



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS INRI

CONTACT US

ADDRESS: 1300 NORTH MAIN STREET
BLUFFTON, IN 46714

PHONE: (260) 824-1380

EMAIL: STJOSEPHCHURCH@ADAMSWELLS.COM

WEBSITE: STJOSEPHCHURCHBLUFFTON.ORG

OFFICE HOURS: MON - FRI, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

EMERGENCY PHONE: (260) 296-0511

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5 PM

SUNDAY: 7:30 AM & 10 AM

DAILY MASS:

TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY: 8 AM

WEDNESDAY: 7 PM

FRIDAY: 8:30 AM

CONFESSIONS:

TUESDAY: 8:30-9 AM

WEDNESDAY: 6-6:45 PM

SATURDAY: 8:30-9 AM & 4-4:45 PM

FIRST FRIDAY: 3-3:45 PM

ADORATION:

TUESDAY: 7-8 AM

WEDNESDAY: 6-7 PM

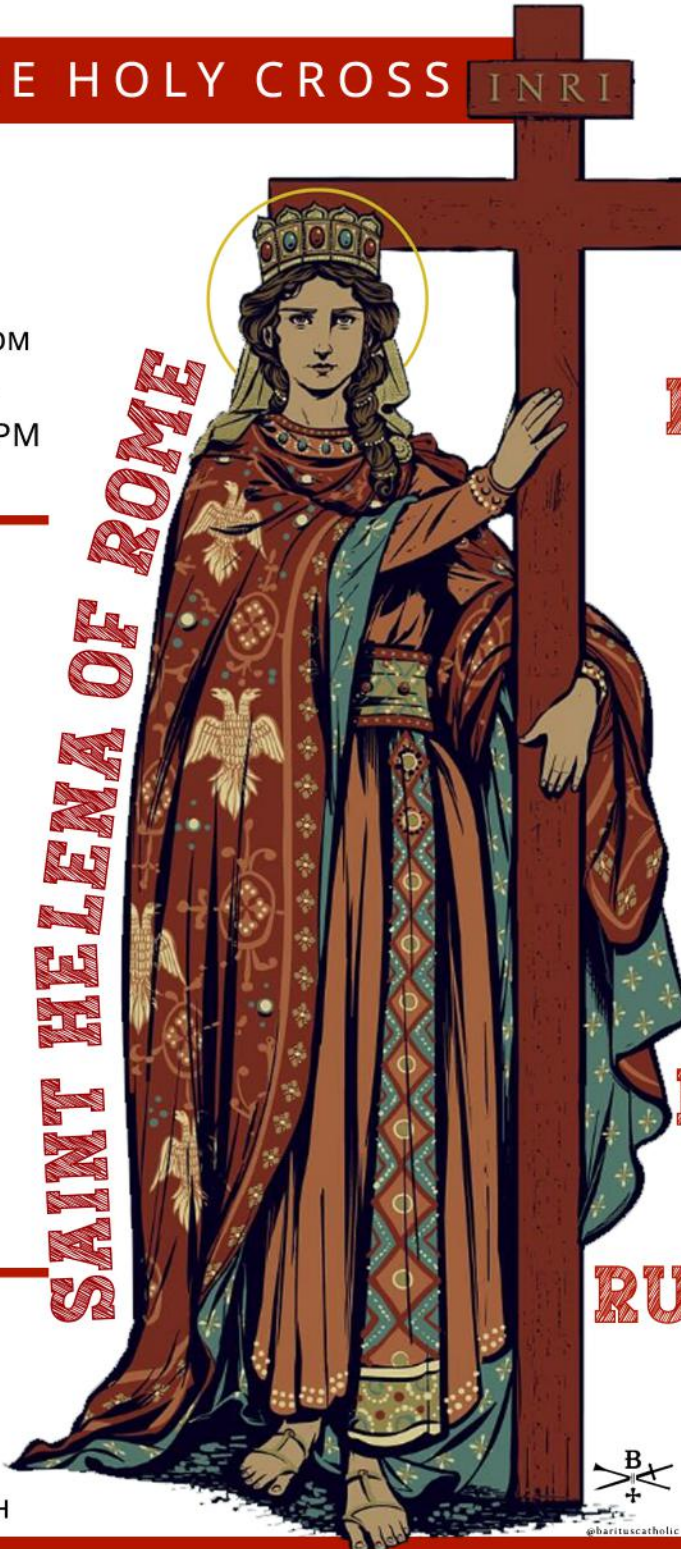
STAFF

PASTOR: FR. DAVID VIOLI

EMAIL: FRDAVIDVIOLI@GMAIL.COM

ADMIN. ASST. / DRE: MICHELLE PAXTON

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC: TERESA SMITH



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THAT
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FIND
TRUE
PEACE,
NOT
RUNNING
FROM
IT.

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2025

Saturday, September 13

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*
5:00 p.m. Robert Bates +

Sunday, September 14

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*
10:00 a.m. Rose Mary Helm +

Monday, September 15

No public Mass

Tuesday, September 16

7:00-8:00 a.m. *Adoration*
8:00 a.m. Ronnie Burns +
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*

Wednesday, September 17

6:00-7:00 p.m. *Adoration*
6-6:45 p.m. *Confession*
7:00 p.m. Robert Scheidler +

Thursday, September 18

8:00 a.m. Diana Cole

Friday, September 19

8:30 a.m. Emily Butler +

Saturday, September 20

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*
5:00 p.m. Parish Family

Sunday, September 21

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*
7:30 a.m. Geoff Frank +
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*
10:00 a.m. Rose Marie & Robert
Bates +

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Sept. 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows - [24]
- 1 Tm 2:1-8 / Ps 28:2, 7-9 / 639: Jn 19:25-27
or Lk 2:33-35

**Tues., Sept. 16 - Sts. Cornelius, Pope and
Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs - 1 Tm 3:1-13 / Ps
101:1b-3b, 5-6 / Lk 7:11-17**

**Wed., Sept. 17 - Weekday [24] - St. Robert
Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church;
St Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin, Doctor of
the Church - 1 Tm 3:14-16 / Ps 111:1-6 / Lk
7:31-35**

**Thurs., Sept. 18 - Weekday [24] - 1 Tm 4:12
-16 / Ps 111:7-10 / Lk 7:36-50**

**Fri., Sept. 19 - Weekday [24] - St. Januari-
us, Bishop, Martyr - 1 Tm 6:2c-12 / Ps 49:6-
10, 17-20 / Lk 8:1-3**

**Sat., Sept. 20 - Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon,
Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Com-
panions, Martyrs - 1 Tm 6:13-16 / Ps 100:1b
-5 / Lk 8:4-15**

**Sun., Sept. 21 - Twenty-Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time - Am 8:4-7 / Ps 113:1-2, 4-8 /
1 Tm 2:1-8 / Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13**

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

This weekend (September 13th/14th), the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. On September 13, 335, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (also called the Church of the Resurrection) was dedicated. The following day, the cross that Empress Helena had discovered on September 14, 320, was venerated in a solemn ceremony. This feast day today connects these two solemn events in history.

“*Being Christian*”, Pope Benedict XVI writes, “*is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event*”. The Gospel that the liturgy offers us on the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** suggests that God wants to enter into a relationship of love with everyone. This is offered in His Son, Jesus, lifted up on the Cross.

Lifting up our gaze to God expresses a very important truth: we are invited to enter back into relationship with Him. We need to stop turning in on ourselves, uselessly nurturing a sense of guilt and forgetting that “*in whatever our hearts condemn, God is greater than our hearts*” (1 Jn 3:20). Let us lift up our eyes toward the stars (*remember Abraham and the promise of many descendants*), knowing how to cast every worry onto God.

Lifting up our gaze should not enkindle fear, but gratitude, because that elevation is the measure of the love with which God loves His children, in His Son. It is the Mercy of God, therefore, which, as is the case with Nicodemus, illuminates the darkness of our lives and allows us to continue on our journey.

We cannot remain neutral regarding the Cross of Jesus. Either we are with Him or we are against Him. A choice is made before every action, for the actions of a Christian are none other than the testimony of how “God has love us so much that he gave His only Son, Jesus”.

CHURCH RENOVATION UPDATE

When we received the bids for our renovation work in mid-August, we submitted them to our diocesan Building and Improvements Committee. This committee serves as a review board for all major projects and offers guidance to parishes in choosing which bid proposal to go with. This past Thursday, we heard back from the committee and have received the “go-ahead” to accept the bid proposal from Shawnee Construction, based in Fort Wayne.

We are now having contracts drawn up to bring Shawnee Construction on board as our general contractor for this project. Once these contracts are signed off, we will be sitting down with them and our architectural firm to begin looking at specifics and setting time tables. Thankfully, this means that we have now completed the preparatory phase of this process and have all needed approvals from our diocesan committees to move forward.

39TH ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL

Thank you to all those who have already returned their pledge card for the **39th Annual Bishop’s Appeal**. Our Parish Goal this year is **\$35,422.85**. All donations above our parish goal will be returned directly to our parish and will be put towards our Church renovations. To learn more about the appeal or to make a donation online, visit www.diocesefwsb.org/aba

DIOCESAN SYNOD 2026

Bishop Rhoades has formally announced the beginning phase for our upcoming Diocesan Synod in 2026. The video explaining the diocesan synod is available for viewing on our Parish Website. (*If possible, it will also be played at the beginning of every Mass this weekend.*)

A special “Thank You!” to Fr. Bob Garrow of St. John the Baptist in New Haven for offering our Masses this weekend. I fell under the weather at the end of this week and, listening to doctor’s (and nurse’s) orders, am taking a few days off my feet for rest and recovery.

~Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Jeff Tillman, Mike Holland, and Richard Payne.



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Starting on **Monday, September 15th**, join us for an eight week walk-through of the **ACTS OF THE APOSTLES** from **6:00 - 7:00 PM** in the **Parish Conference Room**.

"They received the word with all willingness and examined the scriptures daily." ACTS 17:11



WHEN: Thursday, September 18th
WHERE: Fulton & Main Kitchen & Bar
 118 W. Main Street Berne, Indiana
TIME: 6:30 - 7:30 PM
SPEAKER: Fr. David Violi


REMINDER!

There will be no Discover Catholicism Session on Thursday, September 18th. Enjoy the Fair!

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., Sept. 13** - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sat., & Sun., Sept. 13 & 14** - *39th ABA Kick-off Weekend*
- **Sun., Sept. 14** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Mon., Sept. 15** - **Bible Study; Acts of the Apostles** - 6-7:00 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.
- **Tues., Sept. 16** - Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Sept. 17** - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Thurs., Sept. 18** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Sept. 18** - No Discover Catholicism due to Street Fair.
- **Thurs., Sept. 18** - Young Adults Theology on Tap - Fulton & Main Kitchen & Bar, 118 W. Main St., Berne - 6:30-7:30 PM
- **Fri., Sept. 19** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 20** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 20** - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Sept. 21** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Sept. 21** - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Tues., Sept. 23** - Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Sept. 24** - Youth Group led Praise & Worship Holy Hour - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Sept. 24** - Adult Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., Sept. 25** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Sept. 25** - *Discover Catholicism* - 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- **Fri., Sept. 26** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 27** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 20TH / 21ST

	MASS	Cantors
	5:00 p.m.	Teresa Smith
	7:30 a.m.	Mike Morrissey
CANTORS	10:00 a.m.	Jay Crisp- Choir Mass
	LECTORS	Lectors
	5:00 p.m.	Marita Crawfis
	7:30 a.m.	Sarah McCorkle
	10:00 a.m.	Monica Harris
		Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
		5:00 p.m. Laurisa Roper
	7:30 a.m.	Dale McCorkle
	10:00 a.m.	Rick Singer, Kevin Seago, Larisa Sudhoff
		Servers
	5:00 p.m.	Angel/Zoe Soto, Volunteer
	7:30 a.m.	Charlene/AnnaLynn/Jackson Felger
	10:00 a.m.	Isaiah/Dominic Bedwell, Volunteer

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of Sept. 6th & Sept. 7th

Adult Envelopes- \$3,307.00
 Loose- \$300.00
 Repair/Rainy Day Fund-
 \$1,670.99
 Religious Ed. Fund- \$125.00
 Religious Ed. Fees- \$320.00
 Votive Candles- \$422.95
 Parish Cookbooks- \$75.00
Total- \$6,220.94

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are **\$1,104.54** ahead of
our budget for the month
of September 2025.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$85.00

Online Giving for August -
\$6,061.00. We ended the month
\$8,594.15 ahead of our budget.

Online Giving for St. Vincent de
Paul Fund for August - \$225.00

*Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish are greatly appreciated.
Thank you!*

To set up Online Giving through *Our Sunday Visitor*, visit:
www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton/giving/funds

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUND REPORT - AUGUST 2025

Housing - \$561.00

Utilities - \$311.41

Charitable Donations - \$899.00

Total Donations for July August - \$1,771.41

Thank you for helping us help others!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

St. Joseph's Annual Parish Picnic
 Following 10:00 Mass
 The picnic will be catered this year!

**Bring your family and enjoy the day
in fellowship and fun!**

39TH ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL



**Our ABA Goal
is \$35,422.85.**
 Any amount over
our goal will go
toward our renovations.



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Fall Banquet
October 14th, 2025
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER
KIRK CAMERON

Keep your smile bright!

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Dr. Bartholomew L. Hott
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hottfamilydenistry.com

Dan Gordon, Tony Crowell, Michelle Adler,
Matt Hayes & Brigitte Washburn
TEL 260.824-9377
gordonlegal.net
Dan Gordon, Parishioner
Matt Hayes, Parishioner, St. Vincent de Paul
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Juan & Rosa Ortiz, Family, Parishioners

Sam Haiflich & Lisa Haiflich: The Haiflich Team
Brokers/Agents
Sam's Cell: 260-740-7299
Lisa's Cell: 260-438-2437
sam@bkmrealestate.com
lisa@bkmrealestate.com
105 N Jefferson Street, Ossian, IN 46777
Office: 260-622-1000
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Thursday's: 3pm-8pm
Friday's: 3pm-8pm
Saturday's: Noon-8pm
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Before you speak....
THINK!
T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?

"Saint Joseph was a just man, a tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always guard, protect and enlighten families."
- St. John Paul II