

# St. Joseph Catholic Church

109 Linden Street  
Saint Johns, Michigan 48879-1837  
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[www.stjoecatholic.com](http://www.stjoecatholic.com)  
[stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com)

## Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive;  
seek and you will find;  
knock and the door will be  
opened to you."

Luke 11:9



### 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  
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** (See page 2 for locations during the church renovation)

Saturday • 5:00 pm

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

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** (in the Day Chapel)

Tuesday • 6:30 pm

Saturday • 4:00 pm

### Prayer Tree

Parish Office: (989)-224-8994

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays at Noon for the following weekend. Send



## THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

## Monday • July 25

*St. James, Apostle**2 Corinthians 4:7-15, / Matthew 20:20-28**No Mass*

## Tuesday • July 26

*Saints Joachim and Anne**Jeremiah 14:17-22 / Matthew 13:36-43**7:00 p.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)**Mass Intention: †William Parker By: Lisa and Charlie Wieber*

## Wednesday • July 27

*Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21 / Matthew 13: 44-46**12:05 p.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)**Mass Intention: †Carl Hufnagel By: Gail, Jeff and Amy*

## Thursday • July 28

*Jeremiah 18:1-6 / Matthew 13:47-53**8:30 a.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)**Mass Intention: Dan and Pat Snyder Special Intention for 50th Wedding Anniversary*

## Friday • July 29

*Saint Martha**Jeremiah 26:1-9 / John 11:19-27**8:30 a.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)**Mass Intention: †Howard Blasen By: Paul and Sandy Smith*

## Saturday • July 30

*Saint Peter Chrysologus**Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24 / Matthew 14:1-12**5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)**Mass Intention: †Bertine Thelen By: Lee and Ann Parker*

## Sunday • July 31

*Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23 / Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 / Luke 12:13-21**8:00 a.m. Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)**Mass Intention: †Joan Huhn By: Family**10:00 a.m. Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)**Mass Intention: People of The Parish**12:00 p.m. Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)**Mass Intention: †Ethel Kuhns By: Roger and Diane Thelen**6:00 p.m. Spanish Mass (in the Day Chapel)*

When was the last time you felt renewed and strengthened by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation? St. Joe has scheduled times of Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. If you can not make one of these times, contact the parish office to schedule an appointment; it can be very confidential, and you don't have to give your name. Just call to schedule a time and meet Fr. Mike by the Day Chapel confessional.



## July Office Hours

The parish office will be open with reduced hours in the month of July.

Mondays through Thursdays - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Fridays - closed

The answering machine and emails will be checked on a regular basis. We will do our best to get back with you in a day or two. Thanks for your patience!

## THE SANCTUARY LAMP

WILL BURN FROM JULY 24TH - JULY 30TH

In Memory of

Carl Hufnagel

## KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

Adam  
Beverly  
Sawyer Ballinger  
Daniel Blair  
Bob  
Joan Bozung  
Carol Burgtorf

Joseph Caudy  
Rhonda Chamberlain  
Jacob Epling  
Friend  
Marcia Goerge  
Alan Gove  
Korine  
Mary  
Matthew  
Myah  
Noah

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

Please pray for 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.*



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

## A Sermon on Homilies or a Homily on Sermons (Decide for Yourself)

Bishop Boyea's column in the latest issue of *Faith* magazine poses an interesting question: "Why do we have a homily at Mass?" His answer is framed by a reference to the story of the disciples speaking to Jesus on the road to Emmaus. These disciples were devout Jews who had been with Jesus for years, but only when the Lord started to connect the dots between what we now refer to as the Old Testament and what the disciples witnessed themselves did they start to see the bigger picture. And when Jesus broke bread before them--*Boom!*--they had personal epiphanies and couldn't wait to tell others.

That, the bishop says, is the first reason for homilies: to explain the Scriptures. The second reason

is, in his words, "to set hearts on fire." Homilists try to take their Scriptural explanation, apply it to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and ignite a passion in their listeners to connect that message to their lives. The Bishop also looks at the Greek root word for homily as well as the difference between a sermon and a homily and other great insights. So please check out the July/August issue of *Faith*.

Right now, though, I offer my experience, limited though it is, in writing homilies. All priests and deacons have their own process of homily prep, but I'm pretty sure we all start with reviewing the readings and praying for inspiration. Personally, I ask the Holy Spirit for the message he wants to convey to the parishioners in the pews. In essence, I say, "If you give the words you want me to say, I will put them in the right order." I read at least three commentaries on the readings to get the views of scholars. I let it all marinate for a day or more, then write.

Nonetheless, there are many potential hurdles to clear in writing a homily, not the least of which is

the topic. And it's not because there is a lack of material. The problem usually is "which of these four or five topics is the one the Holy Spirit wants me to preach on?" I've often started down a path only to find it blocked; started again and hit a wall; then proceeded back to "Go" and roll on home.

When I run aground, it is usually because I tried to go it alone, not listened closely enough to the Holy Spirit. I'm only three years into preaching, but each time I do I learn. Our diaconate formation director often told us candidates to not get frustrated in homily prep. "Know that the Lord wants you to preach well," he told us. That's a comforting thought: knowing that we have been given responsibility to handle the most precious of gifts, the Word of God, and to share it with parishioners. Please pray for all priests and deacons to preach well. Our world needs us to do so.

Deacon Eric

[deaconeric@hotmail.com](mailto:deaconeric@hotmail.com)

## STAFF CHANGES

Debbie Light, who was our Parish Secretary for three years, is moving on to new adventures. We wish her the best and will miss her cheerfulness and compassion in the parish office.

*Best Wishes*

## Welcome, Chris Groves, our new Youth Minister!

Chris is a member at St. Mary's Parish in Westphalia. After graduating from PW High school in 2014, he went to LCC and Ferris to get a degree in criminal justice. More importantly, he also spent the last eight years volunteering with the youth program in his home parish. In addition to leading our youth program, Chris is also the part-time Youth Minister at Most Holy Trinity in Fowler. Chris says, "I have always had a passion for serving, especially the youth; and I plan to bring that same passion with me as I am very excited to start this new journey that the Lord is leading me on."





*This is the second in a three-part series on the architectural styles of our church. Part one focused on Romanesque architecture that is simple and ordered.*

Renovation Reflection -  
Architecture 101

Our church holds a prominent feature of the very ornate **Gothic** style: arches with a point at the top as frame the stained glass windows. The stained-glass windows are also a feature of Gothic architecture. Flying buttresses and ribbed vault ceiling, which our church does not have, are the main identifying feature of Gothic buildings.

In the renovation, the existing windows will receive even more visual emphasis by limiting the use of dark wood trim to windows and doors. Gothic features will be incorporated into the glass wall enclosing the expanded greeting area.

Another feature of Gothic architecture is “overlaid tracery” that breaks the plane of the wall. Shattered remnants of this feature hid behind the paneling, but this pattern may be reproduced in another form in other places in the worship space.

*Our God is the author of all that is beautiful in its many forms. The Gothic style represents this about our beliefs.*



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

July 30/July 31

<b>Altar Servers</b>	5:00 PM	Group 2
	8:00 AM	Volunteers
	10:00 AM	Group 1
	12:00 PM	Group 2

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

<b>Communion</b>	5:00 PM	Group 3
	8:00 AM	Group 3
	10:00 AM	Group 3
	12:00 PM	Group 3

<b>Lectors</b>	5:00 PM	Diane A.
	8:00 AM	Kathleen W.
	10:00 AM	Karen D.
	12:00 PM	Colleen S.

<b>Ushers</b>	5:00 PM	Kevin B. and Group 5B
	8:00 AM	Mike B. and Group 8E
	10:00 AM	Cindy C. and Group 10B
	12:00 PM	Tom W. and Group 12C

**Collection Counters**

July 25, 2022 • Group 2

**Day Chapel Cleaners**

July 30th • Becky S. and Barb L.

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of July 17, 2022

Adults (233) Envelopes/Gifts:	\$11,278.11
(Including online giving)	
Loose Cash:	\$357.90
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$11,636.01</b>

**Other Gifts Received**

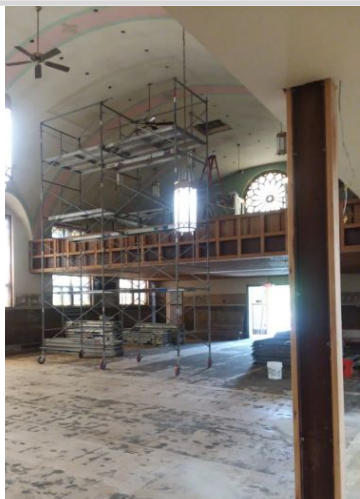
Education Trust Fund:	\$585.00
Building Fund:	\$655.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$235.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2022, is \$15,183.46. 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



Renovation Update

- Asbestos floor tile is removed.
- Scaffolding is assembled to begin repairs to the ceiling.
- Our gathering space at the main entrance is being enlarged.

## PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER NEEDED!



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, year-round. Full position description is available at [www.stjoecatholic.com/forms/](http://www.stjoecatholic.com/forms/) 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 [www.dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers](http://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](mailto:business.stjoseph@gmail.com)

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