



December 1-2. 1st Sunday of Advent

As usual, the great Season of Advent begins, not by talking about Christmas, but about the Second Coming. We've had this theme already for the past two weeks, but there is a slight change of emphasis in the Scripture readings offered for this Sunday: here the tone is positive: it is the promise of what is to come that we contemplate. Even in the Gospel, though it talks of the dreadful signs that mark the end times, **we hear of a promise - liberation**. For this we should stand erect and hold our heads high. The central theme is that we welcome the coming of a person - Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah, and this is what links this Sunday to the coming feast of his birth: we are now preparing to celebrate how he once came: may these preparations also help us to prepare for him when he comes again.

"Your liberation is near at hand."

St. Mary School Biz

"Keep the Doors Open"

I would like to inform you concerning progress we are making in attempting to reach our financial viability. Monday, the 19th of November I met with the Executive Director of Stewardship & Development concerning our campaign. The purpose of this meeting was to align our campaign with archdiocese guidelines. Mrs. Moore was extremely helpful and provided much needed insight to help us protect our donors & our investment as it grows. I met with the archdiocese Chief Financial Officer to discuss the intricate points of completing the model financially for our school for 2019/2020. Monday, December 3rd, the above-mentioned officers & an assistant school superintendent of the archdiocese will visit St. Mary's. This meeting is to delve deeper into details concerning our parish & school. I hope you realize that we are diligently working to reach our goals. I am blessed to have accepted this position & meeting parishioner of St. Mary's has been a pleasure!

Bob Brookbank, Principal
St. Mary's School



St. Mary Family Faith Night

"Mary, the YES that changed the World"

Saturday, Dec. 8th, 6:00 pm (after 5:00 Mass)

Dinner, Presentation, Prayer & Activities!

Open to Whole Parish! Sign up in the back of church or contact Connie Powers to RSVP by December 1st. Email:

connie.powers@mystmarys.com or Call/Text: 513.310.4765

Prayer Shawl Ministry: We need more crochet-ers and knitters! You can help by attending Wednesday gathering or from home. Just give Connie a call at 812-926-0060. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Coming in January! "The Bible and the Virgin Mary, by The St. Paul Center for biblical Theology. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 9:15 am. This is a 12-session study. To sign up and have a workbook ordered, call Connie Powers.

Save the Date: Friday, December 7th. All Saints & St. Teresa Multi Parish YOUTH Dance. Grades 8-12 at St. John Campus.

United Catholic Appeal

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish Fall 2018	
Parish Goal	\$27,164
Amount Pledged	\$4,870
% of Goal	18%
Total \$'s Received	\$2,620
Parish Households	335
# of Pledges	17
Parish Participation	5%

Prayer: Let nothing disturb you, Let nothing frighten you, All things are passing; God only is changeless.

Patience gains all things. Who has God wants nothing. God alone suffices.

— St. Teresa's Bookmark

Second Collection - December 8/9 Retirement Fund for Religious

This annual appeal benefits some 35,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests; women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.



The Season of Advent



Advent Giving Tree

Would you like to purchase a gift for someone in need? Take an angel from the tree and bring back unwrapped gifts by next Sunday, December 9th. Monetary gifts may be placed in collection basket in an envelope marked "Giving Tree". To help deliver gifts from St. Mary's to the Clearinghouse, please remain after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday, December 9th.

Saturday, December 8th

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Vigil Mass: Friday December 7th at 7:00 pm
Mass. Saturday, December 8th at 9:00 am**

Village Organists Concert: Please join us for the annual Village Organists Concert at 2:00 P.M. on December 9 at St. John Lutheran Church, Mechanic Street. Organists from the downtown Aurora churches will each play two selections followed by carols with the audience. The event is free, but donations will be accepted to be shared by St. Mary's School and St. John School. A reception will follow the concert.

Lessons & Carols: Our St. Mary's School students will be presenting Lessons & Carols for the community on Wednesday evening, December 5th at 7:00 in the church. This traditional prayer service is based on the Church's Office of Readings and includes scripture readings, Advent and Christmas music, and prayer. Please plan to join us!

Mrs. Linda Rechtin and the "Adult Voices of Indiana" will perform a concert to benefit St. Mary School and Parish on Sunday, December 16th in St. Mary Church.

Are you interested in participating in the Christmas Liturgy? Join the 11:00 am Mass Music Group on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm for practice for the 9:00 am Christmas Mass. Our group needs a soprano. Contact Sandy Schmits at (812) 926-0943 with questions. Thank you.

**Next Week: Second Sunday of Advent
Second Collection
Retirement Fund for Religious**

Christmas Flower Collection: Donations for Christmas flowers will be accepted through

Advent. Envelopes are in the pews for your convenience. If you are making your donation as a memorial or in honor of someone, please be sure to write the information clearly on the envelope. Donations accepted after December 21st will be gratefully received, but names of memorials and honorees will not be included in print.

'Tis (almost) The Season: Rediscover the joy of Christmas with BEST ADVENT EVER, a free email program that will help you slow down and focus on what matter most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, you'll receive a short inspirational video, practical tips and real-life encouraging stories! Get ready for the best Christmas of your life! BestAdventEver.com/Advent18

Daughters of Isabella's Christmas Party will be held at Hillforest, Monday, December 10th from 5:-9:00 pm. Bring Secret Santa gifts and a covered dish. For more information, please contact Sandy Schmits at (812) 926-0943.

32nd Annual Live Nativity~ Friday, Dec.7 & Saturday, Dec. 8 from 5-9p.m. at St. Anthony Church (4773 Church Rd., Morris, IN) Live manger scene, Live animals, Local church/school choirs performing both indoor/outdoor throughout the evenings, sweet treats, hot beverages, All are welcome to this free event!

Parish Advent Penance Services (7:00 to 8:00 pm) Thursday, December 6th St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

Monday	December 12 th	St. Lawrence
Tuesday	December 11 th	St. Mary, Greensburg
Monday	December 17 th	Holy Family, Oldenburg
Wednesday	December 19 th	St. Louis, Batesville

Evening of Lights - Thursday, Dec. 6, 6:00pm
Archbishop Thompson will lead an Archdiocesan Christmas tree lighting and prayer service at the Catholic Center Assembly Hall, 1400 Meridian St, Indianapolis. Doors open at 6:00pm; Prayer Service begins at 6:30pm. The regular weekday Mass is at 5:15pm.



Special Advent Concert with Mike Davis

Dec. 3	St. John the Baptist Harrison	7:00pm
Dec. 7	Holy Guardian Angels Cedar Grove	7:00pm
Dec. 19	St. Joseph North Bend	7:00pm