

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Nov 10, 2022 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

## LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: Do We Watch Jesus from a Distance?

It seems to me that Zacchaeus may have gotten more than he bargained for when he scaled that sycamore tree.

We can only speculate as to what the original intentions of the wealthy tax collector were. We know he wanted to see Jesus, of course — but what does that mean? Was he simply curious about this famous and controversial man? Was he moved by what he heard of Jesus' teachings? Was he trying to catch a glimpse, or to get close?

Whatever his initial motivations, we can safely assume he did not expect Jesus to look up and say: "Get down. I am coming to your house today."

I often find myself taking the same posture as Zacchaeus in the tree. Perhaps I have a problem I'm wrestling with or a personal fault I need to overcome. At times I know I need to give of myself in ways that scare me. Whatever it is, I am watching Jesus from a distance. I am removed. Because I worry that when he gets close, he will get in my space. He will see whatever it is I don't want to deal with or tackle.

I need to remember that Jesus does not come to condemn, but to assist. It is God's desire to make us "worthy of His calling." To do that, He knows we need help. He knows we need Him in our space.

I'll say this for Zacchaeus — he was ready. He jumped right down, acknowledged what he had to be ashamed of, and vowed to do better. He brought Jesus home.

May we all have that same courage.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### KC Pancakes & Sausage Breakfast

Drive-thru and Dine In; St. Mary Church



**Sunday, November 13**

8:00am—11:30am

Free will donation.

**Proceeds: Archdiocese Seminarians**

The officers of St Anne's are inviting all women of our parish to a Christmas Gathering/ Meeting on Tuesday December 6 at 7 P.M. in Brinkman Hall. We will have light refreshments and a short program presented by Wendy Shea, Carol Hartman and Janet Happel on their recent Pilgrimage to Italy. So many women of our parish give so freely of their time in our St. Anne's ministry roles and we thank you! For you and those who don't know what we are all about, come and spend the evening in friendship and fellowship!

### A note from the choir director:

St. Mary's adult choir is looking to expand for the Christmas Season. Please consider joining us for singing in the loft and downstairs on occasion. We are also actively searching for pianists or organists for rehearsals and Masses. Contact Gina Dahlstrom-Osburn 563 213 9021



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

Saturday, November 19 at St. Joseph, Garnavillo after Mass

**Ryker Jerome Stroschein**

son of Sam & Megan (Pierce) Stroschein

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

### Mass Schedule: November 14 – November 20, 2022

**Mon., Nov 14:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Nov 15:** 8:30 A.M. —St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Angeline Berns*

**Wed., Nov 16:** 6:15 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
**CCD Mass with 2<sup>nd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades youth followed with potluck meal in Brinkmann Hall**

**Thur., Nov 17:** – 10:00 A.M. - Guttenberg Care Center

**Fri., Nov 18:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Sat., Nov 19:** Vigil of Feast of Christ the King  
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Lee Smith*  
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Gene & Mary Tujetsch*

**Sun., Nov 20:** Feast of Christ the King  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**  
*Dec'd of the Gaul/Hildebrand Families*

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION: Discernment**

“See that you not be deceived, for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he,’ and ‘The time has come.’ Do not follow them!” [Luke 21:8](#)

What an interesting line. What does this mean? Who are the many that Jesus speaks of? Are they in our midst today? It may not be helpful to try to point to this or that person or to this or that group of people in reference to the “many” who will come in Jesus’ name falsely. But it is helpful to speak to some general and guiding principles.

First, Jesus uses the word “deceived.” There will be many false prophets who will have the ability to deceive. They will portray themselves as messengers of the truth and dispensers of the will of God. Their words will be convincing and many will follow.

This tells us that not everyone “speaking in the name of God” is in fact speaking in the “name of God.” And even if many others are following, and they are very convincing, this is not proof that the person is a true prophet of the Lord. How do we discern when someone is speaking from the heart of Jesus? Ultimately, this can only be done through a state of prayer. Being in a “state of prayer” means that our hearts are attuned to God’s voice. When God speaks through this or that person and our hearts are tuned into Him, we will simply know His voice as it is spoken through this or that person.

Conversely, when we are living in a state of true prayer and then someone speaks a false and deceiving message, something will not sit well with us. There will be a sense in the depths of our souls that something is not right. It will be a spiritual sense and this is a result of the healthy working of our conscience. There are external guides such as the revealed teaching of the Church and the counsel of other good Christians, but in the end we must allow God to speak within our consciences and follow His voice in this holy sanctuary.

Reflect, today, upon whether or not you daily seek out and hear God speaking to you in the depths of your conscience. Listen closely and attentively. Learn His voice and seek to hear Him speak through other people. And when the voice of others is in opposition to the voice speaking within your soul, remain faithful to God speaking within you. It is there, more than any other place, that He will lead you.

*Lord, give me the grace to know and hear Your voice. I choose You above all things and desire to know You more clearly. May I follow You now and always in my life and may I never be deceived by the many false prophets of our day and age. Jesus, I trust in You. source: mycatholic.life*

### **Faith Formation/Youth Ministry**

November is a month that we think about all that we are thankful for. We are thankful for our church family. We invite all our Faith Formation/Youth Ministry families to come join us for Mass and a potluck supper on **Wednesday, November 16th**. All classes 2nd-12th grade will come together for Mass at 6:15 and supper after Mass in Brinkmann Hall. Bring a main dish, salad, dessert or snack to share. Drinks and tableware will be provided.

### **Gospel reflection questions:**

*Luke 21:5-19:* In today’s Gospel, Jesus talks about what the future will be like; he also talks of earthquakes and great signs. As a teacher, Jesus spoke like this to help his followers be strong. He didn’t want them (or us) to be afraid, because God will always be taking care of us.

**When something difficult happens, what do you do? If it had happened to Jesus, what do you think he would have done?**

PARISH LIFE will be hosting coffee, juice, milk and donuts on **Dec. 4, 2022 after 10am Mass**. Come and socialize with our faith community.

The “**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**” booklets are available at the entry ways of church. Advent begins Sunday Nov. 27th.

November is dedicated to the deceased of our 3-linked parishes. As you visit the graves of your loved ones please prepare them for the winter season.

**SCRIP:** We need your help in closing out the SCRIP inventory that remains at Peoples State Bank. Available: Benders, Caseys, Essers, Kwik Star and Subway. Thank you in advance for your help!

### **Upcoming Parish Events . . .**

Nov 16 Faith Formation & Youth Ministry, 6:15pm  
Mass with potluck supper afterward  
Dec 4 Coffee/Donuts after Mass  
Dec 6: CDA Mtg at Noon in Monona  
St. Anne’s Mtg/Christmas gathering, 7pm, BH  
KC Mtg, 7:30 pm

### **A Stewardship Moment**

Today’s readings paint a somewhat frightening picture of the end of time. But the Gospel ends with the assurance to faithful stewards that those who persevere will be saved.

Please note the parish office/secretary has a new email address. It is: **OfficeOfStMary@gmail.com**  
Please begin using this email address.