

ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

Pastor: Father Marvin Bries

Phone: 563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

Newsletter: March 27, 2020

This is Our Time ... to be The Light Of Christ!

With all the uncertainty out there with the Corona Virus, school closings, Mass cancellations, the stock market erosion, and quarantines there is concern on everyone's mind.

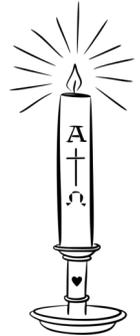
But ... know that God is here with us and He is working through our parishes. We have people:

- On a daily basis providing food through our lunchroom to kids in need of a healthy breakfast
- Providing meals to shut-ins
- Helping Guttenberg's GMHC Family Resource Center
- Working to implement new ways to keep our parish community connected

Thank you for helping our broader community while at the same time doing it in a way that you are setting a good example of social distancing through your approach so as not to catch, nor spread the Corona Virus.

May God bless and protect you all.

Fr. Marvin Bries



Abstaining from Meat—The Catholic faithful in the Archdiocese of Dubuque are dispensed from the obligation to abstain from meat on Friday, April 3. This dispensation does not apply to Good Friday, April 10. This dispensation is granted in view of the difficulty people might have in finding meal alternatives to meat, or to go out for grocery shopping. The Fridays of Lent remain days of prayer and penance. Those who are able to abstain from meat, should do so. Those who aren't able to abstain, should perform some other act of penance.

Online Resources:

- www.dbqarch.org/live-broadcasts
Live broadcast of Mass at 9am Sundays
Rosary, Thursdays at 2pm

Offertory—During these times when it is not possible to attend Mass, please continue your financial gifts as you are able to your parish so that we can maintain our operations and continue our many ministries (see Fr. Bries' note above) during this unprecedented time. You can mail your offertory to:

St Mary's Church
PO Box 847
Guttenberg, IA 52052

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there

And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

Find us on Facebook: St. Mary/St. Joseph/Immaculate Conception

A Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between
food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decision makers,
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope,
comfort and love to all.

Grant peace.
Grant comfort.
Grant healing.
Be with us, Lord.

Amen.



Some family time ideas:

- Build a fort
- Go for a walk
- Have a backyard or indoor picnic
- Play games
- Learn to bake, sew on a button, etc.
- Build with Legos, blocks or recyclables
- Create spring flowers with art supplies
- Play charades



When we put our
problems and
concerns in God's
hands, He puts peace
in our hearts. 

Raffle Winners

Mar 13: \$100, Nancy Schroeder

Mar 20: \$50, Matt Moser

Mar 27: \$50

Apr 3: \$100

Prayer for Medical and Emergency Personnel

Please be with all of the emergency responders, doctors and nurses who are exposing their own health to save others. Protect them from exposure, both physical and emotional. Guide their hands and give them wisdom. Protect their families as they spend extended time away from home. Amen

Humor for the week

What did one Easter egg say to the other?

Heard any good yolks

today?



Knock, knock! Who's there? Arthur. Arthur who?

Upcoming Event . . .

Holy Trinity Parish, Luxemburg, is sponsoring the show "Church of Cash- World Class Johnny Cash Tribute" on **May 22nd** at the New Vienna Hall. Doors open at 6:30 pm; show starts at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Tickets may be purchased at Dave's Feed Store, Ron & Amy's Gas Station and Ungs Shopping Center, all in Luxemburg. Or by calling 563-543-1792. You can check them out on YouTube and Facebook.

Updating Contact Information: We are in the process of updating our parish records. Please provide the following information. Please either email info to churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us or send to the church.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

I wish to receive future newsletter communications via :

___ Email ___ Facebook ___ Mail