

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

JULY 24, 2020

FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Beginning July 4/5 weekend, Bishop Doherty allowed for phase D of the reopening to begin. In this phase, most of what changed occurred outside of Mass. First and foremost, all guidelines for Mass (weekend and weekday) at our two parishes remains the same including, pews roped off for social distancing, masks, no singing, no hymnals, sanitizers, no passing of collection baskets (baskets are located at the doors to drop collection envelopes). One change to Mass is that Holy Communion can now be distributed at its normal place during Mass with return to your pew rather than following the closing prayer and dismissing after reception. These things will remain in place at least until further notice.

What did change was the fact that now other openings and campus activities can begin. The office and school building and church are now open and unlocked during the workday, small group meetings can now take place, chapel prayer time and adoration are available, as are confessions. First Communion will take place on August 2nd and two people will join the Catholic faith with the Sacrament of Initiation on August 1st. The New-To-You Shop will begin operation again on Thursday, July 23rd. Religious Education is scheduled to begin with registration on August 16 and classes on August 23.

Even though we are beginning to slowly and cautiously move forward, move we must, just with safety and concern for ourselves and one another. Please help us do our part by following these practices and guidelines and help keep our campus and one another safe.

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

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...”



FIRST COMMUNION SET FOR AUGUST 2ND

St. John's has seven students who have anxiously been waiting to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. From what normally would have taken place in early May, has now been set for August 2nd at the 8:30am Mass.

Henry Feltt, Gabriel Kitterman, Gavin Kitterman, Bentley Milholland, Colton Poe, Kyra Poe and Mary Slater each will receive Jesus through the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Please keep each of these students in your thoughts and prayers as they grow in their Catholic faith.



SACRAMENT OF INITIATION

On August 1st, Trudy Heiser and Matthew Booher will enter into the Catholic faith at St. John's through the Sacrament of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Each have been preparing for this growth in their faith and feel called to receive Jesus in their life. Please pray for them and welcome them into our faith community.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TO BEGIN IN AUGUST

Even though many, many things have changed and will be very different as we move forward, we are trying to stay the course with the upcoming religious education school year. The public schools will be returning the beginning of August, and we plan to begin religious instruction on Sunday, August 23rd. Registration will take place in the school after Mass on Sunday, August 16th.

Our schedule, as in the past, will coincide with the public school calendar for in sessions and for break times. Likewise, if Blackford County Schools would happen to go on full shutdown because of COVID-19, we therefore, would also shutdown religious education classes.

In light of this possibility and in an effort to enhance our communications, we are asking parents on the registration form to list an e-mail address and a cell phone number than can receive text messages for ease of announcements and online resources to supplement your child's religious education from home if the need arises.

Letters will be mailed out next week along with a calendar listing pertinent dates and other information.

May we pray for an end to COVID-19 as well as guidance and patience as to the "new normal" that our lives have since taken.

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.

SEMINARIAN FUND APPEAL – HELP US REACH OUR GOAL

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?

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 and currently there are 10 seminarians studying from our diocese totaling over \$400,000 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 our diocese.

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.

St. Mary's parish goal is \$559 with \$340 paid and St. John's goal is \$1,825 with \$509 received.

MID-YEAR FINANCIAL UPDATE

Enclosed in this month's newsletter is the mid-year financial statement for each of our parishes. The top attention getter of no surprise is the decrease in collections due to COVID-19. St. John's has seen a decrease in collections for the first six months of \$7,418 and \$1,200 for Haiti, and St. Mary's has a decrease of \$6,644 in collections. Their food pantry collections are down nearly \$500.

To be commended is the fact that St. John's is holding steady with the food pantry, building fund and the New-To-You even though they have been closed since the end of March until this week.

On the expense side of things, St. John's has held expenses nearly even not counting the boiler repairs early in the year and St. Mary's expenses have actually decreased \$3,000 on the year.

All-in-all, we are hanging in there and we appreciate each and every one who has continued to help us through this difficult time.

FRUITFUL HARVEST TO END IN AUGUST

The current campaign of Fruitful Harvest will end at the end of August. Please be sure that your pledge is up-to-date.

St. Mary's reached their goal a couple of months ago and last week received their ten percent rebate check in the amount of \$1,369.68. Thank you to all St. Mary's parishioners who helped attain the goal through pledges, payments, and prayer.

St. John's just this month has now reached their goal of \$44,717, so the rebate check of ten percent will be forthcoming in the near future along with any overage for either parish that will be paid at 50 percent of any amount over the original goal. Again, many thanks to all who helped us once again reach our goals and help the local Church.

At the end of this campaign, the diocese will shift to a different appeal process to help fund the local church. This new process, Catholic Ministry Appeal, will be an annual campaign. More information will be forthcoming in September.



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 3 Marion & Ruth Ann Clawson
- 3 John & Terry McVicker
- 6 Harold & Carolyn Schuhmacher
- 7 Tom & Claire Aulbach
- 8 Bill & Pat Eppard
- 12 Allen & Tina Johnson
- 17 Jim & Rhonda Cale
- 24 Stuart & Brionna Shields
- 26 Brian & Jessica Kitterman

BIRTHDAYS:

- 4 Loretta Daniel
- 5 Gary Elkins
- 15 Joshua Aulbach
- 20 Bob Banser

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*.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR AUGUST—ST. JOHN'S

Saturday 5:00 pm Reader & Announcements: Shea Aulbach

Sunday 8:30 am Reader & Announcements: Susan Lannoy



7 pm, Friday, August 28
to Sunday, August 30, 2020
\$170

*Men's Silent
Retreat*

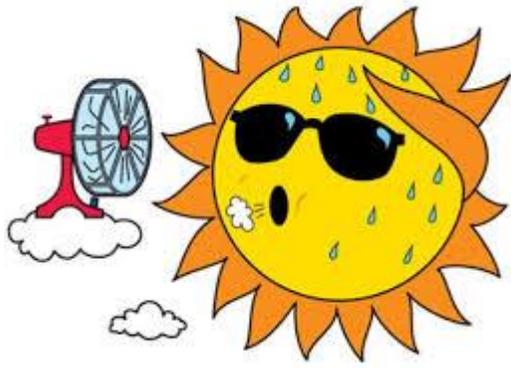
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A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE IN INDIANA

Check us out at: www.stmaryjohn.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR AUGUST—ST. MARY'S

- August 2:** Reader: Dan/Laverne Watson
- August 9:** Reader: Ted Kolodka
- August 16:** Reader: Dan/Laverne Watson
- August 23:** Reader: Ted Kolodka
- August 31:** Reader: Dan/Laverne Watson



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, August 15

The origin of all devotion to Mary must go back to the divine plan of salvation itself—this is the foundation of our veneration for Mary, whose earthly life and mission was crowned by her glorious Assumption into glory to reign with the Divine Son. The divine plan of salvation hinged on the role of this privileged woman. “Mary is the second Eve—Eve would not have seen death or corruption if she had not sinned—so Mary did not see corruption because she had more than the prerogative of Eve. (Cardinal John Henry Newman)” Therefore, it is only fitting and logical that Mary’s union with her Divine Son continue into her heavenly home, body and soul, untainted from human decay.

As proclaimed in Luke 1:46-55, known as Mary’s prayer, or the Magnificat, Mary wanted God to be great in the world, great in her life, and present among us all.

The Prayer Of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever.

(Lk 1: 46-55)

"THROUGH THE CHURCH YEAR"

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD, August 6

This feast began in the Eastern Church before the year 1000 in commemoration of a victory over the Turks to correspond with a Jewish feast day of Moses’ Transfiguration (Ex 34).

The first of three reflections for this feast day is:

Jesus prays to the Father for his unbelieving people, for his apostles and disciples, for faith and strength in the coming days of his suffering. He then becomes the light in a darkened earthly hopelessness, the power which turns a dying into victory and into the redemption of the world.

The second reflection is a Christological feast. The Spirit invites us also to go up the mountain of prayer today and hear anew the Father’s witness to his Son. We are here at the heart of Christianity: The Father revealing the Son to us: “This is my beloved Son.” Today we adore the Son—God from God, the perfect representation of the Father’s being, the image of God for us. The Church is his body extended in space and time. And so Christian faith and adoration are at the center of our experience of faith. We need to take time to be with him and to “listen to him,” as the Father tells us today. This is the principal grace of this feast.

This day is also a feast of joyful hope for us. The glory of Jesus manifested today on the mountain is ours to share. The Preface of today’s Mass thanks the Father that “his glory shone from a body like our own, to show that the Church, which is the body of Christ, would one day share his glory.” Let each of us receive the grace to be transformed in Jesus’ likeness.



LORD THAT WE ALL MIGHT BE ONE

At Easter we celebrate the choice God made to redeem us by sending Jesus, who chose freely to be the victim whose blood would wash away our sins. He made the supreme sacrifice of giving his own life out of love for others...not for self. The same God who gave us free will and so cherishes our freedom also gave us the Ten Commandments, and one of them forbids taking human life. To cherish human freedom is not the same as applauding human choices. Our God does not applaud death-dealing choices. Our God forbids them.

(excerpted from 100 Prayers, Reflections by Fr. Leo Piguet)

Lord Jesus,

On the night before you gave your life for us you prayed that we all might be one.

We have not followed that command.

Those of us who believe in you have separated ourselves from each other and cemented our differences into walls.

We cannot proclaim your good news with one voice because we do not respect the freedom that belongs to us all equally.

Lead us to mourn our divisions and heal our wounds.

Show us how to respect life, our life and the life of all others. Amen.

LIKE LIVING STONES, YOU ARE BEING BUILT UP

St. Paul didn't flinch. He gave the new Christians of Rome a true account of the way they had chosen: "we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope" (Rom 5:3-4). The Letter to the Hebrews proposes the same message: "let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus . . . who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross" (Heb 12:1-2).

The lesson is plain: suffering still hurts Christians, but it brings us hope and joy and strengthens our hearts and minds. God is at work in our lives, and we are working with him when we present ourselves to him for instruction, discipline, and training.

--Augustine Institute

JULY CHALLENGE BY K OF C

JULY CHALLENGE by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

"No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him." (Gospel for July 5, Mt 11:27)

Have you ever known a man who was just like his father; who not only looked like him, but also acted, spoke and thought like him? Jesus is the very image of his Father and reveals the Father to us. By striving to know God the Son more intimately — through prayer, the Mass, the sacraments and Scripture — we also come to know God the Father more intimately. May we better understand the Father's love for us and model our own fatherhood after his.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to commit to at least one hour each week in prayer before Jesus in the tabernacle, spending some of this time meditating on God the Father. Second, I challenge you to work with your brother Knights to implement the Faith in Action Holy Hour program in order to help others grow closer to Christ.

Questions for Reflection:

What is the difference between "knowing about the Father" and "knowing the Father"? Jesus always sought to do the will of his Father in heaven, so how does the life of Christ show you how to be a good son to God the Father? What are some attributes of God the Father, and how can you model your own fatherhood on these attributes of the first person of the Holy Trinity?

--KofC.org



July 14, August 8,
Sept. 15, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 or Dec. 8
\$20, includes lunch

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for a Day*

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WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST

Beginning this month for the August prayers and continuing forward, you will notice a drastic change in the "Pray for a Priest" section. As we continue this tradition of praying for our priests, especially now more than ever, we have a new format as a result of the Uniting in Heart Pastorates.

Rather than listing each priest alphabetically, I have listed them by deanery as a group according to the Pastorate assignments. If you take a Pastorate group, one each day, there will be each day of the month filled. This way we can join together with united hearts in prayer not only for the individual priest, but for his whole Pastorate team, the parish(es) for which he(they) are assigned, and therefore our Diocese as a whole by month's end. Let us unite as one Catholic faith with one another, for one another and for the greater good of our Church and faith family by praying for these priests.

West Deanery

Dominicans, St. Thomas Aquinas, West Lafayette
Fr. Michael Bower, St. Bernard, Crawfordsville
Fr. Mark Walter, Blessed Sacrament, West Lafayette
Fr. __, St. Augustine, Rensselaer, Sacred Heart,
Remington, Sts. Peter and Paul, Goodland
Fr. David Rasner, St. Francis Xavier, Attica, St.
Joseph, Covington
Fr. Michael McKinney, St. Augusta, Lake Village,
St. Cecilia, Demotte, Sorrowful Mother, Wheatfield
Fr. Richard Weisenberger & Fr. Peter Vanderkolk,
St. Joseph Kentland, St. John the Baptist, Earl Park,
St. Mary, Dunington, Sacred Heart, Fowler, St.
Patrick, Oxford, St. Charles, Otterbein
Fr. Dale Ehrman, Fr. Dennis Faker, Fr. Dennis
O'Keefe, Cathedral of St. Mary & St. Ann, Lafayette
Fr. Andrew Dudzinski, Fr. Matthew Kalu, Fr. Daniel
Shine, Fr. William Summerlin, St. Boniface & St.
Lawrence, Lafayette

Central Deanery

Fr. Christopher Shocklee, Fr. Timothy Alkire, Fr.
Samuel Futral, St. Patrick & St. Joan of Arc, Kokomo
Fr. Paul Cochran, Fr. Daniel Duff, St. Mary,
Frankfort, St. Joseph, Lebanon
Fr. Andrew DeKeyser, Fr. Jeffrey Martin, St. Francis
Solano, Francesville, St. Joseph, Pulaski, St. Peter,
Winamac, St. Joseph, Rochester, St. Ann, Kewanna,
St. Anne, Monterey
Fr. Travis Stephens, St. Alphonsus Liguori,
Zionsville

Fr. Richard Doerr, Fr. James DeOreo, Fr. Daniel
Gartland, Fr. Joseph Vargese, Our Lady of Mount
Carmel, Carmel

Fr. Brian Dudzinski, Fr. Kevin Haines, Fr. Michael
McKinley, St. Maria, Goretti, Westfield

Fr. Adam Mauman, Fr. Gustavo Lopez, Fr. Kyle
Meterer, All Saints, Logansport, St. Charles
Borromeo, Peru

Fr. Anthony Rowland, Fr. Joshua Bennett, Fr. Brian
Doerr, Msgr. Robert Sell, Fr. David Newton, St.
Elizabeth Seton, Carmel

Fr. Christopher Miller, Fr. Alejandro Paternoster, Our
Lady of the Lakes, Monticello, St. Joseph, Reynolds,
St. Joseph, Delphi

East Deanery

Fr. Sean Pogue, Sacred Heart, Cicero

Fr. Clayton Thompson, Fr. Michael Block, Fr. John
Nguyen, Our Lady of Grace, Noblesville

Fr. Matthew Arbuckle, Fr. Cole Daily, Fr. Derek
Aaron, Holy Spirit & St. John Vianney, Fishers
Fr. Thomas Haan, Fr. Sean Aaron, St. Louis De
Montfort, Fishers

Fr. Eric Underwood, Fr. Christian DeCarlo, Fr.
Coady Owens, St. Mary, St. Lawrence & St. Francis
of Assisi, Muncie

Fr. Thomas Metzger, Fr. David Hellmann, Fr. Martin
Sandhage, St. Ambrose, & St. Mary, Anderson, St.
Mary, Alexandria

Fr. Dennis Goth, St. John the Baptist, Tipton, St.
Joseph, Elwood

Fr. Christopher Roberts, St. Paul, Marion
Fr. Peter Logsdon, Fr. Paul Hudson, Holy Trinity,
Trinity, Immaculate Conception, Portland, St. Mary,
Union City, St. Joseph, Winchester

Fr. Kevin Hurley, Holy Family, Gas City, St. John
the Evangelist, Hartford City, St. Mary, Dunkirk

Diocesan Offices

Bishop Timothy Doherty, Fr. Ted Dudzinski, Fr.
Dominic Petan, Fr. Derek Aaron, Chancery
Fr. David Rasner, Fr. Timothy Alkire, Fr. Samuel
Kalu, Fr. Stephen Duquaine, Tribunal
Fr. David Buckles, Fr. Paul Graf, Fr. David
Huemmer, St. Elizabeth Hospital & St. Joseph
Retreat Center



**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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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: Aug. , 2020

Editor: Diana Holsten

WELL WISHES TO FR. PAUL

As many are aware, through the Uniting in Heart initiative, many of the priests of our diocese are preparing to move to new assignments on August 19th. Some are moving after many years at their present assignment, and some like Fr. Paul after only a very short time.

Fr. Paul will be moving next door to the Pastorate including Trinity, Portland, Winchester and Union City working alongside Fr. Logsdon. Many have not yet had a chance to even get to meet or know Fr. Hudson which is sad, but those that have know we will miss his smile, kind heart, gentle mannerism, concern for everyone's well-being, and his sermons. At his request, we will not have a sending off gathering, but please wish him well and send him with lots of prayers for his new assignment.

At the same time, we prepare to welcome our new pastor, Fr. Kevin Hurley, who comes to us from Our Lady of Mount Carmel. He will take over duties of our new pastorate of Dunkirk, Gas City, and Hartford City. Fr. Hurley is eager to begin his new assignment in our parishes and we likewise offer lots of prayers for his move and transition to our faith families.

Good-Bye Fr. Hudson...Welcome Fr. Hurley.



**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.

**THANK YOU FOR CHURCH
SUPPORT**

From your graciousness, we continue to receive contributions from a great number of our parishioners. THANK YOU!! If at all possible, please continue to keep your contributions up-to-date by mailing them to the office.