

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY 23, 2018

A FEW WORDS FROM FR. DAVE:

Continued thoughts and commentary on highlighted items in my prayer books.

Religious Education, a task that is primarily their own (that of husband and wife)

Vat II Gaudium et spes

During the baptismal ritual there is a section that conveys to the parents: You will be the first teachers of your child in the ways of faith. May you also be the very best of teachers.

Two of my assignments have been in parishes that had schools. Until college I had never gone to a Catholic School, so I was "uncommitted" until after I had been at these places. I understand that Catholic Schools have been excellent for many people – including my parents. But as a priest I became less committed to the importance of Catholic Schools. The biggest problem I noticed was the parental attitude of "I send my kids to the Catholic School; therefore, I've done my duty as a Catholic parent." I could write pages on this, but I just found it so sad. A good chunk of families did not attend Sunday Mass, so the "good Catholic parents" did not even attend Mass on the Lord's Day, so their kids learned attendance at Mass was not important. But that was okay, since their kids got religion and church at the Catholic School.

In parishes without schools, there is even less time to help form children in the faith. But my point is the same. Children will learn their religion more from their parents than from any school or Religious Education program.

DJN

Parents are the first teachers of their children and the family is the first school

~Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church



MARCH 2, 4:30-7PM

MARCH 16, 4:30-7PM

**ST. JOHN'S PARISH
HALL**

\$9 Adults; \$5 ages 5-12

**Children 4 and under
are free**

All-you-can-eat Fish,
Scalloped Potatoes,
coleslaw, applesauce,
drink and dessert

Desserts are provided by
St. John's

Altar & Rosary Members

All proceeds benefit
parish and community
projects throughout the year.





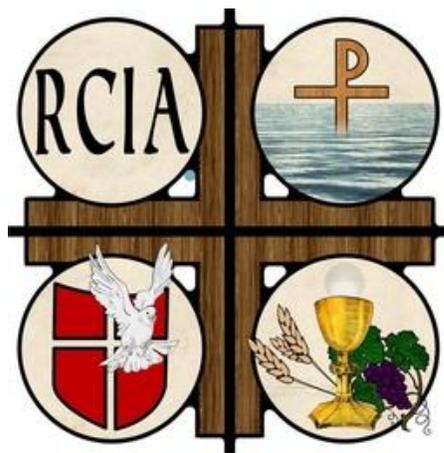
UP FOR A SPRING DAY TRIP?

To Ladies of our cluster parishes: You are cordially invited to visit and tour the Victory Noll campus in Huntington, Indiana on Saturday, April 7.

Come and see Sister Rita's motherhouse, the "**Victory Noll Center**" for retreats and conferences, "**St Anne Retirement Community at Victory Noll**" and the "**Acres at Victory Noll Land Trust**". We will be guests of St Anne's for lunch and there is no other fee for the day; donations are accepted if you wish.

Carpooling will leave St John's parking lot at 9 am, returning around 3 or 3:30 pm. For any questions call Sister Rita at 260 - 402 - 5034.

RSVP to Sr. Rita or Diana at 348-3889 by Wednesday, March 28.



RITE OF THE ELECT

The RCIA process welcomes anyone who has a desire to know more about the Catholic Church and grow in your relationship with God. RCIA is tailored to welcome and respect each person on their unique journey of faith. There is no set time frame; everyone will proceed at their own comfort level with the help and support of our RCIA team.

Persons enter the Catholic Church when they are ready, with many adults who are not baptized entering the Church at the Easter Vigil. Those who are already baptized are received into full communion with the Catholic Church also at the Easter Vigil, and some at various other times throughout the year depending upon their faith background and their readiness. This year at the Easter Vigil we will welcome Carol Neff into our faith family.

Carol will travel to the cathedral in Lafayette for the next step in her process as she becomes an Elect. The Rite of Election includes the enrollment of names of all the Catechumens seeking baptism at the coming Easter Vigil. The Catechumens, their sponsors and families gather at the cathedral church. The Catechumens publicly express their desire for baptism to the diocesan bishop. Their names are recorded in a book and they are called the Elect.

The days of Lent are the final Period of Purification and Enlightenment leading up to the Easter Vigil. Lent is a period of preparation marked by prayer, study, and spiritual direction for the Elect, and prayers for them by the parish communities. The Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation takes place during the Easter Vigil Liturgy on Holy Saturday when the Elect receives the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. At this time Carol will be fully initiated into the Catholic Church.

This is a parish-wide project of evangelization and formation with each parishioner reaching out to others with the invitation to consider following the Way of Jesus in the Catholic Faith. Let each of us continue this parish-wide process through prayer for those going through the RCIA process asking the Lord to guide them through Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion.

RCIA meets at St. John's usually on the first, second and third Wednesdays in the parish hall 6-7:30pm. For more information about RCIA, please contact Fr. Dave.



WHAT'S THE SMOKE FOR?

This will be a new section running this year in *The Good News Letter*. Last year we ran a piece on Mary each month, this year we will focus on Catholic furniture, fixtures, sacramentals and icons.

Our next item should be very familiar to each of us, especially during the Lenten time of year: **The Stations of the Cross.**

“The Stations of the Cross is one of the most popular devotional practices of the Catholic Church. It’s fundamental concept of a spiritual journey through the last days of Jesus’ life is rooted in a deep human need to see, touch, and experience places of personal, historic, or religious importance.”

Preached by the Franciscan Friars, the devotion follows Jesus on his last journey from his trial to his tomb through 14 “stations” or settings. In 1991 Pope John Paul II on Good Friday added one more station: The Resurrection, to make 15.

“Today’s Stations of the Cross are characterized as a meditation on Jesus’ obedience unto death, God’s unending love, and our human frailty. Lent, with its baptismal and penitential emphasis, is well suited for the celebration of this devotion.

It should be the intent of the people who enter into this devotion and walk with Jesus through the Holy Week experience, to change their lives into becoming more like Christ, the giver of life.

HELP JESUS IN DISGUISE

Christ is standing at the door of our hearts, knocking, seeking relief from the pain and suffering found around the world. He comes to us bearing the disguise of the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and the poor and marginalized, and our faith calls us to respond. The support of our parish to The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSCO) answers this call and comforts Christ, whom we find in the suffering brothers and sisters in our midst.

Our support of this collection gives aid to victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. More information can be found on insert in this newsletter. Envelopes can be found in your packets. Collection will be taken on March 11.

FRUITFUL HARVEST UPDATE

The 2016 Fruitful Harvest Campaign has rounded the bend and is heading to the homestretch. Is your pledge up-to-date? All payments must be made by August, 2018.

St. Mary’s is to be congratulated. They have surpassed their assessed goal of \$12,635 with current payments totaling \$13,668; therefore, they received a 10% rebate check last week. Payments can continue to be made toward the pledged amount of \$17,613. At this point anything over the goal will be returned to the parish at 50%.

St. John’s has a ways to go yet for their assessed goal of \$45,340 to be reached. Current payments total \$38,130, leaving a minimum of \$7,210 to be covered by August to reach our required goal.

Please check where you stand on your pledged amount and do what you can to help us reach our goal. If you have a question about your pledged amount or issues receiving your statement, please contact Diana at the parish office. Many thanks to all who have and are paying their pledges. This not only helps our parishes, but the diocese as a whole.



PLAN A TRIP TO SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS

'Walking in the Footsteps of a Saint'

Join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, for the upcoming workshop "Walking in the Footsteps of a Saint," scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 3, at the Providence Hall Community Room. Be inspired by the life and legacy of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin while praying with scripture and Saint Mother Theodore's own words. Take your own pilgrimage while walking in her footsteps at the very places she did. Enjoy time for meditation, music and sharing. Cost is \$45, which includes lunch, and the registration deadline is Feb. 26. Register online at Events.SistersofProvidence.org or by calling 812-535-2952 or emailing jfrost@spsmw.org.

Sisters to host 'Praying with the Mystics'

Join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, for the upcoming workshop, "Praying with the Mystics: Hildegard of Bingen, Teresa of Avila and Catherine of Siena," scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday, March 10, at Providence Spirituality & Conference Center. During the workshop, explore the lives of these women, examine their writings, worlds and prayer. Cost to attend is \$45, which includes lunch, and the registration deadline is March 5. Register online at Events.SistersofProvidence.org or by calling 812-535-2952 or emailing jfrost@spsmw.org.

Get to know the Sisters of Providence!

In honor of National Catholic Sisters Week, the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, invite you to get to know us. Come have a meal with us and ask any questions you may have about life as a vowed sister. Get an inside look at the life of sisters today – and meet some pretty incredible women! Come any day from March 8 to 14, at 11:30 a.m., for lunch or at 5 p.m., for supper. Enjoy your meal with the sisters in Providence Hall Dining Room. Following either meal, you can choose to participate in an informal tour of the historic Providence Hall convent or choose to view a short video about the sisters today. The meals are free, but seating is limited and early registration is required. Sign up today at MeettheSistersMeal.SistersofProvidence.org or by calling or texting Sister Editha Ben at 812-230-4771.

'Come and See' life as a Sister of Providence

Bring hope to life! Come and See life as a Sister of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. The Sisters of Providence invite single Catholic women ages 18-42 to a Come and See weekend retreat April 6-8, 2018, at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. On this free retreat, you can deepen your prayer life, get an inside look at the life of the Sisters of Providence and spend time discerning where God is calling you. Learn more and register at ComeandSee.SistersofProvidence.org or by calling Sister Editha Ben at 812-230-4771 (call or text) or email eben@spsmw.org.

LENT 2018

"The Mass/Eucharist as Heart and Center of our Parish and Individual Life"

St Mary's, Dunkirk and
St. John's, Hartford City
Mar 7-8 Mar 21-22

Lent is here! How are you doing on the call to turn away from sin...and the follow-up call to be faithful to the Gospel?

There are two remaining sessions for you to join in this **Lenten retreat** focused on **the Mass/Eucharist as Heart and Center of our parish and individual lives: March 7-8, March 21-22**

This retreat is offered at both St John's and St Mary's parish halls; one is daytime and the other is evening in hopes that all can find a workable time to join the group.

Explore the Mass as Easter all year long, our Risen Lord present and active in Word and Bread, the meaning of Eucharistic adoration, and more. Input, group sharing and a take-home reflection sheet will be offered as well as quiet time for individual prayer and reflection.

All are welcome to come, pray, reflect, be enriched and to go deeper with God! Any questions: call Sister Rita at 260-402-5034 or email at ritalmusante@gmail.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Our junior and senior high youth group at St. John's has been active over the winter months. Prior to Christmas they went to Muncie and shopped for the Secret Santa program gathering much needed items for families in need.



Then in January, they met in the parish hall after Sunday class and made rosaries that will be donated to local hospitals for use by patients and or family members.



That same day they pulled double-duty by volunteering their cleaning efforts in the kitchen by washing cabinets, warmer trays, the stove and other areas. We thank you, students, very much for your service to our parish and the local community. Keep up the generous spirit!



ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER

May the strength of God
pilot us,
May the power of God
preserve us,
May the wisdom of God
instruct us,
May the hand of God
protect us,
May the way of God
direct us,
May the shield of God
defend us against the
snares of evil and the
temptations of the world.

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB

Our cluster parishes of St. Mary's and St. John's now has a website. Check us out at: stmaryjohn.org.

We will post weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters on the site as well as a calendar and other parish happenings. The daily scripture readings are on there as well as a feature from Fr. Robert Barron and the Catholic Moment publication.

By Easter we are hoping to add the feature of online contributions.

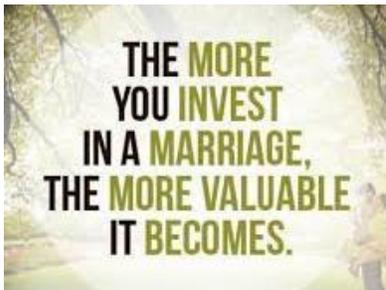
SPRING RUMMAGE MARCH 24

The semi-annual rummage fundraiser for St. John's Altar & Rosary is set for Saturday, March 24. Clean out your closets, dressers, garages, cabinets, etc. and plan to join us. Tables rent for \$10 each. You price and sell your own goods and keep your proceeds. This will be held in the parish hall and we will cover advertising for you.

Contact Megan Trissel or the parish office to reserve your table(s). This is open to all.

ARE YOUR BRACKETS BUSTED?

Last month's edition of *The Good News Letter* featured a Lent Madness Saint bracket sheet in which we invited you to fill in your brackets and study the saints and the lessons their lives can pass on to each of us. Here is a list of the first eight saints advancing to round two: From the Biblical region was Peter and John; Monastics and Martyrs were Maria and Quiteria; Anna and Edith made it from Mostly Modern and Richard and Margaret finished out the miscellaneous division. The second set of eight from round one will square off next week. Watch the bulletin to see who advances.



INVEST IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Want to learn the secret to living your marriage sacrament freely, totally, faithfully and fruitfully? Come learn Natural Family Planning; it's highly effective and can do wonders for your relationship. Invest in your marriage and see big payoffs. Couples who have learned to embrace their shared fertility as a blessing have discovered their communication, relationship, and love life are better with Natural Family Planning.

A series of classes is beginning soon in your area. To find out more or to register, contact Susan and Louis Hoefler, shoefler@dol-in.org or call/text 765-421-1998.

SUFFERING AFTER ABORTION... HEALING IS POSSIBLE

If you are suffering after abortion, you may feel very alone. You may have experienced abortion many years ago and never told anyone. You may be struggling with a more recent abortion. You may have been denied the choice you wanted or the support you needed. Regardless of the circumstances, healing is possible.

Has the secret agony of abortion robbed you of time and peace? Have you felt that your life has been put on hold? The secret to peace with God is to discover, accept, and appreciate His perfect timing and His perfect forgiveness. Right now is the time to heal broken hearts and allow God to restore the treasure of our souls." - Yvonne Forezak-Seeman, Author of [A Time to Speak: A Healing Journey for the Post-abortive Women.](#)

"If you are a woman, or a man, who, in the aftermath of abortion, has struggled with guilt or shame. If you have a fear of rejection and so have stayed away from the Church please understand this: God has never failed to love you and neither have we. Despite the Church's prophetic stand against abortion, we are just as adamant about mercy and forgiveness. It is the heart of the Church's ministry to celebrate God's healing and forgiveness. It has been my privilege as a priest to reconcile many women and men who have, at some point in the past, chosen abortion. God is rich in mercy and it is a great joy to announce, celebrate and confer that mercy." - Msgr. Charles Pope, priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC.

"We know that God's mercy and his healing grace are freely available to every repentant heart. Yet those who have been involved in abortion bear such awful wounds that many despair of ever being forgiven by God. How often we hear it said, regarding a past abortion: 'I have committed an unforgivable sin'?" - Cardinal Daniel DiNardo at the 2011 Fall General Assembly of United States Bishops

If you or someone you know has experienced an abortion, we can help. Please contact Project Rachel at 317-452-0054. All calls are confidential. Our next retreat is scheduled for March 9-11, 2018.

JOURNEY TO THE FOOT OF THE CROSS ~ 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR LENT

Bishop Ricken Offers 10 Things to Remember For Lent

Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, former chairman of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), offers “10 Things to Remember for Lent”:

1. **Remember the formula.** The Church does a good job capturing certain truths with easy-to-remember lists and formulas: 10 Commandments, 7 sacraments, 3 persons in the Trinity. For Lent, the Church gives us almost a slogan—Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving—as the three things we need to work on during the season.
2. **It’s a time of prayer.** Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with him.
3. **It’s a time to fast.** With the fasts of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics these days actually fast. And maybe that’s why it gets all the attention. “What are you giving up for Lent? Hotdogs? Beer? Jelly beans?” It’s almost a game for some of us, but fasting is actually a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.
4. **It’s a time to work on discipline.** The 40 days of Lent are also a good, set time to work on personal discipline in general. Instead of giving something up, it can be doing something positive. “I’m going to exercise more. I’m going to pray more. I’m going to be nicer to my family, friends and coworkers.”
5. **It’s about dying to yourself.** The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it’s about more than self-control – it’s about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent, and we join in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ and being resurrected in a purified form.
6. **Don’t do too much.** It’s tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but it’s best to keep it simple and focused. There’s a reason the Church works on these mysteries year after year. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don’t try to cram it all in one Lent. That’s a recipe for failure.
7. **Lent reminds us of our weakness.** Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. When we fast, we realize we’re all just one meal away from hunger. In both cases, Lent shows us our weakness. This can be painful, but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God’s help with renewed urgency and sincerity.
8. **Be patient with yourself.** When we’re confronted with our own weakness during Lent, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. “What a bad person I am!” But that’s the wrong lesson. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with unconditional love.
9. **Reach out in charity.** As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. It’s about more than throwing a few extra dollars in the collection plate; it’s about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God’s unconditional love.
10. **Learn to love like Christ.** Giving of ourselves in the midst of our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the cross on Good Friday, as we seek him out, ask his help, join in his suffering, and learn to love like him.

--USCCB.org



LENTEN PENANCE OPPORTUNITIES

If prior to the season of Lent, you felt your life was roaring at you in all directions of temptation and sin, turn to the Lamb and through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, leave Lent with renewed grace and peace. Lent is a time for conversion, a time for change, a time to turn from all that causes us to sin, both in our inner attitudes and our outer actions. As we look at our inner self and examine where in our lives we need to make improvements, we should begin with a clean slate which comes through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Additional opportunities are offered during the season of Lent throughout our deanery.

- † March 6, 6:15pm at St. John's
- † March 6, 7pm at Immaculate Conception, Portland
- † March 13, 2pm at St. Mary, Alexandria
- † March 13, 6:30pm at St. Joseph, Elwood
- † March 14, 6:30pm at St. Mary, Anderson
- † March 19, 6:30pm at St. Mary, Muncie
- † March 21, 2pm at St. Lawrence, Muncie
- † March 21, 7pm at St. Lawrence, Muncie
- † March 22, 2pm at St. Paul, Marion
- † March 22, 7pm at Holy Family, Gas City

This Lent let us take a look at ourselves each day and tell ourselves that now, with God's help, I will "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."

"Forgive Us Our Sins." (Luke 11:4)

Forgive the sins I have committed this day by word, deed or thought. Purify me, O Lord, from every spiritual and physical stain. Grant that I may glorify you by my deeds throughout my entire lifetime, and that I be victorious over every spiritual and physical enemy. Deliver me, O Lord, from all vain thoughts and from evil desires. *Amen. --St. Macarius of Egypt*

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

- Mar. 1-Pope Francis I
- Mar. 2-Bishop Timothy Doherty
- Mar. 3-Fr. Dave Newton, St. Mary Dunkirk and St. John the Evangelist Hartford City
- Mar. 4-Fr. Don Gross, retired
- Mar. 5-Fr. Kevin Haines, St. Maria Goretti, Westfield
- Mar. 6-Fr. Thomas Haan, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Carmel, St. Theodore Guerin High School
- Mar. 7-Fr. Phil Haslinger, retired
- Mar. 8-Fr. David Hasser, Consultant in the Office of Divine Worship, Director of Vocations, Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette
- Mar. 9-Fr. Dave Hellmann, St. Lawrence, Muncie
- Mar. 10-Bishop Emeritus William Higi, retired
- Mar. 11-Fr. Kevin Hurley, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carmel
- Mar. 12-Fr. Patrick Hosey, retired
- Mar. 13-Fr. Paul Hudson, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Remington
- Mar. 14-Fr. David Huemmer, St. Joseph Retreat Center, Tipton, with ministry to the Monastery of the Poor Clares, Kokomo
- Mar. 15-Fr. Kevin Hurley, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
- Mar. 16-Fr. Samuel Kalu, Emmas House West Lafayette
- Mar. 17-Fr. Mike Kettron, retired
- Mar. 18-Fr. John Kiefer, retired
- Mar. 19-Fr. Leroy Kinnaman, St. Peter, Winamac, St. Joseph Pulaski, St. Henry, Medaryville, St. Francis Salono, Francesville
- Mar. 20-Fr. Bob Klemme, St Charles Otterbein & St. Patrick Oxford
- Mar. 21-Fr. Tim Kroeger, St. Joseph Lebanon
- Mar. 22-Fr. Peter Logsdon, St. Joseph, Winchester, and St. Mary, Union City
- Mar. 23-Fr. Gustavo Lopez, St. Boniface Lafayette
- Mar. 24-Fr. Jeffrey Martin, St. Boniface Lafayette
- Mar. 25-Fr. Adam Mauman, St. Charles Borromeo, Peru
- Mar. 26-Fr. Brendan Mbagwu, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Carmel
- Mar. 27-Fr. Mike McKinley, St. Alphonsus Liguori, Zionsville
- Mar. 28-Fr. Mike McKinney, St. Joseph, Rochester
- Mar. 29-Fr. Tom Metzger, Our Lady of Grace Noblesville
- Mar. 30-Fr. Chris Miller, St. Mary Frankfort
- Mar. 31-Fr. Richard Miller, Tribunal Lafayette

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH—ST. MARY'S

March 4: **Reader:** Dan Watson **Gifts:** Danette Hamilton **Communion Ministers:** Kelli Grady & Colleen Bicknell **Greeter:** Laverne Watson **Counters:** Dan Watson & Danette Hamilton **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

March 11: **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Kevin & Wendy Stout Family **Communion Ministers:** Connie Hartnagle & Amy Grady **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

March 18: **Reader:** Bob Banser **Gifts:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Communion Ministers:** Loretta Wilson & Susan Louck **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Dan Watson & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

Palm Sunday, March 25: **Reader:** Sandy Doyle & Bob Banser **Gifts:** Amy & Brad Grady Family **Communion Ministers:** Laverne Watson & Ted Kolodka **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Danette Hamilton & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

No Anniversaries reported for March

BIRTHDAYS:

9 Lawrence Fleming
12 Muriel Fettig
30 Patricia Dee

If you would like to be included in the birthday and anniversary listings, please drop us a note. We would be happy to share it through *The Good News Letter*.

PEOPLE WITH GOOD NEWS

Bailey Elkins was nominated as Outstanding Sophomore at Purdue University in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources.

Wyatt Geesaman was nominated for Character Counts for the third nine-week grading period at Jay County High School.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH—ST. JOHN'S

Saturday 5:00 pm Readers: Lisa Rinker 3, 31, Fred Hoffman 10, 24, 31, Vince Cimino 17, 24 **Gifts:** Diana & Jake Holsten Family 3, 10, 17, 24, RCIA 31 **Greeter:** **Announcements:** Barbara Houseman 3, 24, Shea Aulbach 10, 17 **Communion Ministers:** Sr. Rita Musante, Lyn Whitesell, Dale Cunningham, Scott Hutson, Serena Merkel 3, 10, 17, 24, Barbara Houseman 31

Sunday 8:30 am Readers: Joe Payne 11, Becky Cain 4, 18, 25, Claire Aulbach 25 **Gifts:** Isabelle Homan and Family 4, Karen & John Shields Family 11, 18, 25 **Greeter:** **Announcements:** Susan Lannoy 4, 11, 18, Bernadette Elkins 25 **Communion Ministers:** Ruth Ann Clawson, Bernadette & Gary Elkins, Megan Trissel, Eric Aulbach

Holy Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm: Reader: Sr. Rita Musante **Gifts:** Terry & John McVicker **Communion Ministers:** Anna Cimino, Susan Lannoy, Barbara Houseman, Karen Shields, Eric Aulbach

Good Friday, March 30, 12 noon: Reader: Susan Lannoy & Becky Cain **Communion Ministers:** Anna Cimino

Holy Saturday, March 31, 8:00 pm: Reader: Fred Hoffman & Lisa Rinker **Gifts:** RCIA **Communion Ministers:** Sr. Rita Musante, Lyn Whitesell, Barbara Houseman, Dale Cunningham, Scott Hutson

**St. Mary Parish and
St. John the Evangelist Parish**

209 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348

PASTOR - Rev. David J. Newton

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Lord's Day Liturgy

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm at St. John's

SUNDAY: 8:30 am at St. John's
10:30 am at St. Mary's

- Weekday Liturgy: Please consult inside the bulletin. -

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: March 16, 2018

Editor: Diana Holsten

**DO YOU USUALLY GIVE UP
CHOCOLATE DURING LENT?**

How about foregoing sin instead?

This Lent, put a twist to traditional Lenten fasting by focusing on the seven deadly sins and their corresponding virtues. Each week, try to avoid these sinful behaviors and replace them with virtuous ones.

WEEK 1: Give up Sloth and Confusion ~
Embrace the virtues of Diligence and Understanding

WEEK 2: Give up Pride and Abandonment ~
Embrace the virtues of Humility and Connectedness

WEEK 3: Give up Envy and Shame ~
Embrace the virtues of Kindness and Worthiness

WEEK 4: Give up Greed and Hopelessness ~
Embrace the virtues of Liberality and Hope

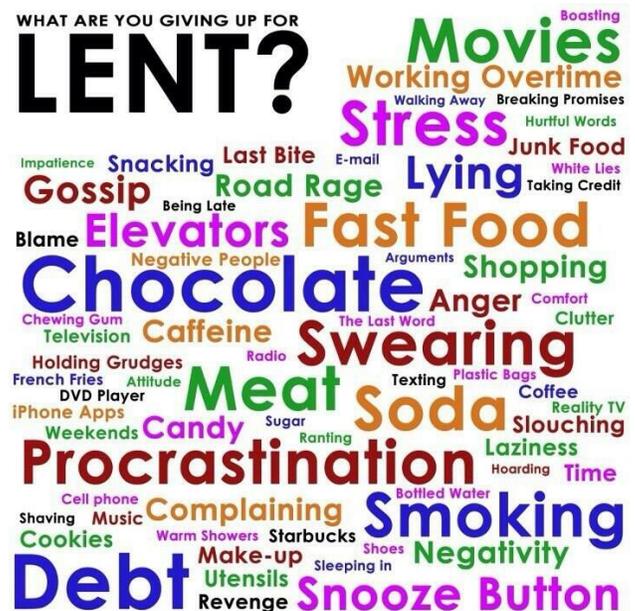
WEEK 5: Give up Gluttony and Fear ~
Embrace the virtues of Abstinence and Safety/Security

WEEK 6: Give up Anger and Rejection ~
Embrace the virtues of Patience and Acceptance

WEEK 7: Give up Lust and Powerlessness ~
Embrace the virtues of Chastity and Empowerment

As an aide to help in this process, we have purchased a DVD by Bishop Robert Barron from Word on Fire entitled "Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues". We only have one copy, but it can be checked out at the office by contacting Diana at 348-3889.

Enjoy your chocolate...and put your focus on the true purpose of Lent!



*“O God, purify me from evil ways
And put an end to my evil passions.*

*Unite me more closely to you
And lead me safely through death
To everlasting happiness with you.”*

--St. Ambrose