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



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Again, [amen,] I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father."

Matthew 18:19

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 Christian Initiation of Adults • Amanda Grigar

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 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 church)

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

to s



THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday ● September 11

Colossians 1:24--2:3/Luke 6:6-11

No Mass

Tuesday ● September 12

Colossians 2:6-15/Luke 6:12-19

7:00 p.m. Mass †Bill (PeeWee) LaPeer
By: Doug Hogan

Wednesday ● September 13
Colossians 3:1-11/Luke 6:20-26
12:05 p.m. Mass †Larry Meier

By: Barb Yaich

Thursday • September 14

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

8:30 a.m. Mass Education Trust Fund

Friday • September 15

1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14/John 19:25-27 8:30 a.m. Mass †Charles Wadell By: Gail Wadell

Saturday • September 16

1 Timothy 1:15-17/Luke 6:43-49 5:00 p.m. Mass †Bill McCann By: Family

Sunday ● September 17

Sirach 27:30--28:7/Romans 14:7-9/Matthew 18:21-35

†Thomas Burns

8:00 a.m. Mass

By: Lisa and Charlie Wieber

10:00 a.m. Mass The People of the Parish

12:00 p.m. Mass †Rick Kerr

By: Family

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish



The Sanctuary Lamp

Will burn from September 10 - September 16, 2023 In memory of

Charles Wadell



Kaleigh Schneider & Gavin Percha



Eucharistic Adoration

"If we really loved the good God, we should make it our joy and happiness to come and spend a few moments to adore Him, and ask Him for the grace of forgiveness; and, we should regard those moments as the happiest of our lives."

St. John Vianney

Eucharistic Adoration can be as simple as stopping by our church at a time it is open and spend a few minutes with Our Lord. Or, it could be making a commitment to make a weekly or monthly Holy Hour in adoration of our Eucharistic Lord. Text or call Rebecca at 989-292-2072 for more information.

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
Sherri Couch
Friend
Marcia Goerge
Melissa
Brenda Higgins
Judy Kissane
Korine
Mary
Matthew

Myah Noah Danielle P. Patricia Jenny Pytlowanyj Jerry Schafer Joany Schrauben Donna Smith Jason Thelen Michael VanElls Jeff Wadell Brad Walker Millie Wassa Fr. Don Wieber Bill Darnell Susan Darnell 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)

They Really Want to Know

As we know from the gospel story of John the Baptist (or 'Crazy John' as Peter calls him in *The Chosen*), King Herod Antipas threw John in prison because the Baptizer criticized Herod for marrying his brother's wife. But then, Bishop Robert Barron says, we are told the king loved secretly to listen to the prophet, who continued to preach from his cell." In the bishop's mind, this is where Herod shows his commonality with contemporary atheists.

Bishop Barron says biblical scholars believe that we are all hardwired for God. That would include, in the bishop's mind, some well-known atheists of our day like TV commentator Bill Maher and British evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins (not to be confused with British actor Richard Dawson of Hogan's Heroes, Match Game and Family Feud fame). Maher is unabashedly anti-God and anti-religion and believes

that religion is actually destructive to society. Dawkins has written numerous books that touch on Darwinism and atheism, including one called *The God Delusion*.

Nonetheless, Bishop Barron believes that they implicitly want God and hence remain permanently fascinated by the things of God. The bishop contends that despite what these atheists say about eliminating all things religious, secretly they like to listen to people talking about God. Therefore, his words of wisdom to us are to get some spiritual weapons in our hands and be prepared for a fight. He sums up his thoughts with these words: "I'll keep talkingbecause I know, despite your protestations, that your hearts are listening."

The trick for us now is to take this perspective and apply it to our lives. If we are well- armed with our Christian understanding; well-armed with our knowledge of Scripture and; well-armed with comprehension of the Catechism, then atheists may listen to us more closely. The premise is straightforward. The key is knowing your faith. If we are only at a 5th or

6th grade level in understanding our faith, we cannot have a meaningful conversation with an avowed atheist who's had years of developing his/her position opposing God and religion. It's up to us to be schooled in Catholicism. If indeed the bishop's assertion that atheists are fascinated by the things of God and that their hearts are listening is true, the fascination will only be triggered by something beyond surface level knowledge.

So, let's put our minds to work if we have not studied the faith since our Confirmations. We can tackle the bible or the catechism. We can be part of the St. Joe book club which will be studying C.S. Lewis' master satire *The Screwtape Letters* this month or we can attend any other adult faith class St. Joe's presents in the upcoming months. Let's find a way to make Bishop Barron's assertion a reality. Let's fascinate an atheist, and if we can't do that, maybe we can lead some of our "lost sheep" back to the fold.

Deacon Eric deaconeric@hotmail.com



Senior Luncheon will be Wednesday, October 18, 2023 Mark your calendars! More details to follow.

If you would like to help with this event, please contact the parish office.

Women of Hope Day Retreat

We face many fears and worries in our world today. Nonetheless, with faith in Jesus we need not fear. Jesus says "Don't be afraid," but how we follow his directive can be a challenge for us. **St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary** is offering the ladies of the parish an opportunity to address this challenge by hosting a **Women of Hope day retreat** with the theme *Faith, Not Fear...or Worry*.

This retreat will be held at **St. Francis Retreat Center in Dewitt on Saturday, October 7**th from 9:00 until 3:00. The day will begin with prayer and a continental breakfast followed by discussions, prayers and time for reflection. Lunch and quiet time for walking the grounds will also be available. Cost for the retreat is \$30.00 and tickets will be available in the parish office starting next Monday, August 28th. Questions can be directed to Mary Beth at (989) 227-0088.



High School Faith Formation Nights

High School Faith Formation (9-12 grades) will start on Wednesday, September 27, with a social night at 7:30 -8:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Teens will meet two Wednesdays a month with a new curriculum, and a social on the third Wednesday. For a complete calendar, please see the stjoecatholic.com website or pick up a calendar on September 27. If you are able to help with snack/drink donations, please email Jen dre.stjoseph@gmail.com. Thank you! For guesplease contact Jen dre.stjoseph@gmail.com or 989-224-8537

Reminder: Religious Education K-9th Registration

K-9th grade religious education programs start soon! Registration forms and calendars can be found on line at stjoecatholic.com or in the church entrance. Please register before classes start, so we are prepared with texts and materials for each child. K-8th grade classes start September 13 at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. The 9th grade Confirmation class begin on Sunday, September 24 at 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (in the school cafeteria). For questions please contact Jen Nelson at 989-224-8537 or dre.stjoseph@gmail.com

St. Joseph Catholic School LUNCH MENU

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11-15, 2023

Monday: Tortilla chips with cheese and meat sauce,

corn, fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Shrimp poppers, green beans, blueberry

crisp, and milk.

Wednesday: Pigs in a blanket, tator tots, fruit, and

milk.

Thursday: Hamburger on a bun with cheese, fried

chips, fruit, and milk.

Friday: Chicken fettuccine, bread sticks, broccoli,

fruit, and milk.

Students: \$3.25 (includes milk) Milk \$0.50

Adults: \$5.00 (includes milk)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

September 16/17

Altar Servers: 5:00 p.m. Joslynn R.

Sophie R.

8:00 a.m. Nolan C.

Maggie K.

10:00 a.m. Cassie S.

Quinn D.

12:00 p.m. Lyndie R.

Elijah S.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:00 p.m. Group 2 8:00 a.m. Group 2 10:00 a.m. Group 2 12:00 p.m. Group 2

Lectors: 5:00 p.m. Lisa W.

8:00 a.m. Rich H. 10:00 a.m. Karen D. 12:00 p.m. Dawn L.

Ushers: 5:00 p.m. Group 5A

8:00 a.m. Group 8D 10:00 a.m. Group 10A 12:00 p.m. Group 12A

Collection Counters: September 11 Group 2

Sanctuary Cleaners: Laurie Hunt and Tammy Zuker

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of September 3, 2023

Adults (186) Envelopes/Gifts:\$16,978.93 (Including online giving)

Loose Cash: \$567.00 Total: \$17,545.93

Other Gifts Received

Education Trust Fund: \$1,310.00
Building Fund: \$113.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund: \$116.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$16,667.88. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

THE CHOSEN

For those of you who have either missed the series or would like to watch it again, the first three seasons of "The Chosen" is now available on DVD and Blu-ray (Must have a Blu-ray player for the third season only). Please contact Deacon Eric at deaconeric@hotmail.com or the parish office.

The Pictorial Directory PHOTOS are underway! We thank those of you that have already gotten or signed up for your photo!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE... You may still SIGN UP ONLINE for your Photo Appointment. Online sign-up will continue in the coming few weeks. SIGN UP ONLINE: https://www.ucdir.com/schedule/login.php and use the

Church Code: mi1803 -- Password Code: photos. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the parish office.

Upcoming Photo Session Dates: SEP 12-16 Additional Dates: SEP 20, 21 & 22.

Photo Session times are:

Tuesday-Friday 2:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Saturdays - 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Every family photographed by Universal Church Directories will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 and a Parish Directory.

Plan for 30-45 minutes at Photo Session: registration, photos, viewing, and selection.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

If you can spare a few hours of your time, we need a few more folks to Host the upcoming photo sessions in September.

- Sign up (2 volunteers per shift). Add a note in the space, if necessary.
- Host Instructions will be available at the Registration Table as well as sent via email prior to your volunteer date.
- You may Sign Up to Volunteer at this Online Link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f48afab22aafd0-volunteer#/

Or contact the parish office to be connected with a directory committee member.



Grief Support Workshop 2023

October 6, 2023
7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
*Saturday, October 7, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Catholic Community of St. Jude
801 N Bridge Street, DeWitt

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, a child (including pregnancy loss), a grand-child, a 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 local Catholic bereavement apostolate.

. For registration form and details visit:
www.goodmourningministry.net
or call Jackie at 517-449-2928.
Seating is limited. Registration is \$10.
Please register by September 13, 2023

*with light breakfast options available at 9:30 a.m. and lunch.



Saint Francis Retreat Center is hiring! 703 E Main Street, DeWitt

The Saint Francis Retreat Center is looking to fill several part time positions in multiple departments.

The housekeeping positions involve light housekeeping duties (with no heavy lifting).

The food services positions (hiring a cook and servers) involve dining room cleaning, food prep, and washing dishes.

They offer flexible hours, competitive pay, and an amazing work environment.

If interested, please contact: Chris at 517-388-1413 for Housekeeping Barb at 517-388-5946 for Food Services



Society of St. Vincent DePaul

in St. Johns operates a retail store at 1009 S US-27 in St. Johns. Proceeds from the store provide the financial re-

sources to serve residents of Clinton County for emergency assistance. You don't have to be Catholic to request or receive assistance. They serve people of all faiths and some that may not even have any church affiliation. To request assistance, please call the client assistance helpline at (989) 292-7057

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 parish office 989-224-8994.

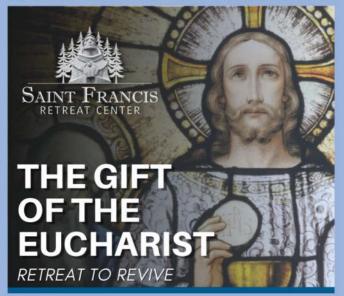
Remembering the Parish

After providing for families and loved ones, you may wish to include St. Joseph Parish in your Will. All gifts are welcome, and we ask that you prayerfully consider whether a portion of your estate should be used to continue the ministries of the Parish. This can be accomplished with the words:

I bequeath to St. Joseph Parish of St. Johns, Michigan, [insert amount being given or percentage of residue] to be used to support the ministry of the parish.

A bequest can be a specific dollar amount, a specific piece of property, a percentage of an estate, or all or part of the residue of an estate. It is always recommended that you consult a lawyer for drafting or amending a will.

WEEKEND RETREATS FOR MEN AND WOMEN



September 15-17, 2025
October 6-8, 2025
October 27-29, 2025
January 12-14, 2024
March 15-17, 2024
April 19-21, 2024

January 19-21, 2024
January 26-28, 2024
March 8-10, 2024
April 12-14, 2024

SUGGESTED DONATION \$200

ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTER
703 E. MAIN STREET DEWITT, MI 48820

For more information & to register: www.stfrancis.ws/weekend-retreats



In a Lansing Hospital and need the Anointing of the Sick?

When you or your loved one is ill, receiving the Sacrament of the Sick is important. When in a Lansing area hospital, please let your attending nurse

know you would like the Anointing of the Sick. They will contact the chaplain who will, in turn, contact a local priest who is "on call" to come and give you the sacrament. This is the quickest way for you or your loved one to receive the sacrament, if they didn't already receive it before going into the hospital.



St. Joseph's has Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) at both the church and school buildings. The church's AED is located in the main vestibule, across from the ushers' cabinet, above the metal angel donation box. The school's AED is located on the second floor of the center building, across from the library and teachers' lounge.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

If you were raised as a child in the parish:

- And are now over 18 years of age
- And you did not fill out a parish registration form
- You are NOT a registered parishioner!

Why is it important to be registered in the parish:

- We can reach you with important information about the parish and it's ministries
- We have a more accurate idea of the number of parishioners we have in the parish.
- It allows us to seek your input and feedback.
- It allows you to formally support the parish financially, since envelopes will be issued to you for your use.
- We can start a sacramental record for you.
- Finally, registering can also help you have a greater sense of belonging to and ownership of the parish.

Please note:

The envelopes you receive when registering will now play an important role in the reception of the sacraments. (i.e. Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Godparents, and Marriage) in the parish. We're asking all parishioners to get into the habit of using your envelopes in the weekly collection. Even if you give online or don't have anything to put in the envelope, please submit an empty envelope. It will help us know how many registered parishioners attend a given Mass and it will also come in handing for determining if a person, presenting themselves for a sacrament, is attending Mass regularly as is required.

You can obtain a registration form from our website at www.stjoecatholic.com under forms or stop in the parish office.

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