

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Jan 20, 2022

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week:

“Repent and believe in the gospel.” Some type of honest and sincere repentance is necessary for any type of authentic growth and maturity. We have to come to the realization, unless we are happy wallowing in immaturity and superficiality, that the way we have been doing things is not the best or the healthiest. There isn’t a human being alive who hasn’t acted foolishly or erratically at the cost of almost losing a treasured relationship. “Why did I act that way?” is a question we often ponder after some reflection and enlightenment. Faith works the same way. Stumbling through life and bumping up against meaninglessness, a person can begin to see that something significant is missing. They see that there is merit to a relationship with God and an embrace of faith. Before these can take root, sincere sorrow for past wrong doing, missed opportunities, errors in judgement, and short sightedness is necessary. Repentance is necessary. Then having realized that we were walking in darkness, we can rejoice that by God’s grace, we now see the light. ©LPi

Please keep our Catholic school in your prayers as SMIC continues to search for a new principal and teachers for the next school year.



God, we do good work, important work. Instill in us a spirit of gratitude for community, for this community, and for the good work we do – *together*. Instill in us a spirit of service. Help us to see you, God, in all of our students and staff and faculty. And instill in us too, a drive to passionately pursue our mission. The pursuit of God, and the good of the common good. In this season of gratitude, there is much to celebrate. We offer thanks for those who will leave in the not-so-distant future. Thank you for the counsel, the very good counsel, they have provided us over so many years. And we too offer thanks for the many leaders, in and outside, who have built the systems that have served our students, staff and faculty throughout the many years. We honor their boundless generosity, their boldness, their smarts and their perseverance. As we look to the future, we are filled with hope and thanksgiving for our new prospects, for their vision, gifts and love of our school. Fill us all with faith, hope and love as we face the challenges that lie ahead and as we pursue new opportunities to more fully embody our mission. And finally, God, as we move into the future. May we be a We. Unite us. Inspire us. Sustain us. Help us to—*together*—see you and seek you in all that we do. For this we pray, Amen.

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. 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.**

Mass Schedule: Jan. 24 – Jan. 30, 2021

Mon., Jan 24: 11:00 A.M. – N. Buena Vista – Funeral for Shirley Brimeyer with visitation in parish hall one hour before

Tues., Jan 25: – [No weekday Masses at Garnavillo during the Winter season]

Wed., Jan 26: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, 3rd Grade
“Ss. Timothy & Titus” – *Julius & Verna Steffen*

Thur., Jan 27: 8:30 A.M. – Guttenberg River Living Center
Harold Mueller & Shirley Kann

Fri., Jan 28: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Jan 29: Vigil of Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Bert Behrend & Tracy Werges
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
People of the Parish

Sun., Jan 30: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Church Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
Merl Meyer & Annie Ries

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The Gift of Sacred Scripture

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received. [Luke 1:1-4](#)

St. Luke begins his Gospel with this short explanation. This introduction to his Gospel gives us the opportunity to look more deeply at the Holy Bible. What is your approach to the Bible? How often do you read it? How thoroughly do you understand it? Is the Bible the foundation of your life of faith and knowledge of God?

Sacred Scripture is a gift beyond our imagination. It's a gift from God through which He reveals His perfect love and His perfect plan for us. We should know the Scriptures well, read them often, pray over the verses and allow all that is revealed within those pages to become the foundation of our lives. Let's reflect upon one particular aspect of Sacred Scripture.

The Bible is 100% the work of God and 100% the work of the human author. It is 100/100 so to speak. This means that the human author completely cooperated with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in writing each book and letter. And God, for His part, guaranteed that all that was written came from His heart and inspiration. Therefore, this joint effort reveals that God used the human author for a divine purpose.

This is of great significance to understand for two reasons. First, it reveals that we should love Scripture because it reveals the heart and truth of God as well as the unique personality and humanity of the human author. So we are benefiting from the full revelation of God as well as the unique gift of the human author.

Second, it should reveal to us that, though God will not use us in the same way (i.e., to add to the Bible), He does desire to use us for divine purposes. He desires to consume our unique human personality and use us to shine forth the beauty and splendor of His divinity. He wants a 100/100 cooperation with us, also, so as to shine through us in a radiant way.

Reflect, today, upon two things. First, reflect upon the gift of the Bible and the way that God used the human author to give you this gift. Second, reflect upon the fact that God wants to use you, in all your weakness and sin, to bring His divine presence into our world. Be open to that gift so that you may become a living gift of the Word of God to the world.

Most glorious Eternal Word, I thank You for the wonderful gift of Sacred Scripture. Thank You for all that You have revealed through this gift and for the way that You used the human author for the transmission of Your life. Help me to always be open to Your divine Word and to always be open to becoming a living presence of that Word in our world. Jesus, I trust in You.

source: [mycatholiclife.com](#)

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

Poland & East Europe Pilgrimage: Come along June 6-17, 2022, to some of the most historical and sacred places in all of Europe. We'll see the home of St. John Paul II, visit the Shrine of Divine Mercy, walk through the Auschwitz Concentration Camp and so much more! We'll have Mass each day in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. Cost is \$4,199 with departure from Omaha. For a brochure and more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther, St. Mary's Parish, 307 – 4th Street North, Humboldt, Iowa 50548 or call 712-899-6870 or email frdanguenther@gmail.com

A Stewardship Moment

The US bishops' pastoral on stewardship reinforces today's reading from I Corinthians: “Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well-being are the responsibility of the members - the personal responsibility of each one of us. We all are stewards of the Church.”

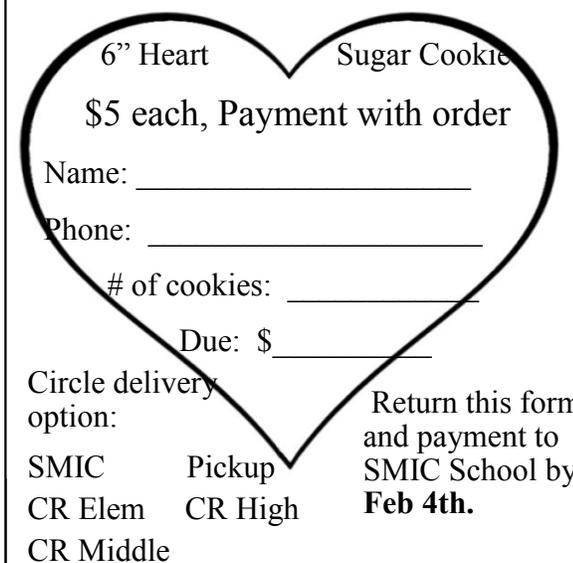
SMIC School is seeking to fill the following positions for the 2022/2023 school year.

**Principal
Elementary Teacher
Middle School
Teacher**

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

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

St. Mary IC School Valentine Cookie Sale



6" Heart Sugar Cookie
\$5 each, Payment with order
Name: _____
Phone: _____
of cookies: _____
Due: \$ _____
Circle delivery option: SMIC CR Elem CR Middle Pickup CR High
Return this form and payment to SMIC School by Feb 4th.

Upcoming Parish Events

- Jan 21: Registration due for Beauty in Christ Women's Conf
- Jan 26: Youth Ministry, 6:15-8:00pm, Brinkmann Hall
- 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
- Feb 13: KC Breakfast, 8-11:30 am
- Feb 27: Festival Meeting after 10:00am Mass

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