

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Jan 13, 2022

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www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

On January 16, the **Parish Life Committee** will be presenting the movie, **A QUESTION OF FAITH**, in Brinkmann Hall, after the 10:00 AM Mass with a **FREE** light luncheon prior to the movie. Movie will start at approximately 11:30. **A brief description of the movie:** Three families find themselves at a crossroads, questioning their faith and the God that guides their lives. As each family member deals with their issues, their worlds start to intertwine. This leads to a chain of events, which unknowingly brings the three families closer and closer together. Will the families give in to the loss, pain, and uncertainty that has shattered their lives, or will they find the tie that binds them all together through hope, trust, redemption, and goodwill?

"SCRIPTURE STUDY" resumes on February 1, 8:30am and February 3, 6:30pm, starting with Session #18 of The Bible Timeline, "The Story of Salvation." The Sessions will be 2 hours long, held in Brinkmann Hall and continue until March 10, 2022, by Jerry Balk, 252-2361.



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

Saturday, Jan 22 at St. Mary, Guttenberg after Mass

Braven James Kann

son of Brandon & Destiney (Larson) Kann

May you grow in age, knowledge & wisdom in the Lord!

Mass Schedule: Jan. 17 – Jan. 23, 2021

Mon., Jan 17: [No Mass Scheduled] ** No School **
"St. Anthony" (Full Moon)

Tues., Jan 18: – [No weekday Masses at Garnavillo during the Winter season]

Wed., Jan 19: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg - 4th Grade
Verna Greenwood & Edward Lowell

Thur., Jan 20: 10:00 A.M. – Guttenberg Care Center
Leon Berns / Bill & Kay Vogt

Fri., Jan 21: [No Mass Scheduled] , "St. Agnes"

Sat., Jan 22: Vigil of Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Harold Mueller
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Donald & Patricia Scheffert

Sun., Jan 23: Third Sunday in Ordinary Church Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
People of the Parish
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, Live Streamed
Arthur Herman

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Words of Wisdom From our Blessed Mother

His mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.” [John 2:5](#)

This short and direct statement from our Blessed Mother says all we need to know. “Do whatever He tells you.” What else do we need to know in life?

The hard part, of course, is following that advice. It’s easy to believe it, to preach it and to commit ourselves to doing everything that our Lord says, but it’s another thing to actually follow through and fulfill His divine will.

That short exhortation calls us to two things: 1) To discern what Jesus wants of us and, 2) To freely embrace that which we discern. How are you doing in these two areas?

First of all, discerning the will of God can be hard in the sense that it requires a wholehearted attentiveness to His gentle and subtle voice. God does not impose His will on us; rather, He respectfully and quietly invites us to listen. He waits until we give Him our full attention and then reveals His will one step at a time. Yes, some things have been made clear already through public revelation such as the avoidance of sin and the embrace of faith, hope and love. But when we are ready to let those general commands enter practically into our daily lives, we must be ready to give God our full attention.

Second, we should realize that God’s will, when properly discerned, is not always easy to embrace. He requires everything of us. He is a “jealous God” in the sense that He wants our total surrender. The good news is that if we are willing to give Him everything in total obedience, we will discover that our lives are completely fulfilled.

Reflect, today, upon this twofold invitation spoken by our Blessed Mother. Reflect upon how ready you are to listen to God’s will and how ready you are to do His will, no matter what it is. If you are ready for this, you are on the path toward holiness.

Dear Blessed Mother, thank you for your perfect words of wisdom. Help me to accept your advice in my life. Help me to know what your Son wills of me and then help me to embrace His holy and perfect will. Lord, I give You my life and choose to surrender all to You. Jesus, I trust in You.

source: mycatholiclife.com

SMIC School is seeking to fill the following positions for the 2022/2023 school year.

Principal

Elementary Teacher

Middle School Teacher

Send resume to eschmelzer@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us

Please share this information and if you know of someone, encourage them to apply!

KC Breakfast Results:

Total Received: \$2,302

Costs: \$ 467

To Ramp Fund: \$1,835

Meals Served: 127

THANK YOU!!

Kindness is like snow,
It beautifies everything it
covers.

2022 Beauty in Christ Women’s Conference

St. Mary Parish will be a host/satellite site for this amazing conference on Saturday, January 29th, from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. We will view the conference in Brinkman Hall.

Cost to attend in person is \$25. This includes the ticket, meal, and snacks throughout our time together. For at home viewing the cost for a ticket is \$10.

We hope you will consider joining us for this beautiful opportunity! Call Katey at 563-219-4129 or email at dbq096ym@dbqarch.org to reserve your spot! In person seating is limited so call today! **Register by Friday, January 21.**

A Stewardship Moment

In today’s second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from God and that they are given, not for ourselves alone, but for the common good. But the generosity of God knows no limits - the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can change our gifts of water into wine!

Upcoming Parish Events

Jan 16: Movie: “A Question of Faith” will be shown after 10am Mass; a light lunch will be served

Jan 19: Youth Ministry, 6:15-8:00pm, Brinkmann Hall

Jan 26: **No Youth Ministry**

Jan 29: Beauty in Christ Women’s Conference; 8am—1pm

Feb 1: Scripture Study, 8:30am, Brinkmann Hall

KC Meeting, 7:30pm, Brinkmann Hall

Feb 2: Youth Ministry, 6:15-8:00pm, Brinkmann Hall

Feb 3: Scripture Study, 6:30pm, Brinkmann Hall

Feb 9: Youth Ministry, 6:15-8:00pm, Brinkmann Hall

Please submit newsletter items by Tuesday night to: churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us