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



"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

### **JULY 10, 2022**

### **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 • Please contact the parish office St. Joseph School • Chris Wells Religious Education • Jen Nelson Confirmation • Jen Nelson Youth Group • Chris Groves Please call the parish office for more information on our Family Ministries.

Medical Emergencies requiring an Anointing of the sick, please call 989-227-1244.

St. Joseph School: (989) 224-2421 Religious Education Office: (989) 224-8537

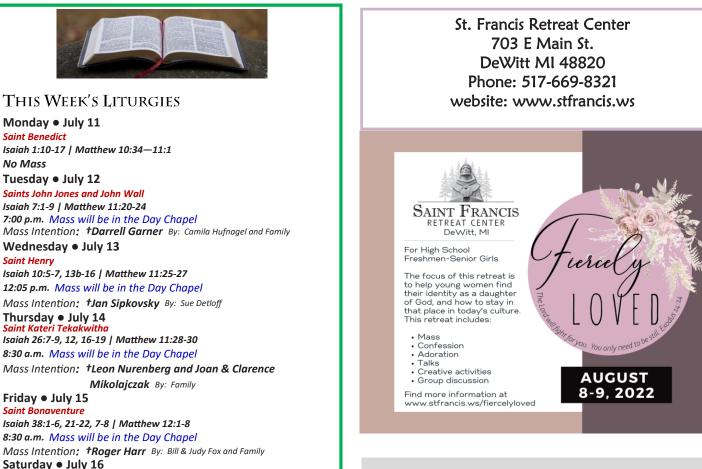
**Regular Mass Schedule** Saturday • 5:00 pm Sunday • 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 PM (Holy Days • Consult the bulletin.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday • 4:00 pm

**Prayer Tree** Parish Office: (989)-224-8994

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

### JULY 10, 2022



### THE SANCTUARY LAMP

WILL BURN FROM **JULY 10TH - JULY 16TH** 

In Memory of

Denís, Mary Lou, Dee (Thelen), Ron and Dave Rademacher

#### KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Saint Benedict

No Mass

Saint Henry

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel** 

Sunday • July 17

Saint Francis Solano

Micah 2:1-5 | Matthew 12:14-21

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Mass will be in the Wilson Center Auditorium Mass Intention: †Margerita Alor By: Hufnagel Family

Genesis 18:1-10a | Colossians 1:24-28 | Luke 10:38-42 8:00 a.m. Mass will be in the Wilson Center Auditorium Mass Intention: *†Margaret Klein* By: Lisa & Charlie Wieber

10:00 a.m. Mass will be in the Wilson Center Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Spanish Mass Mass will be in the Day Chapel

Mass Intention: **†Alvin Booms** By: Chris & Brenda DeLiso 12:00 p.m. Mass will be in the Wilson Center Auditorium

Mass Intention: People of the Parish

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially: Adam **Beverly** Danial Blair Bob Joan Bozung Carol Burgtorf

Rhonda Chamberlain Jacob Epling Friend Marcia Goerge Alan Gove Korine Mary Matthew Myah Noah Danielle P.

Joseph Caudy

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

David Seperic Noel Smith II 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.

THE SACRAMENTS ARE CELEBRATED

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# WE ARE ALL

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

# 72 And Counting

Skeptics may say you can make statistics say anything, but when it comes to the first century Jewish culture, numbers can have very specific meanings. For example, to the Jews, seven symbolizes perfection. It has its roots in the Creation story where God rested on the seventh day because his work was complete. The number twelve, or a multiple of it, often is a symbol for the twelve tribes of Israel or the twelve apostles. Such was the case in last week's gospel from Luke.

"The Lord appointed a further seventy-two and sent them in pairs before him to every town and place he intended to visit." (Lk 10:1) Seventy-two, of course, is a multiple of twelve, and in this instance references the number of nations in the world at that point. Luke makes an interesting point that the dis-

**Rest In Peace** 

Our prayers and sympathies to the family and

friends of

Joan Doty

ciples were sent out in pairs. There are many ways to evangelize, and doing so in pairs is a very effective one.

In his assessment of this gospel selection, Bishop Robert Barron reminds us that "We are a missionary Church. We are sent by the Lord to spread his word and do his work. The Christian Gospel is just not something that we are meant to cling to for our own benefit." There are several reasons, he says, why they went in pairs: to establish teamwork, provide witness, and to create a built-in support system.

Bishop Barron continues: "We do this work together, with others, in community. Ministers need people to support them and pray for them. Francis has an experience of God and then, within months, gathers people around him; Dominic, from the beginning, has brothers in his work; Mother Teresa attracted a number of her former students to join her in her mission."

We all could take a lesson from this, especially if we have

sometimes felt alone and a bit insecure when trying to spread God's Word. Asking a friend or family member to join us when talking to someone who has fallen away or is seeking the Lord can help us take that first step.

Bishop Barron reminds us that the Gospel is not just for individual use. Quiet prayer helps us grow in understanding it, but our job is also to share it; and doing so with another disciple is a great route to take. The disciples in last week's gospel enjoyed zapping demons like we might pick off mechanical ducks at the Ionia Free Fair. Jesus reminded them that the power to cast out demons was secondary to having their names written in heaven. Though we may not have that power, we can spread the word of the Lord and work toward getting our names on that list.

Deacon Eric

<u>deaconeric@hotmail.com</u>

# **Renovation Prayer**



St. Joseph, patron of craftsmen, through your intercession may the Holy Spirit guide all who work to renovate our worship space.

May God provide them the grace to safely transform our historic faith home into a lasting, beautiful, and welcoming place of worship.

St. Joseph, patron of families and our parish, be with us as we undertake this journey together. Amen

# Position Opening

We are accepting applications for a part-time RCIA Director. The duties include developing, implementing, and maintaining our RCIA program according to the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* and the *National Statues on the Catechumenate* in addition to other relevant Church documents.

Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree in Catholic Theological Studies, Religious Education, or equivalent. Minimum two years of ministry and/or teaching experience. Hours are approximately 15 hours per week from mid-August through the Easter Season. Full position description is available at <u>https://www.stjoecatholic.com/ hp\_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/RCIA-Director-Position.pdf</u>. Apply online at

www.dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers or send your resume, cover letter, and references to Susan Mahoney, St. Joseph Church, 109 Linden St., St. Johns, MI 48879, email: business.stjoseph@gmail.com.



# NEW POSITION OPENING:

St. Joseph Church is accepting applications for a part-time Bookkeeper. The Bookkeeper will work closely with the Business Manager, maintain the accounting ledger using

double-entry bookkeeping, process receivables and payables, and prepare payroll. Applicant must have an associate degree in accounting or equivalent experience, have familiarity with accounting software, and be proficient with Excel.

This position is 10-15 hours per week, yearround. Full position description is available at <u>www.stjoecatholic.com/forms/</u> If you are someone who fully embraces the teachings and mission of the Catholic Church and are interested in working in this environment, apply online at <u>www.</u> <u>dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers</u> or send your resume, cover letter, and references to Susan Mahoney, St. Joseph Church, 109 Linden St., St. Johns, MI 48879, email: <u>business.stjoseph</u> @gmail.com.

# LITURGICAL MINISTERS

July	16/17	
Alta	ar Servel	•

Altar Servers	
5:00 PM	Volunteers
8:00 AM	Volunteers
10:00 AM	Group 3
12:00 PM	Volunteers
Eucharistic M	linisters
5:00 PM	Group 1
8:00 AM	Group 1
10:00 AM	Group 1
12:00 PM	Group 1
Lectors	
5:00 PM	Lisa W.
8:00 AM	Trevor H.
10:00 AM	Ted S.
12:00 PM	Mary Beth E.

# Ushers

5:00 PM	Dave P. and Group 5C
8:00 AM	Tom K and Group 8C
10:00 AM	Steve S. and Group 10D
12:00 PM	Ron D. and Group 12A

# Counting Collections

July 11, 2022 • Group 4

### Day Chapel Cleaners

July 16th • Pat S. and Mary H.

### Job opening at Most Holy Trinity School

Most Holy Trinity School is accepting applications for a part-time school administrative assistant beginning in August 2022. A successful candidate can demonstrate a high level of communication skills, discretion in conversation in order to maintain school/student/family privacy, organization, computer software skills, and flexibility. He or she should also be able to make independent decisions consistent with the overall mission of the school. Applicants must have a high school diploma and experience as an office assistant with a warm, welcoming personality. Preference will be given to practicing Catholics who are active members in their parish community. Letters of application and resumes should be sent to Anne Hufnagel at Most Holy Trinity Parish either by email principal@mhtparish.com, dropped off at the MHT Parish office, or sent to the following address: 545 N. Maple St., Fowler, MI, 48835.

Our worship space renovation is proceeding on schedule. Crews have been busy taking out the pews, removing the paneling, and taking down the air conditioning and sound system to protect them from the dust and dirt. Next week, workers will be removing the old asbestos floor tile.



Reminder: For your own safety, please don't stop in to take a peek at the progress. We will keep you updated through the bulletin, website, and Facebook page.



# Stewardship

### For the weekend of July 3, 2022

Adults (139) Envelopes/Gifts:	\$10,794.00	
(Including automated debits and online giving)		
Loose Cash:	\$408.00	
Total:	\$11,202.00	

# Other Envelopes Received

Education Trust Fund:	\$338.00
Building Fund:	\$88.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$10.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2022 is \$11,202.00. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

# THE CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

The Children's Collection will be donated to:

# ST JOHNS BABY PANTRY



# Clinton County Right to Life Mint Festival Baby Contest.

All babies up to the age of 24 months are eligible and the entrance fee is \$5.00.

Voting in the contest will be through donation. Proceeds from the contest will be used to support our work to advance and protect pro-life laws in Michigan. Contact Mary Beth at 989-227-0088 for a registration form.



# Pilgrimage to Rome City, Indiana to visit the site of Our Lady of America

A caravan of parishioners will be traveling to the pilgrimage site of Our Lady of America in Rome City, IN on Saturday, August 6th. This is the site of the alleged Marian apparitions to Sister Mary Ephrem in 1956.

There will be Mass led by Bishop Kevin Rhodes of South Bend, IN, First Saturday Devotions, reconciliation, rosary, and a tour of the grounds. Bring a container to collect spring water that flows from the Kneipp Springs on the property.

For a history of this private devotion, please visit the Our Lady of America website at www.PatronessofAmerica.org.

If you have questions, please contact either Ann Gifford at 989-418-0147 or Kathy George at 989-292-2564.



# Metamorphosis: How a Regular Guy Becomes a Deacon (Deacon Eric Elstro's Journey to the Diaconate)

# The Call:

Did you ever get a call that you didn't expect? You know the type that kind of left you confused, wondering if it was intended for you or not? That's a lot like it was for me in the Spring of 2013. I had been looking for more in my faith, but could never get enough. I told Adult Faith Director Nancy Joseph that I felt like a sponge that couldn't be saturated. She asked if I had ever considered the diaconate; and though I had doubts the

diocese would accept me at age 61, I started discerning.

For weeks on end, I repeatedly read and contemplated Jesus' words, "Those who have ears to hear ought to hear." But I heard nothing until, like Deacon Marv, I challenged the Lord for an answer to the question "Do you want me in the diaconate formation program or not? Classes start in two weeks." In very "Jesus-like fashion," his reply came in the form of a question: "Can **you** cut that last tether preventing you from giving yourself totally to me?" When I answered "Yes," he removed all obstacles for me on the way to ordination in May 2019. Eric, the regular guy in the pew, became Deacon Eric. The metamorphosis was complete.

# The Ministry:

Deacon Marv did a great job in describing the role of deacon in the modern world as a minister of the Word, minister of the altar, and the minister of charity. We preach the gospel and assist the priest during Mass. We are also allowed to preside over funeral services, Baptisms, and weddings. But, the call to the diaconate is also a call to community. My primary focus outside of the church building is taking the Eucharist to parishioners who are no longer able to attend Mass. For me, that means taking Jesus to individual homes and residents at Grace Haven.

It's hard for me to identify what brings me the greatest joy because differing roles generate different emotions. There's a satisfaction in knowing that people appreciate me not only for bringing them the Eucharist, but for taking 15-20 minutes to sit and talk with them. There's a different warmth I feel when bringing the Lord's peace to those who are mourning. I relish helping parishioners to better understand their faith. I enjoy preaching and writing my Sunday column. Baptisms have their own spiritual satisfaction. I could go on and on, but in the end, I guess my greatest joy is that the Lord called me to the diaconate and gave me an opportunity to serve others in his name.

# Graces:

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A couple of months before I was ordained, I lunched with a deacon who was in the previous diaconate class. I asked him what the biggest change was that I would sense after being ordained. He told me, "Graces like you have never imagined." He was 100 percent accurate. And that is the message I would like to leave with anyone who is even remotely curious about looking into the diaconate. The time and effort that goes into diaconate formation is significant, but the spiritual reward and consolations from the Lord are indescribable. An added bonus is how much my wife, Mary Beth, has grown spiritually as she's walked by my side through formation and my early deacon years. So, I heartily urge those even remotely curious about this ministry to talk to me or my fellow deacons. You've got nothing to lose and infinite graces to gain.

# Why Be Registered?

Are you registered as a St. Joseph parishioner?

Often people will attend Mass at our parish for years, but never officially register. Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be a part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment to the St. Joseph parish community.

Being a registered parishioner makes the process much easier when it is time for baptisms, weddings, Faith Formation registrations, baptismal or confirmation sponsorship and even funerals. To register, fill out the form on the right and put it in the Sunday collection or visit

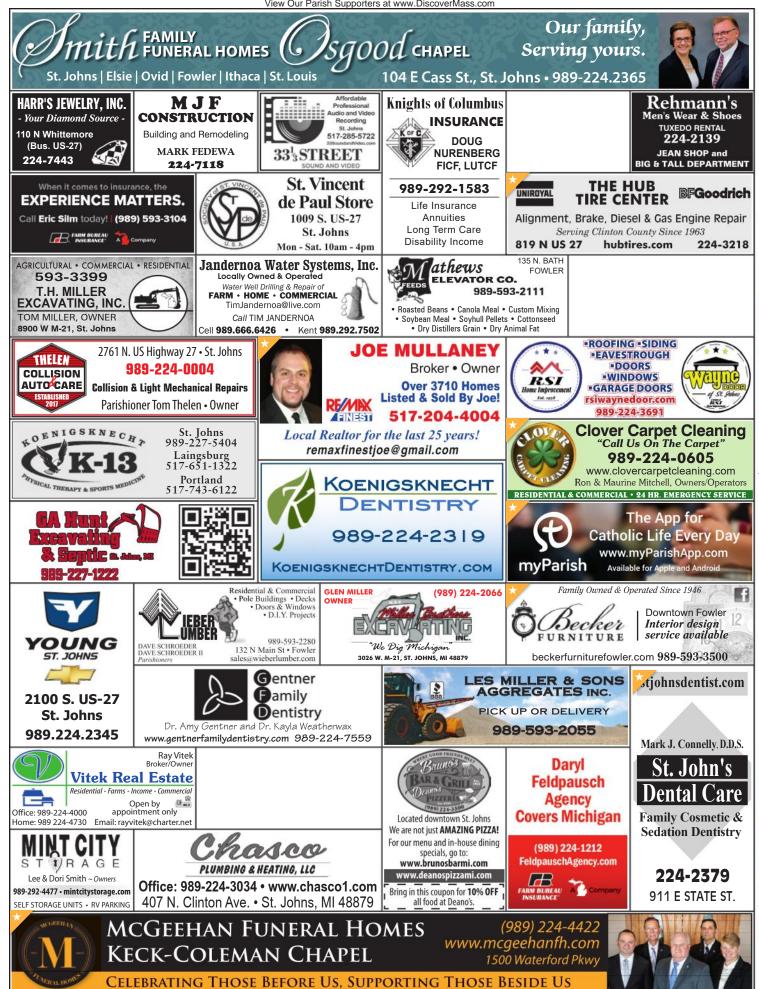
www.stjoecatholic.com/register

Last Name:		
Birthdates:		
Head:		
Spouse:		
Other Members:		
Address:		
Phones:	for	_ Home / Cell
	for	_ Home / Cell
Emails:		for
		for



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