

SW NEWTON & BENTON COUNTY PASTORATE



A Pastorate of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

DECEMBER 20, 2020 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fr. Richard Weisenberger, Pastor
fr.rweisenberger@dol-in.org
Fr. Peter Vanderkolk, Senior Associate
fr.pvanderkolk@dol-in.org

Sacred Heart of Jesus

107 East Main Street, Fowler

Saint Charles

108 North Meadow Street, Otterbein

Saint John the Baptist

205 South Chestnut Street, Earl Park

Saint Joseph

409 East Allen Street, Kentland

Saint Mary's

2961 Indiana 71, Ambia

Saint Patrick

504 South Michigan Street, Oxford

PASTORATE OFFICES

107 East Main Street, Fowler

765-884-1818

Jan Goetz: jgoetz@parish.dol-in.org

502 South Michigan Street, Oxford

765-382-2587

Nancy Brost: nbrost@dol-in.org

New Parishioners and Guests

We welcome all who are celebrating with us this weekend. If you are new to the pastorate, please contact the office so we may greet you properly.

MASS TIMES

MONDAY 12/21

8:00AM, Earl Park † Gordon Danner

8:15AM, Fowler † Gene Balensiefer by Rita Schroeder

TUESDAY 12/22

8:00AM, Earl Park † Bill Balensiefer

8:15AM, Fowler † Marge Francis by Judy Goodman

6:00PM, Oxford † Rosetta & Paul Leuck by Janice Collier

WEDNESDAY 12/23

8:00AM, Earl Park † Romana Segó

8:00AM, Otterbein † Rick Nichols & Mary Nichols by the Downey Family

8:15AM, Fowler † Bernard Schroeder by Denny & Barb Sondgerath

THURSDAY 12/24

4:00PM, Sacred Heart † Elmoreta Besse by David & Mary Schwartz

4:00PM, Otterbein † Father Ziegler & Peg Dietzen by Jim & Karen Young

5:00PM, Kentland † Geneva Gooding

6:00PM, Oxford † Agnes Dwenger by John & Sharon Dwenger

7:30PM, Dunnington † Pat Scherer by The Family

9:00PM, Earl Park † Parishioners of St. John the Baptist

FRIDAY 12/25

8:30AM, Kentland † Gene Balensiefer by Duane & Kim Datzman

9:00AM, Otterbein, For the Darold & Alice Robinson Family by Don Robinson, Kay Schurr & Ken Robinson

9:30AM, Fowler † For the Pastorate

SATURDAY 12/26

5:00PM, Earl Park † Katherine Hofmeyer

5:30PM, Otterbein † Robert & Bernadette Flook by the Flook Family

SUNDAY 12/27

8:00AM, Oxford † For the Pastorate

9:30AM, Fowler † William Scherer by Karen Gretencord

10:30AM, Oxford † Tom Diener by Jim & Chris Sheetz

10:30AM, Kentland † Gene Balensiefer by Duane & Kim Datzman

Reconciliation

Saturday

St. John's, Earl Park: 4:00PM-4:45PM
St. Charles, Otterbein: 4:30PM-5:15PM
Or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Congratulations on the newest member of your family! Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Pastorate Main Office to make an appointment for pre-baptismal instruction.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage. Couples must contact the Pastorate Main Office at least six months before the proposed wedding date.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

By giving to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, you are helping to support programs across our diocese for our retired priests as well as new seminarians, for our youth, Newman Centers, deacons, prison ministry, pregnancy centers and much more.

- Sacred Heart of Jesus**
16-month goal: \$21,142.00
- Saint Charles**
16-month goal: \$24,616.00
- Saint John the Baptist**
16-month goal: \$11,390.00
- Saint Joseph**
16-month goal: \$19,465.00
- Saint Mary's**
16-month goal: \$3,587.00
- Saint Patrick**
16-month goal: \$26,509.00

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sacred Heart of Jesus

Regular: \$4,041.24	Loose: \$53.00
School: \$625.00	Sister Parish: \$5.00
Christmas: \$20.00	Tuition Asst: \$1,000.00
Building: \$100.00	Immaculate Conception: \$172.00
Total: \$6,016.24	

Saint Charles

Regular: \$2,355.00	Loose:
Flowers: \$175.00	Immaculate Conception: \$3.00
Total: \$2,533.00	

Saint John the Baptist

Regular: \$505.00	Loose: \$18.00
Building: \$25.00	Immaculate Conception: \$10.00
Total: \$558.00	

Saint Joseph

Regular: \$505.00	Loose: \$10.00
Building: \$500.00	Immaculate Conception: \$86.00
Total: \$1,101.00	

Saint Mary's

Regular: \$225.00	Loose: \$5.00
School: \$20.00	Building: \$50.00
Total: \$300.00	

Saint Patrick

Regular: \$ 903.00	Loose: \$65.00
Flowers: \$ 65.00	Votives: \$20.00
Sewing Guild: \$250.00	
Total: \$1,303.00	

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?

- 12/21 – Fr. Kevin Haines
- 12/22 – Fr. David Hasser
- 12/23 – Fr. David Hellmann
- 12/24 – Fr. William Holbrook
- 12/25 – Fr. P. Keith Hosey
- 12/26 – Fr. Paul Hudson
- 12/27 – Fr. David Huemmer



† A Note from Father Weisenberger †

Dear Parishioners,

We have entered into the last days of Advent. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of God the Son made flesh. For me, the great image for these days is the Blessed Virgin Mary awaiting the birth of her Son. There is a song titled "See how the Virgin waits for Him", this song expresses the longing that Mary experiences. Let me suggest that during these days we seek to unite with her. Let me also mention that in the Gospel of St. Matthew the first title applied to Jesus is "Emanuel" which means "God is with us". At the very end of his Gospel, Christ promises His disciples that He will be with Him always (Matthew 28:20). May we always trust in the promise that God is with us.

Fr. Richard Weisenberger

PASTORATE CALENDAR

TUESDAY 12/22

6:00PM – Advent Book Club, Sacred Heart Room
10 Heaven Starts Now by Fr. John Riccardo

WEDNESDAY 12/23

9:00AM-10:00PM – Adoration, Sacred Heart St. Barbara Chapel (annex) School closes due to inclement weather there will be no adoration.

THURSDAY 12/24

FRIDAY 12/25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS!

SATURDAY 12/26

SUNDAY 12/27



† In Our Parishes †

† PASTORATE †

Altar Server Training: For **new and current** altar servers. There will be 2 sessions, **Sacred Heart** @ 3:30pm on Wednesday Jan. 6th, AND **St. Charles** @ 2:30pm on Saturday Jan. 9th.

ADVENT BOOK CLUB: **BOOK:** HEAVEN STARTS NOW by Fr. John Riccardio (144pg), **WHEN:** Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 @ 6PM, **WHERE:** Sacred Heart Elementary ROOM 10. To obtain a copy of the book see Jan Goetz in the Sacred Heart Rectory, 9 copies available for \$10 each, (Please make check payable to Rusty Wilson) **OR** you may order online at AMAZON.COM . ****Snacks will be provided**** If you have any questions, please call Rusty Wilson @ 765-337-6263.

BLOOD DRIVE: The Knights of Columbus 9400 is sponsoring a Blood Drive on the bloodmobile at St. Patrick's Church honoring our Veterans on Sunday, December 20 from 12 noon – 4:00PM. They are in need of 16 donors at this event. Donate in honor of the brave men and women who have given their all to serve our country. There is no substitute for the lifesaving gift of blood. **The COVID-19 antibody test will be performed on all blood donations as part of standard testing. Masks required.** Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

FRIENDLY REMINDER: Even though the state moved to Stage 5 of the state's reopening plan we are still expected to maintain social distancing. So please respect the policy.

A graphic for a Christmas Mass Schedule. The background is a dark blue night sky with a bright star in the upper left and a silhouette of a stable with figures inside. The text 'Christmas Mass Schedule' is written in a large, white, cursive font in the center. To the right, on a dark blue background, are the dates and times for the masses.

December 24th
4:00PM Sacred Heart
4:00PM St. Charles
5:00PM (CST) St. Joseph
6:00PM St. Patrick
7:30PM St. Mary's
9:00PM St. John the Baptist

December 25th
8:30AM (CST) St. Joseph
9:00AM St. Charles
9:30AM Sacred Heart

† SACRED HEART OF JESUS † 107 East Main Street, Fowler

CONFIRMATION/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Next class is Wednesday, January 6th, from 7:00PM-8:00PM. Meeting in the Gym at Sacred Heart School. Any high school youth are welcome to attend.

FINANCE COUNCIL: Meet on January 5th at 7:00pm at the Sacred Heart Rectory.

LITURGICAL MINISTER: Reader for December 27th at Sacred Heart 9:30AM mass: Gail Goetz

QUILTS: The Sacred Heart Sewing Group has several quilts for sale at \$20.00 per quilt. For information and purchasing, please contact Lori Budreau at 765-376-8273.

SACRED HEART PRAYER CHAIN: Nancy Benedict (765) 884-0064 or Pat Richey (765) 884-1847
<http://sacredheartparishfowler.weebly.com/>

† SAINT CHARLES † 108 North Meadow Street, Otterbein

LITURGICAL MINISTER: December 26th:

Reader: Betsy Satchell **Servers:** Bennett Senesac, volunteers needed **Ushers:** Randy Schluttenhofer, volunteer needed.

SANITIZING: Volunteers for sanitizing after 5:30 mass on December 26: Volunteers Needed

MEETING: The Finance Council will meet on Tuesday, December 22 at 7:00pm at St. Charles Parish Hall.

TITHE: Next Saturday, December 26th, will go to Benton County Food Co-op.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Classes are continuing with home schooling online through the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies. Parents were sent access codes for each individual student and asked to bookmark the website for weekly use. The @Home in Faith series supplement material can be found at <https://dol-in.org/AtHomeInFaith> or there is a link on the pastorate website.

We would like to get back to the classroom, but at this time we have elected NOT to start in person classes while the dispensation is in effect.

We are still in need of two teaches for the time when we will be able to meet again. Please contact Jennifer Senesac at 765-491-3729 if interested.

PRAYER CHAIN: Jeanne Brummett Cell: (765) 404-1975 email: jeannebrummet@gmail.com, Joyce Hoffman Cell: (765) 714-3317 email: j.a.hoffman@hotmail.com

† SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST † 205 South Chestnut Street, Earl Park

Thanks to the generous people of St. John the Baptist, \$600 & 1,228 items were donated to Food Coop in 2020!

LITURGICAL MINISTER: Reader for December 26th at St. John's Mass: Steve Westrick

† SAINT JOSEPH † 409 East Allen Street, Kentland

The work in the church is almost complete. Sunday Mass will resume December 27th @ 10:30 AM. Mon – Wed 8AM & Friday's @ 6PM

LITURGICAL MINISTER: Reader for 10:30am on December 27th Mass: Karen Piegza

† SAINT MARY'S † 2961 Indiana 71, Ambia

January 7 Take down Christmas decorations after Thursday evening Mass with a snow date of January 14.

January 21 The winter Rosary meeting will be held following Mass with a snow date of January 28.

† SAINT PATRICK † 504 South Michigan Street, Oxford

TITHE: Next Sunday, December 27th will go to Benton County Food Co-op.

† SW Newton and Benton County Pastorate †

CHURCH/COVID CLEANING: Volunteer for this week: Sherry Fischer

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 27TH:

8:00AM **Reader** – Leslie Brost, **Servers** – Maddie Barnard, Jack Barnard, Sam Barnard, **Ushers** – volunteers needed.

10:30AM - **Reader** – Lexie Richey, **Servers** – Ella Budreau, Beau Budreau, volunteer needed, **Ushers** – Brad Budreau, Larry Richey.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need volunteers to clean/COVID clean the church on a weekly basis. If you are willing to clean, please call Sherry Fischer at 847-902-2121 or the parish office to sign up for a week. The weekly schedule runs from December 28 thru June 14 for those interested. Your help is appreciated.

THANK YOU: A heartfelt thanks to our St. Patrick Parishioners who gave of their time to clean our lovely church for the Christmas Season. God Bless you!

GIFTS FOR JESUS' BABIES: If you would like to donate baby clothes or supplies for Jesus' babies, there is a tote in the garage to place your items in. These items will be donated to Birthright in Rensselaer.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: Classes will resume on January 10th. The @ Home in Faith series supplement material can be found at <https://dol-in.org/AtHomeInFaith> or there is a link on the pastorate website.

MISSION TRIP: The February mission trip has been canceled due to the rise in COVID-19 cases. If you have any questions email John Brost at jbrost60@gmail.com or call him at 765-366-5329.

PRAYER CHAIN: Debbie Barnard cell: 765-299-6214, email: barnard.debbie@yahoo.com, Nancy Brost home: 765-385-5247.

† SACRED HEART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL † 607 North Washington Avenue, Fowler

WAYS TO SUPPORT SACRED HEART ELEMENTARY

Amazon Smile: Did you know that you can donate to Sacred Heart Elementary through Amazon Smile? Register Sacred Heart Elementary as your charity and we will receive 0.5% of your purchase total. Here is our link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1015552>

Box Tops for Education: The Box Tops for Education Program has gone digital! Most products no longer have a Box Top to cut out, but a picture telling you it is a Box Top item. To submit your Box Tops, you will need to download the new Box Top app and "scan" (take a picture) of your receipt to the app. Let us know if you have questions.

Donations: Donations can be mailed to: Sacred Heart School – 607 North Washington Avenue, Fowler, IN 47944
<https://www.sacredheartschoolfowler.org/>

#SHWhereFriendsBecomeFamily

† SW NEWTON & BENTON COUNTY LIFE TEEN †

SCRIP: You can purchase Scrip through the website and/or app! Go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and use the St. Patrick's Church – Life Teen Scrip enrollment code: **8A9EBCFC4156**. You can order gift cards to be shipped to your house or you can load gift cards to the Raise Right app to have on hand when you are shopping. This is a great, contactless way to support Life Teen!



107 E Smith St • Oxford, IN 47971

This has been a year of unexpected hardships for everyone. For this reason, it is truly important to look at all the blessings we have also been given in 2020. The Co-Op has definitely had many blessings for which to be thankful. The first one is all of our donors. The donations we have received since the pandemic began in March has truly been amazing. From organizations, businesses, churches, windmill companies, and private individuals - I can't begin to name everyone! Along with monetary donations, we have received many well wishes and prayers for all of our workers to remain healthy and safe while serving the public.

Our second blessing is our volunteers. We had to cut back the quantity of volunteers coming in for the safety of everyone involved. The short crew of six workers have put in many long hours shopping, stocking shelves, cleaning, sanitizing, and managing the Payless items that are donated on Thursdays and Saturdays, etc. I have witnessed close relationships develop among this short crew. I see them supporting each other and reaching out to individuals in the community who may need help. I am very thankful for this crew!

The cooperation and understanding shown by our members are also blessings. In order to keep everyone safe during these challenging times, we temporarily altered our shopping procedures to a call-in ordering with curbside pickup format. Workers pack the requested list of items and shoppers pick them up at the Co-Op side door. This new process has been working well. Families still get a choice of everything on the shelves. This does veer slightly from our mission for the time being, but it was a necessary change, just like many things we all have had to change this year.

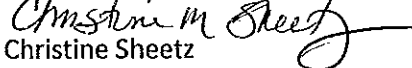
Since the beginning of January through October we have served 3823 adults and 3351 children. Compared to the previous three years, averaging 1500 total individuals per year, this is remarkable. Wow.

It is amazing to me that we will be entering our fifth year of serving families in 2021. Unfortunately, hunger is an ongoing issue in Benton County, even more so with families struggling through COVID-19. Community support still remains crucial to our success. Myself and all the Co-Op workers look forward to serving the moderate to low-income families in Benton County in 2021. Hopefully it will be a better year - virus free of COVID-19, mask free, with the ability to visit our elderly loved ones without worry, and have holiday meals together with our extended families.

All donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made out to Community Action Program, Inc with the words "Food Co-Op" in the memo.

Thank you and God Bless you for your consideration in supporting the Benton Community Food and Service Co-Op.

In Gratitude,


Christine Sheetz

Community Action Program, Inc of Western IN
Benton Community Food and Service Co-Op

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35