

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Oct 20, 2022 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: The Zeal of the Convert

When you work in the Church, professionally or on a volunteer basis, you become familiar with the phenomenon known as “the zeal of the recent convert.”

Sometimes, it really seems that the newly baptized are just stronger Catholics than the cradle Catholics. They smile more at Mass. They are awestruck by the Eucharist. They come out of the confessional beaming.

It's not that they are naive. It's not that they are in some honeymoon phase of religion, living outside of reality. It's simply that they remember. They remember what it felt like before the Eucharist or before Confession. They recall before the sacraments and the oil and the grace and the relief. It was more recent for them than for some of us older Catholics — especially those of us who were baptized as infants.

Let's ask ourselves: Have we become too comfortable? Do we receive God's grace with expectation instead of surprise? Have we ceased to marvel and wonder at the goodness of God? If the answer is a resounding yes, don't despair. Look at the Gospel — a literal nine times out of ten, God goes un-thanked and un-noticed.

So many of us have forgotten, or never understood, what it meant when the leprosy was washed from our souls. But when we remind ourselves, we become more keenly aware of the extraordinariness of the gift we have received.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

ArchdioceseOne – A Prayerful Giving Opportunity. This coming week, you will receive a letter from Archbishop Jackels prayerfully inviting you to consider your financial support for the beneficiaries of ArchdioceseOne. In this letter, you'll be asked to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift to ArchdioceseOne, payable over a 5-year period, or to make a one-time gift. It is our prayer that when making a sacrificial gift, you come to feel that you're not giving just your treasure, but a piece of yourself. Thus, when giving to ArchdioceseOne, and the ministries it is supporting, you will be a part of those ministries for generations to come. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Schneider at jeff.schneider@dbqarch.org. Thank you.
God, come to our assistance. Lord, make haste to help us. Amen.

**ArchdioceseOne Live Virtual Event:
October 24, 2022 at 6:30 PM**
You're invited to join Archbishop Jackels who will continue the parish phase of ArchdioceseOne by showing our appeal video, talking to you about our financial beneficiaries, as well as the spiritual benefits we hope to achieve. At the end, we'll answer questions that come in ahead of time or live through the chat function. Please register for this event now by using this link: <https://archdioceseone.org/virtual-event>. Once there, click on the button titled: **Register for the Live Virtual Event HERE**

Reminder — this Sunday, October 23, the movie “FATHER STU” will be shown after the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass, in Brinkmann Hall with a **FREE “brunch”**.

Mass Schedule: October 24 – October 30, 2022

Mon., Oct 24: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Oct 25: 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Melvin & Ruby Matt

Wed., Oct 26: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
Ann Olinger & Kathleen Bockenstedt

Thur., Oct 27: – 8:30 A.M. – Guttenberg River Living Center
Amy [Steffen] Clay

Fri., Oct 28: [No Mass Scheduled], – “Ss. Simon & Jude”

Sat., Oct 29: Vigil of 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
Eileen Walz & Sharon Berns
5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Tom Tujetsch & Steven Summer

Sun., Oct 30: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
**** Youth Mass ****
People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION: True Righteousness

Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else. [Luke 18:9](#)

This Scripture passage is the introduction to the Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector. This parable offers quite a contrast between two general attitudes. First, the Pharisee's attitude reveals that he is very impressed with himself, thinking highly of his public image, and is unaware of his own sin. Second, the tax collector's attitude reveals that he is deeply aware of his own sin, is sorry for it and knows he is in need of God's mercy. The result of these two very different attitudes is that the tax collector went home justified whereas the Pharisee did not.

What does it mean to be justified? It means that the tax collector had a clear conscience and was grounded in the truth. He knew his need for mercy, begged for it and received it. He did not lie to himself, to others or to God. He knew who he was and it is this truth that allowed God to exalt him. The tax collector's justification came through the forgiveness of his sins and the bestowal of the mercy of God in his life.

The Pharisee may have felt good about himself to a certain extent in that he elevated himself for all to see. He was convinced of his own self-righteousness but, in truth, was not righteous. He was only self-righteous. He was living a lie and most likely believed that lie and even may have convinced others of that lie. But the fact remained, the Pharisee was not righteous and he was not truly justified.

What we must take from this passage is a profound realization of the importance of living in the truth. Those who paint a false image of themselves may fool themselves and may even fool others. But they will never fool God and they will never be able to achieve true peace in their soul. We each must realize the humble truth of our sin and weakness and, in that realization, beg for the only remedy – the mercy of God.

Reflect, today, upon the prayer of this tax collector: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" ([Luke 18:13](#)). Make it your prayer. Admit your sin. Acknowledge your need for the mercy of God and allow that mercy to exalt you within the righteousness of God.

Faith Formation Info:

Join us for Youth Mass on Sunday, October 30th 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!

Lord of all righteousness, Jesus Christ, please be merciful to me, for I am a sinner. I acknowledge my sin and my weakness and I beg for Your abundant mercy. Please pour forth Your mercy and help me to open my heart to all that You wish to bestow. Help me to live in the humble truth, dear Lord. Jesus, I trust in You.
~ source: mycatholiclife.com

PRAYER

God, I am far too often influenced by what others think of me. I am always pretending to be either richer or smarter or nicer than I really am.

Please prevent me from trying to attract attention.

Don't let me gloat over praise on one hand or be discouraged by criticism on the other,

nor let me waste time weaving imaginary situations in which the most heroic, charming, witty person present is myself.

Show me how to be humble of heart, like You.

The "ADVENT & CHRISTMAS" booklets be available the weekend of October 29 and October 30 at the entry ways of church.

A Stewardship Moment

Both the first reading and today's Psalm say clearly that the Lord hears the cry of the poor. Have I been given the gifts - of time or money or abilities - to be the means by which God answers their need?

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.

Upcoming Parish Events

- Oct 23: Brunch & Movie "Father Stu" after Mass
- Oct 25: Scripture Study, 8:30am, Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 27: Scripture Study, 6:30pm, Brinkmann Hall
- Oct 30: **Youth Mass, Trick your Trunk**
- Nov 1: Scripture Study, 8:30am, Brinkmann Hall
CDA Mtg, Noon, Brinkmann Hall
KC Mtg, 7:30pm
- Nov 3: Scripture Study, 6:30pm, Brinkmann Hall

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