

Current update from the Parish Council as to our sharing of a Priest with Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Gibson City:

Bishop Conlon called a special meeting on April 11th for both Parish Councils (Gibson City and Paxton/Loda) to meet our new Priest Fr. Dong Bui. Bishop Conlon explained why the consolidation was necessary and he made it clear that ALL parishes will remain open. Bishop Conlon stated we will also remain separate, including separate Parish Councils, separate funds, etc. and we would simply share a Priest. As far as a Mass schedule, Bishop Conlon suggested 3 people from each parish form a committee to create a recommendation to present to Fr. Bui. The representatives the Parish Council selected will be:

- St. Mary - Sheila Pickens, Karla Watson and Ryan Busby
- St. Joseph - Rosemarie Foley, Dan Schneider and Nancy Flessner.

Father Bui will make the final decision as to the Mass schedule which we want to have completed and published by the end of May. Father will also make the decision as to where he would like to reside. It should be noted, regardless where Father chooses to reside, the other rectory will remain open for him to use as needed.

The Parish Council will continue to keep everyone updated as new information is received. We ask everyone to pray with us as we work through these changes and to remain focused on the most important thing - both our churches are staying open and we will continue to be blessed with receiving the Eucharist!

Sincerely,

Sheila Pickens – St. Mary Council Member, Chairman
Tammy Ross – St. Joseph Council Member, Secretary
Mike Brehm – St. Joseph Council Member
Rosemarie Foley – St. Joseph Council Member
Ryan Busby – St. Mary Council Member
Karla Watson – St. Mary Council Member
Dan Schneider – Education & Finance Commission Chairman
Nancy Flessner – Worship Commission Chairman
Sue Martensen - Service Commission Chairman