

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: May 19, 2022

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www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: **Loving as New Creations**

“There’s something different about you.”

Think about the times in your life when this has been said to you. Maybe it was after someone complimented you on a job well done, and you realized that you were walking through life with a little more confidence. Maybe it was after meeting someone special, as you carried the glow of that relationship wherever you went. Chances are, if someone has noticed something different about you, it’s because, inwardly, you’ve been changed by the loving or respectful actions of another person.

Love, you see, can make us into new creations. From the love of God flows the grace to tackle any challenge, including the biggest challenge of all: loving each other well. Christ knows what a big request this is. He was human, too. He came and lived among us. He knew intimately what it was to love people in the chaos of their own flaws. He knew what he was asking of us when he said, “As I have loved you, so you should also love one another.”

In essence, this is the call to stewardship: loving as Christ loves, amidst the messiness of everyday reality. Loving with accountability, challenging ourselves and our brothers and sisters to be faithful even when it is hard. Loving with an unflinching sense of hospitality that welcomes even those we do not agree with or understand. Loving with gratitude, giving thanks for the great variety of ways that Christ can make himself known to us through others.

It isn’t easy — we all know that. But if we ask God for the grace to remain steadfast in this greatest commandment, we will be given. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

Mark Your Calendars . . .

Please patronize these St. Mary’s volunteers who work at the cookout stand at Bender’s Foods as they raise funds for their many different church events.

June 10 & 11: St. Anne’s Group
June 17 & 18: St. Mary’s Parish Life
Aug 19 & 20: Knights of Columbus
Aug 26 & 27: St. Mary’s Parish Life

A Stewardship Moment

Today’s reading from Revelation offers a vision of the City of God, the new Jerusalem. “But,” the bishops’ pastoral on stewardship reminds us, “that ‘life to come’ is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now.”

BAPTISM INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD & OUR COMMUNITIES OF FAITH:



Sunday, May 22 at St. Mary, Guttenberg after Mass

Raina Marie Susice

daughter of Marcus & Megan (Sadewasser) Susice

May you grow in age, knowledge & wisdom in the Lord!

Mass Schedule: May 23 – May 29, 2022

Mon., May 23: – [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., May 24: 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Dec’d of Tschirgi Family

Wed., May 25: – 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, 7th/8th Grade
Last school Mass of the year - *People of the Parish*

Thur., May 26: 8:30 A.M. - Guttenberg River Living Center
Ann Olinger & Kathleen Bockenstedt

Fri., May 27: [No Mass Schedule]

Sat., May 28: Vigil of Ascension of the Lord
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Henry Mueller
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Bernard & Josephine Meyer

Sun., May 29: Feast of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
People of Parish
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
8th Grade Graduation Mass
Nick Westhoff

Mon., May 30: Memorial Day Mass
10:00 A.M. – St. Joseph Cemetery Chapel, Garnavillo
Joe & Anita Schmelzer//Jim & Joann Helle

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The Love of God

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." [John 14:23](#)

Do you want our Lord to come to you and dwell within the depths of your soul? Presumably the answer is an easy "Yes." The way to make this happen is to love God and keep His word. When you do that, the Blessed Trinity will come and dwell within you.

It's interesting that the love of God appears to be contingent upon our love of Him. In other words, does God only love us when we love Him first? Strictly speaking, God loves us with a perfect love regardless of whether we love Him or not. But with that said, love takes on a whole new form when it is received and reciprocated. Therefore, when we choose to love God we suddenly realize that our love of Him opens the door for Him to come and dwell within us, transforming us and making our heart His holy sanctuary. What a glorious gift!

It's also interesting to note that love of God means, in part, that we are obedient to Him. But that's the nature of God. He is Love itself and, therefore, loving Him necessarily involves a complete submission of your will to His. Perfect obedience to Him in all things is a powerful way of loving Him. It's a way of allowing Him to dwell within you and, in that act, to take over your will. Only then can you love Him even more fully with your whole being.

Reflect, today, especially upon your desire to have the Most Holy Trinity come and dwell within your soul. This should be the primary goal of our lives. If God lives within us then all else in life will fall into place. All things will work for the good and God will be glorified in and through us. Make the choice to love Him through your obedience, this day, and your relationship of love will grow by leaps and bounds.

Most Holy Trinity, I do love You and desire to love You in a more perfect way this day. Help me to submit to Your perfect will in all things. Help me to embrace perfect obedience to You always. In that act of love and submission, come and make Your dwelling within me. Jesus, I trust in You. *source: mycatholiclife.com*

Prayer for Our 8th Grade, High School and College Graduates

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." ([Proverbs 3:5-6](#))

Dear God, we pray that you would give our children wisdom and direction in making decisions, and in each new situation and journey you have for them now. Teach them to listen closely to your voice, that they would have a heart to obey your Word and have a desire to make the right choices. We pray that these we love so much would walk faithfully and diligently in all your ways. We ask that you would make their footsteps firm, that your Word would be a constant lamp for their feet and a light to their path. May they sense the freshness of your Spirit over their lives in amazing ways, and may they be strengthened, instilled with hope, for the new roads you have in store. We ask for your wisdom and clear direction over their lives, that you would give them understanding beyond their years. We ask for you to open doors that need to be opened and close every one that should be shut tight. Allow every gift and treasure you have placed inside their lives to grow, develop, and flourish to bring you glory.



SMIC School is seeking to fill the following positions for the 2022/2023 school year: **Elementary Teacher & Middle School Teacher.** Submit resume to eschmelzer@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us

Friends of St. Mary IC PPA (Parents, Parishioners, Alumni)

SMIC apparel is available to order. Show your school pride! Stop by Riverview Boutique to place your order. Deadline is May 23.

Upcoming Events:

- May 24, SMIC Talent Show, 2:30pm
- May 25, PPA Meeting, 5:30pm Middle School

Upcoming Fundraisers:

- Scrip Sales — ongoing
- Coming Soon — Calendar Raffle

Mandy Ludovissy, 563-880-8860; Lisa Kies, 563-880-1946; Jane Parker, 563-880-5469

Upcoming Parish Events (BH = Brinkmann Hall)

- May 29: 8th Grade Graduation Mass & Breakfast
- Jun 7: KC Meeting, 7:30pm, BH

Please submit newsletter items by Tuesday night to: churchlady@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us