

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

March 14, 2021 • Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saint Mary

2700 Horton Rd • Waverly, IA 50677

Parish Office

Hrs: M-Th 8am-4:30pm;
F 8am-2pm
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Website: StMarysFamily.com

Bulletin Deadline: Mon. 3pm

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Duane Schwickerath,

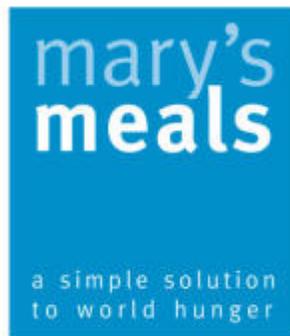
Building & Grounds Mngr
Office: 319-352-2493 X15
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Pastoral Council: Ruth Schluter,
Jennifer Siech, Elaine Lawler,
Trent Lockard, Kris Dunkin,
Jeff Keen, Jenne Seward

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!



We are sponsoring **Mary's Meals** at Tafika School, the primary school in Mambwe, Zambia in Africa. The school currently has 408 pupils (195 boys and 213 girls). **Our goal is to raise \$8,568** during the 6 weeks of Lent. This is \$21 per student, which will provide each of these students with a daily meal for a year. Mambwe is located in the eastern province of Zambia.

St. Mary Parish: Feeding Body, Mind, and Spirit.

How you can support the project:

1. Place your donation in an envelope marked Mary's Meals and drop it in the collection boxes in the hall (or drop off the envelope through the parish's outside mail slot).
2. Donate online at www.stmarysfamily.com. Select On-line Giving and choose Lent Mary's Meals as a fund.
3. Go online to Mary's Meals directly at: <https://www.marysmealsusa.org/en/get-involved/fundraising/>

Select the button that says "search for a friends" and type in St Mary and you will see our project.



We have raised
\$7,255
as of Mar 8!
Thank you for helping
us toward our goal of
\$8,568!

Candle Memorials:

Emiel Engels Don McCreedy

Special Intention For Health

Worship Schedule

Tues	4:30 pm	Rosary by Zoom
Tues	5:30 pm	Sid & Grace Dean
Wed	8:00 am	Lavern & Mary Norton
Thurs	8:00 am	Sadie Byrnes Family
Fri	8:00 am	Don McEnany
Sat	3:00-4:45 pm	Reconciliation
Sat	5:15 pm	Jay Dykstra
Sat	6:15 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sun	8:00 am	For the People
Sun	9:00 am	Stations of the Cross
Sun	10:00 am	Kevin Shonka
Sun	11:00 am	Stations of the Cross

Daily Mass cancelled if funeral scheduled.

Prayer Concerns: Gertrude Boeckman, Jeffrey Traeger, Donna Nelson, Carter Stevens, Ruth Schissel, Megan Smith, Carol Bolton, Bill Rechkemmer, Fr Lou Jaeger, Harold Iverson, Joanne Zrostlik, Virgil Birgen, Rhonda Kalainoff, Maureen Blonigan, Mary "Cookie" Dreesman, Steve Thorpe

Just for fun... Ole's neighbor wanted to wallpaper his living room. Knowing Ole's newly papered living room was the same size he asked Ole how many rolls he used. Ole said he bought 10 rolls. The frustrated neighbor finished & walked over to Ole's house, "Ole, I had 2 full rolls of wallpaper left over!" Ole nodded, "Yeah, I did too!"

Stewardship of Treasure

Weekly offertory budget \$8,913

Gifts Mar 1-7, 2021:

Offering Gifts	\$3,925
On-Line Offering	\$5,152
Food Pantry Gifts	\$744
Loose Offering	\$60
Easter Offering	\$85
Mary's Meals	\$1,276
Retired Religious	\$200
Outreach to those in Need	\$210

Fiscal Yr July 2020 - Feb 28, 2021:

Offertory Received...	\$331,739
Budget Yr-to-Date.....	\$320,885
Overage	+ \$10,854

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The first half of lent has passed and the second half remains. In the middle of this penitential season, this weekend we celebrate 'Laetare Sunday' (latin for rejoice). For me and six other men in our parish, our Lenten experience started on January 4th through the Exodus 90 program. With over two-thirds of the 90 days behind us, I know we all would admit to rejoicing in how close we are to the finish line. However, I don't think this Sunday is simply meant as a celebration of the mid-point of lent.

I think Laetare Sunday is a reminder to see the blessings God has given us in the midst of the season. For me, finding these blessings is easy. When I made time to start my day with prayer, God gave me calmness and comfort. When I put down my phone and turned off the TV, God gave me experiences and memories I will cherish. I'll never forget the times Ashley and I pulled the kids on a sled through Babcock woods or the hours Noah and I spent building and playing in our snow fort. When Ashley and I made time to end the day in prayer, God gave us daily opportunities to reflect on his presence and grow the spiritual bond of our marriage. When I said yes to doing Exodus 90, God gave me a group of incredible men to encourage me, share wisdom and lift me up when the days were hard.

Anytime we undertake something difficult, it's easy to focus on counting down days or crossing off tasks. However, to treat Lent as a task to be accomplished is to completely miss the point. Lent, and especially this Sunday, is a reminder that we have a God who takes our small sacrifices and returns blessings we may never expect and usually don't deserve. A God who is more than willing to walk with us wherever we are, so long as we invite him.

So what sacrifices have you made in the first half of lent? Have you done anything radical to turn away from the world and towards God? Have you taken the time to rejoice in the blessings of this season? No matter our progress so far, I pray that we all take these final weeks as a gift rather than as a task to be accomplished.

Finally, whether this has been the most fruitful lent of your life or the least, let's not forget that the gift of Easter Sunday awaits us all. There is nothing we can do to deserve it and it's given freely for us if we will only accept it. For that, let's rejoice.

- Jeff Keene

From Archbishop Jackels:

Some Catholics are a little confused about whether they may receive the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. So, some clarification is called for:

If Catholics are given a choice about which COVID vaccine to receive, they should choose the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines over the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine. Why?

Because J&J used cell lines from the fetal tissue of an aborted baby in the production of its vaccine, whereas Pfizer & Moderna used them only for lab testing. It's a subtle distinction. All 3 companies used those ethically compromised cell lines; it's just the Pfizer & Moderna vaccines, because they made only limited use, are further removed from the evil of abortion than is the J&J vaccine. However, if Catholics are not given a choice about which

vaccine to receive, it is morally acceptable for them to use the J&J vaccine against the serious health risk of the coronavirus.

In this regard, it appears that, at present, & for the foreseeable future, no one is being offered a choice of vaccines. Besides, as stated above, right now there isn't a COVID vaccine available that didn't use those abortion-derived cell lines in design, development, production, &/or lab testing.

So, if Catholics have the opportunity to get vaccinated, & aren't given a choice of vaccines, they should gratefully receive whatever is available; the sooner, the better. The common good of protecting the public health against a contagious & potentially deadly virus takes precedence over any reservations Catholics might have about being treated with any of the available vaccines.

SONGS FOR MAR 13-14 Prep. Of the Gifts: There is a Longing (Quigley)
Communion: Open My Eyes (Manibusan) **Sending:** In These Days of
Lenten Journey (Manalo)

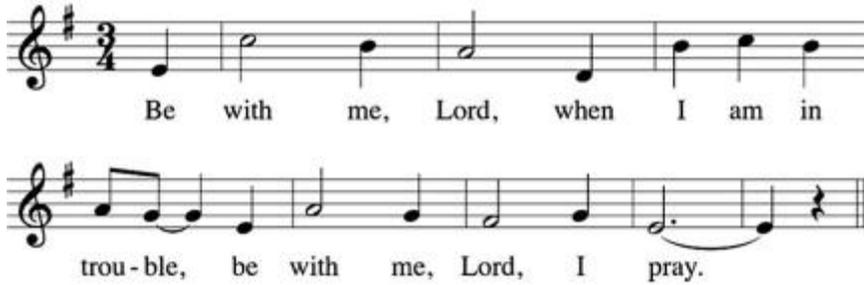
During Communion, a minister will come to your row. As you are approached, stand to receive the Body of Christ. Please leave your masks on until the minister passes by.

CONFITEOR: I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and what I have failed to do, (*strike breast*) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore, I ask Blessed Mary, ever-virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: BE WITH ME

Psalm 91

Marty Haugen



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APOSTLE'S CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, (*bow*) who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary (*up*), suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION: Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face. Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see. Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear your voice. Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear. Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love like you. Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love. And the first shall be last, and our eyes are opened and we'll hear like never before. And we'll speak in new ways, and we'll see God's face in places we've never known. I live within you. Deep in your heart, O Love. I live within you. Rest now in me.

Text: Based on Mark 8:22-25; Psalm 51 (50) 12-14a. Verses and English bridge, Jesse Manibusan, b. 1958, and Rufino Zaragoza, OFM, b. 1957, © 1988, 1998, Jesse Manibusan and Rufino Zaragoza, OFM. Music: Jesse Manibusan, © 1988, 1998, Jesse Manibusan. Published by Spirit and Song®, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.

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Reading I 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God,

tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah:

"Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

Reading II Eph 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with

We will not be passing a collection basket. Donation Boxes are available at both church entrances for your convenience & safety. Thank you for your gifts to St Mary's ministries.

him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast.

For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them

Verse Before the Gospel Jn 3:16

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

Gospel Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed.

But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

✂

- 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.

Calendar: Mar 15-21:

Mon: Lenten Small Group, 7pm, room B & zoom

Tues: Finance Council, 6pm, room B & zoom
Pastoral Council, 7pm, room A & zoom
Exodus, 8pm room A

Wed: Happy St Patrick's Day!

Thurs: Lenten Small Group, 8:45am, room B
Easter Vigil Rehearsal, 7pm, church

Fri: Women's Group, 8:30am, room B

Sat-Sun: Peanut Butter Collection at Masses

Sun: Lenten Small Group, 9am, room B
RCIA, 11am

Reconciliation: We have additional opportunities for reconciliation available:

- Sat, Mar 20, 27, 3:00-4:45pm
- Tuesday, Mar 30, 6-7pm

Cemetery Spring Cleanup! Please remove any decorations or pots that are **not** on the foundation or fastened to the monument as soon as possible. We will be removing items in the grass area mid-April in preparation of the mowing season. This includes shepherd hooks in the grass (hooks set into the foundation can be left). Decorative items in the grass are allowed the week before & the week after Memorial Day. This can be very labor intensive, so please help our volunteers by removing your items. Thank you!

Totus Tuus Missionaries Needed

Catholic, college-age men & women disciples needed to serve on teams during the 2021 summer for Totus Tuus. Lead songs, teach, perform skits, & share witness talks with children & youth in parishes of the Archdiocese. Paid position with training, most expenses covered. Application & info at DBQArch.org/TotusTuus

IMPACT, 2-yr adult program offering spiritual, theological, intellectual & pastoral formation in the Catholic faith to help live out our missionary discipleship in our parish & community. Begins Sept 2021, monthly sessions at St Mark, Iowa Falls. More info at DBQArch.org/impact



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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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