

## 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 MARCH 24 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

#### Monday, March 25

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

#### Tuesday, March 26

5:30 p.m...Bud Oswalt (St. John's)

#### Wednesday, March 27

12:00noon...Deceased of Heiser Family (St. John's)

#### Thursday, March 28

5:30 p.m...Jim Grady (St. Mary's)

#### Friday, March 29

10:00 a.m...Clarence & Bernice Pahl (Crown Pointe)

#### Saturday, March 30

5:00 p.m...Patricia Holt (St. John's)

#### Sunday, March 31

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

10:30 a.m...Robert Paul (St. Mary's)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR MARCH:

### Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

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

## SUNDAY CONNECTION:

### Be On Fire with the Love of Christ

written by Angie Windnagle

As we approach the final weeks of Lent, let's repent and start anew so we can be a light in our world, on fire with the love of Christ. Let's make use of extra confession times, Lenten missions or talks, extra holy hours, and times set aside for prayer. Let's give to the poor from our need, not our want. Let's fast in order to be strengthened. Let's pray for the grace to fan into fire a love strong enough to keep watch with Jesus as he enters into his Passion.

## PENANCE SERVICE

There will be a special Lenten opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday, March 26 at St. John's. Confessions will be available beginning at 6:15pm with extra priests available. Mass will be offered at 5:30.

Other opportunities throughout our deanery:

March 26, 6:15pm St. John, Hartford City

April 1, 7:30pm St. Joseph, Winchester

April 2, 7pm Immaculate Conception, Portland

April 4, 6pm St. Mary, Dunkirk

April 6, 1pm St. John, Hartford City

April 8, 6:30pm St. Mary, Muncie

April 10, 1pm Holy Cross School, Anderson

April 10, 6pm St. Ambrose, Anderson

April 10, 6:30pm St. Lawrence, Muncie

## SERVERS FOR ST. JOHN'S MARCH 23 & 24

Sat., 5p.m...Kelli Rinker & Madison Merkel

Sun., 8:30...Anya Aulbach & Catalina Velasquez

**FORGIVEN: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION** from Augustine Institute 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 in the parish hall 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 this week even if you missed week one. You are always welcome.

## UNPLANNED NOW SHOWING

The Office for Family Life is glad to share with you information about the movie UNPLANNED that will be shown in Muncie and other places in our Diocese. It is a great resource in our common efforts to support the culture of life in our communities.

This wonderful movie is the story of Abby Johnson who was a center director and spokesperson for Planned Parenthood who converted to pro-life and has been a fervent advocate for pro-life issues since. It is a true, up-lifting, inspiring story that anyone who is pro-life should see.

The movie Unplanned will be showing at **AMC Muncie 12 in Muncie on March 28 at 7pm and March 29, 30 & 31 at 7:20pm.**

## THIS WEEK:

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

Forgiven Lent Program 6pm at St. John's

**Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:15pm at St.**

**John's**

Wednesday 27, RCIA 6pm at St. John's

K of C 7:30pm at St. John's

Thursday 28, Forgiven Lent Program 6pm at St. Mary's

Friday 29, Stations of the Cross 5:30pm at St. John's

Saturday 30, Haiti at St. John's

Sunday 31, Bible Study 9:30am at St. John's

Haiti at St. John's

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 25: [The Annunciation of the Lord] Is 7:10-14, 8: 10; Heb 10: 4-10; Lk 1: 26-38

March 26: Dt 3: 25, 34-43; Mt 18: 21-35

March 27: Dt 4: 1, 5-9; Mt 5: 17-19

March 28: Jer 7: 23-28; Lk 11: 14-23

March 29: Hos 14: 2-10; Mk 12: 28-34

March 30: Hos 6: 1-6; Lk 18: 9-14

March 31: Jos 5: 9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5: 17-21; Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32



Walk with Jesus through Holy Week each Friday of Lent through the STATIONS OF THE CROSS. They will be held each Friday at St. John's at 5:30pm.



**LENT MADNESS**, a fun study of Saints and history.

Want to be inspired by some saintly souls this Lent and have fun along the way learning how God worked through their lives to bring the message of Christianity to others? Join in Lent Madness.

We start with 32, move to the Sainly Sixteen, then the Elate Eight and the Faithful Four before two advance to the Championship to see who will receive the Golden Halo. Those advancing each week will be posted in the bulletin, so complete your brackets now and track your results.

The Saints advancing this past week toward the Sainly 16 are:

Tabitha, Photini, Gobnait, Zenaida, and Marguerite.



**Friday, April 5, 4:30-7pm**

Knights will host their final Lenten fish fry with desserts provided by Altar & Rosary

All-you-can-eat Fish, potatoes, coleslaw, dessert, and a drink

\$9 Adults; \$5 kids under 12

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

**St. Mary's March 17**

Collection: \$641.00

Food Pantry: \$25.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

**St. John's March 16 & 17**

Sunday Collection: \$2,814.00

Food Pantry: \$80.00

Catholic Moment: \$106.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

## HELP JESUS IN DISGUISE

Next week our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection helps six Catholic agencies provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad in struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters. Please give generously to the collection, and help Jesus in disguise.

## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[EX: 3:1-8A, 13.15; PS 103: 1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 COR 10:1-6, 10-12, LK 13:1-9](#)



Today's Gospel passage reminds us that life is precious and the gift of time on this earth is just that — a gift. None of us knows how much time

will be granted to us, so it is urgent that we use this gift intentionally to glorify God and serve our neighbor.

Jesus offers the parable of the fig tree to further illustrate this truth. The owner of the orchard came searching for fruit on a fig tree he had had planted in his orchard. Finding no fruit on the tree after three years, he told the gardener to cut it down. But the gardener intercedes and asks for one more year to cultivate and fertilize the tree in hopes it would bear fruit in the future. The fig tree was not dying; it simply wasn't doing much of anything at all. Can this be said of us and our lives as well?

The season of Lent is a time to reflect carefully on the way we spend our time. Do we give first priority to God, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give next priority to our loved ones, focusing intentionally on them each day without distractions from phones, screens or thoughts of work? If not, now is the moment to repent of our waste of time or of misplaced priorities on our use of time. God is merciful but just. Let's turn to Him and ask Him to make our lives fruitful while we still have time to do so.

## NEW-TO-YOU REOPENING

A sure sign of spring is the reopening of our New-To-You Thrift Shop.

**April 4: 11-5, April 5 & 6: 11-2**

Under new direction of Donna Schuck and Karen Uggen, the shop will reopen with a new look and many new items collected over the winter months. Stop by to check out the new selections. As always we appreciate our volunteers and the donations received. We wish to especially thank Claire Aulbach and Renee Gillis for their several years of service and offer Donna and Karen our support and prayers as they continue this parish and community ministry of St. John's. **THANK YOU ALL!!**

## CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION -- ENCOUNTER CHRISTYAN

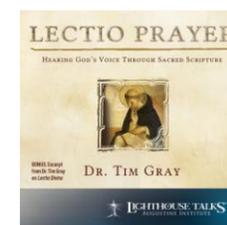
The Dhathcroos family returned home, after fleeing violence in their country, to build a prosperous farm and become a vital contributor to their community. How can you assist refugees in your community to rebuild their lives?

### ENCOUNTER PRAYER INTENTION

**For the Dhathcroos family, whom we encounter through CRS Rice Bowl, and all refugees who are returning or have returned home and find it difficult to return home, that they find abundant resources with which to rebuild their lives. We pray to the Lord.**

Understand, Live, and Share your Faith!

### **THIS WEEK'S FEATURE CD:**



In this informative presentation, Dr. Tim Gray, Augustine Institute President, shares how *Lectio Prayer* enables you to enter into a dialogue with God. This prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture is a proven means to encounter God in daily life and will benefit those new to prayer and the more experienced alike.

**These items are located on the kiosk in the parish hall.**



## 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

### 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](mailto: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.