

The mission of St. Mary Parish is to make Christ real in our communities by living the gospel, worshipping together, & serving others.

December 20, 2020 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

# Saint Mary

2700 Horton Rd • Waverly, IA 50677

## Parish Office

Hrs: M-Th 8am-4:30pm;  
F 8am-2pm

Phone: (319) 352-2493

Fax: (319) 352-3122

Website: [StMarysFamily.com](http://StMarysFamily.com)

Bulletin Deadline: Mon. 3pm

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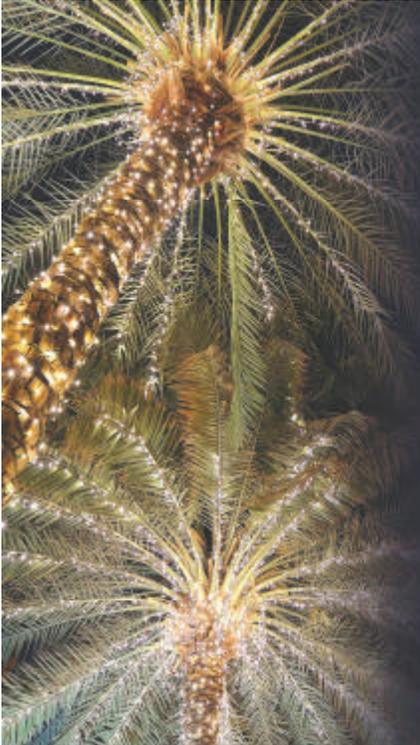
Building & Grounds Mngr  
Office: 319-352-2493 X15  
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**Pastoral Council:** Ruth Schluter,  
Jennifer Siech, Elaine Lawler,  
Trent Lockard, Kris Dunkin,  
Jeff Keen, Jenne Seward

**Faith Formation Commission:**  
Wayne Green, Terri Cruise,  
Bill Flege, Jennifer Nus, Becky  
Prostine, Mariah Stauffer

**Finance Council:** Steve Phyfe,  
Scott Danner, Kelly Flege, Joe  
Barber, Becky Willson, Becky  
David

**Bulletin & Worship Aid - Please take this with you when you leave so volunteers do not need to remove it! Thank you!**



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:30-31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



**Baptism...**  
Leo Brodigan  
child of Alinda & John  
Brodigan

## Weather Cancellations...

We always post cancellations or closings on KWWL, our parish webpage & Facebook page.

**If W-SR school is cancelled or out early** due to weather, parish events and afternoon/evening Mass are cancelled.

**If W-SR school starts late** due to weather, morning Mass is cancelled.

As always, if you are uncomfortable with road conditions due to weather, please stay home. Your safety is most important.

## Candle Memorials:

Emiel Engels      Don McEnany  
Scott Woodruff    Nicholas Demuth  
Jim Sabelka       Francis Harrington  
Alice Harrington   Bernard Frascht  
Robert Hoffman

## Worship Schedule

**Tues** 4:30 pm Rosary by Zoom  
**Tues** 5:30 pm Sadie Byrnes  
**Wed** 8:00 am Byrnes Family

### Christmas Masses:

**Thurs** 4:00 pm Charles McCreedy  
**Thurs** 7:00 pm For the People  
**Thurs** 9:00 pm For the People  
**Fri** 9:00 am Mike Fay  
**Sat** 4:30 pm Reconciliation  
**Sat** 5:15 pm Phyllis Ross  
**Sun** 8:00 am For the People  
**Sun** 10:00 am Don Hartnett

*Daily Mass cancelled if funeral scheduled.*

**Prayer Concerns:** Gertrude Boeckman, Jeffrey Traeger, Rayla Leary, Donna Nelson, Carter Stevens, Ruth Schissel, Megan Smith, Carol Bolton, Bill Rechkemmer, Fr Lou Jaeger, Harold Iverson, Joanne Zrostlik, Virgil Birgin, Rhonda Kalainoff

## Calendar: Dec 21-28

**Mon:** Decorate for Christmas, 10am

**Wed:** Office closed at Noon

**Thurs-Mon:** Office closed

- I Want to join St Mary Parish
- I have a new email, phone # or address
- Candle Memorial \$10 - Include name of person & month preferred.
- Mass Intention \$5 donation

Return in collection box or office.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

I remember when I was young, back when telephones had cords and color television was new, my mother would look forward at this time of the year to Perry Como's Christmas Show. For those who don't recognize the name, Perry Como was a crooner in the style of Bing Crosby. Don't recognize that name either? How about Michael Bubl ? (Yes, I'm old.) Como's signature song was "Dream along with me, I'm on my way to the stars." Every year at this time, he would have a Christmas special and Perry would take his audience, if not to the stars, at least to some place very special. A place of song and gentle beauty— Austria or Italy, England or Ireland, and one year, Hawaii. "Dream along with me..." and people would.

We all have our dreams, and this weekend we are reminded God has dreams too. Big dreams. God's dream is to have total communion with creation, total intimacy with the work of God's hands. "Rejoice, O highly favored daughter. The Lord is with you." If we flip through the pages of the Bible we'll see it is filled with countless surprises and encounters. There are many stories of God's coming into people's lives in unusual ways. Sometimes the encounter is subtle; sometimes it is a crash. But it always signals a new beginning.

Perhaps God desires to be in the midst of His people so they will be mindful of His presence and grateful for His gifts. A person who gives you a gift hopes you will use it; I don't think they hope you will exchange it, put it in a closet or regift it. God hopes, desires, expects us to use His gift of love. And that is the challenge we face every day: to use what we have been given, peace, mercy, forgiveness, love, for someone else. The challenge is to show the gift of God in February when we're in a grey mood, or in August when we're hot, or in October when we're busy. The voice of God challenges us: sit there and do nothing, or get up, each day and live the gift. "Dream along with me," God asks. How will we bear Christ to the world?... How will we bring the peace of God into the world?... How will we bring the mercy of God into the world? Every voice, no matter how small or ordinary, has the power to make the presence of Christ known, here and now. That is the great challenge: the impact of our words and deeds to enliven, console and strengthen others. So, beyond the tinsel and garland, without lights and presents, whose heart will leap with joy—whose life will be enriched, because our voice lets them know that Christ is present and at work in the world?  
- Fr Doug Wathier

**Christmas Electronic Giving Opportunity...** An annual financial gift to our parish is deeply personal & prayerful. To provide another way to give & make it easier for parishioners who wish to offer a Christmas gift to our parish an online option is available on our webpage [StMarysFamily.com](http://StMarysFamily.com)

**On-Line Giving**

easy \* fast \* secure

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**If you choose to sing,  
please leave your  
mask on.**

**PSALM 89: FOR EVER I WILL SING**

Tim Schoenbacher



1. How I feel like singing, announcing to the world your constant faithful love, O Lord. You have shown the greatness of your love; by covenant you chose us as your own until the end of time.
2. O how blest are they who can know the joyous grace that comes from praising you, my Lord. At your very name how they rejoice, and in your justice you will raise them up. Their hearts reflect your love.

3. For you are our splendor, the reason for our strength; the cause of all our hopes and dreams. Only by your love do we exist. Only by your choice glorified; for you, O Lord, are God.
4. I have found my servant David, and with my holy oil anointed him that he be strong. He shall know my faithful hand is there. He shall say of me: "You are my Father, my savior, God, my rock."

Text: Based on Psalm 89:2-5, 16-18, 21-22, 27. Refrain text © 1969, 1987, ICLEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music and verses text © 1979, 1991, OCP. All rights reserved.

**COMMUNION: (Refrain) Jesus, Jesus, you are the Lord. Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.**

Text and music: Donna Marie McGargill, OSM, b. 1944. ©1984, OCP. All rights reserved.

**Songs for today:** Songs for today: **Entrance:** People, Look East  
**Prep of the Gifts:** Hail Mary: Gentle Woman **Communion:** Servant Song (McGargill) **Sending:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**During Communion, a minister will come to your row. As you are approached, stand to receive the Body of Christ. Please leave your masks on until the minister passes by you.**

**Reading 1** 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!"

Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you."

But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'"

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel.

I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you.

And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth.

I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place

without further disturbance.

Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel.

I will give you rest from all your enemies.

The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you.

And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm.

I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

**Reading 2** ROM 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Gospel** LK 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary,

for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born

will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
(bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. (up)  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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## Light Up the Night... Community members



are asking residents to join in song on Christmas Eve at 9pm. Everyone is encouraged to sing *Silent Night, Holy Night* from their front yard holding a candle/light or ringing bells. If you do not have an area in front of your home, you may social distance at Kuhlmann Park, Waverly. Join in support of our communities & those who have struggled this year.

**Just for fun...** The Seven Dwarfs have been advised they can only meet in groups of 6... One if them isn't Happy!

# Christmas Masses:



**Christmas Eve 4:00pm,  
7:00pm, 9:00pm**

**Christmas Day 9:00am**

- Social distancing & masks will be required.
- 4pm Mass is the most crowded. Please consider another Mass if you are able, to reduce crowding & allow space for children at the 4pm.
- 9am Christmas Day has the lowest attendance. If you are in the vulnerable population or want to avoid crowds, this is the Mass for you!
- **We will not open the church until 30 minutes before** Mass to reduce contact and ensure everyone's safety.
- Livestreaming of the 4pm will be available on St Mary Catholic Church Facebook page; & available on our webpage [StMarysFamily.com](http://StMarysFamily.com) about 5:30pm. The recording will be available for later viewing on Facebook & webpage.

**Exodus 90 - Attention Men!** This Lent, St Mary invites all men seeking authentic freedom to join their brothers in Christ for **Exodus 90**, which will kick off on **Jan 4, 2021**. Exodus 90 is a 90-day spiritual exercise that gives Catholic men a clear path for the journey to freedom through prayer, asceticism & support. More than 30,000 men around the country have made the Exodus & transformed their lives. You can, too! For more info & to enroll, please contact Deacon Phil at [smcdeacon@gmail.com](mailto:smcdeacon@gmail.com) or 319-830-6306. Exodus website: [exodus90.com/how-it-works](http://exodus90.com/how-it-works)

**Beauty in Christ: On Fire with the Holy Spirit...** Annual Catholic women's conference on Jan 30, 9am-1pm. Virtual gathering this year. \$25 registration at [ArchWomensConference.org](http://ArchWomensConference.org) Guest speakers Caroline Gambale-Dirkes & Maria Vadia. The link for this event is on our parish webpage [StMarysFamily.com](http://StMarysFamily.com)

**Just for Fun...** An officer, walking her beat, sees Ole walking a skunk along the sidewalk. She says, "Hey Ole, why do you have the skunk?" Ole replies, "This is my Social Distancing Support Animal!"



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**St. Mary Parish Life**  
**Meeting on the Third Wed. at 7pm**  
**Jan., March, May, July, Sept & Nov.**  
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*We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.*  
**-1 John Chapter 4**

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