

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 28, 2016 THIRD 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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

February 29-March 6

MONDAY

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab, Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY

Kn 3:25, 34-43, Mt 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY

Kt 4:1, 5-9, Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY

Jer 7:23-28, Lk 11:14-23

FRIDAY

Hos 14:2-10, Mk 12:28-34

SATURDAY

Hos 6:1-6, Lk 18:9-14

SUNDAY

Jos 5:9a, 10-12, 2 Cor 5:17-21

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Feb. 29-March 6

Tuesday

6:00 pm

St. Mary School Board Meeting

Thursday

8:00 am—6:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 pm

Knights of Columbus

Friday

8:15 am

First Friday Mass

1:45 pm

Stations of the Cross

Saturday

7:15 am

First Saturday Mass

8:00 am

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

Sunday

9:15—10:40 am

Religious Education Classes

9:30 am

Altar/Rosary Society Gathering

COLLECTION TOTALS

February 20 & 21, 2016

Adult \$5,120.00

Loose \$405.00

Children \$26.97

- \$5,551.97

Special Collections

Vigil Lights \$14.00

Parish Saving \$220.00

Improvement Fund \$5.00

Black & Indian Mission \$15.00

Latin America \$10.00

Tuition Assistance \$10.00

Total Envelopes Issued: 225

of Envelopes Used this Week: 103

Weekly Contribution Budget: \$8,508.00

MASS INTENTIONS

February 29-March 6

Monday	7:15 am	In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered
Tuesday	8:15 am	James and Donna Martin
Wednesday	7:15 am	Francis Fischer
Thursday	7:15 am	Herb Myers
Friday	8:15 am	Leo Garlitz
Saturday	7:15 am	Clay Helmkamp
	5:00 pm	Carl Ely
Sunday	8:00 am	St. Mary Parishioners
	11:00 am	Special Intentions for R.D. & V.D.

MASS MINISTERS

March 5 & 6

USHERS

Sat 5 pm	Jim Boyce and Mark Sible
Sun 8 am	Ed Smith and Craig Van Gessel
Sun 11 am	Roger and Dennis Dancer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Sat 5 pm	Pat Hoover, Jim Schmenk, Tom & Barb Sherwood
Sun 8 am	Chuck Rhodes, Christine Beck, Bill & Chris Freeman
Sun 11 am	Eve & Tom Peters, Kathy Rorick, Ralph Stark

READERS

Sat 5 pm	Tina Ball and Sara Cartwright
Sun 8 am	Steve Christman and Nancy Helmer
Sun 11 am	Brenda Weber and Rebecca Rorick

CROSS BEARER

Sat 5 pm	Lucas Cartwright
Sun 8 am	Cooper Teders
Sun 11 am	Jacob Grimm

CANDLE BEARERS

Sat 5 pm	Trevor Ball and Jonah Hopf
Sun 8 am	Volunteers
Sun 11 am	Grant Evans and Landon Cass

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat 5 pm	Braedan Ball and Chaz Gabet
Sun 8 am	Dustin Teders and Gason Feist
Sun 11 am	Connor Heshner and Jeremiah Evans

Altar/Rosary Society Gathering on Sunday, March 6 at 9:30 am in the teacher's lounge in the school. Come pray the rosary together and enjoy fellowship and bring any ideas or thoughts you have for the society.

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!!

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

REFLECTIONS from Father Daniel... When loved ones died, or natural disasters take innocent lives, we ask, “How can God let this happen to me?” At times, God can seem so far away and His love so absent in us that we consider abandoning our faith. When C.S. Lewis abandoned his childhood Christian faith for atheism because of his mother’s death; he described the loss of security in his life by writing, “There is now only islands of joy in the midst of an unsettled sea.” He later in 1931 surrendered himself to Christianity. He found that life without God is useless.

The first reading from the book of Exodus, has two wonderful insights for those of us consciously willing to grow in faith. First, while shepherding his flock Moses encounters God through a burning bush. God called him to lead the people but to lead with humility. It is in the midst of ordinary tasks that we come to recognize the presence and voice of God. Second, God gives Moses a special gift, God’s name: “I AM WHO AM.” God was assuring Moses of a special relationship Moses would have with Him, and letting Moses know he could call on God whenever he needed him. From ancient times on through all generations, God is - is present, is close to us. He is kind and merciful, and aware of the suffering of His people. Yet we are often unaware of God.

Like the fig tree in today’s gospel parable, on which the tree was given opportunities of every kind to produce fruit, but it failed to do so. We can go on year after year without bearing fruit. This parable speaks of God’s patience and of the urgency of the call to conversion. We all have room for improvement. God asks that of us and He also gives us the help we need to be better. He expects us to grow in goodness and holiness of life, to trust Him, to love Him and to do good for others.

Today, we are called to look at our lives and ask what fruit we are bearing. There is much food for thought in the Greek proverb, “The heart that loves is always young.”

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Youth News (6th-12th grades) - We send a big “Thank You” to Mr. Helmkamp for being our game host for February activities. Everyone had a great a time and we so appreciate the fun games he put together for us.

The next Youth Mass will be March 13th at 5:30 pm with activities until 8:00 pm. Seniors, scholarship applications will be available that evening. Any senior that has been participating in Youth Group over the years is encouraged to apply.

We will be going to Sky Zone and Pizza Hut on March 20th. Permission slips will be available on March 13th. The cost for participating students of St. Mary Youth Group will be \$10. Feel free to invite a friend. The cost for non-members is \$15. In order to cut costs, we will use private vehicles for travel instead of buses. Any parents that would be able to drive please contact Eve Peters at 897-2828.

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 college education. 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.

The Catholic Medical Guild of NE Indiana presents a Works of Mercy: A Lenten Retreat on March 5th from 8:00 am—3:30 pm in the St. Vincent Life House on Wallen Road in Ft. Wayne for all healthcare workers. Please RSVP at www.fortwaynecma.com or call 260-222-6978 for questions.

Redeemer Radio Wants You! Volunteers don’t have time; they have heart. Redeemer Radio is looking for volunteers for the upcoming Spring Sharathon on April 27-29. Volunteer are needed for various jobs and responsibilities during their on-air fundraiser. Contact Director of Community Relations, Jennifer Zurbuch at Jennifer.Zurbuch@RedeemerRadio.com or call 260-436-9598 to learn more about how you can be a vital part of the Redeemer Radio Family.

Here are some Fish Fries for Lent in the area:

- St. Patrick Church, Arcola on March 11th from 4:00—7:00 pm. All you can eat fish, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, applesauce and dessert. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches available for kids. Adults \$10, Seniors 60 plus \$9, Children (5-10) \$5, children 4 and under free. Drive thru and carry outs available.
- Knights of Columbus in Garrett at the Garrett K of C Hall on Fridays during Lent from 4:00—7:00 pm. All you can eat with a variety of side dishes. Pop and water for purchase. Adults \$9 and Children 12 and under are \$5.

Natural Family Planning is a scientifically based, morally acceptable method of regulating conception based on daily observation and interpretation of the natural signs of fertility and infertility which occur in a women’s body. Using this knowledge, a couple can identify the days on which conception is possible should they desire to either achieve or to avoid pregnancy. There are NO harmful side affects. International studies confirm that, when used to avoid pregnancy, NFP has an effectiveness rate of 98-99% for a couple who has been properly instructed and who follows the method carefully. **Sessions for Engaged and Married Couples include 3 classes. It is necessary to attend all 3 classes in a series in order to be fully instructed in the method.** Sessions will be offered at the following locations for 2016:

- St. Charles Parish, Ft. Wayne, on March 15, March 29 and April 19.
- St. Vincent Parish, Ft. Wayne, on May 26, June 2 and June 30
- St. Vincent Parish, Ft. Wayne, on September 8, September 22 and October 13.
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Ft. Wayne, on November 7, November 21 and December 12.

All classes are from 7:00 –9:00 pm. The fee for the class series and materials is \$40.00 per couple. Please register online at www.diocesefwsb.org/Family at least one week in advance. For more information please contact the diocesan Office of Family Life at 574-234-0687.

