

St. Joseph Church

January 5, 2025

Epiphany of the Lord

440 Joliet St., Dyer, IN 46311

(219) 865-2271

www.stjosephdyer.org



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

Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Parish Telephones

Parish Office:..... 219-865-2271

Religious Education Office:

(At St. Maria Goretti)..... 219-322-6124

Staff Directory

Pastor: Rev. Leo Gajardo

Email: pastor@stjosephdyer.org

Pastoral Associate & Building & Grounds

Coordinator: Deacon Gary Blue

Email: buildings@stjosephdyer.org

Office Manager: Patty Jarzembowski

Email: office@stjosephdyer.org

Assistant to Office: Mary Marszalek

Email: assistant@stjosephdyer.org

Director of Religious Education: Kathy Hansen

St. Maria Goretti

Email: kathyh@smgdyer.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, Wed., Thurs, Fri: 9:00 AM

Holy Day Masses

Please see schedule inside bulletin.

Sacramental Life

Sacrament of Reconciliation (*Confession*)

Saturday 3:00 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: Randy Piscitelli 815-258-6923

Bulletin Deadline

Monday 12:00 Noon, *in writing.*

PLEASE LIKE ST. JOSEPH PARISH ON FACEBOOK



Monday, January 6, Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM For the Souls of Art & Marion Beckman

Celebrant: Fr. Krolczyk

Tuesday, January 7, Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Anna & Carolyn Heard

Celebrant: Fr. Leo

Wednesday, January 8, Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Colleen Quinn

Celebrant: Carmelite Fathers

Thursday, January 9, Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Martin Trombetta

Celebrant: Fr. Leo

Friday, January 10, Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Eleanor Morrissey

Celebrant: Carmelite Fathers

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 11, Vigil: Baptism of the Lord

4:30 PM Mary Beth Kucka

Celebrant: Fr. Leo

Sunday, January 12, Baptism of the Lord

8:00 AM Fr. Charles Fanelli

Celebrant: Fr. Leo

10:00 AM Rosemary Levene

Celebrant: Fr. Leo

6:00 PM The People of the Parish

Celebrant: Fr. Leo



Environment & Art Committee

Needs your help to remove the Christmas decorations in our church again this year. If you have helped with installing the Christmas decorations previously, maybe you can lend a hand now? If you are a seasoned pro—we need your help too! Christmas un-decorating will begin on **Saturday, January 18th at 10:00am**. We especially need some strong young adults to help with the heavier lifting. There are jobs for the young and for our seniors too—no experience is required!



Lake County Right to Life

The Diocese of Gary Office of Pro-life Activities and Lake County Right to Life invite you to join us at the annual March for Life Indianapolis on January 22, 2025.

We will be traveling via a premium coach bus. Registration and prepayment is required. Cost is \$35 per person which includes a box lunch for the way home.

Youth Rally and Mass are being hosted by the 5 Dioceses of Indiana. The fight for the right and dignity of life is not over!

Come and be a voice for the voiceless.

For more information and to register, go to the dcgary.org events page. Or call Roseanne at 219-769-9292 x 88259.



Stewardship of Treasure Report

December 21st & 22nd

Weekly Budget Amount Needed:

\$9100.00

Weekly Sunday Treasure Amount

Collected: \$9875.69

Charity: \$447.00

Religious Education: \$2.00

Christmas: \$1840.00

Memorial Flower: \$115.00

Food Pantry: \$665.00

50/50 Raffle: \$325.00



Stewardship of Treasure Report

December 28th & 29th

This will be in next week's bulletin

Helping Hands Food Pantry

There will be a second collection next weekend, January 11th & 12th for our Food Pantry.

Dear Friends,

I am still as surprised about becoming pastor of St. Joseph as you probably are. When Bishop McClory asked me to meet with him in late October, I never anticipated that he would ask me to take on this important responsibility, in addition to continuing to serve as pastor of St. Maria Goretti and as director of the diocese's Diaconate Formation Program. At the same time, I am very grateful to God for the opportunity to journey with you in faith as your pastor, and I look forward to getting to know you all.

I must confess that since being asked to take on this additional assignment, I have experienced great peace from the Lord. That's not because I am under any illusion that navigating all three of my assignments will be easy. In fact, I fully anticipate that there will be bumps along the way and that I will get some bruises too. But the peace I have experienced comes from the fact that, over and over in my life and ministry, I have experienced the Lord doing new and wonderful things for me and those I serve. I don't know, at this time, what those new and wonderful things that God wants to do for us here at St. Joseph and at St. Maria Goretti, but I am sure God will reveal them to us in his good time.

I find great hope and encouragement in the account of the magi's visit to Jesus that we hear proclaimed in the Gospel this Sunday. Those wise men allowed God to lead them by a star in search of the newborn king of Israel. They didn't know very much when they set out on their journey of faith. They didn't know where the star would lead them, nor even the name of the newborn king. They set out in faith, they asked for guidance, and they were responsive to the Word of God. It seems to me that the example of the magi offers us insight into how we should embark on our journey together.

Like the magi, we should begin our journey together in faith—faith that the Lord wants to lead us to greater and deeper communion with him, with each other, and with our brothers and sisters all around us. Also like the magi, we need to be willing to seek guidance from others and to ask important questions about what God is doing for us and with us. Finally, in imitation of the magi, we need to be willing to respond generously and lovingly to what God reveals to us, especially through his Word.

Which brings me to some details I want to share with you about my immediate plans for my time with you. First, I plan to write a weekly column in the bulletin, offering some reflections on the Word we hear proclaimed at Mass on Sundays. It is one way, in addition to the Sunday homily, that I try to focus our prayer and reflection on the Word of God. I have written such a column since arriving at St. Maria Goretti in July of 2022, and I would like to do the same at St. Joseph. My sense is that most I will write the same column for both parishes most weeks, but there may be times, like this week, when I write a specific message to one or the other parish.

Second, you will see in the bulletin a one-page *lectio divina* guide with the Gospel for next Sunday. *Lectio divina* is an ancient form of prayer that invites us to ponder and savor God's Word. I find it so enriching to have the Sunday readings, especially the Gospel, "accompany" me throughout the week, which helps me welcome the Word of God proclaimed at Mass the following Sunday. I would like to invite all of us, as a parish, to make the upcoming Sunday Gospel a kind of "companion" for our week. And so, every week, you will find in the bulletin the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday, along with a *lectio divina* guide, which we can use during the week to prepare ourselves to welcome the Word on Sunday.

Finally, to begin to get to know all of you, I plan to celebrate all the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses this weekend and the weekends of January 11-12 and 18-19, as well as February 1-2, 8-9, and 15-16. I will celebrate the Masses at St. Maria Goretti on January 25-26 and February 22-23. I hope that by the end of February we will have a clearer sense of how I will navigate celebrating Sunday Masses at both St. Maria Goretti and St. Joseph.

Beyond this, I don't have any specific information or answers I can provide you about our time and service together. But I assure you that I am excited to discovering with you the great things God wants to do with us.

Peace,

Father Leo



Lectio Divina for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

We begin our prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

(Collect, Baptism of the Lord)

Reading (Lectio)

Read the following Scripture two or three times. Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Meditation (Meditatio)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

What word or words in this passage caught your attention?

What in this passage comforted you?

What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Prayer (Oratio)

Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you

with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Contemplation (Contemplatio)

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

The people were filled with expectation. For what do I hope? How often do I expect too much from myself or others?

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. What can I do to grow in humility? How can I cleanse my heart of selfishness and pride?

You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased. When have I felt that the Lord is pleased with me? How can I treat those I meet as beloved children of God?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! you are clothed with majesty and glory, robed in light as with a cloak.

You have spread out the heavens like a tent-cloth;

You have constructed your palace upon the waters. You make the clouds your chariot; you travel on the wings of the wind. You make the winds your messengers, and flaming fire your ministers.

How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have wrought them all -- the earth is full of your creatures; the sea also, great and wide, in which are schools without number of living things both small and great.

They look to you to give them food in due time. When you give it to them, they gather it; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to the dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

(From Psalm 104)

Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

Recall your baptism by praying and meditating on the Apostles' Creed.

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Weekly 50/50 Raffle

**The Number Drawn on
December 23rd was # 375**

The Winner Would Have Won \$345.00

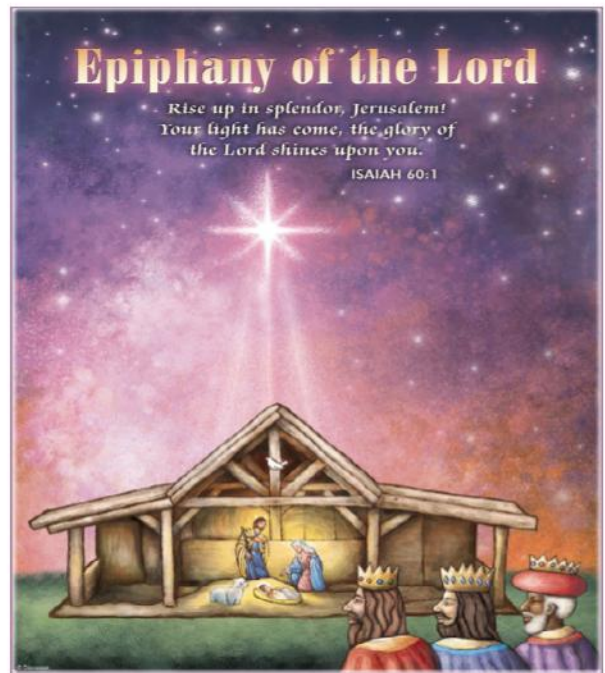
(This amount will be added to next week)

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Tuesday, January 7
9:45am—Gospel reflections in Gathering Room immediately after mass.
9:45am 50/50 Raffle Drawing

Wednesday, January 8
6:00pm—Parish Life meeting

Thursday, January 9
6:00pm—Evening Prayer & Holy Hour



The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



**Open Invitation:
Traveling Vocation Cross**

There is a sign-up schedule for the Traveling Vocation Cross for parishioners to bring home for a week with daily prayers provided by a booklet plus a blessing with Traveling Cross Bag.

Thank you for your participation.

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