

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: June 01, 2023 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY: **Mystery and Unity**

~source: young-catholics.com

As a Catholic, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity is one of the foundational teachings that shapes my understanding of God. At the core of this doctrine is the recognition that God exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This unity of the Godhead is something that we cannot fully comprehend with our finite human minds, but it is a mystery that we must accept and embrace as essential to our faith.

One of the most striking aspects of the Holy Trinity is the unity that exists between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Despite being distinct persons, they are united in their nature and purpose. This unity is not something that is forced or artificial, but rather it flows naturally from the perfect love that exists within the Godhead.

As Catholics, we are called to reflect this same unity in our own lives. Just as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are united in love, we are called to love one another and to work together in unity for the sake of the Gospel. This means setting aside our own individual interests and desires in order to serve the greater good of the Church and the world.

We are in need of one more sexton to oversee our two cemeteries. Thank you to Austin Greve for volunteering to be one of the sextons. Contact Fr. Bries at 252-1247 if interested. Must be an active member of our parish family.

Fr. Bries' Jubilee

Sunday, June 4, 2023
Mass at 10:00 AM

Meal: 11am to 1pm in
Brinkmann Hall with music
by Steve and Michele Dikkers

Saint Mary/Immaculate Conception
School Display

Western Theme



Music by The Lovehandles and Chris Ross
Activities from Noon-3pm:

Kids Games

Petting Zoo

Bounce House s

Ice Cream Machine



MARK YOUR CALENDARS . . .

Turning St. Mary school into our Parish Center for parishioners (and community) use is moving forward! Please stop by the Open House following 5:30 Mass on June 10 or the 10:00 Mass on June 11. If you haven't been in the building for awhile, take a tour, have a snack, share ideas with committee members. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mass Schedule: June 5 – June 11, 2023

Mon., Jun 5: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Jun 6: 11:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Mass and Installation of new officers of C.D. of A.
Deceased of Catholic Daughters of America – Mary Wright

Wed., Jun 7: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Charlie Bries & Robert Junk (C.D. of A.)

Thur., Jun 8: 8:30 A.M - Guttenberg River Living Center
Amy (Steffen) Clay

Fri., Jun 9: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Jun 10: 2:00 P.M. - St. Mary, Guttenberg
Wedding Ceremony
Austin Hansel & Ciaira Grinstead



Sat., Jun 10: Vigil of Feast of Corpus Christi
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
People of the Parish
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Edwin & Eleanor Frommelt

Sun., Jun 11: Feast of Corpus Christi
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
Thomas & Florence Hefel
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass. *Live Streamed*
Frank & Jackie Spielbauer Family
Leon & Valeria McGuire

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The Essence of the Most Holy Trinity

source: *mycatholic.life*

Of all the great feasts we celebrate within the Church throughout the year, today's Solemnity presents us with a Mystery that is so deep and transcendent that our eternity will be spent in perpetual contemplation. The Trinity, the life of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will never get old, never be fully understood, and will be the cause of our everlasting adoration and joy. Though the Church has used philosophical concepts to explain the Trinity, no human concept or description will ever fully explain Who God is. Though we can point to some general truths about God, we will never be able to fully depict the inner essence, depth, beauty and omnipotence of the Trinity.

As we consider that fact, it's important to understand that the Trinity is not *first* a theological mystery we try to define. Rather, the Trinity is *first* a communion of Persons we are invited to know. We do not primarily come to know God through intellectual deduction. We come to know God through prayerful union with Him. Though theology is exceptionally useful and important, the essence of God is beyond any and every philosophical concept we can define.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are Persons. And as Persons, they want to be known. And they want to be known primarily through a life of deep and intimate prayer. Praying to One Person, of course, is praying to all, since they are One God. But we are, nonetheless, called to a relationship of love with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. And though our feeble minds may not be able to fully comprehend the essence of God, He will draw us deeper and deeper into a knowledge of Him if we let Him.

Prayer often begins by saying prayers, by meditating upon Scripture, and by listening. But true prayer is something much deeper. True prayer is contemplative prayer that ultimately leads to divine union. Only God can initiate this form of prayer in our lives, and only God, through this deep form of prayer, can communicate Himself to us as He is. Some of the greatest mystics of our Church, such as Saint John of the Cross and Saint Teresa of Ávila, explain in their mystical theology that the deepest knowledge of God does not come through concepts or images. In fact, if we wish to obtain a knowledge of God in His essence, we must allow Him to purge every concept of Who He is so that the pure light of His essence can be poured forth upon our minds. This knowledge, they say, is beyond knowing "about" God. It's the beginning of a knowledge "of" God.

Reflect, today, upon the Most Holy Trinity. As you do, say a prayer to God asking for a deeper and more intimate knowledge of Him. Ask Him to communicate to you His divine love and to open your mind and heart to a deeper understanding of Who He is. Try to humble yourself before the great Mystery of the inner life of God. Humility before the Mystery of God means that we know how little we know about Him and how little we know of Him. But that humble truth will help you move closer to the deeper relationship of love to which you are called.

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, please draw me into a relationship of love with You Who are one God and three divine Persons. May the mystery and beauty of Your life become more known and loved by me each day through the gift of transforming mystical prayer. Jesus, I trust in You.

Church Door Replacement Project Update

The Knights of Columbus have received a second bid of less than \$30,000. Some details of this bid are being worked out before the contract is accepted. The doors on the east end of the church will be aluminum framed double pane glass doors with an etched cross. The door on the south end will be like the handicap door with half glass. The two sacristy doors will be solid doors (no glass).

The KCs would like to thank everyone who has donated to the door fund. \$40,000 has been received to date. To make a donation, please place an envelope in the collection basket marked KC Door Fund with your check made out to the **Knights of Columbus**.

Upcoming Parish Events

- June 4: Celebration of Fr. Bries' 50th Jubilee of Priesthood Ordination
- June 6: Catholic Daughter's installation Mass for new members at St Mary at 11:00 am with lunch following at Sodes.
- June 10: Women's Faith Sharing, 1pm @ Sodes
- June 10/11: Parish Center Open House after Masses
- June 12-16: Vacation Bible School, St. John's Church

A Stewardship Moment

The Gospel today is sometimes called "the Gospel in miniature" because it so concisely sums up the Gospel message. In even more condensed form, "God loved... God gave..." is the paradigm for stewardship --- we give because we love.

"Save Time and Donate Online!"

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

