



# ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Forming Saints for Christ and the Church*

DECEMBER 11, 2016  
THIRD SUNDAY  
OF  
ADVENT

512 North Perkins Street ✘ Rushville ✘ Indiana ✘ 46173  
Parish: 765-932-2588 ✘ School: 765-932-3639 ✘ www.stmaryrush.org

Rev. Jeremy M. Gries, Pastor.....frgries@stmaryrush.org  
Debbie Spaeth, Administrative Assistant .....dspaeth@stmaryrush.org  
Jill Kuntz, Administrator of Religious Education.....jkuntz@stmaryrush.org  
Sherri Kirschner, Principal.....skirschner@stmaryrush.org  
Theresa Komlanc, School Secretary .....tkomlanc@stmaryrush.org

### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday.....8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.  
Friday.....8:30a.m.-Noon

### Our St. Mary Prayer Line

Regenia Ripberger 765-561-1179  
Lisa Wagoner 812-593-0790  
765-663-2444

### Parish Council

Chair: Shawn Adkins

### Finance Council

Chair: Elbert Gordon

### School Commission

Chair: Susan Spaeth

### Baptism

Call the parish office for scheduling.

### Reconciliation/Confession

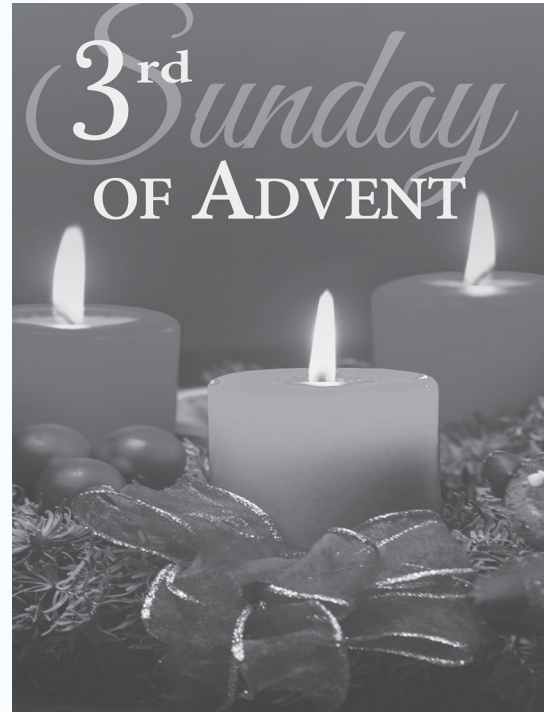
Saturday...4:30p.m.- 5:15p.m.  
Tuesday.....6:00p.m.6:25p.m.

**Marriage** Engaged couples must meet with the Pastor to complete initial marriage paperwork at least 9 months before the anticipated wedding date *and prior to making any other arrangements concerning the wedding.*

### Abortion Alternatives

Birthline Mon.-Fri. 317-635-4808

Option Helpline 24/7 1-800-712-HELP



**Gaudete Sunday – Third Sunday of Advent** – is a small moment of rejoicing in the midst of our Advent preparations. We light the “pink” candle and I get the opportunity to wear once again the parish’s new Gaudete/Laetare “rose” vestment. A special thanks to the St Mary Sodality for providing the new vestment for the parish. It is lovely.

In a special way, St Mary parish can rejoice (“Gaudete”) in **Joe Hoffman**. Joe has been attending St Mary’s for several years. After much prayer, private catechesis, and preparation, he is excited to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church this Saturday at the 5:30p Mass. He is already partially united to the Catholic Church by our common Baptism, but he will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and his First Holy Communion. In speaking with Joe, one of the great desires to join the Church is the Eucharist. He spoke, almost with tears welling up in his eyes, of his great desire to receive Jesus’s Body and Blood in Communion. Would that we could all be so eager to receive the Lord Jesus each time we approach the altar. Would that this Advent season of preparation would stir within us the great desire to welcome Jesus anew. Joe – welcome to the parish and welcome to Full Communion with the Catholic Church. We rejoice in you, your calling, and Christ who brought you to this place and time.

In a special way, St Mary parish also rejoices in **Mr. Steve Pavey and Mrs. Crystal Bulmer** who were married here at St Mary on Friday, December 9. The greater parish family wishes them a long and happy marriage full of life and love. Please pray for and actively support happy, healthy, holy marriages after the example of the ‘heavenly’ marriage of Mary and Joseph.

Lastly, we as a parish community can rejoice in the amazing Mercy of the Father won by the Son and given by the Spirit in the tender Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our parish **Lenten Penance Service** will be this coming **Wednesday, Dec 14 starting at 6:30p**. We will have four additional priests here to assist in dispensing God’s Mercy. Whether it’s been a month, a year, or longer (!?!), this Sacrament is for you. Come encounter Christ and rejoice in His forgiveness.

Peacefully, Patiently, Prayerfully enter into **ADVENT** and arrive ready for *Silent Night...*

+

St Mary, Expectant Mother, pray for us. ~ Fr. Gries

## Mass Schedule: December 12 - 18

<b>Monday</b>		No Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:30p.m.	William Shanahan
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:30a.m.	Steve Harpring
<b>Thursday</b>	8:30a.m.	Dean Fish
<b>Friday</b>	8:30a.m.	Ruth Stuckey
<b>Saturday</b>	5:30p.m.	St. Mary Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30a.m.	Bill & Jean Moran
	10:00a.m.	Don Meyer

Advent Penance Service and First Reconciliation -  
Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30p.m.



The Giving Tree

**GIVING TREE:** Gifts are due back to St. Mary Catholic school on December 12. Thank you so much for helping spread some Christmas cheer.

Monetary donations are now being accepted for Christmas flowers. Envelopes are at church entrances. Fill out the envelope and drop it into the regular Sunday collection.



December Birthdays - Homebound and Nursing Homes:

December 16 - Elverna Comer  
December 24 - Martha Todd

The Children's Choir will be singing TODAY, December 11, beginning with practice at 8:40a.m. We still have plenty of room, if you would like to join us. Tentative practice time for the 4p.m. Christmas Eve Mass will be on December 18 at 8:40a.m. Questions can be directed to Anna Jo Richards at annajorichards@gmail.com or 765-932-3117.



We would like to thank everybody who sent cards, phoned or verbally wished us a Happy 60th Anniversary. *Paul and Dorine Rosfeld*



**Joe Hoffman** will be Confirmed and receive First Communion on Saturday, December 10.  
**Elaina Rose Dierckman**, daughter of Kenny and Jill Dierckman, will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, December 10.  
Welcome to Joe and Elaina!



## Liturgical Roles

### Servers – December 17 & 18

Sat. 5:30p.m. Macy & Nick Hoeing, Katie Ripberger  
Sun. 7:30a.m. Addison Ballenger, Glen Harpring,  
Bradley Krieger  
10:00a.m. Isabella Pavey, Clara & Sofia Kemple

### Lectors - December 17 & 18

Sat. 5:30p.m. Jonathon Blankman  
Sun. 7:30a.m. Regenia Ripberger  
10:00a.m. Kevin Banks

### Extra-Ordinary Ministers - December 17 & 18

Sat. 5:30p.m. Bob Dwenger, Barb Musgrave,  
Rita Corn  
Sun. 7:30a.m. Ken & Nancy Schroeder, Carol Yager  
10:00a.m. Laura Ash, Amaranta Kemple,  
Theresa Komlanc

### Ushers for December 2016

Sat. 5:30p.m. Bruce Fenimore & Steve Schwering  
Sun. 7:30a.m. Kevin Dolan & John Niehoff  
10:00a.m. Kevin Mahan & Eric Wagoner

### Ministers-to-the-Sick

Dec. 12 Joan Meo Dec. 19 Linda Jenkins

### Money Counters

Dec. 12 Kathy Dean, Debbie Banks, Sheila Zwickey,  
Robin Land  
Decd. 19 Rose Hoeing, Jane Niccum, Linda Shanahan,  
Margie Liggett

### Food Pantry

Dec. 14(Work Pantry) Dave Moeller & Laura Ash

Bulletin Advertising: Jeff McGuinness, LPi Advertising Sales Executive, was at St. Mary's recently. If you would like to advertise on the back of the bulletin but were not contacted, please call Jeff at 1-800-477-4574, ext. 6632 or E-mail-jmcquinness@4LPi.com.

Food Pantry Committee Member Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2017, at 6p.m. in the rectory conference room. This is the annual meeting, and it is important that all members attend. New members are always welcome!



### Faith Opportunity BIBLE STUDY:

Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
School Multipurpose Room  
Bring your Bible & Catechism!  
*Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom*

Dec. 14 Acts 13 - 14 - Paul's 1st Missionary Journey  
Dec. 21 Acts 15 - 16 - Jerusalem Council & 2nd Journey  
Jan. 4 Acts 17 - Converts & Conflict

**Sunday Collection**  
**December 4, 2016**



Adults (128 Envelopes + 20 Loose Checks)	\$	7,938.00
Youth (2 Envelopes)	\$	2.00
Loose	\$	329.30
Total	\$	8,269.30
Weekly Budget (2016/2017)	\$	-8,000.00
Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)	\$	+269.30 ☺
Sunday 12/4/16	\$	8,269.30
Regular Maintenance & Utilities	\$	115.00
Preserving Our Heritage	\$	1,025.00
Votive Candles	\$	55.00
Religious Retirement	\$	50.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	245.00
Food Pantry & Assistance	\$	677.00
TOTAL 12/4/16	\$	10,436.30

Mass Attendance: 12/4/16 - 582

Retirement Fund for Religious: Aging religious need your help. Catholic senior sisters, brothers and priests have offered their lives in service to others-education of the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously today.

Rush County Chorale will be presenting its annual Christmas Concert at the Laughlin Center on December 17 at 7:30p.m. and on December 18 at 2:30p.m. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased at the door or from Carolyn Sorber or Debbie Bruce.

He is the Light of the World! Enrich your faith this Advent and Christmas with special programming throughout the season on EWTN. Attend Mass in Vatican City with Pope Francis, enjoy concerts from Europe and travel to the sacred sites of the Holy Land. Find EWTN by visiting [www.ewtn.com/channel\\_finder](http://www.ewtn.com/channel_finder).



Please mail your 2016/2017 United Catholic Appeal pledge card directly to the Archdiocese or drop into the Sunday collection. Even if you cannot pledge at this time, mark your card "0" and return.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pledge Cards</u>	<u>Pledge Amount</u>
12/1/16	180	\$35,635
<b>Goal</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>\$14,255</b>
<b>% of Goal</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>250%</b>

**Holiday Mass Schedule**

December 24 - 4:00p.m., 6:00p.m. and 12 midnight  
December 25 - 9:00a.m.

December 31 - 5:30p.m.  
January 1 - 7:30a.m. and 10:00a.m.



REGISTER TO  
**RING**

The St. Mary Youth Group will be ringing the bell on December 13 from 5-6p.m. at Kroger.



Thank you to those who have donated hygiene items, food and money during this holiday season. Please continue to remember those in need throughout the year.

Items always needed for the pantry are: cereal, pork and beans, canned fruit and canned soup.



Thank you to Copeland for their food and monetary donations to the St. Mary Food Pantry.



Thank you to the Rushville FFA Chapter for their donation of over 100 cans of food to the St. Mary Food Pantry. Pictured is Adam Neuman who delivered the donation.