

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

AUGUST 28, 2020



FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:

As was the Uniting in Heart plan for the priest moves to take place on August 19th, Fr. Paul Hudson moved to Portland that day. However, Fr. Kevin Hurley was unable to move yet to Hartford City due to a death in his family. Below are his bulletin communications for last week and this week's bulletin repeated here for those that are not yet able to join us on the weekends due to COVID and dispensation:

From August 23:

Salutations from Arizona. I did not expect to send my first pastor's note from here, but due to the untimely death of my dad's wife, Melanie, I am here to assist him in his transition back to Indiana. Thank you for your prayers for him and my family and even more so for your patience in this time of transition. We also thank Fr. Paul and Fr. Christopher for their work here in our pastorate and wish them continued success in their future endeavors. Also, special thanks to Fr. Ted Dudzinski and Fr. Dominic Petan for their help in providing support for us all in our time of need. Normally, I'd have a longer intro about myself, but that'll wait for a future column. We will be united by the holy sacrifice of the Mass until I return soon. For now, I am working on a timeline for coming back to Indiana as swiftly as possible, but please know of my prayers for all of you.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

For August 30:

Salutations again from Arizona. Thanks so much for your prayers and support for myself and my family; we are making excellent progress out here and I will be home shortly. This weekend God asks us to think like He does and not as we do normally. Peter thinks that he understands God's plan better than Jesus does himself! How often do we all do this as well? I know for myself this past month has presented many different changes to my plans, but thankfully God has been there every step of the way to bring his succor and support in big and small ways, and I know that he has been doing this for so many of us too. I hope to hear more about your stories of how God has transformed your plans for the greater good when I get back home. We must trust that God is greater and wiser than we are, knows us and our circumstances better than we know ourselves, and is therefore quite capable of structuring every minute of our lives in the best way. Once again, I know that we will be united in the holy sacrifice of the Mass, and I am praying for all of you.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley



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

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

PASTOR - Rev. Kevin Hurley

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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: Sept. 25, 2020

Editor: Diana Holsten



Lord on this Labor Day, we thank You for the blessing of work. We ask for strength to complete each day. We ask for rest when we are weary. We ask for Your guidance and hope for everyone seeking employment. We ask that You be with those whose faces we might never see but who work tirelessly each day for the good of all of us.
Amen.

"Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy burdened, And I shall give you rest."

Matthew 11:28-30



Weekend Mass Schedule:

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

Sunday Mass 9:00am at St. John's, Hartford City
Sunday Mass 11:00am at Holy Family, Gas City

As has been the practice over the past 15 or so years with the cluster of St. Mary's and St. John's, if you participate in Mass at one of our three pastorate locations, your collection envelopes will be delivered to your home parish for processing.

The Weekday Mass Schedule will begin upon Fr. Hurley's arrival and will be as follows:

Monday 10:00am at St. John's

Tuesday No Masses

Wednesday 12:00noon at St. John's

Thursday 5:30pm at St. Mary's

Friday 9:00am at Holy Family (First Friday Adoration will follow morning Mass each month)

Please continue to pray for our diocesan leadership, our priests, and each of us as parishioners as we embark on this Uniting in Heart 2030 Pastorate Plan. May we truly unite in hearts to be missionary disciples to share the Gospels and the love of Christ Jesus.

DISPENSATION EXTENDED TO NOV. 1

“To be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not mean people should stay away from Church or fail to keep holy the Lord’s Day. We continue to invite each of you to prayerfully consider attending Mass with your parish family. In this way you may more fully experience the gift that Jesus gives us in the Eucharist and the life of grace.”

AUGUST CHALLENGE BY K OF C

AUGUST CHALLENGE by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.” (Gospel for Aug. 23, Mt 16:18)

That’s quite a promise! Christ established Peter as the head of his Church on earth, with his teaching authority and the guarantee that hell itself would not defeat it. How we practice our faith in word and deed influences the moral and spiritual formation of others — our family, friends, fellow parishioners and neighbors. With the help of God’s grace, fathers have a sacred role to protect their families from the devil’s assaults. May we all take seriously this responsibility to be a “rock” of the Catholic faith in our domestic churches, parishes and communities.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to join with others — family, friends, brother Knights — in praying the rosary for the intention of remaining steadfast in the faith. Second, I challenge you to encourage members of your parish to stand firm in the faith by starting or promoting the Faith in Action Building the Domestic Church Kiosk program at your church.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you regularly lead your family in prayer by saying grace before meals, reciting the rosary, reading Scripture or practicing other devotions? Do you openly discuss the Catholic faith so that your children know and understand the faith and its truth, goodness and beauty? Do you pray for your wife and children that God may protect them from the attacks of the devil?

--KofC.org

GRANDPARENTS' DAY - SEPTEMBER 13

Grandparents and grandchildren share a special relationship, so shouldn't there be a day to honor their love? As it turns out, there already is! National Grandparents Day is celebrated annually the first Sunday after Labor Day.

No matter what you decide to do in honor of National Grandparents Day, if it's done with love, it will be special to grandma and grandpa.

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

The Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 20, under the theme of “I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you.” On this day especially, let us pray for our catechists to share with our youth what they have been given and called to do through this ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation.



7 pm, Friday, September 11 to
Sunday, September 13, 2020
\$170

*Women's Silent
Retreat*

REGISTER ONLINE AT
STJOSEPHRETREAT.ORG

SAINT JOSEPH
RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER
OF THE DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE, MISSOURI

1st communion



SEVEN RECEIVE JESUS THROUGH THE EUCHARIST

Seven second grade students were welcomed to the Lord's table at St. John's through First Holy Communion on August 2nd.

Henry Feltt, Gabriel Kitterman, Gavin Kitterman, Bentley Milholland, Colton Poe, Kyra Poe and Mary Slater received Jesus' body, blood, soul and divinity through the Sacrament of the Eucharist with their families and their faith families as ongoing support.

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

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR SEPTEMBER—ST. MARY'S

Sept. 5: Reader: Laverne Watson Greeter: Colleen Bicknell Counter: Kathleen Inman

Sept. 12: Reader: Ted Kolodka Greeter: Colleen Bicknell Counter: Jane Crouch

Sept. 19: Reader: Laverne Watson Greeter: Jane Crouch Counter: Kathleen Inman

Sept. 26: Reader: Ted Kolodka Greeter: Colleen Bicknell Counter: Jane Crouch



WELCOME TRUDY AND MATTHEW

On August 1st, Trudy Heiser and Matthew Booher received the Sacrament of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, at St. John's. Trudy has been waiting on this moment for 54 years. Matthew has felt the Catholic faith has saved his life and has taught him love and hope that he has much needed. They are anxious to share their faith with others. Please pray for them and welcome them into our faith community.

Check us out at: www.stmaryjohn.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR SEPTEMBER—ST. JOHN'S

Sunday 9:00 am Reader & Announcements: Vince Cimino

TRADITIONAL LATIN LOW MASS

Feast of The Most Holy Name of Mary
Saturday, September 12, at 6:30 PM ET

St. Paul's Catholic Church

1041 W. Kem Rd.

Marion, IN 46953-2098

"THROUGH THE CHURCH YEAR"

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

September 8

A strong grace of this feast, mandated for the Church in AD 701, is to open ourselves to the joy of salvation. Mary's birth is, in a real sense, the dawn of a new age for humankind. Through Mary Jesus becomes a member of the human race with a true human ancestry. Mary's Son is truly one of us and we are powerfully reminded that our Christian faith does not help us escape from the realities of human life, but immerses us more deeply in them. Celebrating Mary's birth underlines the intimate and inseparable connection between the Mother and the Son-Savior. Mary's role is altogether unique in the economy of salvation.

The spiritual consequence of these truths is that a trust in devotion to Mary should be a hallmark of every Christian—as it clearly has been of the saints from the beginning. No one has more at heart the success of her Son's saving work in us than Mary. We should daily entrust ourselves to her maternal care, that the full power of Christ's life in us may grow and transform us into his likeness and into witnesses to his love in the world.

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS,

September 14

A combination of historical events is commemorated by this feast. First, it recalls the dedication in the fourth century of the church built in Jerusalem to mark the spot of Jesus' crucifixion and burial—the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher. This followed the finding of the remains of the cross on Calvary's hill. In AD 614 the Byzantine Emperor recovered from the Persians relics of the cross. They were returned to Jerusalem with great exultation and veneration.

Spiritually and theologically, the focus of this feast is the joyful acknowledgment of the saving graces that have flowed to humanity through the sufferings and death of Christ. In contrast to the Lenten observance of the suffering dimension, this feast rejoices in the superabundant fruits of the cross—Christ's victory over sin, evil, and death—which are now shared in by the human family.

This feast is also an occasion for us to reflect on the role of suffering and the cross in our own lives. Jesus gives the reassuring promise: "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for

yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light" (Mk 11:29-30).

What makes the yoke of the cross light is love. Christian faith holds that there is a mysterious saving power in suffering freely accepted in love. Jesus' own cross is the paradigm. He accepted every form of human suffering—physical, mental, emotional—and made it a redemptive oblation for the whole human race because he suffered it all with love, a love that led him to choose from all eternity to be the means of the reconciliation of sinful humans with God.

We too have the possibility to make our sufferings redemptive and salvific, if we embrace them with love and trust patterned on Christ.

(excerpted from *Through the Church Year* by Francis D. Kelly)

THE SMALLER THE WORLD

"As we read the Gospels, we discover that Jesus had trouble with people whose world was too small...establishment figures constricted by the Law, the apostles who remained attached to their notion of Messiah and their prejudices against Gentiles and women. Someone who objects to healing because it is a violation of the Sabbath, one who chases away a needy woman because she is a Canaanite, or who objects to somebody casting out devils who is not one of the apostles.

"People with very small worlds dot the landscape... But Jesus leads us into the largest world there is, the world of love. He led by word and by example. Remember when he stretched out his arms on the cross, he embraced with his love the whole world. When we have excluded no one from our love, our world is large enough."

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

WARM MY HEART, CALM MY FEAR

God of growth and change, my life has become set in habits and patterns that control me.

I see myself in the harsh mirror polished by the mistakes and failures of my past, and framed by the fear that I cannot grow.

Send your Holy Spirit to warm my heart, to stretch my imagination, to quiet my fear.

With your Spirit to guide me, I can break old chains, think new thoughts, and become the person you call me to be. Amen.



BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

September 19/20 is National Back to Church Sunday. Even though this may look a little different and not all can join us in person, we can all join in spirit. For those that can join in person, please encourage a friend or family member to come with you as well. Now more than ever we need faith and spiritual guidance to lead the way not only for us, but for us to share with those that may not have any faith or that may struggle with their faith. Let us be their light in the darkness and live that missionary disciple life taking the good news to others.

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

**O Holy Spirit,
Spirit of wisdom and love, impart Your
knowledge, understanding, and counsel to the
young, that they may know the vocation wherein
they might best serve God. Give them courage
and strength to follow God’s holy will.
Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their
resolution, fashion their minds, conquer their
hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they
might labor in God’s holy service. Amen.**



AN UNNAMED POEM

By: Laura Kelly Fanucci

When this is over may we never again
Take for granted a handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine check-up
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
A stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself

When this ends may we find
That we have become more like the people
we wanted to be, we were called to be,
we hoped to be, and
May we stay that way—better for each other
because of the worst!

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 2 Mark & Shea Aulbach
- 4 Corey & Amy Hardesty
- 10 David & Lupie Dell
- 12 John & Christine Geise
- 15 Dan & Emily Johnson
- 29 Kyle & Tiffany Homan

BIRTHDAYS:

- 4 Emilee Hardesty
 - 11 Lucy Banser
 - 16 Derrick Shields
 - 18 Brianna Elkins
 - 19 Megan Trissel
 - 25 John Shields
- 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*.

If you feel you have been a victim of sexual misconduct by a cleric, contact Victim Assistance Minister, Doris May, at 765-464-4988 or report the incident at <https://dol-in.org/reporting-an-incident>.