

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY 22, 2019



Preparing Before Lent Begins

Taking some time to get ready for Lent will ensure that we aren't going to miss the first week or two of Lent, because we are just getting started. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, but we want to be ready to really take off on that day, rather than just beginning to think about Lent on that day. Part of what makes a vacation or a special anniversary so special is the build-up to it.

Before we get to Ash Wednesday, we should start asking ourselves some questions and we should start with some preparations. "What does God want to give me this year?" This question may require that I slow down a bit and listen to my inner spirit.

It doesn't take a lot of time to prepare for the beginning of Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. We can give God more of a space to touch our hearts if we begin to establish some simple patterns. We could wake up each morning, and for something like a half a minute to a minute, stand by the edge of our beds, ... and ask for specific helps or graces to get ready to begin Lent. Whatever we try to say, our Lord can understand the Spirit trying to speak through our simple words. And each night we can practice giving thanks to God before I go to bed. This simple pattern, in the morning and evening can stir our spirits to look forward to and prepare for Lent, as a season of grace. May our Lord bless us all on this journey ahead.

What about "giving up something" for Lent?

When many of us were children, we might remember our giving up candy for Lent. And, it seemed like a real sacrifice. As we grew up, it was often more difficult to decide what special thing to do, to make

Lent a special season - to get our attention and to prepare ourselves for deeper sacrifices.

What would help me grow in freedom? That's the question to ask. For some of us, it could be, committing ourselves to give up judging others, every single day of Lent. For others, it could be giving up a bad habit we've developed. For still others, it is obvious what seems to be the important choice for me during Lent.

For many of us, the choice may not be to give something up, but to add something to our daily lives during Lent. We may commit ourselves to extra prayer time. We may decide to do some service to the poor, once a week during Lent. We may choose to increase our almsgiving to the poor - perhaps related to something we choose not to do, e.g., some might choose not to go out to eat one night a week, and to give that total amount to the poor.

Whether it is fasting, abstaining or other acts of penance, the whole desire we should have is to use these means to help us grow closer to our Lord and prepare ourselves "to celebrate the paschal mystery with minds and hearts renewed." (First Preface of Lent)

What Needs Changing in My Life?

We start to come to know that by asking for help. "Lord, help me to know what needs changing." It is often said, "Be careful about what you ask for." This is one of those requests that God must surely want to answer.

Then, we have to listen. With a little bit of reflection, most of us will just begin to "name" things that make up our ordinary habits and ways of being who we are, that we aren't very proud of. Things we do and things we never get around to doing. We can "feel" the call to change our attitudes, our self-absorption, or our way of interacting with others.

Continued inside...



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✠ **Praying**

Lent is the time to start new patterns of prayer. Perhaps I haven't been praying at all. This is a great time to choose to begin. It is important to begin realistically. I can start by simply pausing when I get up and taking a slow, deep breath, and recalling what I have to do this day, and asking for grace to do it as a child of God. I may want to go to bed a half an hour earlier, and get up a half an hour earlier and give myself some time alone to read the readings for the day, and just talk with the Lord about those readings or about the stuff of the day. I may choose to go to Mass each day during Lent. I may choose to get to church on Sunday, just 15 minutes earlier, so I can reflect a bit. Lent may be a time I would want to choose to start to journal the day to day reflections that are coming, the desires I'm naming and asking for, the graces I am being given.

✠ **Eating**

Lent is a great time to change our eating patterns. This is not about "losing weight" or "getting in shape," this is about being more alert. Anyone who has tried to diet knows that something changes in us when we try to avoid eating. The monks in the desert, centuries ago, discovered that fasting - simply not eating - caused a tremendous boost to their consciousness. Not only did their bodies go on "alert," but their whole person seemed to be in a more heightened state of attention. The whole purpose of fasting was to aid prayer - to make it easier to listen to God more openly, especially in times of need.

Among Catholics, only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are named as days of fast we all do together. (And that fast is simply to eat only one full meal in the day, with the other two meals combined, not equal to the one.) Of course, always conscious of our health and individual nutrition needs, we may want to try to eat very little, except some juices, or perhaps a small amount of beans and rice. We will experience how powerfully open and alert we feel and how much easier it is to pray and to name deeper desires. Not only will I feel less sluggish and tired, I will feel simply freer and more energized.

The other powerful advantage of fasting is that it can be a very simple gesture that places me in greater solidarity with the poor of the earth, and, it's a great cure for self-pity.

✠ **Practicing Generosity**

Almsgiving has always been an important part of Lent. Lent begins with the powerful Isaiah 58, on the Friday and Saturday after Ash Wednesday. It is important to give ourselves the experience of fasting from being un-generous. Generosity is not simply giving my excess clothes to a place where poor people might purchase them. It's not even writing a "generous" check at the time a collection is taken up for a cause that benefits the poor. These are wonderful practices. Generosity is an attitude. It is a sense that no matter how much I have, all that I have is gift, and given to me to be shared. It means that sharing with others in need is one of my personal priorities. That is quite different from assessing all of my needs first, and then giving away what is left over. A spirit of self-less giving means that one of my needs is to share what I have with others. Lent is a wonderful time to practice self-less giving, because it takes practice. This kind of self-sacrificing generosity is a religious experience. It places us in solidarity with the poor who share with each other, without having any excess. It also joins us with Jesus, who gave himself completely, for us. Establishing new patterns of giving will give real life and joy to Lent.

✠ **Practicing Penance**

Penance is a remedy, a medicine, a spiritual therapy for the healing I desire. The Lord always forgives us. We are forgiven without condition. But complete healing takes time. With serious sin or with bad habits we've invested years in forming, we need to develop a therapeutic care plan to let the healing happen. To say "I'm sorry" or to simply make a "resolution" to change a long-established pattern, will have the same bad result as wishing a sprained ankle would heal, while still walking on it.

Lent is a wonderful time to name what sinful, unhealthy, self-centered patterns need changing and to act against them by coming up with a strategy. For example, if the Lord is shining a light into the darkness of a bad pattern in my life, I can choose to "stop doing it." But, I have to work on a "change of heart" and to look concretely at what circumstances, attitudes, and other behaviors contribute to the pattern. Lasting healing needs the practice of penance.

---excerpted from Creighton Univ., online ministries



UNDERSTANDING THE MASS

The word “Mass” stems from the early days of Christianity. Only the baptized were allowed to witness the Eucharist. After the Liturgy of the Word, the unbaptized were dismissed, in latin “Ite, missa est”. The Eucharistic portion soon became shortened to “missa”, then the whole worship became know as “missa” or in English: *Mass*.

The Mass is called the Holy Sacrifice because at every Catholic Mass the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is made present on the altar; it is represented, not as a symbol but in reality and in the fullness of truth. We have this ritual at every Mass in part because those were Jesus’ instructions to the apostles at the Last Supper, but also because rituals keep us on the right track, they are a means of communication, they instill in us appropriate reverence and love for God.

The Mass is a sacrifice because it makes present to us, the sacrifice of Christ on the cross, as both the offering and the one who offers it are the same: *Christ*. Acting through his priests, Christ offers his own flesh and blood to be sacrificed on the altar at each Mass. Not that Jesus is again being killed, but that the one sacrifice of Jesus lives on in eternity. We see the Body and Blood of Christ offered today because Christ is living and eternal.

--excerpted from Understanding the Mass by Mike Aquilina

CAN YOU BE FORGIVEN?

This Lent each of our parishes will be offered a unique opportunity for a five-week Lenten retreat of sorts. In keeping with the past two years, we will offer a weekly Lenten series. This year the program *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession* will be presented by Fr. Dave and Sr. Rita. The DVD series provides the Church’s teaching about the sacrament of Confession, including a practical “walk through” of what happens in the confessional and how every moment connects to Scripture, Catholic Tradition, and God’s passionate desire to be with us.

The five sessions titled: *Where are You?, An Encounter with Mercy, Biblical Foundations: Sin, Mercy, and the Sacrament of Confession(in two parts), and Answering common Questions about Confession* will be offered on Tuesdays after 5:30pm Mass at St. John’s and on Thursday after 5:30pm Mass at St. Mary’s beginning March 12 and 14 each week and run through April 9 and 11. Come each week or the weeks you are able.

A MEETING IN SOLIDARITY, HUMILITY, AND PENITENCE

Pope Francis’ meeting this week, in the Vatican is certainly a first meeting of its kind, yet it is also clearly part of the process of *synodality* that Pope Francis is keen to have at the heart of his plan to reform the Church. Faced with a problem that shows itself more and more present and serious in different geographical areas of the world and of the Catholic Church, the pope has ordered the highest representatives of the different ecclesial communities to give a united response at the universal level. The entire Church must choose to live in solidarity, above all with the victims, with their families and with the ecclesial communities wounded by the scandals. As the pope has written, 'If one member suffers, all the members suffer together' (*1 Cor 12:26*), and the commitment to protect minors has to be taken on clearly and effectively by the entire community, starting with those in the highest positions of responsibility.

Speaking of sexual abuse by members of the clergy is painful and unpleasant. But, if the problem is not fully confronted in all its aspects, the Church will continue to find itself facing one crisis after another, her credibility and that of all priests will remain seriously wounded, but above all, what will suffer will be the substance of her mission to proclaim the gospel and her educational work for children and young people, which for centuries has been one of the most beautiful and precious aspects of her service for humanity.”

In consciousness of the facts, the meeting sees itself as a step on a long path of reappraisal, healing and transformation of the Church, which must always be a transformation towards a deeper, more wholehearted following of Jesus Christ.

---USCCB.org

SPRING CLEANING FOR FREEDOM

So many of us have accumulated much more than we need. It bursts from our closets, overflows our shelves and clutters our lives. Lent might be a wonderful time to deliberately release ourselves from the many "things" we own by cleaning out our closets and simplifying our lives in a prayerful and intentional way.

On one level, this is ridding ourselves of things we don't need, or things that we hated to part with except that they are so "out of style." Certainly, many of us have many things that are "extra" or "unneeded" for us, but could be wonderful for those who can't afford to buy clothes at a store. Another level of this journey into personal freedom is to ask ourselves how much I really do need. How many sweaters do I want to choose to have? How many jackets, sport shirts, dresses, shoes? How much jewelry? How much sporting equipment? How much electronic equipment? How many sets of silverware or dishes? How much of so many things we have in our lives? We can get as serious and go as deeply into this as we desire to find fruit.

This is not "should I get rid of what I don't need?" This is different, more faith-filled and takes us into giving up 'good' stuff -- perhaps stuff we are attached to -- because we want to experience the exercise of freedom. We do this because we sense that we are not free in some areas that are tremendously important for us, important for our salvation, and growing in freedom before the things of our lives can be a great grace.

This freedom, too, will place us in greater solidarity with those who find such great happiness and joy in trusting in God, while having so much less than we imagine we could survive on.

What else might we do, that fits with my circumstances and the needs around us and in the world?

---Creighton University, online ministries



FAMILY CONVERSION - RELATIONSHIP CONVERSION

Lent can be a good time to reflect on the people who mean the most to us and the relationships we hold most dear. For those of us who live in industrialized countries, it can be jarring to realize that our time together as a family might amount to no more than a few minutes a day. Our lives are independent as we scatter in different directions each day for work, school or childcare.

This season of reflection and renewal might be an appropriate time to pray about our family lives and how we can be more thoughtful and prayerful about Lent as a family.

Perhaps we could hold a family meeting over dinner or some other relaxed place. We could discuss Lent and the symbols of the season using the resources here. We might want to talk about how our faith life is not a journey we make alone, but one we are in as a community, as a family.

One Lenten family practice might include a daily act of love for our family. Can we look around and see some small thing that needs to be done to make our lives together better? Is there laundry to sort or dishes to be washed? Is there a floor that needs sweeping or a room that needs dusting? Just one effort by each of us each day can make a dramatic difference in sharing the workload in the family. The grace we are reaching for goes beyond getting the garbage taken out, for example. We know it is a grace when my experience of taking the garbage out, feels to me like an act of love, an act of solidarity as a family. Perhaps the simplest way to prepare for this grace is to pray:

Dear Lord, may this simple, ordinary sacrifice of my time for the sake of those I love, draw us closer together as a family whose hearts you are drawing to yourself in the togetherness of our family love.

One of the real graces of Lent has to do with forgiveness and reconciliation, mercy and healing. This is never simply a matter between Jesus and me. It always has something to do with my family and with my relationships, how we are with each other. What in us needs mercy and healing? What patterns that we have need our reflections and common family choices and actions this Lent?

---Creighton University, online ministries



On **Saturday, March 9 from 8:30 am – 6:00 pm**, The Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference is the only conference of its kind! A small community feel with so much to offer! This is our 13th year for the conference. It's been called the "best kept secret" of our diocese. But we don't want it to be a secret - we want you to know about it and come experience it! We average 500-700 people each year - with 1/3 of those being children!

We offer separate programming for adults, HS, MS and children from age 3-11 years, and babysitting for 1-2 year olds. Keep in mind that Kids Corner (ages 1-11 years) closes on February 25. This year we welcome Theresa Tomeo and her husband Dominick, musician Chris Bray and pro-life speaker Monica Kelsey to speak as our main speakers.

Your low, low registration fee covers everything including a hot, catered lunch from one of our highest rated caterers in Kokomo!

ALL Catholic elements are included: a Eucharistic procession to kick off our conference, Adoration Chapel (your children will visit it guided by a religious sister), confession, and we will conclude the conference with the Lord's Day Mass. The Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference is held at Kokomo High School, 2501 S. Berkley Road.

Come celebrate our rich Catholic faith and grow spiritually as a family!

For more info and to register go to www.holyfamilyconference.org.

ENCOUNTER JESUS

Understand, Live, and Share your Faith!

St. John's parish recently purchased a kiosk from Augustine Institute that includes prayer pamphlets, CD's and various full-length books all addressing various topics on the Catholic faith. These materials are printed through Lighthouse Catholic Media. Please check it out in the parish hall and pick up some Lenten materials to enhance your spiritual journey through these 40 days.



MARCH RETREATS

The following retreats are being offered at the beautiful St. Joseph Retreat and Conference Center in Tipton, IN.

Get Away for a Day

Tuesday, March 12, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Tired of all the demands tugging at you? Do you feel like you could just use some space to just get away? Come to our campus for a day of quiet and solitude. Enjoy the beautiful and peaceful grounds, visit the shrines, make the Way of the Cross, spend time in prayer in the St. Joseph Chapel. This unstructured retreat is anchored with five opportunities for activity. You may participate in as few or as many as you wish. Cost \$20.

Lenten Day of Reflection

Tuesday, March 26, 9:00AM – 3:00 pm

During the Lenten Season, the Church invites us to peel away those things that make us unlike Jesus so that by the end of the Lenten Journey we may become more like Him. Lent is a time to prepare for the great events of the Triduum and the renewal of our baptismal vows. This retreat includes Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, time for prayer and quiet reflection. Fr. David Huemmer will lead a conference on the prayers found in the Lenten Liturgies that prepare us for the Passion, and the history of the Stations of the Cross. Cost \$20.

To register, contact Samir Azer at sazer@dol-in.org or call (765) 551-9570. For more information, visit www.stjosephretreat.org

All retreats are available for adults age 19 and older.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

No anniversaries reported for March

BIRTHDAYS:

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*.

FEBRUARY CHALLENGE BY K OF C

Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.” When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him. (Gospel for Feb. 10, Lk 5:10-11)

“They left everything and followed him.” My brothers, these words shock me every time I hear or read them. If we are honest, we have to admit how hard it is to leave everything to follow Jesus. After all, we are so good at taking stuff with us as we attempt to follow him—our pride, our possessions, our desire for power, more comfort and pleasure. We attempt to drag this heavy luggage along, or sometimes try to sneak little trinkets into our bags to take with us: maybe it’s our wandering eyes, our temper, a critical spirit, or our workaholicism. But Jesus and his disciples travel lightly. He invites us to leave everything and follow him. Let’s experience this genuine freedom of being his disciple: a freedom which hits the open road with our Lord, free of everything that hinders us.

FEBRUARY CHALLENGE by **Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month I challenge you to join other Catholics who are striving to “leave everything and follow him.” Join them for some time of prayer, fellowship and encouragement, possibly at a Knights meeting, for breakfast, or a drink after work. Secondly, I challenge you to be open with a brother in Christ about some area of your life where you are facing challenges. “Leaving everything” means that we also need to leave behind our pretense and appearances, and meet each other as true brothers.

--Knights of Columbus.org



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.

PEOPLE WITH GOOD NEWS

Veronique Coppock was on the A-B honor roll for the second nine weeks at West Jay Middle School.

Abigail Johnson was on the all A honor roll for the second nine weeks at West Jay Middle School.

First Sergeant Mike Nichols was recognized for 30 years of service to the Indiana State Police Department.

Jaiden Watson was on the A-B honor roll for the second nine weeks at West Jay Middle School.

SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS

During the Liturgical season of Lent we have multiple opportunities for almsgiving through the Church. Each of provides us the opportunity to help those less fortunate and living in the margins of society.

- ✚ Ash Wednesday we have the opportunity to help those oppressed living in Central and Eastern Europe who for 70 years lived under the Soviet regime.
- ✚ The end of March we will have a collection for Catholic Relief Services which helps worldwide victims of famine, natural disasters, refugees and immigrants as well as the poor and marginalized.
- ✚ The Good Friday collection supports the work of the Franciscans in the Holy Land in order to maintain a Christian presence in a land that is filled with a majority Islamic and Jewish population. Many of the funds collected help the poor, youth and young couples.
- ✚ And of course, Operation Rice Bowl provides much needed food and nutrition to those living in extreme conditions and circumstances such as third world countries and drought.

As we prepare and hearts and thoughts to begin this year’s Lenten journey, may our fasting be a hunger for justice, our alms an offering of peace, and our prayers a reflection of humble and grateful hearts.

Envelopes for the three collections can be found in your packets. Operation Rice Bowls will be located on the bookcases at each of our two parishes.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH—ST. JOHN'S

Saturday 5:00 pm Reader: Sarah Montgomery 3, Fred Hoffman 9, 16, 23, 30 **Gifts:** Judy & Lee Dobbels **Announcements:** Lisa Rinker **Greeter:** Karen Sulit **Communion Ministers:** Barbara Houseman 3, Sonya Hoffman 9, 16, 23, 30, Anna Cimino, Serena Merkel, Scott Hutson, Gerard Merkel, Jr.

Sunday 8:30 am Reader: Ammee Uggen 3, Bernadette or Bethany Elkins 10, 17, 24, 31 **Gifts:** Karen & Rich Uggen Family 3, Cristi & Eric Aulbach Family 10, 17, 24, 31 **Announcements:** Susan Lannoy **Communion Ministers:** Megan Trissel 3, 24, Amy Henderson 24, Kate & Alan Gordon 3, 10, 17, 31, Ruth Ann Clawson 10, 17, 24, 31, Tom Alfrey

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 12noon Reader: Fred Hoffman **Gifts:** Pat Dee **Greeter:** Karen Sulit **Communion Ministers:** Sonya Hoffman, Anna Cimino, Karen Shields, Barbara Houseman, Tom Alfrey



ST. PATRICK "APOSTLE OF IRELAND"

Can you picture St. Patrick's Day being blue? The original color of St. Patrick's Day was blue in the 7th century.

The use of green began during the Irish Rebellion in 1798. That's when the clover and "wearing of the green" became a symbol of nationalism. That evolution, combined with the idea of Ireland's lush green fields (The Emerald Isle), and St. Patrick's legendary affinity for shamrocks eventually made green the official color of St. Patrick's Day.

SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE EVENTS

Sundays at the Woods: Spring Architectural Tour
Join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, for Sundays at the Woods: Spring Architectural Tour, scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m., on Sunday, March 17. Those interested in attending are asked to meet at the fountain in front of Providence Spirituality & Conference Center. During the tour, learn more about Woodland Inn and Corbe House, both of which are now listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Hear a few stories that will help bring each building to life. There is no cost to attend, but donations will be warmly welcomed. **Come and See the Sisters of Providence**

Where is God calling you? Are you a single, Catholic woman between the ages of 18 and 42? The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, invite you to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods for a Come and See Retreat. The retreat begins at 7 p.m., April 12, and concludes at 2 p.m., April 14. Explore where God is calling you. Learn what life is like as a Sister of Providence. Meet the newest sisters in the Congregation. Get to know more about foundress Saint Mother Theodore Guerin, and spend time in prayer and reflection.

Find greater meaning, community as a Providence Associate

Are you looking for spiritual enrichment, support, a community, or a sense of mission? God may be nudging you to become a Providence Associate of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. The Sisters of Providence are inviting persons of all faith traditions to apply to become a Providence Associate. Applications are being accepted for this year until May 31.

Learn more at ProvidenceAssociates.org for any of the above activities.



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. Christopher Roberts, St. Paul, Marion, and Holy Family, Gas City
Mar. 5-Fr. Ted Rothrock, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Carmel
Mar. 6-Fr. Anthony Rowland, St. John Vianney, Fishers
Mar. 7-Fr. Martin Sandhage, St. Augusta, Lake Village
Mar. 8-Fr. Daniel Shine, St. Mary and St. Ambrose, Anderson
Mar. 9-Fr. Robert Sell, St. Ambrose and St. Mary, Anderson
Mar. 10-Fr. Chris Shocklee, St. Bernard, Crawfordsville, Wabash College Newman Apostolate
Mar. 11-Fr. Stephen Snoich OSB, St. Augusta Lake Village
Mar. 12-Fr. Travis Stephens, St. Louis de Montfort, Fishers
Mar. 13-Fr. Stanislaw Tabor, All Saints, Logansport
Mar. 14-Fr. Clayton Thompson, St. Joseph, Delphi
Mar. 15-Fr. Eric Underwood, St. Lawrence, Lafayette
Mar. 16-Fr. Pete Vanderkolk, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fowler & St. Mary, Dunnington
Mar. 17-Fr. Mark Walter, St. Boniface, Lafayette
Mar. 18-Fr. Dick Weisenberger, St. Joseph, Lebanon
Mar. 19-Fr. Paul White, retired
Mar. 20-Fr. Bob Williams, retired
Mar. 21-Fr. Dominic Young, St. Ann Lafayette
Mar. 22-Fr. Derek Aaron, St. Maria Goretti, Westfield
Mar. 23-Fr. Raymond Akeriwe, St. Patrick, Kokomo
Mar. 24-Fr. Raymond Alaneme, St. Mary Lafayette
Mar. 25-Fr. Tim Alkire, St. Boniface Lafayette
Mar. 26-Fr. Kenneth Alt, Holy Trinity, Trinity
Mar. 27-Fr. Matthew Arbuckle, St. Joan of Arc, Kokomo, Monastery of the Poor Clares
Mar. 28-Fr. Patrick Baikauskas, St. Thomas Aquinas West Lafayette
Mar. 29-Fr. Jim Bates, retired
Mar. 30-Fr. Joshua Bennett, St. Francis of Assisi, Muncie
Mar. 31-Fr. Robert Bernatos, St. Joseph Kentland, St. John the Baptist Earl Park, Sts. Peter and Paul Goodland

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH—ST. MARY'S

March 3: **Reader:** Sandy Doyle **Gifts:** Jeff & Lisa Geesaman Family **Communion Ministers:** Dan Watson & Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

March 10: **Reader:** Bob Banser **Gifts:** Chuck & Sharon Fullenkamp Family **Communion Ministers:** Connie Hartnagle & Amy Grady **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

March 17: **Reader:** Dan Watson **Gifts:** Kevin & Wendy Stout Family **Communion Ministers:** Loretta Wilson & Danette Hamilton **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Danette Hamilton & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

March 24: **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Amy & Brad Grady Family **Communion Ministers:** Kelli Grady & Dan Watson **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Dan Watson & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

March 31: **Reader:** Bob Banser **Gifts:** Danette Hamilton **Communion Ministers:** Susan Louck & Colleen Bicknell **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Danette Hamilton & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 5:30pm: **Reader:** Dan Watson **Gifts:** Laverne Watson **Communion Ministers:** Connie Hartnagle & Loretta Wilson **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Dan Watson **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely



**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: Mar. 15, 2019

Editor: Diana Holsten



**Friday, March 8, 22, April 12, 4:30-7pm
Knights will host their annual Lenten fish
fries in the parish hall
with desserts provided by Altar & Rosary
All-you-can-eat Fish, potatoes, coleslaw,
dessert, and a drink
\$9 Adults; \$5 kids under 12**



The ashes we use are the burnt palms from last year's celebration of Passion Sunday. We begin our Lenten journey aware of where we are going. We want to enter into the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus for us more fully. That is the purpose of our journey. It is why we mark our heads with his cross. It is why we fast today and abstain from meat. Our Lenten program is not an effort to save ourselves. We have been saved by his sacrifice. Our self-denial helps us, in the darkness that surrounds us, to prepare ourselves to receive his light. For this is a journey to the Easter font, where we will renew the promises of our Baptism, remembering that in dying with him in the waters of Baptism, we are re-born with him to everlasting life.

This year's journey begins today.

---Creighton University