



CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent

Monday, November 30, at St. John's
 10:00a.m...Lowell Ford

Tuesday, December 1
 0:00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, December 2, at St. John's
 12:00noon...Mae Pursley

Thursday, December 3, at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Parents of Dean & Loretta Wilson

Friday, December 4, at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Alice Fiely

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

Sunday, December 6
 9:00a.m...Jack Cain at St. John's
 11:00a.m...Fr. Christopher Roberts at Holy Family

As we celebrate the beginning of Advent this weekend and the start of our new liturgical year, I would like to thank our administration, staff and volunteers and wish each of you a happy spiritual new year. Let us prepare to welcome the second coming of Christ in our lives as we move through the Advent season with renewed hope and trust in our Lord.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

There will be additional reconciliation times during Advent with penance services not available this year. Fr. Hurley will have extra reconciliation times each Wednesday evening from 6-7pm on December 2, 9, and 16, along with the weekly regular times. Please, especially this year, make use of this sacrament and receive Jesus' healing graces through confession, penance and forgiveness.

Wednesday, December 2, 6-7pm at St. John's
Wednesday, December 9, 6-7pm at Holy Family
Wednesday, December 16, 6-7pm at St. John's

Each Thursday 5-5:25pm at St. Mary's
 Each Saturday 3-4pm at St. John's
 Each Friday 8:30-8:55am and Sunday 12noon-1pm at Holy Family

The above listed times are tentative end times as Fr. Hurley will stay past the end time listed until all confessions are completed.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Nov. 30: [St. Andrew, apostle] Rom 10: 9-18; Mt 4: 18-22
Dec. 1: Is 11: 1-10; Lk 10: 21-24
Dec. 2: Is 25: 6-10a; Mt 15: 29-37
Dec. 3: [St. Francis Xavier, priest] Is 26: 1-6; Mt 7: 21, 24-27
Dec. 4: [St. John Damascene, priest & doctor of the Church] Is 29: 17-24; Mt 9: 27-31
Dec. 5: Is 30: 19-21, 23-26; Mt 9: 35 – 10: 1, 5a, 6-8
Dec. 6: [Second Sunday of Advent] Is 40: 1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3: 8-14; Mk 1: 1-8

ST. JOHN'S ADVENT JESSE TREE

This year we will continue our annual Advent Jesse tree program. We will once again ask everyone to take as many tags from the tree as you like. Please return the tags with the items unwrapped and it place under the tree. Everything we collect will be taken to the head nurse at the BJSHS to be distributed to all the public schools in our county. Please see the full list in the November newsletter. Thank you for making this ministry possible.

Holy Family is collecting toiletries for the Twin City Christmas We Care families. Please, choose a tag(s) off the Angel tree located in the Narthex and bring the unwrapped items back to Holy Family by Sunday, December 13. Thank you!

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Wanda Hoover, parishioner of St. John's, and Betty Jones, parishioner of Holy Family, who passed to eternal life this week. May their families be comforted by your prayers.

HOLYDAY & HOLIDAY MASSES:

Immaculate Conception of Mary, Dec. 8, is a holyday of obligation (dispensation covers Sunday and holyday obligations). Mass will be celebrated as follows:

Vigil Monday, 5:30pm at St. John's
 Holyday, Tuesday, 12noon at St. Mary's
 5:30pm at Holy Family

Christmas Mass Schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve 5pm at St. Mary's
 Christmas Eve 8pm at St. John's
 Christmas Day 9am at Holy Family

Solemnity of Mary, January 1, is a holyday of obligation with Mass schedules as follows:

Vigil, Thursday, 5pm at St. Mary's
 7pm at St. John's
 Holyday, Friday, 10am at Holy Family

Join us as we give thanks and praise and celebrate each of these special days.

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR NOVEMBER:

Artificial Intelligence
 We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

If you have not yet made a pledge to the Catholic Ministries Appeal (formerly Fruitful Harvest), watch your mail in early December! It will contain an important letter from Fr. Hurley asking for your participation. Also enclosed will be examples of 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, college Newman Centers, deacons, prison ministry, pregnancy centers and so much more.

Fr. Hurley encourages you to study the information in his mailing and to prayerfully consider giving generously to this appeal. Finally, please note that any donations over and above our Pastorate Goal will go to a Catholic Ministries Appeal Overage Fund, from which Pastors can apply for support for needy parishioners or parishes. Thank you for your stewardship of God's gifts.

Thank you for your support and many kindnesses to Charlie all these many years as he struggled with Alzheimer's. You truly are my parish family. I deeply appreciate every one of you. Extra kudos to Diana and Joni and Ruth Ann for their funeral dinners. They are a treasure and a gift to us.

Sarah Montgomery

SAINTS OF THE SEASON

How can we imitate a saint during Advent? Each week there will be a question(s) for us to consider as we strive to grow in faith like the saints.

Who would I most like to tell about Jesus? About Mary? And what would I share with them?

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Wednesday, Dec. 2: Reconciliation 6-7pm at St. John's
Thursday, Dec. 3: Adoration & Reconciliation 5-5:25pm at St. Mary's
 RCIA 6-7:30pm at St. John's
Friday, Dec. 4: First Friday Adoration following 9am Mass-9pm at Holy Family
Sunday, Dec. 6: Second Sunday of Advent
 RCIA 10-10:50am 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

ADVENT PRAYER:

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

NEW MISSALETTES FOR NEW CHURCH YEAR

Our new missalettes are here for St. John's and St. Mary's. You are welcome to take a missalette home with you, but keep it as we are still not able to distribute these at church. There is a box at each church entrance.

PRAY THE ROSARY

As our new liturgical year begins with Advent, let us pray the rosary for spiritual healing and hope and trust in the Lord.

The rosary is prayed each Sunday at 4pm with Divine Chaplet and each Wednesday at 4pm with recitation of 15 decades at Holy Family.

SPENDING TIME WITH JESUS IS A JOY!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on **December 4, 2020**, begins after 9 AM Mass with closing at 9 PM to be held at Holy Family Church, Gas City.

The side chapel at St. John's will be open from 8am-4pm on Friday for private adoration.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$620.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$1,147.00

Haiti: \$85.00

Building: \$100.00

Food Pantry: \$70.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

Sunday Collection: \$1,478.00

Sharing Cupboard: \$60.00

Campaign for Human Development: \$50.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

We are the servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

ADVENT AND A NEW YEAR BEGIN

Advent has begun! We can look forward to a new day with renewed hope in Christ. Take advantage of the many avenues to refresh and strengthen your faith through The Word Among Us, or various daily reflections or online retreats. Many are free, but all are beneficial. Pick one to turn our focus on the coming of the Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

IS 63:16B-17,19B; 64:2-7; PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 COR: 1:3-9; MK 13:33-37

Today we begin the beautiful and holy season of Advent. With all that we have going on this time of year, it's no wonder Advent that does not always seem to get the attention it deserves. But if we will commit to living this season well, we will experience a deeper conversion to Christ and find real transformation in our lives as Christian stewards.

Why? Advent calls us not only to look back in grateful contemplation of Christ's first coming, but it also calls us to look forward in preparation for His Second Coming. Advent is a time to reset and regroup, to repent over any misplaced priorities, to turn our minds and hearts back to God while we still have time. We do so not out of fear or guilt, but rather, out of gratitude for Love Incarnate lying in a manger bed.

Whatever we feel God calling us to do this Advent — committing to a daily Gospel reflection, visiting a lonely neighbor, or donating money to those in dire need — there is no time to waste.

Jesus makes this clear in our Gospel passage from Matthew. He tells the parable of a man going off on a journey. Before he leaves, he "places his servants in charge, each with his own work." We, of course, are the servants in this parable, each with a mission to accomplish in building the Kingdom of God. Jesus warns us over and over in this passage to remain vigilant to the work He has given us to do because we do not know when we will be called to give an account for it.

Our lives are a gift. This holy season is a gift. Let us recommit to living the stewardship way of life. Love came down to us as a Baby. And He is coming again. Be watchful!

PRAYER CHAIN: Contact Janice Jackson at 348-1521 or the office at 348-3889 or 674-2605



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the parish office about preparation.

The sacrament is normally celebrated with the community during Mass. May God continue to bless you and your new little one.

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

Holy Family, 12noon-1pm each Sunday; 8:30-8:55am each Friday.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage. Please 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

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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

Holy Family, Gas City

325 E North A St, Gas City, IN 46933

Parish Office: 765-674-2605

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