

St. Joseph Church

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

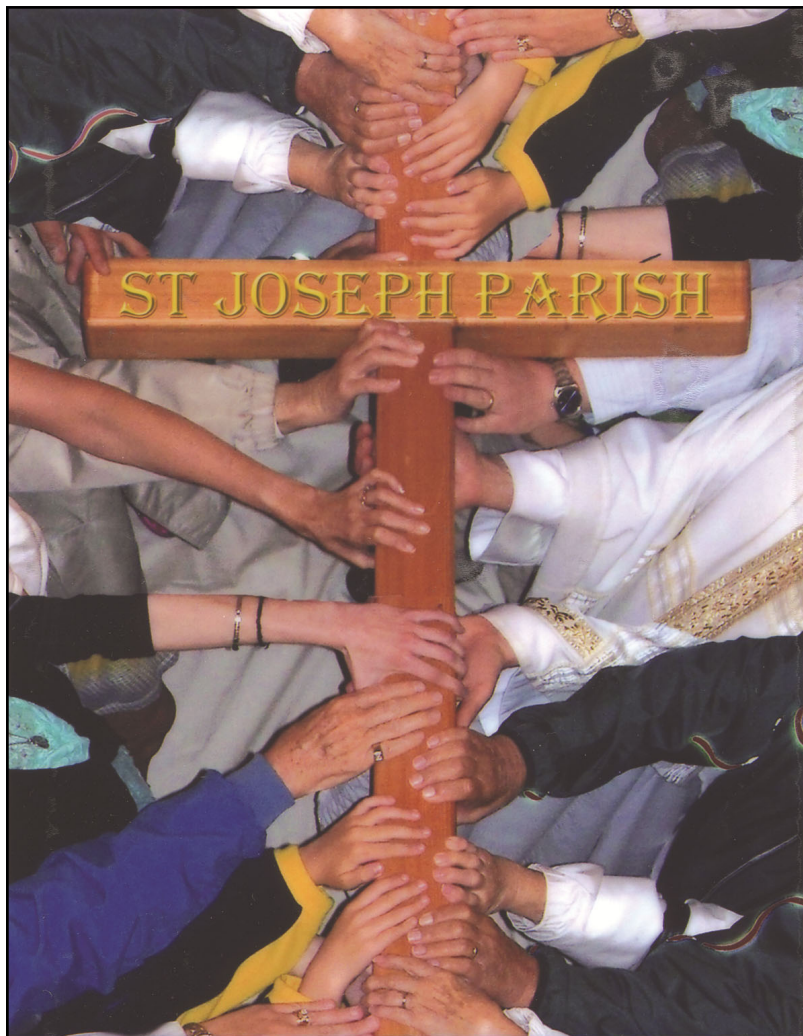
440 Joliet St., Dyer, IN 46311

(219) 865-2271

www.stjosephdyer.org

Rev. Ted J. Mauch, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Gary Blue, Deacon



**GATHERING IN FAITH,
DISCOVERING COMMUNITY**

Vision

Enthusiasm and Love of God and Neighbor to inspire and encourage interpersonal relationships in the St. Joseph Faith Community in order that an atmosphere of sharing our faith, time, talent, treasure and hospitality will expand the Kingdom of God.

Prayer

God of all peoples, how blessed we are to gather in faith at Eucharist, for it is in Your Word and Sacrament that we discover that we are the Community called the Body of Christ.

Our St. Joseph Parish Vision is filled with enthusiasm for loving God and neighbor because Your Kingdom expands, Creator Father, in an atmosphere of interpersonal relationships.

May we the members of St. Joseph Parish continue to grow in faith during our Pastoral Planning Process, so that our Parish Vision will be fulfilled as we discover that as parish we are Community in Christ.
Amen.

Welcome, New Parishioners

Please register by calling or stopping in the parish office.

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Parish Telephones

Parish Office 865-2271

Religious Education Office: 865-2271

Fax 865-2350

Staff Directory

Pastor: Rev. Ted J. Mauch, K.H.S.

Email: pastor@stjosephdyer.org

Office Manager: Patty Jarzembowski

Email: office@stjosephdyer.org

Director of Religious Education: Yvonne Weaver

Email: dre@stjosephdyer.org

Director of Music & Liturgy: William Coble

Email: music@stjosephdyer.org

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:00AM, 6:00PM

Weekday Masses

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9:00 AM

Holy Day Masses

Please see schedule inside bulletin.

Sacramental Life

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Sacrament of Baptism

12:00 Noon.

Arrangements must be made previously.

Instruction class for parents required.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Call the office any time.

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight: Steve Costa 219-365-4204

Bulletin Deadline

Monday 12:00 Noon, in writing.



Monday, December 11, Advent Weekday
 9:00 AM Deceased Members of the
 Florence Andrzejewski Family

Tuesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe
 9:00 AM Deceased Members of the
 John Kuhar Family

Wednesday, December 13, St. Lucy
 No 9:00 AM Mass

Thursday, December 14, St. John of the Cross
 9:00 AM Yvonne Weaver
 6:30 PM Family Rosary

Friday, December 15, Advent Weekday
 9:00 AM Lillian Smith

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16, Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent
 4:30 PM Kevin Andrew Garza

Sunday, December 17, 3rd Sunday of Advent
 8:00 AM The People of the Parish
 10:00 AM Mike Klausman
 6:00 PM For All the Departed Souls

Advent Penance Service
 St. Joseph Parish will have our Advent Pen-
 ance Service on Wednesday, December 13th
 at 7:00pm.

Sunday Readings Reflections
12/17/2017

First Reading — As a garden makes its growth
 spring up, so will GOD make justice spring up be-
 fore all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

Psalm — My soul rejoices in my God
 (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

Second Reading — Do not quench the Spirit. Do
 not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything;
 retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

Gospel — I am the voice of one crying out in the
 desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John
 1:6-8, 19-28).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lec-
 tionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Com-
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 reserved.

Christmas Liturgies
Advent Penance Service
 Wednesday, December 13 —7:00pm

Confessions
 Saturday, December 23—2:00-4:00pm

Christmas Masses
Sunday, December 24
 4:30pm & 10:30pm
NO 6:00PM MASS

Monday, December 25
 8:00am & 10:00am

Solemnity of Mary
Sunday, December 31
 6:00pm
Monday, January 1
 8:00am & 10:00am

Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion &
Altar Servers
Are Needed

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Commu-
 nion & Altar Servers for Christmas Masses
 are always on a volunteer basis. Please call
 the parish office, 865-2271, if you will be
 attending one of the following masses and
 can help.

12/24—10:30pm
12/25—8:00am & 10:00am



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NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, “Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God” (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

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Stewardship of Treasure Report
 December 2nd & 3rd

- Weekly Budget Amount Needed: \$6051.00
- Weekly Sunday Treasure Amount Collected: \$7740.00
- Charity: \$7.00
- Christmas Flowers: \$65.00
- Christmas: \$20.00
- Immaculate Conception: \$25.00
- Food Pantry: \$225.00
- 50/50 Raffle: \$205.00

Second Sunday of Advent
 Until Christ Returns.

Who shall we be and what shall we do while awaiting this Second Coming? Surely not standing around being idle. No—at work! The Bible readings early in Advent urge us to be at these works: giving comfort, straightening our pathways (both figurative and real), repenting, living without spot or blemish.

- ◆ Saint Paul asks, What sort of person ought I be?
- ◆ How does my life point to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?
- ◆ What one act of mercy will I do this week?

Christmas Decorating

The Environment & Art committee will have a special challenge with Christmas decorating this year. The 4th Sunday of Advent is Sunday, December 24th. We will need all hands on deck to transform our church and to give glory to God! We will be decorating:

- Thursday, December 21st at 6pm until ???**
- Friday, December 22nd at 6pm until???**
- Sunday, December 24th after the 10am Mass—must finish by 4pm!!!**

There are many opportunities to participate and times to fit the busy holiday season. Bring your ladders, tools and please ask your families and friends to also come to share in the fellowship. There are jobs for everyone—we need “decoration fluffers” and “light untanglers”. If you have a hard time getting around. Your stewardship makes this a very happy and enjoyable experience. The presence of Jesus in our midst really fills your heart with joy! Please mark your calendars now so you will be able to come.

COME AND SEE
March 17-19, 2018
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary
 Have you ever thought about the priesthood?
 Have you ever wondered what the seminary is like?
 Join us for an exciting weekend as we explore the ins and outs in the life of a seminarian.
 For more information, contact Peggy Guernsey at 219-962-8626.

PLEASE NOTE!

The parish office will be closed on Thursday, December 14th.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Tuesday, December 12

9:45am—50/50 Raffle drawing
 4:30-5:45pm—Religious Education
 Classes

Wednesday, December 13

7:00pm—Advent Penance Service

Thursday, December 14

6:00pm—Exposition, Rosary, Benediction
 7:00pm—Choir Practice

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Weekly 50/50 Raffle

The Number Drawn on November 28th
 Was # 356

The Winner Would Have Won \$287.50
 (This amount will be added to next week)

Drawings will be held every
 Tuesday at 9:45am
 in the Gathering Room

All registered members of St. Joseph Parish are eligible for the 50/50 raffle. **YOU MUST USE 2 SEPARATE ENVELOPES FOR THE CURRENT WEEK EVEN IF YOU ARE A MONTHLY, ELECTRONIC, HOMEBOUND OR WEEKLY CONTRIBUTOR. ALL CONTRIBUTORS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY MUST MAKE THEIR SACRIFICIAL CONTRIBUTION BY THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AND INDICATING ON EACH SUBSEQUENT WEEKLY ENVELOPE THAT IS PLACED IN THE COLLECTION BASKET THAT YOU ARE EITHER A MONTHLY, ELECTRONIC OR HOMEBOUND CONTRIBUTOR.**

You must use your current weekly treasure envelope with your sacrificial amount and the preprinted 50/50 envelope found in the pews with EXACTLY \$5.00. If you are paying by check, you must use **2 checks**, one for the weekly treasure made out to St. Joseph Church and the other check for \$5.00 for the 50/50 raffle made out to St. Joseph Church—50/50 Raffle.

The 50/50 raffle envelope is to be put in the collection along with your sacrificial weekly treasure envelope.

CSA News:

THE 2017 CAMPAIGN IS WINDING DOWN!

All payments must be received in the CSA Office by end of this month in order to be claimed on your 2017 tax return! Please complete your outstanding pledge by December 31.

Thank you for your generous stewardship to the CSA 2017 Campaign!

**Ministry Schedule
December 16th & 17th**

Extraordinary Ministers

4:30pm—Florence Andrzejewski, Joe Nowacki,
Judy Nowacki
8:00am—Carol Jablonski, Patti Pawl,
Tim Pawl
10:00am—Dennis Bork, John Hearne,
Tamara Fredrickson
6:00pm—Isabelle Skurka, Volunteer Needed,
Volunteer Needed

Lectors

4:30pm—Sue Blue
8:00am—Karen Ziolkowski
10:00am—Yvonne Weaver
6:00pm—Sharon Ruane

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

I am the Immaculate Conception.

—Words of Our Lady to St. Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, 1858

**Ministry Schedule
December 16th & 17th**

Altar Servers

4:30pm—Mary Shutoski, Lillian Smith
8:00am—Christopher Kline, Joe Nowacki
10:00am—Orla Fingar, Mary Howe
6:00pm—Lanie Taylor, Volunteer Needed



Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.

— *Mark 1:3*

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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CONTACT PERSON

Patty Jarzembowski

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS