

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
February 21, 2021
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 22 at St. John's
 10:00a.m...Joseph Smith

Tuesday, February 23
 0:00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, February 24 at St. John's
 12:00noon...Deceased of Lenz Family

Thursday, February 25, at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Justin Watson

Friday, February 26, at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Mary Walz

Saturday, February 27, at St. Mary's
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family

Sunday, February 28
 9:00a.m...Gerard Merkel, Sr. at St. John's
 11:00a.m...Deanna Detherage 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

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

FOR FEBRUARY:

Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



In the Christmas season we of course say Merry Christmas, in Easter, Happy Easter. I was trying to get Awesome Advent going with very little takers, but how do we say to each other, "Have a great Lent?" As we know and hear in our readings a good Lent involves at the bare minimum some fasting and a great degree of mortification and possibly some suffering. A good Lent involves some work to say the least both on an individual and communal level, and I certainly want us all to work hard this Lent to receive the wisdom and strength to pick up our crosses and follow after Christ. Ultimately that is the goal of any successful Lenten game plan, to be able to stand at the foot of the Cross on Good Friday and to rejoice heartily at the Empty Tomb Easter Sunday.

To that end, let us take heed of some Lenten wisdom from one of the Church Fathers, St. Bernard who encourages us in this time to confess our sins, to give thanks and praise to God, and to have edifying speech with one another. If we do that, we are well onto the path of a good Lenten journey, however we might communicate that to one another. Whatever we can do as a staff to help as well please let us know, as we all do our best to pray, fast, and give alms these 40 Days.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Toni Allman, parishioner of Holy Family, who passed to eternal life this past week. May her family be comforted by your prayers.

WALKING WITH CHRIST THROUGH LENT

"Then He said to them all: 'Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.'" (Lk 9: 23)

My Offering to God:

I will follow Christ by turning away from my own will and living my life to please Him.

St. Mary's Parishioners:

Thank you for your continuing support to Project Friend Food Pantry. This helps make it possible to help us serve others. --Linda Bowdell

CARRY-IN after Mass on February 21. 🍷🥗🍴

Please join us at Reemmer Hall for our monthly carry-in. Of course, we will follow Covid 19 rules.

If you are like us and need fellowship to help lighten your heart

Come join us in good food, good friends and BINGO.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Repent and turn away from sin by praying the rosary during Lent for forgiveness and conversion of ours and all souls with Mary as our mentor.

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

St. Mary's will pray the rosary each Saturday prior to Mass beginning at 4:40pm.

DIOCESAN LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday: Fast and Abstinence

Fridays of Lent: Abstinence

Easter Duty: All the faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.

Fast: Ages 18-60 are allowed one full meal. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken, but they should not together equal one full meal. No eating between meals, but liquids are allowed.

Abstinence: Ages 14 and older are allowed no meat.

In addition, acts of penance are to be chosen by each person according to circumstances; including increased prayer life, greater effort in the pursuit of virtue and voluntary surrender of pleasures.

Parents are to see to it that minors are educated in an authentic sense of Penance.

ASH WEDNESDAY COLLECTION

It's not too late for the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region which consists of more than 25 countries. Envelopes can be found in your packets.

TAX SEASON

If you wish to receive a letter of your tax contributions given for 2020, please contact Diana by phone at 348-3889 or by email at stmaryjohn.org or DHolsten@parish.dol-in.org

FOR LENT FOR LIFE

Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the shelves in the back of each of our churches. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on how hunger and malnutrition affect our human family, and on the need to take action to end this global injustice. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

First Week of Lent: Hunger in our World

Jesus told us that whatever we did for one of these least brothers of his we did for him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger—it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world?

Let us Pray: For our sisters and brothers who experience chronic hunger and malnutrition, that they may access the resources they need to stay healthy and thrive.

For our community, that we may be thankful for the gifts we have and realize that by sharing them with others we are sharing them with Christ himself.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family

Finance Council 7pm at Holy Family

Thursday, Feb. 25: Adoration 5-5:25pm at St.

Mary's

Friday, Feb. 26: Stations of the Cross 6pm at Holy Family

(Stations will alternate locations during Lent.)

Sunday, Feb. 28: Religious Ed & Bible Study 10-11am at St. John's

Religious Ed 9:30-10:45am at Holy Family

Rosary 4pm at Holy Family

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY FOR LENT

If you are looking for a Lenten service activity, the Community and Family Services is always looking for help. They get a Walmart truck in every week, sometimes twice a week, and are always in need of help unloading. If interested in being part of their team contact Barbara or Mel at 348-0744. This not only is a blessing to others, but when you leave you are also blessed.

NEW CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Fr. Hurley will be at St. Mary's from 4-4:30pm on Saturdays and 5-5:25 on Thursdays prior to Mass.

Sundays he will hear confessions from 8-8:45am at St. John's.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place at Holy Family from noon-1pm on Sundays and 8:30-8:55am on Fridays.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$370.00

Food Pantry: \$110.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$1,941.00

Building Fund: \$55.00

Food Pantry: \$128.00

Catholic Moment: \$132.00

Propagation of Faith: \$25.00

Central & Eastern Europe: \$65.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

Sunday Collection: \$1,676.00

Sharing Cupboard: \$279.00

Catholic Moment: \$130.00

Votive: \$11.00

Propagation of Faith: \$100.00

Religious Retirement: \$100.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism...that people place their gifts, their resources—their selves—at God's service in and through the Church."

Everyone is welcome to the DVD series, *"Eucharist: Discovering The Mass In The Bible,"* which will continue each Sunday barring inclement weather. We meet in the parish hall downstairs 9:55-11am.. Coffee and doughnuts are available.

Feb 28- Session 6: Miracles of Jesus: Water, Wine, Loaves, and Fishes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Feb. 22: [The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle] 1 Pt 5: 1-4; Mt 16: 13-19

Feb. 23: [St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr] Is 55: 10-11; Mt 6: 7-15

Feb. 24: Jon 3: 1-10; Lk 11: 29-32

Feb. 25: Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7: 7-12

Feb. 26: Ez 18: 21-28; Mt 5: 20-26

Feb. 27: Dt 26: 16-19; Mt 5: 43-48

Feb. 28: Gn 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8: 31b-34; Mk 9: 2-10



FISH FRIES ARE HERE....

The Knights of Columbus at St. John's will conduct their annual Lenten fish fries again—as drive thru only—next fish fry: March 5th, 4:30-7pm

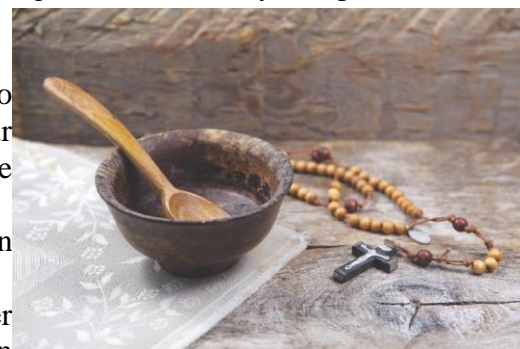
Fish, potatoes, applesauce and cookie

Adults - \$9; Under 12 - \$5.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

GN 9:8-15; PS 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 PT 3:18-22; MK 1:12-15

Today's readings remind us why we partake in this 40-day Lenten journey — to prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ on Easter.



St. Peter reminds us in our Second Reading of the blessings we receive from Christ's passion, death and resurrection — "Christ suffered for sins once... that he might lead you to God." And again, "[Baptism] is... an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

In order to more readily receive the blessings from Christ's passion, death and resurrection, we too are called endure 40 days "in the desert." In our Gospel, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert where He was tempted by Satan. Jesus was called to face trials and to confront evil. During this time, He committed to intense prayer and fasting. It was not necessary for Jesus to go into the desert so that He might be purified, but rather, to endure temptations of man for our sake. He was fully man, and experience temptations just like us, yet responded to them perfectly, never falling into sin.

We should strive to fully participate in this Lenten season by mirroring Jesus, the model steward by Whom we are called to imitate. Through our time in the desert, we will confront evil by weeding out the roots of sin in our lives through fasting. And we will be sustained and nourished in the desert by prayer. Let us strive to purify our hearts so that we might be ready to receive the glorious gift of Christ and partake in the riches that pour forth from this Gift.



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; 4-4:30pm each Saturday

St. John, 8-8:45am each Sunday prior to Mass
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

Website: www.stmaryjohn.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