

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 22, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Monday, December 23

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

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. John's (St. Mary's)

8:00 p.m...Jesse, Sr. & Olive Huggins & Jesse Huggins, Jr. (St. John's)

Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day

9:00 a.m...Juan & Grace Cahue (St. John's)

Thursday, December 26

5:30 p.m...No Mass (St. Mary's)

Friday, December 27

10:00 a.m... (Crown Pointe)

Saturday, December 28

5:00 p.m...Annie Whitacre (St. John's)

Sunday, December 29

8:30 a.m...Aulbach & Schuhmacher 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.

PEACE: As Advent ends and Christmas comes, we share the song the angels sing: Joy and glory; peace, sweet peace!

"O Lord Jesus Christ, make me worthy to understand the profound mystery of your holy incarnation, which you have worked for our sake and for our salvation. Truly there is nothing so great and wonderful as this, that you, my God, should become a creature so that we could become like God. You have humbled yourself and made yourself small, that we might be made mighty. Blessed are you, O Lord, who came to earth as one of us. Amen."

--St. Angela of Foligno

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THANK YOU

Located at each entrance to church, both at St. Mary's and at St. John's, there are homemade wooden crosses. These are a gift from Fr. Paul to each family in our two parishes. Please take one per family. Merry Christmas and Thank You!

Fr. Paul

**SHOP THIS WEEK
NEW-TO-YOU**

Closed for holiday break Dec 22 until January 3.
WINTER HOURS: This year we will be open on Saturdays only 11am-2pm during January and February.

Regular Hours resume March 5.

*We are in need of brown paper bags. If you have a surplus you would like to donate, please drop them off this week at the shop or anytime at the school. Thank you.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

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

ADVENT TREE HELPS STUDENTS

Please return Advent tree as soon as possible unwrapped and with the tag. Thank you for your ongoing support on behalf of the children of Blackford county.



New Evangelization – The New Evangelization calls each of us to deepen our faith, believe in the Gospel message and go forth to proclaim the Gospel. The focus of the New Evangelization calls all Catholics to be evangelized and then go forth to evangelize. In a special way, the New Evangelization is focused on 're-proposing' the Gospel to those who have experienced a crisis of faith. Pope Benedict XVI called for the re-proposing of the Gospel "to those regions awaiting the first evangelization and to those regions where the roots of Christianity are deep but who have experienced a serious crisis of faith due to secularization." The New Evangelization invites each Catholic to renew their relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church. (Taken from the USCCB website.)

LECTIO EUCHARIST RESUMES JAN. 8

Our last session on Lectio Eucharist covers Revelation. We will meet **Wednesday, January 8 at 6 pm.** Light refreshments are available. *Childcare is available with prior notice to Diana 348-3889 by Monday.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Dec. 23: [St. John of Kanty, priest] Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24; Lk 1: 57-66

Dec. 24: Is 62: 1-5; Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25; Mt 1: 1-25

Dec. 25: [The Nativity of the Lord][Christmas Day] Is 62: 11-12; Ti 3: 4-7; Lk 2: 15-20

Dec. 26: [St. Stephen, the first martyr] Acts 6; 8-10, 7: 54-59; Mt 10: 17-22

Dec. 27: [St. John, apostle & evangelist] 1 Jn 1: 1-4; Jn 20: 1a, 2-8

Dec. 28: [The holy Innocents, martyrs] 1 Jn 1: 5 – 2: 2; Mt 2: 13-18

Dec. 29: [The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph] Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14; Col 3: 12-21; Mt 2: 13-15

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 24, Christmas Eve
Wednesday 25, Christmas Day
Saturday 28, Haiti at St. John's
Sunday 29, Haiti at St. John's



Why not invite a friend or family member to share the true joy of the season as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior!

Christmas Eve Mass

5:30pm at St. Mary's, Dunkirk

8:00pm at St. John's, Hartford City

Christmas Day Mass

9:00am at St. John's, Hartford City

PLEASE make note that St. Mary's and St. John's Christmas Eve Mass times have flipped from years past.

MIDNIGHT MASS: Holy Family Church in Gas City will hold a Midnight Mass (at 12am) this year.

SERVERS FOR ST. JOHN'S DEC. 24 & 25

Tuesday, 8p.m...Kelli Rinker & Kayli Henderson

Wednesday, 9a.m...Matthew Aulbach & Jenna Payne

SERVERS FOR ST. JOHN'S DEC. 28 & 29

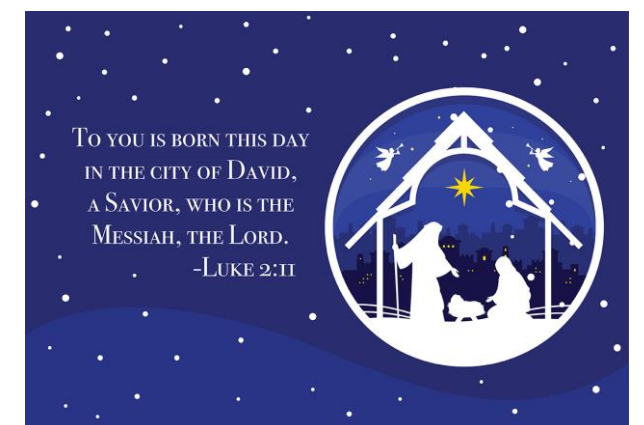
Saturday, 5p.m...Madison & Mason Merkel

Sunday, 8:30a.m...Madison Henderson & Catalina Velasquez

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!

Holiday Hours: Mon-Thur 5:30 - 10:30, Fri-Sun 5:30 - Midnight, Christmas Eve - All Night Long
All Are Welcome!



GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[IS 7:10-14, 10; PS 24:1-6; ROM 1:1-7; MT 1:18-24](#)

As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and

passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christ



mas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give?

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call to him through the message of an angel. We never hear St. Joseph speak, but the Scriptures tell us he was always listening, attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit for his family. It was Joseph who found the stable where the baby Jesus would be born.

No doubt it was Joseph who cleaned it up and prepared it for Mary and Jesus since we know that Mary was about to give birth. Joseph protected the family, guarded them, tended to their safety, their comfort, and their well-being at the expense of his own plans and preferences. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection and service.

Let us imitate St. Joseph then as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's Dec.

Collection: \$680.10

Food Pantry: \$20.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$3,238.00

Building Fund: \$20.00

Advent Tree: \$110.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

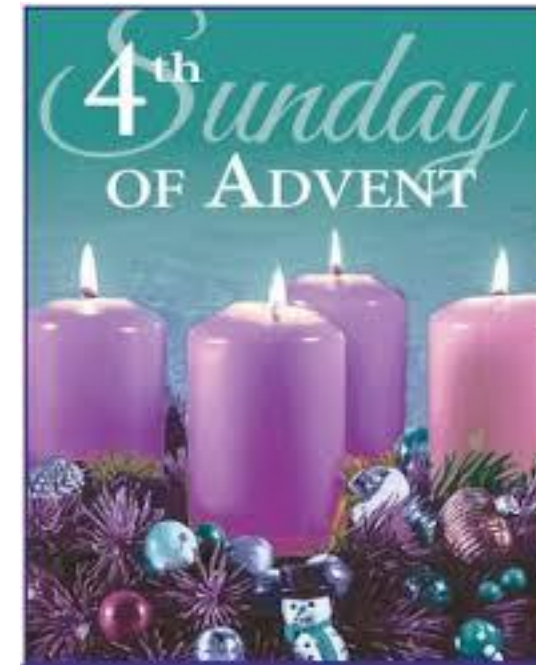
When he discovered that Mary was with child, Joseph resolved to end their engagement with as little disgrace as possible. But obedient to the voice of God, he changed those plans and became instead the protector of the child Jesus and His mother Mary. God grant that I may be as open to the leading of the Holy Spirit!

CASSOCK CLASSIC

PRIESTS VS SEMINARIANS

The Frassati Society Presents the 5th annual Cassock Classic basketball game with our diocesan priests vs. our seminarians. January 3, 2020, to be held at Guerin Catholic High School. Doors open at 5pm with tip-off at 6:15pm \$5/person or \$20/family. Purchase tickets at the door. All proceeds go to the Seminarian Fund.

The 12 Days of Christmas runs from Christmas to Epiphany:



FOURTH 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

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.