

*You prepare a table for me, O Lord*



**CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:**

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**September 6, 2020**  
**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Monday, September 7, at St. John's**

10:00a.m...No Mass

**Tuesday, September 8**

No Mass

**Wednesday, September 9, at St. John's**

12:00noon...Annie Whitacre

**Thursday, September 10, at St. Mary's**

5:30p.m...Don Martin

**Friday, September 11, at Holy Family**

9:00a.m...

**Saturday, September 12, at St. Mary's**

5:00p.m...Ron Watson

**Sunday, September 13**

9:00a.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and

Holy Family at St. John's

11:00a.m... at Holy Family

Salutations, this time finally from Indiana. Thanks so much for your patience and prayers. It is appropriate that I arrive here Labor Day Weekend, since it is certainly time for me to get to work, and I am looking forward to it. A quick bio of me: I am originally from Massachusetts, but I have spent the majority of my life in the Midwest. I went to school here and worked in the Indianapolis area after college before heading off to seminary for our diocese. I was ordained a transitional deacon in 2012 and to the priesthood in 2013. My first assignment was at St. Lawrence in Lafayette, followed by assignments at St. Mary's in Muncie and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Carmel. This will be my first assignment as a pastor in the diocese, but I hope to bring all of the experience I've accumulated into it. I also will do my best to learn and grow with you all too, as Jesus tells us this weekend "wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them." So, let us allow the Word of God to gather us this weekend to grow in holiness and unity, and in all of our respective vocations and work let us do our best to share the Gospel with everyone that we meet.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley



**GIFT CARD SHOWER**

As a welcome to Fr. Hurley, anyone wishing to send a welcome card is invited to do so. Food gift cards would be a nice welcome gift to introduce him to our area eating places and give him a break from cooking until he gets settled in his new assignment.

Please mail to: St. John's Church, 209 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348

**Weekly Prayer Corner:**

**TRANSFORM ME**

O divine Savior, transform me into yourself. May my hands be your hands. May my tongue be your tongue. Grant that every faculty of my body may serve only to glorify you. Destroy in me all that is not of you. Grant that I may live only in you, by you and for you.

--St. John Gabriel Perboyre

**WORD AMONG US ON BOOKSHELVES**

The September edition of *The Word Among Us* is available on the bookshelves. The contain the daily readings including weekends along with the parts of the Mass. Pick yours up today. If you would like a Breaking Bread Missalette for your own keeping to bring to Mass with you, they are available at the side and back doors at church or contact the office. Please keep this and do not return it to the bookcases.

**ALTAR & ROSARY AT ST. MARY'S**

All women are invited to attend St. Mary's opening meeting of the new season on Monday, September 14, beginning at 6pm with the recitation of the rosary.

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

**Respect for the Planet's Resources**

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study, September 13**

School is back in session and our students are in religious education classes following 9 AM Eucharistic Celebration. Adults will also meet on Sundays after Mass in the parish hall (better known at St John's as the school basement) at the same time as our students are in their classrooms and we will dismiss when they do. **Adults will begin meeting on Sept 13.** Coffee and donuts are available for everyone. Please pick up your refreshments and meet at the TV area on the west end of the hall. New members are always welcome to attend.



**God's Work**

**Our Hands**

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**St. Mary's**

Sunday Collection: \$602.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

**St. John's**

Sunday Collection: \$2,938.00

Food Pantry: \$10.00

Haiti: \$89.17

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!"**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

*Sept. 7: [Labor Day] 1 Cor 5: 1-8; Lk 6: 6-11*

*Sept. 8: [Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary] Mi 5: 1-4a; Mt 1: 1-16*

*Sept. 9: [St. Peter Claver, priest] 1 Cor 7: 25-31; Lk 6: 20-26*

*Sept. 10: 1 Cor 8: 1b-7, 11-13; Lk 6: 27-38*

*Sept. 11: 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22b-27; Lk 6:39-42*

*Sept. 12: [The Most Holy Name of Mary] 1 Cor 10: 14-22; Lk 6: 43-49*

*Sept. 13: Sir 27: 30 - 28: 7; Rom 14: 7-9; Mt 18: 21-35*

**DISPENSATION EXTENDED TO NOV. 1**

**"To be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not mean people should stay away from Church or fail to keep holy the Lord's Day. We continue to invite each of you to prayerfully consider attending Mass with your parish family. In this way you may more fully experience the gift that Jesus gives us in the Eucharist and the life of grace."**

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen*

**PRAY THE ROSARY**

Let us pray the rosary for all who labor and are burdened that they may find rest in the love of Jesus and that the fruits of our labor will benefit not only us, but our brothers and sisters.

## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

**EZ 33:7-9; PS 95:1-2, 6-9; ROM 13:8-10; MT 18:15-20**

Today's readings are all about relationships. Among the many lessons we have learned from the global



pandemic is the deep importance of the relationships and communities in our lives. Our families, neighbors, friends and parish family need us, and we need them to be our best selves.

St. Paul gives us simple instruction in our second reading from Romans to guide us in our dealings with others, reminding us what Christ Himself taught: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love is the overarching principal that guides us to be good stewards of our relationships.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus further refines this instruction on good stewardship of our relationships, even when they involve conflict. He says, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother."

Jesus teaches us to confront the offending person directly and discretely — with the goal of restoring the relationship if possible. This is how we steward our relationships even through rocky waters. Jesus also speaks to us of the power and beauty of community life. "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Christian stewards, God has designed us in such a way that we must help each other on the journey towards heaven. Let us take care to steward our relationships well.

## OFFERING OF SELF

I will redouble my efforts to truly listen to those around me and recognize their best attributes.

## PRAYER PETITION TO END RACISM:

For the victims of racial discrimination, that they may be filled with hope for a more just future, healing from wounds received, courage to advocate for change and for peace, and the grace to overcome hatred with love, we pray:  
Bind us together, O God of love.

**TRADITIONAL LATIN LOW MASS**  
**Feast of The Most Holy Name of Mary**  
**Saturday, September 12, at 6:30 PM ET**

**St. Paul's Catholic Church**  
**1041 W. Kem Rd.**  
**Marion, IN 46953-2098**

## MASK REQUIREMENTS ENHANCED

Face coverings will be required in all our buildings at St. Mary's and St. John's. If you are unable to wear a facial covering for any reason, please participate in the Mass from your home.

## Our Catholic Book Club

New members are always welcome. Pick the Catholic author's book you want to read and get it ordered. Meetings are optional and may be by Zoom or on The Facebook group, *Our Catholic Book Club and Sunday Morning Bible Study*. It is a private group meaning people can find it but only members can read the posts.

Several books have been suggested for our book club's fall selection. One suggestion is CALLED by Kevin Cotter. This book is a five-week guide to *Becoming An Everyday Disciple in a Post-Christian World*. The chapters are short with personal reflection questions at the end of each one. It is available from [www.avemariapress.com](http://www.avemariapress.com)

Another suggestion is Praying For (and with) Your Spouse: The Way to Deeper Love

By Dr. Greg Popcak. Dr. Popcak writes for married couples and parents. My experience with his books urges me to suggest it to you.

Both of these books are available online. You also may request Diana to order either book. Call her at the Church office 765-348-3889.



# LABOR DAY

## 23RD 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, by appointment  
St. John, the first Saturday at 4:00pm.  
Gas City, by appointment

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

### SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Generally, Fr. Hurley 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 K-12) are available on Sunday morning. Contact the parish office for details.

## St. Mary, Dunkirk

## St. John the Evangelist, Hartford City

## Holy Family, Gas City

A Pastorate of  
The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

## Pastor, Fr. Kevin Hurley

### 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