

## 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 December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent

#### Monday, December 2

9:00 a.m...No Mass (St. John's)

#### Tuesday, December 3

5:30 p.m...George & Karleen Reidy (St. John's)

#### Wednesday, December 4

12:00noon...Johnson/Wyss Families (St. John's)

#### Thursday, December 5

10:00 a.m...Funeral Mass for Frederick Charnley (St. John's)

#### Friday, December 6

12:00noon...Gerard Mekel, Sr. (St. John's)

#### Saturday, December 7

5:00 p.m...Jesse Huggins, Jr. (St. John's)

#### Sunday, December 8

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

10:30 a.m...Matt Pitman (St. Mary's)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR DECEMBER:

### The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

*If you wish to put someone on the prayer chain, please contact Janice Jackson at 348-1521.*

**HOPE: God's Prophets spoke God's word. We join them now! As God's living Word draws near, we share the Good News!**

*"Just as those who see the light are illuminated by the light and share its brilliance, so those who see God are in God and share God's splendor."*

--St. Gregory the Great

### ST. NICHOLAS PITCH-IN

The St. Mary's Altar & Rosary will be hosting a Parish Pitch-in with St. Nicholas on December 8 immediately following the 10:30 Mass. All Parishioners from St. Mary's and St. John's are invited to join us.

### ARE YOU READY TO MEET THE LORD

The season of Advent is a time to watch and wait for Jesus' coming. As you reflect on the themes in the liturgy over the next few weeks, be aware of how you are preparing for Jesus' return. Have you been to the Sacrament of Reconciliation lately? Are you praying regularly and entering into conversation with God? Are you being called to greater participation in the Works of Mercy in your community? Pray that this Advent will be a time of renewed commitment to your ministry and continued growth as a disciple of Jesus. *Maranatha* -- come, our Lord!



Implications of Evangelization-- Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States speaks to the implications of evangelization, that it has both an inward and outward direction. Inwardly evangelization calls for our ongoing conversion both individually and as Church. The call of evangelization echoed Uniting in Heart: 2030 Pastoral Plan, particularly for our individual conversion so that the growth of faith and holiness in our diocese will spring forth from our personal conversion.

### NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Call the Church office at 348-3889 or contact a member of the Knights.

### FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Frederick "Rick" Charnley, parishioner of St. John's, who passed to eternal life this week. May his family be comforted by your prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

### GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[IS 2:1-5](#); [PS 122:1-9](#); [ROM 13: 11-14](#); [MT 24:37-44](#)

Today we begin the beautiful season of Advent. It is a season meant for preparation. For what exactly are we preparing? Two things: the celebration of our Savior's birth and the anticipation of His second coming.

These are weighty tasks with eternal consequences. So, let us stewards make the words of the Prophet Isaiah our motto for the season: "Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths."

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, it seems everywhere we turn we are pushed to do more to create a "perfect" Christmas day. But the Church's

guidance to use these weeks to focus on our spiritual lives can indeed seem like a mountain-climb.

The intentional use of the gift of time is what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. How can we use our time to prepare for Jesus' birth on Dec. 25 and for His second coming at a date we do not know?

We can push back against the world's pressure to have the "perfect Christmas." Scale back on materialism so we have more time for spiritual preparations: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, acts of kindness.

In the end we will be prepared to celebrate a truly meaningful Christmas, be-come more like our Savior and be ready for Him to come again.



### LECTIO EUCHARIST—NEXT SESSION DEC.4

Each video stands alone, but also is sequential. If you missed one, you can come for the next one, **Wednesday, December 4 at 6 pm.** Light refreshments are available. *Childcare is available with prior notice to Diana 348-3889 by Monday. There will be an additional surprise at this meeting as well.*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Dec. 2: Is 4: 2-6; Mt 8: 5-11

Dec. 3: [St. Francis Xavier, priest] Is 11: 1-10; Lk 10; 21-24

Dec. 4: [St. John Damascene, priest & doctor of the Church] Is 25: 6-10; Mt 15: 29-37

Dec. 5: Is 26: 1-6; Mt 7: 21, 24-27

Dec. 6: [St. Nicholas, bishop] Is 29: 17-24; Mt 9: 27-31

Dec. 7: [St. Ambrose, bishop & doctor of the Church] Is 30: 19-21, 23-26; Mt 9: 35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Dec. 8: [Second Sunday of Advent] Is 11: 1-10; Rom 15: 4-9; Mt 3: 1-12

### PARISH STEWARDSHIP

#### St. Mary's

Collection: \$698.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

#### St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,940.00

Haiti: \$303.00

Food Pantry: \$15.00

Building Fund: \$20.00

Flowers: \$100.00

Campaign for Human Development: \$55.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**"At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come," says today's Gospel. Good stewards know that they are accountable to God for all they have and are and strive to live in readiness for His coming.**

### St. Mary's Altar & Rosary will host a St. Nicholas Party, Monday December 9th @ 6pm.

All the ladies are invited. Please bring a covered dish and a \$5 -\$10 Nativity ornament to exchange if you'd like. Join us for a fun evening!

Look for the December Calendar in this bulletin. The copier went down during printing of the calendar so it was not able to be included in the *Good News Letter*.

#### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

*Eucharistic Adoration will take place this Friday. Adoration will begin at 11am and end at 11:55am. Mass will follow at noon. 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.*

#### **CONCERT AT IWU**

St. John's Altar & Rosary will attend the Mississinewa Valley Band "Christmas Memories" Concert on December 10<sup>th</sup> as their December outing. Anyone wishing to carpool should meet in the church parking lot in front of the school before 6:15. The concert, 'Yuletide Spectacular at the Phillippe' begins at 7:30 at Indiana Wesleyan University Phillippe Hall. A couple members of St. John's—Eric Cale and Bernadette Elkins—are members of the band. There is no admission charge; refreshments will be available following the concert.

#### **WORKING ON THE MARGINS**

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we helped to support those who live on the margins and in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Envelopes are in your packets.

#### **ADVENT TREE HELPS STUDENTS**

Its Advent time and once more St. John's Parish family will be loading our Advent tree with tags to benefit the community kids through the school nurse's office. Mrs. Langdon, the head nurse has been in contact with us and has expressed her deep appreciation for our continuing support. She has sent an updated list of greatest needs and the list is reflected in the tags on the tree. As before, bring back your tag with the purchased items, unwrapped, and place them under the tree. Thank you for your ongoing support on behalf of the children of Blackford county.

#### **THIS WEEK:**

Wednesday 4, Lectio Eucharist DVD Series 6-7:15pm at St. John's  
Friday 6, Eucharistic Adoration 11-11:55am followed by Mass at 12noon at St. John's  
Saturday 7, Reconciliation 4pm at St. John's  
Sunday 8, Second Sunday of Advent  
St. Nicholas Parish Pitch-in 11:30am at St. Mary's

#### **Something to see... Wilson Christmas Lights!**

10437 W Division Road, Dunkirk, Dec 8 - Jan 1  
Lots of lights including a lighted nativity, birthday cake for Jesus and something new!  
**Santa will be there Sunday Dec. 8, 5:30 - 7:30, treats for children of all ages.**  
Holiday Hours: Mon-Thur 5:30 - 10:30, Fri-Sun 5:30 - Midnight, Christmas Eve - All Night Long All Are Welcome!

#### **SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS**

Our weekly bulletin is subsidized by our advertisers. Please take a moment to thank them by supporting their businesses. This week's sponsor is:

**PITMAN-RICHMAN FUNERAL HOME**

Thank you!

#### **SERVERS FOR ST. JOHN'S DEC. 7 & 8**

Saturday, 5p.m...Madison Merkel & Helen Whitesell  
Sunday, 8:30a.m...Adam Aulbach & Bethany Elkins

#### **FIRST RECONCILIATION & ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE**

St. John's will hold an Advent Penance Service on Tuesday, December 10, following 5:30pm Mass. Extra priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take this opportunity in your holiday preparations to receive Jesus and his healing graces of forgiveness through this sacrament so as to be ready to greet the Lord upon His return. Six members of St. John's will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time during the Advent Penance Service. Please keep in your prayers Henry Feltt, Gabriel Kitterman, Gavin Kitterman, Bentley Milholland, Colton Poe and Kyra Poe

#### **SHOP NEW-TO-YOU**

Thursday 11-5, Friday 11-2, Saturday 11-2.  
**SHOP HOLIDAY SPECIALS NOW!**



#### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

#### **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, by appointment  
St. John, the first Saturday and third Saturday 4:00pm.

#### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

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

#### **SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**

Generally, Fr. Paul 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. Paul Hudson**

#### **PARISH OFFICES**

e-mail: [stmaryjohn@att.net](mailto:stmaryjohn@att.net)

#### **St. Mary, Dunkirk**

P.O. Box 286, Dunkirk, IN 47336  
Parish Office: 765-348-3889  
Church Basement: 765-768-1283

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

213 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348  
Parish 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.