

## 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 8, 2019 Second Sunday of Advent

#### Monday, December 9

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

#### Tuesday, December 10

5:30 p.m...All Souls (St. John's)

#### Wednesday, December 11

12:00noon...Leta Morris (St. John's)

#### Thursday, December 12

5:30 p.m...Helen Springer (St. Mary's)

#### Friday, December 13

10:00 a.m...Betty Cain (Miller's Merry Manor)

#### Saturday, December 14

5:00 p.m...Rollin & Helen Waters (St. John's)

#### Sunday, December 15

8:30 a.m...Deceased of Helm and Trant Families  
(St. John's)

10:30 a.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. John's  
(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.*

**FAITH:** Bethlehem was prepared to cradle the Christ. We prepare our hearts and homes to receive him now.

*"Enlighten the darkness of my heart. Give me right faith, sure hope and perfect charity. Fill me with understanding and knowledge, that I may fulfill your commands."* --St. Francis of Assisi

### 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!

### CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY—THANK YOU

Thank you to Vince & Anna Cimino who donated the new television. With the 65" screen and a new sound bar, programs can be seen and heard much better. This also opens up more possibilities for future programs and the ability to have a full parish hall to hear and view them. Thank you so much for your generosity of this great gift.

### NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

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

As a reminder since December 8, 2019, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2019. The obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer.

*With the cold and flu season ramped up, we will be suspending the communion cup until spring to stop the spread of these germs. Also, we have hand sanitizer bottles at each church entrance at both St. Mary's and St. John's. Please use this as you enter church to help minimize the spread. Also, if you are ill, please do not hold hands at the Our Father or shake hands at the Sign of Peace, just offer a head nod to your fellow pew neighbors. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.*

## LECTIO EUCHARIST

Each video stands alone, but also is sequential. If you missed one, you can come for the next one, **Wednesday, December 11 at 6 pm.** Light refreshments are available. *Childcare is available with prior*



### Session 8: The Last Supper and the Cross

What is the connection between the Old Testament celebration of Passover and Jesus's Last Supper with his disciples—and how does that impact the Mass as we know it?

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

*Dec. 9: [The Immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary] Gn 3: 9-15, 20; Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12; Lk 1: 26-38*

*Dec. 10: Is 40: 1-11; Mt 18: 12-14*

*Dec. 11: [St. Damasus I, pope] Is 40: 25-31; Mt 11: 28-30*

*Dec. 12: [Our Lady of Guadalupe] Zec 2: 14-17; Lk 1: 26-38*

*Dec. 13: [S. Lucy, virgin & martyr] Is 48: 17-19; Mt 11: 16-19*

*Dec. 14: [St. John of the Cross, priest & doctor of the Church] Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11; Mt 17: 9a, 10-13*

*Dec. 15: [Third Sunday of Advent] Is 35: 1-6a, 10; Jas 5: 7-10; Mt 11: 2-11*

### THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 10, Penance Service & First Reconciliation 6:15pm at St. John's

Wednesday 11, Lectio Eucharist DVD Series 6-7:15pm at St. John's

Sunday 15, Third Sunday of Advent

### 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!

## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[IS 11:1-10; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; ROM 15:4-9; MT 3:1-12](#)

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our second reading from St. Paul's

letter to the Romans encourages us to focus our Advent preparations in this way: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." And how does Christ welcome us? With unconditional love.

This is the essence of Christian hospitality, a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist, in our Gospel passage from Matthew. His words apply just as much to us today as they did to the people awaiting the Savior's arrival. John says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." There is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality.

How can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can, and should, go to Confession this Advent. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.

### SERVERS FOR ST. JOHN'S DEC. 14 & 15

Saturday, 5p.m...Cameron & Kelli Rinker

Sunday, 8:30a.m...Joshua Aulbach & Lance Manley



### 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

### ADDITIONAL ADVENT PENANCE TIMES AT NEIGHBORING PARISHES:

Monday, Dec. 9 6:15PM St. Mary, Muncie

Tuesday, Dec. 10 6:30PM St. Mary, Union City

Monday, Dec. 16 2:00PM & 6:30PM St. Lawrence, Muncie

Wednesday, Dec. 18 6:30PM St. Mary, Alexandria

Thursday, Dec. 19 2:00PM & 6:30PM St. Paul, Marion

### 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!

### PARISH STEWARDSHIP

#### St. Mary's

Collection: \$.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

#### St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,980.00

Food Pantry: \$170.00

Building Fund: \$1750.00

Flowers: \$210.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today: "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."**

### HAPPY 50<sup>th</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

In this holy season of Advent as we prepare for the birth of our Lord, we wish to take a moment to call special attention to another joyful occasion. The Holy Father will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on December 13. May Jesus the High Priest continue to renew, increase, and strengthen in Pope Francis the graces received at his ordination as he continues to carry his priestly ministry in service to our Holy Church.

### 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.

### 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.

### SHOP NEW-TO-YOU

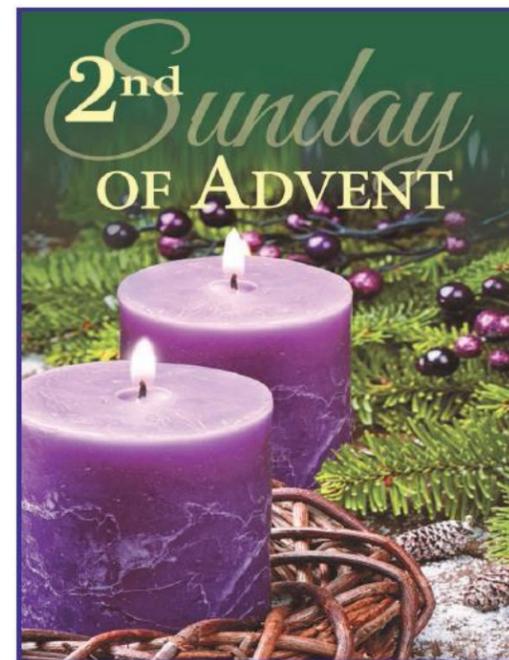
Thursday 11-5, Friday 11-2, Saturday 11-2.

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATIONS

St. Lawrence, Muncie Mass & Fiesta December 8 10am

St. Paul, Marion Mañanitas Mass & Fiesta December 12 5:00am & 6:00pm

Immaculate Conception, Portland Procession from downtown to Church, Mass & Fiesta December 12 12:00noon



### SECOND 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.