

St. Joseph Church

December 16, 2012

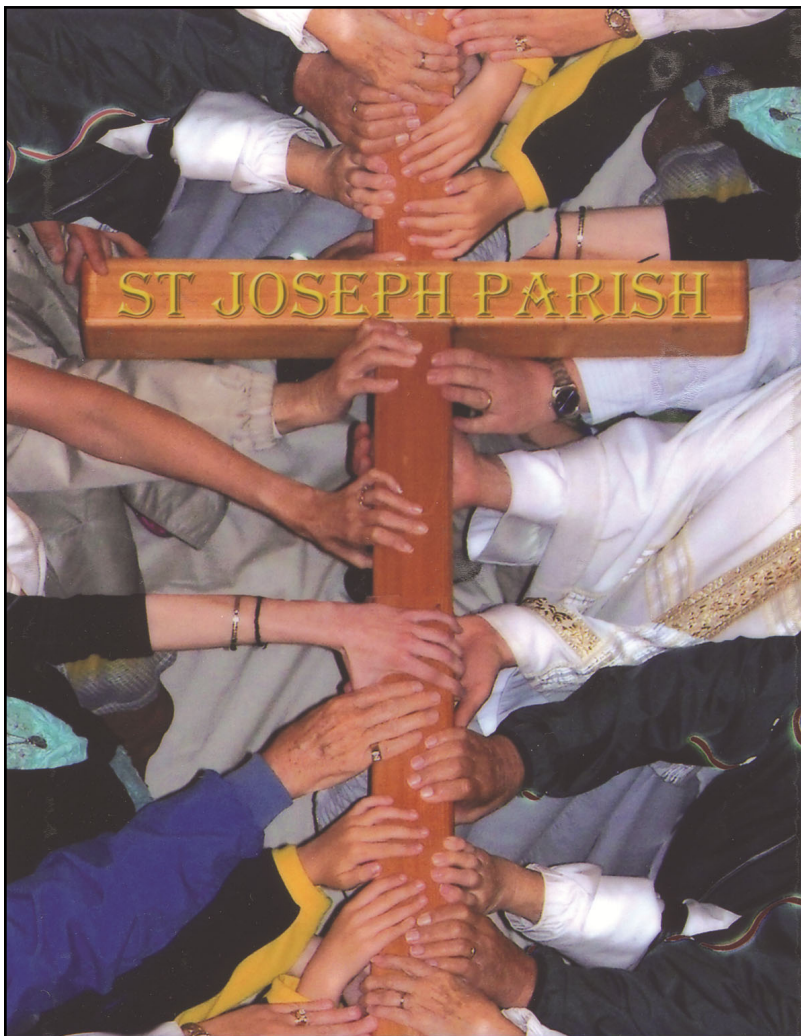
Third Sunday of Advent

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

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-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: Mike Kulik 708-906-6652

Bulletin Deadline

Monday 12:00 Noon, in writing.



Monday, December 17, Late Advent Weekday
 9:00 AM Poor Souls

Tuesday, December 18, Late Advent Weekday
 9:00 AM Florian Dziwicz

Wednesday, December 19, Late Advent Week-day
 No 9:00 AM Mass

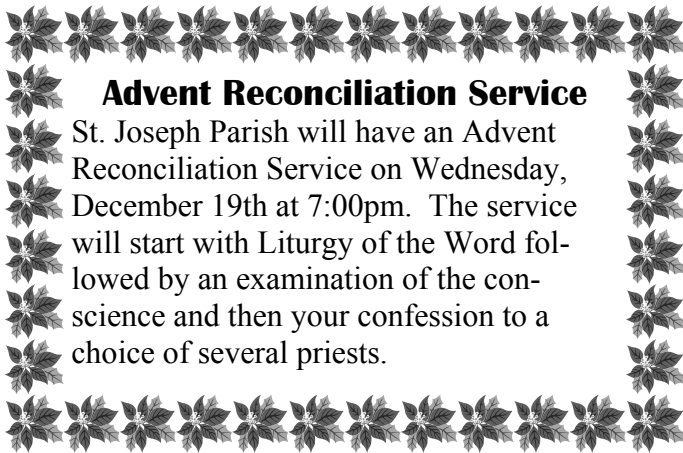
Thursday, December 20, Late Advent Weekday
 9:00 AM Rosemary Ford
 6:30 P)M Family Rosary

Friday, December 21, Late Advent Weekday
 9:00 AM Frank Kaczocha

Weekend Mass Intentions

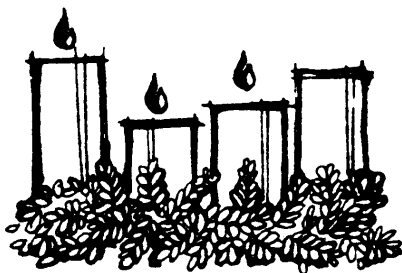
Saturday, December 22, Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent
 4:30 PM Michael Zerebny

Sunday, December 23, 4th Sunday of Advent
 8:00 AM St. Joseph Parishioners
 10:00 AM Gayle Tajer
 6:00 PM The People of the Parish



Advent Reconciliation Service

St. Joseph Parish will have an Advent Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, December 19th at 7:00pm. The service will start with Liturgy of the Word followed by an examination of the conscience and then your confession to a choice of several priests.



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Advent Prayer Experience

Third Sunday, December 18—2:00-4:00pm

Gathering Room

How do we pray? Join us as we reflect on upon the principal forms of prayer in the Christian tradition. Echoes of Faith will again act as a guide using video presentations with times to discuss and experience our own insights to suggestions for growing in the life of prayer.

Fourth Sunday, December 23, 2:00-4:00pm

Gathering Room

How do we look upon the prayerful life? The spiritual life is the response of the whole person to God, body and soul. Together lets discover the places in our lives in need of conversion and healing. Together lets explore the richness of the Our Father as expressing the heart of the gospel. Again, Echoes of Faith will be our video-assisted guide on this last experience of our Advent Prayer Journey.



Christmas Liturgies

Confessions

Thursday, December 20—11am
 Friday, December 21—7pm
 Saturday, December 22—3:30pm
 Monday, December 24—1pm

Mass Schedule

Monday, December 24

4:30pm Mass
 10:00 Parish Choir Concert
 10:30pm Mass

Tuesday, December 25

8:00am Mass
 10:00am Mass
No 6:00pm Mass



Pastor's Column

Dear Parishioners:

Advent Season is the beginning of a new Church year, clarifying once again that the coming of the Son of God as Man on Christmas is the turning point of our hope for the world. Somehow the thought of God being distant from us is unacceptable. And rightly so, for we are created in God's image which means we walk around radiating God's presence.

Getting ready for Christmas this Advent Season suggests coming to our Lord Jesus when the stress of Christmas preparation starts to get to us. Jesus sets us free from overdoing it these days before December 25th so that we are energized for a deeper rebirth in Christ's realness in our humanity.

God freely chooses to be one in us humans as revealed by the Son of God made human on Christmas. This Advent Season encourages us to prepare for Jesus' coming with deeper hope for the world.

Loving you in Christ,

Fr. Terry



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Stewardship of Treasure Report

December 1st & 2nd

- Sunday Ordinary Collection: \$6673.58**
- Children's Collection: \$24.50**
- Charity: \$42.00**
- Christmas: \$135.00**
- Christmas Flowers: \$26.00**
- Food Pantry: \$160.00**
- Immaculate Conception: \$66.00**
- 50/50 Raffle: \$440.00**

Weekly 50/50 Raffle

**The Number Drawn on December 4th
Was # 107**

The Winner Would Have Won \$1663.00
(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.** 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.

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL
OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday:** Third Sunday of Advent;
Las Posadas begins
- Tuesday:** International Migrants Day
- Friday:** St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins

**The Emmaus Program—
January 2013**

The Emmaus Program is a four week adult Formation Program for parishioners, teachers, and catechists. In January, Fr. Gerald Schweitzer will give a four week presentation on the “*The Catechism—An Authentic Fruit of the 2nd Vatican Council.*” Father Jerry is the Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Wanatah.

The Four Week Series will be on
Thursday evenings
January 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st
At
Nativity of Our Savior Parish
2949 Willow Creek Road
Portage

To Register: The registration form can be found in the brochure in the vestibules of the church or on the Diocesan website: www.dcgary.org.

For information please call: Anne Verbeke at 219-769-9292, ext. 280 or email: averbeke@dcgary.org. The fee: \$20.00 total for the 4 week session.

Please make check to: Diocese of Gary.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
- Tuesday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
- Wednesday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
- Thursday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
- Friday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
- Saturday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
- Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Impressionable

A child’s life is like a piece of paper on which every passerby leaves a mark.
—Ancient Chinese proverb

**TREASURES FROM
OUR TRADITION**

Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, “Gaudete Sunday,” is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: *Gaudete* is Latin for “Rejoice!” This year’s Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary’s visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy.

Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly, and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus, the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary’s presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned: it’s all because of the clams!
—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Christmas Decorating

The Environment & Art Committee needs your help with the Christmas decorations again this year—our schedule is very tight! We are thankful of the stewardship response in the past and hope to see more participants this year. Please say you will invest God’s gifts of your time and talents by coming to the church on December 23rd after the 10:00am mass and again after the 6:00pm mass. We especially need some strong young adults to help with the heavier lifting. There are jobs for the young and for our seniors too! Bring your tools and your ladders if you have them. Come and prepare our church and your hearts for our Savior’s birth!

Ministry Schedule
December 22nd & 23rd

Extraordinary Ministers

4:30pm—Lorraine Golon, Bonnie Gruver,
Lee Kobza
8:00am—Perla Garcia, Judy Kline,
Steve Kline
10:00am—Gary Blue, Sue Blue,
Barb Graegin, Connie Peschel (choir)
6:00pm—Allan Burgos, Ernie Leicht,
Constance Peschel

Lectors

4:30pm—Mary Flanagan & Gina Geiss
8:00am—Marianne Trembacki
10:00am—Mike Klausman & Diane Giovane
6:00pm—Brian Blue

Witnesses

Our actions are the best witnesses of our thoughts.
—Anonymous

Ministry Schedule
December 22nd & 23rd

Altar Servers

4:30pm—S. O'Drobinak
8:00am—J. Kline, K. Kline
10:00am—J. Hearne
6:00pm—Need Servers



Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2012

The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
— *Zephaniah 3:15b*

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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440 Joliet Street
Dyer, IN 46311

TELEPHONE

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CONTACT PERSON

Patty Jarzembowski

SOFTWARE

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS