

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 21, 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

228 N. Main Street, P.O. Box 700
Avilla, IN 46710-0700
Phone: 260-897-3261
Fax: 260-897-2284
email: stmaryassumption@embarqmail.com
Pastor: Father Daniel Chukwuleta
Secretary: Beverly Edwards

Ministry Contact Persons

Ushers: Bryan Cass
Lectors: Arlene Lewis
Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Hoover
Servers: Melissa Cass
RCIA: Katie Herendeen
Religious Education: Barb Braley
Music: Barb Braley

Parish Organizations

Rosary/Altar Society: Henrietta Harris
Finance: Jonathan Ormiston
Pastoral Council: Michael Edwards
Cemetery: Bryan Cass
Bldg. & Grounds:
Mark Bush and Tom Sherwood
Knights of Columbus: Michael Edwards
Scrip: Kathy Rorick
Youth: Eve Peters

St. Mary School

Phone: 260-897-3481 Fax: 260-897-3706
Website: stmaryavilla.org
Principal: Mrs. Jane Sandor
Secretary: Sara Lake
School Board: Angela Jansen
HASA: Kim Heshner

SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Active registered parishioner(s) arrange for an appointment with the pastor six months prior to wedding date. A wedding must be celebrated in church.

Baptism: Call pastor to provide information, sacramental preparation and schedule the date & time of the Baptism.

Ministry to Sick and Shut-ins: Notify the pastor to arrange for visits to the sick or shut-ins, the reception of Communion and/or the Anointing of the Sick. If you are going to the hospital for surgery, the Anointing of the Sick can be received. If you are sick or undergoing surgery, let us know and we will include you in our prayers at Mass and on the parish Prayer Chain.

Reconciliation: Sat. 4:00-4:45, by appointment and scheduled Penance Services.

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH AVILLA, INDIANA

MASS INTENTIONS

February 22-28

Monday	7:15 am	Purgatorial Society
Tuesday	8:15 am	Herb Myers
Wednesday	7:15 am	Eleanor Harding
Thursday	7:15 am	Robert Harding
Friday	8:15 am	Francis Meyer
Saturday	7:15 am	Purgatorial Society
	5:00 pm	St. Mary Parishioners
Sunday	8:00 am	Paul & Ginny Christmas
	11:00 am	Special Intentions for M.H.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

February 22-28

MONDAY

1 Pt 5:1-4, Mt 16:13-19

TUESDAY

Is 1:10, 16-20, Mt 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY

Jer 18:18-20, Mt 20:17-28

THURSDAY

Jer 17:5-10, Lk 16:19-31

FRIDAY

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a, Mt 21:33-34

SATURDAY

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20, Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

SUNDAY

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15, 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12
Lk 13:1-9

COLLECTION TOTALS

February 13 & 14, 2016

Adult \$5,580.00

Loose \$158.17

Children \$13.39

\$5,751.56

Special Collections

Vigil Lights \$18.00

Parish Saving \$415.00

Improvement Fund \$398.00

Parish Savings \$70.00

Black & Indian Mission \$197.00

Feeding the Brothers \$715.40

Ash Wednesday \$623.75

St. Vincent de Paul (Jan.) \$732.15

Total Envelopes Issued: 225

of Envelopes Used this Week: 102

Weekly Contribution Budget: \$8,508.00

MASS MINISTERS

February 27 & 28

USHERS

Sat 5 pm Gerry Schmidt and Jim Schmenk

Sun 8 am Tony Helmer and Joe Litchfield

Sun 11 am Bryan Cass and Jim Hullinger

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Sat 5 pm Michelle Myers, Julea Diffenderfer, Dennis & Jan Hudecek

Sun 8 am Chad Helmkamp, Monte Van Gessel, Craig & Linda Van Gessel

Sun 11 am Roger, Virginia, Catrina and Dennis Dancer

READERS

Sat 5 pm Rob Diffenderfer and Tom Sherwood

Sun 8 am Jim and Teresa Breckler

Sun 11 am Kathy Rorick and Katie Herendeen

CROSS BEARER

Sat 5 pm Nathan Allan

Sun 8 am Volunteer

Sun 11 am Gason Feist

CANDLE BEARERS

Sat 5 pm Cooper Teders and Logan Gromaski

Sun 8 am Volunteers

Sun 11 am Chaz Gabet and Anthony Deyo

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat 5 pm Dustin Teders and Lucas Cartwright

Sun 8 am Volunteers

Sun 11 am Jacob Grimm and Collin Haynes

We would like to **congratulate Charles & Kathy Casavant who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary** recently. May God continue to bless them richly in good health and happiness and may they have many more years together.

There are plenty of **RICE BOWLS** for everyone in the back of Church to take and use during this Lent.

2015 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are also in the back of Church for you to pick up.

Next weekend, February 27 & 28, is our parish's monthly special collection after Holy Communion for St. Vincent De Paul Society.

REFLECTIONS from Father Daniel... During Lent, our Scripture readings call us to conversion, to change our hearts, to turn ourselves over to God and into the kind of person we know God wants us to be.

In our first reading today, the covenant between God and Abram connects with the transfiguration of Jesus. Abram (later named Abraham) believed in God's promises so much that he was willing to sacrifice his own son. Although, God asked only for Abram's trust, not his son. The message is very simple: God does ask, that nothing come before Him and your relationship with Him. Not family, not job or even life itself. God wants us to be strong in our relationship with Him. It is the "standing firm in the Lord" of which St. Paul speaks in the letter to the Philippians. When we are strong in the Lord, faithful to our covenant, we experience a continuing conversion or spiritual transformation.

In today's gospel, the event of the transfiguration of Jesus is, in a sense, a promise of future glory for Jesus and all His followers. Indeed, the transfiguration is a promise and an assurance that God would not let down those who trusted in Him. And, through Jesus we are called to a deeper relationship with God and our spiritual forebears. Both the covenant between God and Abram, and the transfiguration of Jesus, remind us that only through the sword of penance and suffering can we gain the crown of eternal life. This glory is the heart of our future life with God.

Today, spend time in quiet reflective prayer. Think about your personal relationship with God, and those who have helped shape your spiritual life. How are you becoming more transformed to live as a true follower of Jesus?

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Ladies...get ready, set, and bake! Start baking and preserving now for the **Altar/Rosary Society Bake Sale on Sunday, March 13th**. Canned goods, jams and jellies, candies, baked goodies...all kinds are needed!!

Thank you! And did you know? We recently received a check from Target. Families with a Target REDcard designated our school as the recipient of a 1% of total purchase donation. Thanks to all who have participated in this program. More information can be found at CSR@Target.com. SCRIP sales are another wonderful opportunity to help with school and parish expenses. Please consider using it. There are order forms available on the school website: stmaryavilla.org. *Discover* SCRIP is available for purchase as well. It can be used for purchases made anywhere that accepts *Discover* credit cards. There is a 1.5% rebate. **Thank you SCRIP for purchasing copier toner for the parish office and for the upgrade of the school's computer server.**

Please keep saving those **cancelled stamps, Box Tops and Campbell soup labels** coming. These items can be brought to the school office anytime during regular office hours from 8:00 am—3:00 pm or put them in an envelope and drop them in the collection basket when you attend Mass. Thanks for your help!

Burger King/Chili Coupon Booklets are on sell for \$3.00. They contain 17 coupons for Burger King, Chili's, Ft. Wayne Komets and Ft. Wayne Mad Ants. If you use just one of the coupons in the booklet it pays for itself! Stop in the school office if you would like some or call the parish office at 897-3261. These booklets are a "You Can Lend a Hand" fundraiser for the school.

21st Century Scholars is a program open to current 7th & 8th students who meet the eligibility and family income requirements. Through this program the State of Indiana makes an investment in each Scholar's future by providing a generous college scholarship and free support services that help students plan, prepare and pay for education beyond high school. More information on the website: <http://www.in.gov/21stcenturyscholars/2453.htm>. If you are interested, please don't delay as there are deadlines at the end of this school year. If you need any help our school office personnel would be happy to assist you.

We would like to congratulate some of St. Mary Students for their recent awards. The following students participated in **ISSMA Vocal Competition**: Luke Brady-Gold; Alina Brinker-Gold; Lillian Dunkel-Gold; Olivia Eagan-Silver; Kali Leathers-Silver; Claire Replogle-Gold; Madison Targgart-Silver; Jessica Willavize-Gold. **ISSMA Piano Competition**: Peter Litchfield won a Gold. The following students will represent St. Mary School at the **Regional Science Fair** on Saturday, March 19th: Olivia Berendt, Olivia Eagan, Abby Haynes, Connor Heshner, Ben Jansen, Jenna Zobona.

No Catholic Ever Dies "Unexpectedly."

You stand before the judgment of God.

Just a second before, you had been driving your car. Or mowing your lawn. Or walking into a bank.

Just one second prior, you had been alive. But suddenly, because of an accident or heart attack or some violence, you stand before the Judge of Eternity.

"I had no time to prepare," you protest. "I had no warning," you plead. For you had never imagined it would happen this way. You had always pictured a hospital bed, or a long ambulance ride, or at least one last minute to prepare, as a warning time.

But you have died unexpectedly.

And you petition the Judge: "I had no time..."

"My child," the Judge tells you, "just this year you had 40 days warning. 40 days to prepare. You had 40 days! My priest, on the very first of those days, reminded you, spoke to you individually: 'Remember,' he said, 'you are dust...'. And each day of those 40 days, in your parish church, the Old Testament prophets spoke the same truth; the Evangelists spoke the same message to repent; the Food for eternal life was offered again and again on the altar. Throughout those days, the sacrament of my mercy was available to you in the confessional; and on each of those 40 days, you were urged to do some penance, to give alms, to pray more deeply."

"No time to prepare," you say! You had 40 days!

"You had Lent!"

For Your Information...School students, teachers and staff invite all to join them for the **Stations of the Cross** on Fridays during Lent at 1:45 pm in Church.

All are encouraged to come spend an hour (or whatever length of time you have) on March 3rd during **Eucharistic Adoration** anytime between 8:00 am—6:00 pm.

