

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

But now we must celebrate and rejoice,
because your brother was dead
and has come to life again;
he was lost and has been found.

Luke 15:32



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 • Judi Thelen
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
RCIA • Amanda Grigar
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 to stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com



THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday • September 12

1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33/Luke 7:1-10

No Mass

Tuesday • September 13

1 Corinthians 12: 12-14, 27-31a/ Luke 7:11-17

Mass 7pm (in the Day Chapel)

†Jeannette & Bill Gladden By: Family

Wednesday • September 14

Numbers 21:4b-9/Philippians 2:6-11/John 3:13-17

Mass 12:05pm (in the Day Chapel)

†Clayton, Betty & Clare Kramer By: Harry & Dianne Goerge

Thursday • September 15

1 Corinthians 15:1-11/John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

Mass 8:30am (in the Day Chapel)

†Charles Waddell By: Scott & Melissa Smith

Friday • September 16

1 Corinthians 15:12-20/ Luke 8:1-3

Mass 8:30am (in the Day Chapel)

†Bernard Jorae

Saturday • September 17

1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49/ Luke 8:4-15

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)

†Thomas Burns By: Lisa & Charlie Wieber

Sunday • September 18

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 8: 4-7/1 Timothy 2:1-8/ Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

8:00 a.m. Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)

†Richard & Doris Andrews By: Karen Wood & Family

10:00 a.m. Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)

†Ethel Kuhns By: Jumper Family

12:00 p.m. Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)

†Donna Kus By: Lee & Dori Smith

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish (in the Day Chapel)

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

WILL BURN FROM SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH 17, 2022

*In Memory of
Cecil & Joan Smith and Linda Harris*

Are you or someone you know celebrating a significant wedding anniversary*: 10, 20, 30, 40, or 50+ years of marriage? If so, please contact the parish office to let us know. The Diocese is grateful for your witness and would like to particularly honor you on this momentous occasion.



*If you celebrated a milestone anniversary during 2020 or 2021, let us know also, as the Diocese did not celebrate anniversaries those years due to COVID.



*Molly Feldpausch &
Riley Brown*

Rest In Peace

Our prayers and sympathies
to the family and friends

Marian Kurncz

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for
our parishioners
and their families,
especially:

Adam
Beverly
Sawyer Ballinger
Daniel Blair
Bob
Joan Bozung

Carol Burgdorf
Joseph Caudy
Jacob Epling
Friend
Stu Fitzpatrick
Marcia Goerge
Korine
Mary
Matthew
Myah

Noah
Danielle P.
Patricia
Jenny Pytlowanyj
Jerry Schafer
Donna Smith
Jason Thelen
Jeff Wadell
Brad Walker
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
Stjosephchurchst-
johns@gmail.com

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



WE ARE ALL EVANGELIZERS

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

Mercy, Hope and Second Chances

We know we have a merciful God, but sometimes we push our luck. The Israelites constantly tested God in the desert, even though he had led them out of slavery in Egypt. Today's first reading from Exodus shows God's reaction to the molten calf the Israelites had made to worship, while Moses was up on Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments. His words to Moses: "Let me alone then, that my wrath may blaze up against them to consume them."

Then Moses, who was none too happy with his people either, then played the role of mediator. Like Abraham, who bought some time for the people

of Sodom through a series of negotiations (very loosely defined here), Moses reminded the Lord of his promises to Abraham, Isaac and Israel. So this "God of second chances" granted the first of many second chances he would give the Israelites going forward, and pulled the plug on his plan to consume them. In doing so, he granted them hope. It was hopeless, then there was hope for God's Chosen People.

For the Prodigal Son (whose story was included only in the long version of today's gospel), his life also went from seemingly hopeless to hopeful. G.K. Chesterton described that line between hope and hopeless like this: "In the struggle for existence, it is only on those who hang on for ten minutes after all is hopeless, that hope begins to dawn." The younger son, who had insulted his father by demanding his share of the family estate (normally passed on after a father's death), found himself hanging on "ten minutes after all was hopeless."

He didn't have a mediator such as Abraham or Moses to appeal for mercy to his father, but sought it on his own. It was granted, for he too, had a "father of second chances."

The message of hope when all seems hopeless is as true today as it has ever been. We can easily be overwhelmed by the negative news that's constantly in the news media. We can be worn down from trying to fight the fight for a moral society or religious freedom. We can be exhausted from the personal hardships in our lives. Or we can find strength and hope "ten minutes after all is hopeless," by turning to the source of all hope, Jesus. God will grant us mercy if we have wronged him, but we have to ask for it. He will grant us his strength, if we turn to him in prayer.

Deacon Eric

deaconeric@hotmail.com



St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary Monthly Meeting Monday, September 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbian Hall

All women of the parish are invited. During our Faith and Fellowship, we will discuss Jesus's call to "Follow Me". How does this call fit into our lives in this time?

Also, remember to "save the date" for the Women of Hope Day Retreat on October 1st. The Theme for the retreat is "Chin Up Woman-Difficult doesn't mean Impossible".

Planning will begin for our next major event—the October 1st Ladies Day Retreat. We will end the evening with snacks and sharing. Come and see how much fun we have planning events, sharing our faith, and building our relationships. Please call Mary Beth at (989) 227-0088 if you have any questions.

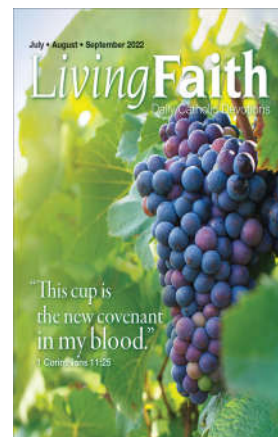
A Call to Prayer For Life:

Each Friday from 4:00 to 5:00 there will be an hour of prayer to pray for the **defeat of the Reproductive Freedom Ballot proposal**. This proposal would enshrine abortion in Michigan's constitution and allow all abortions at any stage. This extreme ballot proposal can be defeated through prayers and fasting.

So, please join in the hour of prayer in the Day Chapel.
If not able to come, please join us by praying in your home.

Large-Print Living Faith Daily Devotionals

A parishioner recently
donated about 10 large print
Living Faith daily
devotionals.
Please stop into the
parish office to get your
copy.



What is the Prayer Tree?

The Prayer Tree is an organized group of individuals who pray for our parish family. Prayer requests are confidential and are not shared with anyone outside of the prayer tree members. Parishioners can add their prayer requests for themselves, family members, or friends by contacting the Parish Office at 989-224-8994. The prayer request will be passed on to the prayer tree participants within one business day.

The prayer list published in the bulletin is not the same as the Prayer Tree.

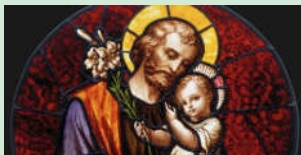
To add an immediate family member to the bulletin prayer list call the office 989-224-8994.



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

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

September 17/18

Altar Servers	5:00 PM	Group 1
	8:00 AM	Volunteers
	10:00 AM	Volunteers
	12:00 PM	Group 1

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

5:00 PM	Group 1
8:00 AM	Group 1
10:00 AM	Group 1
12:00 PM	Group 1

Lectors	5:00 PM	Beth S.
	8:00 AM	Kathy W.
	10:00 AM	Joe T.
	12:00 PM	Dawn L.

Ushers	5:00 PM	Dave P.	Group 5BC
	8:00 AM	Tom C.	Group 8B
	10:00 AM	Jim S.	Group 10A
	12:00 PM	Ron D.	Group 12A

Collection Counters

September 12 • Group 1

Day Chapel Cleaners

September 17 • Pam Ervin & Karen Feldpausch

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of September 6, 2022

Adults (145) Envelopes/Gifts: \$14,859.60
(Including online giving)

Loose Cash: \$508.00

Total: \$15,367.60

Other Gifts Received

Education Trust Fund: \$185.00

Building Fund: \$1,363.00

Tuition Scholarship Fund: \$235.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2022 is \$17,245.53. 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

ST. Joseph Catholic School LUNCH MENU

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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

Monday:	Tortilla chips w/cheese and meat sauce, lettuce salad, fruit, and milk.
Tuesday:	Chicken fettuccini, bread sticks, green beans, fruit, and milk.
Wednesday:	Pigs in a blanket, tator tots, fruit, and milk.
Thursday:	Hamburger on a bun w/cheese, fried chips, fruit, and milk.
Friday:	Cheese pizza, fresh carrots w/dip, fruit, and milk.

Lunches are \$3.00

Milk \$0.50

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

K-8th grade Religious Education and First Class:

K-8th grade religious education starts on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 6:00-7:00pm. (Parents and children will meet in the school cafeteria at 6pm)

Please register before the classes start to help us better prepare with materials and texts for the children. Registration forms are available at Stjoecatholic.com or in the parish office. We look forward to growing in faith with all the children and families in the year ahead.

Contact Jen Nelson, Director of Religious Education for questions or more information at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com or 989 224-8537. If your child is beyond second grade age and hasn't celebrated First Reconciliation or First Communion, please also contact Jen Nelson for more information.

From the Youth Minister's desk:

Attention High School Students

(9-12th grade)

The Youth Program is going to have a new look this year and we are really excited to have the students back!!

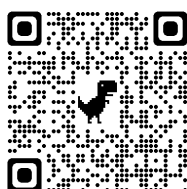
This new program is going to be more faith formation based. We will be holding meetings weekly on Wednesday nights from 7:15 to about 8:30. We will still be doing some fun events in addition to the new curriculum plan.

To help with planning, I have created a sign up form link posted below along with a QR code. This registration link will help me to plan for how many students will be attending on Wednesday nights and it will also help to figure how many adult volunteers are needed to assist with small groups. Stay tuned for more information. A tentative schedule will be available soon.

I look forward to meeting everyone soon!

God Bless, Chris

<https://forms.gle/e5TDqXeTLuQGFWTi8>



Annual Cooperative MISSION APPEAL

Next weekend, at all Masses, Rev. Raju Pilla will be speaking about the works and the needs of the Latin Archdiocese of Trivandrum in India.

Trivandrum has about 270,000 Catholics. Approximately 90% of the people are traditional fishermen who depend on the fishing for their livelihood and 10% are farm workers who are recent converts from the low caste Hindus. Unemployment and poverty are most rampant in this community.

The Archdiocese depends on outside assistance to support its clergy, seminarians, catechists and to continue its developmental program. However, during the pandemic lockdown, the situation is very pitiful as the fishermen are restricted from fishing which is their livelihood. With income halted from fishing, the people are struggling to support themselves.



Recent Cyclone "Tauktae" that swept through the coastal villages in May 2021, destroyed hundreds of homes. They are looking for emergency assistance for food, medicine, and housing.

We will have a second collection after communion at next weekend's Masses. You can also drop off a donation at the parish office this week.

Your support of this mission appeal is deeply appreciated.

Renovation Reflection - Family Room

A popular feature of homes in the 1970s was to have both a living room and family room. Walls of family rooms were often covered with paneling, with carpeted floors. Family rooms would often have ceiling fans and few windows. The room could be used as a den, game room, or just a place to quietly relax.

OUR FAMILY ROOM

In the 1958-59 addition and remodel, paneling was added around the worship space. Visually, the church, especially the addition, was somewhat reminiscent of a family room. Why paneling? Was it because this was a common wall covering at the time? Because paneling would have worn better than paint? Was the organic nature of wood important to worshippers at the time? The geometry of the vertical lines, directing the eye upwards to heaven? Was it purely a matter of keeping costs low?

STICKS, THEN STONES

With the renovation of St. Joseph church, the paneling will be removed.

What is wrong with paneling? After all, isn't the church, among many things, a "family room?" Nothing is wrong with paneling - wood is one choice among many. However, the paneling was well worn, and not the best choice of material for places with a lot of traffic. Besides easy maintenance of materials, one of the goals of the renovation is to provide a consistent look throughout all of the worship space. While paneling previously did that for the main nave of the church and the addition, the sanctuary walls broke that unity and were painted.

CONTINUITY

With the renovation, the walls of the entire worship space (main nave of the church, addition, and sanctuary) will be covered with a product with the appearance of marble. That continuity throughout the entire worship space, especially the addition, is essential to worship. As the U.S. Bishops wrote: "The body of the church is not simply a series of unrelated sections. Rather, each part contributes to the unity of the space by proportion, size, and shape."

Built of Living Stones, #53

BALANCE.

Also, with wood pews, wood paneling, and wood trim, much of the visual interest of individual wood elements was lost. On the walls, with only the trim of windows and doors remaining in wood, the visual appeal of each will be emphasized all the more.

ICON OF GOD

Yet, marble also conveys a sense of the God we worship. Marble has an appearance of solidness, like our everlasting and eternal God. Finished stone reflects light, as should we reflect the Light of Christ.

MIGRATION.

This change for St. Joseph parishioners is similar to one undertaken by the early Church. When the Jewish Christians were expelled from the Temple, they began meeting in homes, which were made of less durable rough stone and mudbrick, with little wood (only on roofs). As communities grew, they moved to public spaces, made of more finished stone and perhaps even tile.

Hmmm, look at us, following in the footsteps of our worshiping

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Dcn. Dave & Ann Zygmuntowicz

September 21, 28; October 5, 19, 26; November 2

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REGISTRATION is available at elcatholics.org/marriage-ministry

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Evening shifts are off campus at various churches.
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If interested in the kitchen help, please call Lisa at
517-388-5946



Being Pro-Life After Dobbs:

What the Catholic Tradition Has to Say About What Should Come Next

Speaker- Dr. Charlie Camosy

St. Gerard Church
Saturday, September 24, 2022 6pm

After decades of debate on the issue of abortion, the recent United States Supreme Court ruling has turned the discussion upside down. It can be challenging to find a way forward when different camps make radical claims, often for political gain. To help us answer the question, "What comes next?" we have invited Dr. Charlie Camosy to give a presentation at St. Gerard on Saturday, September 24 at 6 pm. The presentation will provide clear insight into what the Catholic Tradition has to say about abortion and being pro-life. There will also be an opportunity for 'question and answer.' Please plan on attending.



Dr. Camosy is a professor of Medical Humanities at the Creighton University School of Medicine. He also holds the Monsignor Curran Fellowship in Moral Theology at St. Joseph Seminary in New York.

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