

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

February 27, 2025 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-880-6017 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

## LIVE THE LITURGY:

~ St. Mary's Liturgy Committee

Both the first reading and the Gospel this weekend offer proverbs and admonitions, several of which center on how a person's speech reveals their inner nature. Although we often say that actions are more important than words, Sirach recognizes the significance of speech. What we say (or do not say) reveals who we are. A bad tree does not bear good fruit, nor does a good tree yield bad produce.

The readings today prompt us to reflect on the care that is needed in speaking. A person of faith stands out by his or her refusal to speak ill of others. Moreover, the Gospel warns that one who is blind to the goodness in others, and who speaks evil of them instead, reveals his or her puny measure of openness to God's goodness.

Lent begins in a few days. Perhaps this Sunday's readings offer a challenge to look carefully at our own lives. It's God Himself who created us to bear good fruit. Let's use Lent, the season of repentance, to prune away anything that impairs our ability to live with God's goodness, kindness, and love.

Lord, help me bear good fruit!

## BAPTISM INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD & OUR COMMUNITIES OF FAITH:



Sunday, March 9 at St. Mary, Guttenberg, 11am

**Brooks Michael Scott**

son of Chris & Michelle Scott

May you grow in the love & wisdom of Jesus Christ!

## KC Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast

**Sunday, March 9; 8-11:30am**

St. Mary Church, Brinkmann Hall  
Drive-thru and Dine In;  
Free will offering.

## Mass Schedule: Mar 3 – Mar 9, 2025

### Sound System Update

Our sound system project is now finished. We have added eleven new speakers throughout the church, a new lectern mic, two new choir mics, a new digital mixer with ipad/iphone control and 4 hearing assist devices. The total cost of this project was \$20,649.84. The Knights of Columbus generously donated \$13,092.38 with the balance, \$7,557.46, being paid out of parish funds.

The hearing assist devices are available at the back of church. Feel free to use the headphones provided or bring your own. There are also hearing loops available for those who wear hearing aides and have the tcoil/loop function enabled. Please see an usher for assistance.

Stations of the Cross: During Lent, we will pray the stations of the cross on Saturday before Mass starting at 5:10pm. On Sundays, we will continue to pray the rosary starting at 9:40am.

Friends of St Mary's will be serving a lenten special on Friday, March 7th, 4-7:30 pm at Sodes (7 Goethe St). Reservations are NOT required. Carry out available. Call Sodes: 563-252-3301.

**Mon. Mar 3:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Mar 4:** 7:00 P.M. Mass—Immaculate Conception  
*People of the Parish*

**Wed., Mar 5:** *Ash Wednesday, Day of Fast and Abstinence*  
8:30 A.M. Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Jo Thein*  
4:30 P.M. Mass—St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*People of the Parish*  
6:15 P.M. Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Jim & Mary Gamerdinger*

**Thur., Mar 6:** 10:00 A. M.—Guttenberg Care Center  
*Tony Schissel*

**Fri., Mar 7:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, *Day of Abstinence*  
*Dennis Rohner*  
9:00-9:45 A.M. — Confessions

**Sat., Mar 8:** Vigil of 1st Sunday in Lent  
4:00 P.M. Mass—St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Bert Behrend & Angeline Berns*  
5:30 P.M. Mass—St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Dec'd of Kann/Kolker Family*

**Sun., Mar 9:** First Sunday in Lent  
8:30 A.M. Mass – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
*People of the Parish*  
10:00 A.M. – Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg, *live streamed*  
*Graham Noack (month's mind)*

**Homily, 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time:** A man's words flow out of what fills his heart. ~Fr. Paul

My dear people of God, to what can we compare our assembly as we come together for our Sunday service? Today's readings compare us to a field from which good fruit is expected. God has planted his field we are glad to be God's field, and we have come together to give thanks to God for having made us his people, his field.

Dearly beloved in Christ, when we see a fruit bearing tree, we can tell what type of a tree it is and whether it is healthy or not. All we need to do is to look at its fruits. A person's behavior and words are like the fruits of a tree. They reveal who the person really is. How do you use your tongue? How do you behave? As followers of Jesus, we should be thankful to God. Above all we must ensure that sincerity and love permeate our conversation. The goodness people will find in us will lead them to discover God's goodness, which is the spring from which our own goodness flows.

My dear people of God, are you bearing spiritual fruits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self control(Gal 5: 22-23)?

Dearly beloved in Christ, the Gospel reveals to us Jesus' heart in all its beauty. He is the Word, God's messenger and message in his own person and through his teachings. His purpose in coming into the world is to lead us to discover the Father's love for all.

My dear people of God, our task in the world is to be God's messengers to everybody around us. How can we do so effectively? We have to make God's message our own. In fact, we shall communicate God's message to the extent that we have made it our own. Heaven will be heaven because the heart of each one will be open to everyone else, God's heart included.

My dear people of God, we must realize that as Christians we have great responsibility especially in spiritual matters. Our lives must be exemplary. If we do not know the way of salvation, how can we lead anyone to God?

May the good Lord richly bless you. Amen!

Youth Ministry will be serving a simple soup supper after the 6:15pm Ash Wednesday Mass in Brinkmann Hall. All are welcome!

**Fish Fries at St. Joseph Parish, Garnavillo**

March 14, 21 & 28; serving 5-7:30pm;  
Adults \$15; Kids 5-12 \$10; under 5 free  
Raffle Drawing; Carryouts Available

**REGULATIONS FOR LENT**

1.) **Fasting** means eating only one full meal on the fast day. Ash Wednesday & Good Friday are days when we are obliged to fast. Two other light meals are permitted, but eating between meals is not. Obligatory from age 18 until age 59 unless sick or pregnant.

2.) **Abstinence** means we do **not** eat **meat**. Ash Wednesday & all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. The obligation to abstain begins the day after your fourteenth birthday.

**CEW Retreat:** Has your faith grown cold this winter? Light a fire in your faith by joining us for a Christian Experience Weekend! The CEW retreat will be held March 14 - 16th, 2025, in Scotch Grove, IA at The Bean Farm. (The retreat begins on Friday at 7 PM and ends at approx. 4:30 PM on Sunday.) This is a renewal weekend for adults (both men and women), and is designed to enable them to more deeply experience themselves, their relationship to God and the Christian Community. Registration is \$55 and includes all meals/snacks and lodging. Contact Gregg Pospisil @ 319-551-1309 or go to: <http://www.thebeanfarmofscotchgrove.org/>

**A Stewardship Moment**

All of today's reading remind us that our works reflect what is in our hearts. Do my words and actions reveal a heart that is grateful for—and generous in sharing---the abundance God has poured into my life?

**Upcoming Parish Events . . .**

(BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)  
Feb 27: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30 pm, PC  
Finance Committee Mtg, 6:30pm, PC  
Mar 2: Patriotic Rosary, 5:30pm  
Mar 4: Scripture Study, 8:30-10:30am, PC  
CDA Mtg, Noon, St. Patrick, Monona  
KC Mtg, 7:30pm  
Mar 5: Ash Wednesday, Lent Begins  
Sacred Seed Sowers Book Club, 1pm, PC  
Mar 6: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30 pm, PC  
Mar 7: World Day of Prayer, 1pm  
Mar 9: KC Breakfast, 8-11:30  
Mar 10: Parish Council Mtg, 6:30 pm, PC  
Mar 16: Coffee and Donuts After Mass, BH

Priest: Fr. Paul Kwaku Ameyaw, 563-880-6017  
Deacon: James Pfaffly, 563-880-9696  
Faith Formation: Erin Schmelzer, 563-880-7471  
Youth Ministry: Katey Simon, 563-219-4129  
Parish Life: Lois Bries, 563-252-3026  
Stewardship/Liturgy: Sue Bahls, 563-252-3253  
Social Justice: Gerald Bormann, 563-419-6967  
Choir: Anna Moser, 563-880-1176  
Secretary: Lisa Kies, 880-1946; officeofstmary@gmail.com

**Finance:**  
Jim Schlueter  
563-252-1490  
Marv Althoff  
Jeff Burr  
Tom Augustyn  
Sharon Keehner  
Austin Greve

**Parish Council:**  
Beth Sadewasser, Chair  
563-880-2743  
Jessie Young, Gerald  
Bormann, Lois Bries  
Adam Scherbring  
Larry Wille

Parish Center: Lora Kolker, 563-880-9111  
Parish Center Reservations: 563-252-1577  
Knights: Dale Wille, 309-232-9476  
St. Anne: Maggie Schlueter, 563-252-1490  
Cath Daughters: Janet Happel: 319-530-9121  
Prayer Line: Betty Evers, 563-252-1666  
Friends of St Mary: Jane Parker, 563-880-5469  
St. Mary Alumni: Pat Kolker, 563-880-9815  
Phoebe Johnson: 563 880-4767

Stephen Ministry: Becky Shaffer, 319-393-1234