

ST. MARY PARISH

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

April 3, 2025 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-880-6017 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY:

~ St. Mary's Liturgy Committee

This week's readings raise so many questions. Why isn't the man who sinned with the adulterous woman present at her stoning? Why is it only the woman? What was Jesus writing on the ground? Perhaps he wrote a list of the sins of all present. The people were certainly aware of their own sins. They knew to walk away when Jesus suggested that the one who was without sin should cast the first stone. Jesus is patient and merciful with them and He is also with us. Instead of judging and focusing on the sins of others, may "we go forth and sin no more."

KC Pancakes & Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, April 6; 8-11:30am



St. Mary Church, Brinkmann Hall
Drive-thru & Dine In;
Free will offering.

Proceeds support Youth attending NCYC

New Edgewood Locker Breakfast

Sausage will be served!

Rice Bowls are available at the back of church. Your donation helps provide hunger relief to more than 200 million people in more than 120 countries. **Please return Rice Bowls on Good Friday.**

Food Shelf weekend will be April 5th and 6th. A 2nd collection will be taken; checks should be made out to GMHC Family Resource Center. Donations of non-perishable food items and paper products may also be placed anytime in the totes at the back of church.

Immaculate Conception Parish Spring Breakfast

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

Serving 8am to 12 Noon.

Scrambled eggs, sausage, ham, hash browns, toast, cinnamon rolls, milk, juice, & coffee.

Adults-\$14, kids(6-12)- \$7; 5 & under free



BAPTISM INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD & OUR COMMUNITIES OF FAITH:

Sunday, April 6 at St. Joseph, Garnavillo, 2pm

Xitlali Metztl Sanchez-Vega

Daughter of Anthony and Paloma Sanchez-Vega

May you grow in the love & wisdom of Jesus Christ!

Confessions during Lent will be held:

St. Joseph: April 5; 3-3:45pm

St. Mary: April 9; 6-8pm; multiple priests will be available; First Reconciliation for 2nd grade and confessions for faith formation students and St. Mary Faith Community

St. Mary: Fridays: 9-9:45am

The results of the Disciple Maker Index survey you took earlier this year are now available and are being reviewed by Fr. Paul and selected parish leaders. We would like to share with you some encouraging highlights:

- *Our parish is a welcoming parish
- *Our parish helps our parishioners grow spiritually
- *Our parish helps our parishioners connect to our catholic community by providing opportunities to serve those in need.

This assessment will guide us as we prepare our goals. Please continue to pray for our parish as we seek the Holy Spirit's guidance during the discernment of the survey results.

Mass Schedule: Apr 7 – Apr 13, 2025

Mon. Apr 7: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Apr 8: [No Mass Scheduled]

Wed., Apr 9: 8:30 A.M. Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Jim & Mary Gamerdinger

Thur., Apr 10: 8:30 A. M.—River Living Center
Cyril & Ann Leliefeld

Fri., Apr 11: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, *Day of Abstinence*
Karen Kennicker
9:00-9:45 A.M. — Confessions

Sat., Apr 12: Vigil of Palm Sunday
4:00 P.M. Mass—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
People of the Parish
5:30 P.M. Mass—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Vernon & Joyce Cherne

Sun., Apr 13: Palm Sunday
8:30 A.M. Mass – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
People of the Parish
10:00 A.M. – Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg, *live streamed*
People of the Parish

Homily, 5th Sunday in Lent: Go away and don't sin anymore

~Fr Paul

My dear people of God, it is said that when you point an accusing finger at somebody, four fingers are pointing at yourself. We all know the shame and the trauma that is associated with adultery, more so when the culprit is caught red-handed. From today's gospel reading, an adulteress is brought before Jesus for judgement. They were pointing accusing fingers at her. At that time, the Jews were under Roman rule. Roman rule prohibited the stoning of law-breakers. Contrary to the Romans, the law of Moses authorized it. These religious leaders who had caught the adulteress red-handed intended to set a trap for Jesus. If Jesus sided with the law of Moses, they would report him to the Romans. On the other hand, if he sided with the Roman law, he would be discredited before his own people.

My dearly beloved in Christ, instead of judging the woman, Jesus asked them, "Let the man among you who has not sinned be the first to throw a stone at her." Astonishingly, four fingers were pointing at them; for they all left, one by one, the older ones first. Surely, the woman was guilty but everyone one else also found himself guilty in one way or another. As Jesus bent down writing, maybe he was writing the sins of each of them. God does not see as we see. We look at the outside but God looks at the inside. He looks at our hearts.

My dear people of God, all have sinned. All of us are sinners. If the Lord presents us with a full record of our sins none of us can ever survive. In his mercy and compassion, he does not want to judge and condemn, rather, he wants to forgive and to restore us to himself.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Lent is a time when God is offering forgiveness to each of us with the message "Don't sin again." As in the 2nd reading, it is a time to forget the past and to strive hard to forge a brighter future with the grace of God. Instead of condemning others, may the Lord help us introduce them to the Savior.

May the good Lord richly bless you!

April's Knight of the Month is Ken Davis!

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family:

Of course we will never fully know what Jesus drew in the sand. Whether his drawing was with purpose or not has been lost to history and most likely would not change the story. An important lesson we can gain from his action is that he took the time to gather his thoughts before speaking. How often do we say the first thing that comes to mind and end up regretting it? Thinking first helps us present a Christ-like presence to others even if we are dealing with a serious conflict.

~<http://www.rclblectionary.com>



Easter Flowers: If you would like to donate an Easter lily in honor, memory or celebration of your loved one(s), please bring to the church by noon on Friday, April 18. Monetary donations may also be given. Place your donation and info in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" and place in the collection basket.

A Stewardship Moment

In today's second reading, St. Paul says, "For his sake I have forfeited everything; I have accounted all else rubbish so that Christ may be my wealth." Does my stewardship suggest that I could say the same?

Upcoming Parish Events . . .

(BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)

- Apr 6: KC Breakfast, 8-11:30am
Patriotic Rosary, 5:30pm
- Apr 7: Vitality Meeting, 6:30pm, PC
- Apr 9: 1st Reconciliation for 2nd grade; Faith Formation and Parish Confessions; 6pm
- Apr 12: 2nd Grade Bread Baking, 9-Noon, BH
- Apr 16: Sacred Seed Sowers Book Club, 1pm, PC
Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
- Apr 23: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm;
- Apr 28: Finance Committee Mtg, Noon, PC
Parish Council Mtg, 6:30pm, PC

Sacred Triduum Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 17

4:00pm – St. Joseph, Garnavillo

5:30pm - St. Mary, Guttenberg (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue after Mass until 9pm)

Good Friday, April 18

3:00pm, St. Mary, Guttenberg, *live streamed*
(Youth Ministry Live Passion & Communion)

Holy Saturday, April 19

4:00pm – St. Joseph, Garnavillo

Easter Sunday, April 20

8:30am, Immaculate. Conception, N. Buena Vista

10:00am, St. Mary, Guttenberg

Priest: Fr. Paul Kwaku Ameyaw, 563-880-6017
Deacon: James Pfaffly, 563-880-9696
Faith Formation: Erin Schmelzer, 563-880-7471
Youth Ministry: Katey Simon, 563-219-4129
Parish Life: Lois Bries, 563-252-3026
Liturgy: Sue Bahls, 563-252-3253
Social Concerns Gerald Bormann, 563-419-6967
Choir: Anna Moser, 563-880-1176
Secretary: Lisa Kies, 880-1946; officeofstmary@gmail.com

Finance:
Jim Schlueter
563-252-1490
Marv Althoff
Jeff Burr
Tom Augustyn
Sharon Keehner
Austin Greve

Parish Council:
Beth Sadewasser, Chair
563-880-2743
Jessie Young, Gerald
Bormann, Lois Bries
Adam Scherbring
Larry Wille

Parish Center: Lora Kolker, 563-880-9111
Parish Center Reservations: 563-252-1577
Knights: Dale Wille, 309-232-9476
St. Anne: Maggie Schlueter, 563-252-1490
Cath Daughters: Janet Happel: 319-530-9121
Prayer Line: Betty Evers, 563-252-1666
Friends of St Mary: Jane Parker, 563-880-5469
St. Mary Alumni: Pat Kolker, 563-880-9815
Phoebe Johnson: 563 880-4767

Stephen Ministry: Becky Shaffer, 319-393-1234