

From the Desk of Fr. Dave

Easter is the areatest feast of the whole Church year. Our leader Jesus still lives, his tomb is empty. Today we celebrate that you and I have been saved from sin and death into eternal life. Sin continues in the world and each of us will yet experience a Good Friday, a day of death and darkness, as the result of our sins. The Bible tells us that the wages of sin is death but that God's great love, shown on the cross, is the antibiotic and cure against death. We still have pain and suffering in life just like Jesus did as the result of sin in the world. Good Friday opens the stairway to heaven by forgiving our sins. The blood and water that flowed from Jesus' side are the sacraments of Eucharist and Baptism. The waters of baptism are prepared by Good Friday, and Easter Sunday says "Come on in, the water's fine." Today promises us that, as faithful followers of Jesus, we too will have an Easter Sunday after our Good Fridays. Being faithful followers means praying daily and coming to Mass each Sunday. Try to continue that extra prayer time that you may have added during Lent, especially those family prayers you may have been doing together.



Weekend Offertory Collections

Please consider including our parish in your will or estate. March 24, 2024

Weekend Offerings/Envelopes\$9,854.00
Online Giving same period\$8,772.60
Loose Change\$750.79
Total Offerings for the week\$19,377.39
Current Debt to Diocese\$102,259.92
Debt Reduction Envelopes\$1,276.00
St. Mary's Double Down\$1,276.00
Debt to Diocese <u>\$99,707.92</u>
Cost of operation of the church and school is

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 Frederick A. Schurger

Attorney, of Counsel DeVoss, Baker, Ainsworth & Razo, PC 147 S 2nd St. • 724-4129 fas@schurgerlaw.com • Parishioner

April 1-April 7 Liturgy Schedule

Monday, April 1

8:10 a.m. Members of the James Ranly Family and Repose of his soul

5:00 p.m. Adoration 5:00 p.m. Confession 6:00 p.m. Jim Kortenber †

Tuesday, April 2

8:10 a.m. Josephine Corral †

5:00 p.m. Adoration 5:00 p.m. Confession 6:00 p.m. Janet Fuhrman †

Wednesday, April 3

8:10 a.m. James E. Miller †

April Ushers:

4pm=Dick Stimpson & Lew Seffernick 7am=Mike Gremaux & Fred Velez 8:30am=Rex Brewer & Stuart Smith 11am=Eugene Grote

& John Hess

Thursday, April 4

8:10 a.m. David Teeple † 6:00 p.m. Todd Hawkins † 6:30 p.m. Adoration Until 7:30pm 6:30 p.m. Confession Until last person

Friday, April 5 First Friday

8:10 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Bauman †

9:00 a.m. Adoration Until 10:00am

9:00 a.m. Confession

1:30 p.m. L-D: Julius and Anna Schultz Family (Woodcrest Mass)

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass with Bishop Rhoades

8:30 p.m. All Night Adoration

Saturday, **April 6** First Saturday

8:10 a.m. William Hartman †

8:45 a.m. Confession

4:00 p.m. Walter and Kathleen Baker †

Sunday, April 7 Easter, Divine Mercy

7:00 a.m. Living-Deceased: Thelbert and Eileen Shrader Family 8:30 a.m. Living-Deceased: Rich, Annie and Stuart Braun Family

11:00 a.m. People of St. Mary's Parish

2:00 p.m. Adoration 2:15 p.m. Rosary

2:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Parish in Haiti

Millennium Madness Winner

Congratulations to Brock Selking winner of \$150 the week of 03/25/24 with number 515.



Fellowship Sundays April 7=4-H Commodore Clover Club



Marriage Matters

"Kids living with their two married parents through age 16 have higher grades, higher college aspirations, better attendance records and are less likely to drop out of high school." —Heritage Foundation





Church Office Closed Easter Monday April 1

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions

April—For the Role of Women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.



April 2 4:30-6pm Meeting at Youth House





Pray for Vocations

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord March 31, 2024

"The Lord is truly risen!"

Are you being called to proclaim the truth of the Lord's Resurrection as a priest, religious sister or brother? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 260-422-4611 or by email at:

<u>discernpriesthood@diocesefwsb.org</u> <u>Women-jhayes@diocesefwsb.org</u>

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

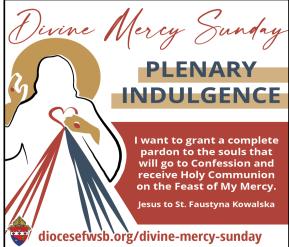
Always glad to help you with down sizing and pickup is available----please call our store!!

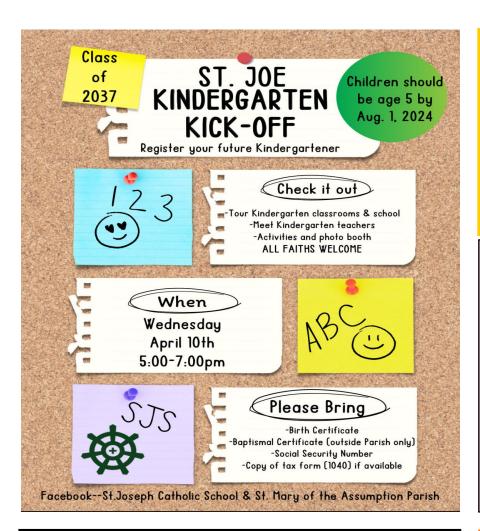
Our Thrift store helps turn donations into revenue to support the many SVDP ministries in our Decatur community, won't you come help us with the growing needs our community. **THANK YOU!**



Beginning in April, we will only have Saturday morning Mass on the first Saturday of the month. There will be some exceptions due to Mass Intention Requests. These exceptions will be posted in the bulletin as they come.







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 $1^{\mathfrak{A}}$ 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



St. Mary of the Assumption

All women, including teens, are welcome to gather the second Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30 pm in the church. There is a monthly teaching that is relevant to the upcoming Mass readings, singing (participation is optional!) and adoration. Kingdom Builders inspires women to discover their unique design through laughter, learning and love of the Father. You were made for peace and joy! Come as you are and bring a friend!

2024 dates for KB: April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9 and November 13

> More information can be found at www.BuildingThroughHim.com or calling Angie Richert at 260-525-0424. We look forward to seeing you soon!



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 pleage card during the weekend of April 6 & 7 and putting it in the

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-

FREE Organ Concert

Friday, April 12 7:30pm in the main church St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne Featured artist: Dr. Jennifer Pascual

Dr. Pascual has held the post of Director of Music/Organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City since 2003, and holds degrees from Mannes College of Music in New York City and The Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

In April 2008, Dr. Pascual had the privilege of overseeing all of the liturgical music for His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI during his Pastoral Visit to New York. She also had the honor of doing the same for the visit of Pope Francis to NYC in 2015.

Dr. Pascual has recorded several professional CDs of her organ playing and also hosts a radio talk and music show called, "Sounds from the Spires."



Her program will include a variety of sacred and classical music.

Reception following the

concert.

ST. JOE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

KINDERGARTEN STUDENT

This student's favorite song is "We Will Rock You," TV show is "Bluey" and color is green.

His favorite subject at St. Joe is art. What she loves most is hanging out with her 8th grade angel.

She enjoys eating ice cream, chewing bubble gum and playing soccer. The most exciting place she's been is an amusement park.

This student wants to be a zoo keeper when she grows up!



ST. JOE STUDENT

3RD GRADE

This student's movie is *The Lion King*, book is <u>Harry Potter</u> and song is "5 6 7 8."

Her favorite subject at St. Joe is music and teacher is Mrs. Thomas.

She enjoys eating hamburgers and baby bottle pops, reading, running and riding her bike. After school she like to gather the eggs from her chickens.

Someday this student wants to be a snake breeder or a YouTuber!



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8TH GRADE STUDENT

This student's favorite song is "Rifles of the IRA," book is <u>Allies</u> and movie is *Gettysburg*.

His favorite subject at St. Joe is social studies and teacher was Mr. Faurote.

He enjoys eating breaded tenderloins and air heads, praying after school and serving the Latin High Mass.

In the future, this student wants to become a priest or a funeral home director!





MONTHLY PRAYER REQUESTS FOR RELIGIOUS

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS

Eternal Father,
We lift up to You these
And all the priests of the world.
Sanctify them,
Heal and guide them.
Mold them into the likeness and
Holiness of your Son, Jesus,
The Eternal High Priest.
May their lives be pleasing to you.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

Mass
Rosary
Fasting
Day offering
Eucharistic Adoration
Offering of sufferings
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord Inspires you to offer Him.

THIS MONTH IS DEDICATED TO



EASTER SEASON

APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Pope Francis	Bishop Kevin	Fr. Anthony	Fr. James	Fr. William	Fr. Edmund
		Rhoades	Steinaker	Stoyle	Sullivan	Sylvia
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
All priests,	Fr. Lawrence	Fr. Andrew	Fr. Ryan	Fr. Gregory	Fr. Robert	Fr. David
religious and deacons in our diocese	Teteh	ThuPham	Timossi	Usselman	VanKempen	Violi
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
All priests, religious and deacons in our diocese	Fr. Dave Voors	Fr. Daniel Whelan	Fr. Mark Wojdelski	Holy Hour for Vocations 7-8 PM	Fr. Timothy Wrozek	Fr. Bernie Zajdel
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
All priests, religious and deacons in our diocese	Fr. Thomas Zehr	Fr. John Zemelko	Fr. Eric Zimmer	Fr. Michael Ammer	Fr. Samuel Anderson	Fr. Jose Arroyo
28	29	30				
Seminarians in our diocese	Msgr. Thadeus Ballinda	Fr. Zach Barry				

Please pray regularly for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Calendar provided by the Vocations Committee of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Decatur, IN

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					
	Talish Gille Hours				
Monday - Thursda Friday	y9:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m1:00 p.m.				
	Fr. David A. Ruppert frdave@sjdecatur.org 706-7130				
Church and					
School Finance	Melinda Adams madams@sjdecatur.org 706-7126				
Director of Religio	us Education, Bulletin and				
	Stephanie Brite sbrite@sjdecatur.org 706-7127				
Safe Environment	Coordinator and				
	Debbie Myers dsmyers@sjdecatur.org 706-7134				
MS Youth Ministry	Karen Weber 223-3138				
Church Office					
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: angieriche	ert@ymail.com				

t. N	t. Mary of the Assumption Parish Directory						
	St. Vincent DePaul Chris Hakes, 728-9423 Food Pantry 301 Mercer Ave., 728-9423 Store 1209 Village Green Dr., 724-8500	Bulletin Deadline					
m. m. ert	St. Joseph Cemetery, 651 W. 600 N., Decatur Patty Kriegel	Mass Request - ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION (stmarysdecatur.org) New to Parish/Registration Stop by or call the Parish office 724-9159. STJOSEPHCATHOLICSCHOOL					
	Mass Schedule	127 North 4th Street, Decatur, Indiana 46733					
rite 127 ers 4 38	Weekend Masses Saturday	Phone					
<u>]</u>	Sacrament of Marriage	School SecretaryErika Hebble, 724-2765, ext. 109					
ers 38	Call the Parish Office six months in advance. Sacrament of the Sick	Home And School Association President Nicole Selking					
502	Call the Parish Office to make arrangements.						
	After Hours Emergency Contact: 260-706-7136	School Board President Carrie Binegar					

Preschool/Daycare Supervisor

Laura Sutton706-7113