



ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Forming Saints for Christ and the Church

DECEMBER 17, 2017
THIRD SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT

512 North Perkins Street ✕ Rushville ✕ Indiana ✕ 46173
Parish: 765-932-2588 ✕ School: 765-932-3639 ✕ www.stmaryrush.org



**My soul
proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit
rejoices in God my Savior,
for He
has looked upon his lowly servant.
From this day
all generations will call me blessed.
(Luke 1:46-48)**

Reflection: “Rejoice!” Mary’s prayer echoes the psalms of praise that would have been so familiar in Jewish households, and also the prayer of praise and joy of Hannah at the arrival of her son Samuel, who would be the one to anoint the King, David. This joy has its foundations in recognition and gratitude for the work of God in their lives. Especially now, as we look forward to the coming of Jesus with the Blessed Mother, we delight in the Father’s love in sending His Son to us, and in our salvation.

Prayer: “Most Blessed Mother, help us to make your prayer truly our own, to help us recognize and rejoice in the gift of Jesus, and to delight in God’s work in our lives, and in the lives of those we serve in catechetical ministry. Amen”



On Thursday, Nov 30, I met with the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign Approval Committee to briefly present the **very favorable Feasibility Study results** compiled by Mr. Ray Coogan of OSV. During the first weekend of October, we conducted an in-pew survey to determine parish support, sentiment, and interest in addressing several deferred maintenance

projects at the parish: school roof and masonry repair and the parking lot (estimated at costing \$975,000). 42% of the parish households returned surveys. This information was collated with responses from fifteen one-on-one parishioner interviews. **98% of responses recognized the three projects as either “Essential” or “Important.”** 89% responded that they were in favor of a Capital Campaign to help meet this financial commitment. Not surprising, more than 90%



indicated they would likely make a pledge towards addressing these parish needs. Some concerns were raised regarding the prioritization, avoiding a loan for the work, commodity prices & economic factors, etc. These will be addressed as soon as possible in future months. Given the strong response and favorable results, the Archdiocese and parish leadership has committed to a Capital Campaign in the near future. Of course, you will hear more, but I wanted to give you an update on where things stood following the October

study. Of course, thank you for your initial support. *St Mary, Expectant Mother, pray for us. ~ Fr. Gries*



RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Class TODAY, December 17. Review Part I & II.

St. Mary Food Pantry Meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7p.m. in the rectory conference room. Current and new members are encouraged to attend.



Joey Beard and Ellen (David) Todd,
David and Kathy Risselman and
Pete Osting.



Monetary donations are now being accepted for Christmas flowers. Envelopes are at all church entrances. Fill out the envelope and drop it into the regular Sunday Collection.

Food Pantry items for December are: Pork and Beans and Cereal. The St. Mary Food Pantry is in **need of at least three new volunteers** to work the pantry. Please call Susan Hoeing at 561-1040. The pantry currently needs meat. If you can donate meat, please call Susan Hoeing to make delivery arrangements.

SLEEPING MATS FOR THE HOMELESS: Plastic bags (Kroger, Walmart, etc.) are needed for this project which is being done by several Rush County residents! Bags can be dropped off at the parish office. Anyone interested in joining this group can contact Ruth Koelmel 765-969-6757 or Linda Shanahan 765-645-5279.



Incense will be used at the 6p.m. Mass on December 24, Midnight Mass and the 9a.m. Mass on December 25.

The Children's Choir will be singing on December 24 at the 4p.m. Mass. All children are welcome. Practice will begin at 3p.m.

Christmas: December 24 - Mass at 4:p.m., 6:p.m. and 12 Midnight. December 25 - 9a.m.
New Year's: January 1 - Mass at 8:30a.m. and 6:30p.m.



A Message from the SMS 150 Committee

We are trying to put together an updated alumni list for St. Mary School. If you or any member of your family attended St.

Mary School at any time in the past 150 years, please send your information to Cheryl Riggs at CLRXRAY@yahoo.com. The committee needs old school pictures, class composite pictures, and any memorabilia you might have.

Two members of the committee, Marilyn Spilman and Marty Connerly, are looking for alumni to interview. We would love to hear about and record your personal connection to St. Mary Catholic School. Contact Marty Connerly at 317-402-3719; meo49.connerly@gmail.com or Marilyn Spilman at 765-561-6986; marilyn.spilman@farmcredit.com.



PARISH MISSION

3-8 February 2018

*Commitment to Christ
and His Church*

Fr Tom Sullivan, CPM

The Fathers of Mercy ✕ fathersofmercy.com

7p each night in church



A wonderful opportunity is coming next weekend! Many people will be visiting St. Mary for our Christmas Masses. Please consider serving as a greeter at one of the four Masses. All that is needed is to arrive 1/2 hour before Mass begins, stand in one of the foyers, smile and welcome all who enter.



The Parish Office will close at noon on Friday, December 22 and remain closed the week between Christmas and New Year's. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2017.

HOLY WEEK 2018

+++ March 24-April 1 +++
Coincides with Rush County
Spring Break

As you start making plans, plan now to be with Jesus Christ whose Suffering, Death, and Resurrection gives Life and Hope!



Sunday Offerings December 10, 2017



Adults (119 Envelopes + 8 Loose Checks)	\$ 9,871.00
Youth (5 Envelopes)	\$ 6.97
Loose	\$ 276.00
Total	\$ 10,153.97
Weekly Budget (2017/2018)	\$ -8,000.00
Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)	\$ +2,153.97 ☺

Sunday 12/10/17	\$ 10,153.97
Regular Maintenance & Utilities	\$ 1,115.00
Votive Candles	\$ 36.00
Food Pantry	\$ 375.00
Flowers	\$ 160.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 413.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 50.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 20.00
Missions	\$ 1,508.00
TOTAL 12/10/17	\$ 13,830.97

Mass Attendance - 12/10/17 - 507

Thank you for your time, talent and treasure to St. Mary Parish. Please continue to be generous, as you remember all of your blessings this holiday season. Contributions for the 2017 tax year must be dated on or before December 31, 2017. Contributions dated January 1, 2018 will be reflected on 2018 contribution statements.



UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL *Christ Our Hope*

Date	Pledge Cards	Pledge Amount
12/8/17	188	\$36,845
Goal	432	\$19,541
% of Goal	44%	189%

Father Gries would like to see 50% participation!
Using the envelope provided, please mail your 2017/2018 pledge card directly to the Archdiocese or drop into the Sunday collection. Thank you!

Mass Schedule: December 18 - 24

Monday		No Mass
Tuesday	6:30p.m.	Justin Schroeder
Wednesday	8:30a.m.	Betty Eder
Thursday	8:30a.m.	Martha Todd (Sodality)
Friday	8:30a.m.	Pat Osting
Saturday	5:30p.m.	Gloria Moran
Sunday	7:30a.m.	Pat Moran
	10:00a.m.	St. Mary Church
	4:00p.m.	Zelda Patterson
	6:00p.m.	St. Mary Church
	Midnight	Alfred Blankman Virgil McKay

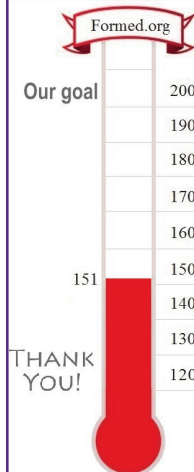


December 17 - Christmas Party
December 24 - Christmas Break



Adult Faith Opportunity **BIBLE STUDY** Psalms: The School of Prayer

Dec. 20 5. Royal & Messianic Psalms
Dec. 27 No Meeting
Jan. 3 6. Thirsting for God
Wednesdays 7-9p.m. School Multipurpose Room.
Bring your Bible & Catechism!
Faith + Fellowship + Fun



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ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
512 North Perkins Street, Rushville, IN
Parish: 765-932-2588 † School: 765-932-3639

Staff

Rev. Jeremy M. Gries, Pastor

frgries@stmaryrush.org

Debbie Spaeth, Administrative Assistant

dspaeth@stmaryrush.org

Jill Kuntz, Administrator Religious Education

jkuntz@stmaryrush.org

Amaranta Kemple, Youth Group Coordinator

akemple@stmaryrush.org

Sherri Kirschner, Principal

skirschner@stmaryrush.org

Ashley Busald, School Secretary

abusald@stmaryrush.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday.....8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.

Friday.....8:30a.m.-Noon

Our St. Mary Prayer Line

Regenia Ripberger 765-561-1179

Lisa Wagoner 812-593-0790 - 765-663-2444

Parish Council - Chair: Shawn Adkins

Finance Council - Chair: Elbert Gordon

School Commission - Chair: Susan Spaeth

Baptism

Call the parish office for scheduling.

Reconciliation/Confession

Saturday...4:30p.m.- 5:15p.m.

Tuesday.....6:00p.m.6:25p.m.

Marriage

Engaged couples must meet with the Pastor to complete initial marriage paperwork at least 9 months before the anticipated wedding date *and prior to making any other arrangements concerning the wedding.*

Abortion Alternatives

Birthline Mon.-Fri. 317-635-4808

Option Helpline 24/7 1-800-712-HELP

New Parishioners

Welcome to St. Mary Parish! You are invited to stop by the parish office and register to become a part of our parish family.

Ministry Schedules

Servers – December 23 & 24 & 25

Sat.	5:30p.m.	Kate & Anne Thoman
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Nick, Tyler, Jacob Amos
	10:00a.m.	Gabby Pavey, Savanah Snow, Isabella Pavey
	4:00p.m.	Mitchell Cowan, Danny Corn, Savanah Snow
	6:00p.m.	Sofia & Clara Kemple
Midnight		Richard Barnes, Emma Tressler, Nick, Tyler, Jacob Amos
Mon.	9:00a.m.	Adam Leising

Lectors - December 23 & 24 & 25

Sat.	5:30p.m.	Cecilia Orr
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Regenia Ripberger
	10:00a.m.	Kevin Banks
	4:00p.m.	Aaron Snow
	6:00p.m.	Regenia Ripberger
Midnight		John & Jonathon Blankman
Mon.	9:00a.m.	Lori Hoeing

Extra-Ordinary Ministers - Dec. 23 & 24 & 25

Sat.	5:30p.m.	Rita Corn, Bob Dwenger, Alan Niehoff
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Gary Nigh, Tom Giesting, Kevin Dolan
	10:00a.m.	Denise Hoeing, Kim S. Yager, Jason Pavey
	4:00p.m.	Rita Corn, Kim L. Yager, (1 more needed)
	6:00p.m.	Amaranta Kemple, Laura Ash, Susan Hoeing
	Midnight	Kevin Dolan (2 more needed)
Mon.	9:00a.m.	Jane Ariens, Steve Pavey, (1 more needed)

Ushers for December, 2017

Sat.	5:30p.m.	Steve Schwering & Volunteer
Sun.	7:30a.m.	John Niehoff & Volunteer
	10:00a.m.	Kevin Mahan & Eric Wagoner

Ushers for December 24 & 25

Sun.	4:00p.m.	Denny & Doug Corn
	6:00p.m.	Debbie Bruce & Volunteer
	Midnight	Joe Chance & Doug Osborne
Mon.	9:00a.m.	Volunteers

Ministers-to-the-Sick

Dec. 18	Monica Neuman	Dec. 25	Jerry Rudolf
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Money Counters:

Dec. 18	Rose Hoeing, Jane Niccum, Linda Shanahan, Margie Liggett
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Food Pantry Volunteers:

Dec. 18	(restock) Mary Ann Harpring, Denise Hoeing
Dec. 20	Dave Moeller, Laura Ash, Annette Niehoff