

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Sept 08, 2022 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week: Humility and Stewardship

Some people have “the rich relation” in their family tree. Aunt Cindy, who is always traveling somewhere new and exciting. Cousin Richard and his lake house. Your sister and brother-in-law who buy a new car every year.

Ofentimes these relatives take great happiness in sharing their wealth. You can usually count on an exotic gift from Aunt Cindy’s latest adventure or an invitation to go out on Richard’s pontoon boat at the end of the summer.

Yet sometimes, that person wants something in return. Not money, of course, but something else. Attention. Flattery. Gratitude. Cindy wants you to ask her where she got the priceless artifact in Istanbul, so she can talk about the many antiquities dealers she visited. Richard wants you to ask about his new boat, so he can talk about how well business has been this year. Maybe the person just wants to know you like the gift or that the experience offered is pleasing to you.

This is a natural inclination that we all possess. There is nothing wrong with wanting to be the person people count on. There is nothing wrong with wanting to offer worthy gifts. There is nothing wrong with hoping that maybe, just a little, we might be appreciated.

What matters is the spirit we carry within our hearts when we do it. What matters is our destination as we approach that proverbial table. Are we headed for the place of honor, expecting it to be waiting for us? Or are we making our way to the lowest place, simply thankful to be invited to the meal? — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

Fall Fundraiser Information

Silent Auction: Bidding in person/online: August 27 thru Sept 11 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. Also provide your phone number, 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: Sept. 11, after the 10:00am Mass. Tickets can be purchased now or donations made (*checks to St. Mary Fall Festival and indicate Tickets or Donation*) and drop in the collection basket.

Mass Schedule: September 12, – September 18, 2022

Mon., Sept 12: [No Mass scheduled]

Tues., Sept 13: 8:30 A.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
“St. John Chrysostom” - *Vincent & Inez Hoeger/Amy Hoeger*

Wed., Sept 14: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg
“Exaltation of the Cross” – *Ronald & Agnes McDonnell*

Thur., Sept 15: – 10:00 A.M. – Guttenberg Care Center
“Our Lady of Sorrows” – *Leon Berns & Pete Davis*

Fri., Sept 16: [No Mass Scheduled], “Ss. Cornelius & Cyprian”

Sat., Sept 17: Vigil of 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 P.M.—St. Joseph, Garnavillo
People of the Parish

5:30 P.M.—St. Mary, Guttenberg
Lenz & Hilda Tujetsch

Sun., Sept 18: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, **Live Streamed**
Frank Spielbauer (Months Mind)
Jane & Gary Evers

Social after 10:00 am Mass and Ramp



Fellowship

**Brinkmann Hall
Sunday, Sept. 18**

Parish Life will have donuts, coffee, juice and milk for your enjoyment.

**** Fall Fundraiser Donations/Tickets Amount to date is: \$12,500**

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Overcoming Self-Righteousness

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” [Luke 15:1-2](#)

What a foolish and arrogant thing to say! Jesus was merciful, welcoming, forgiving and loving to those who were sinners. And the Pharisees and scribes complained about this as if Jesus were doing something wrong.

On one level, it is understandable that the pride-filled scribes and Pharisees would look for anything they could to condemn Jesus. They were on a sort of “witch hunt,” so to speak, seeking to find any fault they could with our Lord. So, out of the fullness of their malice, they attempted to make it look like Jesus was an awful sinner due to the fact that He spent time with sinners and welcomed them.

From a perspective of the pure truth, however, the jealousy, envy, manipulation and deception of the scribes and Pharisees are clear. The “condemnation” they uttered against Jesus was no true condemnation at all. It was a fabrication and a twisting of the truth. The truth is that Jesus’ kindness to those who were sinners was a living out of His countless virtues. He was understanding, merciful, compassionate, patient, forgiving and the like. He saw troubled hearts and reached out to them in their need, especially when He could tell they were sorry, open and humble.

We may all encounter those who are religiously “self-righteous” at times. This is an ugly sin and one that should not sit well with us. The problem is that those who are self-righteous are oftentimes also intimidating and oppressive. Those who condemn others in the name of God are hard to confront. Jesus’ initial response was to ignore them and to go about His ministry of love and compassion, telling parables and helping those in need. But eventually He took these religious leaders on directly, condemning them for their pride and arrogance.

Reflect, today, upon any tendency you have in your heart to judge another, especially when you try to do so in the name of God. If you struggle with self-righteousness and pride, humble yourself now so that our Lord will not eventually be compelled to issue forth His justice on you!

My most righteous Lord, please have mercy upon me and heal me of my sins. Free me from all tendencies toward judgmentalness and help me, in imitation of You, to love and welcome the sinner in my midst so that I, as a sinner, will be welcomed by You. Jesus, I trust in You.
source: mycatholiclife.com

UPDATE ON SMIC SCHOOL SYSTEM:

The Board of Education is continuing the process of closing down the SMIC school system. It is a very long process. Eventually all assets and debts will be turned over to the founding parish – St. Mary of Guttenberg. Also land and buildings will continue to be the responsibility of the parish of St. Mary of Guttenberg. Will provide more information as the process of closing down continues.

St. Charles Fall Festival, Cassville WI

Sunday, September 18th

Buffet Style BBQ Chicken Dinner, 11am-2pm

Adults: \$12; Kids (6-10): \$5

Raffle, Silent Auction, Games, Bingo 4pm

Faith Formation

Faith Formation will be on Wednesday nights starting **September 21st** in the SMIC school building.

2nd-6th grade 6:00-7:00pm

7th-12th grade 6:15-8:00pm

Please register at:

<https://forms.gle/fai8FKP36hQNMYSB6>

A Stewardship Moment

We can hear God speaking to us today in the words of the father to his elder son: “You are with me always, and everything I have is yours.” What is my response to such remarkable generosity? Do I give joyfully and generously as God gives to me?

Ramp Blessing and Dedication: The handicap ramp is completed! We will have a blessing and dedication of the ramp on Sept. 18 after the 10:00 am Mass. There will be coffee and donuts following provided by the Parish Life Committee.

Upcoming Parish Events (BH = Brinkmann Hall)

Aug 27-Sept 11: Silent Auction Bidding, before/after Masses

Sept 11: Fall Fundraiser Drawing; Four \$500 prizes to be given out; Silent Auction bidding ends at Noon!

Sept 18: Handicap Ramp Blessing & Dedication after Mass, Coffee and Donuts after ramp dedication

Sept 21: Faith Formation Classes — 6-7pm for 2nd—6th grade
6:15-8 for 7th-12th grade

Sept 27: Scripture Study, 8:30am, Brinkmann Hall

Sept 28: Faith Formation, 6-7pm for grades 2-6 & 6:15-8 for gr 7-12

Sept 29: Scripture Study, 6:30pm, Brinkmann Hall

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