



# ST. JOSEPH

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

T H I R D S U N D A Y O F L E N T

### CONTACT US

ADDRESS: 1300 NORTH MAIN STREET  
BLUFFTON, IN 46714

PHONE: (260) 824-1380

EMAIL: STJOSEPHCHURCH@ADAMSWELLS.COM

WEBSITE: STJOSEPHCHURCHBLUFFTON.ORG

PARISH OFFICE: MON-FRI, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

EMERGENCY PHONE: (260) 296-0511

### MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5 PM

SUNDAY: 7:30 AM & 10 AM

#### DAILY MASS:

TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY: 8 AM

WEDNESDAY: 7 PM

FRIDAY: 8:30 AM

#### CONFESSIONS:

TUESDAY: 8:30-9 AM

WEDNESDAY: 6-6:45 PM

SATURDAY: 8:30-9 AM & 4-4:45 PM

FIRST FRIDAY: 3-3:45 PM

#### ADORATION:

TUESDAY: 7-8 AM

WEDNESDAY: 6-7 PM

### STAFF

PASTOR: FR. DAVID VIOLI

EMAIL: FRDAVIDVIOLI@GMAIL.COM

ADMIN. ASST. / DRE: MICHELLE PAXTON

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC: TERESA SMITH

HE  
WHO  
GIVES  
ALMS  
LEADS  
TO GOD.

St. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM  
HOMILIES ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, HOMILY 7

## Saturday, March 7

4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*

4:35 p.m. *Rosary*

5:00 p.m. Our Parish Family

## Sunday, March 8

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Burns Family

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Raymond "Bud" Helm +

## Monday, March 9

*No Public Mass*

## Tuesday, March 10

7:00-8:00 a.m. *Adoration*

8:00 a.m. John Whitman +

8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*

## Wednesday, March 11

6:00-7:00 p.m. *Adoration*

6:00-6:45 p.m. *Confession*

7:00 p.m. Al Gillig Family

## Thursday, March 12

8:00 a.m. Ron Smith Family

## Friday, March 13

8:30 a.m. Bessie & George Harvey +

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

## Saturday, March 14

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*

4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*

4:35 p.m. *Rosary*

5:00 p.m. Wayne "Bud" Miller +

## Sunday, March 15

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Our Parish Family

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Joan Byanski +



### MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon., Mar. 9 - Lenten Weekday [3] - St. Frances of Rome, Religious - 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab / Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 / Lk 4:24-30**

**Tues., Mar. 10 - Lenten Weekday [3] - Dn 3:25, 34-43 / Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9 / Mt 18:21-35**

**Wed., Mar. 11 - Lenten Weekday [3] - Dt 4:1, 54-9 / Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 / Mt 5:17-19**

**Thurs., Mar. 12 - Lenten Weekday [3] - Jer 7:23-28 / Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 / Lk 11:14-23**

**Fri., Mar. 13 - Lenten Weekday [3] - Hos 14:2-10 / Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17 / Mk 12:28-34**

**Sat., Mar. 14 - Lenten Weekday [3] - Hos 6:1-6 / Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b / Lk 18:9-14**

**Sun., March 15 - Fourth Sunday of Lent - 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ps 23:1-6 / Eph 5:8-14 / Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38**

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 8, 2026

This weekend (March 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>), the Church celebrates the **Third Sunday of Lent**. We enter now into one of the most ancient practices of the Church: **The Scrutinies** (from the Latin *scrutinia*, or "examinations"). Dating back to at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century, those preparing for baptism at **Easter** undergo a series of rites during Lent that "examine" their readiness and includes prayers of exorcism and purification.

These practices were testified to by many of the early Church Fathers, such as both St. Ambrose of Milan and St. Augustine of Hippo of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, in their Lenten sermons in preparation for the Easter Vigil. By the 7<sup>th</sup> Century, ritual books codified the sequence of these rites in great detail. In addition to being prayed for, those preparing for the Sacraments also "received" both the Creed and the Our Father from the local congregation.

As we begin the start of the **Scrutinies** this Sunday, our Lectionary turns to the **Gospel of St. John** for the remainder of **Lent**. We are treated to the amazing triffecta of John 4 (*The Samaritan Woman*), John 9 (*The Man Born Blind*), and John 11 (*The Rich Man and Lazarus*). These are three of the most powerful chapters in one of the most spiritual books in the Bible, as St. John, often represented by the soaring eagle, takes us to the spiritual heights.

The Church turns to these texts from St. John at this point because they are, in so many ways, mystagogical, taking us deeper into the mysteries of the Church, that is, the Sacraments. If one is not initiated into the Sacraments, St. John remains, in many respects, a book very difficult to comprehend. For our Elect and Candidates for Full Communion preparing for initiation into the Sacraments, these texts serve as a final sacramental catechesis.

Our Baptismal catechesis starts this weekend with the readings, culminating in the Gospel of the Samaritan Woman. The constant theme of "*living water*" is meant to be seen as the water of Baptism, quenching the thirst of the soul and sharing eternal life. For those of us who have already passed through the saving waters of Baptism, may these readings remind us that the grace of Baptism isn't a thing of our past, but is living and flowing within us even now.

## THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

This week, our parish will join parishes throughout our diocese for the annual "**The Light Is On For You**" Campaign. On **Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**, every parish in our diocese will be offering Confessions from **6:00-8:00 PM**. **Reminder:** Our weekly Confession times are Tuesdays from 8:30-9:00 AM, Wednesdays 6-6:45 PM, and Saturdays 8:30-9:00 AM and 4-4:45 PM.

## PARISH GARDEN BEDS

With the warm weather starting, it is a good reminder that we will have garden beds available for use behind the Church. If you would like to reserve a bed or a part of bed for use, please contact the Parish Office (260-824-1380) for more information.

## CHURCH RENOVATION UPDATES

Over the past two weeks, **Dancer Flooring** has been prepping the poured terrazzo for completion. With the arrival of our floor medallions this week, they are now able to begin assembling the individual medallions and pour the remaining floor starting this week. As of our last progress meeting, **Dancer** is hoping to complete the nave flooring by the end of the month.

Once the nave flooring is completed, we will be able to begin reinstalling the pews. As this timeline will bring us right into Holy Week, we are currently planning to hold our Triduum liturgies in the Parish Social Hall. Given the detailed nature of these liturgies, it would be very challenging to maneuver both Holy Week and moving back into the main Church at the same time. As work continues, we will revisit our timeline and share more information.

~Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Jeff Tillman, Mike Holland, Richard Payne and Matt Norris.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>**  
**AT ST. JOSEPH'S**  
**The Light is ON for You.**



*Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
**AND AT EVERY CATHOLIC CHURCH IN**  
**OUR DIOCESE FROM 6:00-8:00 PM**

**G.I.R.L.'s Night Out**

**GIRL'S Night Out** will have their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the 8th grade Religious Education Classroom.

*All women of the parish are invited & welcome!*

**THURS., MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
**6:30-8:30 PM IN THE PARISH GYM**

**FOLLOWING MASS AT 6:00 PM**  
**Sign your team up on the sheet in the back of Church.**

**PARISH CALENDAR**

- **Sat., Mar. 7** - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Mar. 8** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Mar. 8** - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Mon., Mar. 9** - Youth Choir practice - 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall (Church).
- **Tues., Mar. 10** - Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel.
- **Tues., Mar. 10** - "The Light is on for You!" - 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Mar. 11** - Adoration 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
- **Thurs., Mar. 12** - Mass 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.
- **Thurs., Mar. 12** - Choir 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall (Church).
- **Thurs., Mar. 12** - Discover Catholicism - 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom.
- **Fri., Mar. 13** - Mass 8:30 a.m. / First Friday Adoration 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Confessions 3:00-3:45 p.m.
- **Fri., Mar. 13** - Soup Supper - 5:30-7:00 p.m. / Lenten Prayer 6:00-6:45 p.m. in the gym.
- **Fri., Mar. 13** - Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall (Church).
- **Sat., Mar. 14** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m. (Chapel)
- **Sat., Mar. 14** - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Mar. 15** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Mar. 15** - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.

**WEEKEND OF MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup>**



**MASS Cantors**  
**5:00 p.m.** Dan Lautzenheiser  
**7:30 a.m.** Mike Morrissey  
**10:00 a.m.** Adult Choir



**LECTORS**  
**5:00 p.m.** Patti Clark-Johnson  
**7:30 a.m.** Barb Ault  
**10:00 a.m.** John Vanderkolk



**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**  
**5:00 p.m.** Laurisa Roper  
**7:30 a.m.** None needed  
**10:00 a.m.** Kevin Seago, Wendy Stout, Kendra Davis



**Servers**  
**5:00 p.m.** Angel/Zoe Soto, Volunteer  
**7:30 a.m.** Angela/James Mayer, Liam Harris  
**10:00 a.m.** Isaiah/Dominic Bedwell, Volunteer

**St. Joseph Parish Finance Report**  
**The Weekend of Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>/Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>**

Adult Envelopes - \$3,622.00  
 Loose - \$404.15  
 Repair / Rainy Day - \$1,303.86  
 Bequest-Parish Needs- \$1,200.00  
 Easter Flowers Donation- \$25.00  
 Miller Memorial Donation- \$100.00  
**Total- \$6,655.01**

39th ABA Over Goal - \$1,784.00

**Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40**

We are **\$4,897.10** ahead of our budget for the month of February 2026.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund - \$150.00

*Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish are greatly appreciated. Thank you!*

To set up **Online Giving** through *Our Sunday Visitor*, visit: [www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton](http://www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton) or Scan the QR Code on the right:



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUND REPORT - FEB. 2026**

**Housing** - 761.10  
**Utilities** - \$190.51  
 Charitable Donations - \$495.00  
**Total Donations for February - \$1,446.61**

*Thank you* for helping us help others!

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
**4:00-7:00 PM - Drive Thru Only**  
**Tickets on Sale after all Masses.**



**TOTUS TUUS SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM**  
 Junior High/High School - Sun., June 21<sup>st</sup> - Thurs., June 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Grades 1-6 Mon., June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Fri., June 26<sup>th</sup>

**Mariachi LOCO**  
 MEXICAN GRILL  
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 Matt Hayes & Brigitte Washburn  
 TEL 260.824-9377  
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Thursday's: 3pm-8pm  
 Friday's: 3pm-8pm  
 Saturday's: Noon-8pm  
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**BECOME**  
 A  
**KNIGHT**

Before you speak...

**THINK!**

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



"Saint Joseph was a just man, a tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always guard, protect and enlighten families."  
 - St. John Paul II