



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

8 E Maple Street Dale, IN 47523 ~ P.O. Box 684 Dale, IN 47523

812-937-2200 ~ Monday—Friday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM CT

MASS TIMES

Tuesday: 7:30 AM St. Nicholas (SN)

Wednesday: 7:30 AM St. Joseph (SJ)

Thursday: 7:30 AM Mary, Help of Christians (MHC)

Saturday: 5:00 PM St. Nicholas

Sunday: 7:00 AM Mary, Help of Christians [Livestreamed on our YouTube]

9:00 AM St. Joseph Church

11:00 AM (Spanish/Español) St. Joseph Church

PASTOR

Reverend Crispine Adongo
cadongo@evdio.org

DEACON

Deacon Jim Woebkenberg
jwoebkenberg@evdio.org

STAFF

Business & Office Manager: Devin Carpenter
dcarpenter@evdio.org

Administrative Assistant
Open Position

Faith Formation & Outreach Coordinator: Theresa Brandes
tbrandes@evdio.org

CRE Grades 1-12: Stephanie Wollenmann
swollenmann@evdio.org

Hispanic Ministry: Miriam Martinez
mmartinez@evdio.org

DECEMBER 28, 2025

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

Parish Events Calendar

Dec. 28 (Sunday) The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

MHC PC Event

Dec. 29 (Monday) Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Holy Innocents Mass (See Mass schedule)

Dec. 30 (Tuesday) Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Dec. 31 (Wednesday) Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Faith Formation No Classes

Anticipatory of Solemnity of Mary (See Mass schedule)

Jan. 1 (Thursday) The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (See Mass schedule)

Jan. 2 (Friday) Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

Jan. 3 (Saturday) Christmas Weekday

First Saturday Devotions - MHC 7:30 Rosary, 8am Mass
MHC PC Event

Jan. 4 (Sunday) The Epiphany of the Lord
MHC PC Event

ANTICIPATORY OF SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

6:00pm Mary, Help of Christians, Mariah Hill

8:00pm (Spanish) St. Joseph Church, Dale

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, January 1, 2026

8:00am St. Joseph Church, Dale

Christmas Blessings,

Undoubtedly some of you will be celebrating Christmas today. Our own family reserved Christmas Eve several years ago and now that the grandchildren have grown up we find that we must use another day. As we get older Christmas is the only time our whole family gathers. Not to complain, I am just thankful we can still do that. I see so many elderly people who no longer can gather with the whole family. But while the family gathering is important, my joy still remains celebrating the birth of Jesus the Christ. Easy to get lost in the cultural Christmas, I am so grateful that the church reminds us that Christ is not Santa Claus. But I'm not Mr. Scrooge, for I like to see the little kids' eyes light up when they see what I made them for Christmas.

Unfortunately for me the Christmas Season goes too quickly. Today, the angel whispers into Joseph's ear saying that the child's life is in danger and they must flee to Egypt. No time to pack and say your good-byes as the soldiers are already in Bethlehem. Was Joseph ready to be a father? Was Mary a mother? To my knowledge there are no classes to take for being a parent. It's on-the-job training. For Mary and Joseph the parenting was more difficult because Jesus was both human and divine. What do you say and do with that knowledge? In the Fifth Joyful Mystery, Joseph and Mary lose Jesus when celebrating the Jewish high holy days in Jerusalem. Later, after locating Jesus it says he was obedient to them and he grew in grace before God and Man. That's a wonderful way to say that Mary and Joseph taught Jesus to be kind, humble, gentle, forgiving, patient, and merciful. Love shown through Mary and Joseph bore all these traits. I know that we are not Mary and Joseph, but every family should adopt these traits and perhaps the most important one is forgiveness. Marilyn and I were not the perfect parents, but "I'm sorry" made our lives so much easier. I hear and see so many families that cannot say those two words and it truly saddens my heart.

My hope and prayer is that Christ indeed will be the center point of your Christmas celebrations. God bless you and your families as you gather, remembering the past and celebrating the future this Christmas Season.

Blessings to the New Year,

Deacon Jim

Minister Schedule

Saturday January 3, 2026 SN 5:00 pm

Eucharistic: Ed Hagedorn, Brenda Hagedorn
 Sacristan: Anna Ward
 Lector: Melissa Ward
 Ushers: Steve Merkel, Max Meyer,
 Rob Oxley, Breck Vinson
 Servers: Parker Ward, Liam Ward
 Greeters: Judy Merkel, Ashlee Vinson

Sunday January 4, 2026 MHC 7:00 am

Eucharistic: Bryce Denning, Claire Konerding
 Sacristan: Rose Pund
 Lector: Volunteer
 Ushers: David Kern, Chuck Pund,
 Danny Gogel, Lori Gogel
 Servers: Sophia Dilger, Tanner Dilger
 Greeters: Zerick Breivogel, Volunteer
 Rosary: Marilyn Woebkenberg

Sunday January 4, 2026 SJ 9:00 am

Eucharistic: Theresa Begle, John Payne,
 Adie Morrison, Cindy Morrison
 Sacristan: Tina Gehlhausen
 Lectors: Aimee Arnold
 Ushers: Greg Arnold, Damian Arnold,
 Volunteer, Volunteer
 Servers: Molly Tempel, Trevor Arnold
 CLOW: Natalie Tempel, Katrina Cochenour
 Greeters: Bart Kuegel, Emily Kuegel

Sunday January 4, 2026 SJ 11:00 am

Eucharistic: Carina Mosqueda, Amelia Marmolejo
 Lectors: Cristina Martinez, Lorena Lara
 Ushers: Jose Miranda, Cristian Miranda
 Servers: Ximena Lara, Yareissy Perez,
 Leslie Rodriguez
 Sacristan: Gela Ibarra

In Need of Your Prayers

Jayme Woebkenberg
 Mark Williams
 Alvin Boeglin

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 29, 2025 Holy Innocents Mass @ SJ 6pm
Dec. 31, 2025 Mary, Holy Mother of God
 Anticipation Mass see front cover.
No Adoration
Dec. 31, 2025 Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass
 see front cover
Jan. 1, 2026 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 see front cover

Stewardship of Treasure from 12/ 14 /25

Parish Envelopes: 127

Collection at all Sunday Masses: \$ 6,373.72

Mail Drop: \$ 870.00 Online: \$ 650.00

Ira Distributions: \$ 0

Week Total: \$ 7,893.72

Budget amount needed \$10,000.00

Thank you for your continued support!

Mass Attendance

SN 5:00pm: 172

MHC 7:00am: 104

SJ 9:00am: 168

SJ 11:00am: 103

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have pledged to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**. Your support is helping our parish and the wider diocese carry out essential ministries in faith formation, vocations, outreach, and more. Our parish goal is \$133,625.00 and as of this weekend, our parish has \$ 76,409.00 pledged, with \$ 61,621.52 collected. Out of 633 families there have been 166 families that have pledged. If you haven't yet made your gift, scan the QR code or contact the Parish office for a pledge card.

Your pledge is very much appreciated!



Mass Intentions

Sat. Dec. 27 (5 pm) Janice Flannagan

Sun. Dec. 28 (7 am) Irene Hildenbrand,
 Sylvester & Alveria Gries

Sun. Dec. 28 (9 am) Patricia Crews, Patricia Cochenour

Sun. Dec. 28 (11 am) Juana Ortega, Nieves Lopez

Tue. Dec. 30 (7:30 am) St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Wed. Dec. 31 For all mothers (Mass times on cover)

Thr. Jan. 1 For all mothers (Mass times on cover)

Sat. Jan. 3 (5 pm) Sue Cassell Steckbauer, Pat Cassell

Sun. Jan. 4 (7 am) Joe & Mary Alice Mullis

Sun. Jan. 4 (9 am) Herbert Nord, Jean Wahl

Sun. Jan. 4 (11 am) Joaquin Javier Hernandez

*If there is a funeral, the weekday Mass will be canceled for that day.
 Please call the office to reschedule your Mass intention.*

**Faith Formation/Confirmation/Youth Group/
CLOW Group**

**Faith Formation Grades 1-8
December 31, 2025 No Class**

**Grades 9 & 12
December 31, 2025 No Class**

*****Confirmation 10th & 11th graders
December 31, 2025 No Class**

(SAVE THE DATE)

**Youth Group Movie/Game Night/Pizza Party
Saturday, January 10, 2026 @ SN 6pm
Come hungry and ready for fun!**

There is a need for rosary leaders at Mary, Help of Christians. If interested call the office. Thank you.

Sisters of St. Benedict Invite Catholic Women to Come & See Weekend. FERDINAND, IN -- The Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand invite women who are discerning religious life to join them for a Come & See Weekend. Held from January 2 to January 4, 2026, the event will give single Catholic women between the ages of 18 and 40 the opportunity to connect with other women who are considering religious life, experience the Benedictine way of life, and get an inside look at what this community means to the Sisters. There will also be time for discussion, questions, and reflection. This weekend will provide community, connection, and an exciting chance to explore Benedictine life. To reserve a spot or learn more, those interested can contact Sister Jill Reuber at vocation@thedome.org or 812-367-1411

Hispanic Events

Jan. 4th - Celebración de la Epifanía del Señor
Epiphany of the Lord Celebration.

Christmas Trivia:

Answer: Boris Karloff

Thank you to all the volunteers that decorated
our Churches for Christmas.

Are you a cookie or brownie baker?

I am gathering a list of anyone interested in baking
cookies and/or brownies when needed.

It will be helpful to pull from when occasions arise.



Please call the office 937-2200
or email tbrandes@evdio.org

Thank you in advance,
Theresa

**We are needing a volunteer from Dale to be
on call for the Fire Alarm Company for
St Joseph Church and parish center. If you
are interested please call Devin at the
parish office.**

**The
CANDY CANE
Poem**

Look at the CANDY CANE
What do you see?
Stripes that are red
Like the blood shed for me
White is for my Savior
Who's sinless and pure!
"J" is for Jesus My Lord,
that's for sure!
Turn it around
And a staff you will see
Jesus my shepherd
Was born for Me!