

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Aug 11, 2022

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: What We Store in the Barn

I once knew a godly woman who had truly tasted the bitterness of this earthly life. This woman knew pain. She knew sacrifice. She knew hard labor and loss, including the death of a cherished child. She worked each day at a low-paying job, waiting patiently for her 65th birthday, when she could retire and devote herself full-time to her grandchildren. She crossed off the dwindling days on her calendar like a first grader waiting for Christmas.

Ninety-eight days before she was set to retire, she died suddenly. Her name was erased from the schedule at work and penciled over with that of her replacement hire. All things are vanity.

I think we all know someone like this, don't we? If the details aren't exactly the same, the outline of the story is: someone labors "with wisdom and knowledge and skill," in the words of Ecclesiastes. And what profit comes to him? Sorrow and grief all his days. The proverbial barn filled with harvest and left to rot. But I'll let you in on a secret: this isn't a sad story. I've only told you part of it.

This woman heard, daily, the voice of God, and against it she never hardened her heart, whatever news it brought her. This woman loved as hard as she worked. Every action was a form of evangelization. To talk to her was to feel the embrace of Christ.

As much as she waited for that retirement that never came, it was never the harvest in her barn. This is what it means to be a true steward: to seek what is above. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Silent Auction: Unsure of what to donate to this year's Silent Auction? We would love to put together Gift Baskets with your donation. We have the baskets, fillers, wrap and ribbons and will assemble. Will also make sure you get credit for your donation. Suggestions are: gift certificates, coffees, teas, mugs, non perishable food items and candies, toys, books, puzzle books, DVDs, bath and beauty items, smaller seasonal decorations, etc. The list is endless, you may have better ideas than these. All donations appreciated!

Fall Fundraiser Information

Silent Auction: Donations of new or hand crafted items for the silent auction will be accepted through August 24; Donations may be dropped off at Brinkmann Hall before and after weekend Masses and on 8/17 and 8/24 from Noon-6pm. To arrange another time, please call Sue Bahls, 252-3253 or Anna Moser, 252-3703.

Bidding in person/online: August 27 thru Sept 11 at 12:00 noon.

Cash Raffle/Donations: Each \$100 will buy a ticket for a chance to win four cash prizes of \$500 each. Drawing: Sept. 11, after the 10:00am Mass. Tickets can be purchased now or donations made (*checks to St. Mary Fall Festival and indicate Tickets or Donation*) and drop in the collection basket.

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



Sunday, August 14 at St. Mary, Guttenberg during Mass

Emma Francis Wille

infant daughter of Jacob & Hannah [Vonhandorf] Wille

May you grow in age, knowledge & wisdom in the Lord!

Feast of the Assumption falls on Monday and is not a Holy Day of obligation

Mass Schedule: August 15 – August 21, 2022

Mon., Aug 15: [No Mass scheduled], "Feast of the Assumption"

Tues., Aug 16: 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Anita & Tony Schmelzer

Wed., Aug 17: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Julius & Verna Steffen

Thur., Aug 18: 10:00 A.M. – Guttenberg Care Center
Leon Berns & Pete Davis

Fri., Aug 19: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Aug 20: Vigil of 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
People of the Parish
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Albert & Regina Schlueter

Sun., Aug 21: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
Earl 'Butch' Meyer & Fred Bush

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The Blazing Fire of Faith

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" [Luke 12:49](#)

This passage reveals two things to us. First, it reveals Jesus' intention to "set the earth on fire." Second, it reveals that He desires "it were already blazing."

What does it mean when Jesus says that He came to set the world on fire? Fire is a powerful image that offers much insight into the Christian life. First, fire consumes. So it is with Christ. He came to consume us. He came to transform our little lives into blazing fires. This reveals that there is much potential in each one of our lives. We have potential to become something totally new if we allow the spark of grace to ignite our souls.

Fire also has the potential to make a difference. Its heat keeps us warm, its light allows us to see in darkness and its energy produces power in various ways to help us in our daily lives. So it is with grace. God's grace transforms our cold hearts, leads us through the darkness of life and provides us with all we need to live productive lives.

It's interesting to note that Jesus did not only say that He came to set the world on fire; rather, He said that He wished it were already blazing. This desire of our Lord is an invitation to move out of a mediocre and lukewarm existence into a life of radical Christian living. We are not called to be partly transformed, or even mostly transformed. No, we are called to become blazing fires of faith, transformed by God to make a true difference in the world!

Reflect, today, upon the fire within your own soul. How brightly is that fire burning? You need to feed that fire on a daily basis, fanning it into flame with complete commitment. Seek to become that blazing fire that the Lord desires of you and you will be amazed at how fully you can become transformed by grace.

Lord, set my heart on fire with the brightness of Your love and mercy. Help me to be open to the complete transformation of life that You desire of me. I give myself to You without reserve, dear Lord. Use me as You will. Jesus, I trust in You.

source: www.mycatholiclife.com



MATTHEW

The King and His Kingdom

24 Session Scripture Study by Jeff Cavins

Tuesday Mornings, 8:30am or
Thursday Evenings, 6:30pm
Starting 9/27 & 9/29 in Brinkmann Hall
(6 sessions this fall; next 6 sessions start
Feb 2023, completion Spring 2024)

Cost \$30.00. Information sheets in the
entry way of church. Call Jerry Balk at
563-252-2361 or 563-580-4539 for more
information and to sign up. Please sign up
soon so study books can be purchased
and distributed prior to first session.

Mark Your Calendars . . .

Please patronize these St. Mary's
volunteers who work at the Bender's
Foods cookout stand they raise funds for
their many different church events.

Aug 19 & 20: Knights of Columbus
Aug 26 & 27: St. Mary's Parish Life

A Stewardship Moment

In today's second reading, St. Paul
encourages us not to grow weary or lose
heart, but to persevere in following Jesus.
Our willingness to give of ourselves, even
in the face of conflict and division, is one
way to measure our discipleship.

Handicap Ramp Update: The cement work is finished which marks the
completion of the second phase of the ramp project. Next is the
railing. We thank everyone who has helped with taking out the old ramp
and helping with the new ramp. We hope to have the railing finished in a
timely manner. ~ Don Scherbring



Fellowship

**Social after 10:00 am Mass
Brinkmann Hall
Sunday, Aug. 21**

Parish Life will have donuts, coffee,
juice and milk for your enjoyment.

Buenie Family Picnic, Sunday, September 4, 2022

Chicken and Ham Dinner, Country Store, Silent Auction, Kids Games,
Meat Wheel. Fun and Games for the Entire Family!

Upcoming Parish Events (BH = Brinkmann Hall)

Aug 19/20: KC's hosting the Bender's Foods Cookout; 11am-6pm
Aug 24: Silent Auction Donations due

Aug 26/27: Parish Life hosting the Bender's Foods Cookout, 11am-6pm
Aug 27-Sept 11: Silent Auction Bidding, before/after Masses

Sept 6: CDA Meeting, Noon, Brinkmann Hall
KC Meeting, 7:30 pm

Sept 11: Fall Fundraiser Drawing; Four \$500 prizes to be given out

Please submit newsletter items by Tuesday night to: churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us