

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: June 10, 2021

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week:

Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, the tiniest of seeds. When planted, the tiny mustard seed grows into a tremendous tree with large branches. So too in each of our lives small things can have profound effects. God can use one of our more insignificant gestures to radically change another person's life. It may be the kindness of a smile, our willingness to accommodate someone, listening to someone's story, helping someone who is hurting, standing up for someone who is right or complimenting someone on something they did. We all have God given gifts and talents. What are some of yours? Our task is to use our talents creatively, consistently, lovingly, and generously. Because we are always guided by the Holy Spirit, things that may be insignificant or unnoticed to us can profoundly change the life of someone else. While we may think we are small and insignificant, God can make us large and magnificent. All we have to do is open ourselves to being used. We trust that God will take care of the rest.

Fall Festival Update from the Festival Committee: Due to the unknowns of the near future, St Mary will have a silent auction and capital campaign with a drawing as we had last year. (No dinner or festival games). The silent auction will start Sept. 5 and will end on Sept. 26, at 11:00am with online bidding as well. Anyone wishing to donate crafts or good quality items can do so by bringing them to Brinkman Hall after Sept 1. We ask for your support of the capital campaign. Each \$100 donation will enter the donor in a drawing for four cash prizes of \$500 each. The drawing will take place Sept. 12, after the 10:00 am Mass. Donations can be (**make checks out to St. Mary Fall Festival**):

*made online at <https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>

* put in the weekend collection marked Festival, or

*sent to St Mary Church, PO Box 847, Guttenberg, IA 52052.

General chairperson:
Don Scherbring 563-252-1556

Next meeting: June 26 after the 5:30 pm Mass on SATURDAY!

Fall Faith Formation Classes

We are looking for a Faith Formation Director and people to teach classes. If there are not enough volunteers, Faith Formation will be home study only in the fall. Please prayerfully consider sharing your talents and call the school office, 563-252-1577, if you would like to help!

Faith Formation First Communion

Sunday, June 13, 2021, 10:00am

Please keep our communicants in your prayers.

Cade Hansel
Ethan Mueller
Rheagan Nolan
Pauline Smith
Keegan Sperfslage



Public Mass Schedule: June 14 – June 20, 2021

Mon., Jun 14: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Jun 15: [No Mass Scheduled]

Wed., Jun 16: [No Mass Scheduled]

Thur., Jun 17: [No Mass Scheduled]

Fri., Jun 18: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Jun 19: Vigil of 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
Harold Mueller [Month Mind]
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass
Rev. Richard Gaul

Sun., Jun 20: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, "Father's Day"
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, *Live Streamed*
Rev. Msgr. John McClean

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR: I will be on vacation from late Sunday, June 13 – June 22. I am visiting a priest friend and the groundbreaking for the new church on the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation near Havre, Montana. If you need the assistance of a Pastor during this time, please call Deacon James Pfaffly at 563-880-9696.

GOSPEL MEDITATION: Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A favorite motto of St. Teresa of Calcutta was, “do small things with great love.” This is how it works in the kingdom of God. God can do tremendous things with the smallest gesture, especially when it is done in love. We can clearly see that our world is suffering greatly. People are struggling to find peace, navigate through conflicts, earn a sustainable living, find security and enough food to eat, and work through political tensions and conflicts. In the light of the magnitude of the difficulties that exist around us and even within us, we can find ourselves floundering to discover practical, effective solutions. How can something so large be helped by someone as small and seemingly insignificant as me? While whole systems and structures may be out of the league of our personal influence, are we really that helpless in the midst of all of the turmoil, sadness, and suffering?

If we believe that God is with us and that God is still working to bring about the glory of God’s kingdom, then the answer is no. We are never helpless or without hope. Armed with a strong life of prayer, we can always flee to God and ask for inspiration, wisdom, and especially love. We are all blessed with unique gifts and talents and it often seems that considering all that the world lacks, love and charity remain at the top of the list. Life can easily become a battleground of hostility. Because life is challenging and difficult, anger is not far away. We see it on people’s faces and hear it in their voices. There is a measure of frustration that permeates all avenues of life. It is even felt in the air.

As people of faith, we know that what we see here is not the end but only a part of something far greater to come. We know that God’s kingdom is where we are ultimately meant to be, and the Gospel is the way to get there. If love and charity can prevail in us, then God will be able to do what God does best. God will use us to scatter the seeds of his kingdom. Through our small gestures, those seeds can receive the nurturing attention that is necessary for them to bear great fruit. We cannot fall victim to the strife that is around us. We have to keep ourselves refreshed and focused so that even in small ways, we can become part of the solution, not the problem. Love and charity, which come from God, can help to heal the ills of the world. May we bring these simple gifts to the everyday simple tasks of our lives! Watch how big the plant grows!

St. Anthony Can Find Anything — Even You

“Tony, Tony, come around! Something is lost and it must be found.”

Did you learn this one when you were a kid? In my experience there are even a lot of lapsed Catholics — or people who were never Catholic at all — who know that when you lose something, St. Anthony becomes your best friend. Missing keys? Pray to St. Anthony. Can’t find your favorite sweater? St. Anthony. Forget where you parked your car in the mall lot? St. Anth— okay, you get the idea. Whatever it is, large or small, important or trivial, Tony has a reputation for finding the lost things.

It’s a devotion that can seem a little like superstition — witchcraft, even? — if you don’t really understand it. Mumble an incantation to a dead guy and you’re guaranteed to find your sunglasses. But as with most traditions that are old, beloved and effective, looking a little closer reveals the truth of the matter.

When we lose something really important, what do we do? We make the whole household stop what they’re doing to join the search. Having St. Anthony as a friend means you ask him to stop what he’s doing to help, too. And how he helps is by taking the matter exactly where all matters need to go — straight to the feet of Christ.

Here’s the real genius of St Anthony: he takes the most mundane, commonplace occurrence — misplacing socks — into an encounter with the divine and truly all things great and small are gifts from God. He grabs our hand and points to the cross. “That’s what you’re looking for,” he tells us.

In the end, Tony doesn’t really find the lost things. He finds the lost people.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

“Save Time and Donate Online!”

<https://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/>

Kid’s Corner:

SHARING THE GOSPEL

You and a few others believe in God. You do not think you can do much because you are a very small group. Like the very small mustard seed, God will help you grow into the largest church in the world. Its branches, like the mustard tree, will grow large enough to hold you and all God’s other children. He will teach you his ways and help you share his love.

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, show me how to teach the word of God to others.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will share the word of God with my family and friends.

Upcoming Events

June 12: First Reconciliation for Faith Formation 2nd graders

June 13: First Communion for Faith Formation 2nd graders

June 20: St. Joseph Parish Chicken Dinner, 11am-1pm

June 26: Fall Festival Meeting, after 5:30pm Mass, Brinkmann Hall

Sept 5-26: St. Mary Parish Silent Auction, Brinkmann Hall

Sept 12: Festival Drawing after 10:00 am Mass