

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
March 14, 2021
4th Sunday of Lent

Monday, March 15 at St. John's
 10:00a.m...Marguerite Coyne
Tuesday, March 16
 0:00a.m...No Mass
Wednesday, March 17 at St. John's
 12:00noon...Deceased of Oswalt Family
Thursday, March 18, at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Parents of Dean & Loretta Wilson
Friday, March 19, at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Jackie & Melvin Jensen
Saturday, March 20, at St. Mary's
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family
Sunday, March 21
 9:00a.m...Nancy Shorey at St. John's
 11:00a.m...Toni Allman 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 MARCH:

Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



Rejoice. This is the theme for this Sunday, also known as Laetare Sunday. We are half-way to the recapitulation of the whole. Technically, the midpoint was this past Thursday, but for all to participate, the Church wisely moved it to the Sunday celebration. On this particular Sunday traditionally, the organ could be used for music, flowers allowed on the altar, and the use of rose vestments instead of purple. The contrast between Laetare and the other Sundays is thus emphasized, and is emblematical of the joys of this life, restrained rejoicing mingled with a certain amount of sadness. This tradition comes from Rome, where the pope would send a Golden Rose to Churches and Kings and Queens that have especially been so far engaged in prayer, fasting and other penitential works, as also in serious meditation upon the malice of sin, to look up and beyond Calvary and see in the first rays of the Easter sun.

That is why we can rejoice as we have been doing our work as the Body of the Christ to leave sin behind, to grow closer to the Church and each other, and are looking forward to the glorious dawn that awaits us on Easter Sunday. We also rejoice with our catechumens and candidates both here in our pastorate and throughout the Church who are longing to be in full communion. So, let us rejoice that our Lenten journeys are going well and that we are praying for each other as Easter draws near.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

WALKING WITH CHRIST THROUGH LENT

Reflection: *This week, I will reflect on how Christ desires us to have humble faith and strive to follow His will in all I do.*

“For God so loved the world that He have His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (Jn 3:16)

My Offering to God:

I will thank God today for His gift of Christ, our Lord, who gives eternal life to all those who believe in Him.

Saint Patrick's Prayer of the Faithful

May the Strength of God pilot us.
 May the Power of God preserve us.
 May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
 May the Hand of God protect us.
 May the Way of God direct us.
 May the Shield of God defend us.
 May the Host of God guard us
 Against the snares of the evil ones,
 Against temptations of the world.



May Christ be with us!
 May Christ be before us!
 May Christ be in us, Christ be over all!
 May Thy Salvation, Lord, Always be ours,
 This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's
 Sunday Collection: \$991.00
 Catholic Moment: \$20.00
 Religious Retirement: \$100.00
 Flowers: \$95.00
 Needed Weekly: \$887.87
St. John's
 Sunday Collection: \$3,390.00
 Building Fund: \$90.00
 Catholic Moment: \$111.00
 Catholic Relief Services: \$55.00
 Food Pantry: \$181.00
 Flowers: 142.00
 Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23
Holy Family
 Sunday Collection: \$3,356.00
 Sharing Cupboard: \$60.00
 Catholic Moment: \$128.00
 Catholic Relief Services: \$90.00
 Votive: \$54.50
 Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. “We are truly his handiwork,” says St. Paul in the second reading, “created in Christ Jesus to lead the life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance.”

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mar. 15: Is 65: 17-21; Jn 4: 43-54
Mar. 16: Ez 47: 1-9, 12; Jn 5: 1-16
Mar. 17: [St. Patrick, bishop] Is 49: 8-15; Jn 5: 17-30
Mar. 18: [St. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop & doctor of the Church] Ex 32: 7-14; Jn 5: 31-47
Mar. 19: [St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary] 2 Sm 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24a
Mar. 20: Jer 11: 18-20; Jn 7: 40-53
Mar. 21: Jer 31: 31-34; Heb 5: 7-9; Jn 12: 20-33; Jn 11: 1-45

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Wednesday, Mar. 17: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
Thursday, Mar. 18: Adoration 5-5:25pm at St. Mary's
Friday, Mar. 19: Stations of the Cross 6pm at St. John's
 K of C Fish Fry 4:30-7pm Drive Thru Only at St. John's
Sunday, Mar. 21: No Religious Ed or Bible Study at St. John's or Holy Family—Spring Break

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 csrtricebowl.org

Fourth Week of Lent: Trying New Foods in Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Asia, and many children suffer from stunting, which makes a big impact on a child's growth and future. Home gardens and fishponds are helping families provide better nutrition for their children. What do you eat to stay healthy? What can you do to ensure children have enough food to thrive?

Let us Pray: For farmers near and far, that they reap abundant harvests to feed their families, their communities and the world. For our community, that we may recognize the effects that our actions have on the environment, and those who cultivate the land for nourishment and livelihoods.

ROSARY REPAIR

If you are in need of rosary repair or have old rosaries to dispose of, contact Terry McVicker, 765-348-3141. She will repair your rosary free of charge. She also takes old rosaries and uses the parts to make repairs.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

1 SM 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A; PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6; EPH 5:8-14; JN 9:1-41

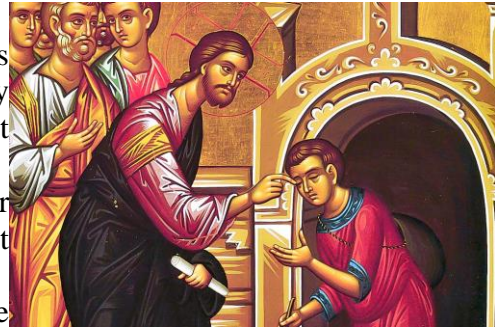
Our readings today identify the most unlikely individuals for the most extraordinary tasks. These individuals are examples to us in our lives.

In our First Reading, the Lord appoints Samuel to declare the next king of Israel. The Lord's words to Samuel about who should become king cut right to the heart of what matters in God's eyes, "man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart." We often embrace the misconception that things like status and appearance are what carry importance in life. Yet, God clearly states that it is what is in our hearts that matters most. So how do we cultivate hearts worthy of God? It starts in prayer — giving God undivided attention each day. Through this time set aside for our Lord, He will work on our hearts so that they will become more like His.

Our Gospel resounds what was proclaimed in our First Reading, "not as man sees does God see." Jesus heals a blind man who people assumed was born blind as a punishment from sin. Yet, Jesus says, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." Jesus often worked through the most vulnerable people to show His greatest works. Like the blind man, we must recognize our need for healing and give God the authority to work through us.

During these final weeks of Lent, let us ponder God's words, "not as man sees does God see." May we become dependent on our Lord so that He might work through us and transform us.

The DVD series, "*Eucharist: Discovering The Mass In The Bible*," will resume on April 11. The next two weeks are Spring Break then Easter. We meet in the parish hall downstairs 9:55-11am. Coffee and doughnuts are available. The April 11 session will be: **Apr. 11- Session 9: The Mass: Emmaus and the Mystery of the Eucharist**



Discernment

From a Latin word meaning "to separate or to distinguish between," it is the practice of listening for God's call in our lives and distinguishing between good and bad choices.

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK AT CARRY-IN

We will be celebrating St. Patrick with our March carry-in at Holy Family Church Sunday, March 21, after Mass with "SOUPS" for your tasting.

Please bring your favorite dishes to add to the fare: sandwiches, cheese, OR dessert.

AND REMEMBER, WE are celebrating St. Patrick so be sure to be wearing green.

Please join us for good fellowship, food and bingo. Covid rules will be followed.

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.

FISH FRIES ARE HERE....

The Knights of Columbus at St. John's will conduct their annual Lenten fish fries again—as drive thru only—last fish fry: March 19th, 4:30-7pm

Fish, potatoes, applesauce and cookie
Adults - \$9; Under 12 - \$5.



WEBSITE FEATURE: On the homepage of our website towards the bottom, you will find daily Vatican news and daily youtube information from the Vatican. Check it out at www.stmaryjohn.org.



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