

St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714 (260)-824-1380 stjosephchurch@adamswells.com stjosephchurchbluffton.org

A PRAYER FOR THE Second Sunday of Advent



Jesus, you came among us
with the irresistible power of a baby,
requiring both our hands
and captivating our whole hearts.
Help us to cast aside the sin
and brokenness that we cling to,
so we might be ready to hold you
when you come again.
Amen.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE - THURSDAY, DEC. 19TH - 6:30-7:30 PM

CONFESSION

Tuesday - 8:30-9 AM
Wednesday - 6-6:45 PM
Saturday - 4-4:45 PM

DAILY MASS

Monday-Tuesday - 8 AM
Wednesday - 7 PM
Thursday-Saturday - 8 AM

ADORATION

Tuesday - 7-8 AM
Wednesday - 6-7 PM
First Friday - 8:30 AM - 6 PM

Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's direct email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com / Sacramental Emergency Number: 260-296-0511

Director of Liturgical Music: Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA / Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton

Welcome! We extend our hearts and hands to all who celebrate with us at St. Josephs. We would like to invite any guest to fill out the form below, if interested in becoming a registered member of this Parish.

-(cut here)-

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
e-mail address: _____

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 7

8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention
8:30 a.m. Rosary
4:00 p.m. Confessions
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Maria Edwards +

Sunday, December 8

- Second Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Bruce & Twilla Herr (29th Wedding Anniversary)
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Parish Family

Monday, December 9

8:00 a.m. Leonard Smythe +
8:30 a.m. Rosary
5:30 p.m. Bishop Kevin Rhoades

Tuesday, December 10

Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m. Diane Humphrey Family
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Wednesday, December 11

Adoration- 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Confession- 6:00-6:45 p.m.
7:00 p.m. Urban John Bender +

Thursday, December 12

8:00 a.m. Mother's of Larry & Liz Mock
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Friday, December 13

8:00 a.m. Marcel & Mary Ellen Welling +
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Saturday, December 14

8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention
8:30 a.m. Rosary
4:00 p.m. Confessions
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Gonzalo Riveros +

Sunday, December 15

- Third Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Nick Wyss +

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 9 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (not a Holy day of obligation)
- First week of Advent - Gn 3:9-15,20/ Eph 1:3-6,11-12/ Lk 1:26-38

Tues., Dec. 10 - Is 40:1-11/ Mt 18:12-14

Wed., Dec. 11 - St. Damasus I, Pope - Is 40:25-31/ Mt 11:28-30

Thurs., Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe - Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Fri., Dec. 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr - Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19

Sat., Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church - Sir 48:1-4,9-11/ Mt 17:9a,10-13

Sun., Dec. 15 - Third Sunday of Advent - Is 35:1-6a,10/ Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 8, 2019

Last weekend, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, visited the Italian town of Greccio, where the first Nativity scene was created by St. Francis of Assisi in the 14th Century. After visiting, he released a very insightful letter reflecting on the tradition of the nativity scene. He encouraged *"the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas."* He continued, saying: *"Great imagination and creativity is always shown in employing the most diverse materials to create small masterpieces of beauty. As children, we learn from our parents and grandparents to carry on this joyful tradition, which encapsulates a wealth of popular piety. It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived."*

Echoing the Holy Father's sentiment, I would encourage each of our families to continue the beautiful tradition of the nativity scene in our own homes. Just as our large nativity scene will appear in the Church soon enough, we should also keep this beautiful reminder of the coming Christmas season in the forefront of our homes. We can even build it up over these coming weeks so that it culminates with the placing of the Babe of Bethlehem, the Christ-child, on Christmas morning. In making this a family tradition, we keep the building and expectant joy of Christmas always in our sight and, as such, in our minds and hearts as we approach the joy of Christmas Day.

PARISH UPDATES

With the year ending, we are concluding many of our projects. The last of our older parking lot lights were switched to LED fixtures last weekend and new spotlights were added to the campus entrance, bringing our exterior lighting project to a close. A special "Thank You!" again to **F A L Electric** and parishioner Andy Vachon for their dedicated work in bringing this project to completion.

The parts necessary for our interior lighting projects have arrived and **Zap Electric** has begun the transition of our sanctuary lights to LED fixtures. The Sanctuary may seem darker over the next two weekends while the various fixtures are being replaced, but I know that you will be very pleased with the end result. The use of LED fixtures offers increased visibility, are more energy efficient (being a benefit both environmentally and economically), and require less frequent maintenance compared to our older fixtures. I thank you for your patience as this project nears completion.

Our **Parish Census Survey** has had a wonderful response. Of our 212 Registered Parish Families, we've received around 120 responses (57%). Thank you for your participation. I've had a chance to personally read each response and there have been many great suggestions made. I look forward to incorporating many of these suggestions into our parish planning for the future.

After our site visitation with the **Next Generation Parish (NGP)** Staff and several conference calls, we've decided that it would not be the right time for St. Joseph's to participate in this program. The NGP Staff were very impressed with what they saw at our parish and where we are headed and do not want to risk slowing down our momentum. Lori, from the NGP Staff, offered her thanks for the warm welcome she received during her visit and ask that we keep those parishes participating in this program in our prayers.

Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David

Reminder: Our first monthly **Young Adult Gathering (Ages 18-40)** will be next **Sunday, December 15th, at 5 PM in the Parish Hall.** I hope to see you there!

*The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (celebrated on December 8th) is the patronal feast of both our country and our diocese. The Second Sunday of Advent, however, takes precedent this weekend and the solemnity is celebrated on Monday, Dec. 9th. Because of this, the Immaculate Conception is **not** a holy day of obligation this year. Though not an obligation, let us consider it a "Holy Day of Opportunity" and gather together in celebration at one of the Masses on Monday (at both 8 AM and 5:30 PM).*



Sharon Miller, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Rick Cotterman, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Priscilla Rhodes, Carol Leitner, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Cheryl Jackson, Mary Ann Flowers, Sandy Arnold, Lynn Rickord, Jimmy Robbins, Jean Steele, Cindy Monticue, and Carol Campbell.



ST. JOSEPH WOMEN'S GROUP

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 10th. We are gathering at 6pm in the social hall. Please bring an appetizer to share and plan to visit and catch up with each other! We may sing a Christmas Carol or two!! All are welcome!



2019 St. Joseph Christmas and New Years Schedule

Advent Penance Service

Thursday, December 19th
6:30 pm



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve Family Mass
Tuesday, December 24th- 5:00 pm
St. Joseph Choir- 9:30 pm
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass- 10:00 pm

Christmas Day Mass
Wednesday, December 25th- 9:00 am

New Year's Masses Solemnity of Mary (A Holy Day of Obligation)

Vigil Mass
Tuesday, December 31st
5:00 pm

New Year's Day,
Wednesday, January 1st
7:30 & 10:00 am

JOB OPENING WITH THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has an opening for a part-time Diocesan Safe Environment Database Specialist. The Safe Environment Program Database Specialist is responsible for the input of safe environment information into the diocese's Safe Environment database. For more information and to view other openings in the diocese and at parishes, visit www.diocesefwsb.org/Current-Job-Postings



From Death To New Life

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Jay "Fred" Painter father of Mike (Kathy) Painter, who died Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

May God welcome Fred home, fill him with peace and bless those who will miss him.

Eternal Rest Grant unto him O Lord, and let Perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in Peace. Amen.

PARISH CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mon., Dec. 9 - Mass at 5:30 p.m. - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Patronal Feastday of the United States of America *(not a holy day of obligation)*)
- Tues., Dec. 10 - St. Joseph Women's Group Christmas Party - 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.
- Wed., Dec. 11 - Adoration - 5-7:00 p.m./ Confession 6-6:45 p.m./Benediction 6:50 p.m./ Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 12 - RCIA- 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 15 - Young Adult Gathering - 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the social hall.
- Wed., Dec. 18 - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m./ Confession 6-6:45 p.m./Benediction 6:50 p.m./ Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 19 - RCIA- 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., Dec. 19 - Advent Penance Service - 6:30 p.m.**
- Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve, Family Mass - 5:00 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - St. Joseph Choir Christmas Concert - 9:30 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Vigil Mass - 10:00 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 25 - Christmas Mass - 9:00 a.m.
- Thurs., & Fr., Dec. 26/27 - Office Closed.
- Sun., Dec. 29 - No Religious Ed. Classed, Christmas Break

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 14/15, 2019

CANTORS:

5:00 Nichole Decker
7:30 Mike Morrissey
10:00 Marita Crawfis

LECTORS:

5:00 Stacey Coulardot
7:30 Sarah McCorkle
10:00 Monica Harris

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 Michelle Paxton, Kathy Marshall, Volunteer
7:30 Dave/Margie Huss, Jill Morrissey
10:00 Tammi Helm, Diana Cole, George Witwer, Dan Geimer, Kevin or Jessica Seago, Luisa Sumabat

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

5:00 Volunteers
7:30 Dale/Sarah McCorkle
10:00 Dan/Larisa Sudhoff, Mike/Brenden Kobryn

SERVERS:

5:00 **VOLUNTEERS!**
7:30 Justin Mayer, Clayton Vachon, Phillip Mayer
10:00 Quinn Dreiband, Grant Reifsteck Alex Mechling

Online giving - November

Adult- \$2,160.00
Rainy Day/Repair Fund- \$140.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$60.00
All Saints Day- \$10.00
Total Online Giving- November- \$2,370.00

osvonlinegiving.com/4741

Collection for Weekend of November 30/December 1, 2019

Adult Envelopes- \$2,715.00
Child Envelopes- \$19.81
Loose- \$294.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$10.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$1,386.00
Hall Rent Donation- \$50.00
Christmas Flowers- \$15.00
Immaculate Conception- \$10.00
Total- \$6,869.81

The amount needed each week to make budget is \$5,116.40.

We are \$1,753.41 ahead of our monthly budget.

Other Collections within our Parish-

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$10.00
Bolivian Mission- \$100.00
St. Vincent de Paul Fund Online Giving- \$105.00

Diocesan Special Collections-

Campaign for Human Development- \$15.00
Campaign for Human Development Online Giving- \$10.00
Military Services Online Giving- \$10.00
Religious Retirement- \$10.00

Thank you for your gifts to St. Joseph's!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUND REPORT - NOVEMBER 2019

Rent/Housing - \$50.00
Utilities/Gas - \$1,263.09 / Other - \$950.00
Thank you for your monetary help in assisting those in our community who are in need.
May God Bless You Abundantly!



"All those who love the poor in life, will have nothing to fear from death."

- St. Vincent de Paul

Come watch diocesan priests and seminarians battle over basketball in the annual Cupertino Classic on Friday, Dec. 27 from 6:30-9 p.m. This event will be held at Marian High School, 1311 S. Logan St., Mishawaka. The seminarians look to continue building on their two-year win streak, while the priests have been reloading their roster via ordination. Who will capture this year's Cupertino Classic? Come out and support our priests and seminarians.



"Perfection of personality does not consist in knowing God's plan, but in submitting to it as it reveals itself in the circumstances of life." ~Ven. Fulton Sheen

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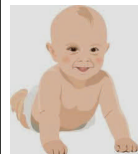
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Don't cry because
it's over
smile
because it happened.
-Dr. Seuss

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To our men and women
in uniform...
past, present and future,



Thank you and
God Bless You!

Before you speak...

THINK!

T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?