

# THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

## JULY 23, 2021



### FROM THE PEN OF THE PASTOR:

TS Eliot the great poet once wrote that “April was the Cruellest Month,” but in the early days of my youth, it was August for me. The return the school, challenging humidity, football two-a-days, and many other things that were all stressors for me. Now, I look at it differently, especially through the lenses of faith, but I do have empathy for those who do see this month as a stressful month. I hope and pray with the return of Children’s Religious Education and Faith Formation for our Adults, and as we continue to increase the frequency of parish events and gatherings, we can find peace, hope, and encouragement in our shared labors and works. Praying for successful back to school and work as well will be a key focus for us all, and we will have blessing during our Masses to ask for God’s strength and assistance for this coming year.

As we move into this new year, we also want to thank our staff and volunteers for all the work of this past year and summer. I especially want to give thanks to Bethany Kuhn our departing youth and young adult minister. She worked hard in our pastorate and at St. Paul’s to bring some great vitality to our young people and their families and we wish her great success in her future endeavors. I also wanted to thank Christina Christman and her volunteers for putting on a very successful and fun Vacation Bible School this July. All the children and volunteers had a great time, and we look forward to even greater VBS events in the future. We also want to thank our pastoral and finance council members who have been working hard on pastoral planning, finances and maintenance on our churches and facilities, and providing good advice for myself as I continue to grow as a pastor. I look forward to finishing summer well here, and a great new year of building up the kingdom of God.

In Christ,  
Fr. Hurley



**Vacation Bible School: "Heroes of Old"**



**Picture with police officer escort**



**Parade**

**Jonah & the whale**



**Joshua and Esther were part of VBS**



**Noah and the Ark**

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH  
VBS AND THE STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED!**

# PICTURES FROM PASTORATE PICNIC

Special thanks to Glen Devitt Photography for these pictures. And thank you to all who helped in any way through activities, food, attending and prayer to make our first annual pastorate picnic a huge success. Nearly 140 people attended despite the weather (which held off) and a great time was had by all!



Approximately 140 parishioners enjoyed the great food.



Cornhole tournament participators



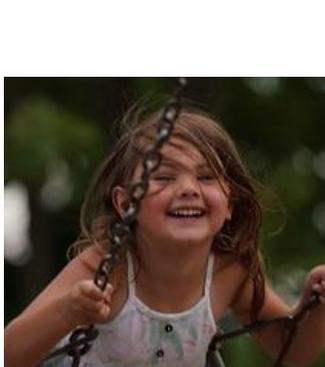
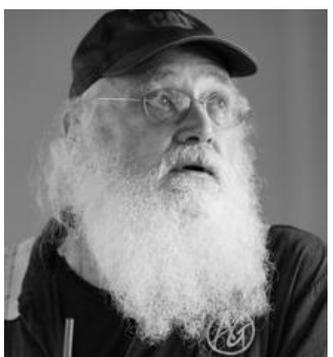
Rosary prayed in the shade



Ice Cream was enjoyed on the hot day.



One of the happy raffle winners.



Young and Young at Heart enjoyed the day.



Amoris Laetitia Family  
Year 2021 - 2022

## YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Pope Francis has announced a special Year of the Family for March 19, 2021, to June 26, 2022. The year commemorates the fifth anniversary of the apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love*).

### Goal 4 of 5 from Pope Francis:

**Make young people aware** of the importance of formation in the truth of love and in the gift of self, with initiatives dedicated to them.

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## RELIGIOUS ED GEARING UP

Registration letters for religious education will be mailed in the next week. If you do not receive one and have a school age student, please contact the office. We are looking forward to a bigger and better year of Catholic instruction, including some fun events and programs. There are plans for a new youth ministry program between our pastorate parishes as well. Classes for both Holy Family and St. John's will meet on Sunday mornings, St. John's following Mass till 11am and Holy Family prior to Mass from 9:30 to 10:45. St. Mary's is again asked to join St. John's in classes.

Be looking for your letters and get ready to grow with Jesus in your faith education!

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**"When you pray, you only have to ask for two things: You should ask for the light to see the will of God, and you have to ask for the courage to be able to do the will of God."**

**— Venerable Msgr. Aloysius Schwartz**



As pastorates across the diocese continue to work through the implementation of Bishop Doherty's Uniting in Heart 2030 Pastoral Plan in their local parishes, a vital component and support piece comes from the role of the pastorate consultant.

"As the Uniting in Heart Pastoral Plan was being formulated, clergy requested that we provide as many resources as possible for success," said Father Ted Dudzinski, Vicar General for the diocese. "Outside of praying for the Holy Spirit to guide us," he continued, "we also realized we did not have the internal capacity within the Chancery to provide the necessary resources for the standardization of processes that was being sought. Nevertheless, assisting in a smooth implementation of those processes and the plan was key to our success, so the idea of the transitional position of Pastorate Consultant was developed."

The role of the pastorate consultant is to create consistent communication between the diocese and the pastorates, identifying strengths, opportunities for growth, and an overall understanding of how Uniting in Heart will look in their pastorates. The National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders through the religion division of Lilly Endowment Inc. is providing some funding for these positions.

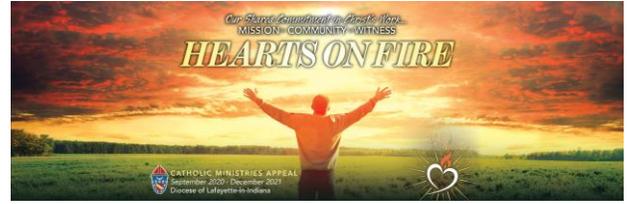
Three pastorate consultants, Deacon Dan Finn, Missy Krockover and Molly Clark, have been split up to assist different pastorates across the three deaneries of the diocese. As part of their mission to assist the bishop in implementing the vision of the pastoral plan, it's important that they assist their pastorates as they work through the transition, helping them build their leadership team and begin the process of drafting their three-year rolling pastoral plan.

With all change comes its challenges, and this year has certainly been a challenge in itself due to COVID-19. Through it all, the diocese continues to focus on evangelizing the Church using the 3 Pillars of Mission, Community and Witness as it's guidepost.

"Opening our hearts and minds to learn something new and investing in the development of others is a celebration of the gifts and talents that God has bestowed on each of us," Clark said. "In the spirit of renewal and through personal and team development, we become more effective at impacting the higher mission of Uniting in Heart by growing disciples of Jesus Christ."

"This summarizes beautifully the role of the Pastorate Consultant and really, the character of each Pastorate Consultant, a missionary disciple filled with the Holy Spirit," said Father Dudzinski.

## CMA MID-YEAR UPDATE



We have crossed the \$50K threshold in pledges for our current year CMA appeal. We now sit at \$51,184 towards a goal of \$80,974 leaving \$20,790 yet to go. We have until December 31<sup>st</sup> to whittle down the \$20K. If you would be willing to give towards this, please contact Fr. Hurley or Diana in the office at 765-348-3889. Maybe you have not yet given or maybe you have given, but are in a position to give a little more. Either way we could use your help. Thank you to each who have offered a pledge and to those who have offered prayers for the Catholic Ministries Appeal success and the benefits it provides to us and our diocese as a whole.

## ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Donations for all our parish envelope collections are available on our website at [www.stmaryjohn.org](http://www.stmaryjohn.org). These will be deposited and posted separately for each of our parishes, so your contributions will stay with your home parish. Look for the tab "donate" to navigate to your choice of giving. All options that are contained in your envelop packets are listed on our website. If you have issues setting up your donation, please contact Diana.

Wednesday, August 18, 2021  
\$35, includes lunch and Little Office  
of St. Joseph booklet

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*St. Joseph Day  
of Reflection*

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A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA

Saturday, August 7, 2021  
\$30, includes lunch

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*Psalms Day of  
Reflection*

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**"You must speak to Jesus, not only with your lips, but also with your heart; actually, on certain occasions, you should speak with only your heart."  
— St. Padre Pio**

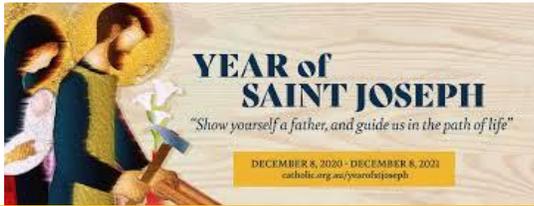


### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL COOKOUT

Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at noon  
Home of John & Karen Shields  
7014 E 100 S, Hartford City

All Knights, prospective Knights, Knights widows, and their families are invited  
Knights will provide the meat and beverages

Please bring a well-filled covered dish to share.



## POPE'S LETTER ON ST. JOSEPH

### ON THE 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter on December 8, 2020, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, proclaiming the year 2021 as the year of St. Joseph, the Worker. Each month of 2021 we will include one of the seven personal reflections of St. Joseph by Pope Francis.

#### **A working father**

An aspect of Saint Joseph that has been emphasized from the time of the first social Encyclical, Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*, is his relation to work. Saint Joseph was a carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family. From him, Jesus learned the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one's own labor.

In our own day, when employment has once more become a burning social issue, and unemployment at times reaches record levels even in nations that for decades have enjoyed a certain degree of prosperity, there is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron.

Work is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion. It becomes an opportunity for the fulfilment not only of oneself, but also of that primary cell of society which is the family. A family without work is particularly vulnerable to difficulties, tensions, estrangement and even break-up. How can we speak of human dignity without working to ensure that everyone is able to earn a decent living?

Working persons, whatever their job may be, are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us. The crisis of our time, which is economic, social, cultural and spiritual, can serve as a summons for all of us to rediscover the value, the importance and necessity of work for bringing about a new "normal" from which no one is excluded. Saint Joseph's work reminds us that God himself, in becoming man, did not disdain work. The loss of employment that affects so many

of our brothers and sisters, and has increased as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, should serve as a summons to review our priorities. Let us implore Saint Joseph the Worker to help us find ways to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!

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## LITURGICAL MINISTERS AUGUST

### HOLY FAMILY

**Sunday 11:00 am Reader:** Lisa Baker  
**Commentator:** LaVerne Coulter **Communion Minister:** Nancy Campbell **Ushers:** Dennis & Valerie McHarry **Greeter:** Marilee Cox 1, 8, Nina Hutchison 15, 22, 29

### ST. MARY'S

**Aug 7: Reader:** Ted Kolodka **Greeter:** Dean & Loretta Wilson **Counter:** Dan Watson  
**Aug. 14: Reader:** Kathy Jutte **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Jane Crouch  
**Aug. 21: Reader:** Laverne Watson **Greeter:** Jane Crouch **Counter:** Dan Watson  
**Aug. 28: Reader:** Dan Watson **Greeter:** Colleen Bicknell **Counter:** Dan Watson

### ST. JOHN'S

**Saturday 6:30 pm Reader & Announcements:** Sr. Rita Musante **Communion Minister:** Mary Ford  
**Greeters:** Barbara Houseman  
**Sunday 9:00 am Reader & Announcements:** Lisa Rinker **Communion Minister:** Anya Uggen  
**Greeters:**

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## CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB

Check us out at: [www.stmaryjohn.org](http://www.stmaryjohn.org). Weekly bulletins, this newsletter, daily Mass with Bishop Barron, the Catholic Moment, daily readings and prayers, and much more can be found on this website.

Your Sunday offering as well as all special collection envelopes are available on the website as well. Contact Diana if you are having trouble accessing this site.



7 pm, Friday, August 27  
to Sunday, August 29, 2021  
\$170

*Men's Silent  
Retreat*

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## 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 with your name, month and day of birth or anniversary. We would be happy to share it through *The Good News Letter*. We do not automatically include names due to privacy.

## PEOPLE WITH GOOD NEWS

**Tom & Claire Aulbach** on the celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 7.

## MONTHLY K OF C CHALLENGE

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

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick — no food, no sack, no money in their belts. (Gospel for July 11, Mk 6:7-8)

Jesus sends his disciples out on their mission with few provisions. It would be unthinkable for us today to take a trip without carrying cash or a credit card, making lodging arrangements or packing a suitcase. What are we to make of Christ's instructions, and how do they relate to our own baptismal mission? I offer two thoughts. First, we must trust that God will provide for our needs as we carry out his work. Second, we must not be encumbered by "excess baggage" — anything in our lives that can hold us back from carrying out God's will.

**Challenge** by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to spend an hour each week in eucharistic adoration, reflecting on relying on God alone and becoming detached from the things of this world. Second, I challenge you to work with your pastor to implement the Faith in Action Holy Hour program.

### **Questions for Reflection:**

Are you aware that Jesus is sending you on a mission in the world? Do you truly trust God to provide for your needs along the way? What "baggage" are you carrying that is holding you back from fulfilling God's mission for you?

--KofC.org



5 pm, Friday, August 13 to  
11:30 am Sat., August 14, 2021  
\$90

*Rooted: A Men's  
Retreat*

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A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE-IN INDIANA

**St. Mary, Holy Family and  
St. John the Evangelist Parishes**  
A Pastorate of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana  
209 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348  
PASTOR - Rev. Kevin Hurley  
Dunkirk: 765.768.1283 Gas City: 765.674.2605  
Hartford City: 765.348.3889 stmaryjohn@att.net

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### **Lord's Day Liturgy**

**SATURDAY:** 5:00 pm at St. Mary's

6:30 pm at St. John's

**SUNDAY:** 9:00 am at St. John's

11:00 am at Holy Family

- **Weekday Liturgy:** Please consult inside the bulletin. -

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Aug. 13, 2021**

**Editor: Diana Holsten**

## **JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF THE PURE IN HEART**

Joseph, Guardian of the Pure in Heart  
Gentle Joseph, God is captivated by the  
quality of your heart. Your entire being is  
focused on doing his will. With Mary and  
Jesus,  
you answer the Holy Spirit's call to build a  
better world.

With one heart, we join you in saying :

« Here we are, Lord, your will be done! »

Your kingdom come nearer to us! »

Keep the hope of a new world alive in our  
hearts.

Inspire us to speak words of tenderness to  
awaken

the love of hearts.

May we draw the energy for our actions from  
the source

of all Love so our faces may shine with the  
freedom

of the children of God.

Amen.



Please join us in Celebrating the Lord's Day with the  
sacrifice of the Mass.

### **The Lord's Day Weekend Mass Schedule:**

#### **Saturday Vigil Mass:**

**5:00pm at St. Mary's, Dunkirk**

**6:30pm at St. John's, Hartford City**

#### **Sunday Mass:**

**9:00am at St. John's, Hartford City**

**11:00am at Holy Family, Gas City**

If weekend Mass is still uncomfortable for you, a  
weekday Mass might be a good alternative. There  
are a lot less people in attendance, but you can still  
receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Give it a try, we  
welcome you back!

**Mondays 10am at St. John's**

**Wednesdays 12noon at St. John's**

**Thursdays 5:30pm at St. Mary's**

**Fridays 9am at Holy Family**