

ST. MARY PARISH

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

April 10, 2025 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-880-6017 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY:

~ St. Mary's Liturgy Committee

Today we begin the holiest week of our Church year. We join the crowds and shout, "Hosanna!" as Jesus enters Jerusalem. We listen to Him teach, even while people plot to kill Him. We see Him wash His disciples' feet and offer them His Body and Blood, despite knowing that one will betray Him and the rest will abandon Him. We watch as He is rejected by His people and handed over to death on a cross.

Jesus freely chose to embrace His passion and death. He freely chose to offer Himself as a sacrifice for our salvation. He offered no resistance to His captors.

This week we have the chance to accompany Jesus as He makes His way to the cross. He invites us to give Him thanks and praise for His mighty deeds. He invites us to receive His Body and Blood that He freely poured out for us. And He invites us to stay awake with Him, to "get up and pray that you may not undergo the test."

Just as Jesus freely chose to offer Himself for us, we can stay close to Him. We can read His word and recall all He did for us. We can sit before the Lord in prayer and participate in the liturgies of the Triduum. We can try our best to love the people around us as Jesus loved us. And if we fail, we can receive the mercy He offers from the cross: "Father, forgive them."

Thank you, Lord, for suffering for me. Help me to remain close to you this week.

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

Congratulations to **Fr. Paul Ameyaw** and **Larry Wille** on taking the 4th degree exemplification on April 4 at the KC convention in Dubuque.

The Knights of Columbus are planning a 1st, 2nd & 3rd degree exemplification on Sunday, May 4th at St. Mary after the 10am Mass. Anyone who wants to join the Knights can contact any KC member or Don Scherbring at 563-252-1556.

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.

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.**

Mass Schedule: Apr 14 – Apr 20, 2025

Mon. Apr 14: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Apr 15: [No Mass Scheduled]

Wed., Apr 16: 8:30 A.M. Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Robert Waterhouse

Thur., Apr 17: Holy Thursday
4:00 P.M. Mass—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Glenn Berns
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Dennis Rohner
(Church will remain open until 9pm for Adoration)

Fri., Apr 18: Good Friday, Day of Fasting & Abstinence
3:00 P.M.— St. Mary, Guttenberg, *live streamed*
Youth Ministry Live Passion & Communion

Sat., Apr 19: Holy Saturday
4:00 P.M. Mass—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Louis & Amy Matt

Sun., Apr 20: Easter 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, Palm Sunday: Witnessing to Christ in Public

~Fr Paul

Today Christians all over the world celebrate Palm Sunday. The triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem to complete his work of salvation through his passion, death and resurrection. The story of the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem invites us to a deeper discovery of Christ and of his role in our lives.

There is a story about Constantine the Great who lived about 1600 years ago. As the first Christian Emperor of Rome, he permitted the followers of Christ for the first time to worship in public. His father, who preceded him as emperor, was a pagan. His name was Constantius. When Constantius ascended the throne, he discovered that many Christians held important jobs in the government and in the court. He put out an order to all these Christians: "Give up Christ or give up your job." The great majority gave up their positions rather than give up Christ. A few cowards gave up their religion rather than lose their jobs. Then the emperor turned around and gave their jobs back to those who had been faithful to Christ and dismissed those who had given up Christ for their positions, saying: "If you will not be true to Christ, you will not be true to me."

My dear people of God, today we join the Palm Sunday crowd and shout our praise and loyalty to Christ. Sadly some of us will turn back on our promises. Christ says, Anyone who acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my father in heaven. (Mt 10:32)

Beloved in Christ, we can draw inspiration from the first disciples of Jesus. They are revealed in the Gospel as people who were not afraid to admit their doubts, their needs, their lack of faith. Yet on the first Palm Sunday they were strong and bold in their witness to Jesus. May the Lord take pity on us, his timid and fearful disciples and give us courage, so that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips.

May the good Lord richly bless you!

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family:

Simon is not one of the most notable figures in the story of Jesus' Passion, but perhaps he is the one with whom we can most identify. Whether we'd rather do something else, are too tired, or just want a break from time to time, we know how Simon felt being pressed into service at a time when he would rather not. But Simon was a responsible citizen, just as we are responsible people. And, whatever our mood or preferences, we do what we must do. In the end, our hearts are glad, just as Simon knew there was something special about his action. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to follow Jesus in service—even when it is difficult. *~http://www.rc1blectionary.com*

Catholic Daughters of America will take up a second collection on April 26 and 27 for their annual Lifesaver Project. Funds collected will help victims of domestic abuse.



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

COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

"True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World"

Who: age 4 through the 6th grade

Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 13, 2025, 8am - Noon

REGISTRATION DEADLINE – Friday, April 25th

COST:\$10 – payable WITH the Registration form, checks payable to Community VBS. (Register early, spots fill up fast)

Registration forms available at the back of church.

Needs: Donations of snacks/treats, as well as volunteers to help organize and run VBS(adults & youth). Call St. John's Church office (252-2355) if you can help out.

A Stewardship Moment

In the Gospel story of the first Palm Sunday we hear that the owners of the ass had only to be told, "The Master has need of it," to give the animal gladly. Do I give readily towards the Lord's work?

Upcoming Parish Events . . .

(BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)

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 27: First Communion

Apr 28: Finance Committee Mtg, Noon, PC
Parish Council Mtg, 6:30pm, PC

Apr 30: Faith Formation Mass, 6pm and Family Potluck

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