

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 24, 2021



well. Let us continue to pray for all of our parishes here in our pastorate, but pray especially for a blessed 125th anniversary for St. Mary's.

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Hurley

FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:

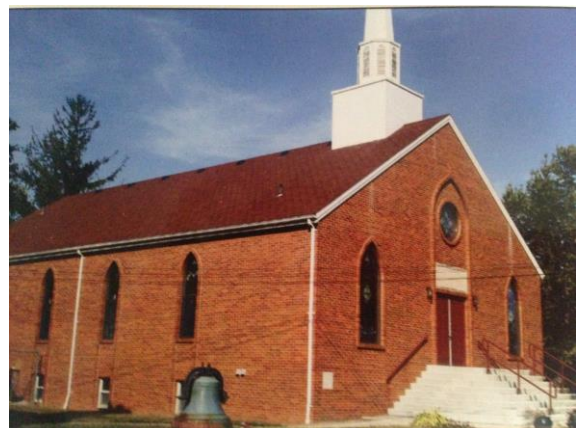
The word *anniversary* is oftentimes a commonplace one used for many things secular and holy. The actual definition from the Latin means simply a turning of the year, but of course, we are the ones that are turning around the world, life, and each other. I bring this up because near the end of this October we will be celebrating 125 turns since the dedication of St. Mary's Church at Dunkirk. A lot has gone and happened in those 125 years for Dunkirk and the surrounding towns, but through it all our parishioners have been guided by God to grow in holiness and serve our neighbors and communities to the best of their abilities, allowing them to turn to the God who saves.

The book of Ecclesiastes used often in funeral readings focuses on the times that we have to live, grow, mourn, laugh, and so on. My favorite part of that passage comes after the times, where "God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done." God has done so much work in Dunkirk and will continue to do so, and we will never know the full impact of all our parishioners' efforts until the ending of all things. It is a good reminder that as we turn around the sun, we are always turning around the Son, who moves into our lives bringing His timeless love and energy into our souls—and those we are called to work with over the years.

I am blessed to carry on the priestly work that my brother pastors have done before, and I am truly humbled to be able to reap their timeless efforts and hopefully do my part to add to it as



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD
Beginning with Mass at 5pm
Festivities to follow
Including a catered meal
All our pastorate family is invited
To join in the merriment!





On the possibilities of...

By Father Ted Dudzinski

In my recent article in the September 19 edition of *The Catholic Moment*, I share a story about a time my grandmother imparted some very profound advice to me as I prepared to transition into junior high school. As we went for a walk, she invited us to pray and reminded me of the story of our faith and Jesus' own sacrifice of his life for the love of each of us. She told me that in both my family and in my school, if I wasn't open to the possibilities that situations and life presented, I would always be an obstacle to the good of God's plan.

In many ways, we are in a very similar transition as Uniting in Heart is taking shape in each of our pastorates. As people united in the heart of Jesus, our possibilities are unlimited. Saint Irenaeus wrote: "The glory of God is man fully alive." Our true fulfillment is life in Christ, not self-fulfillment. So, in faith we know God wants us to be fully alive in him, living in his love, peace and joy.

Just as there is much more to this story, the possibilities of Uniting in Heart are endless! I have been truly amazed by the working of the Holy Spirit in our process. Many of our priests and lay faithful are excited about the possibilities of Uniting in Heart and many have already experienced fruits of more vibrant pastorates. Their encounters anew with the Lord Jesus and the living Gospel are beyond their imaginations. Understandably, others are still not quite sure what Uniting in Heart is or how it will impact them.

I encourage you to pick up your copy of *The Catholic Moment* to read more about this pearl of wisdom that my grandmother imparted on me so many years ago, and to read about the many opportunities Uniting in Heart is presenting to us so that each of us may be fully alive in Christ Jesus! As always, and as Bishop Doherty reminds us daily, continue to include the Holy Spirit in our discernment process, and trust in Jesus who says, *Behold, I make all things new.* (Revelation 21:5)

Can you imagine the possibilities...? Let us begin by loving Jesus!

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

Hartford City Life Chain will meet Sunday, October 3, 2021. Sign-in will begin at 2 PM and the Life Chain will finish at 3:30. We will be signing in at Dave's Car Corner at 1225 N. Walnut Street in Hartford City. There will be some parking at Dave's and more parking on the side street. We will space ourselves in front of Dave's, across the street to the north, on the sidewalk in front of Dollar General and O'Reilly's, and on the sidewalk in front of city hall.

All are invited to participate, rain or shine, in support of an end to abortion. Since 1987, the Life Chain has equipped the local Church to lead our nation in prayer for the unborn. Our fight is life, our weapon is prayer, and our leaders are pastors, priests, and disciples of Jesus nation-wide. Feel free to bring a lawn chair. If you have questions, please call Ann Clamme Monroe at 765.348.8436.

“The first and most fundamental step towards...cultural transformation consists in forming consciences with regard to the incomparable and inviolable worth of every human life. It is of the greatest importance to re-establish the essential connection between life and freedom. ... There is no true freedom where life is not welcomed and loved; and there is no fullness of life except in freedom. ... Love, as a sincere gift of self, is what gives the life and freedom of the person their truest meaning.” (The Gospel of Life, 96)

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Thursday, October 14th

The Event Center in Portland, IN

Doors open 5pm, Dinner at 6pm

Silent Auction runs until 8:15pm

All Women and girls are invited to join in this event to support the Pregnancy Care Center of Jay County. The dinner is free to all attending. Dress comfortable for the event, might need a sweater. Door prizes throughout the evening. Contact 260-726-8636 for reservations.



HOLY ROSARY FOR OCTOBER

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Each of our churches offer times to gather together to pray the rosary:

St. Mary's prays the rosary beginning at 4:30pm each Saturday prior to Mass at 5pm.

St. John's will pray the rosary beginning one half hour prior to each Mass time on the weekend.

Holy Family has two weekly options for gathering in prayer through the rosary: Wednesday's at 4pm with 15 decades and Sunday's at 4pm with Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Be sure especially during October to make time for this special means of prayer through Mary who always leads us to her son, Jesus.

AWAKEN YOUR FAITH WITH JOY + JESUS WOMEN'S PROGRAM

Do you long for true joy in your daily routine? Busyness, regret, pain and fear are just a few ways we are robbed of our joy. Join us as we discover how to invite Jesus to be the true source of our joy. St. Paul Catholic Parish is excited to offer a program for ladies created and led by Chris + Katie from St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Carmel. The program begins September 29 and runs for 7 weeks. Each week Chris + Katie will share, discuss, laugh and grow with you on a new featured topic on this session's theme – Joy + Jesus. After the conversation, small Prayer Circles will form and be assigned a table leader. Prayer Circle guides help you through that week's topic and provide discussion questions for your Circle. We will offer the program on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in McCarthy Hall. The program is free but we do ask that you register. Know that if you miss a week, it is okay. We would still love to have you join when you can. The program is also being offered at St. Elizabeth Seton and St. Maria Goretti Parishes. To register, visit <https://awakenyourfaith.org/parish-programs/> or call 765-664-6345.

Communications & Development Director Position

St. Paul Catholic Parish is seeking a Communications and Development Director in Marion, IN. Ideal candidate will be responsible for the marketing, communication and development efforts for the parish preschool, elementary school and church. This includes publication of the weekly church bulletin, website updates, management of social media accounts, branding and overall parish messaging, management of giving campaigns, grant writing and management and obtaining financial support for the church and school. The person should be a self-starter, demonstrate creativity and have the ability to successfully manage multiple projects and deadlines. More information is available at www.stpaulcatholicmarion.org/employment-opportunities.

Job Opening - Anderson

We are currently seeking candidates for the position of part-time accountant (30 hours eligible for benefits) to work for the Anderson/Alexandria Pastorate. The desired applicant is one with previous accounting experience (QuickBooks preferred), who possesses a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail. Duties include payables, payroll, financial statements and updating content on the parish website. Please call Director of Operations Buddy LeRose at (765) 644-5956 or email your resume to dlrose@parish.dol-in.org.

Job Opening - Alexandria

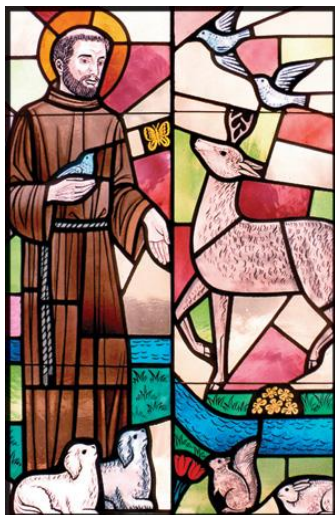
We are currently seeking candidates for the position of part-time maintenance person (15-20 hours) at St. Mary Alexandria. The desired applicant is one with previous maintenance experience, skilled in plumbing, electrical, drywall, painting, etc. Please call Director of Operations Buddy LeRose at (765) 644-5956 or email your resume to dlrose@parish.dol-in.org.



“A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world...Let us...discover anew the humility and courage to pray and fast so that power from on high will break down the walls of lies and deceit: the walls which conceal from the sight of so many of our brothers and sisters the evil of practices and laws which are hostile to life. May this same power turn their hearts to resolutions and goals inspired by the civilization of life and love.” (The Gospel of Life, 100)

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Pope Francis reminds us of our baptismal call—to respond as missionaries, saying “We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20). Respond through the collection for World Mission Sunday on October 23/24 by supporting those who provide loving service to those most in need. Envelopes are in your packet. Thank you.



BLESSING OF ANIMALS

To coincide with the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals, which is October 4, we are planning a blessing of animals celebration on Sunday, October 3rd, 2-4pm in the open field just east of St. Mary's Church in Dunkirk. Any type of animal or pet is welcome, but must be contained on leash or caged. Fr. Hurley will offer a special blessing for these animals and pets. Some special treats may also be available along with a possible show-and-tell opportunity. Please plan to join us.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR OCTOBER

HOLY FAMILY

Sunday 11:00 am **Reader:** Cathy Dashiell
Commentator: Marsha Atkinson **Communion Minister:** Lisa Baker **Ushers:** Sue Barkdull & Ann Bone **Greeter:** Christina Christman Family

ST. MARY'S

Oct. 2: **Reader:** Ted Kolodka **Greeter:** Dean & Loretta Wilson **Counter:** Dan Watson

Oct. 9: **Reader:** Dan Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Jane Crouch

Oct. 16: **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Jane Crouch **Counter:** Dan Watson

Oct. 23: **Reader:** Kathy Jutte **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Dan Watson

ST. JOHN'S

Saturday 6:30 pm **Reader & Announcements:** Jason Lenz **Communion Minister:** Sr. Rita Musante **Greeters:** Karen Sulit

Sunday 9:00 am **Reader & Announcements:** Claire Aulbach **Communion Minister:** Karen Shields **Greeter:**



MONTHLY K OF C CHALLENGE

They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” (Gospel for Sept. 19, Mk 9:34-35)

Naturally, in every good undertaking — whether doing one’s job, helping another or playing a sport — we ought to strive for excellence, for greatness. But here, Jesus gives that thinking a twist: If we want to be great in the kingdom of heaven, we must embrace humility and become servants. We must not seek headlines, but rather give of ourselves for the sake of others, for the common good. My brothers, let us forgo seeking earthly glory in favor of being selfless “team players” in building the kingdom of heaven.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to watch the “Leadership” episode of the *Into the Breach* video series and use the study guide to reflect on what true humility and service look like. Second, I challenge you to participate in the Faith in Action Soccer Challenge or Free Throw Championship program.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you seek personal glory at the expense of others? Do you put your gifts at the service of God and your neighbor, or do you use them primarily to achieve praise and gain in this life? What is one concrete act you can do to grow in humility and give of yourself to others?

--KofC.org

CMA UPDATE

We are gaining ground: St. Mary’s has exceeded their goal, St. John’s is more than half way to their goal, and **Holy Family only needs \$2,000 to reach their goal** for the first time in several campaigns. If you are able to please help us attain this achievement, we would be extremely grateful.

December 31st is the final date of this campaign for payments. If you would be willing to give towards this, please contact Fr. Hurley or Diana in the office at 765-348-3889.

Thank you to each who have offered a pledge and to those who have offered prayers for the Catholic Ministries Appeal success and the benefits it provides to us and our diocese as a whole.



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*).

Pope Francis’ Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendor of true love;
to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic churches.

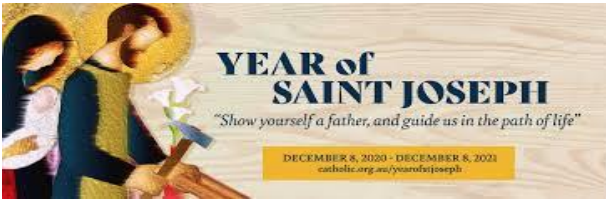
Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again experience
violence, rejection and division;
may all who have been hurt or scandalized
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
and its beauty in God’s plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.

Amen.





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.

We have come to the end of Pope Francis' letter on St. Joseph given last December at the onset of the Year of St. Joseph. Following is a listing of each of the seven personal reflection titles by Pope Francis.

1. *A beloved father*
2. *A tender and loving father*
3. *An obedient father*
4. *An accepting father*
5. *A creatively courageous father*
6. *A working father*
7. *A father in the shadows*

Pope Francis concludes his letter with the following:

“Get up, take the child and his mother” (*Mt 2:13*), God told Saint Joseph.

The aim of this Apostolic Letter is to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. Indeed, the proper mission of the saints is not only to obtain miracles and graces, but to intercede for us before God, like Abraham and Moses, and like Jesus, the “one mediator” (*1 Tim 2:5*), who is our “advocate” with the Father (*1 Jn 2:1*) and who “always lives to make intercession for [us]” (*Heb 7:25*; cf. *Rom 8:34*).

The saints help all the faithful “to strive for the holiness and the perfection of their particular state of life”. Their lives are concrete proof that it is possible to put the Gospel into practice.

Jesus told us: “Learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart” (*Mt 11:29*). The lives of the saints too are examples to be imitated. Saint Paul explicitly says this: “Be imitators of me!” (*1 Cor 4:16*). By his eloquent silence, Saint Joseph says the same.

Before the example of so many holy men and women, Saint Augustine asked himself: “What they could do, can you not also do?” And so, he drew closer to his definitive conversion, when he could exclaim: “Late have I loved you, Beauty ever ancient, ever new!”

We need only ask Saint Joseph for the grace of graces: our conversion.

Let us now make our prayer to him:

***Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.***

***Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.***

Given in Rome, at Saint John Lateran, on 8 December, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the year 2020, the eighth of my Pontificate.

Franciscus

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

None Reported

BIRTHDAYS:

5 Anya Uggen
8 Corey Hardesty
22 Kiara Shields
22 Shea Aulbach
23 Serena Merkel
29 Mark Aulbach

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.

**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

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Lord's Day Liturgy

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

6:30 pm at St. John's

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

11:00 am at Holy Family

- Weekday Liturgy: Please consult inside the bulletin. -

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Oct. 15, 2021

Editor: Diana Holsten



Please join us in Celebrating the Lord's Day with the sacrifice of the Mass.

The Lord's Day Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil Mass:

5:00pm at St. Mary's, Dunkirk

6:30pm at St. John's, Hartford City

Sunday Mass:

9:00am at St. John's, Hartford City

11:00am at Holy Family, Gas City

If weekend Mass is uncomfortable for you, a weekday Mass might be a good alternative. There are less people in attendance, but you can still receive Jesus in the Eucharist.

Mondays 10am at St. John's

Wednesdays 12noon at St. John's

Thursdays 5:30pm at St. Mary's

Fridays 9am at Holy Family

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, FORMED, and much more can be found on this website.

Your Sunday offering as well as all special collection envelopes are available on the website as well. Contact Diana if you are having trouble accessing this site.

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**"Never give up prayer, and should you find dryness and difficulty, persevere in it for this very reason. God often desires to see what love your soul has, and love is not tried by ease and satisfaction."
— St. John of the Cross**

St. Josemaria Escriva

"The holy Rosary is a powerful weapon. Use it with confidence and you will be amazed at the results.

