



CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
January 3, 2021
The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday, January 4 at St. John's
 10:00a.m...Molly Jo May

Tuesday, January 5
 0:00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, January 6, at St. John's
 12:00noon...Otis Litton

Thursday, January 7, at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Bob & Valerie Paul

Friday, January 8, at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Matthew Christman

Saturday, January 9, at St. Mary's
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family

Sunday, January 10
 9:00a.m...Billy Meyer at St. John's
 11:00a.m...Edgar Poe 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



One of the great Christmas traditions of the Church is to bless one's house to start a new year; and in a perfect world I would get that done for all of our parishioners before the close of Christmas on January 10th. We will instead provide in this bulletin the prayers for the blessing of a home during the Christmas season as well as Blessed Holy Water and Blessed Chalk for the rite. Why blessed chalk? During the rite it is traditional to chalk the main doors of one's house with the following inscription 20 + C + M + B + 21. This represents the year 2021 with crosses for Christ and the initials of the three wise kings or Magi who visited the Christ Child. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus Mansion Benedicat*, which translates as "May Christ bless the house." This inscription is performed as a request that Christ bless the home and that He stay with those who dwell and visit it as well. The timing for the chalking of the doors varies somewhat in practice. In some places, it is done on New Year's Day. More commonly, it is performed on the Feast of the Epiphany — the Twelfth Day of Christmas. The blessing can be performed simply by just writing the inscription and offering a short prayer, or more elaborately, including songs, prayers, processions, the burning of incense, and the sprinkling of holy water. So, please take advantage of the blessed chalk, water, and prayers and know of my prayers for all of our families and parishioners for this year.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

Bulletin information should be submitted to Diana by Thursday 10am each week for that weekend's bulletin. Submit information to dholsten@parish.dol-in.org or call 765-348-3889.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education resumes next weekend, January 10th. St. John's and St. Mary's high school students especially need to make plans to attend each weekend as we prepare for Confirmation on May 5th. Likewise, second grade students are in preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion.

Prayers and Instructions:

House Blessing Script

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen

God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten One to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this household and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and abiding in your will. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

After the prayers of the blessing are recited, each room of the home is sprinkled with Epiphany [holy] water and incensed [optional]. The initials of the Magi are inscribed upon the doors with the blessed chalk. (The initials, C, M, B, can also be interpreted as the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "Christ bless this house".)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Jan. 4: [St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious] 1 Jn 3: 22-4; 6; Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25

Jan. 5: [St. John Neumann, bishop] 1 Jn 4: 7-10; Mk 6: 34-44

Jan. 6: [St. Andre Bessette, religious] 1 Jn 4: 11-18; Mk 6: 45-52

Jan. 7: [St. Raymond of Penafort, priest] 1 Jn 4: 19-5: 4; Lk 4: 14-22

Jan. 8: 1 Jn 5: 5-13; Lk 5: 12-16

Jan. 9: 1 Jn 5: 14-21; Jn 3: 22-30

Jan. 10: [Baptism of the Lord] Is 55: 1-11; 1 Jn 5: 1-9; Mk 1: 7-11

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

Next weekend we have the chance to help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous. Envelopes can be found in your packets.

HOLY FAMILY CARRY-IN: January, 17 after Mass. We would like to keep our monthly carry-in going with Covid rules in mind. Join us in fellowship. Reemmer Hall will be open to drop off your dish. Ovens set on warm.

RCIA NEWS

Sessions **focused on Jesus Christ** will resume Thursday, January 7, in St. John's Parish Hall at 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm. Holy Family RCIA sessions resume January 10, 10-10:50am. Let us share the Good News with each other and, especially, with those who don't know Jesus. God loves us enough to become one of us and to send His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John3:16) We begin with light refreshments; meet & greet newcomers. Everyone is welcome to attend, so being a friend. We will continue to follow CDC guidelines of wearing masks and social distancing. If you have any questions, please contact the Church office, Diana at 348-3889; or, contact Susan at 512-627-6863.

Sunday morning bible study will resume January 10 with a special DVD. Mark your calendar, grab your coffee & donut, and join us in the parish hall near the stage.

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Bob O'Rourke, former parishioner of St. John's, who passed to eternal life this past week. May his family be comforted by your prayers.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JANUARY

St. Marys:

Jan. 3: Reader: Ted Kolodka **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Jane Crouch

Jan. 10: Reader: Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Jane Crouch **Counter:** Danette Hamilton

Jan. 17: Reader: Dan Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Danette Hamilton

Jan. 24: Reader: Ted Kolodka **Greeter:** Jane Crouch **Counter:** Jane Crouch

Jan. 31: Reader: Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Dan Watson

St. Johns:

Sunday 9:00 am: Reader & Announcements: Susan Lannoy

Applications for the Holy Family Scholarship are now available and will be taken through the Grant County Community Foundation, 505 W 3rd Street, Marion (765-662-0065) until the end of January 2021

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Thursday, Jan. 7: Adoration 5-5:25pm at St. Mary's

RCIA resumes 6:15-7:30pm at St. John's

Friday, Jan. 8: Reconciliation 8:30-8:55am at Holy Family

Saturday, Jan. 9: Reconciliation 3-4pm at St. John's

Sunday, Jan. 10: Religious Ed & Bible Study resume 10-11am at St. John's

Religious Ed & RCIA resume 10-10:50 at Holy Family

Holy Family

Reconciliation 11-12noon at Holy Family

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR JANUARY:

Human Fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$918.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$6,794.00

Building: \$1,100.00

Food Pantry: \$260.00

Haiti: \$205.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

Sunday Collection: \$3,340.05

Sharing Cupboard: \$79.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:

Find information about our three parishes on the web at www.stmaryjohn.org.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION:

Let the just rejoice, for their justifier is born.

Let the sick and infirm rejoice, for their savior is born.

Let the captives rejoice, for their redeemer is born.

Let slaves rejoice, for their master is born.

Let free persons rejoice, for their liberator is born.

Let all Christians rejoice, for Jesus Christ is born.

Amen.

--St. Augustine

PRAY THE ROSARY

Let us rejoice the birth of our Savior as we celebrate Christmas. During this Christmas Season, let us pray the rosary with thankful hearts as Mary unwrapped that first Christmas present to the world.

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

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

IS 60:1-6; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; EPH 3:2-3a, 5-6; MT 2:1-12

Today, we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. The Gospel account of the three magi traveling to meet Baby Jesus is one that we know well. Yet, when we pause to reflect on this moment when these men met Christ for the first time, we recognize that there is much to be said for us still today.

When the magi entered the house, it says, "they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage."

Clearly these men knew that they were in the presence of their King. They also came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, which symbolize Christ's kingship, divinity and humanity.

Christ is still manifesting Himself to us today. We enter God's house weekly, and we are in His presence. When we meet Him, do we offer Him our gifts — our time, talent and treasure? As Christian stewards, we are called to respond with love, reverence and gratitude.

Let us prepare our hearts to receive Christ's many manifestations in our lives. We just need a grateful disposition to receive them.



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

Office e-mail: DHolsten@parish.dol-in.org

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