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**MASS SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 19 - 25, 2016 A.D.**

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- Mon. Dec. 19 [No Mass Scheduled]
- Tues. Dec. 20 8:30 A.M. Garnavillo Tower Living Center  
Melvin & Ruby Matt
- Wed. Dec. 21 8:30 A.M. Guttenberg  
Mary Lou Gulbro
- Thurs. Dec. 22 8:30 A.M. Guttenberg River Living Center  
People of the Parish
- Fri. Dec. 23 [No Mass Scheduled]
- Sat. Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**4:00 P.M. Guttenberg – Children’s Mass – Fr. Bries**  
Loren Mohning  
**4:00 P.M. Garnavillo – Children’s Mass Fr. Koopman**  
Darwin Moses & Terry Schmidt  
**[Guttenberg Adult Choir at 5:45 P.M.]**  
**6:00 P.M. Guttenberg – Adult Choir - Fr. Koopman**  
Cliff & Jan Frommelt  
**6:00 P.M. North Buena Vista – Children’s Mass**  
**Fr. Bries**  
LuLu Ludovissy
- Sun. Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**[Guttenberg Adult Choir at 8:45 A.M.]**  
**9:00 A.M. Guttenberg – Fr. Bries**  
Fritz/Rosemary/John/Joe Kann

**REMINDER** - Internal Revenue Service requires all contributions to your parish church must be postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2016 to receive charitable credit for the year 2016.

**THE TOPIC FOR THE CD OF THE MONTH IS “WHO AM I TO JUDGE?”** Dr. Edward Sri clarifies the proper understanding of what it means to judge, and the importance of making good judgements. All CD’s presently on sale for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

**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.

**WHAT IS THE STUDY OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES?** As the Holy Spirit inspires Pope Francis in the present, so also the Holy Spirit inspired the first leader of the church, St. Peter. It was St. Peter who oversaw the apostle, Matthias, as the replacement of Judas, delivered the inaugural sermon of Church history, performed the first recorded healing, urged the people to repent and receive Baptism, inspired missionary development, and gave witness to the gospel. More info to follow, but do consider our Scripture Study on February 22, 2017

**POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS** - If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of loved ones, you can either purchase one or put money in an envelope and mark **poinsettia**. Please call Susan Leonhart if you have any questions. Thanks!

**Support St. Mary’s IC School** for your everyday needs by purchasing **SCRIP** after the weekend Mass, at Fidelity Bank and Peoples State Bank. 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.

**HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!**

## **BE LIKE MARY, POPE FRANCIS SAYS, SAY YES TO GOD, BUT NOT HALFWAY!**

VATICAN CITY — The contrast between the “No” of man in the Garden of Eden and the “Yes” of Mary at the Annunciation was the heart of Pope Francis’ message for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, which he said is an opportunity for each person to renew their own commitment to God.

“Hers is a full Yes, without conditions,” he said, noting that at times, instead of imitating this attitude, “we are experts in the ‘half-Yes.’ We are good at pretending not to understand what God wants and consciousness suggests.”

Each full and unreserved “Yes” we say to God is the beginning of a new story, he said. Saying Yes to God “is truly original, not sin, which makes us old inside.”

“Have you thought about this? That sin makes you age inside? It makes you age right away!” he said, adding that “every Yes to God begins a story of salvation for us and for others.”

**PLEASE HELP!** Our list of Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, and Rosary leaders is getting shorter. Please consider giving of your time and volunteering for one of these jobs. Training will be provided. Contact Deacon Jim Pfaffly at 252-3553 if you are willing to volunteer.

**HUMOR; What Do You Want For Christmas?** - While I was working as a store Santa, a boy asked me for an electric train set. “If you get your train,” I told him, “your dad is going to want to play with it too. Is that all right?”

The boy became very quiet. So, moving the conversation along, I asked, “What else would you like Santa to bring you?” He promptly replied, “Another train.”

**Playing Santa Claus** - Four-year-old to her two-year-old sister: “Let’s play Christmas. I’ll be Santa Claus and you can be a present and I’ll give you away.”

**Batteries** - I once bought my kid a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it saying, “Toys not included.”