



CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
August 22, 2021
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, August 23 at St. John's
 10:00a.m...Severino Sulit

Tuesday, August 24
 :00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, August 25 at St. John's
 12:00noon...Molly Jo May

Thursday, August 26 at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Ambrose & Catherine Hartnagel

Friday, August 27 at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Peggy McPherson & Mildred Dailey

Saturday, August 28
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at St. Mary's

6:30p.m...Patricia Holt at St. John's

Sunday, August 29
 9:00a.m...Jack Cain at St. John's

11:00a.m...Janet Gutziller at Holy Family

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR AUGUST:

The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



As we start religious education this weekend at St. John's, it is also good to draw attention to one of our other key educational programs which is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). Each parish is highly encouraged to have some form of RCIA program since it is an integral part of the Kerygma, the proclamation of the Gospel to all peoples throughout the world, and that Gospel is focused on reminding all people that we were made out of love, for love, by the God who loves us unconditionally. As St. Augustine famously wrote centuries ago, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in God." There are so many people who are yearning for this relationship without fully knowing it and RCIA helps in this process.

We are blessed that we have coordinators at Holy Family and St. John's to help with this process and we provide multiple dates in the parish to attend, and we are always willing to work with candidates' schedules as necessary to help them on their journey. God freely choose to create our reality out of love, and the RCIA process is about exploring and learning about this primary fact. The Catholic Church exists to help us all on our respective journeys as God has decided to use human people, rituals, and institutions to gather his people and accomplish his plan of salvation. God delights in his creation and wants us all to experience his love here on earth, so we can enjoy it forever in eternity. If this is something you are interested in learning more about, please feel free to contact myself or our RCIA coordinators or Diana in the office and let us pray for our potential candidates as they discern God's call for themselves.

In Christ,
Fr. Hurley

"We can't have full knowledge all at once. We must start by believing; then afterwards we may be led on to master the evidence for ourselves."
— St. Thomas Aquinas

SPECIAL HAITI COLLECTION NEXT TWO WEEKENDS

Prompted by the massive earthquake and tropical storm that hit Haiti, Archbishop José H. Gomez, President of the USCCB, sent a letter to all bishops asking them to consider taking up a voluntary special collection as soon as possible to support the Church and humanitarian needs arising from this disaster. Bishop Doherty agrees with the urgent need for assistance and has agreed to have our parishes do a voluntary special collection this weekend and next. Bishop Doherty has also decided to assist from the Chancery by contributing \$25,000 to Haiti from a restricted fund that was established for the sole purpose of assisting in Haiti. This fund was created via specific donations for Haiti and not from Fruitful Harvest or the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Funds collected in this special appeal will be used to support the efforts of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church and/or Catholic Relief Services/Catholic Charities USA, the official relief agencies of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their local agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter, and medical care and aid in long-term rebuilding and recovery efforts. Contributions to this voluntary emergency collection will be used to assist in Haiti. However, if support to Haiti would become unnecessary, impractical, or impossible to fill, the USCCB may use the contributions for other emergency disaster relief where it is most needed as determined by the Committee on National Collections using its emergency response protocol. Extra baskets will be located at each of our parishes marked "**Haiti**". Thank you for helping our brothers and sisters in need.

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Danny Sharpe, father of Danette Hamilton, parishioner of St. Mary's, who passed to eternal life this past week. May his family be comforted by your prayers.

AID TO AFRICA

Special envelopes were included in your envelope packet for our annual collection to Aid Africa. Please deposit them in the regular collection basket through the end of August. Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Aug. 23: [St. Rose of Lima, virgin] 1 Thes 1: 1-5; 8b-10; Mt 23: 13-22
Aug. 24: [St. Bartholomew, apostle] Rv 21: 9b-14; Jn 1: 45-51
Aug. 25: [St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, priest] 1 Thes 2: 9-13; Mt 23: 27-32
Aug. 26: 1 Thes 3: 7-13; Mt 24: 42-51
Aug. 27: [St. Monica] 1 Thes 4: 1-8; Mt 25: 1-13
Aug. 28: [St. Augustine, bishop & doctor of the Church] 1 Thes 4: 9-11; Mt 25: 14-30
Aug. 29: Dt 4: 1-2, 6-8; Jas 1: 17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, Aug. 24: Women's Bible Study 9-11am at St. John's
Wednesday, Aug. 25: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
Sunday, Aug. 29: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family

WE NEED YOU!

The religious education team at Holy Family is in need of at least two individuals willing to share their love of our faith with our students. **The 4th & 5th grade class and the 6th, 7th, & 8th grade class both need a teacher.** Just so you know Confirmation will take place in high school, so the junior high teacher(s) would not need to focus on Confirmation. Currency, Kristina Slater will be working with the preschool through 1st grade, Alexandria Christman & Kaleb Moore will be working with the 2nd & 3rd graders, and Christina Christman will be with the high school students. All classes meet downstairs at Holy Family from 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM before Sunday Mass. Helping the youth of our parish will encourage continued growth in our church. Thank You!

PRAY THE ROSARY

Set aside time with Mary through prayer of the rosary for a safe, successful school year that administration, teachers, parents and students may strive for quality education and growth of our young people.

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.

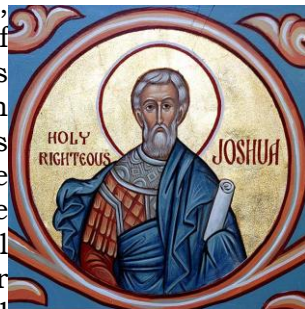
WELCOME BACK St. John's and St. Mary's students and teachers to an exciting year of religious education. May you be filled with the Holy Spirit to grow in the knowledge and love of our Catholic Faith! Holy Family will begin RE classes on September 12. Registration is this weekend!

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

JOS 24:1-2A, 15-17, 18B; PS 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21; EPH 5:21-32 OR 5:2A, 25-32; JN 6:60-69

Our readings offer us examples of how we should be living, and they present us with an opportunity to make a radical change in our lives.

In our first reading, Joshua tells the leaders of the Israelites to decide as to who they shall serve in this life. As he presents them with this choice, he boldly states, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Who or what does your household



serve? Whether you are a household of one or twelve, now is the time to decide, 'will we serve the Lord?'

We are constantly bombarded with endless distractions around us. It can be very easy to serve other 'gods' in our lives. For instance, putting technology (phone, internet, TV), kids' extracurricular activities, our jobs, or our social lives before the Lord.

We also might be putting these things above our loved ones, and if we are doing that, then we are putting them above our relationship with God.

With this in mind, we must strive each day to intentionally live as disciples of Christ. It starts with commitment — incorporating personal daily prayer and increasing that prayer week by week, incorporating prayer into our marriages and families, frequenting the sacraments, and serving others. Through this time with the Lord and service to those around us, He will reveal to us where to go next.

Reflect on how you may not be putting God first in your life and decide to respond like the Israelites, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods... Therefore, we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."



A Student's Prayer for a New School Year

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$538.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,229.00

Building Fund: \$5.00

Pantry: \$100.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

Sunday Collection: \$1,794.00

Sharing Cupboard: \$80.00

Votive: \$6.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

In today's first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God's faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, "We also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." May we, too, be mindful of God's gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve Him with grateful hearts.



21st 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