



5TH SUNDAY OF *L*ENT



March 17, 2024
Happy St. Patrick's Day

St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church

414 West Madison Street, Decatur, Indiana 46733

Phone: (260) 724-9159

www.stmarysdecatur.org

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm

Friday 9am-1pm

Sacrament of the Sick

Emergency Number: (260) 706-7136

Bulletin Submissions

sbrite@sjdecatur.org

Bulletin Submissions: Due Monday by 3pm

Mass Announcements: Due Friday by 9am

Inserts: Due Wednesday by noon

**Please contact the church office or
have a family member contact us
if you are in a local hospital or nursing home
temporarily or long term or if you want
Communion or any of the Sacraments.**

"The hour has come
for the Son of Man
to be glorified.
Amen, amen,
I say to you,
unless a grain of
wheat falls to the
ground and dies, it
remains just a grain
of wheat; but if it
dies, it produces
much fruit."

John 12: 23,24

From the Desk of Fr. Dave

Joshua Chamberlain spoke the following words at the dedication of the Monument to the 20th Maine on October 3, 1889, at the site of the Civil War Battle of Gettysburg. This seems to apply to our own annual observances throughout the church year especially the terrible suffering of Jesus for the redemption of our souls that we remember on "Good Friday." "In great deeds something abides. On great fields something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear, but spirits linger, to consecrate the ground for the vision-place of souls. And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of, heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things were suffered and done for them, shall come to this deathless field to ponder and dream; And lo! The shadow of a mighty presence shall wrap them in its bosom, and the power of the vision pass into their souls."



Weekend Offertory Collections

Please consider including our parish in your will or estate.

March 10, 2024

Weekend Offerings/Envelopes	-----\$11,663.00
Online Giving same period	-----\$8,259.40
Loose Change	-----\$944.50
Total Offerings for the week	-----\$20,866.90
Current Debt to Diocese	-----\$104,409.92
Debt Reduction Envelopes	-----\$455.00
St. Mary's Double Down	-----\$455.00
Debt to Diocese	-----\$103,499.92

Cost of operation of the church and school is supplemented by wills, endowments, grants, Bishop's Appeal Overage, and other offerings to the parish. Please consider these means of contributing.

Sponsor of the Week

McIntire Heating & Air Conditioning

724-2010 • 24 Hour Service
Kevin McIntire—Parishioner

March 18-March 24 Liturgy Schedule

Monday, March 18

8:10 a.m. Jacob Binegar *In celebration of his birthday*
5:00 p.m. Adoration
5:00 p.m. Confession
6:00 p.m. Matt Keller †

Tuesday, March 19

8:10 a.m. Living-Deceased: John Byer Family
5:00 p.m. Adoration
5:00 p.m. Confession
6:00 p.m. Joyce Fullenkamp †

Wednesday, March 20

8:10 a.m. James Miller †
9:15am 7th Grade Stations of the Cross in St. Joe Auditorium

Thursday, March 21

8:10 a.m. Zachary Foster †
6:00 p.m. Rosemary Gase †
6:30 p.m. Adoration *Until 7:30pm*
6:30 p.m. Confession *Until last person*

Friday, March 22

8:10 a.m. Mark Girgash †
9:00 a.m. Adoration *Until 10:00 a.m.*
9:00 a.m. Confession *Until last person*
1:30 p.m. Bob Tricker (Woodcrest Mass)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:30 p.m. Adoration/Confessions

Saturday, March 23

8:10 a.m. Joy Bauman †
8:45 a.m. Confession
4:00 p.m. Mary Catherine Teeple †

Sunday, March 24 *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

7:00 a.m. People of St. Mary's Parish
8:30 a.m. Living-Deceased: Joe and Barb Loshe Family
11:00 a.m. Loretta Rumschlag †

March Ushers:

4pm=Dick Stimpson
& Pat Fullenkamp
7am=Mike Gremaux
& Denny Bentz
8:30am=Terry Ashley
& Logan Gonzalez
11am=Jesse Mendez
& Jim Serna

Millennium Madness Winner

Congratulations to John Beery winner of \$150 the week of 03/11/24 with number 943.



K of C Fish Fry

March 22
5-7pm

Marriage Matters

"Kids in a 2 parent family versus a 1 parent family are about a third as likely to use illegal drugs, tobacco or alcohol."

—Heritage Foundation





Come Make a Joyful Noise

Choir practice will take place this Wednesday evening from 6:30-8pm in the choir loft.



St. Rose Church in Monroeville

Parish Hall 208 Summit St.
Thursday, April 4 • 8am-5pm
Friday, April 5 • 8am-7pm
Bag Sale all day Friday
Come check out our great deals!



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions

March—For the New Martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



Pray for Vocations

**5th Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2024**

"The Father will honor whoever serves me."

Are you being called to belong to serve Christ alone as a priest or through consecrated life? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 260-422-4611 or by email at:

discernpriesthood@diocesefwsb.org

Women-jhayes@diocesefwsb.org

Steph's Spot

Religious Education

Assignments due in April:

***Background Reading**

Parent's Guide=April pgs. 246-282;
Essay pgs. 317 & 320; Discussion Q & A

***Activities**

#4 pg. 262 in Parent's Guide—**1st-4th Grade**
Activity Book=pg. 156 **(RETURN IN APR.)**

#5 pg. 264 in Parent's Guide—**5th-8th Grade**
Activity Book=pg. 157 **(RETURN IN APR.)**

#4 pg. 277 in Parent's Guide
Activity Book=pg. 169 **(RETURN IN APR.)**

#5 pg. 279 in Parent's Guide (Prayer Journal)
Activity Book=pg. 171 & 184

Your Prayer Board

#6 pg. 266 in Parent's Guide
Activity Book=pg. 158 (Keep at home)

Suggestion:

Read Mary's Story on pg. 267 in P.G.

***Kids=bring blue folder with assignment(s) to return & Activity Book to all RE classes.**

March 3=RE Classes at 9:30—Parents and Kids
Last Parent's Meeting—bring prayer journal and prayer board.

March 10=RE Classes at 9:30—Kids ONLY

CONFIRMATION: EVERYTHING IN BY MARCH 3



"THE HARVEST IS LARGE AND THE LABORERS ARE FEW"

Our St Vincent De Paul Thrift store is in need of some special donations to help with the many requests from our Decatur community. We are need of the following:

- Furniture: lamps, couches, dressers, bed frames & tables
- Washer, dryer, microwave & frig, for those who have none
- Kid riding toys & bicycles
- Outside furniture and play items

Always glad to help you with down sizing and pickup is available----please call our store!!

Our Thrift store helps turn donations into revenue to support the many SVDP ministries in our Decatur community, won't you come help us with the growing needs our community.

THANK YOU!

SPRING CLEANUP

ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY

The cemetery board will begin their annual Spring clean-up April 1st.

Please remove **ALL** decoration. Anything left after April 1st will be removed and discarded by cemetery maintenance crew.

DO NOT place any decoration on grave site until after April 14th.

As rules state no glass of any kind, shepherd hooks must be placed at the end of the monument pointing inward, and all decorations must be place at the ends or top of the monument.

Thank you.

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Board of Trustees




TWEENS TEENS & SCREENS

Could you use help navigating the use of screens and other technology in your family? Join Mike and Alicia Hernon of the Messy Family Project for a free workshop.

Fri., April 19 | 7-9:30 p.m. | St. John the Evangelist, Goshen
Sat., April 20 | 9-11:30 a.m. | Saint Joseph High School, South Bend
Sat., April 20 | 7-9:30 p.m. | Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne

Learn more and register: diocesefwsb.org/screens
Sponsored by Marriage & Family Ministry
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend





BELOVED *daughters*

A RETREAT FOR YOUNG WOMEN


Every vocation authentically lived is a "yes" to God and a "yes" to holiness. Come experience the joy of searching for holiness with other young women age 16-22 and discover God's invitation for your life. Participants will hear life stories and wisdom from wives and mothers, the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, and consecrated virgin, Jessica Hayes, O.V.

Saturday, April 27 | 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish Center
100 Sacred Heart Parish Ctr, Notre Dame, IN

\$15 | Lunch Provided | Financial Assistance Available

diocesefwsb.org/beloved




Spiritual Adoption Program

Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, Saint Mary's announces an adoption program for young and old alike.

The members of Saint Mary's parish family will have the opportunity the weekend of April 6 & 7 to "spiritually" adopt a child who is newly conceived this month. Not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born. In fact, more than 3,200 babies lose their lives to abortion each day. It is these babies you are being asked to "adopt".

You may "adopt" a child individually or as a family by completing a pledge card during the weekend of April 6 & 7 and putting it in the collection basket or baskets that will be available at each of the parish doors. You will be asked to name the child for whom you will be praying, thereby acknowledging the baby's humanity. You will be asked to pray for your unborn child and all unborn children, for the power of prayer is great. We will celebrate the birth of our babies in 9 months!


Watch for details to come!

Watch the bulletin for monthly reports describing your baby's development.

There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers. Won't you please "spiritually adopt" one and share the love for life that God has given you?

"Never worry about the numbers. Help one person at a time..."
-St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta-

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Presented by St. Joseph's
7th Grade Class
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
9:15am
School Auditorium

All are welcome!



**Prayer
of the Nine-Month Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe
12 March to 12 December, 2024**

O Virgin Mother of God, we fly to your protection and beg your intercession against the darkness and sin which ever more envelop the world and menace the Church. Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, gave you to us as our mother as He died on the Cross for our salvation. So, too, in 1531, when darkness and sin beset us, He sent you, as Our Lady of Guadalupe, on Tepeyac to lead us to Him Who alone is our light and our salvation.

Through your apparitions on Tepeyac and your abiding presence with us on the miraculous mantle of your messenger, Saint Juan Diego, millions of souls converted to faith in your Divine Son. Through this novena and our consecration to you, we humbly implore your intercession for our daily conversion of life to Him and the conversion of millions more who do not yet believe in Him. In our homes and in our nation, lead us to Him Who alone wins the victory over sin and darkness in us and in the world.

Unite our hearts to your Immaculate Heart so that they may find their true and lasting home in the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Ever guide us along the pilgrimage of life to our eternal home with Him. So may our hearts, one with yours, always trust in God's promise of salvation, in His never-failing mercy toward all who turn to Him with a humble and contrite heart. Through this novena and our consecration to you, O Virgin of Guadalupe, lead all souls in America and throughout the world to your Divine Son in Whose name we pray. Amen.

Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

*To be prayed daily throughout the nine-month novena
from March 12 to December 12, 2024.*



MOSAIC IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
CREATED BY THE VATICAN MOSAIC STUDIO
FOR THE CHURCH OF THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN



March School Board

The St. Joseph School Board met Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

Discussions included:



- A review of the new expanded eligibility guidelines from the Indiana Department of Education which allows for a vast majority of our students to receive the Choice Scholarship!
- Developing a tentative plan for the 2024-25 academic calendar and budget.
- Updates for technology in the middle school classrooms.
- Plans for staffing for the 2024 summer maintenance projects and next school year.
- Continual implementation of our Eucharistic Revival Blueprint as a school, within the classrooms and our staff.
- Anniversary activities and celebrations beginning with Mass with Bishop Rhoades on May 5.
- Supporting our students through their upcoming standardized testing in the weeks and months to come: iREAD, NWEA, and iLEARN! May Christ's peace pour into them throughout their days testing!
- Our active HASA supporting our students: treats to our school on the Feast of St. Joseph and nutritional snacks throughout their standardized testing windows!

Please feel free to talk with any member if you would like to know more about enrolling a child in our school, our Catholic Identity, or to become more involved our schools success!

Members: Michelle Barker, Carrie Binigar (president), Kelly Drake, Josh Fullenkamp, Nathan Heimann, Ashten Ranly, Julie Rumschlag, Katie Scherer, Colie Selking and Erin Whitman.



March 21
7-8:30pm Pizza & Open Gym/Board Games
April 2
4:30-6pm Meeting at Youth House
April 19
Event TBD

Food for the Soul

FREE meals on Thursdays from
4:30-6:30pm in the basement of the
SVDP Center.
All welcome!



Adams Memorial Hospital Offers Diabetes Prevention Classes in April

If you have prediabetes or other risk factors for type 2 diabetes, now is the time to take charge of your health and make a change.

"Prevent Type 2 Diabetes" is part of a National Diabetes Prevention Program, led by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The class features an approach that is proven to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. By improving food choices and increasing physical activity, you can lose 5 to 7 percent of your body weight. If you have prediabetes, these lifestyle changes can cut your risk of developing type 2 diabetes in half. Prediabetes can lead to type 2 diabetes...one out of three American adults have prediabetes, and most of them do not know it!

Symptoms that might place someone at a higher risk for diabetes would include family history, high blood pressure, age (over 50), low physical activity, high BMI, and an A1C test result of between 5.7 and 6.4. Having prediabetes means your blood glucose (sugar) level is higher than normal, but not high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes. This raises your risk of type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. Without weight loss or moderate physical activity, many people with prediabetes can develop type 2 diabetes within 5

years. Type 2 diabetes is a serious condition that can lead to health issues such as heart attack, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, or loss of toes, feet or legs. The lifestyle changes you make in the prevention program will help you prevent or delay type 2 diabetes.

Adams Memorial Hospital will be offering a new series of Diabetes Prevention Classes starting April 3rd from 1pm-2pm.

The classes will take place at Adams Memorial Hospital in Conference Room D, previously the Geneva Room.

To register, call Lisa McAfee, RN and Certified Diabetes Educator and Life Coach at 260-724-2145 x11107.

It is worth noting, of 41 hospitals that offer Diabetes Prevention Programs in Indiana, Adams Memorial Hospital is 1 of 12 hospitals that are fully recognized in the state of Indiana by the CDC.



Lisa McAfee, BSN, RN and Certified Diabetes Educator from AMH is pictured center with couple Mike and Bonnie Crosby on the left and Richard and Sheryl Howard on the right. Both couples took the Diabetes Prevention Class and had great results!

**WAY OF ST. JOSEPH
PILGRIMAGE
MISHAWAKA—SOUTH BEND**

Saturday, April 27 @ 9 a.m.

Honor St. Joseph by participating in a family-friendly walking pilgrimage. The Way of St. Joseph will begin at 9 a.m. at St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, wind its way along the River Walk, and end at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend. There will be two other on-ramps along the way for families for whom the entire pilgrimage would be too taxing. The event will end with a prayer service, food and fellowship in the fenced-in parking lot and playground at St. Joseph parish. The event is free, but registration is strongly recommended.

Learn more and register: diocesefwsb.org/joseph-pilgrimage

*Beauty
will
Save the*

SUMMER CAMP

JULY 28 - AUGUST 1

Encounter Christ with other high school students during a five-day University of Saint Francis theology camp!

Learn more and register at go.sf.edu/beauty.

USF **DISCOVERY**
ACADEMY

UNIVERSITY of
SAINT FRANCIS

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Directory

ST MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

414 Madison Street, Decatur, Indiana 46733

www.stmarysdecatur.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Friday9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Pastor Fr. David A. Ruppert
frdave@sjdecatur.org 706-7130

Church and

School FinanceMelinda Adams
madams@sjdecatur.org 706-7126

Director of Religious Education, Bulletin and

Ministry ScheduleStephanie Brite
sbrite@sjdecatur.org 706-7127

Safe Environment Coordinator and

Mass IntentionsDebbie Myers
dsmyers@sjdecatur.org 706-7134

MS Youth Ministry Karen Weber 223-3138

Church Office724-9159
secretary@sjdecatur.org

Parish Hall Rental Ashley Myers
amyers@sjdecatur.org 706-7138

Bookstore.....Amanda Johnson 223-2502

Computer Prayer Line

<https://www.stmarysdecatur.org/mass-request.html>

Email: angierichert@ymail.com

St. Vincent DePaul Chris Hakes, 728-9423
Food Pantry301 Mercer Ave., 728-9423
Store 1209 Village Green Dr., 724-8500

St. Joseph Cemetery, 651 W. 600 N., Decatur

Patty Kriegel.....223-1950
Don Kriegel223-1949
By email at stjosephcemetery@yahoo.com

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday7:00, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Daily Mass See Schedule in the Bulletin

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Monday, Tuesday5:00 p.m.
Thursday6:45 p.m.
Friday, Saturday8:45 a.m.
or Anytime by Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Debbie Myers..... dsmyers@sjdecatur.org
706-7134

Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office six months in advance.

Sacrament of the Sick

Call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

After Hours Emergency Contact: 260-706-7136

Bulletin Deadline Monday at
3pm Call the rectory or email information
to sbrite@sjdecatur.org

Mass Request -

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION (stmarysdecatur.org)

New to Parish/Registration

Stop by or call the Parish office 724-9159.

ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

127 North 4th Street, Decatur, Indiana 46733

Phone(260)724-2765

Fax260)724-4953

www.sjdecatur.org

St. Joseph Catholic School provides a Christian learning environment that nurtures the growth of each student in mind, body and spirit. Our school offers unique educational experiences that provide the values, knowledge and skills students need to be successful in life.

School Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

During the school year.

PrincipalBrian Baker, 724-2765, ext. 110

School Secretary....Erika Hebble, 724-2765, ext. 109

Home And School Association President

Nicole Selking

School Board President

Carrie Binegar.....

Preschool/Daycare Supervisor

Laura Sutton706-7113