



NATIVITY OF THE LORD

And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.
JOHN 1:14

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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St. Joseph Catholic Church
109 Linden Street
Saint Johns, Michigan 48879-1837

Parish Office Phone: (989) 224-8994 Fax: (989) 224-3475
St. Joseph School: (989) 224-2421 Religious Education Office: (989) 224-8537
Medical Emergencies requiring an Anointing of the Sick: (989) 227-1244

stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com
www.stjoecatholic.com

PASTORAL STAFF:
Fr. Michael Williams
Pastor
Deacon Marvin E. Robertson
Deacon Jerry Fust
Nancy Joseph
Director of Adult Faith
Formation & Evangelization
Michelle Parker
Director of Religious
Formation
Christopher Wells
School Principal
Nancy Poff
Youth Minister
Jeff Richards
Music Director
Susan Mahoney
Business Manager
Anna Biewer
Parish Secretary

MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12:00 NOON
Holy Days & Weekdays: please consult the Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:
Confessions are heard Saturday at 4pm & Tuesday: 6:30 pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
Celebrated on the third Sunday of each month. Parents are asked to attend preparation classes.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
Arrangements with a priest or deacon must be made **at least nine months in advance.**

For more information regarding these and other sacraments please visit our website www.stjoecatholic.com or contact the Parish Office

Mission Statement
We of St. Joseph Parish are a sacramental community of Christians guided by the Holy Spirit. We are called to worship God and proclaim God's Word by living the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ. As a sacramental community, we accept the responsibility to serve, rather than be served, in our parish, community and beyond.



Merry Christmas
from the staff at
St. Joseph Catholic
Church and School!
May you have a blessed Christmas!

THIS WEEK AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY: December 24

Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 | Lk 1:67-79

Vigil: Is 62:1-5 | Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 | Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6 | Ti 2:11-14 | Lk 2:1-14

4:00 PM Mass † Maynard and Shirley Barrett

—The Worralls

7:00 PM Mass † Agnes French—George French

10:00 PM Mass † Leo Lawless

—Jim and Dawn Lawless and family

TUESDAY: December 25 (The Nativity of the Lord)

Dawn: Is 62:11-12 | Ti 3:4-7 | Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10 | Heb 1:1-6 | Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

9:00 AM Mass † Helen Dush and son, David Dush—

George Dush

NO CONFESSION

WEDNESDAY: December 26 (Saint Stephen)

Readings: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 | Mt 10:17-22

NO MASS

THURSDAY: December 27 (Saint John)

Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4 | Jn 20:1a, 2-8

NO MASS

FRIDAY: December 28 (The Holy Innocents)

Readings: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 | Mt 2:13-18

NO MASS

SATURDAY: December 29 (Saint Thomas Becket)

Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11 | Lk 2:22-35

5:00 PM Mass † William Asher—Don and Kathy Randolph

SUNDAY: December 30 (The Holy Family)

Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 19 | Lk 2:41-52 or (for Year C) 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28 | 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 | Lk 2:41-52

8:00 AM Mass † Germaine Nurenberg

—Robert Nurenberg and family

10:00 AM Mass People of the Parish

12:00 PM Mass † Lorie and † Bernard—Family

MONDAY: December 31 (Saint Sylvester I)

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21 | Jn 1:1-18

6:00 PM Vigil Mass † Jenny Hufnagel—Rose Rennells

TUESDAY: January 1 (Solemnity of Mary)

Readings: Nm 6:22-27 | Gal 4:4-7 | Lk 2:26-21

8:00 AM Mass † Jeff Barrett—The Worralls

NO CONFESSION

OUR STEWARDSHIP

YEAR END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

for 2018 will be mailed in late January. If you would like your end of the year donation recorded for this year, it must be dropped off at the parish office, donated online, or postmarked by Monday, December 31st. Your generosity this year toward the support of our parish has been appreciated.

Online Giving 

You can use Online Giving to make a donation!

Our Online Giving program gives you a secure and easy way to make donations directly from your bank account or with a credit card. If you want to have your donation count towards 2018, make sure you schedule your donation before 12-31-18. Just visit www.stjoecatholic.com/donate where you can find answers to some frequently asked questions and the link to create an account.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's Christmas Mass at dawn we hear from the Gospel reading that God has entered quietly into the world. Not into the great city of Jerusalem, but into a small village about five miles south. Not into a noble family, but to an outcast couple keeping the newborn in a manger. Not announced by royal edicts, but to common shepherds, the first human heralds of Christ's birth. As Christian stewards we simply allow Christ to live in us no matter what our circumstances happen to be. We allow Christ to share his love with us and reflect that love out to others. We now are the heralds of Christ's Incarnation. What an unimaginable gift from a generous Lord. Good stewards rejoice in this gift and give glory to God.

From International Catholic Stewardship Council

Reminder: Tuesday January 1st is the Solemnity of Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation

We will offer a Mass on Monday December 31st at 6:00 PM and Tuesday January 1st at 8:00 AM



Like us on Facebook

"St. Joseph Church, St. Johns, Michigan"
and

"St. Joseph Catholic School, St. Johns, Michigan"

Mark your calendars NOW for our upcoming parish retreat with Tim Francis
May 19-21, 2019!

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group meets on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00PM.

Our High School Youth Group will resume meetings on Wednesday January 9th
For more info about youth group contact Nancy Poff at njppoff@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Religious Formation for 1st-7th graders will resume on Wednesday January 9th
For more information please contact Michelle Parker at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com or 224-8537

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Did you know that St. Joseph School accepts new students at any time during the year?!

If you are interested in a tour or registration information, please call (989) 224-2421 or email Mr. Wells at principal@stjoecatholicsschool.org

Someone will get back with you as soon as possible to set up your tour or process your registration.

SAVE THE DATE

**2019 St. Joseph Feast and Raffle:
Casino Royale Saturday, March 16, 2019**

Tickets on sale now for \$50 each at the school or parish office.

The Feast and Raffle is a special annual event for our community's school – St. Joe. All proceeds go to making St. Joe a safer, more comfortable school with top of the line education and technology programs.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Joan Bozung | Landon Baese |
| Dorris Frace | Jerry |
| James | Leon Kramer |
| Judy | Mary Moore |
| Marian Kiel | Peter Schrauben |
| William | Richard Connors |
| Jim Price | Joshua Howard |
| Bill McCann | Sharon Fitzpatrick |
| Pam Martinez | Kathleen Reynolds |
| Steve Nunham | Dolors Vanbelkum |
| Janice Parker | Barb Haruska |
| Sandy | Kim Novack |
| Stan Wassa | Chuck |
| Carol | Rob Zibiciak |
| Michael | Marian Kurncz |
| Debbie | Nick Kurncz |
| Jeff Wadell | Adam Mahoney |
| Kenneth Price | Joan Thelen |
| Brent Baese | |

Please pray for vocations, especially:

Eric Elstro
Diaconate

Please pray for parishioners in the Armed Services, especially:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Air Force | Alex Rojas |
| Matthew Dainton | Army |
| Eric Martin | Alex Detloff |
| Jessica Mitchell | Jacob Longoria |
| David Seperic | Adam Novak |
| Joseph Dershem | Noel Smith II |
| Marines | |
| Jake Hoskins | |

To add or remove a name from the bulletin prayer list, please call: 989-224-8994 or email

stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com

***Please note: only immediate family members may add names to the bulletin prayer lists.**

Need to register? Or update your contact information with the parish?

Fill out the form below and drop it in the collection or bring to the parish office.

Head of Household: _____ Birthdate: _____

Spouse: _____ Birthdate: _____

Other Family Members: _____ Birthdate: _____

_____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

Phones: (_____) _____ for _____ Home / Cell

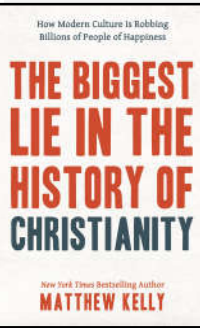
(_____) _____ for _____ Home / Cell

(_____) _____ for _____ Home / Cell

Emails: _____ for _____

_____ for _____

Additional Info/Comments:



The new book *The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity* by Matthew Kelly is our Christmas gift to you! Take a copy home with you!

Get practical tools to dispel the false promises the modern culture feeds you, and discover the single truth that is the key to regaining your fervor, uniting Christians, and leaving your mark on the world—and experiencing more happiness than you thought possible.

A parishioner has fronted the money for the purchase of the books, so the parish carries no financial burden.

ST. MONICA LADIES' AUXILIARY:

The St. Monica Ladies' Auxiliary is a group for all Catholic women of the parish. They meet the second Monday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Meeting details are published in the bulletin.

FULLNESS OF GRACE YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP

Are you a young woman who wants to get to know other women in the community? Fullness of Grace is open to all young women in the surrounding communities. The group's main focus is to create a place for young women to get together, to get to know each other, and build a community of women striving in their faith.

Next gathering is: January 26th at 9:30am in the parish basement, we will have a potluck breakfast, a short talk with discussion and time of fellowship!

For more information please contact the parish office. Also find us on our Facebook group!

AVERAGE JOES MEN'S GROUP

The St. Joseph "Average Joes" men's group is open to all men of all faiths. Our mission is to provide a gathering place for breakfast, to share some spiritual discussion and to encourage fellowship among men in our community.

Our slogan: Feed the stomach, share some wisdom and enrich the soul.

A warm welcome is extended to all men who seek a casual setting in which to consider God's blessings and His plan for our lives.

St. Joseph "Average Joes" men's group gathers informally on the second Saturday of the month, 8:30 - 10:00 AM in the basement of St. Joseph Church. Please join us.

OTHER MINISTRIES:

- Sanctuary Cleaners
- Funeral Luncheon Coordinators
- Hazel Findlay Eucharistic Ministers
- RCIA Team Members
- Bible Study / Faith Sharing Groups
- Catechists
- Confirmation Mentor

OUR STEWARDSHIP PARISH

My Parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am. It will be holy, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will be prayerful, if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring others into worship, if I invite and bring them.

It will be a parish of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I now dedicate myself to the task of being all things that I want my parish to be.

Eucharistic Adoration **"The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship Him."** (Antiphon)

The Lord, is indeed, very close. He is present in His body, blood, soul, and divinity in the Blessed Sacrament for us to adore.

Join us for **First Friday Eucharistic Adoration** The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after 8:30AM Mass on Friday January 4 until 8:30AM Benediction and First Saturday Mass January 5. Call Rebecca 989-292-2072 with questions.



Have you seen our Lighthouse Media CD display yet? Located in the back of church out the cry room doors and to the left. All CDs are \$4.00! This is a donation driven ministry. All donations go towards our next purchase of CDs. Checks made payable to "St. Joseph Catholic Church"

There are many more ministries in our parish!

For more information on other parish ministries, see our website:

www.stjoecatholic.com or pick up one of the *A Place for You* booklets in the back of the church. You can also call or email the parish office at 989-224-8994 or stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com