

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!

**August 15th & 16th, 2020
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



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 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

**Wednesday & Friday @ 9:00 AM
Saturday @ 4:00 PM**

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM until Noon

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

Randy Dennis, Principal randy.dennis@mystmarys.com

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

Pastoral Council Members

Jonathon Andrews - Chairman jonathonpandrews@gmail.com

Randy Tyler – Co-chair Soleman3@comcast.net

Patty Lohmiller – Secretary patti@lohmilliercontracting.com

Lyndsay Hays Lyndsay_81@yahoo.com

Kathy Simon Kathys1008@gmail.com

Beth Hyde Pizzabeth@msn.com

Rick Schuler Rick.schuler@fastsigns.com

Julie Strasemeier Strase80@gmail.com

George Schewe gjschewe@gmail.com

Greg Ramsey Gr.ramsey@comcast.net

Sara Dennis iuschwa@hotmail.com

Finance Committee

Mark Neff, Chairperson markneff52@hotmail.com

School Commission

Beth Legge, Chairperson beth@mccabesflowers.com

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

Mrs. Emily Beckman ebeckman@comcast.net

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

Bill Ullrich, Grand Knight billullrich@comcast.net

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



*Aloisia Mattl, *Louis Hill, Jr., *Vernon Myers; *Jodi Jerger, *Travis Miller, *Becky Meyer Clark, *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, Judy, Brenda O'Neal, Liz Day, *John P. Hinrichs, Pam Dean, Graham, Tim Smith, John Hobson, Tom Brown, Betty Tyler, Mary Ann Edwards.

Please remember our Troops, Doctors, Nurses, First Responders and their families in your prayers.

**St. Mary's Parish Collection Information
August 8 & 9, 2020**

Weekly Collection	6,979.00
School	250.00
SVDP	130.00

Envelopes – 54
Credit Card - 11
Attendance: 108



Please consider our online giving. Just go to our parish website @ www.mystmarys.com and click the blue box "online giving" to register. Thank you.

COUNTERS: Since we only have one mass on a weekend, there is NO need for you to come in on Mondays. Stay safe and we will keep you posted. Thank you.

ST. MARY SCHOOL



Mr. Randy Dennis/St. Mary's Principal

With school opened last August 5, we are in need of certain supplies due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. These supplies will help to keep our school safe and open. All donations can be dropped off to the school at your convenience. Thank you and may God bless you for your generosity.

- Face Masks – Face mask donations of any kind could be used for visitors or students that don't have one available and wish to wear one.
- Bottles of Water – Since water fountains must be turned off, we are in need of case of water so we can refill student's reusable water bottles.
- Disinfectant/Sanitizer/Paper Towels – High touch surfaces and student areas will need to be frequently disinfected. Also, students will frequently be using sanitizer.

School Pictures!!!

We will have school pictures taken on Thursday, August 20th.

I have also scheduled a picture retake day for Friday, August 28th. This would be for PreK students that are not here on Thursdays, anyone that is absent on the 20th or anyone that Bob thinks they need their photo retaken.

Bob will be dropping off envelopes to send home.

Cafeteria/Playground volunteers needed at school for the month of August. Interested please call An Hutchinson @ 812-926-1558.

**Save the Date!
St. Mary's Fish Fry Drive Thru**

Saturdays

Date: August 15, September 19 & October 17, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM

Drive Thru #1: Enter on Main Street

Drive Thru #2: 4th Street in front of School





20th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

The Word This Week:

Today is one of those occasions when, even though the second reading is not chosen to correspond to the theme of the Gospel and first reading, it does in fact fit very well. Indeed,

much of the letter to the Romans is explained in this Sunday's Liturgy of the Word: the whole theme is summed up in this: The Messiah came first of all to the people of Israel, to whom the promises were made in the past - but it could not remain there. The good news had to be taken to the ends of the earth, so that all peoples, indeed the whole of creation could welcome the Messiah and take a place in the Kingdom of God. All nations are welcome on God's holy mountain: "Let all the peoples praise you, O God!".

<https://www.salfordliturgy.org.uk>

IMPORTANT DIRECTIVES ON COVID19

◆ If you, or anyone you live with or anyone you care for is SICK, you MUST remain at home and not come to church. ◆ If you are 65 years of age or older, or have a pre-existing health condition, you SHOULD stay home and watch Mass online. ◆ If you are not comfortable being out, you CAN stay home. Archbishop Thompson has extended the dispensation from Mass until August 15. ◆ If you test positive with COVID-19 within 14 days of being at Church for Mass, Confession or Personal Prayer, PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARISH IMMEDIATELY BY CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE BY PHONE OR EMAIL.



► **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER.** Do you want to make your marriage stronger? Do you want to spend an uninterrupted weekend with your spouse? Why not make a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and learn more about your wonderful vocation? The next Marriage Encounter Weekend will be at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, from 6-8 November 2020. Visit www.wwme.org for further information.

Quote from a couple who made a Marriage Encounter Weekend: "This Weekend was the most joyous and most stimulating time of our lives. We have had the chance to see how each of us needs to be loved and to give love."

► **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry has been active despite the shutdowns caused by the virus. The ministry is carried out by devoted parishioners who make the shawls in their own homes, and we have several on hand. **If you know of someone who faces ongoing or serious illness, please contact Anna in the parish office. We will do our best to get prayer shawls to those who need them.** May God bless those involved in this ministry and those who wear the shawls as they pray for God's comfort and care.

► **DAUGHTERS OF ISABELA:** Meeting will be on August 24, Monday at 7 PM. New meeting location will be in American Legion, Lawrenceburg. Due to COVID 19, we will be practicing social distancing and will be wearing mask. Hand sanitizers will be available. We will be discussing Budget Adjustment. For more info. please call Shirley Heyob at 513-260-3124.



Mass Schedule

Aug. 15th Saturday

4:00 PM @ St. Mary (Intention: St. Mary & St. Lawrence)

Aug. 16th Sunday

8:30 AM @ St. Lawrence (Outside)

10:30 AM @ St. Lawrence (Inside)

Aug. 17th Monday

NO PUBLIC MASS

Aug. 18th Tuesday

9:00 AM @ St. Lawrence

*Aug. 19th Wednesday/School Mass

9:00 AM @ St. Mary (Intention: †Christopher&Viola Powers)

*Aug. 20th Thursday/School Mass

9:00 AM @ St. Lawrence

Aug 21th Friday

9:00 AM @ St. Mary (Intention: †Larry Powers)

*Parishioners are welcome to attend our school Mass.

Mass Times and locations are subject to change, please check our parish website @

www.mystmarys.com for up to date information.

God Bless.



Save the Date! Fr. Ben will be leading a tour to the Holy Land next year, April 6 - 15, 2021. Brochure and Tour Package is now available at the parish office.

A Message from Fr. Ben Syberg:

I suppose this will have to be a split kind-of column, a little St. Mary's, a little St. Lawrence, a lot of Fr. Ben obnoxion. [I made that word up, a practice acceptable in the English language]. There's just too much happening and it's hard to get the story straight, especially with our parish families bouncing around between the churches because of Mass times. So, we'll do our best!

Saint Mary's Building Project

Any recent home-owner knows that experience of starting one project at the house, and another, and another, and before you know it - the whole house is fixed. During the Covid shutdown we had an opportunity to get a few much-needed maintenance issues worked out, namely, fixing plaster in the church entrance and the choir-loft. Since most of the church was closed anyway, it was a no-brainer. Then slowly, we started asking questions - hey, what about trying this, and then this, and oh, wouldn't that be nice?? And so on. Our work on the inside of church (please believe me, we had paint and plaster *disintegrating*) led us to look on the outside, and then *back* inside!

It was my hope that we could take this time to paint the inside of the church, really spruce up, clean up and lift up the space. And financially it was not a problem. But our homework showed us that we needed to fix the exterior first. We have an old brick church, and old brick needs a lot of attention. Again, it's reasonable, safe and financially feasible. But I didn't think we could afford to paint the church and fix the problem-spots of the brick at the same time. I started to think we'd have to wait to paint church until later, maybe do one project at a time. We were prepared to wait... and then God blessed us, as He always does. One of our dear parishioners made a very generous donation to the Church, a gift that really makes it feasible for a nice paint job and necessary maintenance of the exterior. God is so good, and He works through your generosity, my friends. It is a humbling thing to be the pastor of so many fine servants of God.

Long story short, we have some good projects afoot, and we'll look at a few more in the next 2-3 years. We want to keep our Church in good shape, so that we can continue to do the work of the Church, to serve and worship Almighty God.

Saint Lawrence Projects and 2020/21 Budget

Let's be clear: St. Lawrence is really looking at two distinct projects at this time. 1) Solely to do with the facilities. 2) With staffing and salary management for this year.

Let's start with One. We have (and you will get sick of me explaining this) what is called **Church-Restricted Funds** for projects that have to do with the management of our property. "Special Improvements," our "175th Campaign," "Church-designated Funds," these are gifts we have in the bank for exactly the kind of work we need to do (and need to do asap). Our Church is big and old. Our school is big and old. Right before the semester started, just to give you an example, we essentially had flooding in two classrooms, as water gets through the decayed exterior. We believe we have a good plan to address this. We're also looking at some cracks in the parking lot, and patches of holes on the school roof. That's the school. CHURCH is another matter. Mortar damage, brick decay, stone walls (I can literally pull out chunks of stone with my hand) etc. etc. Again, we have a plan for this, and to be honest, this is all pretty normal stuff. Lots of churches like ours have to do this. We just need to get on it before winter. Remember, we have the money. Now we've just got to use it wisely.

Two) What is hard to understand is: why can't we use that property money for the budget? Folks we just can't do that. If someone donates money for a specific purpose, we have to use it for that purpose. People gave us money for the property, so we'll use it on the property. We can't use it for the yearly budget. A parish with a school is almost always going to have a tight budget, somehow it works, but just barely. Money can be that way; you worry so much about it but then things work out. Our budget was already tight, and then Covid19 hit. We lost students and if not for the PPP loan, we would have lost more than students. We are reacting to much that you just can't plan for. We have work ahead of us. We are committed to keeping our entire staff together for this year. (And I will give all the credit to my leadership team for helping make that the priority - a team that includes parish and school staff, our principal and some great volunteers). The bottom line is: we need money to do this. Do I have a number for you? We are still working on that. Do we have money in reserves? Yes and no. Do we have options for fundraising for the year? Absolutely, and some really great options. Are we doing what God wants? Nothing is done without prayer.

I think that for both our parishes, with everything going on I just need to be constantly communicating with you all. I want you to be informed, prepared, and ultimately inspired - so that we can keep up the good work around here. Thank you, my friends, with more to come.

RCIA CLASSES **(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

HAVE YOU OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...?

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a faith-filled setting. Classes will be at St. Lawrence. For more information please contact St. Mary @ 812-926-0060 or email parish.office@mystmarys.com (Anna Townsend) or St. Lawrence @ 812-537-3992 or email paquette5@comcast.net (Donald Paquette).



You are invited!!

The Aurora Knights of Columbus, Council 2111, invites you to join us at Lesko Park for our annual family pitch-in dinner on Tuesday, August 18th, at 0630pm. Fried chicken and drinks will be provided, as well as plates, cups and utensils, and you are asked to bring any covered dish, salad or desert.

Please join us as we celebrate K of C Family Week, and enjoy an hour or so of fellowship and comraderies with our St. Mary's "family".

We especially invite anyone wishing to find out more about the K of C, and what we do, and consider joining us in Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism that guides all that we do for God, Church, Community and Country.

**Support St. Mary's
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Knights of Columbus #2111
Meetings are on the 1st Tuesday each month
7:30 pm in the St. Mary Parish Office
We support Church, School, Youth and Community!
Join us in "Charity, Unity and Patriotism".
Contact Grand Knight, Bill Ullrich
812-584-4498 or billullrich@comcast.net