

# THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

## FEBRUARY 21, 2020



### UNITING IN HEART - PERPETUAL PRAYER

As we continue to live out the Uniting in Heart 2030 Pastoral Plan we must raise up these efforts to the Lord in prayer, asking for the Holy Spirit to descend on our diocese and provide us with the gifts and graces we need to succeed. Only through his support, and with the aid of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints, will our desire to be more faithful, more welcoming, more collaborative, and more merciful come to fruition.

In the coming weeks the Office of Parish Ministries, Services and Catechesis will be offering the faithful of the diocese an opportunity to engage in prayer for the success of the pastoral plan by committing to a Holy Hour every week. A Holy Hour is time spent with the Lord, experiencing his loving presence and bringing our prayers and praises before him. The goal, inspired by parishioners who wanted spiritual means to support the plan, is that every hour, night or day, someone in the diocese will be praying for the intentions and goals of the Uniting in Heart 2030 plan. To sign up or to find more information on how to pray a Holy Hour, visit [www.dol-in.org/UnitingInHeartPrayers](http://www.dol-in.org/UnitingInHeartPrayers). You will also find additional resources at this link.



### PRAYER FOR LENT

Gracious and Merciful God,  
throughout our Lenten journey, we are  
asked to be more gracious  
and merciful ourselves.

Yet we often avoid looking into our own  
hearts for fear of learning the extent to  
which we have lost our way.

As we continue our travels, help us, we  
pray, to sacrifice our own comforts in  
order to help those in need.

May we appreciate that your limitless love,  
compassion and forgiveness always  
journey with us. Amen.



### SPRING GARDENING FOR THE SOUL

"Lent is coming - very soon! - and you are invited to do some serious "soul gardening" at our 2-session parish retreat,

**"Spring Gardening for the Soul"**

**Saturday March 7 at St John's, 10-12:30:**

**"soil care and seeds"**

**Saturday March 14 at St Mary's, 10-12:30:**

**"weeding and commitment".**

Come for both sessions if you can, but even one will be worthwhile for your Lenten "soul gardening." There will be Scripture for prayer and reflection, conversation and quiet reflection time. Light snack will be available. All are welcome, even if you know nothing - or everything! - about gardening! Call the parish office (348-3889) or Sr Rita Musante (260-402-5034) to register and if you have any questions.



## THE BASICS OF LENT

**WHAT IS LENT?** Lent is the annual preparation for Easter—calling us to reform our lives and open our hearts to God’s blessings. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday evening when the Triduum begins.

**WHAT MUST I DO?** All healthy Catholics between 18 and 59 are required to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and ages 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays of Lent. Fasting is a sacrifice in which we draw closer to God by depending on him to sustain us and it is a way to remind ourselves that we need God above all things.

**WHAT SHOULD I DO?** Catholics are called to prayer(open ourselves to all that God has to offer us), fasting(helps us recognize that true and lasting pleasure comes from God and reorients us toward God), and almsgiving(gives aid to the poor and helps us recognize God as the true source of our needs and security)—rooted in the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5-7)—in which Jesus outlines the new law to interior renewal and growth in holiness. By doing these three disciplines, we set on the road to conversion and spiritual renewal to grow in faith and love for God.

--All Saints Press

## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### ANNIVERSARIES:

None reported for March

### BIRTHDAYS:

12 Muriel Fettig

16 Karen Shields

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*.

## PIVOTAL PLAYERS

This Lent as we focus on drawing closer to Christ, what better way than to turn to the saints who paved the way through their ordinary everyday lives. This is what each of us are called to do each day.

St. John’s will host a six session DVD series each Wednesday from 6-7:15pm in the parish hall on the lives of the saints presented by Bishop Robert Barron through Word on Fire.

Bishop Barron unlocks the truth behind the Catholic Church’s most influential people. From St. Francis of Assisi to Catherine of Siena, from St. Thomas Aquinas to Michelangelo, all the way to Blessed John Henry Newman and G.K. Chesterton, Christ’s Incarnation is on display through the minds and lives of his Church’s members. Each session is approximately 60 minutes. Q and A will follow and lite snacks will be served.

Following along with this saintly theme, you will find in this edition of *The Good News Letter* an insert entitled “*Spend Lent with the Saints*”. There are 40 saints listed to coincide with the 40 days of Lent. Each give a short narrative along with an action. Let their lives inspire you to courage, service, surrender and fidelity through your Lenten journey.

## LENTEN ACTION CARDS “GIVE AND TAKE”

St. John’s will have a Lenten “give and take” table at the back of church. There will be two baskets: one to “give” and one to “take”.

The “give” basket will be where you place your Lenten sacrifices (something you wish to give up, change from, or get rid of) to help you draw closer to being a disciple of Jesus. There will be slips of paper to write your “give” on and place in basket as a sign of ridding yourself of what is on the paper (No names please). It will be up to you to follow through on that ridding process.

The “take” basket will have different slips of paper in it for you to draw an action and act on it sometime during Lent. These will be centered around prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Feel free to take one each time you’re at church. The basket will be refreshed each week with new action cards.

The hope is that these “give and take” slips will aid us as we journey through Lent to a better conversion come Easter.



Special thanks to Seminarian Jordan Boone who coordinated the registrations for us and to Brian and Jessica Kitterman who chaperoned. Feel free to reach out to any of those attending to learn more about their experiences.

## YOUTH GROWING IN FAITH

Four of our high schoolers from St. John's attended the Destination Jesus retreat February 14, 15, 16 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel along with a few thousand other high school students across our diocese. This is an annual weekend retreat is a Catholic retreat that draws young people into a deep and lasting union with Jesus Christ, especially through sacramental encounter. Opportunity for healing in the Eucharist and Reconciliation allows participants to experience true freedom in God's mercy.

In this the **25th year** of Destination Jesus, the **theme for the weekend was "Give Me Faith"**. From the comments from the four students attending, it appears their faith was awakened and deepened:

"The retreat was good, the music was my favorite part. It was fun to see how many Christians my age there are and how many took on their faith."

*Noah Kitterman*

"I had a really fun time at Destination Jesus. They had great music and a positive vibe. My favorite part was "EP" when I got to hear God talk to me. This was an experience I will remember and highly recommend joining!"

*Madison Merkel*

"Destination Jesus was so much fun! It was so cool to see so many other young Catholics. I felt Jesus in the room with us and it made my faith grow a lot."

*Jenna Payne*

"Destination Jesus was a very memorable experience for me. I got to learn so many things about our faith that I had never known before. I learned what it truly means to be Catholic, and I'm able to appreciate the Mass in a whole new way. I can't wait to go back next year!"

*Anya Uggen*



## WANT TO RAISE CATHOLIC KIDS?

In an effort to help support parents as the primary educators of their children in the faith, we're hosting a series for parents entitled, *Parenting with Grace: How to Raise Catholic Kids in the Modern World*. This program is going to be held at various restaurants in the Muncie area, giving parents and guardians an opportunity for them to enjoy an evening out while discussing some of the biggest challenges and joys they experience in raising their kids. The sessions all begin at 6:15, and the topics and locations are as follows:

February 23: **How to Keep Your Kids Catholic**, at *Mancino's, 4116 W. Bethel Ave, Muncie*

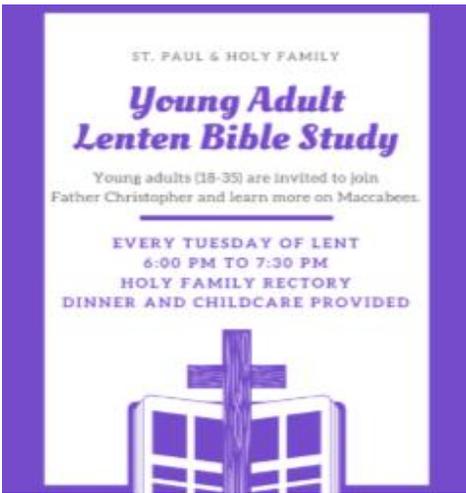
March 1: **How to Talk to Your Kids about Sexuality, Part 1**, at *Puerto Vallarta, 508 S. Tillotson Ave, Muncie*

March 8: **How to Talk to Your Kids about Sexuality, Part 2**, at *Pizza King, 1911 S. Tiger Dr., Yorktown*

March 15: **Parenting and Technology**, at *Elm Street Brewing Co., 519 N. Elm St., Muncie*

The cost for this program is free. Attendees are responsible for the purchase of their own refreshments.

Since the space for this event is limited, I'm asking that people register online at <https://parentingwithgrace.eventbrite.com> or contact me, Susan Hoefer, at 765-421-1998 or [shoefer@dol-in.org](mailto:shoefer@dol-in.org).



## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH—ST. MARY'S

**Mar. 1:** **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Amy & Brad Grady Family **Communion Ministers:** None in March **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Dan Watson & Danette Hamilton

**Mar. 8:** **Reader:** Dan Watson **Gifts:** Connie & Ken Hartnagel **Communion Ministers:** None in March **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress

**Mar. 15:** **Reader:** Bob Banser **Gifts:** Chuck & Sharon Fullenkamp Family **Communion Ministers:** None in March **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress

**Mar. 22:** **Reader:** Ted Kolodka **Gifts:** Matt & Jenny Johnson Family **Communion Ministers:** None in March **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Dan Watson & Danette Hamilton

**Mar. 29:** **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Dean & Loretta Wilson **Communion Ministers:** None in March **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burress



## THE TEMPTATIONS OF JESUS AND OUR ADDICTIONS

On the first Sunday of Lent we are reminded of the temptations of Jesus at the end of his forty-day fast in the desert, just before he began his public ministry.

Jesus knew what it was like to be tempted as we are tempted:

He was hungry and had the power to turn the stones into the bread that he craved in his hunger!

He could be prestigious—how much we want this!

He could have the possessions of the kingdom!

The devil offered an alluring vision, but finally, Jesus overcame temptation by seeing that he could not have these things and God at the same time.

Perhaps during Lent, we can look for symptoms of these addictions to power, prestige, and possessions, and begin practicing their antidotes—prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. —Fr. Leo Piguet

## LOOKING FOR A LENTEN NIGHT OUT?

St. Paul's Church, Marion, and Holy Family Church, Gas City is sponsoring a Young Adult Lenten Bible Study led by Fr. Christopher Roberts and St. Mary's and St. John's young adults have been invited to join the group.

All young adults ages 18-35 are invited to attend each week, or the weeks as able, to learn more on Maccabees. Program will begin Tuesday, February 25, 6-7:30pm and continue each Tuesday throughout Lent. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

What a great way to make new friends, meet that special someone, share common interests, grow in our Uniting in Heart pastorate, with meal and babysitting...all for free!

**Jesus, my Healer,  
I require your power in my times of need.  
I depend upon you for strength and hope.  
So often I become paralyzed by my pride and  
crippled by my addictions.  
Although I need you more than ever,  
I lose my power to turn to you when my  
possessions and self-importance detract me  
from you.  
Make me thankful this day  
For those in my life who stand by me,  
For those whose example and love give me  
strength,  
And carry me to you. Amen.**

--100 Prayers, Reflections by Fr. Leo Piguet

## “THROUGH THE CHURCH YEAR”

### ST. JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Joseph’s role in the Saving Incarnation of the Son of God was an important one: he protected the mystery of Mary’s virginity and gave Jesus legal claim to Davidic descent. His role was exercised in great humility as we have no word from him in scripture.

Faith is the foundation of the spiritual life, and it is significant that it is this quality in St. Joseph that the Church highlights in its liturgy on his feast day. A second aspect of Joseph’s holiness that is relevant for all of us is that it was achieved in the ordinariness of daily life. While we rightly honor Joseph as one of the greatest saints of all time, we need to remember that his life was filled with ordinary activities, constantly changing, centered around his love of God fulfilling God’s will.

May the example and prayer of St. Joseph help us to find God’s will in the basic and ordinary realities of daily life just as he did—living from moment to moment in total trust and surrender to the loving God who guides our lives. --Francis D. Kelly

### ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Nine months prior to the celebration of the birth of the Lord (March 25), the Church observes the Solemnity of the Annunciation to Mary by the angel Gabriel. Mary’s free consent made possible the virginal conception of the Eternal Son of God as her son.

This feast used to be a Marian feast, but following Vatican Council it was established as a feast of the Lord. As with the feast of the Presentation on February 2, there is an intimate connection between the Lord’s incarnation and the essential role of his mother, and so both are the object of our prayer on this feast.

The human mind will never be able to comprehend this union of divinity and humanity, majesty and lowliness, transcendence and immanence. Yet, it is the core of our Christian faith and the cause of our salvation.

As today we hear Mary’s “let it be” let us turn to her and ask that she enfold us in her maternal care that we too may echo that simple but essential prayer as we, like her, respond to God’s call at each moment in the journey of our lives. --Francis D. Kelly

## PEOPLE WITH GOOD NEWS

**Nicholas Aulbach** was on the A/B honor roll first semester at BHS.

**Bethany Elkins** was on the all A honor roll first semester and A/B honor roll second quarter at BHS.

**Allyson Henderson** was on the A/B honor roll first semester and second quarter at BJS.

**Kayli Henderson** was on the A/B honor roll first semester at BHS.

**Lance Manley** was on the all A honor roll first semester at BHS.

**Madison Merkel** was on the all A honor roll first semester and A/B honor roll second quarter at BHS.

**Mason Merkel** was on the all A honor roll first semester and second quarter at BJS.

**Jenna Payne** was on the all A honor roll first semester and second quarter at BHS.

**Kelli Rinker** was on the A/B honor roll first semester and second quarter at BHS.

**Ammee Uggen** was on the A/B honor roll first semester and second quarter at BJS.

**Anya Uggen** was on the all A honor roll first semester and second quarter at BHS. Anya was awarded a gold medal for her clarinet solo in the ISSMA solo and ensemble contest on Feb 1.

**Catalina Velasquez** was on the all A honor roll first semester and A/B honor roll second quarter at BJS.

**Juan Velasquez** was on the all A honor roll first semester and second quarter at BJS.

**Helen Whitesell** was on the A/B honor roll first semester and second quarter at BHS.

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## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH—ST. JOHN’S

**Saturday 5:00 pm Reader:** Vince Cimino **Gifts:** Karen & Rich Uggen Family **Announcements:** Barbara Houseman **Communion Ministers:** Anna Cimino

**Sunday 8:30 am Readers:** Bethany Elkins **Gifts:** Karen & John Shields **Announcements:** Shea Aulbach **Communion Ministers:** Tom Alfrey

## FEBRUARY CHALLENGE BY K OF C

**“You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.”** (Gospel for Feb. 9, Mt 5:13)

Imagine that you're at a steakhouse, and your plate finally arrives. Then, just as you are looking for the salt, you learn that the restaurant has completely run out of it. It's easy to see that without salt, our food can be bland and tasteless. Turning to the words of our Lord, has your life of faith become bland and insipid? Jesus did not die for our sake in order that we might offer the world a mediocre reflection of his life. As we embark on our Lenten journey, may we strive to be men [and women] who season the world and our communities with the salt of an authentic and inspiring Christian life.

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

This month, I challenge you to sharpen your Christian witness by saying grace before meals at home and in public. Second, as you begin your Lenten journey, I challenge you to develop your “saltiness” through spiritual reflection, either with the Faith in Action Spiritual Reflection program or on a more informal basis.

**Questions for Reflection:** When was the last time you intentionally brought up your faith in a conversation? How did saying grace in public differ from saying it in the home? Practically speaking, what would you need to do to take your Christian “saltiness” to the next level? --Knights of Columbus.org

## ST. PEREGRINE CANCER CARE MINISTRY

The St. Peregrine Cancer Care Ministry is an outreach of the Maria Stein Shrine that strives to be a source of prayer, encouragement and hope to those who are suffering with cancer and their caregivers. The ministry team is embracing the hope of healing of body, mind and spirit. Anyone interested in receiving care through this ministry are encouraged to contact Shrine at 419-925-4532.

The Shrine offers veneration of the St. Peregrine Relic monthly, following the last Saturday Mass and at a quarterly prayer service. **The next service is scheduled for March 15, 2020 at 2pm.**

## WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

- Mar. 1-Pope Francis I
- Mar. 2-Bishop Timothy Doherty
- Mar. 3-Fr. Paul Hudson, St. Mary Dunkirk and St. John the Evangelist Hartford City
- Mar. 4-Fr. Andrew Dudzinski, St. Mary Muncie
- Mar. 5-Fr. Brian Dudzinski, St. Patrick, Kokomo
- Mar. 6-Fr. Ted Dudzinski, Vicar General; Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette
- Mar. 7-Fr. Daniel Duff, St. Mary, Alexandria
- Mar. 8-Fr. Stephen Duquaine, St. Lawrence, Lafayette
- Mar. 9-Fr. Cajetan Ebuziem, Emmaus House Lafayette
- Mar. 10-Fr. Dale Ehrman, Sacred Heart, Cicero
- Mar. 11-Fr. Dennis Faker, St. Cecilia, DeMotte
- Mar. 12-Fr. Michael Ford, St. Thomas Aquinas West Lafayette
- Mar. 13-Fr. Tom Fox, retired
- Mar. 14-Fr. Alan Funk, retired
- Mar. 15-Fr. Sam Futral, St. Joseph, Covington & St. Francis Xavier, Attica
- Mar. 16-Fr. Daniel Gartland, Holy Spirit, Fishers
- Mar. 17-Fr. Dennis Goth, St. John the Baptist, Tipton
- Mar. 18-Fr. Paul Graf, Franciscan St. Elizabeth Healthcare Lafayette
- Mar. 19-Fr. Don Gross, retired
- Mar. 20-Fr. Kevin Haines, St. Maria Goretti, Westfield
- Mar. 21-Fr. Thomas Haan, St. Charles, Otterbein & St. Patrick, Oxford
- Mar. 22-Fr. David Hasser, Consultant in the Office of Divine Worship, Director of Vocations, Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette
- Mar. 23-Fr. Dave Hellmann, St. Lawrence, Muncie
- Mar. 24-Bishop Emeritus William Higi, retired
- Mar. 25-Fr. Kevin Hurley, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carmel
- Mar. 26-Fr. Patrick Hosey, retired
- Mar. 27-Fr. David Huemmer, St. Joseph Retreat Center, Tipton, with ministry to the Monastery of the Poor Clares, Kokomo
- Mar. 28-Fr. Kevin Hurley, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
- Mar. 29-Fr. Samuel Kalu, St. Mary, Muncie
- Mar. 30-Fr. Mike Kettron, retired
- Mar. 31-Fr. John Kiefer, retired

**WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?**

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

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

PASTOR - Rev. Paul Hudson

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Dunkirk: 765.768.1283 stmaryjohn@att.net

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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. 20, 2020**

*Editor: Diana Holsten*

**PRAYER, FASTING & ALMSGIVING**

Lent begins this week. Have you thought about how you will keep this season of penitent waiting? Traditionally Christians focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent -- not by going through the motions, but by allowing them to carry us into deeper communion with and work on behalf of the Father.

Sr. Joan Delaplane, OP, once wrote of Lent that *Yes, we are called to fast, to pray, and to give alms; but not as ends in themselves. Fast not only from food, but from the fear that God will not be our enough; fast from talking all the time and give, not only alms, but a listening ear to our children, our spouse, our colleagues; fast from nurturing anger and hurts and give forgiveness; fast from needing other's approval and give God the glory. Fast from cynicism regarding our government or our times and write or call a legislator. The focus for those on the Way must be God, God's people, God's poor, and God's Kingdom.*

Of course, the truth is that we are called to do these things year-round and let our Lenten practice become our Christian witness. May God grant us the grace to carry on our fasting, prayer, and almsgiving this Lent in a spirit of openness to God's love and be a light to those around us.

Jonathan F. Sullivan  
Director of Parish Ministries, Services, and Catechesis  
Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana



Fridays:

February 28

March 13 & March 27

4:30 pm-7:00pm

St. John the Evangelist Parish Hall

Cost \$9 for adults and

\$5 for kids under 12

Includes: all you can eat fish, potatoes, coleslaw, dessert, and a drink.

