**Saint Mary’s Village Church**

**P.O. Box 155**

**St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876**

**812-535-1261**

[**www.stmarysvillagechurch.org**](http://www.stmarysvillagechurch.org/)

**May 31, 2020**

**Pentecost**

**Parish Life Coordinator                 Sacramental Minister        Coordinator of Religious Education**

**Barbara Black                           Fr. Darvin Winters                              Jamie Richey**

**Sacramental Life**

**Weekend Worship     Sunday 9:00 a.m.**

**Reconciliation     1st Sunday – 8:30 a.m.**

**The sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony are arranged by calling the Parish Office to schedule preparation.**

**We welcome new members.             To enroll call the Parish Office.**

**Today’s Readings: Acts 2:1-11; 1Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23**

***A Message from Barb:***

Last week we celebrated the feast of the Ascension, when Jesus left this earth and ascended into heaven.  His followers must have felt abandoned and fearful of the future.  Many of us may feel the same way with all the recent events.  But just as God did not abandon the apostles, he does not abandon us.

Today we celebrate Pentecost. He sent his Holy Spirit to live in their hearts, to give them strength and courage, and to be a light to the world.

This same Spirit lives in our hearts, comforting us and helping us to face a new future.  As we open our hearts to the Holy Spirit let us take courage and be a light to each other.

**Mass Intentions:**

If you had scheduled or requested masses earlier in the year, please contact Barb to reschedule.

If you wish to have a mass said, the suggested stipend is $10.00.

**Prayers Please for:**  All those suffering.

If you have specific people you would like to have on the parish prayer list, please contact Barb.

**Reconciliation**

Fr. Darvin will hear confessions next week in a drive thru format.  He will be by the garage and you can drive up to him for confession.

**Finance Report**

An updated report will be coming soon.  Thank you to all who have continued to send in their donations.

**Faith Formation News from Jamie**

Check us out on Facebook for the latest updates:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysreligiouseducation](https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysreligiouseducation/?ref=share)

**A Note from Sr. Joan**

Dear Parishioner,

As you know, I have been dealing with health issues since the end of January. Four hospital stays plus multiple doctor visits have left me in a weakened condition. In May with about six weeks until the end of the fiscal year, and knowing that I would need more care, I decided I would go ahead and retire then.

With the blessing of both my congregation and the Archdiocese, I decided to go ahead with this plan. Barbara Black, PLC, at Sacred Heart has agreed to act as interim until they can find a permanent replacement. Thank God for her generosity!

Jamie Richey has agreed to stay on as our CRE. She has been selfless, picking up the slack. I don’t know how I can thank her enough.

Bonnie Warn and Kelly Stafford have handled the finances.  They have done an excellent job. Thanks!

Sister Claire Hanson, my housemate, has provided wonderful care, Without her I would never survive. I owe her big time!

I want to express my gratitude to you for your support and prayer.

For 15 years I have tried to do my best . If I I have offended anyone, I ask forgiveness . I hope to see you from time to time. Please continue your prayers that I can regain my health.

With love,

Sister Joan

**COVID UPDATES:**

On entering, please wear masks and maintain social distancing (msd).  One family per pew alternating pews.  Couples and individuals can sit on opposite ends of pews msd.  Hand sanitizer will be available.

There will be no singing, so missalettes are not available. Bulletins and prayer sheets are in the pews.  Please take them with you when you leaveill not be passed for the Offertory.  Please place your contributions in the basket near the back of the church.

Communion:  Fr. Darvin will be the only minister for Holy Communion.  We ask that those on St. Joseph’s side of the church come forward first in a single file line msd; then the other side.  Eucharist will only be distributed on the hand.  After receiving the host, step to the side, remove your mask, consume it, replace your mask. (Or whatever works best for you.)

Leaving the church:  It would be best if those at the back exit first, then moving toward the front.  If you wish to talk outside after mass, please continue to msd.

**About your new PLC**

To keep things short…I was born September 23, 1955.  I attended St. Stanislaus School in East Chicago, IN and got a BS and MS in Education (early childhood minor) from ISU.  I have been married to Lee Black for 41 years.  We have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. My church ministry began in 1980 as a teacher at St. Patrick School. Over the years I have served St. Patrick, Sacred Heart, Annunciation and St. Benedict Churches in the roles of catechist, DRE, youth minister, principal, pastoral associate and parish life coordinator.  I am excited to begin my ministry here at the Village and appreciate your prayers as we move forward.  You may contact me at 812-240-8092.