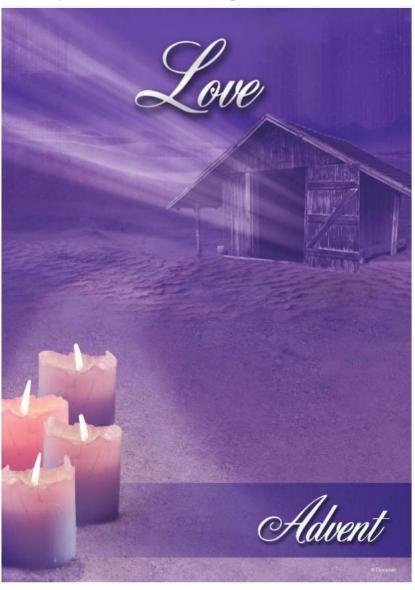
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Fax: (989) 224-3475

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 • 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 p.m.
Sunday • 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

(Holy Days • Consult the bulletin.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the Day Chapel)

Tuesday • 6:30 p.m. Saturday • 4:00 p.m.

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 ● December 19

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25A/Luke 1:5-25

No Mass

Tuesday ● December 20

Isaiah 7:10-14/Luke 1:26-38

7:00 p.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)

†Dominic Zsigo

Bv: Meredith Goodman

Wednesday • December 21

Song 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a/Luke 1:39-45

12:05 p.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)

†Germaine Nurenberg

By: Family

Thursday ● December 22

1 Samuel 1:24-28/Luke 1:46-56

8:30 a.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)

†Jan Sipkovsky

By: Charlie and Lisa Wieber

Friday ● December 23
Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/Luke 1:57-66
8:30 a.m. Mass (in the Day Chapel)
†Don Pesmark

By: Mike and Mary Bilideau

Saturday • December 24

Christmas Eve

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Luke 1:67-79

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)

†Peter, Margaret Mary Klein By: Terri Klein Gove

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (in the Wilson Center Auditorium)

†Faye Saliisbury

(in the Wilson Center Auditorium) 10:00 p.m. Vigil Mass By: Laurie Blackmer

tJoe Mesh

Sunday • December 25

Christmas Day-Nativity of the Lord

Isaiah 9:1-6/Titus 2:11-14/Luke 2:1-14

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

Special Intention By: Steve and Susan Mahoney

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

Christmas Mass Schedule

(at the Wilson Center Auditorium)

December 24, 2022 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 10:00 p.m.

> December 25, 2022 10.00 a m all Masses will be incense free

THE SANCTUARY LAMP WILL BURN FROM DECEMBER 18 - DECEMBER 24 IN MEMORY OF **CINDY NUNN**

Rest in Peace

Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of Terry Rouse and Jeanette Powers

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, 'which means 'God is with us." Matthew 1:23

Jesus remains with us in the Holy Eucharist. Stop in to our chapel to spend time with Him this Advent.

Would you like more information about being a part of our Adoration team as a regular monthly adorer or sub? Text or call Rebecca 989-292-2072.

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 Jacob Epling Friend 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 Stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com

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

THE SACRAMENTS ARE CELEBRATED



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

Angel Talks, Joseph Listens
Angels appear in many books of
the bible, including big roles in
both infancy narratives from Luke
and Matthew. In Luke, the angel
Gabriel is identified, but in Matthew we are told only of "the angel of the Lord." In our gospel
reading today from Matthew, the
angel speaks to Joseph in a
dream and the visit speaks volumes about Joseph and his role
in salvation history.

We don't know what Joseph's voice sounded like (ha, ha) because he didn't get a speaking part in Scripture. But he truly is a case study of the old saying "actions speak louder than words." The angel tells Joseph to take Mary into his home for she has conceived a child through the Holy Spirit. He is told to name the child Jesus (Yahweh saves) because "he will save his people from sins." The instructions are

incredible, or in today's lingo "A Big Ask." Nonetheless, in the first of three dreams featuring the angel of the Lord, Joseph does as he is told.

St. Joseph is one of my favorite saints, just because of that. He provides a wonderful example of what we should all be trying to do - God's will. He's an important figure in salvation history providing not only a link to the line of David, but a home for Mary and Jesus. He just listens to the angel's directive from God and does God's will. He just listens to God and obeys.

Think about what God asks of Joseph and how he responds. Now think of what the Lord asks of us, and how we respond. This is a great time to evaluate if we need to respond better. If we are not happy with our responses, perhaps we need to get on the hotline and give Joseph a jingle. He knows quite a bit about saying "Yes" to the Lord.

The angel of the Lord visits

Joseph two more times in Matthew's narrative and we would normally hear that gospel reading on the Sunday between the feasts of Christmas and Mary, the Holy Mother of God (New Year's Day). But there is no Sunday between those two feasts this year, so the feast of the Holy Family will be celebrated on Friday, December 30th . Once again, Joseph does as he is asked--first to take his family to a foreign land (Egypt), then to bring them back to the small town of Nazareth

Mary deserves all the honor we send her way as the Mother of God, but let's not forget Joseph's role in the Christmas story this year. I know he doesn't need a pat on the back or an "atta boy" from me, but nonetheless I say let's raise a glass of eggnog to St. Joseph this Christmas season and say "Thanks for saying 'yes' and showing us how to do God's will."

Deacon Eric deaconeric@hotmail.com

HY were the saints, saints? Because they were cheerful when it was difficult to be cheerful, patient when it was difficult to be patient; and because they pushed on when they wanted to stand still, and kept silent when they wanted to talk, and were agreeable when they wanted to be disagreeable. That was all.

It was quite simple and always will be.



Calling all Cookie bakers

The Clinton County Jail ministry has asked the Parish for cookies for the Christmas Eve Gathering. The Jail is at full capacity so they will distribute lots of cookies! Our Jail houses 200 men and 50 women. Hoping we can come up with 60 dozen cookies.

Any kind of cookie is good. Doesn't need to be fancy. They need to be bagged one or two per baggie. Cookies would need to be at the parish office no later than Wednesday, December 21, 2022. If you would like to drop them off sooner, they can be stored in the church office refrigerator.

Please pass this along to other cookie bakers!

9th Grade Confirmation Session

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 is the next session for all current 9th graders that are preparing for Confirmation in March 2023. This session will again include attending High School Faith Formation (Youth Group) after the Confirmation session. Please plan on attending from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please bring your journals and textbooks with you.

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Nelson at 989-224-8537 or email at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com.

St. Joseph Catholic School presents our Christmas program: "Unspeakable Joy!"

> Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. At the Wilson Center Auditorium



INCLEMENT WEATHER

Parish Office Closure

When St. Johns Public School closes for Inclement Weather, so does St. Joseph Catholic Church parish office. If there is a weekday Mass scheduled that day, the Mass will still take place. Please consider all precautions if you still plan on attending the weekday Mass. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the parish office.

St. Joseph Catholic School **LUNCH MENU**

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19. 2022

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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

Monday: Cheese pizza, green beans, fruit, and milk. Ham, scalloped potatoes, fruit, and milk. Tuesday: Chicken noodle soup with crackers, blueberry Wednesday:

muffins, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Hamburger on a bun with cheese, fried chips, fruit,

and milk.

Christmas Break-Have a very Merry and Blessed Friday:

Christmas! from Mrs. Klein, Mrs. Jakus and Mrs. Parker.

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

Miscellaneous Money Matters

Year-End Contribution Statements for 2022 will be mailed by the end of January. In compliance with the IRS, any donations postmarked after 12/31/22 or received in the office after 12/31/22 will be recorded as 2023 gifts. Your generosity this year toward the support of our parish has been appreciated!

Thinking about starting automatic contributions? Click on the Online Giving link at www.stjoecatholic.com/donate to get started.

Are you already using Online Giving? Sometimes we set up automatic systems and forget to check them to make sure everything is current. Please take a few minutes to make sure that your donation amount is correct and that your credit card or bank card hasn't expired.

IRA Required Minimum Distributions: If you're 70 ½ years or older, donating your IRA required minimum distribution to the parish can be a way to pay less taxes. Contact your investment advisor and the parish office to make a direct transfer so that the distribution doesn't have to be claimed as income.

Donate stocks, bonds, or mutual funds: To avoid capital gains tax on appreciated securities, consider transferring them to St. Joe's as your donation. Contact your investment advisor and the parish office to make this transfer.

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of December 12, 2022

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

ST JOHNS BABY PANTRY



Discover why Lansing Catholic High School is the place for you! Learn more about us at Prospective Family Night on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at lansingcatholic.org/visit. Now enrolling transfer students to begin January 2023. Eighth grade families can apply now for the 2023-24 school year! lansingcatholic.org/apply.

You can sign up for **FORMED** for free at: stjoecatholic.formed.org.

Formed, a revolutionary online platform, provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video based studies from trusted providers.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Want to help out at the parish by becoming a Lector, **Eucharistic Minister or Altar Server?**

These ministries are a wonderful way to help out at the parish and grow in your relationship with the Lord. If you would like to join one of these ministries, please contact the parish office at stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com or (989) 224-8994. We will be having training for all of these ministries

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24/25

(ALL MASSES WILL BE INCENSE FREE)

Altar Servers

Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Mara & Cassie

> 7:00 p.m. Volunteers needed 10:00 p.m. Volunteers needed

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Volunteers needed

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Bridgette V.

1 volunteer needed

7:00 p.m. Karen W.

LuAnn C.

1 volunteer needed

10:00 p.m. Midge S.

> Kathy R. Judi T.

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Janet M.

Mary Beth E.

Lectors

Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Ann P.

> 8:00 p.m. Diane A. 10:00 p.m. Jane M.

10:00 a.m. Bob. P Christmas Day

Ushers

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Kevin B. Group 5B 7:00 p.m. Group 8A Bruce P. 10:00 p.m. Group 10C

Henry B.

Christmas Dav

10:00 a.m. Group 12C Tom W.

Collection Counters

December 19 ● Group 3

Sanctuary/Day Chapel Cleaners

On hiatus until after renovation

Serve the LORD
with Gladness

Diocesan Special Needs Ministry

There is a Special Needs Mass on January 22, 2023, starting at 2:00 p.m. in the St. Francis Retreat Center Chapel located at 703 E Main Street, Dewitt. Light refreshments to follow in the Dining Room. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by January 15, 2023 to Cathy Blatnik, Program Director of All Faith Ministry for disABILITIES/Coordinator of Special Needs Ministry-Diocese of Lansing at blatsie63@vahoo.com or at 517-381-1410. All are welcome!

The ASL Interpreted Masses at St. Gerard Parish located at 4437 W. Willow Highway, in Lansing are at 4:30 p.m. on January 6 and 21, 2023. No RSVP required. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Blatnik.



- Women's Retreat Rescue and Response: January 6-8, 2023
- Men's Retreat Rescue and Response: January 24-26, 2023
- Men's Retreat Rescue and Response: Jan. 20-22, 2023
- **Married Couples Weekend:** Feb. 10-12, 2023
 - Men's Retreat Rescue and Response:

Feb. 10-12, 2023

More information and registration for any of these events can be found at www.stfrancis.ws or call 517-669-8321.



6

Are you interested in serving the Church in the Diocese of Lansing? We are currently accept-LANSING ing resumes for a Donor Services Specialist, a Regional Staff Ac-

countant and an Assistant Director of Building and Property Management. To learn more about these positions and to apply, please visit our careers page https://www.dioceseoflansing.org/humanresources/careers

From Fr. Mike:

The Importance of Mass

I'm a parent, and I don't always go to Mass.

God holds parents accountable for the spiritual formation of their children. This is a grave responsibility. God has entrusted to parents not just a little body and personality, but He has placed into the hands of parents, their children's immortal souls. No one can take the place of parents.

If the Eucharist is not important enough to parents that they insure they are there every Sunday, what will it mean to their children? Parents who do this really teach their children that they can override (or ignore) the wisdom of the Church and the command of God, by their own personal prideful decision. This then infects every other aspect of life and any other teaching of the Church, which is really God's teacher. Pride is the heart of every sin, and the downfall of many. It was with Lucifer, Adam and Eve, and each of us when we sin, and each one of us when we sin.

Parents who do not attend Church, even if they attend sporadically, or on "big occasions," are a source of scandal to their children, and their sin is made worse by the fact that they lead their children away from God. There is no way to really gauge the importance of the parents' example.

Sometimes our families, perhaps through no fault of their own, are themselves poorly formed in the Faith. There is a difference between being a "good person," and being a faithful Christian. Being a good citizen, good neighbor, not hurting anybody, willing to help anyone, etc., does not mean we are fulfilling God's will in all things. It is foolish to point to good aspects of our lives, being satisfied with that limited sense, and ignoring other aspects that are just as important, or even more important. We need to pray for conversion of ourselves and everyone else.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION SHARED









TICKETS FOR THE ST. JOSEPH FEAST AND RAFFLE

ARE LIVE! The event is on March 18, 2023 at Smith Hall in St. Johns. There are only 360 dinner tickets available. Tickets are \$75 a piece and includes dinner, drinks, and entertainment. Please visit http://bidpal.net/sjfr to buy your tickets now! Tickets can ONLY be purchased through this site.

Seating: If you want to sit with certain people at the event, be sure to pick up the same table number

Donations: You can input silent auction item donations and monetary donations and get a receipt right to your email.

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Catholic School!

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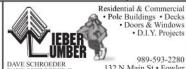
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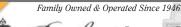
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