

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

Saturday: 5:00pm at St. John's
Sunday: 8:30am at St. John's
10:30am at St. Mary's



**LITURGY SCHEDULE
FEBRUARY 24
7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Monday, February 25

0:30 a.m...No Mass (*St. John's*)

Tuesday, February 26

5:30 p.m...Lisa Fritz (*St. John's*)

Wednesday, February 27

12:00noon...No Mass (*St. John's*)

Thursday, February 28

5:30 p.m...Martha Kistler (*St. Mary's*)

Friday, March 1

5:30 p.m...Gerard Merkel (*St. John's*)

Saturday, March 2

5:00 p.m...Don & Mary Eikenbary (*St. John's*)

Sunday, March 3

8:30 a.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. John's (*St. John's*)

10:30 a.m...Marilyn Ballinger (*St. Mary's*)

**PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS
FOR FEBRUARY:**

Human Trafficking

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

To see about a ride to Church call the Church office at 348-3889 or contact a Knight.

SUNDAY CONNECTION:

Fighting Hatred With Love

written by Douglas Sousa, S.T.L.

It is easy to lose hope in the face of societal violence, which seems to only be getting worse. There are people all around us who are frightened and hurting. Perhaps if we were quicker to show them mercy and understanding, they would be less likely to lash out. Who knows how many atrocities have been averted simply by someone taking the time to listen to a neighbor?

FOOD FOR THE POOR

Fr. Victor Karls is with us this weekend to speak about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Fr. Karls will share personal witness about Food For The Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another. Prayerfully consider helping feed the poor.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration will take place this Friday. Adoration will begin at 4:30pm and end at 5:25pm. Mass will follow at 5:30pm. If you have not had the opportunity yet to participate in Adoration, maybe the start of the new year is the time. Prayer books and materials are made available for use during the time of Adoration or you may bring your own as you pray and reflect privately. All are invited to participate.

CATHOLIC MOMENT

February is Catholic Press Month and time to renew your subscription to the Catholic Moment. Envelopes can be found in your packets. Please help us continue to provide this Catholic news service to each of our households by subsidizing the month cost with your renewal.

LENT MADNESS returns next weekend. Bracket sheets will be in next weekend's bulletins. Plan to join in on the fun and learn about the love and devotion of 32 saints as God worked through their lives to bring the message of Christianity to others.

**INDIANA HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE**

"BEST KEPT SECRET IN DIOCESE"

On **Saturday, March 9 from 8:30 am – 6:00 pm**, The Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference is the only conference of its kind! We offer separate programming for adults, HS, MS and children from age 3-11 years, and babysitting for 1-2 year olds.

ALL Catholic elements are included: a Eucharistic procession to kick off our conference, Adoration Chapel (your children will visit it guided by a religious sister), confession, and we will conclude the conference with the Lord's Day Mass. The Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference is held at Kokomo High School, 2501 S. Berkley Road.

Come celebrate our rich Catholic faith and grow spiritually as a family!

For more info and to register go to www.holyfamilyconference.org.

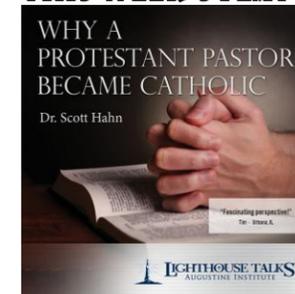
ENCOUNTER JESUS

Understand, Live, and Share your Faith!

St. John's parish recently purchased a kiosk from Augustine Institute that includes prayer pamphlets, CD's and various full-length books all addressing various topics on the Catholic faith. May the Holy Spirit guide us to a stronger faith and greater understanding of Christ.

These items are located in the parish hall.

THIS WEEK'S FEATURE CD:



Dr. Scott Hahn explains through his legendary testimony how he was militantly anti-Catholic but self-driven to seek the truth. This ultimately led him into the Catholic Church. He soon became an ardent defender of the Faith and one of its most passionate promoters.

SERVERS FOR ST. JOHN'S MARCH 2 & 3

Sat., 5p.m...Kelli Rinker & Helen Whitesell

Sun., 8:30...Breanna & Bethany Elkins

LENTEN PARISH RETREAT

FORGIVEN: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION

comes to St. John's and St. Mary's this Lent. Fr. Dave and Sr. Rita will team up to lead the five-week program each Tuesday at St. John's and each Thursday at St. Mary's, both after 5:30pm Mass. The sessions will last about an hour and will consist of DVD presentation and discussion. Please plan to join us beginning March 12 and 14.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Collection: \$1,313.00

Propagation of the Faith: \$100.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,111.00

Building Fund: \$70.00

Food Pantry: \$25.00

Propagation of the Faith: \$65.00

Catholic Moment: \$280.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Today's Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards - "Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrusted to our care!

PRAY THE ROSARY

February is thought of as the month of Love. Set aside time for Adoration and prayer through the Eucharist and the Rosary. As you pray the rosary this month focus on a deeper love of oneself that we may share that love with others as the Heavenly Father shares His love with us.

CHECK OUT OUR ADVERTISING SPONSORS

Be sure to check out our bulletin ad sheets. These advertisers subsidize the cost of the bulletins, so if you have the opportunity, you may thank them by using their products or services.

This week's sponsor is:

McCAMMON TRUCKING, INC.

THANK YOU!

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[ISM 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; PS 103: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 COR 15: 45-49; LK 6: 27-38](#)

In today's Gospel, taken from the sixth chapter of Luke, Jesus offers a very challenging, seemingly impossible approach to daily life. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak do not withhold even your tunic." It makes one want to say, "Seriously, Lord?" And He doesn't stop there.

"Give to asks of you, one who yours do not back." That unfair! That look at this from a point of



Jesus adds, everyone who and from the takes what is demand it It seems so is, unless we way of life stewardship view. Then,

not only does it seem doable (though challenging), it actually makes perfect sense. A steward understands clearly that all he has and all that he is — his very life — is a gift from God given to him from an unfathomable abundance of love. This changes everything! This means "my" cloak, "my" tunic, "my" money and time — all of it ultimately belongs to God. He has entrusted these things to each of us in love to use for His purposes and His glory.

Does this mean we are to be passive "doormats" to anyone who wants to take advantage of us? Certainly not. Jesus explains this in the next verse of this passage when He says, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." There is nothing wrong with loving oneself since God loves us and has made us in His own image and likeness. Jesus is simply asking that we also approach others, and the sharing of our gifts, with this same attitude. He is giving us a definition here of real love, a steward's love!

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 26, Women's Bible Study 9-11am at St. John's

Wednesday 27, K of C 7:30pm at St. John's
Saturday 2, Reconciliation 1pm at St. John's
Sunday 3, Bible Study 9:30am at St. John's

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Feb. 25: Sir 1: 1-10; Mk 9: 14-29

Feb. 26: Sir 2: 1-11; Mk 9: 30-37

Feb. 27: Sir 4: 11-19; Mk 9: 38-40

Feb. 28: Sir 5: 1-8; Mk 9: 41-50

Mar. 1: [World Day of Prayer] Sir 6: 5-17; Mk 10: 1-12

Mar. 2: Sir 17: 1-15; Mk 10: 13-16

Mar. 3: Sir 27: 4-7 1 Cor 15: 54-58; Lk 6: 39-45

Please join the religious education students and teachers each Sunday morning following Mass for coffee and donuts and fellowship prior to class.

Catholic Book Club and Sunday Morning Bible Study

Into The Silent Land, Chapter 3, "The Body's Call To Prayer"

What is the purpose of contemplative prayer? Contemplative prayer gives the person a time of communing with God's Presence within the person.

1. Posture

In contemplative prayer, we first attempt to still the body, then we practice that and, eventually, we can maintain the stillness. We can pray in any position, but we are looking for one more suited to stillness. Page 33 in our book gives some guidance, however, what works for you is your decision. Eyes closed, opened or something in between is also up to you.

2. Prayer Word/s

We don't reflect on the meaning of the prayer word. We simply repeat it. It helps the mind to focus. If you find your thoughts drift away from your prayer word, gently bring your attention back to silent repetition of the word. It could be more than one word, a phrase or sentence such as Father, Jesus, Jesus Christ, help me, Lord. Etc.

3. Breath

Attention to our breathing helps us to deepen the stillness. As you begin in your comfortable position, take 3 or 4 deep breaths. This helps you relax. Then, repeat your prayer word silently with each breath. Inhale, exhale, repeat.

You may want to set an alarm or timer for your contemplative prayer. Start with 5-10 minutes, then, add another minute every day or week or month until you reach what feels right for you. Twenty minutes 2x a day is suggested.



7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the parish office about preparation. The sacrament is normally celebrated with the community during Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are available by appointment as well as:
St. Mary, the first Thursday 6:00-6:30pm
St. John, the first Saturday 1:00-1:30pm and third Saturday after 5:00pm Mass.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the parish office to begin the preparation at least six months in advance.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Generally, Fr. Dave is available after Mass for anointing, or you may contact the parish office to arrange a time.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Sessions for children and youth (grades pre3-12) are available on Sunday morning. Contact the parish office for details.

The Clustered Parishes Of

St. Mary, Dunkirk

**St. John the Evangelist,
Hartford City**

Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

Pastor, Fr. David J. Newton

PARISH OFFICES

e-mail: stmaryjohn@att.net

St. Mary, Dunkirk

P.O. Box 286, Dunkirk, IN 47336

Office: 765-768-6157

Church Basement: 765-768-1283

St. John the Evangelist, Hartford City

209 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348

Rectory and Office: 765-348-3123

Secretary's Office: 765-348-3889

Fax: 765-348-4399

PARISH REGISTRATION

Visitors are always welcome. Residents are invited to join the community by calling the parish office.

RCIA

People interested in knowing about the Catholic faith and way of life meet each week. Contact the parish office for information.