

# THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

## OCTOBER 19, 2018

### A FEW WORDS FROM FR. DAVE:

Continued thoughts and commentary on highlighted items in my prayer books.

**Death...a Passover...from mortality to immortality, from rough seas to a calm harbor. The word "death" must not trouble us; the blessings that come from a safe journey should bring us joy.**

**St. Ambrose**

I asked during a homily, "How many people want to go to heaven?" Everyone raised their hands. "Good," I thought, "We're all on the same page." Then I asked, "How many people want to die?" Not all the hands went up. It is a bit confounding. We do want to go to heaven, but generally speaking – we don't want to die any time soon. In theory, we know we need to die to make it to heaven. But the human instinct is to avoid death.

Too often, death is thought of as "the end," "that's it," "there is nothing more of life." But as Christians we actually do not believe that. We believe that when our life on earth ends our life continues in a new fashion. Think of the sayings we hear at funeral homes: "She's in a better place now;" "Finally, he is at peace;" "Grandmas went home to be Lord."

One of the prayers at a Funeral Mass includes, "at death, our life is changed, not ended." Jesus' death and resurrection have opened for us the way to life in heaven. We do not need to want to die soon. But we should live as people prepared to die and meet our Maker at any time. As I said in the aforementioned homily. "If we want to go to heaven, we will need to take the exit ramp of death."

**DJN**



### WALKING TOGETHER IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

This is the theme of the Fruitful Harvest 2018 biennial appeal. The diocesan goal is \$9,800,000 with St. John's assessed \$44,717 and St. Mary's set at \$13,697.

As a Catholic community, we are called to respond to God's grace in our lives. Fruitful Harvest is an opportunity to respond to His grace by sharing your blessings. This appeal helps to fund:

- Catholic Education & Faith Formation
- Evangelization & Outreach
- Clergy & Consecrated Life

I ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge and plan to participate in our diocesan appeal. Remember to return your pledge by mail in the envelope provided with your letter. Extra pledge cards and envelopes are on the bookcases at both St. John's and St. Mary's. Feel free to contact the office if you wish to know your pledge from 2016.

Thank you for your continued stewardship and prayers as we begin this next diocesan appeal, "Walking Together in the Light of Christ."

**DJN**

## GOD OF LOVE, BALANCE MY LIFE

(From 100 Prayers, Reflections by  
Fr. Leo Piguet)

“Maybe Jesus took care of his personal needs for silence with the Father and fun with his friends because he loved himself and knew he had needs he had to meet too. Jesus showed us a balanced human life. One of the ways to discover how balanced our human life is (and also to discover how Christian it is) is to ask ourselves how often we are alert to our own needs compared to how often we are alert to the needs of others.

**Holy God of covenant, I bless you for the grace you are as Savior and Lord, Son of God, Jesus Christ.**

**Holy God of mystery, I bless you for the love you are as Father and Creator, source of life and every good gift.**

**Holy God of love, I bless you for the fellowship you form as Holy Spirit, bond of unity and communion.**

**May my faith in you, God of understanding, inspire me always to balance my life with an awareness to the needs of others.**  
Amen.



### ALL SAINTS' DAY

#### Holyday of Obligation

Vigil Mass, Wednesday,  
October 31 at 5:30pm at St.  
John's

Holyday Mass, Thursday,  
November 1, 5:30pm at St.  
Mary's

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NOVEMBER— ST. JOHN'S

**All Saints Holyday Vigil, Wednesday, Oct. 31, 5:30 pm** **Reader:** Sarah Montgomery **Gifts:** Sonya & Fred Hoffman **Communion Ministers:** Mary Ford & Barbara Houseman

**Saturday 5:00 pm** **Reader:** Sarah Montgomery **Gifts:** Sonya & Fred Hoffman **Announcements:** Lisa Rinker **Communion Ministers:** Tina Johnson, Kellee Merkel, Gerard Merkel, Jr., Dale Cunningham, Mary Ford 3, 17, 24, Serena Merkel 10

**Sunday 8:30 am** **Reader:** Religious Ed 4, Susan Lannoy 11, 18, 25 **Gifts:** Religious Ed 4, Cristi & Eric Aulbach Family 11, 18, 25 **Announcements:** Claire Aulbach **Communion Ministers:** Karen Shields, Megan Trissel, Amy Henderson, Kate & Alan Gordon



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

**All Souls Holyday, Thursday, November 1, 5:30pm:** **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Kevin & Wendy Stout Family **Communion Ministers:** Connie Hartnagle & Loretta Wilson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

**November 4:** **Reader:** Sandy Doyle **Gifts:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Communion Ministers:** Dan Watson & Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Dan Watson & Danette Hamilton **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

**November 11:** **Reader:** Laverne Watson **Gifts:** Danette Hamilton **Communion Ministers:** Loretta Wilson & Kelli Grady **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Danette Hamilton & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

**November 18:** **Reader:** Bob Banser **Gifts:** Christa Stigleman **Communion Ministers:** Colleen Bicknell & Amy Grady **Greeter:** Phil & Jane Crouch **Counters:** Kathleen Inman & Angie Burrell **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

**November 25:** **Reader:** Dan Watson **Gifts:** Dean & Loretta Wilson **Communion Ministers:** Danette Hamilton & Susan Louck **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counters:** Dan Watson & Jane Crouch **Song Leader:** Amy Blakely

## TROUBLED MARRIAGE? GOOD MARRIAGE, BUT WANT TO MAKE IT GREAT?

Married couples go home from a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** Weekend more in love with each other than ever! Want to find out more? Future Marriage Encounter Weekends will be at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, from 26-28 April 2019, and at Mount Saint Francis Centre for Spirituality, New Albany, from 1-3 February 2019. Visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) for further information.

**Quote from a couple who made a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend:** "We want you to know we thought we had a great marriage. But Marriage Encounter helped make it fantastic!"



## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### ANNIVERSARIES:

7 Bob & Lucy Banser  
24 Mike & Traci Williams

### BIRTHDAYS:

1 Lauren Holsten  
4 Janice Jackson  
10 Lupie Dell  
17 Noah Kitterman  
25 Kellee Merkel  
28 Ryder Trissel  
30 Charles Montgomery  
30 Veronique Coppock

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*.

## CANDLELIGHTING FOR DECEASED

All Saints' Day is a day Catholics offer prayers to those in purgatory. All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day are related, but they are two separate celebrations. On All Saints' Day there is a call to live as saints, to remind us how we're supposed to live. On All Souls' Day, we're talking about all souls and asking God's mercy for them. This includes those people who have died before us, and their process of getting to heaven, through Christ ... It has its roots all the way back to the fourth century. All Souls' Day is a commemoration of the faithfully departed and is observed primarily in the Catholic Church. To remember the departed, many cultures prepare meals for the souls of the dead, light candles or leave flowers on relatives' graves and some even anoint tombstones with holy water.

At St. John's we have a practice of setting a candle display at the base of the altar beginning on the holyday and lasting through the weekend before Thanksgiving. Each candle represents a parishioner deceased from our parish from November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2018.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following individuals whose funerals were held at either St. John's or St. Mary's during this past year. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, with the mercy of God, rest in peace.

***Norma Smith, February 6, 2018***

***Martha Kistler, March 9, 2018***

***Jayson Bullard, April 15, 2018***

***Lawrence Fleming, May 24, 2018***

***Holly Bullard, June 30, 2018***

***Jesse Huggins, Jr., July 2, 2018***

***June Holcombe, August 2, 2018***

***Nancy Wiggin, September 2, 2018***

***Jim Lloyd, August 28, 2018***

***Robert Heiser, September 23, 2018***

***Rose Marie Brown, September 23, 2018***

***Nicholas Charnley, October 10, 2018***



## 'PEACE IN THE MOURNING'

Join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, for the upcoming workshop "Peace in the Mourning," scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on Saturday, November 3, in the Providence Hall Large Parlor. Join facilitator Sister Connie Kramer and let grief teach you as you reflect upon, pray about and allow others who have experienced loss to walk with you in the journey toward peace. Cost is \$45, which includes lunch, and the registration deadline is October 29. Register online at [Events.SistersofProvidence.org](http://Events.SistersofProvidence.org) or call: 812-535-2952 or email: [jfrost@spsmw.org](mailto:jfrost@spsmw.org).



## IU HEALTH BLACKFORD HOSPITAL COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

**Saturday, November 3, 8am – 11am**

**IU Health Blackford Hospital  
410 Pilgrim Blvd.  
Hartford City, IN**

Available Lab Options until 10:30am  
--must be 18 years or older (12 hour fasting recommended)

- Available at No Cost—Blood Glucose & Lipid Profile (Cholesterol)
- \$30 includes above as well as Complete Blood Count, Chemistry Profile, Hemoglobin A1C
- \$10 PSA (prostate screen) for men
- \$5 TSH (thyroid screen)
- Cash payments only

Health Information Booths by area resources and Health Screenings!

5K Family Walk begins at 11:15am on the Blackford Greenway!

Door Prizes and Giveaways!

All are invited!

## CAREGIVER HEALING RETREAT

Inviting all caregivers to join us for a Caregiver Healing Retreat - just for you! Speakers and co-founders of Nourish for Caregivers, Deb Kelsey-Davis and Kelly Johnson, share tools, insights, and stories about caring for the caregiver. This Christian healing retreat desires to encourage souls of all denominations.

Register by November 1st as space is limited. Fill out registration form at [caregivercompanion.org](http://caregivercompanion.org) or call (765) 423-1879. Registration Fee: \$10.00. Lunch will be provided.

*"Come to me all who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28*

Saturday, November 17, 2018 10 am - 2 pm

Franciscan Community Education Center  
1501 Hartford Street  
Lafayette, Indiana

Please make checks payable to Caregiver Companion. Send to: Caregiver Companion, 612 Wabash Ave, Lafayette, IN 47905 All proceeds benefit and provide resources to local caregivers.

## MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE

The Office of Catechesis is once again, very excited to host the 2018 Missionary Discipleship Conference in conjunction with the Notre Dame McGrath Institute for Church Life. It is scheduled for Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at St. Elizabeth Seton in Carmel. Dr. Timothy O'Malley will be our keynote as we explore encounter, the first step in Living as Missionary Disciples.

The keynote and breakouts will explore the theology of encounter, how to create an environment conducive to encountering Jesus Christ, and reflecting on our spirituality and how we can be open to encountering Jesus. Participants will also discuss ways of fostering this in their ministry.

Registration forms and online registration are available at the following link: <https://www.dol-in.org/missionarydiscipleshipconference>. The entire day will be available in Spanish for our Hispanic brothers and sisters.

## OCTOBER CHALLENGE BY K OF C

[The blind man] threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." (Gospel for Oct. 28, Mk. 10:50-52)

Most of us can probably recall requesting a meeting with someone influential, and then reaching a point in that meeting where he or she looked us in the eyes and asked, "So, what can I do for you?" We most likely prepared for this moment, and we clearly stated our need or wish. Brothers, can we imagine the Son of God speaking our own name and asking, "What do you want me to do for you?" It seems extraordinary. Even unbelievable! And yet, this is exactly what Jesus invites us to do *every day* in prayer, reading and reflecting on Scripture, speaking to him about what is in our hearts. That's a meeting you and I would not want to miss.

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

**When having a discussion with people this month (especially your family members), give them your undivided attention and do not look at your cell phones during the conversations. Secondly, I challenge you to honestly attempt to answer Jesus' question to you, "What do you want me to do for you?"**

--Knights of Columbus.org



**"Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights – for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture – is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination."**

*--Pope John Paul II*

## FOUNDING FATHERS... DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE... INALIENABLE RIGHTS

In the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson made it very clear that all human beings "are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights". Chief and first among those he enumerated was the Right to Life.

Jefferson and our founding fathers knew that without the right to life, no other rights are possible. How can one have the right to vote or the right to free speech, for example, if one does not firstly have the right to exist?

The rights mentioned in the Declaration are no less valid than those articulated in our Constitution. In fact, they are foundational to all the rights and protections which the Constitution guarantees. This applies especially to the right to life, which is not only paramount but is also clearly protected under the 14th Amendment by due process of law.

We need to impress upon our children the importance of these two documents and how they already guarantee every American, born or unborn, weak or strong, the blessings of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

## FAMILY SECTION— JOY FOR THE WORLD

As parents, and leaders of our domestic church, we are responsible for forming our children in our Catholic faith. There is no more important experience to Catholics than the Mass, so it is crucial to help children understand the liturgy as much as they are able.

### The Sandwich Generation

The “sandwich generation” is a good description. There’s pressure from both sides and sometimes it gets messy in the middle. That’s what it can feel like if you’re taking care of your children as well as your aging parent.

Add in a spouse and a job and it’s no wonder it often seems a twenty-four-hour day and seven-day week just aren’t enough for all you have to do.

Then, too, from the time all of us were little we were taught there is a right way and a wrong way to accomplish a task. Maybe your parent took care of Grandma or Grandpa. Your spouse took care of your mother- or father-in-law. Your friends or co-workers seem to be able to handle their situations. But you . . .

When you realize you can’t do all the things you’re supposed to do—all the things other people have done or are doing—you feel inadequate and even guilty.

You think you’re letting everyone down. If you just worked a little harder, slept a little less, sacrificed a little more. . .

If you find yourself in that situation, or feel yourself sinking into it, these suggestions might help:

- **Remember there is no single right way to do this.** Trying to exactly mimic what another person has done probably isn’t going to work. Each case is unique because the personalities and problems in each case are unique.
- **If you don’t take care of yourself**—take time to eat, sleep, catch your breath and pray—you will burn out quickly and be of little use to anyone, including yourself. The situation in which you find yourself is not a sprint, it’s a marathon. Yes, someday it will end but that may be a long, long time from now. In the meantime, if you do not pace yourself, sometimes even pamper yourself, you won’t be able to keep going. That’s not because you’re weak, it’s because you’re human.
- **The big picture can look and feel overwhelming.** Sometimes it helps to break

it down into the many tiny pieces that make up the whole. What you have to do for your parent, your children, your spouse, your job and yourself. The lists may be long but somehow no single item is overpowering.

- **Prioritize your tasks.** Making those lists helps. Obviously, getting Mom to her doctor’s appointment is more important than vacuuming her apartment.
- **Give away some of the low-priority duties.** Someone else can be hired to do the apartment cleaning. Someone else—the bakery department at the local grocery store—can supply the brownies you’re supposed to send to the next Cub Scout den meeting.
- **Get support for yourself.** Groups for caregivers and organizations that focus on your parent’s particular illness or condition can help you deal with what you are facing. Doctors, social workers and the Area Agency on Aging can give you local contacts.
- **Write it down:** dates and schedules and all that information from doctors, therapists, pharmacists, teachers, coaches, your boss, your spouse, your kids . . . There’s no way a person can remember all the things you need to remember.

It may seem the day is completely packed but if you jot down your own “to do” list, you may discover there’s half an hour free here or there. A little oasis like that gives you something to look forward to. It’s a short break to partially recharge your batteries before you have to go, go, go again.

Article courtesy of [www.youragingparent.com](http://www.youragingparent.com)

--foryourmarriage.org



## CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB

Our cluster parishes of St. Mary’s and St. John’s now has a website. Check us out at: [stmaryjohn.org](http://stmaryjohn.org).

## NOVEMBER RETREATS AT ST. JOSEPH RETREAT CENTER

The following retreats are being offered during September at the beautiful St. Joseph Retreat and Conference Center in Tipton, IN.

**Get Away for a Day Retreat** - 9 am to 3:30 pm, Tuesday, October 30, 2018

Tired of all the demands tugging at you? Do you feel like you could just use some space to just get away? Come visit us for a day of quiet and solitude. Enjoy our beautiful and peaceful campus, visit the shrines, make the Way of the Cross, spend time in prayer with the Lord in the St. Joseph Chapel or in one of our comfortable rooms on the full-service floor. Mass and Confession will also be available.

Cost: \$40, includes a single, day room and lunch.

This retreat is available for men and women age 19 and older. Register before October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Get Away for a Day** Retreat - 9 am to 3:30 pm, Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Tired of all the demands tugging at you? Do you feel like you could just use some space to just get away? Come to our campus for a day of quiet and solitude. Enjoy the beautiful and peaceful grounds, visit the shrines, make the Way of the Cross, spend time in prayer with the Lord in the St. Joseph Chapel or in one of our comfortable rooms on the full-service floor. Mass and Confession will also be available.

Cost: \$40, includes a single, day room and lunch. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions.

This retreat is available for men and women age 19 and older. Register before November 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Women's Silent Retreat—Weekend** - 7 pm, Friday, November 30 to 3 pm, Sunday, December 2, 2018

Begin the Season of Advent with a weekend experience of the wonder of silence and scripture on our beautiful campus. This retreat includes Mass, Holy hour, conferences on prayer, and plenty of quiet time to reflect on the scriptures. Amenities include a comfortable, full-service room and five meals. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions.

Cost: \$170. This retreat is available for women age 19 and older. Register before November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

To register for the above retreats contact SJRCC Director Samir Azer at (765) 551-9570 or email [sazer@dol-in.org](mailto:sazer@dol-in.org).

## WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

Nov. 1-Pope Francis I

Nov. 2-Bishop Timothy Doherty

Nov. 3-Fr. Dave Newton, St. Mary Dunkirk and St. John the Evangelist Hartford City

Nov. 4-Fr. Tom Metzger, Our Lady of Grace Noblesville

Nov. 5-Fr. Chris Miller, St. Mary Frankfort

Nov. 6-Fr. Richard Miller, Tribunal Lafayette

Nov. 7-Fr. Joseph Minuth, St. Thomas Aquinas West Lafayette

Nov. 8-Fr. Bob Moran, Immaculate Conception Portland

Nov. 9-Fr. Kyle Neterer, Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Lafayette

Nov. 10-Fr. John Nguyen, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Carmel

Nov. 11-Fr. Dennis O'Keeffe, St. Alphonsus Zionsville

Nov. 12-Fr. Coady Owens, Holy Spirit, Fishers

Nov. 13-Fr. Alex Paternoster, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Nov. 14-Fr. Dominic Petan, Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Lafayette

Nov. 15-Fr. Richard Puetz, retired

Nov. 16-Fr. David Rasner, St. Mary of the Lakes, Monticello

Nov. 17-Fr. Christopher Roberts, St. Paul, Marion, and Holy Family, Gas City

Nov. 18-Fr. Ted Rothrock, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Carmel

Nov. 19-Fr. Anthony Rowland, St. John Vianney, Fishers

Nov. 20-Fr. Martin Sandhage, St. Augusta, Lake Village

Nov. 21-Fr. Daniel Shine, St. Mary and St. Ambrose, Anderson

Nov. 22-Fr. Robert Sell, St. Ambrose and St. Mary, Anderson

Nov. 23-Fr. Chris Shocklee, St. Bernard, Crawfordsville, Wabash College Newman Apostolate

Nov. 24-Fr. Stephen Snoich OSB, St. Augusta Lake Village

Nov. 25-Fr. Travis Stephens, St. Louis de Montfort, Fishers

Nov. 26-Fr. Stanislaw Tabor, All Saints, Logansport

Nov. 27-Fr. Clayton Thompson, St. Joseph, Delphi

4-Fr. Eric Underwood, St. Lawrence, Lafayette

Nov. 28-Fr. Pete Vanderkolk, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fowler & St. Mary, Dunnington

Nov. 29-Fr. Mark Walter, St. Boniface, Lafayette

Nov. 30-Fr. Dick Weisenberger, St. Joseph, Lebanon

**WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?**

## WHAT'S THE SMOKE FOR?

This year in this section of *The Good News Letter*, we will focus on Catholic furniture, fixtures, sacramentals and icons.

### WHY DO WE VENERATE SAINTS' RELICS

From the very beginning of the Church, the martyrs were held in high esteem because they so perfectly lived their life for Christ, even to death. At first, it was tradition to gather around a martyr's tomb, especially in the catacombs, to celebrate the Eucharist. The Eucharist memorializes Jesus' self-sacrifice, thus it is fitting also to remember the martyrs' self-sacrifice through the Eucharistic celebration.

Eventually, when possible, churches were built over the tombs of saints (St. Peter's in Rome is a well-known example). When building over a martyr's tomb was not possible, relics of the saints would be imbedded in an altar stone. Today, when possible, relics are still placed beneath an altar.

Saints are those who have lived a life of virtue and serve as a model for all of us to live the Gospel as they did. The relics are visible, tangible signs to us of their life and our own call to live a life of holiness and self-sacrifice. Those who have gone to heaven before us intercede for us.

### First of all, what is a relic?

The word relic means "a fragment" or "remnant of a thing that once was but now is no longer." Relics are physical objects that have a direct association with the saints or with Our Lord. They are usually broken down into three classes:

- First class [relics](#) may be the saint's entire remains (in some cases the body is [incorrupt](#)), or a part of the body and they are often venerated in churches in glass sarcophagi or reliquaries.
- Second class relics are taken from the clothing of the saint.
- Third class relics can include anything touched by the saint.

God often grants favors to those who venerate the relics of His saints, i.e., spiritual blessings and cures. Such favors, if they are miraculous, are God's sign that the holy person is worthy of canonization.

### Where did the Catholic tradition of venerating saints' relics come from?

Scripture teaches that God acts through relics, especially in terms of healing. In fact, when

surveying what Scripture has to say about sacred relics, one is left with the idea that healing is what relics "do."

Check out these scripture passages:

- Elisha (2 Kings 13:20-21).
- The woman (Matthew 9:20-22).
- Peter's shadow (Acts 5:12-15).
- Paul (Acts 19:11-12).

In each of these instances God has brought about a healing using a material object. The vehicle for the healing was the touching of that object. It is very important to note, however, that the cause of the healing is God; the relics are a means through which He acts. In other words, relics are not magic. They do not contain a power that is their own; a power separate from God.

Any good that comes about through a relic is God's doing. But the fact that God chooses to use the relics of saints to work healing and miracles tells us that He wants to draw our attention to the saints as "models and intercessors" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 828).

### What is the spiritual significance of relics?

St. Jerome put it best when he said: "We do not worship relics, we do not adore them, for fear that we should bow down to the creature rather than to the creator. But we venerate the relics of the martyrs in order the better to adore Him whose martyrs they are." (Ad Riparium, i, P.L., XXII, 907). We venerate relics only for the sake of worshiping God.

### Where can relics be found?

St. Anthony's Chapel, in Troy Hill, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania houses the largest relic collection in the U.S., second in the world only to the Vatican itself, with over 5,000 relics. St. John Cantius Church in Chicago houses over 1,800 relics, but most are not for public veneration. The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics houses over 1,100 relics of the Saints and the True Cross. 95% of the relics in the Maria Stein collection are First Class and are for public veneration as are St. Anthony's Chapel.

[www.catholicism.org/sacramentals-and-relics](http://www.catholicism.org/sacramentals-and-relics)  
[www.mariasteinshrine.org](http://www.mariasteinshrine.org)  
[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

*The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary on October 21, 2019. Over the next year, we will be celebrating this milestone with events, activities and celebrations. We hope this opportunity will bring a renewal of hope to our Diocese and bring each of us closer to one another as we unite in the heart of Jesus Christ.*

### Some history on the diocese:

- *The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana was established by Pope Pius XII on October 21, 1944.*
- *John George Bennett was consecrated first bishop of the Lafayette See on January 10, 1945. His successors have been John Joseph Cardinal Carberry, Bishop Raymond Gallagher, Bishop George Fulcher, Bishop William L. Higi, and the current ordinary, Bishop Timothy L. Doherty.*
- *Today the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana is comprised of 24 counties in North Central Indiana extending from Illinois to Ohio. The Diocese now includes 61 parishes and 20 schools serving approximately 100,000 Catholics.*
- *A diocese, meaning 'administration', is the district under the supervision of a bishop. A diocese is divided into deaneries and parishes.*

### Information for the year of celebration:

- Celebrations for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana will kick-off during the weekend of October 20 and 21, 2018.
- Prayer cards are available at each church entrance to mark this occasion.
- We will use the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo throughout the year in our monthly newsletters and other literature announcing diocesan anniversary celebrations.

- The web address for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary updates: <https://dol-in.org/75th-anniversary>
- We will begin using our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary hashtags on Facebook and Twitter that weekend: #DOLIN75 #unitinginheart
- Deanery Masses/Receptions with the Bishop and a finale celebration for everyone in the Diocese—see schedule on reverse
- A lecture series taking place across the Diocese—see schedule on reverse
- Time capsule collection with each parish represented that will be opened at our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Traveling display case
- Digital Diocesan Map- Prezi presentation
- "Love Notes" from parishioners across the diocese
- And much, much more!
- A list of important dates that have been set so far for the year are printed on the reverse of this page. Please make note of these and feel free to attend any that fit your schedule.
  - Please make sure to note the Finale Event on September 28, 2019 at the Saint Joseph Retreat and Conference Center. This will be open to EVERYONE and we want as many people as possible in attendance! More details will follow on timing and activities as we finalize them.

Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana  
610 Lingle Ave. | Lafayette, IN 47901  
Office: 765-269-4613



Twitter: @DOLComm  
Like us on [Facebook](https://dol-in.org)  
<https://dol-in.org>

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

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

PASTOR - Rev. David J. Newton

Hartford City: 765.348.3123 Office Secretary:

765.348.3889

Dunkirk: 765.768.6157

stmaryjohn@att.net

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**Return Service Requested**

**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: Nov. 16, 2018**

**Editor: Diana Holsten**

**ST. JOHN'S FAMILY  
CHRISTMAS TREE**

Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent members of St. John's will be able to have an ornament placed on the tall Christmas tree standing near the organ. Your ornament should reflect what Christmas means to you this year. Your ornament may be one for your entire family or each family member may contribute individually. These can be handmade or store bought, large or small, and any color or style.

We request that your ornaments be left in our parish office or gently placed in the box at the church entrances. All ornaments available when the Church is decorated for Advent season will then be placed on the tree. Any ornaments brought to the office after that will be placed before the next Sunday of Advent. The St. John's Family tree will be lit beginning Christmas Eve. Your ornaments will be returned to you after Epiphany. (Might want to put name on back of ornament or a name tag.)

Thank you in advance for participating!

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*O God of all creation,  
Giver of all good gifts,  
You bless our lives  
with your generous love,  
by giving us once more  
the fruit of the fields,  
our family and friends,  
our faith, our work,  
and our lives together.  
We thank you for these gifts,  
and ask that you help us  
to imitate your goodness,  
to share our blessings  
with those who are in need. Amen.*

