

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: June 17, 2021

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week:

Do we trust that God will take care of us and has things under control? When life gets difficult, shaky or painful, we may find ourselves wondering what we may have done to deserve this fate. Often, we go to great lengths to explain suffering away, as if it has no purpose and ought not to exist. In an attempt to get God on our side in our battle against suffering, our prayer can mirror a question asked by the disciples: do you not care that we are perishing? As we are asking that question of God, God is asking of us: do you not yet have faith? It is for certain that God does not intentionally inflict pain upon us. God has no sinister plot to test our faith or trip us up. Rather, the unconditional, restorative and rejuvenating power of God's love can bring light out of the greatest darkness and gives hope in the midst of deep despair. We have to be patient and ride out the storm. It is our task to deepen our faith that God will calm the wind and draw meaning out of that which seems senseless.

Fall Festival Update from the Festival Committee: Due to the unknowns of the near future, St Mary will have a silent auction and a drawing as we had last year with a goal of \$26,000. (No dinner or festival games). 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. 12, after the 10:00 am Mass. Tickets can be purchased (**make checks out to St. Mary Fall Festival**):

*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

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

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 you do not wish to be in the drawing.

Start thinking about donating to our Silent Auction to be held in September with the same format and set up as last year. Asking for new items, handcrafted items anything you feel would do well in an auction. Thank you for consideration on this as it did well last year!

**KC Cookout at Bender's Foods,
Friday and Saturday, 11am—6pm**

Chicken Dinner 
Drive Thru or In-Town Delivery
Sunday, June 20, 11am– 1pm
St. Joseph Parish Center, Garnavillo
\$12 per meal
For deliveries call 964-2234

Public Mass Schedule: June 21 – June 27, 2021

Mon., Jun 21: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Jun 22: [No Mass Scheduled]

Wed., Jun 23: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass
Elizabeth [Hartmann] Miller

Thur., Jun 24: 8:30 A.M. - Guttenberg River Living Center
Fred Bush & Owen Kann

Fri., Jun 25: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Jun 26: Vigil of 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
People of the Parish
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass
Robert 'Bob' Hoffmann
Earl 'Butch' Meyer & Josef Weisser

Sun., Jun 27: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, *Live Streamed*
Janice Ulbrich (Anniv.)

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR: I am on vacation from late Sunday, June 13 – June 22. I will be returning early Tuesday afternoon, June 22. If you need the assistance of a Pastor during this time, please call Deacon James Pfaffly at 563-880-9696.

Happy Father's Day!

GOSPEL MEDITATION: Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

As we look at our lives and world events, do we ever find ourselves wondering if God is sleeping? After all, maybe God’s patient, unconditional love has run its course and He is finally fed up with humanity’s reluctance to accept the truth about who we are. God really can’t be that patient! All throughout human history, many have prayed to God for intervention or for particular needs. Because their prayers were not answered in the way they wanted or anticipated, they felt that God may have abandoned them. Were they right? It seems that we are continuing, at a rapid rate, down a path of destruction. Do you not care, God, that we may be perishing? When the boats of our lives are rocking and the seas tumultuous, we want to know that we have God’s attention. Even more so, we want God’s intervention.

Maybe the storms and the waves are necessary. If we listen, they can teach us valuable lessons. Without them, we would never learn that we have the strength to endure, understand the uselessness of fear and worry, or develop the ability to really trust. If God immediately rushed in and simply calmed things down before they got difficult, what good would that really be? We would miss opportunities to learn how to drink more deeply of life, treasure its complexity, irony, and beauty and fully engage ourselves in surrendering to the love of our Creator. It is easy to walk on the surface of life without immersing ourselves in its messiness. Life has to burn its way through us in order to bring us to a place of secure trust. It’s unfortunate that some prefer a shallower journey.

That’s the balancing act that comes with faith. It is not God’s job to prevent us from encountering the torrential rains and winds of life. Many believe that if faith is done the right way, that God will provide for smooth sailing. That’s not how it works. God permits us to ride out the difficult stuff knowing that the storm will eventually be calmed. Do we not have faith that God will do this? True faith trusts in the steadfastness of God’s love when the seas are calm and when they are choppy. God’s unconditional loving presence shines through all of it and endures forever. Knowing this allows us to put our boats out into uncharted waters without hesitation. Knowing that we prefer the comfort and safety of what we know to be still waters, how do we feel when Jesus says, “Let us cross to the other side”?

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments : Waking God

A show of hands, ladies and gentlemen. Have any of you been given the silent treatment and had absolutely no idea why?

On the flipside, have any of you have sworn you’re not going to demean yourself by explaining, for the thousandth time, that you need extra help with the kids before soccer practice, or that you feel ignored when your spouse doesn’t ask how your day went?

But sadly, love doesn’t give you the ability to read minds. And in the end, we learn the lesson again and again, we have to verbalize our feelings, our needs, our wants. Expecting your partner to anticipate your needs is guaranteed to end badly.

It’s the same with God, even though, oddly enough, He does have the ability to read minds. But He still desires us to explain ourselves to Him, doesn’t He? “I’m feeling scared of this.” “I’m really worried about that.” “God, I think I need x, y and z. Help me. Please.”

Jesus slept on that boat, as it was tossed and turned by the waves, until his disciples woke him. “Why were you sleeping?” they ask. Well, geniuses, he was sleeping because they hadn’t woken him up yet. They had wasted time cowering in fear, waiting for him to act. They gave him the silent treatment and they didn’t even know it.

God doesn’t desire us to verbalize our needs as a way of keeping us submissive. He’s not that petty. What He desires is the communication — that’s what really counts. That act of opening yourself up, of becoming vulnerable, of relying on Him, trusting Him. If it feels like God is asleep in your life, ask yourself this, have you tried waking Him up?
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Upcoming Events

- June 20: St. Joseph Parish Chicken Dinner, 11am-1pm
- June 26: Fall Festival Meeting, after 5:30pm Mass, Brinkmann Hall
- Jul 6: CDA Meeting, Noon at Johnson’s restaurant in Elkader
- Jul 6: KC Meeting; 7:30, Brinkmann Hall
- Sept 5-26: St. Mary Parish Silent Auction, Brinkmann Hall
- Sept 12: Festival Drawing after 10:00 am Mass

Kid’s Corner:

SHARING THE GOSPEL

The disciples of Jesus had a very scary night, because their faith was not very strong yet. They were crossing the sea in their boat, just as Jesus asked them to do, when a huge storm came up. Their boat was filling up with so much water they thought they would all die. When they woke Jesus up, he simply spoke to the wind and the waves, and the storm stopped completely. Now they were really scared. Who was Jesus, anyway? The wind and waves listened to him!

PRAYER

Dear God, sometimes I feel afraid, too. Help me to remember that you are stronger than any problem I have. Amen.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Sit down with your family, and read Mark 4:35-41 out loud. Then talk about the things you are afraid of. Pray to God, ask for help, and believe that God is stronger than any problem you have.