

# 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**  
**March 19, 2017**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**March 20-26**

**MONDAY**

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 23a

**TUESDAY**

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

**WEDNESDAY**

Dt 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**

Is 7:10-14, 8-10, Heb 10:4-10

Lk 1:26-38

**SUNDAY**

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Eph 5:8-14, Jn 9:1-41

**COLLECTION TOTALS**

**March 11 & 12, 2017**

**Adult** \$4,780.00 **Loose** 186.00

**Children** \$23.43

**Total Envelopes Issued:** 210

**# of Envelopes Used this Week:** 101

**Weekly Contribution Budget:**

\$8,508.00

**Special Collections**

**Vigil Lights** \$65.80

**Parish Savings** \$22.00

**Tuition Assistance** \$6.00

**Improvement Fund** \$304.00

**Catholic Relief Services** \$3.00

**Black & Indian Mission** \$7.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**March 20-26**

**Monday 7:15 am** Purgatorial Society  
**Tuesday 8:15 am** Ed & Jean Ryan and Family  
**Wednesday 7:15 am** Herb Myers  
**Thursday 7:15 am** Francis Meyer  
**Friday 8:15 am** Betty Kreiner  
**Saturday 7:15 am** Special Intentions of D.G.  
**5:00 pm** Adam Kacprowicz  
**Sunday 8:00 am** St. Mary Parishioners  
**11:00 am** Special Intentions of R.E.

**MASS MINISTERS**

**March 25 & 26**

**USHERS**

**Sat 5 pm** Jim Schmenk and Brian Myers  
**Sun 8 am** Dave Roesener and Dan Griffiths  
**Sun 11 am** Bryan Cass and Jim Hullinger

**READERS**

**Sat 5 pm** Rob Diffenderfer and Sara Cartwright  
**Sun 8 am** Chad Helmkamp and Steve Christman  
**Sun 11 am** Melissa Cass and Katie Herendeen

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**Sat 5 pm** Julea Diffenderfer, Pat Hoover, Theresa Meyer, Michelle Myers  
**Sun 8 am** Craig & Linda Van Gessel, Monte Van Gessel, Chuck Rhodes  
**Sun 11 am** Kathy Rorick, Brenda Weber, Ralph Stark, Kim Heshner

The next meeting of the **St. Mary Facilities & Capital Improvement Committee** (PFCIC) will be held Monday, March 27th @ 6:30 pm in the convent. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend.

St. Mary Parish has been approached with the opportunity to do a Parish Pictorial Directory. Is there someone or a group of individuals who would like to help organize this? If so, please contact the parish office this week at 897-3261.

**St. Vincent De Paul Collection** next weekend, March 25 & 26.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Next weekend, March 25 & 26, our diocese will be taking up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. By participating in this collection, you are responding to Jesus in disguise in some of the most marginalized communities of the world. The CRSC provides services for immigrants, humanitarian aid in the wake of natural disasters, refuge for the displaced and advocacy for peace and justice around the world. Let us join together in this collection to support those suffering and on the margins of society. If you want to learn more about the collection and the people who benefit, please visit [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief). Support the collection and answer the knock of Jesus in disguise.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades

Bishop of Ft. Wayne-South Bend

**REFLECTS from Father Daniel...** Everything in today's gospel started with a conversation between Jesus and the woman. At that moment His disciples returned and were amazed that He was talking with a Samaritan woman, a woman of questionable virtue, even within her own society. Yet, Jesus did not walk away. Rather, we experience the tenderness and compassion of Jesus as He encounters this Samaritan woman. Jesus helps her come to an awareness of her needs, of her true thirst. We, too, are invited to accept Jesus in order to quench our interior thirst for life, for meaning. It is only in God that we can experience the living waters that can satisfy. And, St. Paul reminds us that through Jesus' spirit, His grace has been poured into our hearts. The very source of our life, and hence that which can quench our thirst for meaningful life, is God within us.

We see a different response to this thirst in the first reading from Exodus. Israel has failed to trust the God who has saved her. Israel desires to serve herself and therefore threatens violence in order to have her thirst quenched. On the contrary, the Samaritan woman trusts her experience of Jesus and is freely given living waters. She is then able to witness to God's life within her, thereby bringing others to experience God's gifts of love and life. She teaches us that when we drink fully of the water Jesus offers, we will start evangelizing.

Like the Samaritan woman, we all stand in need of forgiveness, we all fail, we all need to be pardoned for something. The spiritual writer George MacDonald wrote: "God is easy to please but hard to satisfy." God wants to bring us to perfection. That cannot be accomplished through our own unaided efforts. With God's help the goal can be achieved.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

**St. Mary School News**  
**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS**

There are some openings on the school board this year. The positions that are open are: One representative from St. Mary parish WITHOUT children at the school and two representatives from any of our sending parishes. If you wish to run for school board and qualify for one of the positions mentioned above, please contact the school office at 897-3481 by Friday, March 24th.

**Thank you** to all who made this year's *You Can Lend a Hand* campaign very successful! With your help, we were able to raise over \$4,600 to help our school. As we end the year and determine needs for next year, a decision will be made as to how this money will be used. Last year's funds were applied to the purchase of the new Math textbooks.

If there are any 4th-6th graders interested in CYSC (Catholic Youth Summer Camp), there are informational brochures available in the school office. Space is limited to 80 campers with the registration deadline Wednesday, May 31st.

**Youth Group News** (6th-12th graders)

We send a big thank you to Mr. Helmkamp for being the MC for Youth Jeopardy last week. It was a blast!

Also thank you to all of our volunteer readers, servers, ushers and singers. We couldn't do it without you.

Last youth Mass for this school year will be April 23rd (the fourth Sunday due to Spring break and Easter). Come join us as we honor our seniors, announce this year's scholarship award winner, and welcome our new group of members (current 5th graders). Mass will begin at 5:30 pm with activities until 8:00 pm. Please call Eve Peters with questions at 897-2828. Visit us on Facebook-StMarysTLC.

Dear St. Mary Parishioners,

Accordingly to the calendar, Spring begins tomorrow, March 20th. That means summer is not too far behind and St. Mary Labor Day Festival will be here before we know it, September 4th.

As I look to this year's festival, I would like to find new ways to help it grow financially and people attending the festival, but at the same time, ease the load on St. Mary community families. I have chaired the festival for almost 10 years now and I feel it has become stagnant. I feel that in order to keep the festival alive and profitable, we need to look at revamping the festival and incorporate changes that may help the future of the festival.

As this is still early in the year, we need to start now to think what we can do differently, or add, to possibly make St. Mary Festival even better. Please share any and all ideas that you may have with me, or call the parish office at 897-3261, in the next month or so, hopefully before school is out for the summer, so that we have the summer to work through the details, get workers, get necessary materials, etc.

Thank you and God bless.

Bryan Cass

260-450-4199

Bryancasselectric@gmail.com

**Happenings In the Area**

Immaculate Conception Church, Kendallville, will be having their annual rummage sale on Friday, March 31, from 9:00 am—5:00 pm and on Saturday, April 1st, from 9:00—11:30 am. \$2.50 Bag Sale on Saturday.

Most Precious Blood Church, Ft. Wayne, will be having their annual Easter Candy & Bake Sale on Saturday, April 8th from 4:00—6:30 pm and on Sunday, April 9th from 8:00 am—12:00 noon.















