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**MASS SCHEDULE: DEC. 28 – JAN. 3, 2016 A.D.**

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Mon. Dec. 28 [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues. Dec. 29 8:30 A.M. Garnavillo Tower Living Center  
Vocations to Priesthood & Consecrated Life [Fr. Koopman]

Wed. Dec. 30 [NO MASS SCHEDULED]

**Thurs. Dec. 31 New Year's Eve**  
**6:00 P.M. Guttenberg People of the Parish**

Fri. Jan. 1 New Year's Day [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat. Jan. 2 **VIGIL OF FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**  
4:00 P.M. Garnavillo - Alvin & Vera Berns  
5:30 P.M. Guttenberg - Clyde Parker

Sun. Jan. 3 **FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**  
8:30 A.M. North Buena Vista  
Clarence & Emma Schultz/Leona Cook  
10:00 A.M. Guttenberg - William Walke

**EXTRAVAGANZA 2016** – Feb. 13, Social Hour/Raffle/Silent Auction 5:00-6:00 P.M. Dinner Served 6:00-7:00 P.M. Hypnotist Show 7:30 P.M. Dinner/Show Ticket \$35 (Advanced Tickets Only, limited number will be sold). (Two Meat Buffet, Potato, Vegetable, dinner roll, salads and dessert). For tickets call 563-252-1577 or [eschmelzer@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:eschmelzer@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us)

**FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR**

The pastor will be on a short vacation from Monday, December 28 until Wednesday afternoon, December 30. Stay healthy, wealthy and wise.

**REMINDER FROM IRS** - All contributions to your parish church must be postmarked by December 31, 2015 to be credited for fiscal year 2015.

**221 PEOPLE VISITED OUR WEBSITE THIS PAST WEEK!** You can also download a copy of this by going to the site [www.maryicjoseph.org](http://www.maryicjoseph.org), click on *St. Mary Parish*, and then select *Weekly Bulletins and Monthly Schedules*.

**ARE YOU REGISTERED IN A PARISH?** As we come to the end of another fiscal year it is important that you are registered in a parish. Boxes of envelopes will soon be distributed in all three of our linked parishes. **Your membership entitles you to all the benefits that your parish offers.** Sadly 1/3rd of registered parishioners give nothing to the support of the parish expenses. People who attend St. Joseph of Garnavillo can contact Janice Berns to register, those who attend Immaculate Conception of North Buena can contact Mary Breitbach, and those who attend St. Mary of Guttenberg can contact Fr. Bries. Also contact Fr. Bries if you need envelopes.

**SCRIP** is now sold in the entryway of church. **Support St. Mary's IC School** by, also, purchasing **SCRIP** at Fidelity Bank and Peoples State Bank for your holiday and everyday needs. Or, you can order **SCRIP** by emailing Kim at [ktmoser@alpinecom.net](mailto:ktmoser@alpinecom.net). The receipts of your purchases from Kuempel True Value Hardware and Brown's Service Department are redeemable as part of the SCRIP program. Check for details at school office.

**UPCOMING MOVIE** - On January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the movie, **"WAR ROOM,"** will be presented in St. Mary's Brinkmann Hall after the 10 o'clock Mass with a **FREE** luncheon and the movie starting approximately at 11:20. From the award-winning creators of *Fireproof* and *Courageous* comes *War Room*, a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives.

**THE WITNESS** is our archdiocesan Catholic newspaper. If you already have a subscription, you will be sent a notice in the mail at time of renewal. If you would like to subscribe to the Witness newspaper, application forms are in the copies in the back of church. The price is \$25.00 per year.

**THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS** will not meet in January. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, at noon, at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Monona.

**ST. MARY'S SCRIPTURE STUDY** will consist of 13 lessons of **“Isaiah: Prophetic Book of the Old Testament.”** There will be 7 lessons starting on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 9:15 A.M. and on Thursday, February 4, at 7 P.M. The final 6 lessons will start in September. The cost of the study material for the entire study session is \$15.00. For further information and to sign up, please contact Jerry Balk, 252-2361.

**ARCHBISHOP JACKELS** recently reminded us of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy that could be implemented by all of us in this **“Year of Mercy.”** We all should try to pick at least one for this coming year from the following information. **The spiritual works of mercy:** admonishing the sinner; instructing the ignorant; counseling the doubtful; comforting the sorrowful; bearing wrongs patiently; forgiving all injuries; and praying for the living and the dead. **The corporal works of mercy:** feeding the hungry; giving drink to the thirsty; clothing the naked; offering hospitality to the homeless; caring for the sick; visiting the imprisoned; and burying the dead.

**START OF THE YEAR OF MERCY RIGHT** - The **“Year of Mercy”** announced by Pope Francis started on December 08, 2015. We have many CD's of Spiritual Topics which could help you live out this “Year of Mercy”. Some of the newest CDs include **“The Healing Power of Confession,”** and **“MARY: The Indispensable Mother of God”** are offered at a special price of **\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.**

**HUMOR** - Cindy was taking an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve before the festivities. After she woke up, she confided to Max, her husband, “I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for a New Year's present. What do you think it all means?”

“Aha, you’ll know tonight,” answered Max smiling broadly.

At midnight, as the New Year was chiming, Max approached Cindy and handed her small package. Delighted and excited she opened it quickly. There in her hand rested a book entitled: “The meaning of dreams”.