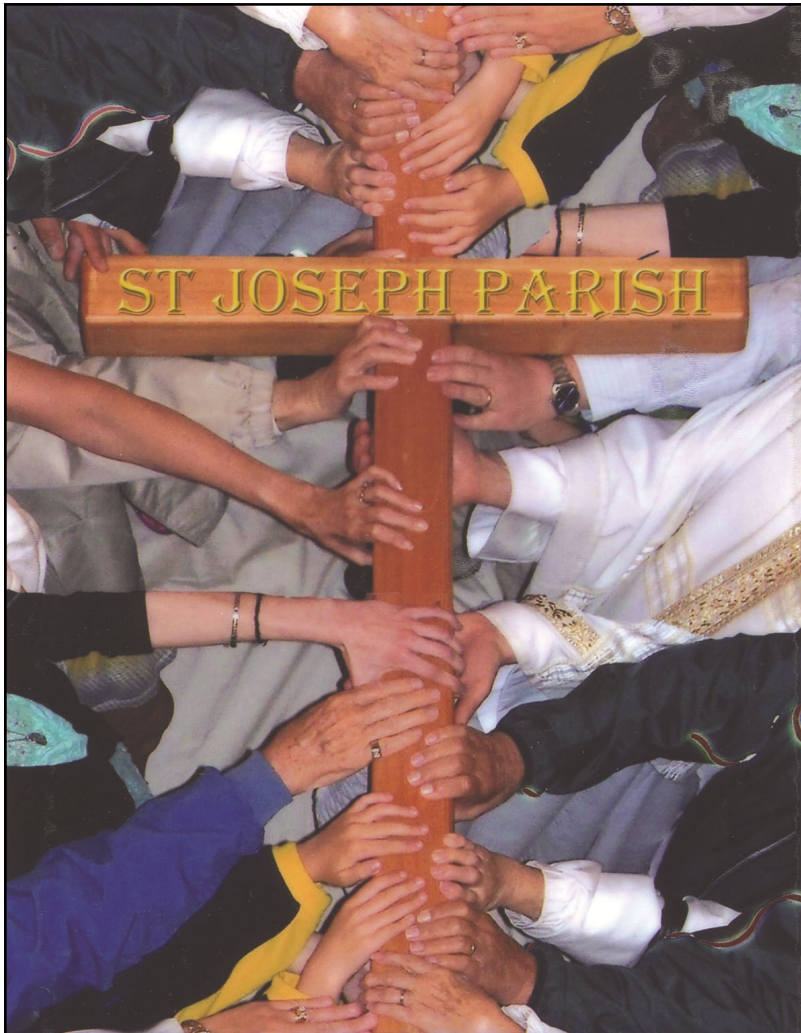


St. Joseph Church

February 14, 2016
First Sunday of Lent

440 Joliet St., Dyer, IN 46311
(219) 865-2271
www.stjosephdyer.org
Rev. Terry J. Steffens, Pastor



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 with Father Terry in person. Please call the parish office, 865-2271 for an appointment.

Parish Telephones

Parish Office865-2271

Parish Fax865-2350

Email.....dyerstjoe@sbcglobal.net

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

PASTOR: Rev. Terry J. Steffens

Religious Education Office:.....865-2355

Religious Education Fax.....865-3740

Email.....yseweaver@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR: Yvonne Weaver

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 Sick

Call the office any time.

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight: Ed Hebda 219-865-6922

Bulletin Deadline

Monday 12:00 Noon, *in writing*.



Monday, February 15, Lenten Weekday
 No 9:00 AM Mass
Tuesday, February 16, Lenten Weekday
 9:00 AM The Beaver Family
Wednesday, February 17, Lenten Weekday
 No 9:00 AM Mass
Thursday, February 18, Lenten Weekday
 9:00 AM Nick & Ester Zarlenga
Friday, February 19, Lenten Weekday
 9:00 AM Souls in Purgatory
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 20, Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent
 4:30 PM Ted Lebyk
Sunday, February 21, 2nd Sunday of Lent
 8:00 AM The People of the Parish
 10:00 AM The Deceased Members of the Michael Klausman Family
 6:00 PM George Steffens

Please Note!

There will be no 9:00am Mass on Monday, February 15th.

Save the Date!

Looking for an opportunity to go away with the Lord and learn about your Catholic Faith? Join us at the Diocesan Catechetical & Liturgical Day on Sunday March 6, 2016 beginning with noon Mass at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Chesterton? Hear Bishop Donald Hying and members from Casting Nets Ministries talk about the Year of Mercy and the New Evangelization. Cost is \$25 per person. Visit the Diocesan Webpage to register today: www.dcgary.org/conference.

Sunday Readings Reflections of 2/21/2016

Reading 1 Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Many of us have had the difficult experience of having to pack up and move on, leaving our homes and friends behind. We can imagine how Abram, later known as Abraham, might have felt when God called him to journey to a new and unfamiliar land. Despite his doubts and questions, Abram "put his faith in the Lord." He gave up everything, including his pagan gods, and accepted God's promise of countless descendants.

The covenant between God and Abraham was sealed in a special ceremony of sacrifice. The smoke and flame in that ceremony represent the presence of God moving between the broken animal halves. This is a sign that neither Abram, who stays with the sacrificial animals, nor God, whose presence is signaled, will break the covenant.

Reading 2 Philippians 3:17--4:1 or 3:20--4:1

Today's second reading reminds us that as Christians sharing in God's life we are already citizens of heaven. Neither our earthly homes nor our physical bodies are lasting. But one day our bodies will be transformed and become like the glorified body of the risen Jesus. This is the great and final hope of every Christian.

Gospel Luke 9:28b-36

Wouldn't it be wonderful to see your best friend transformed, or turned into his or her glorified self, right before your eyes? That's the kind of experience Peter, James, and John have in today's gospel. While they are up on a mountain with Jesus, they have a splendid vision of him in his glorified body. They see him talking with Moses and Elijah, two long-dead figures from the Old Testament. Moses represents the Law, while Elijah represents the prophets. In Jesus, both find the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation.

Pastor's Column

Dear Parishioners:

There is a temptation that wells up in us sometimes to down-play God's importance in our lives. To go-it-alone, that is, without God is a temptation for us especially if we are not impressed with how our lives are going. Sometimes we shake our heads in frustration because life is so unpredictable. And we end up asking "Why?" And then maybe we ask SIRI on the smartphone for an answer to our "Why?" No answer she gives will satisfy our "Why?" because the "Why?" is a mystery.

Our faith in Christ encourages us to quiet down about trying to explain the "Why?" and patiently BE silent in God's faithful wisdom within us. An explanation will surface that proclaims to us that all is well in Christ! We may retort that this is impossible. How can all be well when we are frustrated about life? God's response to us is that frustration is our idea, but that in Christ the ever faithful savior, we can let go of the frustration and more peaceably face every moment of life. This is Holy Communion: trusting Jesus is saving love in every moment. And to live with this oneness in Christ is faith.

When the temptation arises in us to down-play God's importance in our lives, especially at times of frustration, it is our faith in Christ the Savior of the world who brings us peace. SIRI on the smartphone is not the answer to the mystery of daily life. Any head-shaking is to only be nods up-and-down that acknowledges our faithful "yes" to Jesus in our every moment.

With Faith in Christ,

Fr. Terry

Stewardship of Treasure Report

February 6th & 7th

Weekly Budget Amount Needed: \$5825.00
Weekly Sunday Treasure Envelope Amount Collected: \$5071.10
Charity: \$0
Religious Education: \$0
Weekly Treasure Support Deficit: (\$753.90)
Fiscal Year Operating Budget Amount Needed: \$186,420.00
Fiscal Year Surplus: \$737.26
Food Pantry: \$0
50/50 Raffle: \$235.00

You Are Invited!

I joyfully invite all the people of our Diocese to celebrate a special Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels on Saturday, February 27th, at 10:30am, to mark the formal proclamation of our 2017 Diocesan Synod and the issuance of my pastoral letter which will lead off our preparations leading up to the Synod. I especially invite our clergy, religious, lay ecclesial ministers, pastoral council leadership and dedicated laity to pray with me that day, invoking the Holy Spirit on this important ecclesial work. The fruit of this pastoral process will be grown through prayer, reflection, conversation and action as we move forward together. Thank you for generous dedication to the saving mission of the Church.

- Bishop Donald J. Hying

Northwest Indiana Catholic

February is National Catholic Press Month and the perfect to time to consider the great value of receiving a Catholic publication into your home for an annual rate of only \$26. Renew or start a new subscription by dropping a check into the collection basket now through **Sunday, March 6, 2016**. Credit or debit card users go online to nwcatholic.com.

Religious Education

We Listen to the Holy Spirit

This week the young people of the parish preparing for Reconciliation reflected on the Holy Spirit who helps us make good decisions. The Holy Spirit gifts us with the courage to overcome obstacles that stand in our way of loving God and others, and with the wisdom to value God above all creatures. How do we as a parish show that the grace of the Holy Spirit is alive in us?

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, February 15
No 9:00am Mass

Tuesday, February 16
9:45am—50/50 Raffle drawing
4:30-5:45pm—Religious Education classes in school
6:30-8:00pm—Faith Reflections in Gathering Room

Wednesday, February 17
10am-Noon—Food Pantry pickup
6-7pm—Food Pantry pickup

Thursday, February 18
7:00pm—Choir practice

Friday, February 19
7:00pm—Stations of the Cross

Weekly 50/50 Raffle
The Number Drawn on February 2nd
Was # 361
The Winner Would Have Won \$210.00
(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.

2016-2017 Tuition Assistance Program Now ONLINE!

The tuition assistance application for the 2-16=2017 school year is now available on the Diocese of Gary website at <http://www.dcgary.org/catholic-schools.htm>. Click the Tuition Assistance Application tab and you will be directed to the application. Parish DO NOT have paper copies this year. If you require a paper copy, you must contact the diocese of Gary Office of Catholic Schools and request a copy be mailed to you.

Catholic families who belong to a Diocese of Gary parish and have their children enrolled in any diocesan school, Kindergarten—Gr. 12, may apply. Pre-school students are not eligible. A \$30.00 nonrefundable processing fee must accompany the application and will be paid via credit card, debit card, or checking account online. Approximately \$500,000 is distributed on the basis of need to assist Catholic parents in providing Catholic faith formation, strong academic programs, and safety for their children in our Catholic schools.

The filing deadline is Monday, February 22, 2016. This is the date that completed applications must be submitted online. PSAS will not accept any applications mailed directly to the company. This deadline will be strictly enforced. Parents will be notified of the results in writing by May, 2016.

Diocesan TAPT Retreat

The diocesan TAPT retreat returns to Camp Lawrence Mar. 11-13. TAPT is dynamic, life-changing spiritual retreat for high school teens sponsored by the Diocese of Gary Office for Youth. Cost: \$85. Deadline: Feb. 29. For complete details, visit garytapt.com, [facebook.com/garytapt](https://www.facebook.com/garytapt), or contact Kevin Driscoll: 219-769-9292 x229.

Ministry Schedule
February 20th & 21st

Extraordinary Ministers

4:30pm—Florence Andrzejewski, Joe Nowacki,
Judy Nowacki
8:00am—Carol Jablonski, Patti Pawl,
Tom Pawl
10:00am—John Hearne, Tom Heffernan,
Tamara Fredrickson
6:00pm—Irene Magana, Isabella Skurka,
Frances Vasquez

Lectors

4:30pm—Gary Blue
8:00am—Rita D’Arcy
10:00am—Religious Education
6:00pm—Michael Gallenberger

Ministry Schedule
February 20th & 21st

Altar Servers

4:30pm—Lillian Smith
8:00am—Joe Nowacki
10:00am—Andrew & Kevin Huffman
6:00pm—Lanie Taylor



First Sunday of Lent

February 14, 2016

The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart.

-- Romans 10:8

MAKE A WISH

When you love someone all your saved-up wishes
start coming out. --Elizabeth Bowen

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CONTACT PERSON

Patty Jarzembowski

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS