

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: July 3, 2024 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY: Strength in Weakness

source: young-catholics.com

In the second reading for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Paul talks about his weaknesses and hardships. He explains that these challenges allow Christ's power to shine through. This teaches us that our struggles can help us grow closer to God.

Paul's message is clear: we do not need to be perfect to be loved by God. Our weaknesses and difficulties can be opportunities for God's strength to be shown. We can embrace our struggles and trust that God is working through them.

Paul's words encourage us to rely on God's power rather than our own. When we face hardships, we can remember that God's strength is made perfect in our weakness.

From the desk of the Pastor

Thank You for the thoughtful cards and gifts for me on my birthday and farewell last Sunday. The crowd in the basement of Brinkmann Hall was unbelievable! I will miss you all dearly as you will also. The pastor at Dyersville has me already scheduled for two weeks in July.

My new address is:

1205 6th St., S.E.

Apt. 109

Dyersville, IA 52040

Cell phone is 563-258-3958.

God Bless!!!

Mass Intentions: Please cut back on your requests for Mass intentions. I needed to send Masses to Divine Word Missionary priests and still have \$2,340 total in St. Mary's Mass Account. Thank you for your attention to above matter.

Please pray for Katey Simon, Liz Hartson, Madison Goedken, and Rashell Westhoff as they travel to Milwaukee for a service trip through Catholic Heart Workcamp July 7th-12th. May the Holy Spirit move through them as they show the love of Christ through word and action.

"Save Time and Donate Online!"

Online Giving is available with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church even while you are on vacation! Goto: <https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>

Fr. Bries,

May the grace of God surround you as you enter into retirement, guiding your steps and filling your heart with peace and joy. May His love sustain you in this new chapter of life, and may His blessings overflow in abundance!

We are forever grateful for your presence here with us these past 22 years and your unfaltering devotion to serving God and our parish communities. We send you off into retirement with many blessings.

May the Lord bless and keep you forever!

~ Parishioners of Immaculate Conception, St. Joseph and St. Mary

Mass Schedule: July 8 – July 14, 2024

Mon. Jul 8: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg

Dec'd of Bries/Goerd Family

Tues., Jul 9: 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo

Dec'd of Kainz/Koopmann Family

Wed., Jul 10: [No Mass Scheduled]

Thur., Jul 11: [No Mass Scheduled]

Fri., Jul 12: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Jul 13: Vigil of Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 P.M. Mass—St. Joseph, Garnavillo

People of the Parish

5:30 P.M. Mass—St. Mary, Guttenberg

Owen Kann & Lydia Kann

Sun., Jul 14: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 A.M. Mass – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista

10:00 A.M. – Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg, *live streamed*

Donald & JoAnn Wille//Stanley Blaha

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Faith and Rejection

source: young-catholics.com

The Gospel reading for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time shows Jesus visiting His hometown of Nazareth. Despite His wisdom and miracles, the people reject Him because they see Him as just a carpenter’s son. This lack of faith amazes Jesus.

Jesus’ experience in Nazareth shows us how important faith is. Even though He had the power to perform miracles, the people’s unbelief limited what He could do. This teaches us that our faith plays a crucial role in receiving God’s blessings.

Jesus challenges the people with a new way of thinking, and it is just too much for them. God is indeed a person, but perhaps we are also more comfortable with the idea of God than an actual encounter. When we encounter God, we know we might be pushed beyond our current way of thinking, and that is frightening.

We are reminded to have faith in Jesus, even when others doubt or reject Him. Our belief in His power can open the door to His healing and new ways of thinking.

Prayer:

Lord, give us the strength to speak Your truth, even when it is hard. Help us to embrace our weaknesses and trust in Your power. Increase our faith, so we may always believe in Your love and guidance. Amen.

Welcome Fr. Paul!

The Archdiocese of Dubuque has assigned Fr. Paul Kwaku Ameyaw to be the next pastor of our three parishes. Fr. Paul, 61, is from the Diocese of Techiman in Ghana. He was ordained in 1992 and will be one of 18 international priests serving in the archdiocese during 24-25. During his 31 years of priestly ministry he has been an associate pastor for 8 years and a pastor for 23 years.

Fr. Paul is a well respected leader in his diocese. For 13 years while a pastor, he concurrently held the role as the Chancellor of the Diocese of Techiman and most recently for the past 2 ½ years has served as their Vicar General.

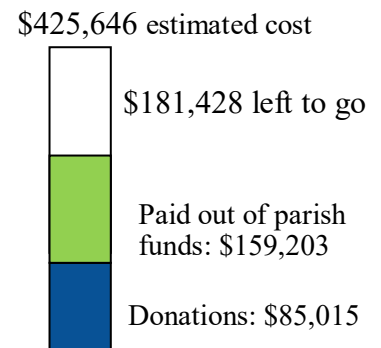
Fr. Paul is no stranger to the United States. From 2003-2007 he worked at a parish in Katonah, New York while also earning a Master’s Degree in Religious Education at Fordham University. He enjoys soccer and also developed an interest in baseball during his time in New York.

His visa application was approved by the US Government and he is now awaiting the final step in that process, which has to be completed at the US Embassy in Ghana. As soon as that is completed, his date of arrival in our community will be finalized. If that cannot be finalized prior to Fr. Bries’ retirement on July 9th, the archdiocese will assist in coordinating coverage for the parishes.

In the meantime our three linked parishes are making preparations to welcome Fr. Paul when he arrives. We look forward to greeting him with great Iowa hospitality and an appreciation for his upcoming ministry in serving our parishes. Safe travels, Fr. Paul!

Roof Replacement Projects

Thank you to all our donors for your continued generosity in supporting St. Mary Parish! Donations may be placed in the collection basket or made online at www.maryicjoseph.org



A Stewardship Moment

During this time, we celebrate the independence of our country. We would do well to echo the psalmist, saying, “Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for His mercy.” May we always recognize and use wisely the gifts of freedom and abundance He has showered upon us.

Upcoming Parish Events . . .

(BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)

- Jul 6 & 7: Food Shelf Weekend
- Jul 8: Parish Council/Finance Mtg; 6:30pm, BH
- Jul 11/12: Parish Life cookout stand at Benders, 11-6
- Jul 17: Sacred Seed Sowers Book Club, 1pm, PC
- Jul 27: Parish Life hosting a stand at Farmer’s Market
- Jul 28: Coffee and Donuts after Mass, BH

The Knights of Columbus Knight of the Month for July is Rick Johnson. Congratulations Rick!

Priest: Rev. Marvin J. Bries, 563-252-1247
 Deacon: James Pfaffly, 563-880-9696
 Faith Formation: Erin Schmelzer, 563-880-7471
 Parish Life: Lois Bries, 563-252-3026
 Stewardship/Liturgy: Sue Bahls, 563-252-3253
 Social Justice: Gerald Bormann, 563-419-6967
 Choir: Gina Dahlstrom-Osburn, 563-213-9021
 Secretary: Lisa Kies, 563-880-1946

Finance:
 Jim Schlueter
 563-252-1490
 Steve Bahls
 Marv Althoff
 Jeff Burr
 Al Schlueter
 Tom Augustyn

Parish Council:
 Don Scherbring
 563-252-1556
 Gerald Bormann
 Lois Bries
 Sue Bahls
 Adam Scherbring

Parish Center: Lora Kolker, 563-880-9111
 Parish Center Reservations: 563-252-1577
 Knights: Adam Scherbring, 563-880-3808
 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