

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: May 4, 2023 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY: Living the Way of Jesus

source: mycatholic.life

Jesus describes himself as “the way, the truth, and the life.” Through these words, he not only identifies himself as the one who can connect us to the Father, but also as a window into the community of the Trinity. His life and teachings demonstrate how we can live in harmony with God and one another. Jesus’ focus was always on doing the will of the Father and benefiting all of humanity.

The early Christian community took this message to heart, as demonstrated in Acts 6:1-7. They recognized the importance of caring for widows, and when it became clear that they were falling short in this responsibility, they appointed deacons to ensure that everyone was taken care of. This shows how the early Christians put Jesus’ teachings into practice by caring for those in need and working together as a community.

By following Jesus’ example, we too can live in harmony with God and one another, and strive to make the world a better place for all. This involves caring for those in need, working together as a community, and seeking to do the will of God in all that we do.

Food Shelf Weekend: The 2nd collection this weekend will be for the food pantry at the Family Resource Center in Guttenberg.



Reminder to submit your RSVP to Father Bries’ Jubilee Celebration. Please place bottom of invite in baskets in back of church by May 14th or submit your RSVP electronically by clicking [here](#).

Church Exterior Door Replacement:

The Knights of Columbus are coordinating the door replacement project. A preliminary bid of \$48,000 has been received. Other options are still being investigated. The KCs would like to thank everyone who has donated to the door fund. \$31,000 has been received to date. To make a donation, please place an envelope in the collection basket marked KC Door Fund with your check made out to the **Knights of Columbus**.

Women's faith sharing group will meet the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 1 pm at Sode's Green Acre for food and fellowship. All women are welcome to attend, as many or as few meetings as you want. Call Jenn Glenis @ 608-225-3018 or email jennifer.glenis@gmail.com with questions.

Mass Schedule: May 8 – May 14, 2023

Mon., May 8: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., May 9: 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Inez Hoeger (C.D. of A) & Lorraine Wolter

Wed., May 10: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Albert & Regina Schlueter

Thur., May 11: 8:30 A.M. – Guttenberg River Living Center
Amy (Steffen) Clay

Fri., May 12: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., May 13: Vigil of Sixth Sunday of Easter
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Jack & Norma Eulberg
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
People of the Parish

Sun., May 14: Sixth Sunday of Easter, Mother’s Day
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass. *Live Streamed*
Imogene (Bries) Feldmann

May the Month of Mary by [Marge Fenelon](#)

It's here. May, the month in which the earth springs into bloom (at least in the Northern Hemisphere) and we start thinking about planting gardens, family picnics and making vacation plans. It's also the Month of Mary.

Having gone to a Catholic grade school run by the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, my early childhood memories include honoring Mary during May – a practice I've continued all of my life and taught my children to do as well. It's as natural and essential to me as my morning coffee (only far, far more joy-filled if you can even imagine that). . . .

The ways Mary is honored in May is as varied as the people who honor her.

It's common for parishes have a daily recitation of the Rosary during May, and many erect a special May altar with a statue or picture of Mary as a reminder of Mary's month. Additionally, it's a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary's beauty and virtue. It's also a reminder to the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our own lives. May Crowning, in some areas, is a huge celebration and is usually done outside of Mass, although Mass may be celebrated before or after the actual crowning.

But May altars and crownings aren't just "church" things. We can and should be doing the same in our homes. When we echo the customs and traditions of the Church in our homes – our domestic churches – we participate more fully in the life of the Church.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to erect a prayer corner in your home. No matter how fancy or simple it is. The main point is that it's a place designated for God, and more specifically, for spending time with him. Just as you need proper atmosphere to sleep, you also need proper atmosphere to pray.


For May, give Mary a special spot in your prayer corner. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue.

Then, crown Mary. You can give her an actual or spiritual crown and you can make it a subtle gesture or ornate ceremony of your own device. The meaning is far more important than the action. You can do it in the beginning, at the end of May or anywhere in between.

Just do it. Why? Not because it's a long-standing tradition in the Church, although it is. Not because there are any special graces connected to it, although there is.

No, do it because Mary is Mother – your mother, my mother, everyone's mother – and because she cares for all of us day-in-and-day-out without fail, interceding for us in even the tiniest matters.

For that, she deserves an entire month in her honor.

 **New
"Spiritual
and
Christian"
books are now
available on the table
in the entry of the
church for you to read
and use. *These are
provided by the
PARISH LIFE
COMMITTEE!***

During the month of May, decorated crosses for Memorial Day will be for sale after the 5:30 pm and 10:00 am Masses in the back of church.



Save the date: **Friday, May 12 at 6:30pm** for the Mother, Daughter, Friend banquet hosted by the United Methodist Church. A meal will be served and the program will feature a speaker from Phelps Farm. Please bring a wrapped small adult gift.

"It will be a time of fun, fellowship and finding joy."

A Stewardship Moment

"Those who have faith in Me will do the works I do, and far greater than these," Jesus tells His disciples. That's quite an assignment for us as Christian stewards!

Upcoming Parish Events

May 12: Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet, 6:30pm, United Methodist Church

May 13: Women's Faith Sharing, 1pm @ Sodes

May 14: RSVPs due for Jubilee

May 27: Women's Faith Sharing, 1pm @ Sodes

June 4: Celebration of Fr. Bries' 50th Jubilee of Priesthood Ordination

June 12-16: Vacation Bible School, St. John's Church