



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

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**  
**October 11, 2020**  
**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Monday, October 12, at St. John's**  
 10:00a.m...Nancy Schorey

**Tuesday, October 13**  
 No Mass

**Wednesday, October 14, at St. John's**  
 12:00noon...Fred Moorman

**Thursday, October 15, at St. Mary's**  
 5:30p.m...Jim Grady

**Friday, October 16, at Holy Family**  
 9:00a.m...

**Saturday, October 17, at St. Mary's**  
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family

**Sunday, October 18**  
 9:00a.m...Kimberly Saylor at St. John's  
 11:00a.m... 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.

This past week many of our diocesan priests were at Tipton for the annual diocesan priest retreat. I, myself, will be taking my annual priest retreat next week as well. These retreats are not simply a recommendation for us but required by the Code of Canon Law (CCC) for our ongoing spiritual health and service to our parishes. The actual law is quite beautiful and it follows here from CCC 276: "In leading their lives, clerics are bound in a special way to pursue holiness since, having been consecrated to God by a new title in the reception of orders, *they are dispensers of the mysteries of God in the service of His people.* In order to be able to pursue this perfection: 1/ they are first of all to fulfill faithfully and tirelessly the duties of the pastoral ministry; 2/ they are to nourish their spiritual life from the two-fold table of sacred scripture and the Eucharist; 3/ they are equally bound to make time for spiritual retreats according to the precepts of particular law." Notice how these laws are for making myself walk more easily the path of holiness in order to dispense the mysteries of God for all of you: and see that the first task is pastoral ministry followed by the spiritual time of prayer and nourishment. Please also reflect on the last time you have done a retreat of any kind. If it has been a while, I am always available to provide ideas and suggestions whether in person, or even online. The time to recollect on our relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church is quite precious and life-giving, so let us pray for all of our priests and people on retreat this week both here and throughout the world.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

**PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**

*St. John's is planning to start their Sunday religious education preschool program in a couple of weeks. We are looking for students aged 3-pre kindergarten that would be interested. The class time follows Sunday Mass until 11am. Contact the office to register, no registration fee.*

**OFFERING OF SELF**

I will make Christ the foundation of my life.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

- Monday, Oct. 12, 6pm:* St. Mary's Altar & Rosary
- Thursday, Oct. 15, 5pm:* Adoration & Reconciliation at St. Mary's.
- 6-7:30pm:* RCIA at St. John's
- Saturday, Oct. 17, 3-4pm:* Reconciliation at St. John's
- Sunday, Oct. 18, 10-10:50am:* RCIA at Holy Family

**October is Respect Life Month. Each week in October, look for a short reflection on this year's theme, "Live the Gospel of Life".**

**RESPECT LIFE REFLECTION**

For women and men suffering after abortion: May the Church's abortion healing ministry, Project Rachel, help them find peace and healing through Christ's endless mercy;  
*We Pray to the Lord.*

**TRUNK OR TREAT**

Our high school youth group will be participating in the Trunk or Treat event around the courthouse square in Hartford City. They are asking for donations of bags of candy to hand out. These donations can be placed in the boxes at the entrances to St. John's by October 23.

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

Altar-Rosary Meeting at St Mary's, Monday, Oct 12, beginning with the Rosary at 6:00. All women of the parish welcome.

**MISSION SUNDAY**

Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.



**What if the Prodigal Son never came home?**

In the second of a three-part series on evangelization, I would like to return to the Lukan parables on repentance and forgiveness. I wish to address the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-31). In it, we learn of the younger of two brothers who asks for his inheritance, leaves home, squanders all his money in debauchery, and never returns to the father. All right, you caught me. The prodigal does in fact return home, but what if he didn't? Well, if that were the case, the parable would look very much like the Church today. The Church is losing young men and women in droves and many are not coming back.

In the contemporary Church version of our parable, our prodigal sons and daughters often fail to recognize the emptiness of worldly pursuits and rarely consider the truth, grace, and community offered by the Church as an attractive alternative to the current trajectory of their lives. In part, this is due to the deluge of information, social media, entertainment, and education sources that confront young people with messages that contradict the Church. What is worse, however, is that they probably never knew the father in the first place, so they cannot conceive of what a return to him would even entail. Knowing Jesus is the bedrock of our faith, how then can they not know him?

From the domestic church (family) to the parish, we may be failing to introduce our sons and daughters to the Father, through Jesus. We may have taught them what the Church believes without introducing them to the one in whom she believes. We may have given them religion without relationship!

As a true disciple of Christ it's our mission to bring the Good News of Jesus and an encounter with him to those who are in the pews, those who have fallen away and those who have not yet received the message. As we move forward to address the significant number of young people leaving the Church, your pastors and their ministry leadership teams will be placing greater emphasis on strengthening families (the domestic church), anchoring the faith of teens with improved youth ministries, and making a concerted effort to reach young adults who have left the Church. This is an "all hands on deck" effort, our goal is for everyone to participate in bringing souls back to Christ. Being responsive to the Bishop's *Uniting in Heart 2030 Pastoral Plan*, our offices have our sights set on your pastorates and bringing back your prodigals, too! Let's bring 'em home!

Rob Hartley is the Director of Evangelization, Family Life and Pastoral Ministries

**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.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

Oct. 12: Gal 4: 22-24, 26-27, 31—5: 1; Lk 11: 29-32  
Oct. 13: Gal 5: 1-6; Lk 11: 37-41  
Oct. 14: [St. Callistus I, pope & martyr] Gal 5: 18-25; Lk 11: 42-46  
Oct. 15: [St. Teresa of Jesus, virgin & doctor of the Church] Eph 1: 1-10; Lk 11: 47-54  
Oct. 16: [St. Hedwig, religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin] Eph 1: 11-14; Lk 12: 1-7  
Oct. 17: [St. Ignatius of Antioch, bishop & martyr] Eph 1: 15-23; Lk 12: 8-12  
Oct. 18: [World Mission Sunday] Is 45: 1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1: 1-5b; Mt 22: 15-21

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**St. Mary's**  
Sunday Collection: \$735.00  
Needed Weekly: \$887.87  
**St. John's**  
Sunday Collection: \$3,767.00  
Building: \$145.00  
Food Pantry: \$150.00  
World Missions: \$110.00  
Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**In today's second reading, St. Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!**

**Weekly Prayer Corner:  
YOU ARE WITH ME**

I know that at times I will be troubled, I know that at times I will be belabored, I know that at times I will be disquieted, But I believe that I will not be overcome.

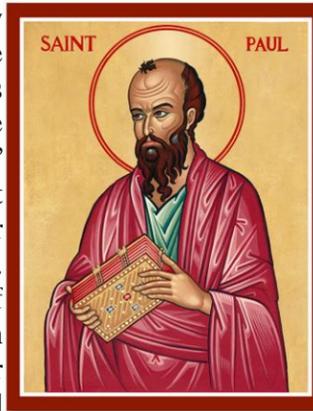
*--St. Julian of Norwich*

**Gas City** is planning a welcome carry-in for Fr. Hurley on Sunday, October 18 after 11am Mass. All are invited, bring a covered dish to share.

**GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:**

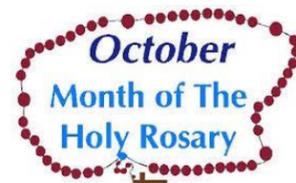
[IS 25:6-10A; P S23:1-6; PHIL 4:12-14, 19-20; MT 21:1-14 or 22:1-10](#)

How easy it is, especially in these times, to be consumed by the cares and distractions of the "here and now," forgetting about what matters most — living for the Kingdom of Heaven. The stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the virtuous use of our Time, Talent, and Treasure, allows us to embrace daily life and all its demands — with eternity in mind.



How do we keep focused on the Kingdom of Heaven? St. Paul shares his secret for an eternity-driven life. In our Second Reading from his Letter to the Philippians, Paul says, "I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need." In other words, Paul has learned to live the stewardship way of life.

What is the secret? It is this: "I can do all things in him who strengthens me." How? Through this: "My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." It is so simple! But it is not easy. It takes both courage and humility to live this way. God will supply these to us if we ask.



Join together at St. John's each Sunday in October at 8:30am prior to the start of Mass to pray the rosary. We will use a different mystery each week. October is the month of the Holy Rosary and all are invited to join in this crusade of this powerful prayer to Mary our Mother of our nation and all nations in support and solidarity for the many needs of our society as we turn to our Lady for prayer and intercession.



**28TH 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: [DHolsten@dol-in.org](mailto:DHolsten@dol-in.org)

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**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