

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Aug 26, 2021

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week:

What makes a person wise and intelligent? Certainly it is not the ability to memorize facts or minute details about a situation. What makes a person wise and intelligent is when their words and actions harmoniously unite and produce virtue. A person can know many facts and even do the right actions but still have a grave flaw in their character. We sometimes want to delude ourselves into thinking that as long as we are “doing” everything correctly, we are automatically in right relationship with all. Such is sadly not the case in the kingdom of God. We are called not to be just hearers of the Word, but doers as well. That means getting to the heart of what laws and rituals are meant to signify and nurture. If we do not bring the actions home, where they belong, and allow them to speak of the goodness, mercy, compassion, and love of God, then they are simply empty worthless gestures. Welcome the Word that has been planted within you so that you can be a truly wise and intelligent disciple of Jesus Christ. ©LPi

UPDATE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2021-2022: A letter will be sent home to the children’s parents via Facebook on SMIC zoom site later in September. **Since we cannot get catechists to teach your children on Wednesday nights it will be a homeschooling situation** except for 2nd grade and 7th & 8th graders which will meet on Wednesday nights during Advent and Lent to prepare them for First Confession/Communion and Confirmation for respective grades. **We need someone to volunteer to teach 2nd graders on those Wednesday nights in Advent and Lent.** Please call SMIC secretary - Erin Schmelzer at 252-1577. Fr. Bries will prepare 7th/8th graders for Confirmation. **Also 7th/8th graders need to attend Youth Ministry sessions apart from Confirmation on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Mary’s Church in Guttenberg.** Keep in mind that a Confirmation sponsor cannot be a parent but a practicing Catholic and confirmed adult. Parents of other grades will pick up quarterly packet for their child/children some time in later September. More info to follow in the bulletin and the Guttenberg Press.

Fall Festival Fundraiser

Purchase tickets(\$100ea) for a chance to win one of four \$500 prizes or make donations:

*online at <https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>

* put money in an envelope in the weekend collection marked **Festival-Tickets or Festival—Donation**, or *send money to St Mary Church, PO Box 847; Guttenberg, IA 52052

(make checks out to St. Mary Fall Festival and mark Tickets or Donation)

Current balance: **\$13,240**; goal is \$26,000—**we are half way there!**

Silent Auction Items Needed!

Please bring silent auction items to Brinkmann Hall no later than Wed, Sept 1 at 10:00am Questions? Call Sue Bahls 252-3253.

St. Mary Crafters will have an area setup in Brinkmann Hall where they will be selling craft items. Check it out while you browse the Silent Auction Items! Open Saturday/ Sunday after Mass, Sept 4/5, Sept 11/12 and Sept 18/19

Public Mass Schedule: Aug 30 – Sept 5, 2021

Mon., Aug 30: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Aug 31: 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
Vincent & Inez Hoeger & Amy Hoeger

Wed., Sep 1: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, 5th/6th Gr.
Ann Olinger & Kathleen Bockenstedt

Thur., Sep 2: 10:00 A.M. – Guttenberg Care Center
Jackie Spielbauer & Family & Leon Berns

Fri., Sep 3: [No Mass Scheduled], “St. Gregory the Great”

Sat., Sep 4: Vigil of Twenty-Third Sunday in Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
Tracy Werges & Bert Behrend
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass
Robert ‘Bob’ Hoffman & Tony Schissel

Sun., Sep 5: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, *Live Streamed*
Joseph/Clara/Marvin Nieland

Buenie Picnic, Immaculate Conception Church, N. Buena Vista,
Sunday, Sept 5, Carryout Chicken Dinner 11-3pm, \$15
Country Store and Silent Auction ,
UTV Raffle - Tickets will be available for purchase after 10am Mass at St. Mary, this Sunday, Aug 29.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: That Which is Within

He summoned the crowd again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.” [Mark 7:14-15](#)

Jesus speaks this passage after calling the Pharisees “hypocrites.” He rebukes them for being obsessively concerned about the externals and failing to be attentive to the internals. Jesus makes it clear that evil comes from within and that the heart should be our true concern.

The thing that sparked Jesus’ strong rebuke of the Pharisees was the fact that they criticized the disciples for not washing their hands and, thus, they ate their meal with “unclean hands.” What’s sad is that the Pharisees seem to make a huge deal about this fact. What this reveals is that the Pharisees seemed to think that holiness is something that you obtain by scrupulous external observance of the laws and customs of the times. But they failed to see the importance of what was within.

St. Teresa of Ávila has a couple of beautiful quotes that speak of the importance of that which is within. “Within you dwells your God. Enter within, look at Him, talk to Him, listen to Him and stay with Him in your heart.” And, “Indeed, we have heaven within ourselves for the Lord of Heaven is there.”

Jesus also points out the types of evil that come from within. “From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile” [Mark 7: 21-23](#).

So what’s in your heart? When you spend time alone and quietly look at your life, what do you see? What is it that makes up your interior life?

Reflect, today, upon that which is within. Know that any sin in your heart must be acknowledged, confessed and purged. Only when that is done can you meet God who dwells within. Only then can you allow God to transform your exterior from His presence in your soul.

Lord, please do come into my heart. Set my heart on fire with love for You. Purge my heart of all sin and allow Your divine presence to shine forth for all to see. Jesus, I trust in You. source: mycatholiclife.com

Thank You ~ If you donated to the STO (School Tuition Organization) in 2020, over 3,000 students have you to thank because soon they will begin their learning, or return to their Catholic schools. Thank you for having helped families avoid the heartbreaking decision to leave the schools they love due to financial hardship. The generosity of our STO donors is being returned through the **increased 75% Iowa Income tax credit**. On 5/20/21, the state increased the credit from 65 to 75%. This increase is retroactive to Jan. 1st, 2021, meaning all donations earn the more significant credit this calendar year. Here is a recent Op Ed published in the Dubuque Telegraph Herald about this credit. <https://bit.ly/3qTXRrU> If you’ve already decided to donate to the STO, please do so early to ensure tax credits are still available. Your early contributions also help the STO make plans for our crucial end of year campaign push. Should you have questions about the Our Faith STO, feel free to reach out to atb.zeman@dbqarch.org. Thank you for your vital support of the Church, Catholic education, and the Our Faith STO.

Prayer Line: Do you know that we have an active prayer line? If you or someone you know is in need of special prayers(ie, upcoming surgery, heart attack, terminal illness, etc), we have a group of parishioners at St. Mary who pray for your special needs. Please contact Betty Evers, 563-252-1666 or Fr. Bries, 563-252-1247. Betty will then start the prayer chain and soon many people will be praying for you. Also, if you are interested in being a prayer warrior, please contact Betty.

A Stewardship Moment

“Every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit, comes from above,” says St. James in the second reading. But, he reminds us, true worship of God involves using those good gifts to benefit the less fortunate.

Good stewardship is not optional; it is the hallmark of our faith!

Upcoming Parish Events

- Sept 1: Silent Auction items due by 10:00am in Brinkmann Hall
- Sept 5: Buenie Picnic
- Sept 4/5: St. Mary Silent Auction & Craft Fair, Brinkmann Hall; Saturday/Sunday after Mass
- Sept 7: CDA Mtg, Noon at St. Patrick’s in Monona
- Sept 7: KC Meeting, 7:30 pm in the Clubhouse
- Sept 11/12: St. Mary Silent Auction & Craft Fair, Brinkmann Hall; Saturday/Sunday after Mass
- Sept 12: Festival Drawing after 10:00 am Mass
- Sept 18/19: St. Mary Silent Auction & Craft Fair, Brinkmann Hall; Saturday/Sunday after Mass
- Sept 19: Silent Auction bidding closes at Noon.

Thank you for supporting the KC Tootsie Roll Drive this past weekend to help the disadvantaged individuals in our community.

The Parish Life and KCs would like thank all those who supported them at the Bender’s Cookout the past 2 weekends.