on ourselves the most.

Thank you to the Sacred Seed Sowers Book Club for donating the food and serving the supper for Archbishop Zinkula's visit to our parish. It is very much appreciated!

Roof Replacement Projects

The roofs on the church and the old school will be replaced in 2024. Donations are being accepted. Please make checks out to St. Mary Parish and indicate Roof Project in the memo.

"Save Time and Donate Online!"

Online Giving is available with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church. Goto: <https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>

World Day of Prayer will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church on March 1 at 1pm. All are invited to attend.

Mass Schedule: Feb 26 – Mar 3, 2024

Mon., Feb 26: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Feb 27: [No Mass Scheduled]

Wed., Feb 28: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Jeff Bolsinger & Debbie S. Bries

Thur., Feb 29: 10:00 A.M. - Guttenberg Care Center –
People of the Parish

Fri., Mar 1: 4:30 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, *Day of Abstinence*
Way of Cross & Mass; *Henry Mueller & Angi Berns*

Sat., Mar 2: Vigil of Second Sunday of Lent
St. Joseph, Garnavillo:
3:40 P.M. – Way of the Cross
4:00 P.M. – Mass, *Gerald Hoeger & Mary Jane Steger*
St. Mary, Guttenberg:
5:10 P.M.– Way of the Cross
5:30 P.M. – Mass, *Bert Behrend & Tracy Werges*

Sun., Mar 3: 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
live streamed 10:00 A.M. – Mass, *Daniel Lelifeld (Month Mind)*

Fasting ideas for kids and teens: When encouraging your kids to fast, help them brainstorm some creative ideas. A positive experience is more likely if you make the fast concrete and measurable. For example, instead of just saying, “I’ll stop fighting with my sister,” sit down and figure out specific actions that will lead to a “conversion” in this area. What causes the fighting? If the problem is borrowing clothes without permission, make that part of the fast. A chart or special jar (with coins or marbles to mark achievement) might also help your kids keep on track. Here are some ideas for things your kids can give up or take on for Lent:

1. **Give up the usual suspects.** Sweets, video games, soda, junk food, social media, and other creature comforts.
2. **Quiet it down.** Monks practice silence in order to better hear God. Your family can, too, by turning off radios and music players (maybe just in the car), turning off the TV, eating a meal in silence (or while listening to some sacred reading), practicing Thirty Seconds of Silence, being silent for the first fifteen minutes of the morning, or even having a day of silence.
3. **Make your room or home a desert.** Jesus spent forty days in the desert. Kids and teens can imitate his example by making their room more desert-like as well, removing pictures and posters from walls, putting away rugs and comforters, emptying closets and dressers of all but the most essential outfits, throwing extra clutter (gadgets, trinkets, toys) in a box to be stored away.
4. **Slim down your wardrobe.** Kids can count up the number of outfits they have and select ten percent to wear during their fast. At the end of the fast, they can consider donating some of the clothes they didn’t wear.
5. **Perform a random act of kindness every day.**
6. **Write your fight.** Older kids can cut down on sibling squabbling by committing to writing down their complaints rather than making them verbally. Print out “complaint forms” that include guidelines for rephrasing complaints using respectful language.
7. **Pray it up.** Teens & pre-teens can carry a rosary with them, using it to pray throughout the day.
8. **Practice being present.** Teens can commit to putting down their phone/device when someone is present with them. Even better: create phone-free zones (@ dinner table).
9. **Get to know Jesus.** Have kids read one of the Gospels in an age-appropriate Bible, or read it together as a family.

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

Save the Date St. Mary's Alumni Banquet

Saturday, June 8, 2024 Brinkmann Hall. Doors open at 4:00.

Mass at 5:30. Dinner following. Plan to celebrate our exceptional St. Mary's heritage with classmates, family and friends

Clayton County Womenade will hold a gathering in March!

At the Stadium Bar and Grill in Guttenberg on **Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 12:00 noon. All are invited!**

Giving to Clayton County Womenade is your opportunity to give back for your blessings!! Any donation is accepted. **This money goes entirely to the support of struggling families referred by agencies in Clayton County.**

Donations may be made at or mailed to Peoples State Bank, 15 Goethe St., PO Box 430, Guttenberg, IA 52052 We can now also accept donations through Paypal!

A Stewardship Moment

Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. St. Paul reminds us that God Himself “did not spare His own Son.” Are *my* gifts to the Lord – of my resources, of my time, of myself – also sacrificial?

Upcoming Parish Events . . .

- (BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)
- Feb 22: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30pm, PC
 - Feb 26: Friends of St. Mary, 6:30pm, Convent
 - Feb. 27 Scripture Study, 7:30 – 10:30am, PC
 - Feb. 29 Scripture Study, **6:00** – 8:30 PM, PC
 - Mar 5: Scripture Study, 7:30 – 10:30 AM, PC
Catholic Daughters, Noon, BH
KC Mtg, 7:30pm
 - Mar 6: Sacred Seed Sowers Book Club, 1pm, PC
Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
 - Mar 7: Scripture Study, 6:30 – 8:30pm, PC
 - Mar 10: KC Breakfast, 8-11:30am, BH
 - Mar 12: Scripture Study, 7:30 – 10:30am, PC
 - Mar 13: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
 - Mar 14: Scripture Study, 6:30 – 8:30pm, PC
 - Mar 17: Movie presentation....**Family Camp**, BH
 - Mar 20: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
2nd grade 1st Reconciliation

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

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