

# *THE GOOD NEWS LETTER*

## *JUNE 26, 2020*

### **FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have moved into phase C of the reopening which allows for daily Mass, confessions and small group meetings...all of course with the safety protocols previously instituted still in place...face masks, social distancing, and cleaning and disinfecting! Our buildings continue to remain closed and locked when not in use.

Our weekend, and now weekday, Masses will continue to be limited on attendance as we keep the pews roped off to follow the allowed spacing guidelines. Communion will continue to take place after Mass with no cup.

Phase D will begin in July with more information as it is available; however, for the most part, we will continue the course as we have been throughout the month of June.

Thank you for your patience and your consideration as we continue our reopening phases as outlined from the bishop's office. 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

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### **FROM BISHOP DOHERTY:**

“Please know the 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...”

The July issue of *The Word Among Us* is now available at both St. Mary's and St. John's on the bookshelves, or from the office. These contain the daily Mass readings and reflections for those at home.

### **SEMINARIAN FUND APPEAL 2020**

Would you be willing to make an investment in the future of the diocese by helping support the men who will bring the sacraments, priestly presence and spiritual guidance to you, your children and grandchildren?

Because more and more men are answering God's call, the opportunity to be educated in the best seminaries relies on the help of the laity they will one day serve as priests.

This fund provides a tangible way to give to those men who have chosen to give their lives to the Church. The average annual expense associated with the cost of educating one seminarian in formation for the priesthood is more than \$40,000.00 per year.

With your prayers and response to the Seminarian Fund Appeal, the affirmation of the people of God is invaluable to the training of the future priests of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana.

Thank you for your continued support for the seminarians in the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana. Your seminarians thank you.

\*\*The Seminarian Fund Appeal weekend was moved from June to July 11/12 and 18/19. Envelopes were in your June packets. Please help us help the future of our church with your donations.

### ***SEMINARIAN FUND APPEAL PRAYER***

*Father in Heaven, you sent us your only Son to redeem us and to build your kingdom on earth. Please give us the wisdom and strength we need to follow His call.*

*Grant to the faithful a spirit of generosity, that vocations may flourish.*

*Bless our seminarians and priests with holiness and courage, that they may lead your people to Christ.*

*Help them to fulfill their sacred promises and so be effective signs of your kingdom.*

*Lord, invite more men to your service.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



All people desire to know their Creator. All people have a natural impulse to seek the good and to live in accordance with that good. All people can flourish when they pursue the truth about God and respond to the truth. Religious freedom means that all people have the space to flourish. Religious freedom is both an American value and an important part of Catholic teaching on human dignity. When we promote religious freedom, we promote the common good and thus strengthen the life of our nation and the community of nations. Learn more at [www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!](http://www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!)

#### **FREEDOM TO SERVE IN HEALTHCARE**

**Pray that governments would respect the consciences of the Little Sisters of the Poor and all Christians who care for the sick and vulnerable.**

**Act** Take action to support religious liberty! Text “FREEDOM” to 84576 to receive news updates and action alerts.

#### **RESPECT FOR HOUSES OF WORSHIP**

**Pray that people of all faiths would be free to worship without fear of attacks and harassment.**

**Act** First, take time during this week, if possible, to pray a decade of the rosary, fast from a meal, or spend time before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, offering up your act as a sacrifice in reparation for sins against human dignity.

Then, support increased funding for the FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program. This program provides grants to nonprofits, including houses of worship, to improve security. While we should hope, pray, and work for a country where people can worship without fear, we can also take practical steps to protect churches, mosques, and synagogues.

#### **RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN CHINA**

**Pray for the freedom of the Church in China, and that the rights of all religious minorities would be respected.**

**Act** Solidarity with people of faith in other countries begins with learning about their struggles.

#### **ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE**

**Pray that children waiting to be placed in a loving home and the caregivers who selflessly serve**

**those children will find strength and support from the Church.**

**Act** The Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act (CWPIA) prevents faith-based child welfare service providers from being targeted by government discrimination. The Act would prohibit the federal government and any state that receives certain federal funding from discriminating against child welfare service providers on the basis that they decline to provide a child welfare service that conflicts with their sincerely held religious beliefs or moral convictions.

#### **BORDER WALL DISPUTE IN THE DIOCESE OF BROWNSVILLE**

**Pray that the freedom of the local churches on the U.S. southern border will be respected.**

**Act** Support the freedom of the Church. The Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) has provided persons of all faiths with protection against government intrusion. The Diocese of Brownsville is defending itself using RFRA. However, RFRA is under attack. The “Do No Harm Act” and the “Equality Act” weaken RFRA, and RFRA is frequently disparaged in the media.

#### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

**Pray that Catholic schools in our country would be free to teach the truth about God and his creation.**

**Act** Take action to support religious liberty! Text “FREEDOM” to 84576 to receive news updates and action alerts.

#### **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**Pray that God would show the people of the Central African Republic the way to peace and reconciliation.**

**Act** The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services labored alongside the religious leaders in the CAR and together helped launch the Central African Interfaith Peacebuilding Partnership. The Partnership supports trauma healing programs, peacebuilding practices, and other programs to help young people to learn skills, access small scale loans, and start farms and businesses. The Church also provides humanitarian aid to the thousands of wounded and displaced victims.

#### **CIVILIZE IT**

**Pray that God would give us the grace to remember the dignity of all and invite others to do the same.**

**Act** Interested in learning more about civil dialogue or about how your community can engage in civil dialogue more often? Join USCCB’s Civilize It Campaign to help promote dignity beyond the debate.





open wide our hearts

## FROM BISHOP DOHERTY

Bishop Doherty issued a statement regarding the death of George Floyd on June 2, 2020. The following is from that statement:

“Today is a time when many ask how we should rightly respond. To honor those who have long experienced enforced social inequality and ill-treatment, we must first listen. As the US Bishops statement notes, ‘We should be doing a lot of listening right now. This time we should not fail to hear what people are saying through their pain. We need to finally root out the racial injustice that still infects too many areas of American society.’

Peaceful demonstrations in the streets are one way to elevate voices for fairness and justice. Not so the wanton destruction of property and violence. Each of us is called to be a healer and peacemaker by virtue of our baptism. This same baptism calls us to link arms with others whose work is to set wrongs right and promote respect for each human being.”

### PRAYER TO OVERCOME RACISM

*Mary, friend and mother to all, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other. We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another. We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society. We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person. Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us. Amen.*

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

**Saturday 5:00 pm** Reader & Announcements: Fred Hoffman

**Sunday 8:30 am** Reader & Announcements: Claire Aulbach

## GIVE OURSELVES AS JESUS GAVE HIMSELF

“Jesus underlines that he has not come into this world to give something, but to give himself, his life, as nourishment for those who have faith in him.” states Pope Francis. We are reminded now more than ever that our communion with the Lord obliges us, his disciples, to imitate him, making our existence, through our behavior, bread broken for others, as He did for us. This means that through our conduct towards our neighbor, we should demonstrate the attitude of giving life for others. Pope Francis tells us, “Every time that we participate in the holy Mass and are nourished by the body of Christ, the presence of Jesus and of the Holy Spirit act in us, shaping our hearts, communicating an interior disposition to us that translates into conduct according to the gospel.”

Even though COVID-19 makes it difficult to receive Jesus in the Eucharist on a regular basis, we are reminded that we are a temple of the Lord and should live our lives for others which is necessary now more than ever.



## FRUITFUL HARVEST UPDATE

Our current campaign of Fruitful Harvest is drawing to a close at the end of August. Is your pledge up-to-date?

Congratulations to St. Mary's as they have already reached their goal of \$13,696. They will be receiving a 10% rebate check along with 50% of all donations over the goal.

St. John's hopefully will reach their goal of \$44,717 before the end of July.

Please, if at all possible, 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.

## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### ANNIVERSARIES:

2 Ted & Muriel Fetting  
19 Derrick & Rachel Shields

### BIRTHDAYS:

4 Wanda Pfeffer  
4 Damien Shields  
8 Rhonda Cale  
8 Ryan Trissel  
12 Lucas Hardesty  
16 Claire Aulbach  
17 Jacob Hardesty  
21 Laurel McVicker  
30 Fr. Paul Hudson

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*.

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## RETREATS AVAILABLE FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME

[Holy Face Virtual Icon Retreat](#)

[Holy Trinity Icon Painting Retreat](#)

[Solus Romani Populi Virtual Icon Retreat](#)

[Prayer is My Vocation](#)

[Scriptural Way of the Cross](#)

[The Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius Private-At-Home Retreat](#)

[Meditations on the Post Resurrection](#)

[Apparitions of Jesus](#)

[St. Katharina Kasper's Tree of Life and Sainthood](#)

The above retreats are offered through:  
**LINDENWOOD RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER**

[lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org](mailto:lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org)

## PEOPLE WITH GOOD NEWS

**Jakob Aulbach** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BJHS.

**Nicholas Aulbach** was on the A/B honor roll second semester at BHS.

**Bethany Elkins** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BHS. Bethany was a member of National Honor Society, was a Lilly scholarship finalist, received the State-Wide Transfer General Education Core Diploma, and received BCCF scholarships.

**Allyson Henderson** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BJHS.

**Madison Merkel** was on the A/B honor roll second semester at BHS.

**Mason Merkel** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BJHS.

**Jenna Payne** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BHS.

**Cameron Rinker** was on the A/B honor roll second semester at BHS. Cameron was a member of National Honor Society, and received several BCCF and other scholarships.

**Kelli Rinker** was on the A/B honor roll second semester at BHS.

**Catalina Velasquez** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BJHS.

**Juan Velasquez** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BJHS.

**Helen Whitesell** was on the A/B honor roll second semester at BHS.

**Amme Uggen** was on the A/B honor roll second semester at BJHS.

**Anya Uggen** was on the all A honor roll second semester at BHS.

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## YOUR ROSARIES HELPED NEW MOMS AND BABIES

Through Mary and your prayers of the holy rosary during May we have been able to help new moms and babies through the Helping Hands Pregnancy Care Center in Montpelier with a donation of \$157 and the Portland Pregnancy Care Center with a donation of \$90. Thank you!

## “THROUGH THE CHURCH YEAR”

### NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST—June 24

The birthday of the Baptist, the cousin of the Lord, was one of the earliest feasts established in the liturgical calendar. John the Baptist was the immediate precursor of the Lord. John is the great “bridge figure” between the old and the new covenants. He is last in the line of Hebrew prophets speaking in the Lord’s name, and he is the first to acknowledge Jesus of Nazareth as the promised Messiah. St. Augustine notes that after the birthday of John the Baptist (near the summer solstice) the days begin to get shorter, whereas after the birth of Christ the days get longer. John the Baptist declared: “He must increase; I must decrease.” (Jn 3:30).

John’s message for today is still relevant: To be bold prophets of truth and to simplify our lifestyle so as to stop, pause, and devote silence and prayer to God daily.

### FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL—June 29

Both Peter and Paul were united in their ministry for Christ and in their martyrdom. They are referred to as “the founders of the Church” from whom we have received the beginning of the faith.

Peter was the witness of key moments of Jesus’ ministry and who was made by Christ the rock foundation of his Church.

Paul was chosen and called by Christ to be the great proclaimer of the good news of the Son to the gentiles.

The essence of both their lives and ministry was their faith in Jesus. So, we are drawn today to meditate on this central reality of faith! We need to fully accept and embrace the mystery of faith—which is a gift of God.

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Check us out at: [www.stmaryjohn.org](http://www.stmaryjohn.org).

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## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JULY—ST. MARY’S

**July 5:** Reader: Dan/Laverne Watson

**July 12:** Reader: Ted Kolodka

**July 19:** Reader: Dan/Laverne Watson

**July 26:** Reader: Ted Kolodka

## WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

July 1-Pope Francis I

July 2-Bishop Timothy Doherty

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

July 4-Fr. Paul Graf, Franciscan St. Elizabeth Healthcare Lafayette

July 5-Fr. Don Gross, retired

July 6-Fr. Kevin Haines, St. Maria Goretti, Westfield

July 7-Fr. Thomas Haan, St. Charles, Otterbein & St. Patrick, Oxford

July 8-Fr. David Hasser, Consultant in the Office of Divine Worship, Director of Vocations, Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette

July 9-Fr. Dave Hellmann, St. Lawrence, Muncie

July 10-Bishop Emeritus William Higi, retired

July 11-Fr. Kevin Hurley, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Carmel

July 12-Fr. Patrick Hosey, retired

July 13-Fr. David Huemmer, St. Joseph Retreat Center, Tipton, with ministry to the Monastery of the Poor Clares, Kokomo

July 14-Fr. Kevin Hurley, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

July 15-Fr. Samuel Kalu, St. Mary, Muncie

July 16-Fr. Mike Kettron, retired

July 17-Fr. John Kiefer, retired

July 18-Fr. Leroy Kinnaman, St. Peter, Winamac, St. Joseph Pulaski, St. Henry, Medaryville, St. Francis Salono, Francesville

July 19-Fr. Bob Klemme, retired

July 20-Fr. Peter Logsdon, St. Joseph, Winchester, and St. Mary, Union City

July 21-Fr. Gustavo Lopez, St. Boniface Lafayette

July 22-Fr. Jeffrey Martin, All Saints, Logansport

July 23-Fr. Adam Mauman, St. Charles Borromeo, Peru

July 24-Fr. Brendan Mbagwu, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Carmel

July 25-Fr. Mike McKinley, St. Maria Goretti, Westfield

July 26-Fr. Mike McKinney, St. Joseph, Rochester

July 27-Fr. Bob Moran, Immaculate Conception Portland

July 28-Fr. Tom Metzger, Our Lady of Grace Noblesville

July 29-Fr. Chris Miller, St. Mary Frankfort

July 30-Fr. Richard Miller, Tribunal Lafayette

July 31-Fr. Joseph Minuth, St. Thomas Aquinas West Lafayette

**WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST?**

**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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Dunkirk: 765.768.1283 stmaryjohn@att.net

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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: July 17, 2020**

**Editor: Diana Holsten**



**PRAYER FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**God, source of all freedom,  
this day is bright with the memory  
of those who declared that life and liberty  
are your gift to every human being.  
Help us to continue a good work begun long ago.  
Make our vision clear and our will strong:  
that only in human solidarity will we find liberty,  
and justice only in the honor that belongs  
to every life on earth.  
Turn our hearts toward the family of nations:  
to understand the ways of others,  
to offer friendship,  
and to find safety only in the common good of  
all.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
R/. Amen.**



**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.

REMINDER: The Uniting in Heart priest moves will now take place August 19, rather than June 29 due to the COVID-19 challenges. Please pray for smooth transitions for all.