

October 1, 2023

A Note from Fr. José Arroyo

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

During this parish year of the Eucharist Revival, we have been encouraged to dive deeper in our relationship with the Lord, especially in the Eucharist. We have been encouraged to consider spending time before the Lord in Adoration, whether at Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament on Fridays (7 a.m.-7 p.m.) or stopping in the church during the day (before or after work/school). Or if you are retired, you can visit any time of the day from 6 a.m.- 9 p.m. An interesting challenge has been to increase our attendance at daily weekday Masses. Remember that we have Masses every day, including Monday and Saturday mornings, which we previously did not have. We also have the opportunity to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation 10 times a week, pray the Rosary 10 times a week and experience Adoration within the context of Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament 10 times a week. How have we responded? Have we made a conscious effort to make this possible? Are we making extracurricular activities rule our weekly schedules, including during the weekends or are we trying to make an effort to challenge ourselves? I run into people at 5 a.m. at the gym every now and then. For the average person, that is a huge sacrifice. But are we willing to make that same effort for the health of our souls?

This past week we lost three parishioners, and we want to pray for the repose of their souls, namely, Matt Weber (who will be buried in Lafayette, IN), Jim Schmitt who's funeral will be this Wednesday at 11 a.m., and Kathleen Fry, who's funeral will be this Thursday at 11 a.m. When we are confronted with the deaths of our beloved parishioners, we are reminded

that life is a gift, and it is very fragile. We are grateful for the sense of community, and we are encouraged to cling to God and our parish family with greater grip.

Recently, I have seen the flourishing of many of our new ministries, including the new Bible Studies, named "The Passion for the Eucharist." This is the fruit of prayerful discernment between myself and the staff, along with the encouragement of Diocesan personnel and recommendations of other experts in Church renewal groups. They all agree that there is a need for reviewing apostolates and ministries over the years. This leads to a breath of fresh air and allows for new leadership to share fresh ideas that are good, true, and beautiful within our faith in a spirit of humble service to the Kingdom of God. I am very grateful for our Bible Study team and those who have already found it a blessing. I want to continue to foster a spirit of positivity and unity to all those who search to deepen their love for God and the Scripture. As the Book of Hebrews says: "The word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart." Jesus is the Word incarnate and He appointed apostles to lead His Church. They in turn would lay hands on other men who would continue their job. In our Church, God has provided a new Bible Study Team which is helping us learn the Biblical foundations of our faith, particularly as they are found in Scripture. The Biblical topic selected to facilitate the Bible Study has been the very relevant topic of the Eucharist. I want to reiterate that this is indeed a Bible Study, and that Fr. Mitch Pacwa is very competent in explaining thoroughly his knowledge of Sacred Scripture (since he knows Greek, Hebrew, and many other languages) in a way that is easy for the average person to understand. This Bible Study is the only one

that is approved at our parish at this time and I thank those who have participated of the previous formats and are now participating of the new format. Your experience and humility in experiencing something new is well appreciated and needed. I pray and hope that we continue to grow in our knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures and in communion with our universal, diocesan and parochial Catholic Church which should lead us to a more devout celebration of the Eucharistic celebration on a weekly or daily basis.

May the Eucharist Revival leave our hearts burning as the disciples on the way to Emmaus who said: "Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

Annual Life Chain for Whitley County

Right to Life of North Central Indiana is sponsoring the annual Life Chain on Sunday afternoon, October 1, from 1:45 to 3:00 pm (rain or shine). Participants will stand along Main Street in downtown Columbia City holding non-graphic signs provided at no cost. Those who cannot stand are welcome to bring a chair. Signs can be picked up on the east side of the Whitley County courthouse beginning at 1:30 pm on October 1. For more information, go to: www.nci4life.org.

ATTENTION, ATTENTION

This coming Monday and Tuesday (10/2 and 10/3), we will be having our east side parking lot including the community center parking lot, resealed and painted. This means the east side entrance to the church will be closed to the public.

The west entrance facing Line Street, will be open to enter the church. The two parking lots across Line Street will be available to use. Please feel free to use the entrance on Line Street for Monday and Tuesday. Call Kim at

the office if you have any questions. Thank you! 260-244-5723

Collections for September 24, 2023

<u>Adult Offering Envelopes</u>	\$ 1,779.00
Loose	\$ 296.61
Candles	\$ 32.00
Repair Fund	\$ 25.00
CCD	\$ 50.00
Communications	\$ 20.00
Fr. Dee De Mission Appeal	\$ 2,265.00
World Mission/All Souls Day	\$ 40.00
Sidewalks	\$ 100.00
Bulletin Ads	\$ 350.00
Total in pews:	<u>\$ 4,957.61</u>
<u>Online Collections</u>	
Reg. Envelopes	\$ 1,102.00
Repair Fund	\$ 55.00
Second Collection	\$ 111.00
Total Online	<u>\$ 1,268.00</u>

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in

Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sept. 30th St. Jerome (Saturday)

9:00 a.m. † Larry Reynolds

5:00 p.m. † Albert Andreas

October 1st Twenty-Sixth (Sunday)

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:30 a.m. † Issac Elliott

2:00 p.m. † Rubén González

(Eucharistic Adoration one hour before each Mass)

(Holy Rosary 30 minutes before each Mass)

Oct. 2nd Holy Guardian Angels (Mon.)

8:00 a.m. Bud Meyer & Trent Mowrey

October 3rd Weekday (Tuesday)

8:00 a.m. † Jim Schmitt

October 4th St. Francis of Assisi (Wed.)

5:00 p.m. † Andy Lowe

October 5th Weekday (Thursday)

8:00 a.m. † Janet Sheet

October 6th Weekday (Friday)

8:00 a.m. † Carolyn Hinen

Oct. 7th Our Lady of the Rosary (Sat.)

9:00 a.m. † Ted Alles

5:00 p.m. Bob Locke

October 8th Twenty - Seventh (Sunday)

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:30 a.m. † Betty Hilligoss

2:00 p.m. † Por la salud de Emily
Álvarez

The Knights of Columbus announce that we will be participating in the National Coats for Kids campaign again this year. We are currently taking preorders and donations for the program. We have partnered this year with the Salvation Army of Whitley County. Currently there is a need for about 400 winter coats for children and teens of our community. If you have a child or teen or know of a child or teen that needs a Winter Coat, please fill out one of our order forms located at the Knights of Columbus stand in the Narthex. If you have not already filled out a form with the Salvation Army, please fill one out so we can get enough coats to fill the needs.

The Coats are purchased thru the Knights of Columbus and the average cost is \$23.00 per coat. If you wish to donate, please drop in the container on the stand as well. Distribution of the Coats will be on Saturday, October 7th beginning at 9 a.m.

St. Vincent DePaul Corner

Clients served on September 25, 2023

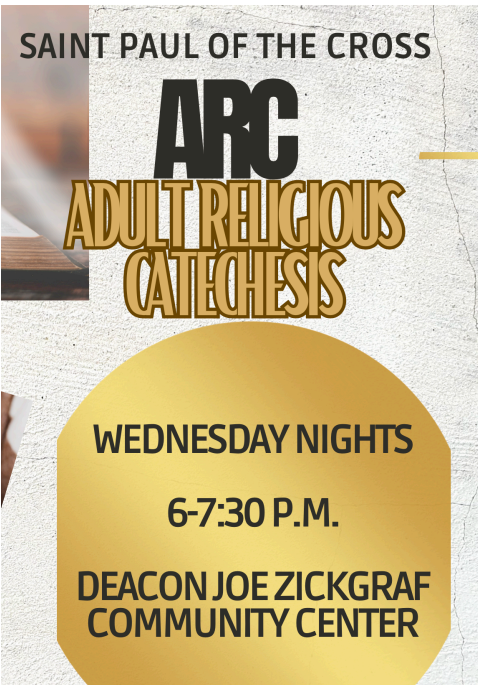
Families **49** People **133** New **9**

Gas cards **0**

NEEDS: cereal, egg noodles, ramen noodles,
laundry soap and monetary

Thank you to all of you for your generous

If you would like to help with St. Vincent DePaul, please contact the office and leave a message for Barb Bockelman or Sara St. Clair. Thank you so very much for your ongoing support! Please keep in mind that St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is open EVERY Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If Monday falls directly on a holiday, we will not be open. Evening hours are the third Monday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Don't forget that Youth Group meets EARLY this week! 12:00-1:30 PM! See you there! Bring a friend!

Join ARC this Wednesday from 6pm-7:30pm as we continue our "Tough Topics Series." We will be discussing Catholic teaching on Marriage and Divorce, followed by a Q&A on this topic and LGBT issues. Food, drink, fellowship, and childcare are provided!



SAVE THE DATE!!! The next Holy Hour of Power is Friday, October 13th from 6-7 PM! Don't miss this beautiful hour of prayer!



HUGE thanks to Ryne Schaden who put a lot of hours into getting our sound system into shape! We are so grateful for the fact that he donated his time and talent to this project. Everything sounds so much better!



DID YOU KNOW THAT...
THE BIG BANG THEORY WAS PROPOSED BY A CATHOLIC PRIEST: FATHER GEORGES LEMAÎTRE?



DIOCESE OF
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

LITTLE FLOWER HOLY HOUR

JOIN US MONTHLY
AS WE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

7 p.m. | First Tuesday of the Month

St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel
1139 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne

October 3, 2023
With Fr. Jake Schneider

November 7, 2023
With Fr. Michael Ammer

December 5, 2023
Presider to-be-determined

January 2, 2024
With Fr. Brian Isenbarger

February 6, 2024
Presider to-be-determined

March 5, 2024
With Fr. Bobby Krisch

April 2, 2024
With Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

May 7, 2024
With Fr. Ryan Timossi

*Holy Hours pause for summer
and resume fall of 2024*

