

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

Newsletter: Dec 3, 2020

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## Advent Expectant Waiting and Preparation Part 2

In our Advent preparation for the coming of Jesus, this Sunday's Second Reading has us focused not on the birth of Christ, and not on our personal relationship with Jesus, but rather on preparing us for His Second Coming. Through this Reading (2 Peter 3:8-14) God helps us understand that He loves us, that He "will" come again at the end of our days, and that He wants to make sure that we are prepared for that event, so He provides us with the following insights:

2 PT 3:9 "... not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." (Read in this that He loves us all and wants us all saved)

2 PT 3: 10 "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away ..." (At the end of our existence He will come again)

2 PT 3:11-12 "Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God ..." (This describes how He would like to find that we have lived our life ... for Him)

Dear Lord: Thank you for loving us. Thank you for providing us with guidance on how to prepare for meeting you. Help us to not only prepare, but to look forward to your coming. I pray this in Jesus' name.

Fr. Marvin Bries

 Every year we decorate our church with poinsettias at Christmas. Flowers may be purchased in memory, honor or in thanksgiving to remember special family and friends. Please include this information with your donation. Donations need to be in by Friday, December 18.

### **SPECIAL NOTES from Father 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.

LOOKING AHEAD: The last four weekends attendance at all 3-linked parish Masses have decreased significantly because of the fear of coronavirus. Due to Fr. Koopman being unavailable to help out and Fr. Gaul at Stonehill Care Center, I have reduced the number of Masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Christmas Eve: 4 p.m., Garnavillo  
6 p.m., N. Buena Vista

Christmas Day: 9 a.m., Guttenberg  
(No children's Masses scheduled due to the continued threat of the Covid-19 virus.)

### **Public Mass Schedule: Dec 7 – Dec 13, 2020**

**Please use sanitizer, practice social distancing & masks encouraged**

**Mon., Dec 7:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Dec 8:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, 6/7th Grade  
**Feast of Immaculate Conception**  
*Carolyn Carrier*

**Wed., Dec 9:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Thur., Dec 10:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Fri., Dec 11:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Sat., Dec 12:** VIGIL OF THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Anthony Mueller*  
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Bernice Haas*

**Sun., Dec 13:** THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
  
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Merle Meyer*

On this 2nd Sunday of Advent, we remember the *peace* that we have in Jesus Christ.



**Mass Readings for December 6, 2020; 2nd Sunday of Advent**

**Reading 1:** [IS 40:1-5, 9-11](#): Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

**Responsorial Psalm, [PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14](#) :** R. **Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land. /R/

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven. /R/

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps. /R/

**Reading 2, [2 PT 3:8-14](#) :** Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.** Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: All flesh shall see the salvation of God. R. **Alleluia, alleluia.** [LK 3:4, 6](#)

**Gospel, [MK 1:1-8](#) :** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”* John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

**Upcoming Events . . .**

**Dec. 5/6:** Food Shelf Weekend

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

**Dec. 7:** KC Drive Thru Chili Supper; 3:30-7pm

**Dec. 9:** 6:30pm *Fireside Get-Together with Archbishop Jackels(virtual)*

**Dec. 13:** 10AM Mass aired on Channel 6 & FB

**Dec 16:** 8:30AM Mass aired on Channel 6 and FB

 **KC Drive Thru Chili Supper - Monday, Dec 7**

starting at 3:30pm and going until the food runs out

Serving Chili and Cinnamon Rolls. Free will offering.

**Archbishop Jackels Virtual Fireside Get-Together Invitation - December 9 at 6:30 pm**

The evening will include scripture, reflections by Archbishop on this crazy year we’ve had, surprise musical performances and opportunity to spread Christmas cheer. . . .and much more. Advance registration needed at [www.dbqarch.org/fireside](http://www.dbqarch.org/fireside).

The Youth Ministry group would like to thank all those who purchased a Thanksgiving Meal.

REMINDER: Please support the religious retirement fund. Envelope can be found in your budget box.

**2nd Annual CHRISTMAS CLOTHING MISSION**

for the needy in the Guttenberg area. This year the need is greater than ever due to Covid’s effect on our working and needy families. *Please select a tag from the Giving Tree in the back of church. Each tag will identify an item for a child or adult in need. After you purchase the item, please return it with the tag attached, and place it in the container at the back of church. There is no need to wrap.*

