



This weekend and the next few weeks we as a pastorate will have the opportunity to fill out surveys to assist myself and our pastoral council in developing a vision plan for all three parishes, St. Mary's, Holy Family, and St. John's. We have been posting in the bulletin these past months many articles and concepts concerning Uniting in Heart, and the parish vision plan is one of the key aspects of this planning process. Myself and the pastoral council have been meeting with our consultants on this part of the plan, and now we all have the opportunity to contribute with our feedback with the pastorate survey. The survey itself takes approximately 15 minutes to work on, but it will help us in working on the pillars of the Uniting in Heart in ways that are unique and specific to our parishes, parishioners, and communities.

Our pillars include a mission component, a community, and a witness one. And in each one of these pillars, the survey will allow us to hone in on how we can live these out for ourselves and for building up the kingdom of God in our area. There is a place too for written comments in case you want to share additional thoughts or comments on our parishes. Each pillar will have specific goals as well, which will help us in our planning and implementation process. I hope and pray that you will take the time to fill out these surveys, as it will have a direct impact on how we govern and teach in our parishes in the days to come. This will be a plan for us for three years, so we hope this will be a fruitful process for all of us.

In Christ,
Fr. Hurley

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 674-7608.

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

AID FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS

Again, I'm coming to you with a special and optional appeal for storm relief, this time related to hurricane Ida which hit the Gulf Coast and Northeastern States very hard. Catholic Charities USA, along with their local agencies, are already hard at work providing humanitarian relief and will be with communities over their extended recovery. 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 latest disaster in the USA and to assist in other disasters throughout hurricane season. Bishop Doherty agrees with the need for assistance and has asked to have our parishes do a voluntary special collection the weekend of September 18 & 19.

Thank you for helping us to quickly respond to this disaster and God bless you all.

A special basket will be available at each of our churches this weekend or donations can be sent to the office by next weekend.

Matt McKillip,
Chief Financial Officer for the Diocese

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Anna Cimino, parishioner of St. John's, who passed to eternal life last week. May her family be comforted by your prayers.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, Sept. 21: Women's Bible Study 9-11am at St. John's

Wednesday, Sept. 22: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
K of C 7:30pm at St. John's

Saturday, Sept. 25: Haiti at St. John's

Sunday, Sept. 26: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
Haiti at St. John's

Holy Family now has a lending library in the front vestibule of church. Please take advantage of the religious reading materials.



Our pastorate would like to congratulate and welcome Corra Ann Watson, daughter of Daniel & Zena Watson, who received the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend at Holy Family Church. May her gift of faith continue to grow through our prayers.

September 19, is Catechetical Sunday. It is the day when we bless and pray for all who share the Word of God and the teachings of the Church with others.

We offer special prayers and thanks for our religious ed teachers as they share the faith with our youth.

At St. John's: Anya Uggen, Kayli Henderson, Amy Henderson, Corey Hardesty, Eric Cale, Lisa Rinker, and Claire Aulbach

At Holy Family: Kristina Slater, Alexandria Christman & Kaleb Moore, Anne Soultz, and Christina Christman.

We are still in need of a teacher for jr. high school.

Photos Needed for St. Mary's 125th Anniversary Celebration

If you have any old or current photos of St. Mary's church, priests, sacraments, or activities and would like for them to be included in a video, please put in an envelope with your name on it and give to Sara Grady Kolodka. She will scan them and return them to you. If possible, please get them to Sara by the end of September.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Sept. 20: [Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, martyrs] Ezr 1: 1-6; Lk 8: 16-18

Sept. 21: [St. Matthew, apostle & evangelist] Eph 4: 1-7, 11-13; Mt 9: 9-13

Sept. 22: Ezr 9: 5-9; Lk 9: 1-6

Sept. 23: [St. Pius of Pietrelcina, priest] Hg 1: 1-8; Lk 9: 7-9

Sept. 24: Hg 2: 1-9; Lk 9: 18-22

Sept. 25: Zec 2: 5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9: 43b-45

Sept. 26: Nm 11: 25-29; Jas 5: 1-6; Mk 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

LITURGY SCHEDULE

September 19, 2021
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Sept. 20

10:00a.m...Bill & Pat Schantz

Tuesday, Sept. 21

10:00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, Sept. 22 at St. John's

12:00noon...Robert Heiser

Thursday, Sept. 23 at St. Mary's

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

Friday, Sept. 24 at Holy Family

9:00a.m...Helen & Norman Jones

Saturday, Sept. 25

5:00p.m...Richard Voskuhl at St. Mary's

6:30p.m...Gary Litton at St. John's

Sunday, Sept. 26

9:00a.m...Bob & Carol O'Rourke at St. John's

11:00a.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at Holy Family

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.

PASTORATE VISION PLAN

A team of parishioners has joined our pastor in an effort to identify future initiatives for our parish by focusing on certain priorities for the upcoming year. These priorities will be determined by YOU, our parishioners, through an upcoming survey. This week everyone will receive a postcard with information about how to access the survey online. If you do not have internet access, paper copies will be available. Please take 10 to 15 minutes to prayerfully read through and answer the questions. Survey results will be anonymous and will be thoughtfully evaluated and taken into consideration as we plan for the exciting future priorities of our parish.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$516.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,432.00

Building Fund: \$40.00

Pantry: \$20.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

Sunday Collection: \$2,130.00

Sharing Cupboard: \$38.00

Votive: \$14.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

Today's second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the Psalmist, "Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness."



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. This will take place in the vacant lot just east of St. Mary's from 2-4pm. All pets are invited...along with their owners.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

WIS 2:12, 17-20; PS 54:3-4, 5, 6, 8; JAS 3:16-4:3; MK 9:30-37

Our readings today bring to light the daily struggle between good and evil and how we can combat this struggle through gratitude.

In our Gospel, we see an example of how surrendering to our passions negatively affects us. Jesus was with His disciples when they began to argue amongst themselves as to who was the greatest in the group.

If we look at our own lives, we might find many instances where we fall into the same tendencies — we constantly compare ourselves to others, out of pride we feel the need to point out another's faults or choose to fight back in an argument. We know we should act one way but choose another.

When Jesus hears what the apostles are discussing, He has them focus on a child. "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me."

If we reflect on the moment someone receives a child, oftentimes their hearts are overwhelmed with joy and gratitude for this gift. There is no jealousy or anger, just thanksgiving, and appreciation.

The apostles are busy bickering about who was the best. Their vision was clouded, and they could not even stop and be grateful for the gift to be so close to our Savior and that they were chosen to be His closest followers.

When we are caught in the raging war of jealousy, fighting, and pride, and begin to become enslaved to our passions we are ultimately being ungrateful for what we have been given. We overlook the blessing God has given us and the gifts and talents He has entrusted to us.

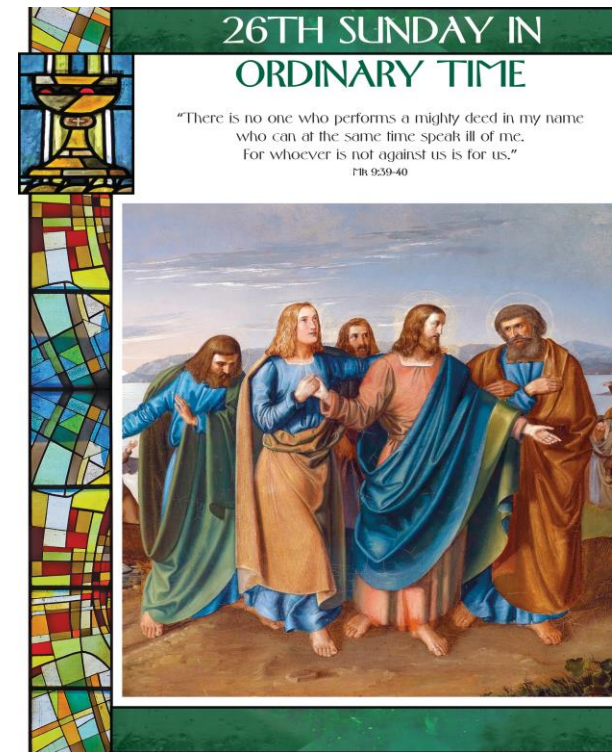
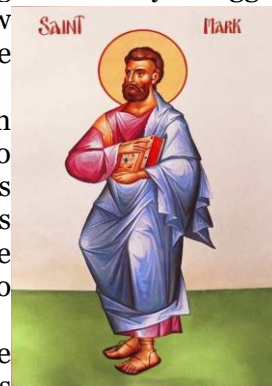
Today, let us recall that we have an infinitely loving God who cares deeply for us. Consider all that He has blessed you with, and how you can use those blessings for His glory.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Let us pray for our Catechists that teach our children through religious education classes, that they may instill a love of faith in our youth.

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.



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