



Coming Through

One time at a party I started talking with a friend about church. "The cross is a door," he said, "but the church acts like a barrier in front of it." If the church really is supposed to be a way leading to this narrow door, then the way should be inviting—at least it should appear approachable.

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August 25, 2019 ~ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship This Week

Monday, August 26

Rdgs: 1 Thes 1:1-10; Ps 149; Mt 23:13-22 No Morning Eucharist (Fr. John day off)

Tuesday, August 27

St. Monica

Rdgs: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139; Mt 23:23-26

8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Patrick)

Marilyn Fanetti †

8:00 a.m. Word & Communion

(Sacred Heart)

Wednesday, August 28

St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor

Rdgs: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139; Mt 23:27-32

7:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Mark)

Alvin & Pearl Gaul † *

Please note that this Mass will be celebrated in the St. Mark Parish Center because the Church is being painted!

11:00 a.m. Rosary for Immigrants (St. Joseph)

Thursday, August 29

The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Rdgs: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90; Mk 6:17-2

8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Mary)

Joan Werner †

11:30 a.m. Rosary for Peace (St. Mark)

Friday, August 30

Rdgs: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97; Mt 25:1-13

8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Joseph)

Malcolm Whittle †

Saturday, August 31

Rdgs: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98; Mt 25:14-30

4:00 p.m. Eucharist (St. Joseph)

Darlene Koster †

6:00 p.m. Eucharist (St. Mary)

For the People

Sunday, September 1

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rdgs: Sir 3:17-29; Ps 68; Heb 12:18-24;

Lk 14:1, 7-14

8:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Patrick)

Kay Schilling †

10:00 a.m. Eucharist (St. Mark)

Joann Helle †

Salt for the Week



"Lord will only a few people be saved?"

Are YOU saved? Will you be saved? What does it even mean?

Some thoughts for you to ponder...

- * Being saved is having a relationship with Jesus Christ, who is the Savior. Being saved is living in right relationship with the Savior, realizing that we are indeed in NEED of a savior. We ask ourselves "Do I need a Savior?"
- * Being saved isn't automatic. Jesus' response is that many will attempt to enter through the narrow gate, but will not be strong enough. The gate is narrow because we need to reel in, confess, admit our weakness and sinfulness. The gate is also narrow because the life of the Christian doesn't consist of doing "whatever" and assuming Jesus will forgive me. Jesus' teaching is necessarily restrictive to our tendency to do as we please.
- * Being saved is not of our own doing. When Jesus reminds us that many will try but will not be strong enough," this strength comes from God alone—not from us working harder, longer, or fulfilling the prescriptions of the law with an empty, "duty-oriented" attitude.

In our prayer and lives of faith we strive to be disciples of Jesus, confessing our weakness and sin, and claiming Jesus as the Lord of our lives.

I guess it all depends on whether or not we think we need a Savior. Fr. John

I do.

How about you?

Fall Brings back to school, the approaching harvest, and a great deal of activity in the Emmaus Pastorate. We wanted to bring several "heads-up" to your attention and to your calendars as we get under way:



- * Several important Pastorate leadership groups have been or will soon be meeting for strategic planning:
 - Pastorate Faith Formation Commissions will be meeting soon to look over programming including Sacramental Prep, Baptismal and Marriage Preparation, Bible Studies and other adult book discussions. Watch the bulletin for details.
 - The Pastorate Liturgy & Worship Committee met for a workshop last Saturday at St. Mary's Upper Room. There was continuing education time as well as mapping our future meetings for Advent, Lent and Easter planning. Individual parish liturgy committees will meet in between for local preparations.
 - The Emmaus Council (representatives from each parish) and individual parish Pastoral Councils will soon be meeting this Fall. Of main emphasis is following up on the information and goals from the Town Hall meetings, and continuing to work at improving communication and transparency throughout the pastorate.
 - The upcoming National Back To Church Sunday will be a crucial time for inviting inactive parishioners as well as other persons not connected to any faith community. Please seriously consider and pray about having conversations with anyone for this special weekend. It really could be the start of something big!
 - Father John and four other priests from the Archdiocese of Dubuque will be attending a
 Rural Life and Ministry Conference in Minnesota later this Fall, in hopes of sharing and
 picking up best practices for the challenges of ministry in settings such as ours.

Please pray for our pastorate and all pastorate leadership that we use the gifts and talents God has blessed us with to the best of our abilities.





National Back to Church Sunday is September 14-15!

It's time to start thinking—thinking about who YOU can invite to church and into fellowship in the **Emmaus Pastorate!**

These include:

- Anyone who used to go to church but (for whatever reason) is no longer active...
- Those who have no spiritual home or affiliation with any church...
- Those who are alone or lonely, and not a part of much of anything...
- Family members or friends who have old hurts or resentments...
- New people who moved into the area...
- Young families not yet connected...
- Your older children or even spouses!

WHAT TO DO? Pray for guidance and ideas and ask God to open their hearts to an invitation. Begin having conversations—this is more than just "going to church"; it is having a concern for their souls, about having a relationship with Jesus. You don't have to do it all—but Christ does need you to invite them into a deeper relationship.

> **The Emmaus Pastorate Moms Group** Wednesday, August 28 9:00-10:30 a.m.



St. Mark Parish Center Join us for "Women of Faith" Listen to moms who have been through it and hear how they have kept the faith and kept their kids faithful.

Our Sympathy and Prayers to~

• Joan C. Kerns and Faye Jones on the death of their brother, Don Nabor, who passed away on August 18.

Congratulations to~

• Scott Johnson and Megan Kleve who were married at St. Joseph on Saturday, August 24.



The Power of Mass by Bert Ghezzi **Reflections of Daily Attendees**

"If I have a family member or friend who is in need. I remember him or her at Mass. When I have

promised to pray for someone, I bring the intention before the altar. There are many instances of difficulties over which I have no control, but if I petition the Lord at Mass, I feel I can offer some actual assistance." ~ Jackie L.~



Registration

Second Annual Opening Mass and Registration will be held on Wednesday, September 4, at 5:30 p.m. at Starmont High School.

PRAY AND FAST FOR AN END TO ALL VIOLENCE



Pastorate Meeting Schedule

Aug 27 Sacred Heart Pastoral Council, 6:30 p.m.

Aug 28 St. Mark, St. Patrick, St. Mary staff, 9:30 a.m. at St. Mark

Aug 29 All Pastoral Council Members Workshop, St. Mark Parish Center, 6:30 p.m.

Aug 30 St. Joseph staff, 9:30 a.m.

St. Mark Building & Grounds, 6:30, Sept 3

Parish Center

Pastorate Faith Formation Commissions. Sept 3

6:30 p.m., St. Mary

St. Patrick, Colesburg

Sunday Eucharist Celebration

First & third Sundays of month—8:00 a.m.

Total Received\$2,045.00

| Tithing Report from August 17-18 | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| Budget | \$736.00 | |
| Youth | \$10.00 | |
| Pay It Forward | \$119.00 | |
| Parish Center Fund | \$1,180.00 | |



Support the St. Patrick Scrip **Program!** Scrip is available after every Sunday Mass at St. Patrick or contact Deanne Wulfekuhle. Thank shopwithscrip you for your support.

St. Mark/St. Patrick

A Big Thank You to all who donated school supplies and cash to our "New Soles for Young Souls" project. The Ed-Co community is very thankful



for the generous contribution of school supplies. and also for the thirty pairs of new tennis shoes for their students.

St. Mark, Edgewood

| Tithing Report from August 17-18 | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Budget | \$2,893.00 |
| Pay It Forward | \$586.31 |
| Total Received | \$3,479.31 |



Stewardship Have You Returned Your Pledge Card Yet? There is still time. Please return your card to the parish office by August 31, if you haven't already done so. Thank

you for supporting our parish!

Remember— there are Prayer Intention candles available (offering—\$5 per week), if you wish to pray for a special intention. Stop by the office and ask one of the staff to light a candle for you.

Church Unavailable for Walking August 26-31—

The interior of St. Mark Church will be painted during the week of August 26-31. Because of this, no one will be able to walk inside. Thank you for your patience and understanding. The newly painted church will be worth the inconvenience.

St. Mark (Continued)

Thank You to Parish Life and all who worked on the guilt I won at the Chicken Supper. It is beautiful and was a nice surprise. Thank you and God bless! **Grace Knipper**



Wow! Thank You! Awesome! Over 100 people volunteered their time, energy and sweat to serve 880 people and gross \$9,932 at the "Famous Rodeo" Chicken Dinner. We are **very very** grateful to the Edgewood Locker for their generous

donations and also to the many parishioners for donated corn, cabbage, green peppers, and pies! It was fun to work together as a parish family, serving wonderful food to our happy guests.

St. Joseph, Elkader

| Tithing Report from August 17-18 | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| Budget | \$876.00 | |
| Offertory | \$25.00 | |
| Assistance Fund | \$177.00 | |
| ACH Collection | \$1,530.00 | |
| Total Received | \$2,608.00 | |

You Are Invited to a **Community Picnic**

Sponsored by St. Joseph's Parish - Elkader Saturday, September 7, 2019 - 5:00 PM

Help us welcome John, Patti, Angela and Michael Uhal John is our new Pastorate Pastoral Associate



St. Joseph (Continued)

Just a Reminder that Parish Life is collecting baby clothing to give to either Clarity Clinic or Mary's Inn in Dubuque. We will be sorting them at our September 16 meeting. You may leave them in the back of church marked for Parish Life or drop them off at the Parish Center or bring them to the Parish Life meeting.

For the week of August 24, we light the candles for Betty Wallery.

Thank You~

- To everyone who volunteered for and participated in Vacation Bible School and Peace Church for hosting it. The children and youth who participated had an enlightening spiritual experience and lots of FUN!
- To St. Theresa Circle and Chairperson Marlene Olinger and Co-chair Andrea Zittergruen for organizing the funeral luncheon for Clair Tschirgi. Good job ladies. The family was very appreciative of your hard work.

St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus Annual Waffle and Sausage Breakfast featuring "Dad's Belgian Waffles" will be held on Sunday, September 1,



8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, at St. Joseph Hall in Elkader. Parishioners from all parishes of the Emmaus Pastorate are invited to enjoy a delicious breakfast of waffles, sausage, orange juice, and coffee. Takeout orders will be available. Tickets may be purchased in advance from a Knight or at the door: advance adult tickets—\$7.50, \$8 at the door; 6-12 years \$4.50, and 5 and under free.

St. Mary, Strawberry Point

| Tithing Report from August 17-18 | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|
| Budget | | |
| Offertory | \$48.00 | |
| Improvement Fund | \$105.00 | |
| Total Received | | |

DON'T JUST GO TO CHURCH!

BE CHURCH!

St. Mary (Continued)

Liturgical Ministers—All those serving in any liturgical ministry (hospitality, servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, etc.) should have received a text or email message from Deb Schloss to verify your best contact information and to give me your availability for future schedules. If you do not get a message, please text Deb **(563-920-8263)** with the correct information. Thank you.

Sacred Heart, Volga Sunday Eucharist Celebration Second & fourth Sundays of month—8:00 a.m.



A Fellowship Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 8, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Proceeds from the free will offering taken at this event will be given to Virginia Keppler.

Thank You~

 To all individuals who serve in our many ministries at Sacred Heart; your talent is appreciated more

Sacred Heart Parish Community Picnic Sunday, September 22

10:00 a.m. Mass with music by

Switchback



Picnic Follows Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Ice Cream

Live and Silent Auctions

Games for the Kids

All Are Welcome!

And Yes, the Ants Are Invited Too!



Emmaus Pastorate Staff

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St. Mark Parish

Daryl Jaeger 563-380-0863

St. Joseph Parish

Ann Gibney 563-245-1597

St. Mary Parish

Jerry Ketoff 563-581-2488

Sacred Heart Parish

Beth Petsche 319-610-7358



Please help us keep our prayer list updated. Contact the Parish Office if you have requests or changes, or if you have questions.

St. Mary

Lucas Baker Doug Behrens Mark Broich Robert Broich

Mary Elsbury

Pat Grady John Gruman **Bonnie Haves**

Kathy Keppler Virginia Keppler Sheryl Porter Lynne Ridenour

Brian Ries Heather Roberson Ludwig

Ralph Werner

St. Joseph Luke Baade Eli Belser

Margaret Degnan Lylina Dittmer Ann Donlon Ronnie Dougherty Virgie Downey

Peg Ferguson Tom Gifford Robert Halverson Marge Huber

Alivia Keppler Jerry Kessler Jerry Powell Pat Roach Karen Sewell Vanita Thomsen

John Wiley Sr

Sacred Heart

Connie Blume Lois Erickson Mary Fedeler

Jennie (Polkow) Haight

Donna Larson

St. Mark

Enise Collet Zach Fisher Jim Funke Bonnie Helle Kevin McQuillen Jessi Overmann David Putz Mary Rave Allen Schaefers Donna Schaffer Tryce Sperfslage

Diane Uhlenkamp

Liam Young St. Patrick

Roger Wiltse

Lisa Booth T.J. Breitbach Rachel Budden Rick Budden David Engelken Doug Goebel Jack Hogan Kay Jones Colin Majerus Jim & Marie Pasker Anna Marie Ries

The deadline for the September 7-8 bulletin is Thursday, August 29. E-mail (do not phone) all articles to Joyce at dbq072sec2@dbqarch.org.