

# St. Joseph Catholic Church

109 Linden Street  
Saint Johns, Michigan 48879-1837  
(989) 224-8994  
Fax: (989) 224-3475  
[www.stjoecatholic.com](http://www.stjoecatholic.com)

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY  
*in Ordinary Time*



*So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless  
each of you forgives his brother from his heart.*

Matthew 18:35

## 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](mailto:stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com)



# THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

## Monday • September 18

1 Timothy 2:1-8/Luke 7:1-10

No Mass

## Tuesday • September 19

1 Timothy 3:1-13/Luke 7:11-17

7:00 p.m. Mass

†Dennis M Fox

By: Wife

## Wednesday • September 20

1 Timothy 3:14-16/Luke 7:31-35

12:05 p.m. Mass

†Cosme and †Maria Villarreal

By: Charlie and Lisa Wieber

## Thursday • September 21

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13/Matthew 9:9-13

8:30 a.m. Mass

†Clarence and †Joan Mikolajczak

By: Leon Nurenberg

## Friday • September 22

1 Timothy 6:2c-12/Luke 8:1-3

8:30 a.m. Mass

†Dave Schroeder

By: Susie Schroeder

## Saturday • September 23

1 Timothy 6:13-16/Luke 8:4-15

5:00 p.m. Mass

†Walter Pierce

By: Knights of Columbus

## Sunday • September 24

Isaiah 55:6-9/Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a/Matthew 20:1-16a

8:00 a.m. Mass

†James Ray Boak

By: Duane and Mary Jane Boak

10:00 a.m. Mass

†Marian Kurncz

By: The Choir

12:00 p.m. Mass

The People of the Parish

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

†Luis and †Margarita Porras

By: Eric, Monica and Camilla Hufnagel

## The Sanctuary Lamp

Will burn from

September 17 - September 23, 2023

In memory of

*Bill Fox*

## Rest in Peace

Our prayers and sympathies  
to the family and friends of

*Jan Vermeersch and  
Cecilia Martinez*

## Wedding Banns

*Kaleigh Schneider &  
Gavin Percha*



## Eucharistic Adoration

"Kneel down and render the tribute  
of your presence and devotion to  
Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.  
Confide all your needs to Him,  
along with those of others, Speak  
to Him with filial abandonment,  
give free reign to your heart, and  
give Him complete freedom to  
work in you as He thinks best."

*St. Pius of Pietrelcina*

Are you interested in making a monthly or week-  
ly Eucharistic Holy Hour, or being a sub? 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)

## Hope will lead the way

We should hope because we share in  
Jesus' Resurrection. (1 Thes 4:13-14)

We should hope because it leads to eternal  
life with God. (Eph 1:18)

We should hope because it will not  
disappoint. (Rom 5:3-5)

With these scriptural thoughts in mind, I  
encourage all those who are grieving the  
loss of a loved one to attend the upcoming  
"Grieving with Great HOPE" workshop co-sponsored by the St. Joseph  
and St. Jude's grief ministry teams.  
"Hope" is the focus of the event to be  
held at St. Jude's Church on October 6th  
and 7th .

I'm aware that attending such a workshop  
can be a very daunting situation for  
many, but the structure of the event  
lends itself into an easing-into the week-  
end, which begins Friday evening with a  
two-hour spiritual service. Deacon Kevin  
Orth of St. Jude's and I will give presen-

tations and the two weekend leaders --  
John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy -- will  
present their grief stories. We'll then  
have Exposition of the Blessed Sacra-  
ment, then a very moving candlelight  
ceremony which includes an individual  
blessing from the deacons for each of  
the participants.

Saturday provides an opportunity for  
John and Sandy to help through large  
group and small group education.  
Whereas Friday is about spirituality and  
prayerfulness in asking the Lord to help  
us find hope, Saturday will be about  
understanding grief and the offering of  
practical tools to help us work through  
grief. John is a Certified Grief Counselor.  
Sandy has a Masters degree in Pastoral  
Ministry with an emphasis in bereave-  
ment. Each lost a spouse in a previous  
marriage and together they formed  
Good Mourning Ministry more than a  
decade ago. Together they are masterful  
educators in grief -- understanding it and  
working through it.

I have heard, albeit second-hand, that  
some in our community believe this to  
be a day of tears and crying over our  
losses. There most certainly will be  
some tears, but first and foremost this  
weekend is about bringing hope into

lives currently dominated by despair,  
about understanding the difference be-  
tween grief and mourning and about  
using some tools to help us as we work  
through our mourning.

The title "Good Mourning Ministry" actu-  
ally has a double meaning -- not only the  
mourning linked with grief but "morning"  
which brings to us the image of a new  
day, with sunlight allowing us to see  
something we could not see at night.  
Which then brings to mind the opening  
of John's gospel when the evangelist  
describes Jesus as the Word: "In him  
was life, and life was the **light** of men.  
The light shines in the darkness and the  
darkness has not overcome it." (Jn 1:4-  
5)

Registration for Grieving with great  
HOPE is still open via [goodmourning-  
ministry.net](http://goodmourning-ministry.net) or call (517) 449-2928. The  
cost of the workshop is a very reasona-  
ble ten dollars. So, for those who are  
stuck in the darkness while mourning the  
loss of a loved one, join us on October  
6th-7th and let the light of Christ and  
hope back into your lives.

*Deacon Eric*

[deaconeric@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

## St Monica Ladies Auxiliary Monthly meeting

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary will be holding our monthly meeting tomorrow,  
Monday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbian Hall. This meet-  
ing will be used to complete the final details for the **"Women of Hope"  
Day Retreat on October 7th** at the St. Francis Retreat House in DeWitt.  
All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend this  
meeting. There will be time for faith-sharing and fellow-  
ship during the evening.

**Retreat tickets are now available at the parish of-  
fice for \$30.00.** Any 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](http://stjoecatholic.com) website or pick up a calendar on September 27. If you are able to help with snack/drink donations, please email Jen at: [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com). Thank you! For questions, please contact Jen Nelson at: [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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 18-20, 2023

Monday: Cheese stuffed breadsticks with dipping sauce, corn, fruit, and milk.  
Tuesday: Chicken legs, baked potato with cheese, fruit, and milk.  
Wednesday: Ziti, bread sticks, carrots, fruit, and milk.  
Thursday: Hot dog on a bun, French fries, fresh fruit, and milk.  
Friday: Taco salad in an edible bowl, yogurt, fruit, and milk.

Students: \$3.25 (includes milk)  
Adults: \$5.00 (includes milk)

Milk \$0.50

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### September 23/24

**Altar Servers:**  
5:00 p.m. Volunteer  
8:00 a.m. Volunteer  
10:00 a.m. Volunteer  
12:00 p.m. Volunteer

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:00 p.m. Group 3  
8:00 a.m. Group 3  
10:00 a.m. Group 3  
12:00 p.m. Group 3

**Lectors:**  
5:00 p.m. Ann P.  
8:00 a.m. Bob P.  
10:00 a.m. Steve M.  
12:00 p.m. Mary E.

**Ushers:**  
5:00 p.m. Group 5B  
8:00 a.m. Group 8E  
10:00 a.m. Group 10B  
12:00 p.m. Group 12A

**Collection Counters:** September 18 Group 3

**Sanctuary Cleaners:** Tori Steingreaber/Susie Schroeder

## STEWARDSHIP

### For the weekend of September 10, 2023

Adults (173) Envelopes/Gifts: .....\$22,731.16  
(Including online giving)  
Loose Cash:.....\$634.00  
Total: .....\$23,365.16

### Other Gifts Received

Education Trust Fund: .....\$232.00  
Building Fund:.....\$227.00  
Tuition Scholarship Fund:.....\$113.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$17,276.72. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.



## Lucio Lima Mendez

was Baptized on  
September 3, 2023  
She is the daughter of  
Gabriel Lima Juarez and  
Claudia Mendez Mestiza

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 grandchild, 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:

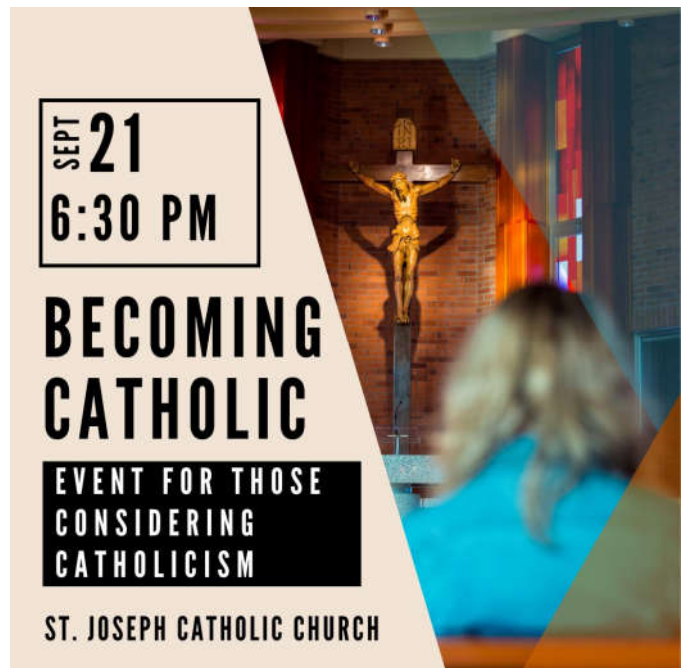
[www.goodmourningministry.net](http://www.goodmourningministry.net)

or call Jackie at 517-449-2928.

Seating is limited. Registration is \$10.

Please register by September 25, 2023

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



## Looking for a chance to visit with other Catholic homeschooling families?

Come join us for the  
**Lansing Area Catholic Homeschoolers Potluck Social**  
 Saturday September 23, 2023  
 in the St. Therese Gym  
 following the 4:30PM mass at St. Therese  
 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing, MI

Please bring a dish to pass -plates and plasticware will be provided.

We will also bring basketballs, board games, and smiling faces -  
 excited to visit with friends both old and new!

Please RSVP to Kristine Witkowski at [kristinewitkowski@gmail.com](mailto:kristinewitkowski@gmail.com)

Do small things  
 with great *Love*  
 -Mother Teresa

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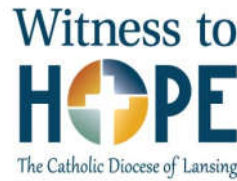
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## Witness to Hope Update

We're making progress on completing our last two Witness to Hope projects!

**- Refurbishing the organ** – As of this writing, we're waiting for the Diocese to approve our request to refurbish the church organ. The work would be split into two phases; the first will happen as soon as we get our approval and the second between Christmas and Easter.

**- New windows in the north addition of the school** – This job is currently out for bids from contractors with plans for the work to be done in the summer of 2024.

Again, **we thank all of our parishioners who supported Witness to Hope**. If you were unable to fulfill your pledge during the campaign or didn't get a chance to make a pledge, you are welcome to make donations to our parish's Building Fund.



Architect's rendering of new windows in the north wing of the school.

More school window news: Our architect has also drawn up plans to replace the windows in the south wing of the school. The current windows are single-pane which lets in a lot of heat during the warm months and a lot of cold in the winter months. The new windows would be much more energy efficient and will make the classrooms more comfortable. The south wing windows are also in the bidding documents that contractors are working with. More info to come in the next month.

In the meantime, the extended window project will deplete our savings account. Unless we receive an unexpected windfall, we'll need to raise a portion of the cost for new windows. We welcome all donations to the Building Fund to help us make this happen.





TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

# THE SEARCH

Do you wonder why happiness is fleeting?



The things we expect to fulfill us don't... Why is life this way? Why are we here? Why do we exist? Why are we filled with longing?

Even if you have a good grasp on the answers to these questions, *The Search* will help you deepen it. If you know someone who is grappling with these questions, **bring them along**, this is a great series to share with them.

*The Search* features people from all walks of life, and their search for meaning.

This fall,  
explore life's mysteries at  
St. Joseph Parish

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
in the reception overflow room  
of the church basement

Thursdays:  
September 28,  
October 5, October 12,  
October 19, October 26,  
November 2, and November 9.

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