

You prepare a table for me, O Lord



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE

September 20, 2020

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, September 21, at St. John's

10:00a.m...In Thanksgiving for good health of Aulbach/Johnson Families

Tuesday, September 22

No Mass

Wednesday, September 23, at St. John's

12:00noon...Jack Cain

Thursday, September 24, at St. Mary's

5:30p.m...Parents of Dean & Loretta Wilson

Friday, September 25, at Holy Family

9:00a.m...Helen & Norman Jones

Saturday, September 26, at St. Mary's

5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at Holy Family

Sunday, September 27

9:00a.m...Ilah Place at St. John's

11:00a.m...Johanning & Halbur Families

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.



This weekend we start our new Catholic Ministries Appeal for the diocese: a 16-month appeal to support all the activities and ministries that are vital to sharing and growing the Catholic faith and people in North Central Indiana. The total diocesan goal is \$6.9 million, and I know that our pastorate as a whole has been generous contributors to the Diocesan Appeals these many years. I hope with ongoing prayer and discernment that is something we can continue to do in the years to come. If you have any questions about this appeal certainly feel free to contact me. As the Gospel Acclamation for this weekend from Acts reminds us all, "Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son." The words of Jesus Christ are truly alive and life-giving and when we are generous with our hearts, God will return His love and support hundredfold back to us. There is the oft repeated quote, God can never be outdone in generosity, and I myself have experienced that directly so many times in my life, and I hope and pray that is something our parishes have and will continue to experience in the years to come. Please know of my prayers for our pastorate and our diocese for the success of this appeal.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

CONFESSION EACH SATURDAY

Fr. Hurley will be in the sacristy at St. John's from 3-4pm for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and at Holy Family from noon-1pm on Sundays.

St. Mary's will hold Adoration and Reconciliation each Thursday from 5-5:25 prior to weekday Mass.

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.

RCIA TO BEGIN NEW YEAR

RCIA at St. John's will begin our new year of Catholic faith learning on Thursday, October 1, in the parish hall. Our meetings will take place from 6-7:30pm. If you know of someone who wishes to start the Catholic faith process, please share this information with them and invite them to our meetings.

PRAY FOR OUR PASTORATE & OUR WORLD

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Prior to each Mass on Sunday morning we will pray the rosary beginning at 8:30am using a different mystery each of the four weeks. Please help us in this crusade as we turn to our Lady for prayer and intercession.

Weekly Prayer Corner:

DWELL IN ME

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith; so that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

--St. Paul of Tarsus

Sunday Morning Bible Study

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.

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."



St. Mary's Meet & Greet for Fr. Hurley

Saturday September 26th after 5pm Mass

Please join us downstairs immediately following Mass to meet Fr. Hurley.

A meal will be provided. Please join us in welcoming him.

St. John's meet and greet will take place on Sunday, October 4th, 2-4pm. Sandwiches and light refreshments will be available as you mingle with one another and Fr. Hurley. Come and go as your afternoon allows.

Gas City is planning a welcome carry-in for Fr. Hurley on Sunday, October 18 after 11am Mass.

Parishioners are welcome to attend whichever event fits their schedule.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$660.00

Food Pantry: \$15.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,476.00

Building Fund: \$40.00

Food Pantry: \$73.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Sept. 21: [St. Matthew, apostle & evangelist] Eph 4: 1-7, 11-13; Mt 9: 9-13

Sept. 22: Prv 21: 1-6, 10-13; Lk 8: 19-21

Sept. 23: [St. Pius of Pietrelcina, priest] Prv 30: 5-9; Lk 9: 1-6

Sept. 24: Eccl 1: 2-11; Lk 9:7-9

Sept. 25: Eccl 3: 1-11; Lk 9: 18-22

Sept. 26: [Sts. Cosmos & Damian; martyrs] Eccl 11: 9 - 12: 8; Lk 9: 43b-45

Sept. 27: Ez 18: 25-28; Phil 2: 1-11; Mt 21: 28-32

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[IS 55:6-9](#); [PS 145:2-3, 8-9,17-18](#); [PHIL 1:20C-24](#)

[27A](#); [MT 20:1-16A](#)

Though we can never fully grasp the infinite perfection of God and His ways, a basic knowledge of Scripture reveals that God's logic often differs from worldly logic.

Our first reading, from Isaiah, reminds us that God often thinks

bigger than we do. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts." As His followers we must strive as best we can to think as God does, using our time (and our talents and treasure, too) with eternity in mind.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus offers us a glimpse of the "Godly logic" of the Father through a parable of a landowner hiring workers for his vineyard. Some workers are called early in the day, others not until very late. Yet the landowner pays them all a full day's wage. This angered the laborers who had worked longest. But those laborers were relying on human logic and human calculations. They were not thinking as God does.

This can happen to us Christian stewards as well. We can grumble and complain (at least internally) when we compare ourselves to others and sense that not everyone is contributing as much as we are to the parish, the neighborhood, within our family and so on. At those moments, we need to think bigger! We must remember that it is a great privilege to have been called by the Father to work in His vineyard. Living the stewardship way of life brings us meaning, depth and purpose.

Let's embrace this Godly thinking and thank Him for calling us to this way of life.



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

The Catholic Ministries Appeal (formerly Fruitful Harvest) will begin in our parish September 19-20, 2020. Prior to this weekend, you should have received an envelope in the mail from Bishop Doherty with a brochure explaining the many ministries supported by this important appeal, as well as a pledge card and return envelope for mailing. There are extra envelopes at each church entrance. The Appeal provides the opportunity for each of us within our parish to share in the good works of our diocesan family. By giving to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, you are helping to support programs across our diocese for our retired priests as well as new seminarians, for our youth, Newman Centers, deacons, prison ministry, pregnancy centers and so much more. Our parish family has been asked to raise \$50,380 for St. John's and \$7617 for St. Mary's and \$22,978 for Holy Family. In order to reach our goal, I am asking each household to consider a gift that can be paid over the next 16 months.

OFFERING OF SELF

I will follow Christ's example and look for ways to serve others today.

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most merciful and Triune God,
We come to you in our weakness.
We come to you in our fear.
We come to you with trust.
For you alone are our hope.
We place before you the disease present in our world.
We turn to you in our time of need.
Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into your eternal home.
Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in your care.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Amen.



25TH 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

Fr. Hurley's email: 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