

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Oct. 14, 2021

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www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week:

If Heaven were like Harvard: There's no getting around it: life on earth can seem easier if you're rich. Most of the bodily and material needs a person could have are fulfilled if you've got a little bit of money behind you. So why doesn't this same theory apply to entering the kingdom of Heaven? Why isn't Heaven like an Ivy League school, where a connection and a hasty tuition check might open a lot of doors?

When you think about it, the virtues required to enter Heaven — things like charity and justice and courage — should be even closer within the grasp of those who never had to worry about where their food is coming from. In theory, your capacity for good works should only increase with the resources at your disposal.

The same is true for stewardship potential. Let's say I've got a lot of talent. Maybe I've got a lot of free time. On paper, it should be easier for me to give freely of these gifts, because I have the luxury that eluded the widow and her two coins: I can see my ample gift being put into action, when so many can only offer what they have and remind themselves that God sees it and appreciates it.

But here we get into the mess of humanity: if we have a lot of something, it means we have a lot of something we could use any way we want. And then we hear the whisper of the serpent: *Think of what this (money, time, talent) could do for you.*

May we pray for God to give us the heart of the widow, no matter our resources.
— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

Please Note:

The North Entrance to the Church (ramp entrance) will be closed beginning Monday, October 18 until further notice due to door replacement work.

October is "Respect for Life" month.

Baby items will be collected during the month in all three parishes.

Youth Ministry News

Do you have a desire to serve youth? Youth Ministry is looking for volunteers to cook a simple meal for our Youth Ministry nights held on Wednesday evenings. If interested, please contact [Katey Simon](mailto:kateysimon@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us) at youthministry@smic.pvt.k12.ia.us.

Meeting Dates: Wednesdays from 6:15-8pm in Brinkmann Hall. October 13, 20, 27. For 7th-12th graders. Meal provided.



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

Sunday, October 24 at St. Mary, Guttenberg after Mass

Anthony Peter Young, Jr

son of Anthony Peter Young, Sr. & Jessie [Adams] Westhoff

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

Public Mass Schedule: Oct. 18 – Oct 24, 2021

Mon., Oct 18: [No Mass Scheduled], "St. Luke"

Tues., Oct 19: 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
"North American Martyrs"
Vincent & Inez Hoeger//Amy Hoeger

Wed., Oct 20: 8:30 AM–St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, 3rd Gr.
"St. Paul of the Cross", (Full Moon)
Arnold & Regina Bries

Thur., Oct 21: 10:00 A.M. - Guttenberg Care Center
People of the Parish

Fri., Oct 22: [No Mass Scheduled], "St. John Paul II"

Sat., Oct 23: Vigil of Thirtieth Sunday in Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
Bert Behrend & Tracy Werges
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass
Florence 'Flossie' Eilers & Cyrenus Elsinger

Sun., Oct 24: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, *Live Streamed*
Albert Sr. & Regina Schlueter

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Give Without Counting the Cost

Jesus gave of himself in service to others. If we are to follow him, we must do the same.

The Eucharist is at the center of our faith lives. At Mass, we recall how Jesus humbled himself to enter into the muck of our world. Along with the bread and wine, we offer ourselves together with Jesus as a living sacrifice to the Father. We pledge that we will give of ourselves in service to the needy, the lonely, and the desperate so that the blessings of eternal life may be extended throughout the world. When we come to Mass, we are not bystanders or spectators. Rather our lives are at stake. We are proclaiming that Christ has died to save us and that we are willing to sacrifice ourselves in service to others.

Jesus makes this very clear to his disciples in today’s gospel reading. Though he was the most powerful man to ever walk the earth, Christ did not become human to dominate others. He came to seek out the sick, the suffering, and the sinners. He came not only to instruct and heal us, but he suffered the cruelest death imaginable to open up heaven to those who would believe. Jesus was not in it for the glory. And anyone who follows him must be willing to live as he lived. To be like our master, we must make ourselves the slaves of others.

As members of a community of faith, we can relate to the bickering that went on among the disciples. We all love our church and many of us give long hours of our free time to support it. Many of us are generous when it comes time to give to special collections or help out with fundraisers. However, it happens more often than we would like to admit that generous people get overlooked and feel slighted. We can feel bitter that others get the recognition we believe we deserve. We can resent that we are giving so much and others are giving so little. Or we can get so frustrated and offended by the pettiness and gossiping of others that we want to give up altogether.

While it is natural to want to be recognized for our work, it is not what the follower of Jesus is called to seek. All the great saints prayed that they would be overlooked and taken for granted even as they spent long hours in service of others. What they wanted more than anything was to be recognized by God for their work. So, they continued on even when they were made fun of because they wanted to be like Jesus who gave without counting the cost and who did everything not for the glory but out of pure love for others. Each of us who calls Jesus “Lord” must do the same.

At every Mass, we gather to recall the sacrifice that Jesus made to save us. Are we willing to give of ourselves for others? Are we willing to go without so that we can give more generously to the needy? Are we willing to risk injury or even death to protect the helpless? Are we willing to take on the thankless jobs no one else wants out of pure love for Jesus? Are we willing to go without being recognized because we set our hearts on the reward that only God can give? Above all, can we do all this with a spirit of joy and thankfulness because we are blessed to be able to know, love and serve our Lord?

~ Douglas Sousa

Remembering those who died in our 3-Linked Parishes the past year of the weekend of November 6 & 7, 2021
(A family member is asked to light & take a candle in remembrance of their loved one after the Prayer of the Faithful)

St. Mary of Guttenberg (either Sat. or Sun.): Anna ‘Ann’ Marie [Scheller] Olinger, Kathleen Romanda [Fassbinder] Bockenstedt, Gerald Eugene Boge, Jerry Lea [Herman] Geuder, Dorothy Rose [Meyer] Eglseder, Lee Anthony Schissel, Joanne ‘Joannie’ Marguerite [Spang] Clark, Freddie Dale Bush, Shirley Ann [Boyce] Kann, Thomas James Tujetsch, Lynne Marie [Vaske] Finnegan, William ‘Bill’ Leliefeld, Raymond Paul Wille, Robert Lee Klaes, Stanley Carl Friedlein, Laura Ann [Loecke] Wille, Verdus Joseph Kann, Mary Ann [Terpstra] Ernster, James Anthony Frommelt and Donald Francis Rohner.

St. Joseph of Garnavillo – Edna Marie [Welter] Rausch, Margaret Clara [Mueller] Schlueter, Marion Elizabeth [Stroschein] Moses, Bertha Claire [Cole] Behrend, Barbara Jeanne [Burlingame] Mohning, Sharon Ann [Moreland] Berns, Harold Aloysius Mueller, Leon Anthony Berns, Patricia [Auer] Niehaus, Henry Augustine Mueller and Leonard ‘Lennie’ Alan Thein.

Immaculate Conception of N. Buena Vista – Leila Louise [Moser] Hefel, Earl Richard Brimeyer, Gregory James Hefel, Mary Catherine [Breitbach] Ludovissy, Darrell J. Hefel and Robert ‘Bob’ Dean

A Stewardship Moment

Good stewards must not argue about who is most important. Today’s Gospel says clearly that those who aspire to greatness must humbly serve the needs of all. Even Jesus came not to be served, but to serve.

Upcoming Parish Events

- Oct 13: Youth Ministry, 6:15-8:00 in Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 14: Scripture Study, 6:30 PM Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 17: Fall Festival Meeting, after 10am Mass in Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 19: Scripture Study; 8:30 AM Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 20: Youth Ministry, 6:15-8:00 in Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 21: Scripture Study, 6:30 PM Brinkmann Hall
- Nov 2: CDA Meeting, Noon at Monona
- Nov 6/7: Food Shelf Weekend sponsored by CDA
- Nov 14: KC Breakfast, 8-11:30am; Veterans Eat Free