

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Aug 25, 2022

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: A Steward's Growing Pains

Have you ever written a check or seen the charge on the credit card machine that had far too many zeros on it for your comfort?

The brakes finally give up on the car you were hoping to nurse through the season. The water heater dies on the coldest week of the year. A medical procedure wasn't totally covered by insurance. We've all been here in this place, being asked to part with a not-so-small sum of money for a not-so-fun reason. It's a little easier to bear when you're forking over dollar signs for a fun vacation or even a worthy cause like your child's education. But when it's something you weren't expecting, something negative, that uneasiness in the pit of your stomach can quickly become despair.

The next time this happens to you, embrace it. Celebrate it. Wrap your arms around it and welcome it as a growing pain.

We are often asked, in life, to give more than we wish. Our loved ones demand greater patience than we think we have. Our prayer life is stalling, and we feel God isn't holding up His end of the communication bargain. The daily grind seems to be grinding us down. We feel that uneasiness in the pit of our stomach, just as we do when we part with money we thought belonged solely to us.

That place of uncertainty propels us in life, in stewardship, in relationship. All forward motion comes from that feeling. Put out your hands and let yourself be thrust into the pit — He will stoop to take you out from the mud. Spread your arms on your cross — joy is waiting for you. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

Annual Tootsie Roll Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting the annual tootsie roll drive this weekend, August 27 and 28. Free will donations accepted with proceeds supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities.

HIPPA – Right of Privacy has become stricter in regards to me as pastor. I cannot go to the hospital front desk and ask if any Catholics are patients there. You need to tell the nurse that you want your pastor to visit you in the hospital or at home.

Fall Fundraiser Information

Silent Auction: Bidding in person/online: August 27 thru Sept 11 at 12:00 noon. If you are bidding online, be sure to get a confirmation of your bid, since we are not always available online. You can also give your phone number online, so we can contact you if your bid is accepted. Church basement will be open on Saturdays from 5:00 to 6:30 pm and Sundays from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

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.

Mass Schedule: August 29 – September 4, 2022

Mon., Aug 29: [No Mass scheduled],
“Passion of St. John the Baptist”

Tues., Aug 30: 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Vincent & Inez Hoeger/Amy Hoeger

Wed., Aug 31: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Francis & Dorothy Johnson

Thur., Sept 1: – 10:00 A.M. – Guttenberg Care Center
Leon Berns & Pete Davis

Fri., Sept 2: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Sept 3: Vigil of 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Henry Mueller & Barb Mohning
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Gene & Mary Tujetsch//Mary Lee Green

Sun., Sept 4: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
Karen Wachendorf & Jerome Troester

As we enter a new fiscal year as a parish, the priest's advisory board of the Archdiocese of Dubuque wants each priest to carry a cell phone for emergencies. My Tracfone number is 563-258-3958 not for social calls but rather when I am not in the rectory and you need spiritual blessings from your pastor.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Attentiveness to Jesus

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. [Luke 14:1](#)

What an interesting line. This line should not be overlooked in that it reveals a common reaction that some have to Jesus. What is the reaction? It’s the tendency to observe Jesus carefully from a distance.

Look at the context of this statement. Jesus was invited to the home of a leading Pharisee and many other people were present. Those who were there would have been considered the “movers and shakers” of that time. They were the influential, wealthy, educated, and prestigious members of the community. Many would have been quite concerned about their reputation and quite curious about Jesus since He was growing in such popularity with the people. So, as a result, they were all “observing him carefully.”

Notice the implication present in this description of their reaction to Jesus. Unlike the manifest sinners of that time, they did not come to Him, falling at His feet, begging for mercy. Rather, they appear to be quite interested in how Jesus will be accepted by others, what He will say and what they should think about Him. Even though it is unfortunate that they do not all completely turn to Jesus in faith, it’s at least good that they are attentive to Jesus and realize He is unique.

This curiosity on their part is not all bad. In fact, it may lead some of them to salvation. By observing Jesus, they are clearly pondering Him, His words and His actions. This is good if and only if it results in each one of them turning to Him in faith and choosing to embrace our Lord regardless of what others think. This is a risk for those consumed with their own public image. But it’s a risk that is worth taking. For those who are willing to humbly allow their observations to turn into true faith, their lives will change. But in order to do so, they must let go of any fear they have of what others may think.

Reflect, today, upon any tendency you have to only “observe” Jesus and His will from a distance. If you find you are curious and interested in the presence of God around you, do not hesitate to act on this curiosity, allowing His words and presence to change your life. Do not let yourself become concerned about what others may think. Give your life to Him without hesitation and you will be eternally grateful you did.

Lord, when I perceive Your presence in my life, give me the courage I need to respond. May I never let societal pressures or pride interfere with my turning to You. I love You, dear Lord. Help me to love You without reserve. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source: www.mycatholiclife.com

From Fr. Dennis Koopman, OFM . . .

I appreciated all the care, attention, and work that so many people showed me at my jubilee celebration at the parish on June 11, 2022. Joy and celebration filled my soul beyond expectation. I thank everyone who helped in any way. Much work was done by so many in the kitchen preparing and serving the food, setting up tables in the hall and under the tent, and cleaning up after the celebration. A special thanks to all who brought desserts, and to all who helped with the music at Mass. A very special thanks to Fr. Bries and Deacon Pfaffly. I was busy talking with everyone, but all of you cared for all the people present. That made the celebration delightful and joyful. Thank you, and may God bless you with many marvelous graces.

Fr. Koopman’s contact info: St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 203 E Main St., P.O. Box 730, Teutopolis, IL 62467 Cell: 708-528-3242

Upcoming Parish Events (BH = Brinkmann Hall)

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



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.

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!

A Stewardship Moment

In the Gospel today, Jesus warns us not to give in hopes of repayment, but to give open-handedly to the poor and needy. That sort of giving mirrors the bountiful giving of God, and Jesus assures us it is blessed indeed!