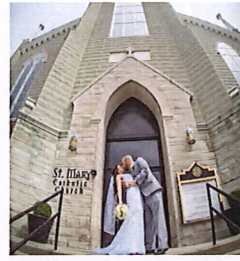


PRAYER CHAIN



pray for others ~ request prayers
If you would like the ability via email to ask others in the parish to pray for your intentions or if you would like to be notified via email when fellow parishioners are asking for prayers, send an email to mjprayerchain@gmail.com

Wanting to schedule a Wedding at St. Mary Church? Please contact Kim Kuehn in the parish office 812-425-1577 ext 210 or kkuehn@evdio.org



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Daniel A. Gaffney MBA FINANCIAL ADVISOR
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O: 812-518-9090
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Sts. MARY & JOHN

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Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2023



Sts. Mary and John Catholic Parish
St. Mary Church
613 Cherry Street, Evansville, IN 47713
Office: 812-425-1577 fax: 812-426-1416

STAFF

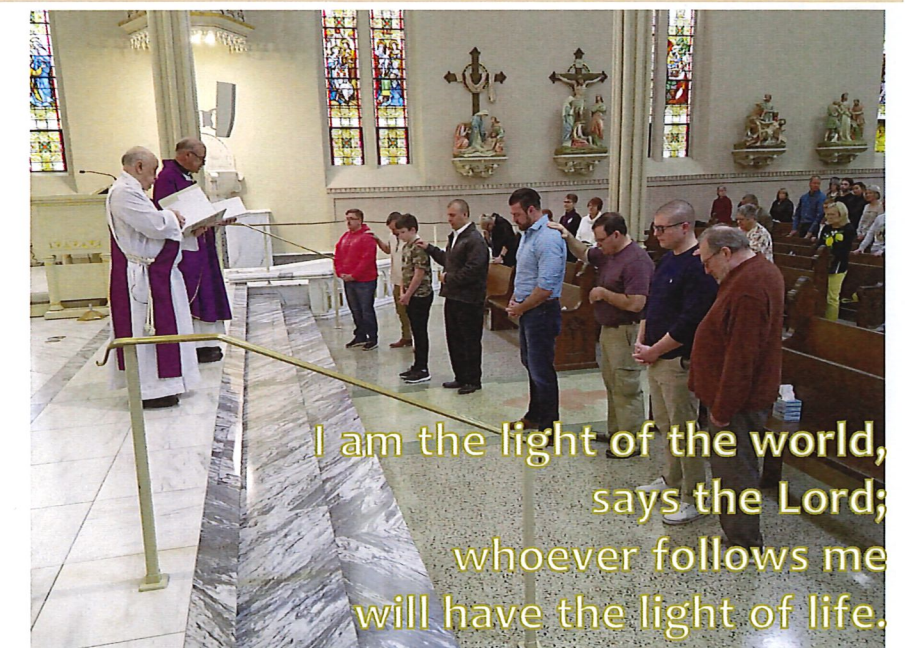
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Deacon Tom Kempf
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Tina Schutte, Music Director
tkraibley@evdio.org | 812-425-1577 ext. 208

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Mass 4:00 pm | Confession 3:15-3:45 pm
Sunday Mass 10:00 am | Confession 9:15-9:45 am
Sunday Mass 4:00 pm | Confession 3:15-3:45 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Adoration 11:00 am | Confession 11:30-11:55 am | Mass 12:05 pm



Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8 am- 4 pm

Food Pantry Hours:
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
9 am-Noon and 1-3 pm

Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation Please contact the Parish Office about sacramental preparation, to schedule a Baptism or info on sacrament schedules.

Become Catholic - RCIA We welcome you and are here to help answer all those questions from the call that God is inviting you to follow. Contact the Parish Office.

Marriage Couples planning to marry need to contact the parish office at least 6 months prior to their anticipated wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick Offered first weekend of each month after Masses. To schedule a time for receiving please contact the Parish Office.

A diverse, welcoming and vibrant Catholic community committed to living out the Good News of Jesus Christ through word, sacrament and service.

This Week in the Parish

Sunday 3/19	Monday 3/20	Tuesday 3/21	Wednesday 3/22	Thursday 3/23	Friday 3/24	Saturday 3/25
4th Sunday of Lent Confession 9:15-9:45 am Mass 10am Second Scrutiny Confession 3:15-3:45 pm Mass 4:00 pm	Solemnity of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Food Pantry 9am-12 & 1-3 pm Adoration 11 am Confession 11:30-11:55 am Mass 12:05 pm	Food Pantry 9am-12 & 1-3 pm Adoration 11 am Confession 11:30-11:55 am Mass 12:05 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 5:00 pm	Food Pantry 9am-12 & 1-3 pm Adoration 11 am Confession 11:30-11:55 am Choir 6:30-8pm	Finance 10 am Food Pantry 9am-12 & 1-3 pm Adoration 11 am Confession 11:30-11:55 am Parish Council 6:00 pm Mass 12:05 pm	Adoration 11 am Confession 11:30-11:55 am Mass 12:05 pm Stations of the Cross 5:30 pm	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Confession 3:15-3:45 pm Mass 4:00 pm Youth Confirmation

**Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2023**

First Reading; Ez 37:12-14
Second Reading; Rom 8:8-11
Gospel; Jn 11:1-45

Mass Intentions

Sat. 3/18	4:00 pm	Needs and Intentions of the parish
Sun. 3/19	10:00 am	Josefina Balinghasay's birthday
	4:00 pm	Al Folz
Mon. 3/20	12:05 pm	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Tues. 3/21	12:05 pm	Carmita Francisco's birthday
Thurs. 3/23	12:05 pm	The Koch Family
Fri. 3/24	12:05 pm	Stan Logel
Sat. 3/25	4:00 pm	Needs and Intentions of the Parish
Sun. 3/26	10:00 am	Rosie Greeson
	4:00 pm	Zenaida de Santos Carameng on her birthday
Mon. 3/27	12:05 pm	In Memory of Charlotte Warren
Tues. 3/28	12:05 pm	Repose of the soul of Ann Behrens
Thurs. 3/30	12:05 pm	Al Folz
Fri. 3/31	12:05 pm	All our mothers
Sat. 4/1	4:00 pm	Steve and Judy Logel
Sun. 4/2	10:00 am	Mark Nettles Family
	4:00 pm	Needs and Intentions of the parish

MASS INTENTIONS... Please contact Lee Griggs 812-425-1577 ext 207 to schedule a Mass intention or you can fill out a Mass Intention envelope found in church and drop it in the stewardship basket or go to our website.
PRAYER CHAIN... Contact Lee Griggs if you would like to join the parish Email Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, something or someone you would like us to pray for.

Welcome to Sts. Mary and John Parish!!

A "Hello" and a warm "Welcome" to all guests. If you are new to the area and are looking for a parish home or have been attending here for awhile and not registered, we invite you to register here at Sts. Mary and John Parish. We would love to welcome you as a member of our parish family. Please contact Lee Griggs 812-425-1577 or email Lee at lgriggs@evdio.org.

Weekly Collection March 11-12, 2023

Mass Time	Collections
Saturday 4 pm	\$ 1,143.00
Sunday 10:00 am	\$ 1,844.31
4:00 pm	\$ 957.00
Electronic	\$ 384.75
Office Mail in	\$ 1,455.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,784.06

SVDP \$110.00 Alms Collection \$ —

Let us Pray... That we as Christian Stewards are less concerned about our outward appearance and more concerned with our interior conversion of heart.



For the family of Wilma Johnson,
For the family of Rosie Greeson,
Emma Majewski, Lee Ann Kipta, Liz Saum, Jan Howell, Ray Bigge, Bill O'Nan, Gladys Lane, Mary

Eichenberger, Carolyn Stagg.

Pray for our loved ones in the Military...

LT Jake Morris, 1st LT Danielle Morris, Andrew Hicks, William Russell, Reed Shanks; Air Force Special Agent, Lt. Noah Huelsing, 2nd Lt. Corey Cannon, Staff Sergeant Shaun Nelson, Nathan Ulrich; Marines

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/18 Basia Bazell, Rachel Domsic, Andersyn Rivera
- 3/19 Harmonie Baltzell, Carlos Rivera
- 3/20 Kylee Woebkenberg
- 3/22 Chaplain Linda Cirillo, DeeDee Clayton
- 3/26 Greg Johnson
- 3/27 Ezra Smith
- 3/28 Leighton Milligan
- 3/29 Caeli Bislich
- 3/30 Cathy Jarvis



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

This week your St. Vincent de Paul committee had 11 referrals for assistance. We have been blessed to receive a grant to augment our regular level of help, where our Neighbors need rent or utility support. We were able to help a single mother and two children on their journey towards getting their own place. They had had to move out of their home when they couldn't pay their gas and electric bill. We made a contribution towards their old bill, making it possible for them to search for a new home and be able to reapply for CenterPoint service. Thanks so much for helping make this possible. Because of you and your love for others, together we are able to make a difference.

Thank you to ALTRUSA International District Six

This non-profit group donated food, money, blankets and children's books to our Food Pantry this week. #chooseservice



Upcoming events in the parish with Bishop Joseph Siegel

Youth Confirmation - Saturday, March 25 at the 4:00 pm Mass light reception following.
Installation of Fr. Eugene Schmitt as pastor of Sts. Mary and John Parish will take place at the 10:00 am Mass Sunday, March 26; light reception following.

Plant a Wildflower Sanctuary:

Convert part of your yard into a small wildflower sanctuary for butterflies, bees, and birds. Tri-State Creation Care will show you how and provide free seed. Two dates are scheduled: Sat., Mar. 25, 9:30 am at All Saints Church, 704 N. 1st Ave and Thurs., Mar. 30, 6:30 pm at the Central Library (downtown), Browning Rm A. You can also join via Zoom for either session. Request a Zoom link by sending an email to tristate.creation.care@gmail.com.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent at 5:30 pm
February 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Holy Thursday Mass | April 6, 7:00 pm
Good Friday Service | April 7, 7:00 pm
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass | April 8, 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday Masses | April 9, 7:30 am and 10:00 am
(No 4:00 pm Mass on Easter Sunday)

CONGRATULATIONS CONNOR DAY

Congratulations to Connor Day, Sts. Mary and John Parishes recipient of the St. Maria Goretti Youth Award. Connor is the son of parishioner's Joe and Kelli Day. Connor and younger brother Keegan are Altar Servers. Connor and other award recipients from around the diocese were honored this past Sunday at St. Benedict Cathedral with a Mass and reception. Thank you Connor for your service to your parish and community.

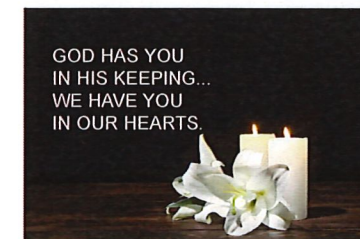


IN LOVING MEMORY

WE REMEMBER parishioner, **Rosie Greeson, 77**, who died Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Please keep Rosie's family and friends in your prayers during this difficult time.

WE REMEMBER

parishioner, **Wilma Johnson, 85**, who died Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Please keep Wilma's children, grandchildren and her entire family in your prayers during this time of loss.



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the funeral luncheons last week and for all the volunteers who helped clean the church this past Wednesday. #YouRock

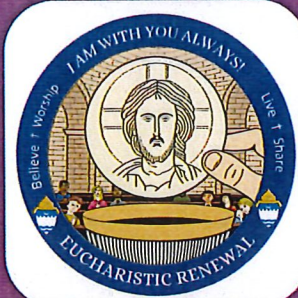
**March 19, 2023 —4th Sunday of Lent
Heartfelt Stewardship**

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart."

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into the hearts of his Stewards to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.

Encountering the Eucharist

Believe ✦ Worship ✦ Live ✦ Share



If you've been to the liturgical service called "Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament" you might have noticed that the priest or deacon puts a cloth over his shoulders and then covers his hands while blessing the people. This vestment is called a "Humeral Veil." The Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is different from a normal blessing. The priest or deacon in Benediction does not bless the people. Rather, the minister holds the Blessed Sacrament Who is the Lord Jesus Christ, and Christ *Himself* directly blesses the people. In order to signify that he is not blessing the people, the priest or deacon covers his hands with a humeral veil which drapes over his shoulders and covers his hands (*humurus* means "shoulder" so a humeral veil is a "shoulder veil").

What We Believe... The MOST Blessed Sacrament

Have you ever wondered why the Church calls the Eucharist the *Most Blessed Sacrament*? Are not the other six Sacraments also just as "blessed?" Are they not as important? What is a Sacrament in the first place? The sacraments are "efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us" (CCC 1131). In other words, a sacrament is a sacred and visible sign that is instituted by Jesus to give us grace, an undeserved gift from God. (See also CCC 1084).



Christ was present at the inception of all of the sacraments, which He instituted 2,000 years ago. Christ is also present every time each sacrament is celebrated. The Catholic Church has all of the seven sacraments instituted by Christ, which include Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains that "the seven sacraments touch

all the stages and all important moments of the Christian life" (CCC 1210). Nevertheless, this still doesn't answer the question as to why the Eucharist is considered to be the "Most Blessed" of all the Sacraments. To begin, each sacrament is a sign demonstrative of the present invisible sacred realities. Another way of saying this is that each sacrament is an efficacious sign; the visible sign actually *effects* in us the invisible reality that it signifies. For example, the visible sign of water in baptism indicates cleansing. When someone is baptized, there is a cleansing of the flesh when the water is poured. But that indicates the cleansing of the person of sin by the invisible reality of Christ's sanctifying grace being poured into our very being. However, with the Eucharist, not only do the sacred species of bread and wine effect the invisible reality that they signify, they *really are, truly* what they signify! That is the real substantial presence of the body and blood with the soul and divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ! St. Ignatius says that "the Eucharist is the flesh of Our Savior Jesus Christ who suffered for our sins and which the Father in His loving kindness raised again." Theodore of Mopsuestia adds, "The Lord did not say: This is symbol of my body, and this is a symbol of my blood, but rather: This is my body and my blood. He teaches us not to look to the nature of what lies before us and is perceived by the senses, because the giving of thanks and the words spoken over it have changed it into flesh and blood." The Eucharist is "Most Blessed" because it is the Lord Himself!

Sharing Our Very Life: A Worthy Reception of Communion



In his first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul says something a bit shocking: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died (1 Cor. 11: 27-30). What does this Scripture mean for us today? It seems clear that, for St. Paul, receiving the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion was not just a casual affair. Apparently even he believed that the bread and the cup were much more than just symbols! How can a person eat and drink a symbol unworthily so as to bring judgment or condemnation upon himself? Invited to the Lord's Supper, we need to realize the great gift given us. The Eucharist expresses who we are as a Church. The Eucharist makes the Church. Already in the second century, Justin Martyr wrote, "no one else is permitted to partake of it, except one who believes our teaching to be true and who has been washed in the washing which is for the remission of sins and for regeneration [baptism] and is thereby living as Christ enjoined" (First Apology 66:1-20). Thus, to receive Holy Communion, someone must be baptized and living in the state of sanctifying grace. The Eucharist expresses our communion with the Lord. Mortal sin, however, breaks that communion. It destroys the bond of life between us and the Risen Lord. If we sin gravely, willfully and knowingly, we commit mortal sin. In such cases, we need to repent and avail ourselves of the gift of forgiveness and reconciliation in the Sacrament of Penance before approaching the Lord in Holy Communion. Being one in mind and heart with the truth of the gospel, as handed down in the teaching of the Church, is a condition for a worthy reception of Communion.

"Surely the word of Christ, who could make something that did not exist out of nothing, can change things that do exist into something they were not before. For it is no less extraordinary to give new natures to things than it is to change nature."

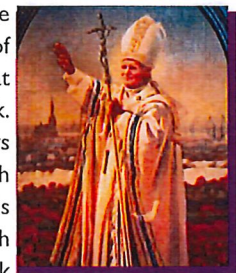
-St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan

Life in the Eucharist: Pope St. John Paul, II

Born Karol Józef Wojtyła in Wadowice, Poland, in 1920, John Paul served as pope from 1978 until his death in 2005. During his nearly-27-year pontificate, his teachings transformed the Catholic Church. The first pope to extensively travel the globe, St. John Paul II's total devotion to the Eucharist was witnessed by people everywhere. Stories are told of how he often went off script or off schedule during official visits to stop before a tabernacle he

chanced to pass to spend time praying. Part of his day was devoted to extended contemplation before the Blessed Sacrament. In an address to young people of Bologna, Italy, Sept. 27, 1997 St. John Paul said this: "The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world... Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is

the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: He is God with us. Seek him without tiring; welcome him without reserve; love him without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever!



Adoro te Devote: The Fraction Rite

The name "Fraction Rite" comes from the focus of this rite: the breaking of the sacred Host. This action symbolizes Christ's body broken for us, so that when we receive holy Communion we may be one, united in Christ. St. Paul writes, "The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Cor. 10:17). In the early church, the gesture of breaking the Eucharistic bread gave the entire celebration of the Eucharist its name: "the breaking of the bread." During the Fraction Rite the priest also breaks a small piece of the sacred Host and drops it into the chalice. This action is called the commingling. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, No. 83, says that this action is to "signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation, namely, of the Body of Jesus Christ, living and glorious."

