

# ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

228 N. Main Street, PO Box 700

Avilla, IN 46710-0700

Phone: 260-897-3261 Fax: 260-897-2284 email: [stmaryassumption@embarqmail.com](mailto:stmaryassumption@embarqmail.com)

Pastor: Father Daniel Chukwuleta

## Ministry Contact Persons

Secretary: Beverly Edwards

Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Hoover

Lectors: Arlene Lewis

Music: Barb Braley

RCIA: Katie Herendeen

Religious Education: Barb Braley

Servers: Melissa Cass

Ushers: Bryan Cass

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: Tom Peters

Scrip: Brandy Teders

Youth: Eve Peters

## St. Mary School

Phone: 260-897-3481

Fax: 260-897-3706

Website: [stmaryavilla.org](http://stmaryavilla.org)

Principal: Mrs. Jane Sandor

Secretary: Sara Lake

School Board: Jill Dunkel

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**  
**February 26, 2017**  
**EIGHTH SUNDY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**February 27-March 5**  
**MONDAY**  
Sir 17:20-24, Mk 10:17-27  
**TUESDAY**  
Sir 35:1-12, Mk 10:28-31  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Jl 2:12-18, 2 Cor 5:20-6:2  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
**THURSDAY**  
Dt 30:15-20, Lk 9:22-25  
**FRIDAY**  
Is 58:1-9a, Mt 9:14-15  
**SATURDAY**  
Is 58:9b-14, Lk 5:27-32  
**SUNDAY**  
Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Rom 5:12-19  
Mt 4:1-11

**HAPPENINGS IN THE PARISH**

**February 26-March 5**  
**Wednesday**  
**8:15am & 7:00 pm**  
Ash Wednesday Masses  
**Thursday**  
**8:00 am—6:00 pm**  
Eucharistic Adoration  
7:00 pm  
Knights of Columbus Meeting  
**Friday**  
**8:15 am**  
First Friday Mass  
**1:45 pm**  
Stations of the Cross  
**Saturday**  
**7:15 am**  
First Saturday Mass  
**After morning Mass**  
St. Vincent de Paul Meeting  
**Sunday**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**9:15—10:30 am**  
Religion Classes

**COLLECTION TOTALS**

**February 18 & 19, 2017**  
**Adult** \$4,799.00 **Loose** \$237.61  
**Children** \$38.30  
**Total Envelopes Issued:** 210  
**# of Envelopes Used this Week:** 101  
**Weekly Contribution Budget:**  
\$8,508.00  
**Special Collections**  
**Vigil Lights** \$24.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**February 27-March 5**  
**Monday** 7:15 am Francis Fischer  
**Tuesday** 7:15 am In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**  
**8:15 AM—Purgatorial Society**  
**7:00 PM—Paul & Ginny Christman**

**Thursday** 7:15 am Special Intentions D.G.  
**Friday** 8:15 am Herb Myers  
**Saturday** 7:15 am Pat King  
5:00 pm Carl Ely  
**Sunday** 8:00 am Clay Helmkamp  
11:00 am St. Mary Parishioners

**MASS MINISTERS**

**Ash Wednesday and March 4 & 5**

**USHERS**

**Wed 7 pm** Paul Demske and Jim Hullinger  
**Sat 5 pm** Gerry Schmidt and Brian Myers  
**Sun 8 am** Stewart Lewis and Dave Helmer  
**Sun 11 am** Jim Hullinger and Ralph Stark

**READERS**

**Wed 7 pm** Tina Ball  
**Sat 5 pm** Michelle Myers and Tom Sherwood  
**Sun 8 am** Jim Breckler and Christine Beck  
**Sun 11 am** Melissa Cass and Kathy Rorick

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**Wed 7 pm** Bill & Chris Freeman, Craig & Linda Van Gessel  
**Sat 5 pm** Jim Schmenk, Elaine Taulbee, Julea Diffenderfer, Pat Hoover  
**Sun 8 am** Ben & Brenda Helmkamp, Chuck Rhodes, Christine Beck  
**Sun 11 am** Brenda Weber, Kim Heshner, Jenny Litchfield, Bryan Cass

*Ash Wednesday is one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar, which opens Lent, a season of fasting and penance. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday. It comes from an ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting.*

*Ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us and are made from the blessed palm branches taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass. They also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine Mercy is of utmost importance during the Season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten Season with reflection, prayer and penance.*

*As we enter into this holiest time of the Christian year, may each of us grow in the love and grace of Jesus Christ who suffered, died and rose again to bring each of us Salvation.*

*Catholic.online*

**REFLECTS from Father Daniel...**Worry is a failure to understand Divine priority. St. Paul said in his letter to the Philippians 3:18-19, "For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears , conduct themselves as enemies of the Cross of Christ. Their end is destruction...their minds are occupied with earthly things?"

Today's gospel provides us with Jesus' approach to stress management: stop worrying about what you are to eat, drink or wear. Instead seek first the Kingdom of God. In other words, trust that God who knows what you really need will provide that for you. How often are we so preoccupied that we forget to look at the birds in the sky or the flowers in the field? How often are we so busy acquiring worldly things that we forget to give thanks to the one who provides?

The choice Jesus offers between serving God or money is really a choice between the true God and a false god, the god of the present age or the god of the most comfortable lifestyle. To serve, the Lord says that's impossible. Jesus offers us freedom from slavery to money and the worry that accompanies it. He offers us freedom to love, to be grateful, to build up the values which are truly lasting, those of His Kingdom.

Today, what does it mean to you to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His way of holiness" in your personal life and family life? Talk to God about your worries. What response do you hear in prayer? In times of uncertainty, William Shakespeare advised, "The fault dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves."

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*St. Mary of the Assumption*  
*Avilla, IN*  
**PARISH LENTEN MISSION**  
*March 5-7, 2017*  
**Sunday, March 5th @ 6:30 pm - Theme: FAITH IN FAMILY CRISIS**  
*Speaker: Deacon Jerry Kehrman*  
**Monday, March 6th @ 7:00 pm - Theme: PRAYER IN THE FAMILY**  
*Speaker: Brother Fidelis Maria (Franciscan)*  
**Tuesday, March 7th @ 7:00 pm - Theme: EXORCISM**  
*Speaker: Father Tom Shoemaker*  
***This evening will include St. Mary Lenten Penance Service (Reconciliation)***

**St. Mary School News** Purchase your **Burger King "You Can Lend A Hand" booklets** this weekend after Mass in the back of church, or contact the school office at 897-3481. They are \$3.00 with coupons for Burger King, Chili's, Ft. Wayne Komets and Ft. Wayne Mad Ants. Sales go directly to support our school. Sales end February 28th. Thank you for your support!

Congratulations to Dustin Teders who has earned the opportunity to move on to the fourth round of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition in Indianapolis on Sunday, March 12th.

**21st Century Scholars** is a program open to current 7th and 8th grade students who meet the eligibility and family income requirements. 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. Families can find more information on the website <http://www.ingov/21stcenturyscholars/2453.htm> to see if their student might qualify. Do not delay as there are deadlines at the end of this school year.

**Youth News** Next youth Mass and activities will be March 12th starting at 5:30 pm.

The Catholic Medical Guild is hosting a **Lenten Retreat for healthcare workers** on Saturday, March 11th at St. Vincent's Life Center and Church, with speaker Father Jerome Zeiler on Cultivating the Quiet in the Midst of a Noisy World. Mass and Adoration included in the day. Breakfast and lunch provided. Cost is \$10.00. Please RSVP at [www.fortwaynecms.com](http://www.fortwaynecms.com). Please call 260-222-6978 for more information/questions.

**'Live Joyfully'** The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, invite single Catholic women ages 18-42 to the upcoming "Live Joyfully!" free retreat on March 31-April 2. Come deepen your prayer life and focus on living joyfully in the day-to-day. Explore where God is calling you and ask questions about religious life. For more information or to register, visit [ComeandSee.SistersofProvidence.org](http://ComeandSee.SistersofProvidence.org) or contact Sister Editha Ben at 812-230-4771 or at [eben@spsmw.org](mailto:eben@spsmw.org).

**Redeemer Radio is looking for volunteers** for their Spring Sharathon from April 24-28. There are a variety of jobs and times available. To sign up, go to [RedeemerRadio.com](http://RedeemerRadio.com) and click on "Volunteer for Sharathon."

















