

SAINT MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

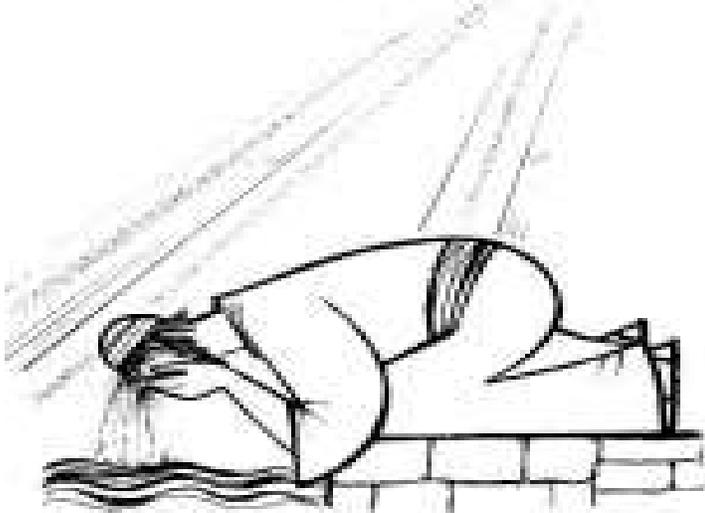
203 Fourth St. · Aurora, Indiana 47001 · www.mystmarys.com

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Welcome in God's Name!

Through our loving and praying family may you find friendship, peace and serenity in this, God's house. If you are a visitor interested in joining our parish or the Catholic Faith, please call our parish office for information. If you are returning after being away ... Welcome Home!

Fourth Sunday of Lent March 21 & 22

*He went off and washed himself, and came away
with his sight restored*



Parish Mission

We, the people in the area served by St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Aurora, Indiana, called to faith and salvation in Jesus Christ in the Roman Catholic tradition, strive to live the Gospel by worshipping God in word and sacrament, learning, teaching, and sharing our faith with those in our parish and beyond by serving human needs. We commit ourselves to stewardship through the generous and responsible use of our spiritual, physical, and material resources for today's and tomorrow's needs.

Holy Mass – Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:30 am Friday 8:30 am

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM until Noon

St. Vincent de Paul Society (812) 926-1637
Pregnancy Care Center (812) 537-4357

Reverend Ben Syberg, Pastor

Email: frsyberg@sls-apps.org

St. Mary's Office: (812) 926-0060

St. Lawrence's Office: (812) 537-3992

After Hours Emergencies: (812) 537-1297

Anna Townsend, Secretary/C.R.E. – parish.office@mystmarys.com

Tony Vincent, Facilities & Maintenance

Jim Waldon, Director of Music jim.waldon@mystmarys.com

Mollie Leibecke, Bookkeeper mollie.leibecke@mystmarys.com

St. Mary's School – (812) 926-1558 fax (812) 926-2590

Bob Brookbank, Principal brookbank.science@mystmarys.com

Ann Hutchinson, School Secretary ann.hutchinson@mystmarys.com

As office hours may vary, please call ahead to find out the hours of availability.

Pastoral Council Members

Greg Ramsey - Chairman (812) 438-3109

Gr.ramsey@comcast.net

Randy Tyler – Co-chair (812) 584-3024

Soleman3@comcast.net

Patty Lohmiller – Secretary (513) 646-8094

patti@lohmlercontracting.com

Lyndsay Hays (812) 907-0312

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Kathy Simon (513) 405-6268

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jonathonpandrews@gmail.com

Sara Dennis iuschwa@hotmail.com

Finance Committee

Mark Neff, Chairperson (812) 926-3192
markneff52@hotmail.com

School Commission

Beth Legge, Chairperson (812) 537-4525
beth@mccabesflowers.com

Homebound Ministry: Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to the homebound.

Mrs. Emily Beckman (812) 926-2417

Anointing of the Sick: Call anytime (812-926-0060 or 812-537-3992) or see Fr. Ben. Given at home, nursing home, hospital or at church.

Knights of Columbus (812) 584-4498
Bill Ullrich, Grand Knight billullrich@comcast.net

St. Mary Prayer List

*Aloisia Mattl, *Louis Hill, Jr., *Vernon Myers; *Jodi Jerger, *Travis Miller, *Becky Meyer Clark, *Ron Bradford, Vaughn Fischer, *Christina Nelms, Gary Manford, Tim Heller, Neil Selley, Caroline Seaver, *Brenda Murr, *Marilyn "Jane" Borth, Hayle Brashears, Jared Hodgkins, Stefanie Veale, Nate Groh, Michael Renner, Larry Hagan, McKayla Schmits, Kelly, Gary Wainscott, Ruth Kern, Colton Mattingly, Agnes Kelnhofer, Tinker Walston, Ron Brunner, Payton Maurice, Kate Grossmann, Joan Fuch, Karen Kistner, Mark Chase, Velinda Seaver, Rose Donk, B&L Dunseth, Jessica McKittrick, Kristie Bockhorst Gilb, *Candi Elsen, Barb MCMurray, Chris Strautman, *Mary Leyendecker, Rebecca Oelker, Debbie Walker Russell, Dottie Fedroff, Eugene Armbruster, Judy Edwards, Brenda O'Neal.

Please remember our Troops and their families in your prayers.

St. Mary's Parish Collection Information March 14 & 15, 2020

Weekly Collection	6,821.00	Attendance	275
School	225.00	Envelopes	88
Black & Indian Mission	110.00	Easter Flowers	75.00
St. Vincent	235.00		

EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION

We are now accepting donations for Easter flowers for the church. Envelopes are in the pews, or you may use your own; please print names clearly on the envelopes if your gift is being made as a memorial. (Memorial donations made by April 7th will be published in our Easter bulletin; donations made later than April 7th will still be gratefully accepted.) As always, thank you for your generosity.

In Memoriam: Please remember in your prayers the soul of Donald Ray Bowling (March 13-1937-March 10, 2020, Age 82). Donald is the Husband of Winnifred Wittke Bowling and father of Chris Bowling, Brian Bowling, Mark Bowling, Jerlyn Ziegler, Joan Gordon and, Karen Helmle.

Our Deepest Condolences to the family of James Charles Langley who passed away on Thursday, March 12, 2020. James Charles Langley was the brother of Ruth Mary Kern.

Resources for Daily Holy Mass live online:

Watch Catholic Holy Masses live online @ <https://mass-online.org/>
<https://www.heartofthenation.org/online-mass/sunday-mass#/>
<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings>

Also, you can access Fr. Ben Syberg's Homily:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=CRALVB4MahQ>

A Message from Fr. Ben Syberg

I doubt anyone needs reminding that this is a defining moment of our time. Covid-19 is so named because it is a coronavirus of 2019. 2019, specifically December. It has affected the world for less than four months. Who knows how long this will last, but it has touched every level of people's lives.

Recently Pope Francis came out of his Roman isolation. He took the time to pray at empty churches, and wander quiet streets. He prayed before an ancient cross and image of Mary, both of which are said to have helped end past plagues of Rome. I can't imagine the surreal sense of it. The ancient center of Christendom, the home of the Vicar of Christ, the Eternal City - ghost town. The Pope and his team have been right to stay away. We all have to. But I suspect he just couldn't help himself.

I've been writing a lot about Pope Francis, and not just recently. He's been Pope as long as I've been a priest. Think of all he's shouldered, what he's inherited - priest scandals, financial panics, hierarchy corruption, a Church in an ideological civil war. Francis himself is, there is no doubt, a deeply polarizing man. But I can't help but think - wow, it doesn't matter. Coronavirus has swept over it. This could be his defining moment.

At one point the Pope live-streamed a blessing over St. Peter's Square, normally packed with pilgrims. Obviously, the square was empty. But our Catholic Church has felt empty for so long now. As of writing this, six priests from the hometown of Pope John XXIII have died from the virus, and twenty more were hospitalized. But we've already been worried about the declining number of priests. Something grabs the heart.

Who are we, as Catholics? What do we really believe? As we shut down masses and cancel events, is there not some dread in the air that we were already in trouble? People were losing faith before; many people's trust in the Church was already shaken. If the Church was weak yesterday, and Covid-19 is a shockwave, then what happens tomorrow? Will we fall? Are we shaken to our core?

We need Peter. We need our Pope. We need the Pope to give his whole life. We are the Roman Catholic Church because St. Peter died in Rome. He died on the cross just like Christ, to anchor the Church for all time. Jesus promised Peter - on you I build my Church, and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it. And He told Peter: all will have their faith shaken, but you only Peter, you must strengthen your brothers. (Mt. 16.18, Lk. 22.32). We need Peter. And we have Peter. We will not fail because the Lord gave us a shepherd. Pray for the Church, pray for each other. And pray for Pope Francis.

God Bless, Fr. Ben

Let us Pray:

O Mary, you shine always on our way as sign of our safety and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the foot of the Cross bound yourself to the suffering of Jesus, keeping strong in your faith.

O Salvation of the Roman People, you know what we need and we are sure that you will provide it for us just as at Cana of Galilee the joy and feasting could return after that moment of trial.

Mother of Divine Love, help us, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us, He who took upon Himself our sufferings and is marked by our sorrows and so lead us, toward the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen

CHURCH EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coronavirus Update:

At this time the Bishops of Indiana have suspended all liturgical celebrations. Church will be locked.

We will not have Daily Mass at St. Lawrence or St. Mary's

We will not have any Saturday Evening / Sunday Masses

We will not have Stations of the Cross

We will not have Adoration on Fridays in Lent

Baptisms are postponed for the time being, as are Holy Communion to the sick and shut-ins. We need to keep them safe.

Anointing of the sick and Last Rites, as well as Confession are available. Contact the office staff and we serve you.

As of now, Breaking Bread, St. Vincent de Paul and the St. Mary's Fish Fry will continue, but in great restriction. All meals from the Fish Fry will be delivered to folks in their cars. All food from Breaking Bread will be given in to-go containers.

Finally, we can be in this boat for a while folks. Let us love and pray and be kind. I will be saying Mass every day for you all.

Stay safe, stay home.

Fr. Ben

► MEN'S LENTEN FELLOWSHIP DINNER is CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. Please call Randy Tyler @ 812-584-3024 or Mike Page @ 812-926-3124 for more information. Thank you.



Holy Thursday Mass 7:00pm
Good Friday Service 3:00pm
Holy Saturday Vigil 8:30pm
Easter Sunday Mass 9:45am 11:30am

All will be at St. Lawrence.