

ST. MARY PARISH

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

Newsletter: Apr 4, 2024 ~ Rectory: 563-252-1247 ~ Fr.'s Cell: 563-258-3958 ~ www.maryicjoseph.org

LIVE THE LITURGY: Exploring the Depths of Love and Truth

source: young-catholics.com

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, the second reading from the First Letter of John illuminates the profound nature of God's love and the imperative to love one another, mirroring the themes of mercy and forgiveness that this day celebrates. It beckons us to ponder our relationship with God, questioning if we truly grasp and embody His love and truth in our lives.

This day offers a special opportunity for reflection on living in the light of God's love, challenging us to extend mercy, kindness, and forgiveness to those around us, just as we are embraced by Divine Mercy. It underscores the essence of Divine Mercy Sunday: to deepen our connection with God, enhance our relationships through love, and live authentically in His truth and light.

Second Collections:

* This weekend for the food pantry

* Next weekend by the CDA for victims of domestic abuse

KC Pancakes and Sausage

Breakfast

Sunday, April 14, 8-11:30am

St. Mary Church

Drive-thru and Dine In

Free will donation.



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



Sunday, April 14, 2024 at St. Mary, Guttenberg, after Mass

Faith Lee Wille

daughter of Jeff & Samantha (Meyer) Wille

May you grow in the love & wisdom of Jesus Christ!

First Communion

Please keep our communicants in your prayers.



Sunday, April 7, 2024

**Immaculate Conception,
N. Buena Vista, 8:30am**

Laurel Breitbach

Bryce Cook

Paxton Michael Wilwert

St. Mary, Guttenberg, 10am

Charli Grace Costigan

Aurora Elizabeth Hartson

Aiden Lee Hefel

Emmett Erwin Kremer

Lindi Mueller

Lillian Schmelzer

Jaymz A Susice

Morgan Carol Wille

Saturday, April 13, 2024

St. Joseph, Garnavillo, 4:00pm

Lydia Catherine Bly

Addison Lee Kuehl

Maeve Josephine Mueller

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever." [John 6:51](#)

Mass Schedule: Apr 8 – Apr 14, 2024

Mon., Apr 8: [No Mass Scheduled]

Tues., Apr 9: 8:30 A.M. – St. Joseph, Garnavillo

Amy Hoeger & Angie Berns

Wed., Apr 10: 8:30 A.M. – St. Mary, Guttenberg

Loris Kickbush & Lucy Schissel (CDA)

Thur., Apr 11: 8:30 A.M. – Guttenberg River Living

Amy (Steffen) Clay & Betty Klein

Fri., Apr 12: [No Mass Scheduled]

Sat., Apr 13: Vigil of Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 P.M. Mass & 1st Communion-St. Joseph, Garnavillo

Joe Wille & Francis Stroschein

5:30 P.M. Mass—St. Mary, Guttenberg

John Ertl & Tom Kuempel

Sun., Apr 14: Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 A.M. Mass – Immaculate Conception, N. Buena Vista

People of the Parish

10:00 A.M. – Mass – St. Mary, Guttenberg, *live streamed*

Rite of Enrollment of Confirmation Candidates

Bernard & Josephine Meyer

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Doubting Thomas

source: young-catholics.com

In today's Gospel reading from John for Divine Mercy Sunday, we hear the familiar story of Doubting Thomas. After the resurrection, Jesus appears to the disciples, but Thomas is not with them. When the other disciples tell him that they have seen the Lord, Thomas responds that he will not believe unless he can see and touch the wounds in Jesus' hands and side.

A week later, Jesus appears again, and this time Thomas is there. Jesus invites Thomas to touch his wounds and to believe. Thomas responds with a powerful declaration of faith: "My Lord and my God!"

Similarly, when Thomas doubts, Jesus does not rebuke him or shame him. He simply offers him the evidence he needs to believe and invites him into deeper relationship.

This is a powerful message for us today. We all have moments of doubt and fear, times when we struggle to believe or to trust in God's plan for us. But like Thomas, we are invited to bring our doubts and questions to Jesus, who offers us peace and the evidence we need to believe.

On this Sunday after Easter, let us pray for the grace to be like the disciples, who were able to find peace and renewed faith in the presence of the risen Lord. And let us pray for the courage to continue Jesus' mission of forgiveness and reconciliation in our own lives and in the world around us.

Prayer for a Child's First Communion

Lord Jesus,

Bless the children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the first time.

May this day be an initial step into a life-long love of the Eucharist.

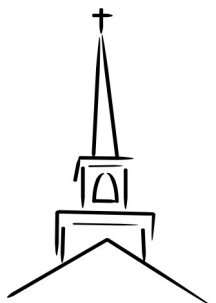
Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship.

Thank you for their innocence and goodness.

May their hands, extended in anticipation of your Body and Blood, inspire all of us to cherish this sacred sacrament.

Amen.

Roof Replacement Projects



The roofs on the church and the old school will be replaced this summer at an estimated cost of **\$425,646**. The 50% down payment has been made. Donations are being accepted to fund this project. Please make checks out to St. Mary Parish and indicate Roof Project in the memo. Thank you!!

COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024
"Scuba: Diving into Friendship with God"

Monday, June 10 through Friday, June 14, 2024, 8am - Noon
REGISTRATION DEADLINE – Wednesday, May 1st
COST:\$10 – payable WITH the Registration form, checks payable to Community VBS.

Registration forms available at the back of church.

Needs: Donations of snacks/treats, as well as volunteers to help organize and run VBS(adults & youth). Call St. John's Church office (252-2355) if you can help out.

A Stewardship Moment
The Christian community described in Acts understood and practiced *total* stewardship. St. Paul reports that the believers did not claim anything as their own, but held everything in common, and distributed to each whatever was needed.

Upcoming Parish Events . . .

(BH is Brinkmann Hall; PC is Parish Center)

- Apr 7: First Communion Mass
- Apr 10: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
- Apr 13/14: 2nd Collection by CDA for victims of domestic abuse
- Apr 14: KC Pancakes and Sausage Breakfast, 8-11:30
Rite of Enrollment for Confirmandi during Mass
- Apr 17: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
- Apr 21: Fellowship Sunday, Coffee and Donuts, BH
- Apr 22: Parish Council & Finance Meeting; 6:30pm
- May 1: Faith Formation Classes, 6pm
Confirmation & May Crowning Mass, 6:30pm
- May 5: Stephen Ministry Commissioning during Mass
- Jun 8 : St. Mary Alumni Banquet, BH
- Jun 10-14: Vacation Bible School @ St. John's

Please email items for the bulletin by 7:30am Wednesday morning to OfficeOfStMary@gmail.com

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
Friends of St Mary: Jane Parker, 563-880-5469

Stephen Ministry: Becky Shaffer, 319-393-1234