

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

MAY 21, 2021



FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:

We were still awaiting updates on any changes to the Covid policies from our diocesan staff at time of publication, so please pay attention to our bulletin or any all-call updates from our office in the days to come. In speaking of changes, we have made a few security updates to our sacristy at both Holy Family and St. John's. This was done in order to make sure we can keep our churches open for more visits from our parishioners and visitors to the blessed sacrament and a chance to have a beautiful respite to pray and listen to God. For those who are new to both parishes the side door entrances will be unlocked during the day so please take advantage of these opportunities to pray for each other and our families in the days to come.

In speaking of our families, with the upcoming feast of Corpus Christi, it is good opportunity to update us on any changes with our homebound or nursing home patients as well as encouraging and getting updates on Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who have brought the eucharist to those unable to come regularly to Mass in the past. This is an important and ancient mission of the Church to bring Holy Communion to those in need, and so a current update on our family members who fit this need would be greatly appreciated. This was one of the first things I was able to do as a seminarian and has always remained an integral part of my current ministry as a pastor. We are always praying for those who cannot physically be present at Mass, so your prayers and updates are quite important to say the least.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Lance Manley and Helen Whitesell from St. John's and three students from Holy Family: Ryan Slater, Anthony Stanley, and Colin McHarry, will each graduate high school in the coming days. As they have been educated academically and in their faith, we pray they will go out and productively use their knowledge of both as they grow in love and service of all.

"Occupy your mind with good thoughts, or the enemy will fill them with bad ones. Unoccupied, they cannot be."

— St. Thomas More



Amoris Laetitia Family
Year 2021 - 2022

YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Pope Francis has announced a special Year of the Family for March 19, 2021, to June 26, 2022. The year commemorates the fifth anniversary of the apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love*).

Goal 2 of 5 from Pope Francis:

2. Proclaim that the sacrament of marriage is a gift and contains in itself a transforming power of human love. For this purpose, pastors and families must journey together with a sense of co-responsibility and pastoral complementarity between the different vocations in the Church (cf. AL 203).



“The Pastorate Guide was envisioned as part of the Uniting in Heart 2030 Pastoral Plan almost from the beginning,” said Father Ted Dudzinski, Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia and Chancellor for the diocese. “Many of our priests and leaders had expressed a desire for resources under the various pillars to help them implement Uniting in Heart. So, as we discerned the structure of the 3 Pillars and the pastoral vision plan, we realized that a guidebook that spoke specifically to each of the pillars and their subpoints would be of benefit,” he said.

The Uniting in Heart Pastorate Guide is a 45-page document filled with guidance and resources on how to execute the 3 Pillars of Mission, Community and Witness that make up the vision of Uniting in Heart. “The pillars of Uniting in Heart and their respective sub-categories are the vision of UiH and serve to provide the general direction the diocese is heading,” said Rob Hartley, Director of Evangelization, Family Life, and Pastoral Ministries. “The Pastorate Guide provides specific objectives to focus pastorate planning, elaborates on finer points of the vision and includes an abundance of resources to equip pastorates to achieve the vision. Most importantly, the guide serves to get the whole diocese on the same strategy while also having the flexibility to be responsive to the specific pastorate needs identified by the surveys, the missionary pastor and his leadership team.”

The guide also contains a 10-page supplemental resource document that includes hundreds of websites, books and online programs that can help educate the Missionary Pastors and their lay leadership, while providing practical applications on how to implement Uniting in Heart at their pastorates. Hartley said that while the Pastorate Guide itself was developed to be enduring, the accompanying resource guide will be updated more regularly.

“We believe the objectives in the guide are enduring and will last for the 10-year scope for Uniting in Heart,” he said. “The accompanying resource guide will be updated roughly every three months. When we find a good resource, pastorates can stick with it for as long as it bears fruit. At the same time, we recognize that new resources are being developed constantly. As a parish exhausts a particular resource and it becomes stale or has diminishing interest, we want to provide the pastorates with something fresh.”

For more about the pastorate guide, read the May 2nd edition of *The Catholic Moment*!

CALLING LATINO SINGERS OR MUSICIANS

The *Latino Spiritual Music Society* is an initiative sponsored by OSV Institute and the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana, which aims to introduce Hispanic children and youth in the life of the Church through sacred music.

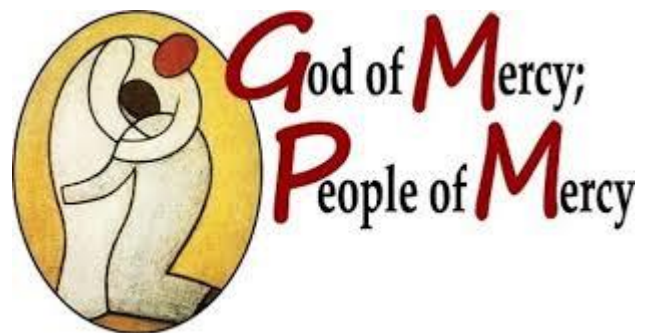
The program will start on July 1, 2021. If you or someone you know are a singer or musician that loves Latino spiritual music and would be interested in being part of this musical group, aged 8-28, contact Dora or Claudia as listed below. **Your help is fundamental** in the formation of this core team.

We also need volunteers able to share their talents in teaching music for the choirs and orchestras.

For more information contact Dora Tobar (dtobar@dol-in.org; 765-269-4678), or Claudia Castillo at our Office (765)269-4662

"For there are three ways of performing an act of mercy: the merciful word, by forgiving and by comforting; secondly, if you can offer no word, then pray—that too is mercy; and thirdly, deeds of mercy."

— St. Faustina Kowalska



HAIL, JOSEPH

Hail, Joseph, image of the Eternal Father;
Hail, Joseph, guardian of the Eternal Son;
Hail, Joseph, temple of the Eternal Spirit;
Hail, Joseph, beloved of the Trinity.
Hail, Joseph, spouse and companion of the Mother of God.
Hail, Joseph, friend of angels.
Hail, Joseph, believer in miracles.
Hail, Joseph, follower of dreams.
Hail, Joseph, lover of simplicity.
Hail, Joseph, exemplar of righteousness;
Hail, Joseph, model of meekness and patience;
Hail, Joseph, model of humility and obedience.
Blessed are the eyes that have seen what you saw.
Blessed are the ears that have heard what you heard.
Blessed are the arms that have embraced what you embraced.
Blessed is the lap that has held what you held.
Blessed is the heart that has loved what you loved.
Blessed is the Father who chose you;
Blessed is the Son who loved you:
Blessed is the Spirit who sanctified you.
Blessed is Mary, your spouse, who honored and loved you.
Blessed is the angel who guarded and led you.
And blessed be forever all who remember and honor you.

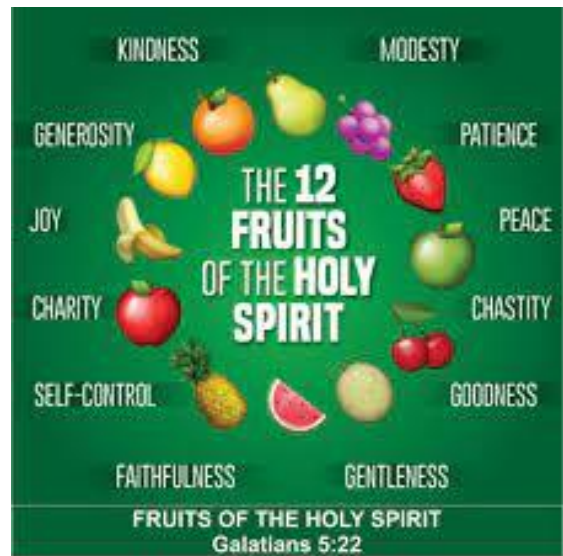
- Father Jean-Jacques Olier

DIVORCE & BEYOND

The Office for Family Life and Hispanic Ministry is sponsoring a Day of Reflection for people who have been through a divorce or annulment. This will take place on Saturday, June 5, 8:30am-3pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Carmel.

Susan McIntosh, along with other ministers in the *Divorce and Beyond* ministry are behind this initiative, and wants to extend its benefits to people from all part of our Diocese. Talks provided by Deacon Bob Angelich. There will be time for fellowship, prayer and reflection. Cost is only \$10 and includes lunch and a light breakfast.

Contact Susan at 317-938-8950 or Dora Tobar in the Family Life office at 765-269-4678.



THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Those who use and grow in the gifts of the Holy Spirit produce results in their lives. We call these results the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. They are twelve:

Charity is unselfish care of our neighbor.

Joy results from realizing the saving love of God in our lives no matter what befalls us.

Peace is the calmness and serenity we have as we realize the closeness of God to us through Sanctifying Grace.

Patience is putting up with outrages and injuries in life because we know we are loved whole and complete with God's extraordinary gift.

Kindness is the gentleness and consideration we exhibit seeing Christ's presence in both ourselves and in those we meet and work with.

Goodness refers to how we act within the community, always avoiding sin and choosing what is right.

Generosity is the response we give in light of all that God has given us.

Gentleness is ability to keep firmly in mind the goodness of others and our service to their needs without always insisting on our own way.

Faithfulness means the trust that God's presence is a part of all we do. It enables us to live our Christian lives with confidence.

Modesty comes from the confidence of God's love and power in us so that we no longer have the need to impress others.

Self-control is mastery of all temptations.

Chastity is the proper use of our sexuality according to God's plan.

POPE'S LETTER ON ST. JOSEPH

ON THE 150th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter on December 8, 2020, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, proclaiming the year 2021 as the year of St. Joseph, the Worker. Each month of 2021 we will include one of the seven personal reflections of St. Joseph by Pope Francis. Last month we introduced the letter itself; this month we focus on the second fatherly title: A Tender and Loving Father.

An accepting father

Joseph accepted Mary unconditionally. He trusted in the angel's words. "The nobility of Joseph's heart is such that what he learned from the law he made dependent on charity. Today, in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident, Joseph appears as the figure of a respectful and sensitive man. Even though he does not understand the bigger picture, he makes a decision to protect Mary's good name, her dignity and her life. In his hesitation about how best to act, God helped him by enlightening his judgment".

Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history. Unless we are reconciled with our own history, we will be unable to take a single step forward, for we will always remain hostage to our expectations and the disappointments that follow.

The spiritual path that Joseph traces for us is not one that *explains*, but *accepts*. Only as a result of this acceptance, this reconciliation, can we begin to glimpse a broader history, a deeper meaning. We can almost hear an echo of the impassioned reply of Job to his wife, who had urged him to rebel against the evil he endured: "Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" (*Job 2:10*).

Joseph is certainly not passively resigned, but courageously and firmly proactive. In our own lives, acceptance and welcome can be an expression of the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude. Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.

Jesus' appearance in our midst is a gift from the Father, which makes it possible for each of us to be

reconciled to the flesh of our own history, even when we fail to understand it completely.

Just as God told Joseph: "Son of David, do not be afraid!" (*Mt 1:20*), so he seems to tell us: "Do not be afraid!" We need to set aside all anger and disappointment, and to embrace the way things are, even when they do not turn out as we wish. Not with mere resignation but with hope and courage. In this way, we become open to a deeper meaning. Our lives can be miraculously reborn if we find the courage to live them in accordance with the Gospel. It does not matter if everything seems to have gone wrong or some things can no longer be fixed. God can make flowers spring up from stony ground. Even if our heart condemns us, "God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything" (*1 Jn 3:20*).

Here, once again, we encounter that Christian realism which rejects nothing that exists. Reality, in its mysterious and irreducible complexity, is the bearer of existential meaning, with all its lights and shadows. Thus, the Apostle Paul can say: "We know that all things work together for good, for those who love God" (*Rom 8:28*). To which Saint Augustine adds, "even that which is called evil (*etiam illud quod malum dicitur*)". In this greater perspective, faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad.

Nor should we ever think that believing means finding facile and comforting solutions. The faith Christ taught us is what we see in Saint Joseph. He did not look for shortcuts, but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.

Joseph's attitude encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak, for God chooses what is weak (*cf. 1 Cor 1:27*). He is the "Father of orphans and protector of widows" (*Ps 68:6*), who commands us to love the stranger in our midst. I like to think that it was from Saint Joseph that Jesus drew inspiration for the parable of the prodigal son and the merciful father (*cf. Lk 15:11-32*).





Holy Family First Communicants from right: Arianna Vaughn, Keegan Vaughn, and Allison Holmes. Benjamin Soultz also received his First Holy Communion at Holy Family the following week due to illness.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS JUNE HOLY FAMILY

Sunday 11:00 am Reader: Glen Devitt
Commentator: Anne Devitt **Ushers:** Evan & Anthony Stanley

ST. MARY'S

June 5: **Reader:** Dan Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Dan Watson

June 12: **Reader:** Ted Kolodka **Greeter:** Dean & Loretta Wilson **Counter:** Jane Crouch

June 19: **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Jane Crouch **Counter:** Dan Watson

June 26: **Reader:** Dan Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Danette Hamilton

ST. JOHN'S

Saturday 6:30 pm Reader & Announcements: Fred Hoffman **Greeters:** Matthew & Nathan Booher

Sunday 9:00 am Reader & Announcements: Bernadette Elkins **Greeters:** Susan Lannoy



Judah Shelton, Ryan Trissel and Allison Meadows (l-r) received Jesus for the first time on May 2nd, at their First Holy Communion at St. John's, administered by Fr. Hurley at morning Mass.

Vacation Bible School: "Heroes of Old"

July 19 - 23 from 6pm - 7:30pm at Holy Family!
Please contact Christina Christman, (765)733-4026 if you are interested in helping in any way!! Thank you!



May Crowning at Holy Family by Religious Ed



Jenna Payne, Abigail Johnson, Ammee Uggen, Nicholas Aulbach (front row l-r) and Noah Kitterman, Joey Payne, and Lance Manley (back row l-r) each received the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 5th at St. John's.

YOUTH GROUP YEAR-END WRAP-UP

It's hard to believe that it's the end of the school year already! The other day I had the opportunity to meet with several Youth Ministers throughout the diocese and we all reflected and talked about this past year of ministry. I felt very blessed that I was one of the few people that could say I got to do a lot of in-person ministry, especially getting to meet weekly with both the Youth and Young Adult Groups. We have been able to do a number of safe, yet, community building activities at a time when community was the hardest to have due to COVID. Through this community, we were able to have fun, support each other, and grow in our faith and trust in Jesus.

Not only have I been blessed by the ability to gather in person, but I've also been blessed to meet many generous and kind parishioners. I have been grateful for those who have donated food, time, and financially to make the Youth Group work. On a personal level, I have been grateful for those who have checked in on me and those who have been praying for us and our success. Through all these generous actions, we have been able to do both ordinary weekly meetings, as well as other events including bonfires, movie nights, bowling, e-Learning Days, Friday get-togethers, and Destination Jesus. With your continued support, we look forward to doing even more things in the future, including a Mission Trip this summer, various other service activities within our own communities, small groups, and more!

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

None reported

BIRTHDAYS:

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

If you would like to be included in the birthday and anniversary listings, please drop us a note with your name, month and day of birth or anniversary. We would be happy to share it through *The Good News Letter*. We do not automatically include names due to privacy.

MONTHLY CHALLENGE BY K OF C

APRIL CHALLENGE by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

“As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. ... This is my commandment: Love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (Gospel for May 9, Jn 15:9-10, 12-13)

Christ tells us we will remain in his love if we keep his commandments. Saying you love someone can be easy, but it is really our deeds that reveal our love — or lack of it. Christ showed us how to love by his example and by sacrificing his very life for us. To love as Christ commands us to love demands action. The Letter of James says, “Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves” (1:22). May each of us commit to keeping the commandments and offering our very selves in service and sacrifice for others.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to meditate on the meaning of the Ten Commandments in your life by picking one on 10 different days and praying about it for at least 10 minutes. Second, during this month devoted to our Blessed Mother, I challenge you to assist your council in implementing the Faith in Action Rosary program — showing your love of Christ by showing your love of Mary.

Questions for Reflection:

Are you willing to proclaim to others that you love Christ? Does your life show this love by your obedience to Christ and the teachings of the Church, or are there areas of your life where you seem not to heed the Gospel? Are there times when you find it hard to love as Christ commands, and if so, how can you seek to grow in love?

--KofC.org

St. Padre Pio

“The Rosary is the prayer of those who triumph over everything and everyone. It was Our Lady who taught us this prayer, just as it was Jesus who taught us the Our Father.”

**St. Mary, Holy Family and
St. John the Evangelist Parishes**
A Pastorate of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana
209 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348
PASTOR - Rev. Kevin Hurley
Dunkirk: 765.768.1283 Gas City: 765.674.2605
Hartford City: 765.348.3889 stmaryjohn@att.net

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hartford City, IN 47348
Permit No. 97

Return Service Requested

Lord's Day Liturgy

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

SUNDAY: 9:00 am at St. John's

11:00 am at Holy Family

- **Weekday Liturgy:** Please consult inside the bulletin. –

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: June 18, 2021

Editor: Diana Holsten



All are invited to celebrate Memorial Day by living out one of the virtues of praying for the dead. Fr. Hurley will hold a special Memorial Day Mass at the Montpelier Catholic Cemetery in Montpelier at 9am on Monday, May 31st. Bring your own lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, the Mass will be moved to St. John's in Hartford City at 9:30am.

A Christian Memorial Day Prayer

Gracious God,
On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace. In union with people of goodwill of every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.

We ask this through your name.

- *Author Unknown*

ALL PASTORATE SUMMER PICNIC

Plans are in the works for a summer picnic for our three parishes—St. Mary's, Holy Family and St. John's—to gather as one pastorate. Save the date of **Sunday June 27th**. Lunch will begin approximately 1pm.

The reasons are many:

Welcome back to our churches

Catch-up and meet new parishioners

Gather together in Christ

Celebrate being able to gather together again

Have a great time

The cause is one:

United in the Heart of Christ!

Join us for a great day of food and fellowship. There will be games and prizes for the kids, delicious food, ice cream, and good times.

Bring your lawn chair and a well-filled dish to share and your own table service. We will meet at the **Sigma Phi Gamma Park in Hartford City**. There is a building shelter house, tennis and basketball courts, a ball diamond, a kiddie park for the younger children and plenty of play ground for the older children. There is a stove and refrigerator on site and bathroom facilities.

Please join us as we meet and greet each other in our new pastorate family!