

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

Newsletter: Dec 17, 2020

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## Part 4 – Here He Comes!

(We are ready for the Coming Of Christ at Christmas – Hallelujah!)

For the last three weeks we have been expectantly waiting and preparing for the coming of Jesus.

-We've prepared ourselves by looking forward to Christ's second coming.

-We've prepared our hearts by developing a personal relationship with Jesus.

And now ...

## Here He Comes!

We are ready to receive Him just as we are shown in this week's Gospel as demonstrated by Mary!

-God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary and said "... The Lord is with you." (Luke 1:28) "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." (Luke 1:31)

God is speaking to each of us too. What is God saying to you?

-Then the angel went on to say "... for nothing will be impossible for God." (Luke 1:37)

What do you need in your life that you need God's help with?

-Mary responded in Luke 1:38 "... May it be done to me according to your word."

What will your response be?

## We are Ready!

Dear Lord: Thank you for sending your Son to us! Thank you for preparing us to hear what you want to say to each of us. Thank you for working miracles in our life. Thank you for filling us to overflowing with love for you. Thank you for our being ready to receive Him this Christmas and every day of our life. Thank you, thank you, thank you! I pray this in Jesus' name.

Fr. Marvin Bries

Due to the coronavirus no individual confessions will take place during Advent. A general absolution of one's sins will be given at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The general absolution applies to those attending Mass and those watching from home.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: With the COVID-19 virus out of control, winter just starting and a vaccine availability several months away, it has been decided to **CANCEL** Scripture Study and consider resuming in the fall of 2021.

A Christmas Prayer  
Lord, you came upon  
*A Midnight Clear*  
to bring  
*Joy to the World*  
and draw us near.  
It was a *Holy Night*,  
when you came from above,  
to fill our hearts with  
hope and love.  
Thank you  
*Sweet Jesus Boy*,  
for clothing us with  
*Comfort and Joy!*

Thanks for  
supporting  
the giving  
tree!



You helped  
several area  
families  
with their  
clothing  
needs.

### Public Mass Schedule: Dec 21 – Dec 27, 2020 Please use sanitizer, practice social distancing & wear a mask

**Mon., Dec 21:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Dec 22:** 8:30 A.M. - St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Vincent & Inez Hoeger//Amy Hoeger*

**Wed., Dec 23:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Fran Troester & Sherrie Casey*

**Thur., Dec 24: Christmas Eve**  
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Reynold & Bernice Scheffert*  
6:00 P.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
*People of the Parish*

**Fri., Dec 25: Christmas Day**  
9:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Clifford & Janice Frommelt*  
*Fritz/Rosemary/John/Joe Kann*



**Sat., Dec 26:** VIGIL OF FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Morris Bauer [Month Mind]*  
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Loris Kickbush*

**Sun., Dec 27:** FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
*People of the Parish*  
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Leonard & Editha Hartmann*

## Mass Readings for December 20, 2020; 4th Sunday of Advent

**Reading 1, 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16:** When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'" "It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

### Responsorial Psalm, PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever; through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, "My kindness is established forever"; in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness. **R.**

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant: Forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations." **R.**

"He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the Rock, my savior.' Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm." **R.**

**Reading 2, ROM 16:25-27:** Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Alleluia, alleluia.** Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. **Alleluia, alleluia.** [LK 1:38](#)

**Gospel, LK 1:26-38:** The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**Reminder:** The Internal Revenue Service requires all contributions to the parish must be contributed/postmarked by December 31, 2020 to receive charitable credit for 2020.

The CARES act changes charitable deductions for 2020: Previously, charitable contributions could only be deducted if taxpayers itemized their deductions. However, **taxpayers who don't itemize deductions** may take a charitable deduction of **up to \$300** for cash contributions made in 2020 to qualifying organizations.

Did you miss Archbishop Jackels virtual 'Fireside' chat? It can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/D4BTdOzEN4M>

The newsletter will be published earlier next week. Please email any information and January ministry schedules to [churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us) by **Monday eve., Dec. 21**. If you are receiving a paper copy of the newsletter and would like it emailed, please drop an email to above address.

### Upcoming Events . . . .

**Dec. 20:** 10AM Mass aired on FB

**Dec 25:** 9AM Christmas Mass on Channel 6 & FB

**Dec 27:** 10AM Mass aired on Channel 6 & FB

**Jan 17:** KC Pancake/Sausage Breakfast drive-thru

Handicap Ramp Update: The KCs are working to replace the handicap ramp. To date we have \$3,172. The total cost has not yet been determined as we are exploring several different options for the longevity of the ramp. Donations to this project would be greatly appreciated and can be put in the collection basket or mailed to St. Mary's Church, P.O. Box 847, Guttenberg, IA 52052. Please make checks out St. Mary Parish. We anticipate starting the project in June 2021. Watch the newsletter for monthly updates. Merry Christmas to all from the Ramp Committee!