

*You prepare a table for me, O Lord*



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## CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

### LITURGY SCHEDULE

September 13, 2020

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday, September 14, at St. John's**

10:00a.m...Rollin & Helen Waters

**Tuesday, September 15**

No Mass

**Wednesday, September 16, at St. John's**

12:00noon...Bill & Pat Schantz

**Thursday, September 17, at St. Mary's**

5:30p.m...Martha Kistler

**Friday, September 18, at Holy Family**

9:00a.m...

**Saturday, September 19, at St. Mary's**

5:00p.m...Jim Grady

**Sunday, September 20**

9:00a.m...John Bonvillian at St. John's

11:00a.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at Holy Family

### 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.

Thanks for a warm welcome this past Sunday. It was great to be able to celebrate Mass with you all in person. As you introduce yourselves to me, please keep sharing your names, I will do my best to remember you all individually as best as I can, but it helps me out in putting names to faces. It is team and family effort to be sure, much like how Jesus talks to us this weekend about forgiveness. As we recall another 9-11 memorial, reflect on everything that has occurred nationally and internationally these past few months and in the middle of an election cycle, there is a great deal of stress, frustration, and anger to go around and last for centuries it feels like. But Jesus speaks and commands us to extend and receive forgiveness and mercy on a deeply personal and emotional level. When reflecting on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, I always challenge myself in my examination on conscience on how well am I doing on forgiving all injuries, and if I am being honest, probably not as well as I should. But I also look at the one spiritual act before that, bearing wrongs patiently, and I have seen some improvement in my life on that particular work of mercy. So as a parish family, if we are struggling to forgive all injuries and hurts, we can at least pray for the grace and strength to bear wrongs patiently and see how Christ and His Church can get us to that next level when it is possible. Once again, thanks for your patience with me, and please know of my prayers for you all.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley



### CONFESSION EACH SATURDAY

Beginning next Saturday, Sept. 19, Fr. Hurley will be in the sacristy at St. John's from 3-4pm for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The sacrament will be held each Saturday at this time.

### 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.

### 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:

#### LOVING & SERVING

Eternal God, who are the light of the minds that know you, the joy of the hearts that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you. Grant us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom.

--St. Augustine of Hippo

### Sunday Morning Bible Study, September 13

Adults wishing to join in the Sunday morning Bible study are invited to gather on Sunday's during religious education time (after Mass till 11) in the parish hall. 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.

### SINCERE THANKS

On behalf of the Bonvillian family our sincerest thanks to the parish families, Altar Rosary, and Knights of Columbus for all your prayers, support and love during John's illness.

### WORD AMONG US ON BOOKSHELVES

The September edition of *The Word Among Us* is available on the bookshelves.

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.

### ROSARY NOVENA FOR CHURCH & NATION

What if I told you that you could do something powerful, something world changing, and you wouldn't have to leave your living room? Well, there is! It's called the Holy Rosary. That's why we are praying a **54-Day Rosary Novena for the Needs of the Church and the Nation, beginning on Our Lady's birthday, September 8.**

Sign up at: [relevantradio.com/novena](http://relevantradio.com/novena) I hope you will join us in this noble task of praying for our Catholic Church and the United States of America. The Church and the nation need our prayers so that peace and unity may prevail. Now is your chance to make a difference! Thank you for joining us. Fr. Rocky at Relevant Radio

### 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."**

### PRAYER PETITION TO END RACISM:

For those who work for racial justice, that they may be sustained in hope, empowered with courage, and filled with the grace to persevere in love, we pray: Bind us together, O God of love.

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Watch your mail in September! It will contain an important letter from Bishop Timothy L. Doherty asking for your participation in the Catholic Ministries Appeal, formerly Fruitful Harvest. Also enclosed will be a brochure explaining the many ministries supported by this important appeal, as well as a pledge card with return envelope to mail your gift in. By giving to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, you are helping to support programs for our retired priests as well as new seminarians, for our youth, Newman Centers, deacons, prison ministry, pregnancy centers and so much more. I encourage you to study the mailing from Bishop Doherty and to prayerfully consider giving generously to this appeal.

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

### St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$451.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

### St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,621.00

Building Fund: \$235.00

Food Pantry: \$130.00

Haiti: \$60.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**Stewardship is not optional! "None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master," says St. Paul. "While we live we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die we die as his servants."**

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Sept. 14: [The Exaltation of the Holy Cross] Nm 21: 4b-9; Phil 2: 6-11; Jn 3: 13-17

Sept. 15: [Our Lady of Sorrows] 1 Cor 12: 12-14, 27-31a; Jn 19: 25-27

Sept. 16: [Sts Cornelius, pope, & Cyprian, bishop, martyrs] 1 Cor 12: 31 – 13: 14; Lk 7: 31-35

Sept. 17: [St. Robert Bellarmine, bishop & doctor of the Church] 1 Cor 15: 1-11; Lk 7: 36-50

Sept. 18: 1 Cor 15: 12-20; Lk 8: 1-3

Sept. 19: [St. Januarius, bishop & martyr] 1 Cor 15: 35-37, 42-49; Lk 8: 4-15

Sept. 20: Is 55: 6-9; Phil 1: 20c-24, 27a; Mt 20: 1-16a

## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

**SIR 27:30-28:7; PS 103:1-4, 9-12; ROM 14:7-9; MT 18:21-35**

Today's readings call us to look inward to the state of our hearts, our thoughts and emotions. Our first reading, from Sirach, addresses the complicated emotion of anger. "Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?" We have all been wounded by others at some point, some perhaps quite deeply. Our emotions are gifts from God. But we must steward them well, rather than allowing them to overcome us.

How do we do this? Sirach tells us. "Remember your last days, set enmity aside... Remember the Most High's covenant and overlook faults." We embrace the stewardship mindset — not brooding over hurts, but recalling all the gifts our good God has given us, all the love He continually pours out upon us, and we put our focus and trust in Him.

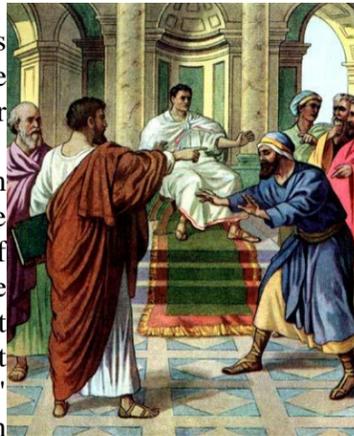
In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus reminds us of the true position we have before Him in light of all that He has done for us, comparing the kingdom of heaven to a "king who decided to settle accounts with his servants." In the parable, a debtor is brought before the king, owing such an overwhelming debt that it could not possibly be repaid. Yet, the king is filled with compassion for the servant, forgives the debt and lets him go free.

Doesn't that sound like each of us in relation to the King of Kings? The Father has given us life, and then sent His only Son to die for us to free us from our sin "debts" and make eternal life with Him possible for us. It is impossible for us to repay this debt. All we can do is thank God by giving Him our whole selves — inside and out.

What joy and freedom we find in the stewardship way of life!

## OFFERING OF SELF

When I am tempted to condemn another, I will remember God's mercy and forgiveness.



## 24TH 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

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

Fr. Hurley's email: [fr.khurley@dol-in.org](mailto:fr.khurley@dol-in.org)

### 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