

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

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**March 21, 2021**

**5th Sunday of Lent**

**Monday, March 22 at St. John's**

10:00a.m...Robert Heiser

**Tuesday, March 23**

0:00a.m...No Mass

**Wednesday, March 24 at St. John's**

12:00noon...John Bonvillian

**Thursday, March 25, at St. Mary's**

5:30p.m...Welfare of Wilma Swingley

**Friday, March 26, at Holy Family**

9:00a.m...Donald Johanning

**Saturday, March 27, at St. Mary's**

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

**Sunday, March 28**

9:00a.m...Betty Hewitt at St. John's

11:00a.m...Alice Fiely 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.



The Fifth Sunday of Lent is celebrated this year between two great feast days, the Solemnities of St. Joseph and the Annunciation of the Lord. These feast days are a great reminder of how the Church is calling us back to ourselves and our relationships to God and each other. As Cardinal Sarah—one of the top liturgists in the world—recently remarked, “The Church exists to give men to God and to give God to men. This is precisely the role of the liturgy: to worship God and to communicate divine grace to souls.” And the feast days of the Church gives us the chance to live this reality out. We are truly blessed through St. Joseph’s patronage of the Holy Family and Mary’s response to the Annunciation that we can now give ourselves so easily to God and God can easily now give us the graces and gifts that we need to exist well in this world.

These feast days mark the fact that St. Joseph and St. Mary’s *Yes* to God’s will for them demonstrates God’s eternal design to utilize our human free will to be part of salvation history. For us then we get to play our respective roles too when we say *Yes* to God and His Church and to each other as we proclaim the Gospel in our own unique ways in our families, schools, jobs, and wherever we find ourselves in this world. We are week away from Holy Week and the chance to once again experience Jesus’ victory on the Cross and the defeat of sin and death, but till then let us ask St. Joseph and St. Mary to finish Lent with great ardor and passion so we can experience the great joy of the empty tomb.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

**WALKING WITH CHRIST THROUGH LENT**

**Reflection:** *I will spend more time in prayer and reading my Bible to better acquaint myself with the words of Christ.*

*“When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out...” (Jn 3:16)*

My Offering to God:

I will try harder not to judge others and look to ways I can become more like Christ.

**HELP JESUS IN DISGUISE**

There is a special envelope in your packets for the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support for this collection gives aid to victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies help Jesus in the guise of the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and the poor and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this annual collection.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

*Tuesday, Mar. 23:* Women’s Bible Study 9-11am at St. John’s

*Wednesday, Mar. 24:* Rosary 4pm at Holy Family  
Finance Council 6pm at St. John’s  
K of C 7:30pm at St. John’s

*Thursday, Mar. 25:* Adoration 5-5:25pm at St. Mary’s

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

*Sunday, Mar. 28:* No Religious Ed or Bible Study at St. John’s or Holy Family—Spring Break

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**St. Mary’s**

Sunday Collection: \$739.00  
Catholic Relief Services: \$75.00  
Needed Weekly: \$887.87

**St. John’s**

Sunday Collection: \$2,217.00  
Catholic Relief Services: \$305.00  
Building Fund: \$100.00  
Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**Holy Family**

Sunday Collection: \$3,356.00  
Sharing Cupboard: \$60.00  
Catholic Relief Services: \$120.00  
Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

*When Jesus heard about the illness of His friend, Lazarus, He responded, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Every aspect of our lives – our sufferings as well as our gifts – can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessing for ourselves and others.”*

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

*Mar. 22:* Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8: 1-11  
*Mar. 23:* [St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop] Nm 21: 4-9; Jn 8: 21-30  
*Mar. 24:* Dn 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8: 31-42  
*Mar. 25:* [The Annunciation of the Lord] Is 7: 10-14; 8: 10; Heb 10: 4-10; Lk 1: 26-38  
*Mar. 26:* Jer 20: 10-13; Jn 10: 31-42  
*Mar. 27:* Ez 37: 21-28; Jn 11: 45-56  
*Mar. 28:* [Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord] Mk 11: 1-10; Is 50: 4-7; Phil 2: 6-11; Mk 14: 1-15: 47

**FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE**

Please remember in your prayers Nedra Lips, parishioner of St. John’s, who passed to eternal life this week. May her family be comforted by your continued prayers.

**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](http://crsricebowl.org)

**Fifth Week of Lent: Community in Madagascar**

Poor nutrition can lead to devastating long-term consequences for individuals, communities and entire countries. That’s why communities must work together to ensure that all children have access to better food and nutrition. New planting and cooking techniques are helping many communities in Madagascar improve the health and wellbeing of their children. How does your community work together for the good of others?

**Let us Pray:** For our sisters and brothers who experience drought, floods and other natural disasters that impact their livelihoods and access to food, that they receive the help they need to recover and become more resilient to a changing climate. For our community, that we may enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God’s mercy.

**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.



FISH FRIES ARE A SUCCESS....



THANK YOU to all who made this year's fish fries a HUGE success...and especially those who endured the drive-thru lines. We didn't know what to expect, but the response was overwhelming. Thank you from the Knights and Altar & Rosary.

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**

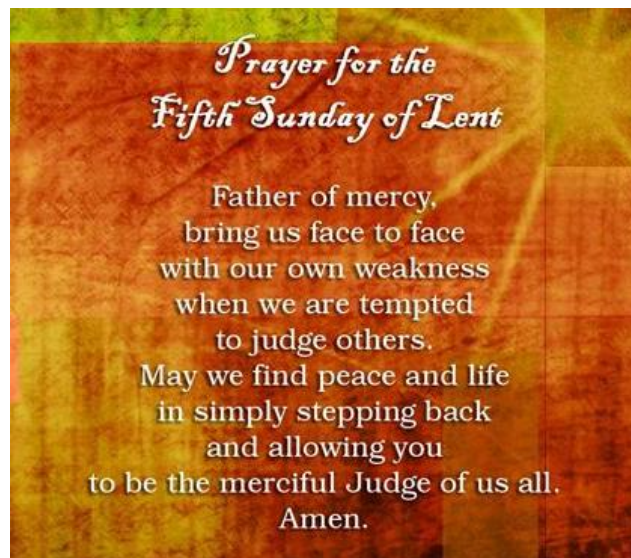
#### PRAY THE ROSARY

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.

**WEBSITE FEATURE:** On the homepage of our website tune in to Bishop Baron and daily Lenten reflections and Sunday Mass. Check it out at [www.stmaryjohn.org](http://www.stmaryjohn.org).



#### GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

JER 31:31-34; PS 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15; HEB 5:7-9; JN 12:20-33

As we are nearing the end of our Lenten journey, our readings today remind us of the goodness that our God has to offer us.



In today's Gospel, Jesus announces that the "hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." All that He came to do on this earth was soon to be fulfilled. When we reflect on what Jesus says in this passage, He tells us a great deal about how we should be living as disciples of Christ. He clearly states, "unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."

We are called to detach from our own desires and entrust our lives to all that God has in store for us. Without self-denial, we might miss occasions God has given us to produce good fruit. We have been practicing this throughout our Lenten season through fasting. One way to continue this effort after Lent is by taking advantage of the countless opportunities God presents to us to sacrifice our desires for something much greater – whether waking earlier to spend time in prayer, fasting from a favorite comfort on a weekly basis or taking the time to check in on a friend or family member instead of turning on the TV, just to name a few. It is important that we continue to make room for God and the good things He wants to produce in us all year long.

As our Lenten journey soon concludes, may we consider the ways in which we might continue the practice of self-denial by offering small, daily sacrifices to the Lord.

# HOLY WEEK

#### 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](mailto:DHolsten@parish.dol-in.org)  
Fr. Hurley's email: [fr.khurley@dol-in.org](mailto:fr.khurley@dol-in.org)  
Website: [www.stmaryjohn.org](http://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