

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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Newsletter: May 14, 2020

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## Are You Ready?

The government is now talking about preparing to relax the social distancing restraints ...  
This weekend's scripture readings are talking about preparing for the receiving of the Holy Spirit ...  
Are you ready?



## Plan Ahead ... Be Safe

As we return to work, to dining out, to being social, plan ahead and stay safe. Practice what we've learned regarding safe social distancing by wearing a mask, washing your hands, avoiding large gatherings, and stay safe. Similarly, this weekend's scripture readings encourage us to be prepared in order to receive the Holy Spirit.

The first scripture reading talks about the people of Samaria accepting the Gospel and that "there was great joy in that city", and how "they received the Holy Spirit". The second reading tells us that if you "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts ... that he might lead you to God." And the Gospel reading encourages us by reminding us that "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth".

Plan Ahead ... Be Ready ... Be Safe

Dear God ... As we prepare to return to pre-virus activity, be on your people's hearts. Please have them be diligent and keep them safe. I pray this in Jesus' name.

Fr. Marvin Bries

### Streaming Live Sunday Mass

Guttenberg Channel 6 and Facebook

**Sunday, May 17: \*\* 9 AM \*\***

**Sunday, May 24: 10 AM**

**Sunday, May 31: 10 AM**

"On this, the Sixth Sunday of Easter, we begin to turn our eyes toward the coming of the Holy Spirit. In this gospel this week, Jesus speaks of asking the Father to send another Advocate to be with us always. This Advocate is the Holy Spirit.

If we are open to the coming of the Holy Spirit, we will receive the greatest Advocate we can have in life. The Holy Spirit is THE Advocate, meaning, the only helper we need. Becoming consumed by the Holy Spirit provides us with every grace necessary in life.

Reflect, today, upon the fact that Jesus' promise to His Apostles has been fulfilled and that you have the ability to receive that promise here and now in your life. Say a prayer to the Holy Spirit and anticipate celebrating Pentecost Sunday in two weeks.

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. "*

*Excerpt from mycatholiclife.com*

**Action for today:** How have I experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Which one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit do I exhibit the most (wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage [fortitude], knowledge, reverence [piety], and wonder and awe)? Which gift do I need the most at this moment in my life? How can I give witness to the good news in a way that shows that I am filled with the Holy Spirit and am doing it with gentleness and reverence?

When we pray for each other, something supernatural takes place. Take a moment and pray for the person on your mind.

During these times when it is not possible to attend Mass, please continue your financial gifts to the parish as you are able so that we can maintain our operations and continue our many ministries. There are 3 ways to give:



1. Drop off at parish office
2. Mail to the parish office(address above)
3. Donate Online:  
[maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/](http://maryicjoseph.weshareonline.org/)

**Thank you for the generous gifts we have received this past month!**

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

**Mass Readings for May 17, 2020, The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Reading 1 [Acts 8:5-8, 14-17](#)**

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city. Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm [Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20](#)**

**R.** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, “How tremendous are your deeds!” **/R/**

“Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!” Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. **/R/**

He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever. **/R/**

Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness! **/R/**

**Reading 2 [1 Pt 3:15-18](#)**

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

**Alleluia [Jn 14:23](#)**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.** Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him. **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel [Jn 14:15-21](#)**

Jesus said to his disciples: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

**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.

FROM YOUR MOUTH TO GOD’S EARS: Even COVID-19 cannot get in the way of the Holy Spirit! This year the Archdiocese of Dubuque will be blessed by the ordination to the priesthood of three candidates and four will be ordained to the transitional diaconate. Please remember them especially on these dates:

Priesthood

Deacon Sean Smith—May 9  
Deacon Joseph Sevcik—May 23  
Deacon Nick Radloff—May 23

Transitional Diaconate(to be ordained priests next year)

Mr. Jake Dunne—May 19  
Mr. Kyle Tietz—May 20  
Mr. Eric Zenisek—May 21  
Mr. Martin Coolidge—May 22

May more young people open their hearts and lives to religious life, priesthood and the permanent diaconate. Saint Raphael our archdiocesan patron, Pray for Us! (Due to COVID-19, all ordinations will be live-streamed. Check out Archdiocese of Dubuque [www.dbqarch.org](http://www.dbqarch.org))

A small meteorite is reported headed for Legoland. . . . . The damage is expected to be 50 square blocks!

Thank you to all who have submitted your email address to reduce mailing costs! If you are receiving a paper mailing and would like to receive it via email, please send email to: [churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us)