

Crystal DeNeve, Faith Formation Director
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BULLETIN DATE: September 18 & 19, 2004

Confirmation will take place here at St. Mary's **THIS Saturday, September 18th at the 5:30 PM Mass.** We will be honoring the Confimands at coffee and rolls following the 9 AM Mass Sunday, September 26th.

Volunteers Needed! WE NEED HELP IN Kindergarten, 5th and 6th grade. If we do not get any response by Monday, I will set up a rotating parent schedule for these grades and hand out the schedule at registration. Reminder – anyone who works with and/or around youth needs to attend Virtus training, you may contact me for more information. A schedule is available on the diocesan website: www.davenportdiocese.org.

Registration for the “traditional” K-12 peer learning Faith Formation classes will be **THIS Wednesday, September 22 starting at 5:45 PM** in the church. Everyone in the parish is invited to celebrate the “new school year” with a **Mass at 6:10 PM. (Note: parents are expected to attend this Mass with their children and sit as a family.)** After Mass everyone is invited to cookies and juice in the REC and to visit the classrooms and meet the catechists.

Thanks to all who helped to make the Parish Festival such a great day. The parish is grateful for the generous support and assistance given for this annual event, which is so important, not only for the financial considerations, but also for the parish joining together to pursue a common goal. May the Lord richly bless you!

What do you appreciate about your parish priest or another priest who serves in the Diocese of Davenport? We would like to share your thoughts in commemoration of Priesthood Sunday, which will be celebrated Sunday, Oct. 31, across the United States. In 300 words or less, tell us how the priest you appreciate has helped you or your family, or inspired you with his homilies, motivated you in school, comforted you after the loss of a loved one, worked with you on a council, committee or a special parish project. Maybe the priest you appreciate most prepared you for marriage, guided you in a job search, comforted you during an illness or provided spiritual direction. This priest could be someone who is a strong advocate for the homeless, or who helps people addicted to drugs or alcohol. Perhaps the priest is especially welcoming toward newcomers in the church and has a passion for evangelization. The priest you appreciate may simply be a good listener. Please send your stories by Oct. 7 to The Catholic Messenger, P.O. Box 460, Davenport, IA, 52805, by e-mail at messenger@davenportdiocese.org; or by fax at (563) 323-6612.



Hayride, Bonfire, and Weiner Roast...

The Family Life commission is sponsoring an evening of fun at Westfield Farm (1 ¼ miles west of the Super 8 ~ 113 410th Avenue) on Sunday, September 26th at 5 PM. Price is \$2.50 per person. To make reservations or for more information contact Connis Dayton at 236-8790 or connis_d@yahoo.com

**St. Mary's
 Support Group for Singles**
 September 28, Tuesday,
 at 11:30 AM
 The Depot Crossing
 All adult singles are invited. Call
 Rosemarie Vicinanza
 for information at 236-1941



Ministerial Roles: September 25 & 26, 2004

	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Greeter(s) Ushers	Jim Graham family Bob Kriegel David Schmitz Dennis Conway Vic Wilson	Bob & Sylva Dixon Pat White Paul Frascht Robert Smith Roger Holck Rick Happe Wayne Wiley Kathy & Wendell Utech Rochelle & Suzanne Wilkins Vicki Nolton	Les & Linda Ollinger Paul Goedken Art Picard Tom Kriegel Volunteer Bill Menner Bill & Marge Husak Donna Godar Mark Godar
Lector Gift Bearer(s) Eucharistic Ministers	Joan Outlaw Tom & Lisa Cirks Pat Raynor Richard Wilson	Rita Baustian Chris Molitor Stephen Molitor Amanda Molitor	
Servers	Craig Hall Madison Cirks Stephanie Kenealy		Frank Loutsch Aaron Brau Keven Brau

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 18 **Repairs//Improvements Collection**
 4:00 PM No Reconciliation
 5:30 PM Mass for Carmella Gallagher
 CONFIRMATION
 NO MASS IN MONTEZUMA THIS WEEKEND

Sunday, September 19
 8:00 - 11 AM Sports' Unified Breakfast (KC & Grinnell College)
 9:00 AM Mass for John Montgomery
 No COFFEE & ROLLS
 11:00 AM Mass for St. Mary's Parishioners

Monday, September 20
 8:00 AM Mass for Alex Comerford

Tuesday, September 21
 10:00 AM Rosary at St. Francis Manor
 5:30 PM Mass for Frank Higdon
 7:00 PM Worship & Spirituality Commission

Wednesday, September 22
 8:00 AM Mass for Francis Comerford
 10:00 AM Rosary at Friendship Manor

Registration for the "traditional" **K-12 peer learning Faith Formation classes** will be **THIS Wednesday, September 22** starting at **5:45 PM** in the church



Thursday, September 23
 5:30 PM Mass for Catherine Higdon

Friday, September 24
 8:00 AM Mass for Mildred McNally

Saturday, September 25 **Deacons' Fund Collection**
 4:00 PM Reconciliation
 5:30 PM Mass for Ludmilla Varnum

Sunday, September 26
 9:00 AM Mass for St. Mary's Parishioners
 COFFEE & ROLLS
 11:00 AM Mass for Michael Ross

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS
October: 24: Propagation of the Faith & Deacons' Fund

The introductory session for RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) will be held on September 27th at 7:00 PM in the Religious Education Center. This introductory session will explain what the program is and how it will be addressed during regular classes. RCIA is a process of faith formation culminating in the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist. These Sacraments are usually celebrated at the Easter Vigil. RCIA is designed for: unbaptized adults, baptized Christians interested in joining the Catholic Church, and baptized Catholics preparing for Confirmation and/or Eucharist. It is also a wonderful way for practicing Catholics to become better acquainted with their religion.

LAST WEEK'S FINANCIAL DATA

Last Week's Envelope Count: 135
 Amount of Contributions: \$4,469.50
 Average for 11 weeks: \$3,599.46
 Amount needed per week: \$3,837.04
 Repairs/Improvements \$239.50

St. Mary's Parish Foundation News:
<http://stmarysgrinnell.faithweb.com/foundation.htm>

MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

MONEY COUNTERS

September 20 Maridean Tharp & the Zells
 September 27 Barbara McCulley & Marvin Waechter
 October 04 Kathy Utech & Ruth Higdon

BULLETIN REAM TEAM

September 24 Barbara Webster & Jean Morrissey
 October 01 Sally Flanagan & Kae Beck
 October 08 Barb McCulley & Sylvia Trish

Congratulations to Isabella Monica Ann Schwartz, daughter of Monte and Tisha, who was baptized at St. Mary's last weekend.

Wednesday Night Meal

Want to stop eating in the car trying to make Religious Education Class and eat a real dinner? Looking for good dinner conversation? Need a break from food service meals? Join us for a meal every Wednesday on Religious Education nights, starting on September 29. Serving begins at 5:30, classes start at 6:10. Cost: freewill donation. Questions call Mary Arensdorf at 236-4220.

Montezuma Masses 7:30 PM	Baptismal Classes in REC September 27 ~ 7 PM November 8 ~ 6 PM December 6 ~ 6 PM
No Mass on September 18 October 16 November 20 December 18	Please report birthdays and anniversaries to the parish office at 236-7486.

ANNIVERSARIES:

September 20 Tim & Lisa Moorehead, Virgil & Pat Groth
 September 21 Mike & Margaret Rauber
 September 23 Tom & Nancy Guinane

BIRTHDAYS:

September 20 Marie Tan, Becky Connelly, Adelaide Doig,
 Teresa Kriegel, Christopher Lyons, Amanda Molitor
 September 21 Kevin Wood, Benjamin Cunningham,
 Lauren Hester, Bob Larsen
 September 23 Jane McFee, Stephen Vavroch
 September 24 Shawn McKay
 September 25 Daniel Clark, Dori Stepanek
 September 26 Patrick Luft

ON TWO CHICKENS, CLEVERNESS, AND AN INFINITE SCALE

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OK. So a woman goes into an old-fashioned butcher shop close to quitting time and tells the butcher--whose chickens are on sale--that she needs a four-pound fryer. The butcher knows that he has only one fryer left in his cooler. He knows, too, that it's just a little over three pounds, but he really wants to make the sale to go home with a few more dollars in his pocket. "One four-pound fryer coming up," he says with a smile to the customer as he disappears into his walk-in cooler for a few seconds. Then he returns with the three-pound bird and slaps it on the scale for the customer to see. While doing so, however, he presses his thumb--which is cleverly positioned out-of-sight behind the bird--down on the scale pan until the needle climbs to four pounds. "There you go, ma'am," he says. The woman says that it certainly looks like a nice bird, but then she hesitates. "You know," she tells the butcher, "it's just for my husband and me, perhaps a three pound fryer would be better."

The butcher smiles again, says, "No problem," and returns to the cooler with bird in hand. He stays in there just long enough to make the woman think that he is switching the four-pound bird for a three-pound bird. Then he returns to the scale with the exact same fryer, and he doesn't even have to look at the scale window as he plops the chicken on the pan all over again. The woman watches the red needle on the old scale dial up to just over three pounds. "This looks like a nice bird, too," she says to the butcher. "Only the best in my shop," he says in return, then asks the woman if he should wrap it up for her. She says yes so the shop proprietor takes the bird over to the butcher wrap. But the customer throws the wily man a curve when she says, "Oh, you've been so good to me, and the price is right. I think I'll take both of them."

The butcher's dishonesty aside, I give him props for creativity in trying to unload his last fryer. The steward's dishonesty in today's Gospel aside, I give him props for creativity in trying to endear himself to his master's debtors (so that when he's dismissed, they might welcome him into their homes). Hey, even the master gives him props for being so enterprising. But is this a guy we're supposed to emulate? Yes and no. Jesus isn't suggesting that we be dishonest like the steward--or the butcher--in matters of money. He's suggesting that we be *clever* like them when it comes to embracing the Good News. And how do we do this? One way is by reminding ourselves that money for money's sake is not the answer. Helping the poor is. From the Book of Amos, we hear the shekel-grubbers say that they will fix their scales for cheating. The butcher did, too, and he got caught in the end. Cleverly, and on a much more infinite scale, let's all bring the Kingdom home instead.