

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

MAY 28, 2020

FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am overjoyed that Bishop Doherty has announced our Diocesan re-opening plan, which means that St. John and St. Mary can resume offering Masses beginning May 30/31.

That said, we must resume our lives with great consideration for the well-being of ourselves and of others, taking precautions as directed from local, state and diocesan guidelines. By now you should have received your letter indicating the guidelines set forth for returning to Mass. Hopefully, you have read it.

It is to be clearly stated that the bishop has decreed that dispensation from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation remains in effect until August 15. In particular, those who are experiencing any sickness, those whose health is in some way compromised, those who are fearful of the possible infection of COVID-19, and those over the age of 65 should consider staying home.

In quoting Bishop Doherty, "You have shown great openness to the grace of God, charity toward one another, and obedience to the Lord Jesus by your willingness *to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus (Mk 8: 34)* by suffering prolonged fast from our Eucharistic Lord, the joy of attending Sunday Mass and Christian fellowship. All of this was offered for the keeping of our Lord's greatest commandment, *love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all of your mind, and with all of your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself (Mk 13: 30-31)*. In this way, we have been able to protect the common good, our faith family."

Thank you for your patience and your consideration as we begin to reopen.

Above all, please continue to offer up your prayers daily for our local diocese and for the Church as a whole. Our prayers make a difference!

Fr. Paul



TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Graduation is a major milestone in a young adult's life. This year that milestone seemed even more insurmountable, but nevertheless, it was conquered. Our cluster parishes wish to offer our graduates prayers and blessings as they begin the next phase of their young adult lives. May the faith instilled in them continue to grow and flourish and shine forth in all their endeavors.

Congratulations to our graduate from St. Mary's:

Calli Stigleman

And from St. John's our graduates:

Bethany Elkins

Kayli Henderson

Joey Payne

Kiara Shields

Cameron Rinker

**Heavenly Father,
Surround those who are graduating
with your grace.**

**Bless them with hope so that they
move into the future with eager and
open hearts.**

**Help them to put the knowledge,
skills, and insights gained through
their education for the good of all
mankind.**

**Inspire them to believe in the
goodness of life even when faced with
challenges and difficulties.**

**As they commence with their lives,
may they grow even more grateful and
wise. Amen**



"THROUGH THE CHURCH YEAR"

TRINITY SUNDAY

With Pentecost, our annual celebration of the entire mystery of Christ is completed and we return to ordinary time. The Sunday following Pentecost is kept as a special day in honor of the Blessed Trinity. Having seen the loving and saving work of God unfold from the Advent of Christ, through his Paschal Mystery, to the sending of the Spirit, the Church now feels compelled to turn to this One Saving God in his Divine Essence and offer a tribute of praise, adoration, glory, and thanksgiving. The various prayers of today's feast reflect this intention and worship.

--excerpted from *Through the Church Year*, by Francis D. Kelly

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Although we often gather to celebrate the Eucharist, it can sometimes become so familiar that we do not pay enough attention to what we are doing. The Feast of The Body and Blood of Christ was instituted to highlight what the eucharist is and what it means for our lives.

The Eucharist is our community ritual that brings together in remembrance and celebration our Christian identity. In word and sacrament, we gather together to express our unity as God's family around the altar where Jesus himself becomes present to us through God's Word and the bread and wine, that through consecration becomes Jesus' body and blood.

By sharing in the Eucharist, we share with Jesus his divine life and are joined to God and to one another to become the new earthly Body of Christ to continue Christ's ministry of building God's kingdom.

--excerpted from *All Saints Press*

FRUITFUL HARVEST UPDATE

Our current campaign of Fruitful Harvest is rolling along. There are several pieces of good news:

- Our parishioners have continued to make their pledge payments.
- St. Mary's has in fact already reached their goal of \$13,696 during this past month with actual payments of \$14,055 as of this newsletter date. Therefore, they will soon be receiving their 10% rebate check.
- St. John's is only \$2,212 short of their goal of \$44,717.
- We have until the end of August for all payments to be credited to this campaign.

Please, if at all possible, please continue your Fruitful Harvest payments. It is essential for our diocese to continue the work of the local church through the use of these funds. Thank you to all who pledged, and to those who are praying for this campaign, and to those who have fulfilled your payment.

UNITING IN HEART - PERPETUAL PRAYER

Please continue to pray for our Bishop, our priests, all of our parishes – and all of you, for all the good people across our Diocese and for Uniting in Heart 2030. www.dol-in.org/UnitingInHeartPrayers.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES: None reported

BIRTHDAYS:

- 2 Matthew Aulbach
- 7 Ruth Ann Clawson
- 11 Julie K. Fields
- 22 Hope Fleming
- 22 Karen Uggem
- 23 Ryan John Trissel
- 25 Mason Kitterman
- 28 Mary Ford
- 29 Jim Cale

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*.



CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB

Check us out at: www.stmaryjohn.org. Weekly bulletins, this newsletter, daily Mass with Bishop Barron, the Catholic Moment, daily readings and prayers, and much more can be found on this website. Contact Diana if you are having trouble accessing this site.

JUNE CHALLENGE BY K OF C

“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.” (Gospel for June 21, Mt 10:32-33)

The logic is pretty clear-cut, isn't it? In this memorable promise, Jesus assures us of his intercession before the heavenly Father if we acknowledge him before others. Historians tell us that the 20th century saw more martyrs than any before. These brothers and sisters courageously acknowledged Christ before others at the cost of their lives. In our comparative freedom, do we nonetheless deny Christ or hide our faith in little ways? Mindful of Christ's promise and inspired by the faith of recent martyrs, may we acknowledge our Savior before others with serenity, courage, and love.

JUNE CHALLENGE by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to offer to keep another person's need in your prayers. Second, I challenge you to sustain the priesthood and its witness to the faith by supporting the Faith in Action Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) or by helping seminarians in some other way. (Our diocesan Seminarian Fund Appeal)

Questions for Reflection:

What does a full “audit” of your public profession of faith reveal? How does offering to pray for others acknowledge Christ before others?

--KofC.org



PEOPLE WITH GOOD NEWS

Nicholas Aulbach earned a Major B and the Cracker Jack Award in wrestling at BHS.

Bethany Elkins earned a Major B patch for softball at BHS.

Kayli Henderson earned a Major B patch for basketball manager and baseball manager at BHS.

Noah Kitterman earned a Major B patch for track at BHS.

Lance Manley earned a Major B patch for swimming, track and golf at BHS.

Jenna Payne earned a Major B patch for cheerleading and track at BHS.

Cameron Rinker earned a Major B patch for track at BHS.

Kelli Rinker earned a Major B patch for swimming and track at BHS.

Calli Stigleman received an Academic Honors Diploma, ACAC Academic All-Conference, Athletic Letter Blanket, and several scholarships at JCHS.

Helen Whitesell earned a Major B patch for basketball at BHS.

If you feel you have been a victim of sexual misconduct by a cleric, contact Victim Assistance Minister, Doris May, at 765-464-4988 or report the incident at <https://dol-in.org/reporting-an-incident>.

ALERT-PHISHING ATTACKS ON THE RISE

A Phishing Attack is when a cyber-criminal fakes the name and e-mail address of a person that you know. They pretend to be a person they are not in order to lure you into a charitable donation, the purchase of gift cards or the electronic transfer of funds. These attacks come in the form of e-mail messages and text messages on your phones. There are no software defenses against these attacks available at this time. The best defense is awareness that they are happening, what they look like and the ability to not reply to the messages, simply ignore the message and delete it from your device.

THANK YOU FOR CHURCH SUPPORT

From your graciousness, we continue to receive contributions from a great number of our parishioners. THANK YOU!! If at all possible, please continue to keep your contributions up-to-date and mail them to the office both for St. Mary's or St. John's to:

St. John's Church

213 S. Spring St.

Hartford City, IN 47348

Diana will be able to distinguish which parish they belong to and appropriately deposit to that account.

Your efforts to continue your financial support to the church are very much appreciated.

REPORT YOUR ROSARY TOTALS TO HELP NEW MOMS

Throughout the month of May, in honor of Mary and mother's everywhere, we have been praying the rosary in honor of Mary and for an end to the pandemic as requested by Pope Francis.

Please notify Diana with the total number of times you prayed the rosary throughout May. We do not need names, just totals. A donation for each one will be made to the Helping Hands Pregnancy Care Center in Montpelier for St. John's and the Portland Pregnancy Care Center for St. Mary's.

Thank you for uniting in prayer and for helping us pass along the powerful prayer of the holy rosary.

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

June 1-Pope Francis I

June 2-Bishop Timothy Doherty

June 3-Fr. Paul Hudson, St. Mary Dunkirk and St. John the Evangelist Hartford City

June 4-Fr. Michael Bower Our Lady of Grace, Noblesville

June 5-Fr. Phil Bowers, retired

June 6-Fr. David Buckles, Franciscan Health Lafayette

June 7-Fr. Pat Click, St. Louis de Monfort Fishers

June 8-Fr. Paul Cochran, Sorrowful Mother, Wheatfield & St. Cecilia, DeMotte

June 9-Fr. John Cummings St. Joseph, Reynolds & Sacred Heart, Remington

June 10-Fr. Cole Daily, St. Lawrence, Lafayette

June 11-Fr. Donald Davison, St. Augustine, Rensselaer

June 12-Fr. Christian DeCarlo, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carmel

June 13-Fr. Andrew DeKeyser, Diocesan Chancery & Diocesan Tribunal, Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette and Sacred Heart of Jesus, Remington

June 14-Fr. James DeOreo, St. Alphonsus Liguori, Zionsville

June 15-Fr. Brian Doerr, St. Francis of Assisi, Muncie

June 16-Fr. Richard Doerr, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Carmel

June 17-Fr. Andrew Dudzinski, St. Mary Muncie

June 18-Fr. Brian Dudzinski, St. Patrick, Kokomo

June 19-Fr. Ted Dudzinski, Vicar General; Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette

June 20-Fr. Daniel Duff, St. Mary, Alexandria

June 21-Fr. Stephen Duquaine, St. Lawrence, Lafayette

June 22-Fr. Cajetan Ebuziem, Emmaus House Lafayette

June 23-Fr. Dale Ehrman, Sacred Heart, Cicero

June 24-Fr. Dennis Faker, St. Cecilia, DeMotte

June 25-Fr. Michael Ford, St. Thomas Aquinas West Lafayette

June 26-Fr. Tom Fox, retired

June 27-Fr. Alan Funk, retired

June 28-Fr. Sam Futral, St. Joseph, Covington & St. Francis Xavier, Attica

June 29-Fr. Daniel Gartland, Holy Spirit, Fishers

June 30-Fr. Dennis Goth, St. John the Baptist, Tipton

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?

BUILDING FAMILY BONDS

Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19, families have been faced with the challenge of establishing a 'new normal' in their daily lives. The disruptions of our lives as we knew it, has caused distress.

Whatever your family situation, there is an opportunity to find grace in the midst of this crisis. Families can use this time as an invitation to focus on our relationships and on building strong family bonds.

Here are a few suggestions on how to use this time well:

Pray Together

- Visit your local parish. Even if you can't enter, sit in front of the church. It is a tabernacle. He is waiting for you!
- Pray the Rosary
- Pray the Stations of the Cross – you can do this at home with a simple cross or crucifix.
- Meditate on the Scriptures
- Celebrate and observe Sunday with a livestreamed Mass.

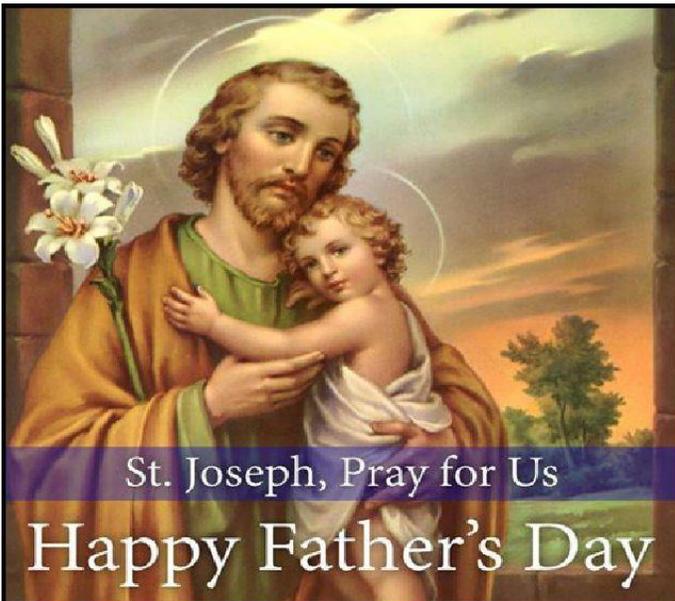
Build and Fortify Your Relationships

- Set aside time to pray with your spouse –
- Consider using extra time to enrich your marriage
- Be Kind
- Write a mission statement for your family.

Have Fun Together

- Do something fun as a family – bake a pie, bring out a board game, get creative with craft supplies, or take a nature walk at a nearby trail.
- Plan a celebration for feast days.
- Don't stop date nights
- Start building a family photo album or photobook. Organize your photos and plan some home videos.

--foryourmarriage.org



St. Joseph, Pray for Us

Happy Father's Day

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.

Bless all fathers as they care for their families.

Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;

support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,

as we look to You for love and salvation,

through Jesus Christ our rock and defender,
in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

St Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers, Amen

Zsolt

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOUNDER ON WAY TO SAINTHOOD

The Vatican announced this week that Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of the Knights founder, Father Michael J. McGivney.

The Pope's action means that Father McGivney can be declared "Blessed", the step just prior to sainthood. An additional miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession will be required for his canonization as a saint.

A date will soon be set for the beatification Mass, which will take place in Connecticut. It will include the reading of an apostolic letter from the Holy Father and the bestowing of the title "Blessed" on Father McGivney. More information can be found at www.FatherMcGivney.org



**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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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: June 19, 2020

Editor: Diana Holsten



**UPDATE ON PASTORAL
CHANGES FOR UNITING IN
HEART**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And you will renew the face of the earth.
Lord,

by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.

In the same Spirit
help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

After consultation, we have decided to postpone our original Uniting in Heart clergy transfer date that was scheduled for June 29, 2020. We don't know what the next few weeks will bring but I would like to try to provide an opportunity for the parish families to see one another again, to celebrate the sacraments together and to have a proper send-off before our changes. With this in mind, Wednesday, August 19, 2020 will be the 'moving day.' You might ask—"What if we encounter another surge in the COVID-19 infection rate and numbers as predicted for mid-August or September? Is the moving date firm?" Educated forecasts show that there will be another surge, we just don't know when. For planning purposes, August 19, 2020 has to be a firm date.

I ask that each of you continue to pray for an end to this pandemic and that the Blessed Mother sustain us in our ministry.
In Christ's peace, Most Reverend Timothy Doherty
Bishop of Lafayette-in-Indiana