

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

Newsletter: Feb 25, 2021

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

## **This Lent ... Focus on Prayer!**

Why focus on Prayer this Lent? It's the surest way to improve ourselves, strengthen ourselves, and draw ourselves closer to God. If you look at Jesus as our role model, He was constantly in prayer mode.

The Bible tells us that Jesus prayed ... alone, in public, before meals, before important decisions, before and after healing, in the morning, all night long, giving thanks before miracles, before teaching. He prayed for Himself, His disciples, and all believers. Jesus prayed to do the Father's will, and He also taught on the importance of prayer. Even with His dying breath He prayed, "Father, into thy hands I commend my Spirit."

- Prayer helps us develop the awareness, virtue, and character needed when life gets turned upside down.
- Prayer as a daily habit teaches us how to live and love.
- Prayer grows our personal relationship with God.

Dear Lord: Place on our hearts a burning desire to spend time in prayer and conversation with you. Draw us closer to you and show us the power that prayer can have in our life. We pray this in Jesus' name.

Fr. Marvin Bries

Special notes: Lent is a time for those interested in becoming Catholic to take instructions in the Catholic Faith. Also a time for young adults who have never been confirmed to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Father Bries at 252-1247.

"THE WAY OF THE CROSS" will be prayed during the Lenten Season at every weekend Mass, 15-20 minutes before the start of Mass, beginning on February 20. Please pickup a booklet in the entryway and keep this as your own personal booklet for your future use. The "Way of the Cross" will be **live streamed** for all the Sundays in the Lenten season.

### The Fast Life

Fast from judging others;  
Feast on Christ dwelling in them.  
Fast from fear of illness;  
Feast on the healing power of God.  
Fast from words that pollute;  
Feast on speech that purifies.  
Fast from discontent;  
Feast on gratitude.  
Fast from anger; Feast on patience.  
Fast from pessimism; Feast on hope.  
Fast from negatives; Feast on encouragement.  
Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness.  
Fast from self-concern; Feast on compassion.  
Fast from suspicion; Feast on truth.  
Fast from gossip; Feast on purposeful silence.  
Fast from problems that overwhelm;  
Feast on prayer that sustains.  
Fast from anxiety; Feast on faith.

~ Author Unknown

Consider joining the SMIC students on Fridays during Lent at 2:30pm as they pray the Stations of the Cross.

### **Public Mass Schedule: Mar 1 – Mar 7, 2021** **Please use sanitizer, practice social distancing & wear a mask**

**Mon., Mar 1:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Mar 2:** 8:30 A.M. —St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass  
*Cindy Mueller*

**Wed., Mar 3:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, 1st Grade  
*James Bries*

**Thur., Mar 4:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Fri., Mar 5:** 2:30 P.M. - SMIC School "Way of the Cross"

**Sat., Mar 6:** VIGIL OF THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
3:45 P.M. - Garnavillo - Way of the Cross  
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo - Mass  
*Edna Rausch*  
5:15 P.M.— Guttenberg, Way of the Cross  
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass  
*Loris Kickbush*

**Sun., Mar 7:** THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
8:15 A. M. - N. Buena Vista –Way of the Cross  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista,

Live Streamed 9:45 A.M., Guttenberg -Way of the Cross

Live Streamed 10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass

*Jim & Lou Kuempel*

## Mass Readings for February 28, 2021:

**Reading I, Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18** : God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.” When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.” As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing— all this because you obeyed my command.”

**Responsorial Psalm, 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19** :**R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

I believed, even when I said, “I am greatly afflicted.” Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. **R.**

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. **R.**

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

**Reading II, Rom 8:31b-34** : Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

**Gospel, Mk 9:2-10** : Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

### Back by popular demand! Speaking on a different topic!

Last fall the KCs held their first ever Virtual Fraternal Benefits Night featuring “The retirement income expert” Tom Hegna. Over 1,000 Brother Knights and their spouses attended that event. Since Tom’s “Don’t Worry, Retire Happy.” seminar went so well, we have brought him back for another seminar. This time the topic is “**Paychecks and Playchecks**” which features many highlights from one of his books about retirement planning.

The Bormann Agency will be hosting Tom Hegna **March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM on ZOOM.** Tom Hegna, CLU, ChFC, CASL, is an award-winning author, speaker and economist. He is an industry leader and is considered by many as “The Retirement Income Expert.” Tom has presented at over 5,000 seminars, helping seniors and baby boomers build lasting retirement plans. Click Link to Register:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtcuivpzovGdEvEt\\_HuHzs44AunE5inpCG](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtcuivpzovGdEvEt_HuHzs44AunE5inpCG)

### SMIC Cash Raffle Fundraiser Winners:

2/17—\$100, Amy Harder

2/24—\$50,

3/3—\$100,

**LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK:** How is your Lent going so far? In changing the circumstances and order of our lives a bit, perhaps we can hear God’s voice more clearly and drink more deeply of graced moments we experience. Having God as a friend always involves several things. First, there is God’s call. We become attuned to the echo of God’s voice in the depth of our souls calling and beckoning us to listen. Second, there is a request. We begin to see that God asks us to do certain things, to order our lives a particular way, and become more intentional in the choices we make. Third, there is trust. Do we trust this call and request? Trust commits us to the relationship and makes a claim on who we are. Finally, we are asked to act. We find ourselves acting, not in the way we used to, but in a transformed, more enlightened way. Things seem clearer and all that is around us shines with the brilliance of God’s presence. God’s call came through a cloud, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him,” This is the call and the request. Can we give God our trust and do as God asks?

### Upcoming Events . . . .

**Feb 28:** 9:40AM Way of the Cross & 10 AM Mass; aired on FB/6

**Mar 7:** 9:40AM Way of the Cross & 10 AM Mass; aired on FB/6

**Mar 14:** 9:40AM Way of the Cross & 10 AM Mass; aired on FB/6

**Mar 21:** 9:40AM Way of the Cross & 10 AM Mass; aired on FB