

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Sept 23, 2021

563-252-1247

www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week:

Who are the little ones? They are the many and varied faces of people who see hope in Jesus' message about the Kingdom of God. They have come to believe that there is a different world to be had: a place where everyone has a home, all have an equal opportunity to share in God's bountiful gifts and blessings, where justice reigns, truth presides, and peace fills hearts. The little ones are those who may have left their former views behind, perhaps even their former lives to follow Jesus and believe in the Beatitudes as God's world vision. They are the poor, the marginalized, the women and men at the well, the Zacchaeus' looking for Jesus from a tree, the blind who want to see, and the lame who want to walk. They are the lepers who have been told that they are unclean, and the ones who have learned that suffering and death are nothing to fear. These are all of the little ones. Jesus gathers and protects them as a shepherd guards his sheep. Whoever causes one of these little ones to sin deserves the greatest wrath. Be more concerned about what people are doing than where they came from. ©LPI

Fall Festival Fundraiser

I would like to thank all who helped with the silent auction and a special thank you to those who donated to the silent auction. Thank you to those who purchased raffle tickets or made a donation. I would also like to thank the craft ladies for their donations of crafts and their time.

There will be a **Festival meeting** after the **10 am Mass on Oct. 17**. I need all chair people to attend. All parishioners are welcome as well. The meeting is to discuss the future of the festival. If you cannot attend, please submit your ideas/suggestions on paper or call me at 563-252-1556(land line). This would be greatly appreciated.

Head Chairperson, Don Scherbring

Festival Fundraiser Balance: **\$28,980!!**
Silent Auction Total will be available next week. **THANK YOU!!!**

HOG ROAST

St Joseph's Church, Garnavillo
Saturday, October 9th, 5:00-7:00pm

Dine in or Carry Out
BBQ Pork Sandwiches, German Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Desserts
Adults \$10, under 12 \$5, preschool free

KC Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Drive-thru Style

St. Mary Church Parking Lot

Sunday, October 10

8:30am—11:30am

Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrowns and Cinnamon Rolls
Free will donation.

Proceeds to the handicap ramp project.

Public Mass Schedule: Sept 27 – Oct 3, 2021

Mon., Sept 27: [No Mass Scheduled], St. Vincent de Paul

Tues., Sept 28: 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
Barb Mohning (CDA) & Rev. Richard Gaul

Wed., Sept 29: 8:30 AM–St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass 7/8 Gr.
“Feast of the Archangels: Michael, Gabriel & Raphael”
Julius & Verna Steffen

Thur., Sept 30: [No Mass Scheduled], “St. Jerome”

Fri., Oct 1: [No Mass Scheduled], “St. Therese of Child Jesus”

Sat., Oct 2: Vigil of Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Time
4:00 P.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo, Mass
Leon Berns & John Noga
5:30 P.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass
Catherine & Frank Thomas

Sun., Oct 3: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista
10:00 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg, Mass, *Live Streamed*
Carol Schlueter & JoAnn (Bries) Wille

**GENERAL ABSOLUTION OF SINS ON WEEKEND OF
OCTOBER 2 & 3, 2021 granted by Archbishop Jackels**

GOSPEL REFLECTION: A True Friend

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire." [Mark 9:42-43](#)

Seriously? Does Jesus really mean this literally? Should we really cut off our hand if it causes us to sin? He goes on to say that we should also cut off our foot and pluck out our eye if it causes us to sin.

Some of the early Church Fathers see this Scripture as a reference to our intimate friends. The context of this passage is that we ought not lead others into scandal and sin. In fact, it would be better if we had "a great millstone" put around our neck and were thrown into the sea than to cause another to sin.

Friends, especially close friends, are a blessing most of the time. But they can also be a cause for sin. If a good friend were to intentionally try to convince another friend to sin, this is a grave issue and is the heart of what Jesus is addressing. What He's saying is that if we have close friends who are intentionally and maliciously tempting us to turn from God, it's better that we let go of that "friend" and cut him/her off. The hand, foot or eye is a symbol of those friends who work hard to draw us to sin. It's better that these friendships end than to be drawn into Hell with them. And if we are the "friend" drawing others to sin, it's better for us to cut our friendship off with those we are tempting.

One thing this passage reveals is the powerful natural bond of friendship. Friendship is a good thing. And when you have a close friend, you find great consolation in knowing your friend is deeply committed to you and will always be there for you. But every friendship must be continually evaluated in the light of faith and truth. Sometimes friendships can get in the way of our faith in God and can be a powerful influence upon us in a negative way. Of course, the opposite is also true.

Reflect, today, upon your friendships. If you have a close and intimate friend in your life, reflect upon how you influence that person or how he/she influences you. Make sure that Christ is the center and that faith always prevails in this natural bond.

Lord, I thank You for all friendships in my life. I thank You for giving me people who care. Help me to always be a good friend and to always examine my friendships in the light of faith. Jesus, I trust in You. source: mycatholiclife.com

PROPHETS

In the first reading, Moses says: *Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets!*

When you were baptized and anointed with the chrism of salvation, these words were spoken: "As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as members of His body, sharing everlasting life." You've been given new birth by water and the Holy Spirit. Call on the power of the Holy Spirit when you need to be a prophet. Maybe it's when your kids are whining to be able to go with friends to an event that does not match your family values. Perhaps you need to be a prophet when someone at work is talking about someone behind their back. Be a prophet when you invite your neighbor who's been away awhile to come back to mass with you. Maybe you just need to remind someone that this divisive world is still full of truth and beauty and goodness. Coming together to share your faith with others in a time when there is so much discord is a wonderful place to find unity, to hear what others are saying, to share what you're wondering about, and to find the Truth together. We can be prophets to one another, building one another up.

"SCRIPTURE STUDY" resumes on September 28, 8:30 AM and September 30, 6:30 PM, starting with Session #10 of The Bible Timeline, "**The Story of Salvation.**" The sessions will be 2 hours long in Brinkmann Hall and continue until November 16 by Jerry Balk, 252-2361.

A Stewardship Moment	Upcoming Parish Events . . .
St. James warns in today's second reading that those who hoard their wealth and live only for themselves will be condemned. But in the Gospel, Jesus assures us that all who give of themselves for His sake will be rewarded.	Oct 2/3: Food Shelf Weekend
	Oct 5: CDA Mtg; Noon, Brinkmann Hall
	Oct 5: KC Meeting, 7:30pm, Brinkmann Hall
	Oct 9: St. Joseph Parish Hog Roast, 5-7pm
	Oct 10: KC Breakfast, 8:30-11:30am
	Oct 17: Fall Festival Meeting, after 10am Mass in Brinkmann Hall
	Nov 6/7: Food Shelf Weekend