



CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE
September 5, 2021
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Sept. 6, Labor Day, at St. John's
 9:00a.m...Sr. Marguerite Coyne

Tuesday, Sept. 7
 :00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, Sept. 8 at St. John's
 12:00noon...Patricia McCammon

Thursday, Sept. 9 at St. Mary's
 5:30p.m...Special Intention

Friday, Sept. 10 at Holy Family
 9:00a.m...Melvin & Jackie Jenson

Saturday, Sept. 11
 5:00p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at St. Mary's
 6:30p.m...Buckmaster Family at St. John's

Sunday, Sept. 12
 9:00a.m...Jerry Trant at St. John's
 11:00a.m...Patricia Kalbac at Holy Family

We celebrate Labor Day this weekend, and hopefully enjoy a respite from our work. For many of our families though, they will be performing some kind of work, whether in their fields, communities, sports, or school activities. The gift of work is a unique one to reflect about in our daily lives. As Pope Francis once wrote, "Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. Work, to use an image, 'anoints' us with dignity, fills us with dignity, makes us similar to God, who has worked and still works, who always acts." Work has always played a role in our faith and culture, and hopefully, it helps us in forming ourselves and our communities. Work becomes a means by which dignity is upheld and developed for all peoples throughout the world and is one of the things that carries over from the days of Adam and Eve.

In fact, as one spiritual writer wrote, "It may be said in all truth that there is no means of sanctification more efficacious, more practical, than the *supernaturalizing* of our ordinary actions— and this means is within the reach of everyone." This means that in our work we get to even incorporate our spiritual thoughts and actions, transforming ordinary actions into supernatural ones that unites us to the Body of Christ. This, of course, does not mean that work and workers have not faced abuse and issues in the past, and it is part of our Christian heritage to ensure that all workers are treated with the dignity that they deserve. I hope and pray that we continually ask St. Joseph, the patron saint of workers, to guide us in our respective work and ministries as we continue to sanctify our world and lives with our humble works of faith, hope, and love. St. Joseph, pray for us.

In Christ,
 Fr. Hurley

"I am sent not only to love God but to make Him loved. It is not enough for me to love God, if my neighbor does not love Him."
 — St. Vincent de Paul

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR SEPTEMBER:

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle:
 We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

St Mary's Altar and Rosary will meet Monday, September 13 at 6:00pm, all women of the parish are welcome.

We will be discussing our parish's upcoming 125th anniversary. Hope to see you there.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

- Sept. 6: [Labor Day] Col 1: 24-2: 3; Lk 6: 6-11
- Sept. 7: Col 2: 6-15; Lk 6: 12-19
- Sept. 8: [The Nativity of the blessed virgin Mary] Mi 5: 1-4a; Mt 1: 1-16, 18-23
- Sept. 9: [St. Peter Claver, priest] Col 3: 12-17; Lk 6: 27-38
- Sept. 10: 1 Tm 1: 1-2, 12-14; Lk 6: 39-42
- Sept. 11: 1 Tm 1: 15-17; Lk 6: 43-49
- Sept. 12: Is 50: 4c-9a; Jas 2: 14-18; Mk 8: 27-35

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

- St. Mary's**
 Sunday Collection: \$446.00
 Haiti Emergency: 111.00
 Needed Weekly: \$887.87
- St. John's**
 Sunday Collection: \$3,125.60
 Building Fund: \$100.00
 Pantry: \$100.00
 Haiti Emergency: \$515.00
 Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23
- Holy Family**
 Sunday Collection: \$1,610.00
 Sharing Cupboard: \$40.00
 Votive: \$21.00
 Haiti Emergency: \$112.00
 Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

The good steward must not show favoritism. The rich may have many material gifts to share, but St. James reminds us in the second reading that God has chosen the World's poor to be rich in faith and inheritors of God's kingdom.

Holy Family Religious Education classes begin next Sunday, September 12.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

IS 35:4-7A; PS 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; JAS 2:1-5; MK 7:31-37

Today's readings offer us a message of hope — God is with us and wants to heal us. May this message come ablaze in our hearts so that we might live with unwavering faith. The Gospel presents us with the story of the profound physical healing of a deaf man with a speech impediment. People brought him to Jesus and begged for his healing. Jesus took the man off by himself, touched his ears and his tongue, then proclaimed, "Be opened!" Immediately he was healed.



This story in our Gospel overwhelms us with comfort and peace because we have a compassionate God who sees our physical needs. Yet if we reflect further on this reading, we see that God uses this moment of physical healing as an opportunity to restore something much deeper—our souls. Often, we are blind and deaf to God in our lives. We miss countless opportunities to see God working in our day-to-day moments—through our loved ones, our community, or even a stranger. We miss the quiet voice of Jesus in our hearts telling us to choose Him instead of sin, respond in love instead of anger, or care for someone else in a moment instead of ourselves. These are how we need to be spiritually healed. And the scriptures remind us that God is with us and wants to heal us. This week let us seek God to heal our souls and transform our hearts. Let us pray that our eyes and our ears might "be open" to His workings, words, and promptings in our lives.





September 12 is National Grandparent's Day in the United States. In connection with Pope Francis World Day for Grandparents in July, our pastorate has planned a Grandparent's Day gathering to be held in the parish hall at St. John's on **Sunday, September 12th, 2-4pm**. Kids are invited to bring a grandparent (biological or adopted for the day) or grandparents bring a grandchild. Parents will be coordinating the day so grandparents and grandkids can enjoy together.

We will play bingo with prizes, have snack foods and drinks, and have memory sharing booklets available. **This is a pastorate sponsored event.** All in our pastorate are invited, no cost for the event, just come celebrate our grandparents and their heritage.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Join together in prayer with Mary and thousands of others around the world in solidarity with those in Haiti and Afghanistan for peace and stability.

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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Monday, Sept. 6: Labor Day Mass 9am at St. John's

Tuesday, Sept. 7: Women's Bible Study 9-11am at St. John's

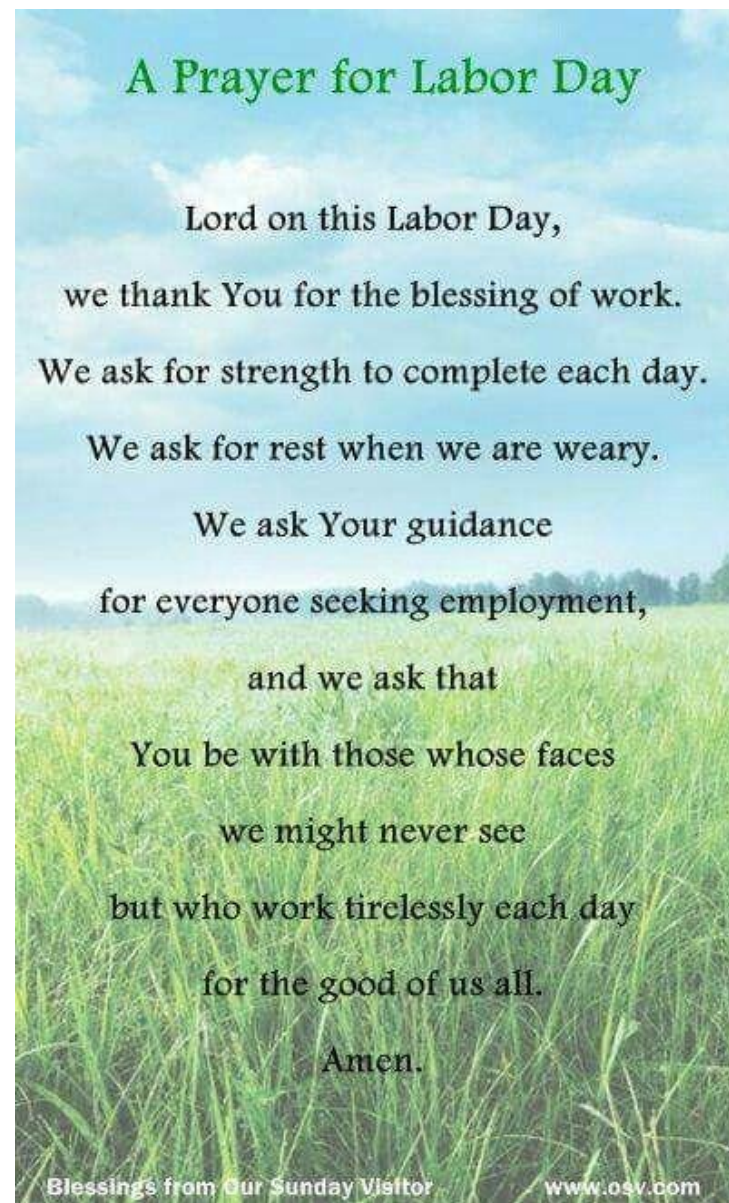
Wednesday, Sept. 8: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family

Saturday, Sept. 11: Food Pantry at St. Mary's

Sunday, Sept. 12: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
Grandparents' Day Bingo 2-4 at St. John's

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Save the date of Sunday, October 3rd. We are planning a blessing of animals in celebration of St. Francis of Assisi feast day which is October 4. Any type of animal is welcome, but must be contained. Details will be forthcoming.



A Prayer for Labor Day

Lord on this Labor Day,
we thank You for the blessing of work.
We ask for strength to complete each day.
We ask for rest when we are weary.
We ask Your guidance
for everyone seeking employment,
and we ask that
You be with those whose faces
we might never see
but who work tirelessly each day
for the good of us all.
Amen.

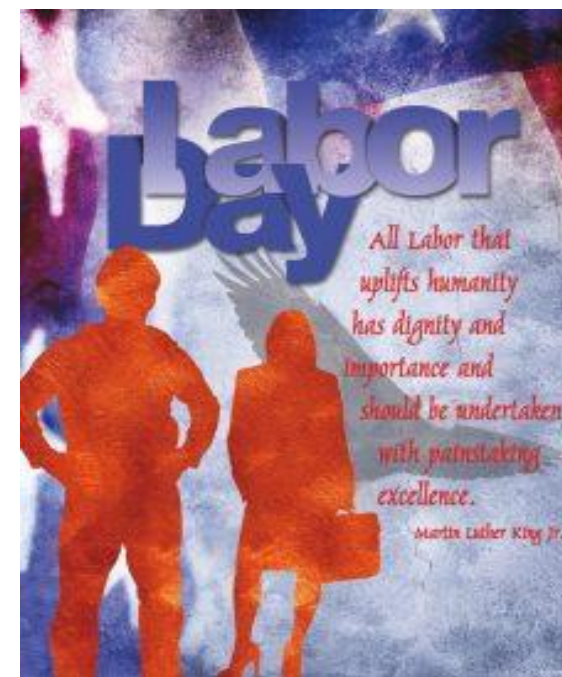
Blessings from Our Sunday Visitor www.osv.com

CMA STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP:

December 31st is the final date of this campaign for payments. If you would be willing to give towards this, please contact Fr. Hurley or Diana in the office at 765-348-3889.

Thank you to each who have offered a pledge and to those who have offered prayers for the Catholic Ministries Appeal success and the benefits it provides to us and our diocese as a whole.

Today's Gospel invites us to consider how we witness the healing presence of Christ in our care for and ministry to those who are sick. Pray together for those who are sick. After each person is named, pray, "Jesus, heal us."



23rd 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