



CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
July 25, 2021
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 26 at St. John's
 10:00a.m... Vera Johnson

Tuesday, July 27
 :00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, July 28 at St. John's
 12:00noon...Deceased of Cimino Family

Thursday, July 29 at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Megan Martin & Family

Friday, July 30 at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Matthew Christman

Saturday, July 31
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at St. Mary's

6:30p.m...Clinton Cizek at St. John's

Sunday, August 1
 9:00a.m...Bill & Pat Schantz at St. John's
 11:00a.m...Connie Atkinson at Holy Family



PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR JULY:

Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.



This Sunday and this week we celebrate the gift of life and family by both honoring our Grandparents and the elderly as well as celebrating Natural Family Planning Week. As Pope Francis has reflected, "Grandparents are the ring linking generations, to transmit to young people the experience of life and faith." The gift of life is truly passed through the generations, and we honor our parents and grandparents for their willingness to be open to life and to share their faith across time and space. In 1968 when Pope St. Paul VI wrote the encyclical *Humana Vitae*, he could not know how accurate and necessary his words and work would be fifty plus years later. As he wrote in the opening lines, "The transmission of human life is a most serious role in which married people collaborate freely and responsibly with God the Creator. It has always been a source of great joy to them, even though it sometimes entails many difficulties and hardships."

The joy and challenges of family life have been there from the very beginning in the Garden of Eden, and with Christ's coming into the world to destroy sin and death, He restores marriage and the family back to its original dignity and plan from the beginning of time. Natural Family Planning is one of the great recent teachings of the Church, which asks us all to reflect on the dignity of the human person within the context of marriage and family life and increases the bond between husbands and wives and really all members of the family. Anytime there are questions concerning human life, I hope you feel you can reach out to myself and the diocese for help and guidance that you might need to experience the full joy of life in the family. Let us continue to pray for healthy marriages and families and the openness to life in abundance for all of us.

In Christ,
 Fr. Hurley

Apologies for the bulletin in black and white. Our copier decided to break down and parts are on order. Therefore, *The Good News Letter* has been delayed until this week for mailing as well.

PIZZA AND ICE CREAM

St. Mary's will have a pizza supper and ice cream sundaes following Thursday's 5:30pm Mass this week, July 29th. All are invited.

St. John's is looking for a **preschool volunteer teacher** for the coming school year. If you are interested in helping our youngsters learn about their faith, contact Diana or Claire Aulbach. Classes meet on Sunday following 9am Mass until 11am.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, July 27: Women's Bible Study 9-11am at St. John's

Wednesday, July 28: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
 Finance Council 6pm at Holy Family

Thursday, July 29: Adoration 5pm at St. Mary's
Sunday, Aug. 1: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family

Friday we will hold a memorial Mass at 11am at St. John's for Pearl Scott who passed away early last summer during the COVID shutdown. All who knew Pearl are invited to attend. Her family will be here from California.

Knights of Columbus annual cookout will be held Sunday, August 15th at noon at the home of John & Karen Shields. All Knights, Prospective Knights, Knights Widows, and their families are invited. The Knights will provide the meat and beverages. Please bring a well-filled covered dish to share.

Located on the bulletin boards at each of our three parishes, there are bead and chain rosaries along with a pamphlet on praying the rosary. These have been donated through St. John's Altar & Rosary and made by Terry McVicker for the use of all our parishioners. Please take one for yourself or a loved one that may benefit from the prayers of the rosary and Mary's intercessions. Thank you, Terry.

NEW-TO-YOU-\$5 BAG SALE

Summer is here and the New-To-You Shop is filled to the gills with summer bargains for all ages. Fill a bag for \$5.

Hours: Thursday 11-5, Friday and Saturday 11-2.



WORLD GRANDPARENT'S DAY

The Holy Father has announced the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly to be celebrated on July 25. To honor and celebrate the contribution of grandparents and elderly to our families and society, His Eminence encourages all parishes nationwide to dedicate one Sunday Mass to grandparents and elderly in advance of the liturgical memorial of Ss. Joachim and Anne on July 26.

Our Pastorate has tentative plans for a grandparent's day celebration in September to pair World Day for Grandparents and National Grandparents' Day. Be watching upcoming bulletins and *The Good News Letter* for more details as they unfold.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$546.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$1,545.00

Building Fund: \$40.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

Sunday Collection: \$2,605.75

Sharing Cupboard: \$35.00

Votive: \$9.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

"The hand of the Lord feeds us," says the Psalmist, "he answers all our needs." Both Elisha's servant in the first reading and the disciples in the Gospel story who witnessed the feeding of the five thousand saw this happen and knew it to be true.

PRAYER CHAIN: To have someone prayed for or be one of those doing the praying, please contact Janice Jackson at 348-1521 or the office at 348-3889 or Marcia at 674-2605.

Please pray for all those parishioners and their families dealing with illness or difficulty.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

2 KGS 4:42-44; PS 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18; EPH 4:1-6; JN 6:1-15

The servant and the little boy in our readings today are excellent examples for us as Christian stewards. The servant gave the very best of what he had, and the boy gave all that he had, then God did the rest.

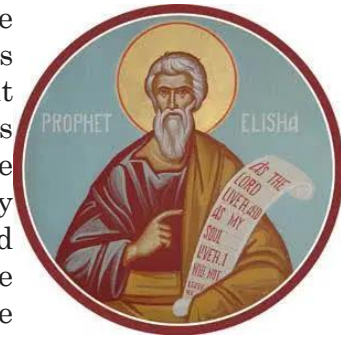
A key component of living as a good steward is constantly evaluating our lives, particularly our relationship with God to ensure we are not just scraping by but rather giving God our entire lives.

We should ask ourselves — "how am I giving God my time, using my talents, and sharing my treasures?"

We are called to give God adequate time each day. If we don't plan for this time, likely, He won't get any. We need to find what works best for us so that God can become a more significant part of our daily lives. We are also called to put our gifts and talents to good use too. The servant and the boy teach us that it is not up to us to decide how our gifts will affect others. God will do that. All we need to do is to give it well. Lastly, the servant reminds us that we are called to give the first fruits of our treasures. It is easy to give something; it is difficult to give the finest gift. Giving our best requires us to reevaluate our priorities in life.

When we strive to live out our call as Christian stewards by entrusting all that we have been given to the One who graciously gave us these gifts, we will be blessed beyond measure. As we begin a new week, let us spend some time evaluating our relationship with God by asking, 'what is my very best, and am I giving it to God?'

CMA Update: **As a pastorate we have surpassed the 50% mark and are now at 51% of our required goal with the appeal ending in December. Please help as you are able.**



NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a unique form of fertility education. Specifically, NFP is the title for the moral, natural and healthy, modern and scientifically reliable methods of family planning. These methods teach married couples how to identify and understand their combined signs of fertility. This information then helps married couples plan to achieve or postpone a pregnancy. NFP is morally good because it helps married couples respect God's design for married love. (Theresa Notare, PhD, Assistant Director, NFP Program, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Learn a method of Natural Family Planning in the comfort of your own home. Visit:

<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/nfp-home-study.cfm>.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

July 26: [Sts. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary] Ex 32: 15-24, 30-34; Mt 13: 31-35

July 27: Ex 33: 7-11; 34-5b-9, 28; Mt 13: 36-43

July 28: Ex 34: 29-35; Mt 13: 44-46

July 29: [St. Martha] Ex 40: 16-21, 34-38; Jn 11: 19-27

July 30: [St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop & doctor of the Church] Lv 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13: 54-58

July 31: [St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest] Lv 25: 1, 8-17; Mt 14: 1-12

Aug. 1: Ex 16: 2-4, 12-15; Eph 4: 17, 20-24; Jn 6: 24-35

PRAY THE ROSARY

Mary, Mother of the Americas, hear our prayer through the Holy Rosary for our political leaders, our nation and our communities, that we may truly be "One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for ALL".

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.



17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

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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