

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Oct 5, 2023 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

## LIVE THE LITURGY: Cultivating Truth and Responsibility

~ source: young-catholics.com

The gospel parable for this Sunday (Matthew 21:33-43) also serves as a poignant call for us to actively protect and support those who courageously speak the truth, despite the challenges they may encounter. Just as the landowner's servants faced adversity, contemporary truth-bearers also confront opposition, and it's our responsibility to ensure their safety and amplify their voices.

The parable also emphasizes the importance of caring for the vineyards in our lives. The vineyard is a metaphor for the blessings and responsibilities God entrusts us with. Just as the tenants were expected to cultivate and tend the vineyard, we're called to nurture and steward the gifts bestowed upon us. This concept underscores the significance of being accountable and diligent stewards of our relationships, talents, and resources. By actively caring for our "vineyards," we honor God's intentions for us and contribute to the flourishing of our lives and the lives of those around us.

Clarity Clinic baskets can be found in the back of each of the 3-linked parishes for next two weeks for you to place your bottle/donation.

October is Respect Life Month— place donations of new and gently used baby items in the bassinet on the altar. Donations will be given to Birthright in DBQ.

### Fall Silent Auction and Raffle

- Bidding in person/online: October 8 thru October 22 at 12:00 noon. If you are bidding online, be sure to get a confirmation of your bid, since we are not always available online. Please also give your phone number online, so we can contact you if your bid is accepted. Church basement will be open on Saturdays from 5:00 to 6:30 pm and Sundays from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.
- **Cash Raffle/Donations:** Each \$100 will buy a ticket for a chance to win four cash prizes of \$500 each. Drawing: October 22, after the 10:00am Mass. Tickets can be purchased now or donations made (*please make checks to St. Mary Fall Festival and indicate Tickets or Donation*)

### FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR:

October is the month of the rosary to be said at home by every family member. It is also when we submit Mass attendance counts to the Archdiocese. Bring your family and invite others who have not been to weekend Masses. **The future of your parish is up to you in prayer and worship in your home church!**

### Mass Schedule: Oct 9 – Oct 15, 2023

**Mon., Oct 9:** [No Mass Scheduled]

**Tues., Oct 10:** 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Angeline Berns*

**Wed., Oct 11:** 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg  
"St. John XXIII" *Gary Evers & Jane Evers*

**Thur., Oct 12:** 8:30 A.M. – Guttenberg River Living Center

### KC Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast

Drive-thru and Dine In; St. Mary Church  
**Sunday, October 8, 8-11:30am**  
Free will donation.



**Sat., Oct 14:** Vigil of Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo  
*Willis Wagner & Dr. James Auer*  
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg  
*Gene & Mary Tujetsch*

**Sun., Oct 15:** Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista  
*People of the Parish*  
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**  
*Gilbert & Inda Evers, Marvin Nieland*

A Sacramental Minister flyer will be distributed this weekend. Please prayerfully consider how you could help in one or more of these areas: usher, eucharistic minister, greeter, reader, altar servers, gift bearers, rosary & music ministry.

Having three readings using the same image –**vineyard**– can actually confuse the message, misleading us to consider them superficially as repetitious, when in reality they are not. In fact each reading has a significantly different focus on the vineyard image.

The first reading is focused on the vineyard itself: it is the vineyard that fails, and Isaiah tells us: *the Lord’s vineyard is the house of Israel*. Vatican II is telling us that we –the Church– are the people of God, the vineyard of the Lord, and this invites us to ask ourselves two important questions. First: are we, as persons, yielding an acceptable harvest? Second: are we, as Church, helping to bring about God’s reign? It was the vineyard –we?– that failed.

In the Psalm the focus is on the vineyard’s owner, God, who is seen by the psalmist as having “failed.” The previous theme is repeated: *the vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel*. The psalmist expresses the hurt of feeling abandoned by God: *why have you abandoned your vineyard?* Do we not, at least as individual persons, at times feel also abandoned by God? Jesus on the cross did.

The gospel’s parable is focused on the tenants: it is they, who have failed, not the vineyard and not the owner. The owner did care for the vineyard: he *planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it and built a tower*. The vineyard itself did yield a harvest that truly belonged to the owner, who was entitled to claim his part of the harvest. But the tenants grew greedy. They knew that, if the owner were to die without an heir, the law would give them the vineyard. So they killed the heir. The parable is about stewardship, not unlike the parable of the talents, but also about hardness of heart. The religious leaders rightly understood it as addressed to them. But it is also addressed to us as stewards of our received giftedness, which we may be tempted to hoard for our own benefit, disregarding God’s claim on it.

**Faith Formation Info:**

Join us for Youth Mass on Sunday, October 29th to celebrate All Saints, All Souls.

Children of all ages can come dressed in their Halloween costumes. We will have a Trunk or Treat event after Mass.



Decorated car trunks are needed!

Did you know that the Parish Center Calendar is available on the parish [website](#)?

**A Stewardship Moment**

In the Gospel today, the owner of the vineyard sent messengers to collect his share of the harvest from the tenant farmers, but there was not a single good steward on the property! God is the owner, we are the tenants. What sort of stewards are we?

Do you have a desire to serve youth? Katey Simon is looking for volunteers to cook a simple meal for the Youth Ministry group on Wednesday evenings. If interested, please contact Katey at [youthministry@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:youthministry@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us) or call the parish center (563) 252-1577 and leave a message.

**Upcoming Parish Events . . .**

(BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)

Oct 5: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30pm, PC

Oct 8: KC Breakfast, 8:00-11:30 am

Oct 10: Scripture Study, 7:30-10:30am, PC

Oct 11: Faith Formation, 6pm, PC

Oct 12: Scripture Study, 6:30-8:30pm, PC

Oct 14: Women’s Faith Sharing Group, 1pm, PC

Nov 5: Movie Presentation, Wonder, after Mass, BH

Nov 19: Coffee/Donuts after Mass, BH

Please email items for the bulletin by 7:30am Wednesday morning to [OfficeOfStMary@gmail.com](mailto:OfficeOfStMary@gmail.com)

**Discipleship Experience Weekend**

Oct 27-29, New Melleray Abbey Retreat House, Peosta  
 “Join us for a meaningful weekend to study and reflect on Catholic Social Justice Teachings”  
 Information Packets can be found at the back of church.

Priest: Rev. Marvin J. Bries, 563-252-1247  
 Deacon: James Pfaffly, 563-880-9696  
 Faith Formation: Erin Schmelzer, 563-880-7471  
 Parish Life: Lois Bries, 563-252-3026  
 Stewardship/Liturgy: Sue Bahls, 563-252-3253  
 Social Justice: Gerald Bormann, 563-419-6967  
 Choir: Gina Dahlstrom-Osburn, 563-213-9021

**Finance:**  
 Jim Schlueter  
 563-252-1490  
 Steve Bahls  
 Marv Althoff  
 Jeff Burr  
 Al Schlueter  
 Tom Augustyn

**Parish Council:**  
 Don Scherbring  
 563-252-1556  
 Gerald Bormann  
 Lois Bries  
 Sue Bahls  
 Adam Scherbring

Parish Center: Lora Kolker, 563-880-9111  
 Parish Center Reservations: 563-252-1577  
 Knights: Adam Scherbring, 563-880-3808  
 St. Anne: Maggie Schlueter, 563-252-1490  
 Cath Daughters: Lois Bries: 563-252-3026  
 Prayer Line: Betty Evers, 563-252-1666