St. Foseph Catholic Church

109 Linden Street
Saint Johns, Michigan 48879-1837
(989) 224-8994
Fax: (989) 224-3475
www.stjoecatholic.com
stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com



ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. Joseph is a place of refreshment, peace and love, a place of ministry and renewal. We welcome you to be part of our faith community where the Word of God is proclaimed, friendship is offered and the Sacraments are celebrated.

Pastoral Care

Fr. Michael Williams
Deacon Marv Robertson (retired)
Deacon Jerry Fust
Deacon Eric Elstro

Worship

Music • Jeff Richards

Parish Life

Parish Council • Dick Weller Finance Council • Scott Dzurka Parish Secretary • Deb Light Business Manager • Susan Mahoney Maintenance • Dave Klein

Family Ministries

Marriage Preparation • Fr. Michael Williams
Baptism • Nancy Joseph
St. Joseph School • Chris Wells
Religious Education • Jen Nelson
Confirmation • Jen Nelson
Youth Group • Nancy Poff
Adult Faith Formation • Nancy Joseph
Evangelization • Nancy Joseph
Please call the parish office for more
information on our Family Ministries.

Medical Emergencies requiring an Anointing of the Sick: (989) 227-1244

St. Joseph School: (989) 224-2421

Religious Education Office: (989) 224-8537

Regular Mass Schedule

Saturday • 5:00 pm Sunday • 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 PM (Holy Days • Consult the bulletin.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday • 4:00 pm Tuesday • 6:30 pm

Prayer Tree

Parish Office: (989)-224-8994

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays at Noon for the following weekend. Send to *stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com*



THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday ● May 23

Saint Gregory VII

Acts 16:11-15 | John 15:26-16:4a

No Mass

Tuesday ● May 24

Saint Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi

Acts 16:22-34 | John 16:5-11

7:00 p.m. †Arthur Halfmann
By: Knights of Columbus

Wednesday ● May 25

Saint Bede the Venerable

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1| John 16:12-15

12:05 p.m. †Cynthia Nunn

By: Armbrustmacher Family

Thursday ● May 26

Saint Philip Neri

Acts 18:1-8 | John 16:16-20

8:30 a.m. †Mr & Mrs Norman Brown

and living and deceased

relatives

By: Daughter

Friday ● May 27
Saint Augustine of Canterbury

Acts 18:9-18 | John 16:20-23

8:30 a.m. †Margaret Thelen

By: Vic & Rose Mier

Saturday ● May 28

Venerable Pierre Toussaint

Acts 18:23-28 | John 16:23b-28

5:00 p.m. **†Fred & Betty Denovich**

and living and deceased relatives

By: Lynn & Deb Denovich

Sunday • May 29

Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 7:55-60 | Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20 | John 17:20-26

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. †Justin Fox

By: Family

12:00 p.m. †Jerome Joseph Schafer

By: Jim & Dawn Lawless

6:00 p.m. Spanish Mass

Eucharistic Adoration



Our Adoration Team is always in need of more adorers. We are particularly in need of adorers at the

following times.

Volunteers Needed

First Friday: 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. First Saturday: midnight, 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

This is only a one hour a month commitment. We are also in need of subs who need a more flexible schedule.

If you are interested in being part of this prayer team as a monthly adorer or as a sub, or if you have questions, please text or call Rebecca at 989-292-2072.

May 26th is not a Holy Day of Obligation. The Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on Sunday May 29, the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

WILL BURN FROM
MAY 22ND - MAY 28TH

In Memory of Margaret & Louis Brya

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

Adam Beverly Danial Blair Bob

Bob Joan Bozung Carol Burgtorf Joseph Caudy Rhonda Chamberlain Roger Dershem Jacob Epling Friend Alan Gove Korine Mary Matthew

Myah

Noah

Danielle P.

Patricia
Jenny Pytlowanyj
Jerry Schafer
Donna Smith
Jason Thelen
Jeff Wadell
Brad Walker
Renate Ward
Millie Wassa
Fr. Don Wieber

Our parishioners in the service, especially:

specially:
Bryce Bongard
William Hess
Jake Hoskins
Jacob Longoria
Eric Martin
Jessica Mitchell
Colby Munger
Adam Novak
Alex Rojas

David Seperic Noel Smith II Grace Szpont Joshua Szpont Jordan Van Amburg Jacob Wells 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.



WE ARE ALL
EVANGELIZERS
(and whatever else is on
Deacon Eric's mind)

CHRISTIANITY JUST "KEEPS ON TICKING"

With Timex watch sales dwindling a little more than 60 years ago, the company hit upon a marketing plan that struck gold for the company. (You might even say it was *timely*.) Timex lived in the low-cost area of the watch market, so the plan was to show the durability of Timex watches.

For example, Timexes were tested against paint mixers, jackhammers, washing machines, dishwashers, water skiers, and even an 87-foot dive off of the La Quebrada Cliffs in Acapulco, Mexico. All of these tests were then followed by former newscaster John Cameron Swayze saying: "Timex watches take a licking and keep on ticking." This long-running campaign convinced buyers that Timex watches could be cheap and durable.

So what sparks this nostalgic Timex reflection? Actually this relevant quote popped up on my flip-calendar from our old buddy G. K. Chesterton: "Christianity has died many times and risen again; for it had a God who knew the way out of the grave." So, slightly modified we have: "Christianity has taken a licking, but also keeps on ticking."

The Church has faced its own versions of Timex-like durability tests of paint mixers and jack-hammers. For 300 years, Christians were persecuted all around the Mediterranean Sea. Every bishop and pope had a target on his back, as did each faithful Christian. Yet the Church survived—it took a licking, but kept on ticking.

The Great Schism occurred in 1054 resulting in the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. The reasons were partly political, partly doctrinal, and partly linguistic—for starters. The split still exists today, although popes have made overtures to the Orthodox Churches in recent decades. The point is that we proved durable despite the breakup, and we kept on ticking.

The next crisis was the Protestant Reformation almost 500 years later in 1517. The Church took a big hit there, as its clerical power and unclear doctrine came under scrutiny. The Church eventually responded to Martin Luther through the Council of Trent with a clarification of church doctrine and a refutation of some key Luther claims. Though Christianity was split by the Reformation, Catholicism regained its honor and standing through Trent. It took another licking, but kept on ticking.

Now, another 500 years later, all of Christianity is being attacked by the secular world. There was another church shooting just last week. Vandalism against Catholic Churches and sacramentals has been ongoing for a few years now, and it could get worse after the Supreme Court releases its official ruling that could overturn Roe v Wade.

Our Church isn't perfect, but God always gives us what we need in times of crisis. For example, almost half of the 37 Church Doctors were active in the two centuries adjacent to the end of Roman persecution and the Reformation. He always gives us the tools to withstand our tests. He will again, and we will "keep on ticking."

Deacon Eric

deaconeric@hotmail.com



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us for a fun-filled week of daily saints, scripture, crafts, snacks, games, music, and much more! Registration forms for 4 year olds to 5th grade children are available at the parish office and on the stjoecatholic.com website on the Vacation Bible School page under the Religious Formation tab.

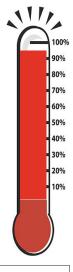
Youth volunteer forms (6th grade and older) can also be found there.

Please register your child before June 1st to receive a t-shirt. Contact Jen Nelson for more information at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com



Help us reach our goal!

This week we reached 95.7% of our goal of \$96,425.00. Thus far 262 families have contributed \$92,313.66 to this year's appeal. St. Joseph is grateful for these contributions and invites others to join us to push us over our goal for the benefit of our parish and the wider Church



Funeral Luncheons

The funeral luncheon ministry is starting up again, and we need your help! To defray the cost of the luncheon, the

team is asking volunteers to help with the meal by donating desserts or salads. The team will be setting up new phone call and text lists.

If you do NOT wish to be contacted for food donations, please call Cease at 517-420-7340 or Mary Beth at 989-227-0088.

Thank you for contributing to the last act of kindness we can do for our parishioners.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL LUNCH MENU For the week of May 23, 2022

Monday: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes with

gravy, corn, applesauce, and milk.

Tuesday: Breaded chicken legs, baked potato with

cheese, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Pigs in a blanket, tator tots, warm apples

with cinnamon, and milk.

Thursday: Sloppy joe on a bun, french fries, fresh

fruit, and milk.

Friday: Chicken salad in an edible bowl, yogurt,

fresh fruit, and milk.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Menu is subject to change, based on food availability from suppliers.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

May 28/29

Altar Servers

5:00 PM Group 1 8:00 AM Volunteers 10:00 AM Volunteers 12:00 PM Group 1 Eucharistic Ministers 5:00 PM Group 3

8:00 AM Group 3 10:00 AM Group 3 12:00 PM Group 3

Lectors

5:00 PM Rita A. 8:00 AM Bob P. 10:00 AM Tori S. 12:00 PM Linda S.

Ushers

5:00 PM Kevin B and Group 5B 8:00 AM Bruce P. and Group 8A 10:00 AM Jim S.. and Group 10A 12:00 PM Tom W. and Group 12C

Counting Collections

May 23, 2022 • Group 1

Sanctuary Cleaners

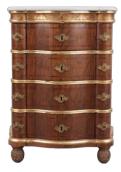
May 28th ● Laurie H. and Tammy Z..

Divine Mercy Prayers for Grief

Offered by the St. Joseph Prayer Tree and Path of Divine Hope Grief Ministry

The Path of Divine Hope Grief Ministry invites those who have experienced the passing of a loved one this past year to join us after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on May 28th as we hold a memorial reflection with Divine Mercy chaplet. The chaplet was recommended by our Lord to St. Faustina for the repose of souls and for their families. The death of our loved ones is precious time to our Lord. We hope that you can join us for this special time of remembrance and prayer.

May Dresser Ministry



This time of year your donations to the Dresser Ministry go to the Baby Pantry here in St. Johns. The dresser is set up near the confessional, and it will only be out until the end of May.

We are looking for any type of items for babies. Bring in your donation and place it on or near the dresser in the Sanctuary.

STEWARDSHIP

For the week ending May 15, 2022

Adults (249) Envelopes/Gifts:	\$13,610.48
(Including automated debits and online giving)	
Loose Cash:	\$666.51
Total:	\$14.276.99

Other Envelopes Received

Education Trust Fund:	\$2,570.00
Building Fund:	\$615.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$1,265.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2021 is \$20,812.57 If we continue to keep this average we will meet our budgeted goal.

THE CHILDREN'S COLLECTION
The Children's Collection will be donated to:

ANGELS OUTREACH MINISTRIES
St. John Vianney Parish, Flint MI 485004



Grief Support Workshop

Grieving with Great Hope is a weekend grief support workshop that offers a prayerful, practical, and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. If you have lost a spouse, child (including pregnancy loss), grandchild, parent, another family member, or a friend, you are encouraged to attend. Presenters include

Deacon Eric Elstro and John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a Catholic bereavement apostolate located in southeast Michigan.

The workshop will be held at St. Jude Parish, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt, MI on Friday, June 18, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and concluding on Saturday, June 19, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Registration fee of \$10 includes a light breakfast (served at 9:30 a.m.) and lunch on Saturday. Seating is limited.

Visit <u>www.goodmourningministry.net</u> for registration details and registration form or call Colleen at 989-640-5780 or Jackie at 517-449-2928. Please register by June 10.

Hosted by Path of Divine Hope Grief Ministry of St. Joseph Parish



THE ROSARY IS PRAYED EVERY SUNDAY MORNING 1/2 HOUR BEFORE MASS AT THE 8 A.M., 10 A.M., AND NOON MASSES



The Vocation Story of Deacon Marvin Robertson

THE CALL

One morning in the mid 1980's, I challenged the Holy Spirit to give me guidance on where He was leading me. Almost immediately, I received a call from an assistant county clerk, requesting that I "sub" for her Protestant pastor on a Sunday when he was on leave of absence. I at first declined, stating that I was not a minister, that I was a Catholic. She was insistent, stating that her church would still like me to fill in for their minister. I was about to firmly refuse, but then recalled my request to the Holy Spirit a few minutes earlier. Several weeks later, I delivered my very first sermon, preaching on the sacredness of marriage and family at

the Lowe Road Methodist Church. That gave me a sense that the Holy Spirit was calling me to preach. Weeks later, I saw a flyer on our parish bulletin board which invited anyone interested in the permanent diaconate to call the diocese. I received materials from our Office of Permanent Deacons. Our pastor, Fr. Hankerd, was very supportive of my discerning a call to the diaconate. After application and interviews, I was accepted for diaconal studies which began in 1987. Daughters Monica and Rachel were old enough to be unsupervised when wife Tita and I went to Saturday classes.

On June 30, 1990, the Feast of the Early Roman Martyrs, Bishop Povish ordained our class. He preached a very inspiring homily, urging the new deacons to accept Mother Teresa and Pope John II as role models. I became the first permanent deacon from our St. Joseph parish. Monsignor Lunsford was very helpful and supportive as I began diaconal ministry.

THE MINISTRY

Pope John Paul II's 1987 address to permanent deacons reminded us of our three areas of ministry: the ministry of the word, the ministry of the altar, and the ministry of charity.

In my ministry of the word, I preached at weekend Masses monthly and presided at funeral vigils as well as Communion Services at Hazel Findlay, Grace Haven, and the county jail. I once preached a retreat for judges, and several years ago I was on a panel to present effective preaching tips to our diocesan deacons.

In ministry of the altar, I assisted at Mass and presided at marriages, infant baptisms, Stations of the Cross, and Benedictions. I also assisted as deacon for our bishop when he presided at the Red Mass for the Catholic Lawyers Guild.

In my ministry of charity, I did pastoral counseling, took the Eucharist to hospitalized and homebound, delivered "Meals on Wheels", served as spiritual advisor for our St. Vincent DePaul Society, and served as chaplain to Thomas More Society at Cooley Law School.

A very joyful ministry for me was baptizing our babies. Similar to my baptismal ministry in white vestments, my favorite secular ministry as a black-robed judge was finalizing infant adoptions

TRANSITIONS

The call to, and practice of, ordained diaconal ministry effected an important change in me. Earlier, my lifemotto was something like "Watch out for number one." The diaconate changed my outlook to adopt the adage of "Service above self." In spite of my unworthiness, I came to experience the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit as I came to see Jesus in those I served in His Name.

Taking my cue from Pope Benedict, who retired due to age and health, I retired several years ago. I'm happy that the ministry has continued to grow and flourish with my deacon brothers, Jerry and Eric. As I live out the final chapter of my life, I pray that the Eternal Judge will greet me thus on that final day: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

6 VOCATIONS

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER





Attention Volleyball Plavers!!

On **Saturday**, June 11th, St. Joseph's Church in Pewamo will be hosting a volleyball

tournament during the annual Parish Festival. It is a 4-on-4 co-ed grass tournament with a competitive and a recreational division. The cost is \$80 per team with the first game starting at 8:00 a.m. The entry deadline is Thursday, June 9th. To enter your team (please have only one team member register each team), call or text Evan Thelen at (989) 534-6095. Evan will confirm receipt of your registration. If for some reason you are no longer able to play, please let Evan know ahead of time...

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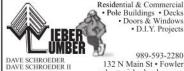
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