



*Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead.
In Him we have eternal life. Alleluia!*

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:

**LITURGY SCHEDULE
April 25, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Monday, April 26 at St. John's
10:00a.m...Bob O'Rourke

Tuesday, April 27
:00a.m...No Mass

Wednesday, April 28 at St. John's
12:00noon...Wanda Hoover

Thursday, April 29, at St. Mary's
5:30p.m...Parents of Dean & Loretta Wilson

Friday, April 30, at Holy Family
9:00a.m...Poor Souls

Saturday, May 1
5:00p.m...Welfare of Laverne Watson & Jaylynn Watson at St. Mary's
6:30p.m...Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. John's and Holy Family at St. John's

Sunday, May 2
9:00a.m...Vera Johnson at St. John's
11:00a.m...John Fiely at Holy Family

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen



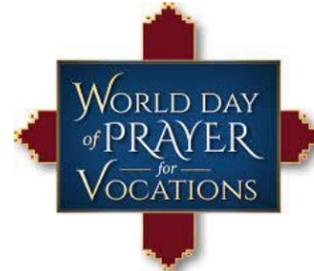
St. Augustine once wrote that "We cannot love unless someone has loved us first. Listen to the apostle John: *We love him, because he first loved us.* The source of man's love for God can only be found in the fact that God loved him first." Knowing that we have been loved into existence is one of the key hallmarks of the Easter message that spread like wildfire after the Resurrection, and it still brings people to Jesus and His Church this day. When we gather to participate and offer the sacrifice of the Mass it is a feast of love, what was called *agape* in the ancient days, and which originally confused non-Christians in the early days of the Church. But to this day, we are being drawn more deeply into this liturgy of God's love for us and our love for Him.

These past weeks I have received a lot of feedback on our new vigil Mass for our pastorate, and I am very thankful for all of it. We will have these next few months to get this Mass started and established, and I look forward to the great fruits that will come from it for our parishes and our communities. We will start this new schedule on Saturday May 1st, with Mass remaining at St. Mary's at 5pm and Mass at St. John's at 6:30pm. I look forward to this opportunity to offer this sacrifice and welcome back any of our parishioners who have been away these past few months and any new parishioners as well. Please continue to invite friends and family members to any of our Masses here, as we continue to receive and share God's love and mercy with all those we are called to serve.

In Christ, Fr. Hurley

**PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS
FOR APRIL:**

Fundamental Rights
We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Every year on Good Shepherd Sunday, which is today, we take time to pray for an increase in vocations - especially to the religious life - and for those who have entered formation.

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests and deacons in prayer throughout the week.
- Encourage your children or grandchildren to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

--usccb.org

HELP FOR PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

Please remember the Portland Pregnancy Care Center. A container is provided in the church entrance at St. Mary's. Needed items include diapers, baby lotion, shampoo, clothing, laundry soap, also adult shampoo deodorant, etc.

Calling all Holy Family high school seniors. If you are graduating this spring or have a high school graduate please, call or text Christina Christman at (765)733-4026. Thank you!

Diana is in the office at Holy Family each Monday from 1-4pm. Stop in and introduce yourself if in the area.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 7 NEXT WEEKEND

Seven students in our pastorate will receive Jesus for the first time next Sunday. St. John's will welcome Allison Meadows, Judah Shelton and Ryan Trissel to the table of the Lord at the 9am Mass and Holy Family will celebrate at 11am with Allison Holmes, Benjamin Soultz, Arianna Vaughn and Keegan Vaughn. Please pray for these students in the coming days as they prepare for their First Holy Eucharist.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

This summer, high school students have the opportunity to go on a Mission Trip! The Mission Trip is through a program called Youth Works. Youth Works is a program that has been running for 27 years in numerous locations. We will be attending the St. Louis, MO location on July 25th-30th. If you are interested in the Mission Trip, please reach out to Bethany at bkuhn@parish.dol-in.org for more information. Please note that all spots will need to be reserved by April 30th.

SERVER TRAININGS

Fr. Hurley is requesting our youth to consider the ministry of Altar Servers. All students in grades 4th through 12th are encouraged to participate. Please contact Fr. Hurley, Diana or your teacher to express your interest so we can set a training date. Training will be held at each location as duties are different for each of our parishes.



RETIREMENT PARTY

After 23 years of dedicated and honorable service, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Uggan is retiring from the Indiana National Guard. There will be an open house Saturday, May 1, 2021, 1-4pm at St. John's Parish Hall. All are invited, no gifts please.



As our high school youth prepare to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, please continue to pray for them. They will hold a mini-retreat next Sunday, April 25, 2:30-5pm. Those planning to be Confirmed on May 5th with Bishop Doherty should plan to attend.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

ACTS 4:8-12; PS 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 JN 3:1-2; JN 10:11-18

On this fourth Sunday of Easter, we hear that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are His sheep. Our readings today call us to reflect inward — do we allow Jesus to shepherd our lives?

In our Gospel Jesus reveals His radical love for us. He says, “I will lay down my life for the sheep.” Jesus tells us that we are His. We can compare this relationship to that of a loving parent to their child. The parent gives without much in return and if any evil came near the child, the parent would do anything, even lay down their life for their baby.

We are Christ’s, even more than a child is to a parent. He created us and sustains our lives each day. Evil persists in our world, so Jesus willingly laid down His life for us at Calvary for our salvation. He is our Good Shepherd, whether we remain in His flock or go astray.

But just as a baby is happiest in the arms of a parent, so too are we happiest in the flock of our Shepherd. And just as sheep go astray, we also stray from God, test our limits and even follow false shepherds.

Thankfully our Shepherd is a Good Shepherd, and He laid down His life for us knowing every sin we will ever commit. Therefore, let us examine our hearts and return to our flock. We don’t even need to find the way. He is right there always waiting to guide us home.

Let us look inward this week and ask ourselves, ‘who is my Shepherd?’ and ‘have I gone astray?’ Name the areas in your life that you have neglected. Ask Jesus to bring you home. Pray for His mercy, seek His forgiveness in the sacraments and begin again.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Apr. 26: Acts 11: 1-18; Jn 10: 1-10

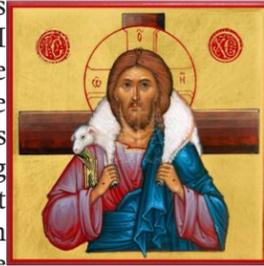
Apr. 27: Acts 11: 19-26; Jn 10: 22-30

Apr. 28: [St. Peter Chanel, priest & martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, priest] Acts 12: 24-13: 5a; Jn 12: 44-50

Apr. 29: [St. Catherine of Siena, virgin & doctor of the Church] Acts 13: 13-25; Jn 13: 16-20

Apr. 30: [St. Pius V, pope] Acts 13: 26-33; Jn 14: 1-6
May 1: [St. Joseph the Worker] Acts 13: 44-52; Jn 14: 7-14

May 2: [Fifth Sunday of Easter] acts 9: 26-31; 1 Jn 3: 18-24; Jn 15: 1-8



PRAYER CHAIN: To have someone prayed for or be one of those doing the praying, please contact Janice Jackson at 348-1521 or the office at 348-3889 or 674-2605.

Please pray for all those parishioners and their families dealing with illness.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, April 27: Women’s Bible Study 9-11am at St. John’s

Wednesday, April 28: Rosary 4pm at Holy Family
Finance Council 6pm at Holy Family

Thursday, April 29: Adoration 5-5:25pm at St. Mary’s

Sunday, May 2: Religious Ed 10am at St. John’s & Holy Family & Bible Study 10am at St. John’s

First Holy Communion at Masses at St. John’s and Holy Family

PRAY THE ROSARY

Alleluia! HE is risen! Spend time in prayer with Mary to Jesus through the Holy Rosary.

The rosary is prayed each Sunday at 4pm with Divine Chaplet and each Wednesday at 4pm with recitation of 15 decades at Holy Family.

St. Mary’s will pray the rosary each Saturday prior to Mass beginning at 4:40pm.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary’s

Sunday Collection: \$443.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John’s

Sunday Collection: \$1,738.00

Building Fund: \$35.00

Food Pantry: \$35.00

Haiti: \$20.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

Holy Family

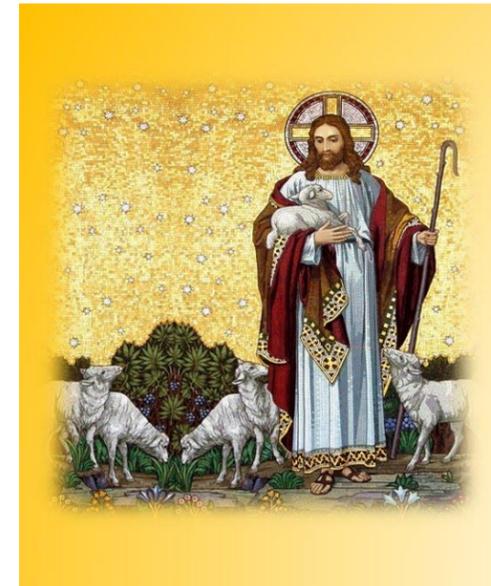
Sunday Collection: \$2,053.00

Sharing Cupboard: \$65.00

Rice Bowl: \$18.00

Needed Weekly: \$2,238.00

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, “leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the wolf.”



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the parish office about preparation.

The sacrament is normally celebrated with the community during Mass. May God continue to bless you and your new little one.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are available by appointment as well as:
St. Mary, 5-5:30pm each Thursday; 4-4:30pm each Saturday

St. John, 8-8:45am each Sunday prior to Mass
Holy Family, 12noon-1pm each Sunday; 8:30-8:55am each Friday.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage. Please contact the parish office to begin the preparation at least six months in advance.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Generally, Fr. Hurley is available after Mass for anointing, or you may contact the parish office to arrange a time.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Sessions for children and youth (grades K-12) are available on Sunday morning. Contact the parish office for details.

St. Mary, Dunkirk

St. John the Evangelist, Hartford City

Holy Family, Gas City

A Pastorate of
The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

Pastor, Fr. Kevin Hurley

PARISH OFFICES

Office e-mail: DHolsten@parish.dol-in.org

Fr. Hurley’s email: fr.khurley@dol-in.org

Website: www.stmaryjohn.org

St. Mary, Dunkirk

P.O. Box 286, Dunkirk, IN 47336

Parish Office: 765-348-3889

Church Basement: 765-768-1283

St. John the Evangelist, Hartford City

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

Parish Office: 765-348-3889

Fax: 765-348-4399

Holy Family, Gas City

325 E North A St, Gas City, IN 46933

Parish Office: 765-674-2605

PARISH REGISTRATION

Visitors are always welcome. Residents are invited to join the community by calling the parish office.

RCIA

People interested in knowing about the Catholic faith and way of life meet each week. Contact the parish office for information