

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

Newsletter: Dec 31, 2020

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

## **Look to the New Year! Christ is "OUR" light!**

It is no coincidence that we celebrate the Epiphany (wise men finding Jesus) at the beginning of the new year. The New Year is traditionally a time of changing our ways and looking forward with anticipation of better things to come. The Epiphany which we celebrate this weekend has the same storyline.

This Sunday's (January 3) Living Faith Devotional meditation by Kristin Armstrong puts it this way ...

### **"Leading Us to Love"**

They were overjoyed at seeing the star ... (Matthew 2:10)

... They were told to look for the presence of the star as the sign of where to go, how to find him.

We are still seeking such revelation today, yearning, as were the magi, to find the presence of the Lord. We are each on a similar journey, experiencing a deep knowing that there is a greater purpose, a more meaningful connection, a longing for something more. The ways of the world will never lead us there, will never fill our empty places, will never quell our restlessness. ... So ... "Just as it was for the magi, our best course is to follow the light that leads us to love. If we feel lost, we turn our gaze up."

Let's look to the New Year as our opportunity to follow the light that leads us to love, and experience a life like we have never imagined. That light is Jesus.

Dear Lord: Thank you for sending Your Son Jesus to be our light and to show us the way ... to You. Bless us as we embark on a new year of hope, of purpose, and of serving ... You. I pray this in Jesus' name.

Fr. Marvin Bries

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING** – during Mass on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> at Guttenberg. Before and after Masses at Garny & Buenie and after Masses at Guttenberg on both Sat., & Sun. - Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new  
You bring hope alive in our hearts  
And cause our Spirits to be born again.  
Thank you for this new year  
For all the potential it holds.  
Come and kindle in us A mighty flame  
So that in our time, many will see the  
wonders of God  
And live forever to praise Your glorious  
name. Amen

Weekly Offering/Budget envelopes may be picked up at the back of church. If you have had a change of address in the past year, please notify the parish office so we may update our records, 252-1247.

We also have online giving available for your convenience at:

<https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>

#### **Public Mass Schedule: Jan 4 – Jan 10, 2020**

**Please use sanitizer, practice social distancing & wear a mask**

**Mon., Jan 4:** [No Mass Scheduled], "St. Elizabeth Ann Seton"

**Tues., Jan 5:** 8:30 A.M. - St. Joseph, Garnavillo,  
"St. John Neumann" – *Paul Puelz & Amy Hoeger*

**Wed., Jan 6:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
*Ann Olinger (C.D. of A.)*

**Thur., Jan 7:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Fri., Jan 8:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Sat., Jan 9:** VIGIL OF BAPTISM OF JESUS  
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Edna Rausch & Margaret Schlueter [Month's Mind]*  
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Dorothy Eglseder [Month's Mind]*

**Sun., Jan 10:** FEAST OF BAPTISM OF THE LORD  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
*People of the Parish*  
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Gerri Geuder [Month's Mind]*

**GENEALOGY:** All old records of parishioners from our 3-linked parishes plus St. Michael of Garber, Sacred Heart of Littleport, St. Mary of Clayton and St. Michael of Ceres are now in the files at the rectory.

**Mass Readings for January 3, 2020:**

**Reading I, [Is 60:1-6](#):** Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

**Responsorial Psalm. [Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13](#) :** **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment. **R.**

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him. **R.**

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save. **R**

**Reading II, [Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6](#):** Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

**Alleluia, alleluia.** We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage. **Alleluia, alleluia.** [Mt 2:2](#)

**Gospel, [Mt 2:1-12](#) :** When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS DONATIONS**

*In loving memory of*

John Froehle , Butch Faust, The Johnson -Zoller Families, The Liefeld-Scheller & Olinger Families, Jessica Otto, Abby Franzen, Samuel & Baba Meyers, Jerry & Evelyn Heck and Ardell, Fran Troester , Sherrie Casey & Zachary Casey, Don Evers, Mildred & Leo Burr, Regina & Albert Schlueter, Nuehring Family- Marvin, Bernette, Jerri & Ronnie, Danny Peck

Donations from: Darlene Froehle, Rick & Phoebe Johnson, Vernon & Margo Heck, Al Troester, Betty Evers, Jim & Maggie Schlueter, Jerry & Pat Peck, Tom & Helene Kuempel.

Thank you for all those who made our church a beautiful place of worship this Christmas season and throughout the year — the people who decorated the church, those who made donations of or for poinsettias, the choir members, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, readers, janitors, those who work behind the scenes, Fr. Bries, Deacon Pfaffly and most of all, **thanks to each of you for joining us in person or online in worship!**

**Upcoming Events . . . .**

- Jan 2/3:** Food Shelf Weekend
- Jan 2/3:** Sacrament of Anointing
- Jan 3:** 10AM Mass aired on Channel 6 & FB
- Jan 5:** KC Meeting, 7:30pm, Brinkmann Hall
- Jan 10:** 10AM Mass aired on Channel 6 & FB
- Jan 17:** KC Pancake/Sausage Breakfast drive-thru  
10AM Mass aired on FB

**SMIC School Cash Raffle**

Weekly cash prizes from January 6 through May 26.  
21 chances to win. Tickets are \$20 each.  
Call the school office, 252-1157.