

You prepare a table for me, O Lord



CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
September 27, 2020
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, September 28, at St. John's
10:00a.m...Margaret Wilson
Tuesday, September 29
No Mass
Wednesday, September 30, at St. John's
12:00noon...Joe & Janet Smith
Thursday, October 1, at St. Mary's
5:30p.m...All Souls
Friday, October 2, at Holy Family
9:00a.m...Melvin & Jacky Jensen
Saturday, October 3, at St. Mary's
5:00p.m... Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's
and Holy Family
Sunday, October 4
9:00a.m...John Bonvillian at St. John's
11:00a.m...Matthew Christman 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.

The Rite of Initiation of Christian Adults (RCIA, RCIT for teens, RCIC for children) is one of the great ministries and outreach efforts of the Catholic Church. The desire that all be saved and the theological concept of no salvation outside of the Catholic Church [an important theological topic to be discussed at a later date] along with the great commission to baptize all the nations has led to this ministry to bring people into the Church. As St. Augustine remarks in his letter to Pastors, "But our catholic mother is herself a shepherd; she seeks the straying sheep everywhere, strengthens the weak, heals the sick, and binds up the injured. They may not know one another, but she knows all of them because she reaches out to all her sheep." It is our role as a parish community to help those seeking to become Catholic to do so in a beautiful and kind way, and that is why we have RCIA coordinators, volunteers, and classes to assist them in this process. Meetings are now at Holy Family Sunday at 10am and St. John's Thursday 6pm-7:30pm [6pm-6:30pm is fellowship and gathering time], and people interested can attend either or both sessions. Please feel free to reach out to myself, Pam Trees and Susan Lannoy, their contact info is in the bulletin, for more information or with any questions. Let us continue to pray for all those seeking Jesus Christ and His Church both here in our pastorate and throughout the world.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at Holy Family Church this Friday beginning with Mass at 9am and Adoration at 9:30am-9pm. St. Mary's and St. John's parishioners are welcome to attend. Contact Marcia Atkinson 765-674-7608 for an hour time slot as two are needed for each hour. Drop-ins are always welcome.

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.

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

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his father's bidding, but did not. The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked. What service is God calling me to do? Which son am I more like?

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.

Weekly Prayer Corner: SHOW ME YOUR MERCY

Jesus, if out of the weakness of human nature I have fallen and sinned in word or deed or thought, forgive me, for you have the power to forgive sins on earth. May I stand before you with my soul unspotted.

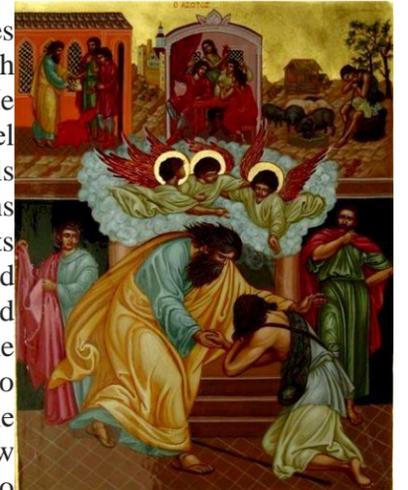
--St. Macrina

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

EZ 18:25-28; PS 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; PHIL 2:1-11 or 2:1-5; MT 21:28-32

As Christian stewards we are called to a high and holy standard — living as Christ's disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. But we can move towards this goal in "baby steps."

Jesus demonstrates this comforting truth through the parable He tells in today's Gospel from Matthew. It is the story of two sons whose father instructs them to go out and work in his vineyard that day. While the second son agrees to his father's request, he does not follow through — he fails to obey the father's will. The first son tells his father, "no." At least he is honest! And in the end, he reconsiders and obeys his father.



The first son's honest, less-than-perfect response, is consoling to us Christian stewards. Haven't we all felt this way at times when God's will for us seems to be just too hard?

We can be honest with God at these times. He knows our thoughts already, after all. But when we stayed engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it's just to say, "I don't think I can, Lord," He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do.

We can even take a step backward from time to time because our Father is merciful and kind. What matters is that we keep baby stepping along, assured of the grace we need to more closely imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ. This is the beauty of the stewardship way of life.

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.



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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Sept. 28: [St. Wenceslaus, martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, martyrs] Jb 1: 6-22; Lk 9: 46-50

Sept. 29: [Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, archangels] Dn 7: 9-10, 13-14; Jn 1: 47-51

Sept. 30: [St. Jerome, priest & doctor of the Church] Jb 9: 1-12, 14-16; Lk 9: 57-62

Oct. 1: [St. Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin & doctor of the Church] Jb 19: 21-27; Lk 10: 1-12

Oct. 2: [The Holy Guardian Angels] Jb 38: 1, 12-21; 40: 3-5; Mt 18: 1-5, 10

Oct. 3: Jb 42: 1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Lk 10: 17-24

Oct. 4: Is 5: 1-7; Phil 4: 6-9; Mt 21: 33-43

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.

OFFERING OF SELF

I will thank the Lord for His great sacrifice of love.

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.

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."



26TH 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, 5-5:30pm each Thursday
St. John, 3-4:00pm each Saturday
Gas City, 12noon-1pm each Sunday

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