

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: July 21, 2022

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: What Jesus Doesn't Say

"If Jesus wanted us to (fill in the blank), he would have said so." We hear this argument applied to every controversial topic under the sun — and even some not-so-controversial topics, too. Whenever someone is trying to make a case for a decision they have already made, they call in Jesus' scriptural silence on the matter as their expert, unimpeachable witness.

And sure, there's much Jesus doesn't talk about in the Gospels. But by this logic, we would have to assume that Jesus doesn't care, for instance, if we drive well over the speed limit (he doesn't discuss cars and highways in the Bible) or what we do online (he never mentions the Internet or websites at all!), when we know that certainly is just not the case.

Like the scholar of the Jewish law who challenges Jesus to define who exactly his "neighbor" is, we can argue semantics all we want. But if we rest in prayer and look deep into our hearts, we know what path we need to take, and it's usually not the easy one.

I find that I do this plenty in ways that are far more subtle. I lament that the situation facing me is not sufficiently "black and white." I become frustrated by the shades of moral grey and toss up my hands, claiming I don't know what the right answer is, insisting that I can't be blamed for the ramifications of whatever decision I make.

What I need to be doing in these situations is asking God for His guidance, even if it makes me nervous. I need to be like the scholar. He was brave enough to ask, even though I think he knew he wouldn't particularly like the answer.

Let's strive for that same courage. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Fall Fundraiser Information

Silent Auction: Donations of new or hand crafted items for the silent auction will be accepted through August 22nd. Bidding in person and online will start August 27th and continue through Sept 11 at 12:00 noon.

- * Looking for donations of baskets/gift baskets for silent auction.
- * Looking for volunteers to help staff the silent auction on weekends.

Cash Raffle/Donations: For the drawing, each \$100 will buy a ticket for the chance to win four cash prizes of \$500 each. The drawing will take place Sept. 11, after the 10:00 am Mass. Tickets can be purchased or donations made (*make checks out to St. Mary Fall Festival and indicate Tickets or Donation*):

- *online at <https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>
- * put money in an envelope in the weekend collection marked Festival, or
- *send money to St Mary Church, PO Box 847; Guttenberg, IA 52052

General chairperson:
Don Scherbring 563-252-1556

Please note for tax purposes, monies used to purchase tickets for the drawing are **not** considered a tax deductible contribution. To make a tax deductible contribution, include a note indicating **donation**.

Handicap Ramp Closure Notice:

The north entrance to the church is closed as reconstruction of the handicap ramp takes place. This entrance will be closed for approximately 2 months. During this time, KC members will be available at the east (front) entrance of the church to assist those who need help getting into church for weekend Masses.

Mass Schedule: July 25 – July 31, 2022

- Mon., Jul 25:** [No Mass scheduled], "St. James"
- Tues., Jul 26:** 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
"Ss. Joachim & Anne" - *Vincent & Inez Hoeger/Amy Hoeger*
- Wed., Jul 27:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Ann Olinger & Kathleen Bockenstedt
- Thur., Jul 28:** 8:30 A.M. – Guttenberg River Living Center
People of the Parish
- Fri., Jul 29:** [No Mass Scheduled], "St. Martha"
- Sat., Jul 30:** Vigil of 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Edna Rausch (C.D. of A.)
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Donna Balk & Julie Schlueter
- Sun., Jul 31:** 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
Don Evers & Janice Rohner

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Praying for the Will of God

“And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” [Luke 11:9](#)

If we were to take this statement of Jesus in a very literal way we could easily conclude that Jesus will give us anything we ask for in a prayerful way. But we know this is not what happens. Perhaps everyone has prayed hard for this or that and the request was not answered in the way we wanted. Why is that? Did we simply fail to pray with faith? Will Jesus do whatever we ask of Him when we pray for it with all our might? Certainly not.

This passage goes on to say, “If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?” ([Luke 11:13](#)). Within this context, and within the context of everything that Jesus has taught us, it’s important to know that there is one thing and one thing only for which we ought to pray. And when we pray for this one thing, we can be assured of obtaining it when we pray for it in faith. What is that one thing? It’s the will of God.

If we sincerely and wholeheartedly ask for and seek the will of God, we can be certain that our Lord will give us the Holy Spirit and that the Holy Spirit will, in turn, lead us into the will of God for our lives. The problem is that too often we end up praying that “MY will be done” rather than “THY will be done.” This is an important difference.

True prayer is ultimately about trust and surrender to God. We trust in His perfect plan and surrender to that perfect plan in our lives. When we do this, we can be assured that the Lord will hear and answer this perfect prayer.

Reflect, today, upon that simple prayer in the Lord’s Prayer: *Thy will be done!* Strive to trust in God’s perfect plan for your life and do all you can to surrender to it. With this form of prayer we can be assured that the Holy Spirit will come to us, leading us into His holy will.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Jesus, I trust in You.

source: www.mycatholiclife.com

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped with the auction of the fall festival items!

Mark Your Calendars . . .

Please patronize these St. Mary’s volunteers who work at the Bender’s Foods cookout stand they raise funds for their many different church events.

Aug 19 & 20: Knights of Columbus
Aug 26 & 27: St. Mary’s Parish Life

Friends of St. Mary IC PPA (Parents, Parishioners, Alumni)

Upcoming Events:

- PPA Meeting, Aug 1, 5:30pm Middle School
- Aug 18, 5-7pm, School open house and taco supper

Fundraisers:

- Raffle -\$20 Tickets available from any SMIC student or at the school office. \$5000 total payout; \$50-\$1000 prizes; weekly draws Sep–Dec
- Scrip Sales — ongoing at Peoples State Bank or online
- Amazon Smile — ongoing;

Our new principal, Angela Jones invites you to contact her by email ajones@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us if you would like to visit with her before school starts. She is eager to hear from parents *and* students about SMIC and is diligently working to get things ready for a great school year.

Mandy Ludovissy, 563-880-8860; Lisa Kies, 563-880-1946; Jane Parker, 563-880-5469

SMIC School is seeking to fill the following positions:
Elementary Teacher
Middle School Teacher
Classroom Associates/Para-educators
Submit resume to
ajones@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us

Upcoming Parish Events (BH = Brinkmann Hall)

Aug 2: CDA Mtg at Noon in Monona
KC Meeting, 7:30pm
Aug 19/20: KC’s working the Bender’s Foods Cookout; 11am-6pm
Aug 22: Silent Auction Donations due
Aug 23: 1st Day of School for the 2022/2023 year
Aug 27-Sept 11: Silent Auction Bidding, before/after Masses
Sept 11: Fall Fundraiser Drawing; Four \$500 prizes to be given out

A Stewardship Moment
Jesus is describing God’s immeasurable generosity when He says in today’s Gospel, “Whoever asks, receives; whoever seeks, finds; whoever knocks, is admitted.” But it should also be the description of us as Christian stewards - those seeking to follow Christ by using our gifts in service to others.

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