



ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Forming Saints for Christ and the Church

DECEMBER 21, 2014
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT

512 North Perkins Street ✘ Rushville ✘ Indiana ✘ 46173
Parish: 765-932-2588 ✘ School: 765-932-3639 ✘ www.stmaryrush.org

Staff

Rev. Jeremy M. Gries, Pastor.....frgries@stmaryrush.org
Debbie Spaeth, Administrative Assistantdspaeth@stmaryrush.org
Terri Nigh, Administrator Religious Ed. (ARE) tegar2@frontier.com
Sherri Kirschner, Principal..... skirschner@stmaryrush.org
Theresa Komlanc, School Secretary tkomlanc@stmaryrush.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Wednesday...8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.
Thursday.....9:30a.m.-4:30p.m.
Friday.....8:30a.m.-Noon

Our St. Mary Prayer Line

Regenia Ripberger 765-561-1179
Lisa Wagoner 812-593-0790
765-663-2444

Parish Council

Chair: Shawn Adkins

Finance Council

Chair: Doug Krieger

Board of Education

Chair: Jim Cowan

Baptism

Call the parish office for scheduling.

Reconciliation/Confession

Saturday...4:30p.m.- 5:15p.m.
Tuesday.....6:00p.m.6:25p.m.

Marriage Engaged couples must meet with the Pastor to complete initial marriage paperwork at least 9 months before the anticipated wedding date *and prior to making any other arrangements concerning the wedding. No date may be considered reserved until initial meeting and the necessary paperwork have been completed. Call the parish office for an appointment.*



FROM THE PASTOR

It's been an interesting and busy week around St Mary's:

St Mary Catholic School hosted a beautiful Christmas program on Thursday night. Even if occasionally off-key, children's voices singing Christmas carols are always best in my book! The schoolchildren were just a little bit excited throughout the week by the upcoming Christmas break and the impending visit from good o' Saint Nicholas! I imagine your children are getting excited as well. This was also a week full of parties, shopping, and

holiday rush. In all cases, this can be a great opportunity to remind children – young and old – of the source of true and lasting joy found in Jesus.

One place I witnessed that lasting joy was in twenty-five local households. They were just a little brighter after receiving St Mary's Hygiene Baskets and Christmas Dinner Food Baskets this past Friday. This was made possible through the generous support of the parishioners of St Mary. We also benefited from a large donation of food items from a food drive hosted by *Anytime Fitness*. Thanks to you all. The households were identified from among frequent patrons to the food pantry, direct call-ins, and hardship cases identified by the pastor. Each family is most appreciative of the help and assistance. It is wonderful to see 'greater good done for God' by St Mary's in Rush County.

I had the opportunity, on Tuesday, to go up and meet with Archbishop Tobin and the other 10 deanery deans to discuss items of interest to the entire Archdiocese and to report on the local happenings in our region. We meet about four times a year to help keep the Archbishop informed, on local matters.

There is still time to prepare our hearts and souls for the coming of Christ anew at Christmas! With school on break, maybe you can take 15-20 minutes to peacefully pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary as a family, in patient preparation for the coming of the Christ Child. (Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary, Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple). St Mary, Expectant Mother of God, Pray for us. ~ Fr. Gries

Mass Schedule: December 22 - 28

Monday		No Mass
Tuesday	6:30p.m.	Helen Louise Amos
Wednesday	4:00p.m.	St. Mary and St. Rose
	6:30p.m.	Julie Hertel
	Midnight	David Craven
Thursday	9:00a.m.	Zelda Patterson
Friday	8:30a.m.	No Mass
Saturday	5:30p.m.	St. Mary and St. Rose
Sunday	7:30a.m.	Dec'd Members Joe & Myrtha Moran family
	10:00a.m.	Pat Todd

Upcoming Holiday Mass Schedule: December 24 at 4:00p.m., 6:30p.m. and midnight here at St. Mary; 9:00p.m. at St. Rose. December 25 at 9:00a.m. here at St. Mary. December 31 at 4:30p.m. and January 1 at 9:00a.m. at St. Mary.

Incense will be used at the 6:30p.m. Mass on December 24, Midnight Mass and at the 9:00a.m. Mass on December 25.



EXPIRED FOOD CANNOT BE DISTRIBUTED FROM THE FOOD PANTRY. PLEASE CHECK THE DATES ON THE LABELS. THANK YOU!

Items always needed for the Food Pantry:

Peanut Butter	Sugar
Mac and Cheese	Spaghetti's
Boxes of Spaghetti	Pork and Beans
Jars Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Vegetables
Cereal and Oatmeal (Item of Month)	Ramen Noodles
Canned Fruit	Hamburger Helper
Cans of Tuna	Tuna Helper
Toilet Paper	Bars of Soap
Dish Soap	Toothpaste



Monetary donations are now being accepted for Christmas flowers. Envelopes are on the tables, at each church entrance. Please fill out, completely, and drop into the regular Sunday collection.

Ministers-to-the-Sick

- Dec. 22 Monica Neuman
Dec. 29 Donna Becraft and Jeanie Hedrick

Money Counters

- Dec. 22 Kathy Dean, Jeanie Spaeth, Debbie Banks, Gary Nigh
Dec. 29 Team (1) Jeanie Spaeth, Missy Koors, April Yager, Jeanine Yager
Team (2) Rose Hoeing, Linda Shanahan, Jane Niccum, Mary Schneider

Liturgical Roles

Servers – December 24 & 25 (Christmas)

Wed. 4:00p.m.	Clara & Sofia Kemple, Will Thoman, Macy & Nicholas Hoeing
6:30p.m.	Leila Amos, Mitchell Cowan, Emma Lux, Ereena Moore
Midnight	Gus Haley, Bryon Pavey, Alexis Fenimore, Nicholas Amos, Ereena Moore
Thur. 9:00a.m.	Adam Leising, Amy & Keith Neuman

Lectors – December 24 & 25 (Christmas)

Wed. 4:00p.m.	Ann Curtis
6:30p.m.	Cecilia Orr
Midnight	Debi Carter
	John and Jonathan Blankman
Thur. 9:00a.m.	Allen Leising

Extra-Ordinary Ministers – December 24 & 25

Wed. 4:00p.m.	Amaranta Kemple, Gary Nigh, Laura Ash, Mary Beth Burklow, Tom Giesting
6:30p.m.	Rita Corn, Shelly Bostic, Jason Pavey, Regenia Ripberger, Denise Small
Midnight	Sarah Niedenthal, Steve Richards, Jerry Rudolf, Susan Hoeing, Bob Dwenger
Thur. 9:00a.m.	Howard Ariens, Steve Pavey, Bob Dwenger

Ushers - December 24 & 25 (Christmas)

Wed. 4:00p.m.	Rob Ash & Greg Alexander
6:30p.m.	Kyle Lux & Jim Cowan
Midnight	Bruce Fenimore & Joe Pavey
Thur. 9:00a.m.	Phil Shanahan & Volunteer

Servers – December 27 & 28

Sat. 5:30p.m.	Will, Anne & Katie Thoman
Sun. 7:30a.m.	Addison Ballenger, Cody & Tristan Carmony
10:00a.m.	Gus Haley, Michael & Shaun Fudge

Lectors – December 27 & 28

Sat. 5:30p.m.	Rita Corn
Sun. 7:30a.m.	Debby Williams
10:00a.m.	Ann Curtis

Extra-Ordinary Ministers – December 27 & 28

Sat. 5:30p.m.	Denise Small, Julia Jessup, Steve Richards
Sun. 7:30a.m.	Doug Krieger, Mary Ann Bridges, Susie Odum
10:00a.m.	Jason Pavey, Theresa Komlanc, Mary Beth Burklow

Ushers for December 2014

Sat. 5:30p.m.	Dutch Tragesser & Volunteer
Sun. 7:30a.m.	Mike Mahan & Volunteer
10:00a.m.	David & Brayton Schultz

Sunday Collection



The December 14 collection details will appear in the December 28 bulletin, due to the Liturgical Publishing's holiday submission schedule.

Thank you! "We certainly call you friends because of the way you care for our retired members," writes a religious brother. Your gift to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious benefits some 35,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests. May God bless you for your generosity!



"Connected in the Spirit", Anita Sopher and all of those who are sick and suffering in our parish and community.

JOY TO THE WORLD: Watch special Christmas Programming on EWTN. Dish 261, Direct 370, Comcast 291 or EWTN.com

SAVE THE DATE! Adult Only Social and Dance will be held on Friday, January 30, 2015 at the K of C. Watch the bulletin for more information; including ticket sales.

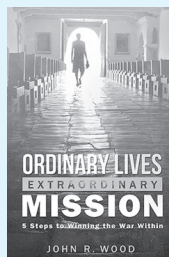
A Stewardship Moment

In today's Gospel reading, we hear proclaimed the story of the Annunciation, when the angel of the Lord announced to Mary that She would give birth to Christ through the intercession of the Holy Spirit. Mary allowed God's messenger to speak to Her. She was attentive, not afraid to enter into a dialogue, then unconditionally obedient. Mary's acceptance of this mystery is a stewardship model for us. Good stewards remain open to the incursions of divine life into the normal course of their daily lives. How open are we to promptings of the Holy Spirit in our own lives? What might we do this last week of Advent to be more attentive to the Lord?

Trivia Night!

Changing Footprints - Third Annual Trivia Night
Saturday, January 24, 2015

Ruth Houk is available to register your team and answer any questions. rahouk1@frontier.com



ADULT FAITH CLASS
Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission

by John R. Wood
Led by Fr. Jeremy M. Gries
Wednesday Evenings from 7-8:30p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Free Study Guide

TOPICS

- January 7 - Prologue & Step 1 (Pages 5-32)
- January 14 - Step 2 (Pages 33-78)
- January 21 - Step 3 (Pages 79-110)
- January 28 - Step 4 (Pages 111-150)
- February 4 - Step 5 (Pages 151-174)
- February 11 - Sep 6 (Pages 175-187)



Books can be picked up at church doors at Christmas.

-Religious Education-

Sunday Morning Religious Education, Class TODAY, December 21, 2014.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Class TODAY, December 21. Please keep Catechumens: Chris Nobbe and Monte Sitton and Candidates: Joe Hoffman, Evelyn Sammons, Marcy Westphal, Jessica Berkemeier and Sally Farley in your prayers.

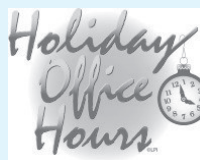
I would like to wish the Sunday Morning Religious Education children, parents and catechists a blessed Christmas and joyous New Year. Have a great holiday break. I will see you on January 4, 2015. Terri Nigh, ARE



Archdiocese of Indianapolis
2014-2015 United Catholic Appeal

Please mail your pledge card directly to the Archdiocese or drop into the Sunday collection. Thank You.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pledge Cards</u>	<u>Pledge Amount</u>
12/4/14	132	\$25,700
Goal	474	\$14,255
% of Goal	28%	180%



The parish office will close at noon on December 24 and remain closed on December 25 and 26, in observance of Christmas. The office will be open on December 29 and 30.