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



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. Mass in Spanish • 6:00 p.m. (Holy Days • Consult the bulletin)

Sacrament of Reconciliation Tuesday • 6:30 p.m. Saturday • 4:00 p.m.

Prayer Tree Parish Office: (989)-224-8994

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 19, 2023



THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday • November 20 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Luke 18:35-43 No Mass

Tuesday • November 212 Maccabees 6:18-31/Luke 19:1-107:00 p.m. Mass+Jan Vermeersch

By: Tuesday SVDP Volunteers Wednesday • November 22 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31/Luke 19:11-28 12:05 p.m. Mass +Judy Armbrustmacher By: Family

Thursday • November 23 Thanksgiving 1 Maccabees 2:15-29/Luke 19:41-44

No Mass

Friday • November 24 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59/Luke 19:45-48 No Mass

Saturday • November 25 1 Maccabees 6:1-13/Luke 20:27-40 5:00 p.m. Mass The People of the Parish

Sunday November 26

Christ the King Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17/1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28/ Matthew 25:31-46 8:00 a.m. Mass †Hilary Schmitz

†Hilary Schmitz By: Roy and JoAnn Simon

10:00 a.m. Mass

†Bill Kissane By: Judy Kissane

12:00 p.m. Mass

†Karmen (Simons) Grech By: Sharon Fitzpatrick

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish For Cancer Patients

Parish Office Hours

Monday- Wednesday:

9:00 a.m. to noon 1:00 p.m.to 5:30 p.m. Closed for Thanksgiving

Thursday and Friday:

The Sanctuary Lamp Will burn from November 19 to 25, 2023 In memory of Carol Frechen

Rest in Peace Our prayers and sympathies

to the family and friends of

Douglas W. Schafer

Wedding Banns

Jacob Wenzlick Natividad (Nani) Cabrera



Eucharistic Adoration

"To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord" Psalm 73(72):28 (Communion Antiphon for Sunday, November 19)

Are you interested in committing to one hour of prayer before Our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament on the First Friday of each month? Please call or text Rebecca at 989-292-2072.

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially: Adam Beverly Sawyer Ballinger Daniel Blair Bob Joan Bozung Carol Burgtorf

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Sherri Couch Friend Marcia Goerge Melissa Brenda Higgins David Higgins Korine Lynday Lucier Alissa Mckeown Mary Matthew

Myah Noah Danielle P. Patricia Jenny Pytlowanyj Frank Rademacher 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

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

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)

NDE's -- Something to Ponder

I've never spent much time thinking about Near-Death Experiences (NDE's), but that's changed with my viewing of a new movie entitled "After Death." Presented in a documentary style, the movie follows the stories of several people who have had an NDE and the outcomes vary greatly. The experiences, however, show a great similarity. Many of the people report hovering above their bodies at crash sites or hospital operating rooms. Many see a tunnel of light that they describe as "pure love."

I am neither promoting nor discouraging anyone to go see the movie. I will say that it is wellproduced -- a product of Angel Studios of "The Chosen" fame and if you are even remotely interested or have read any of the books from which the movie drew material, than you will likely enjoy it. (The Church has not taken an official position on NDE's, so, in Fr. Mike's words, you can believe or not believe, like private revelation.)

As I mentioned, I had never put much thought into NDE's and what little I did think of it led me to think it would be, in technical language, "pretty cool." But according to many of the events studied, that is not the case. A person who was in a horrific auto crash, for example, came back to his severely-mangled body which took many months from which to recover. There was no miracle cure associated with his NDE. Another man had his wife and children turn against him, thinking he was crazy as he constantly pushed the concept of love. The wife divorced him. But an interesting turnaround then occurred in his relationship with his father, who accepted his overtures of love. The father had physically and psychologically abused the man when he was growing up. A part of God's plan perhaps?

One more item of note worth mentioning is that many people never talk about their experiences fearing what happened to the man I just mentioned -- that people won't believe them and think they are mentally challenged. Some tell their spouses after a few years while some reveal the NDE details only to a therapist. Then there are those who process their NDE and go about their lives secure in their minds that there is such a thing as a soul and heaven.

God is mentioned in the film several times by those with NDE's, but the movie does not include any priest or Catholic representatives. The most skeptical scientist of the movie makes it clear near the end, that these are stories of resuscitation, not of resurrections. When he started his research, he had serious doubts about NDE's, but by the end, he was totally involved in their study. His role as a scientist, he says, is to follow the data.

So see the movie if you want. Believe what you want to believe.

Deacon Eric deaconeric@hotmail.com

Clinton Community Thanksgiving Celebration

The Clinton Community Thanksgiving Celebration is back, but **desperately needs workers**! Shifts generally are two hours long and run all through Thanksgiving week. Food prep will be at the Columbian Hall Monday-Wednesday and event workers will be needed at

the St. Johns Lutheran Church.

Please go to this website to sign up to volunteer:

ccthanksgiving.org.



St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary Advent Celebration

Laste & See.... the Goodness of the Lord

Guest speaker; Deb Amato Friday, December 1, 2023 Knights of Columbus Columbian Hall 1108 N US Hwy 27, St. Johns

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The evening begins with wine tasting and light snacks Then progresses to the Advent reflection and desserts \$12.00 per ticket Available at the parish office

Please bring a personal hygiene items to be donated to The Women's Safe Center

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

K-8th Grade Religious Education News:

- No K-8th Grade Classes on Wednesday, November 22 due to the Thanksgiving holiday
- Wednesday, December 6th Update: Cookies and Cards with St. Nicholas Night and regular classes at 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Parents are invited to help in the classrooms or with cookie decorating (no large group family night as previously scheduled). Details will be emailed to religious education families.

9th Grade Confirmation Session

The 9th Grade Confirmation students are scheduled to meet on Wednesday, November 29 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Students are asked to bring a Bible to the session, extra Bibles will be provided if needed. The evening will also include Youth Group (9-12 High School Group) activities at the end of the session.

For questions, contact Jen Nelson at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com



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

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

LUNCH MENU

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20-22, 2023

| Monday: | Tortilla chips w | | l meat sauce, |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------|
| Tuesday: | lettuce salad, fruit, and milk. 1/2 day of school-students dismissed at 12:00 p.m. No lunch will be served. | | |
| | Please bring a cold lunch. | | |
| Wednesday: Thursday: | No School-St Joe students only Thanksgiving Recess No School <i>Have a Blessed Thanksgiving</i> | | |
| Students: \$3.25 | (includes milk) | Milk | \$0.50 |

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

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| LITURGICAL MINISTERS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| November 25/26 | | | | | |
| Altar Servers: | 5:00 p.m. | Averie D. | | | |
| | | Charleigh F | | | |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Joanne H. | | | |
| | | Miles S. | | | |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Quinn D. | | | |
| | | Bryson S. | | | |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Nolan C. | | | |
| | | Emelia C. | | | |
| 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. | Lisa W. | | | |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Kathy W. | | | |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Ted S. | | | |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Dawn L. | | | |
| Ushers: | 5:00 p.m. | Group 5B | | | |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Group 8D | | | |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Group 10C | | | |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Group 12A | | | |
| Collection Cou | nters: Novemb | er 20 Group 4 | | | |
| Sanctuary Cleaners: Becky Swender & Barb Longoria | | | | | |

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of November 12, 2023

| Adults (203 Envelopes/Gifts): | \$19,547.26 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| (Including online giving) | |
| Loose Cash: | \$969.18 |
| Total: | \$20,516,44 |

Other Gifts Received

| Education Trust Fund: | .\$1,591.00 |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Building Fund: | \$230.00 |
| Tuition Scholarship Fund: | \$305.00 |

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$17,794.02. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

BE A PART OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

November 19

Before Mass this weekend, we reflected on the Last Four Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven, Hell. To learn more, check out these resources:

<u>Video</u>

- The Four Last Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven, Hell by Fr. Mike Schmitz (Formed.org, 1 hour, 8 minutes)
- The Last Things (Formed.org, 32 minutes)
- The Last Things: What Happens after We Die? (Formed.org, 19 minutes)

<u>Audio</u>

- The Four Last Things (Audio CD): Reflections on Death, Judgment, Heaven & amp; Hell, Regis Martin S.T.D. Catholic Courses (ISBN 1618900099 / 978-1618900098)
- The Four Last Things: Death, Judgement, Hell, Heaven, Regis Martin. Catholic Courses Institute
 (ASIN B077TOPLSP) eBook
- (ASIN B07ZTQPLSP) eBook

<u>Text</u>

- Death, Judgment, Heaven, Hell: Meditations on the Four Last Things, St. Alphonsus Liguori (ISBN 1530479126 / 978-1530479122) eBook available
- The Four Last Things: A Catechetical Guide to Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell. Fr. Wade Menezes. EWTN Publishing, Inc. (ISBN 1682780422 / 978-1682780428)
- The Four Last Things Death, Judgment, Hell, and Heaven, Fr. Martin von Cochem (ISBN 1523497963 / 978-1523497966)
- Aquinas on the Four Last Things: Everything You Need to Know about Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell, Kevin Vost. Sophia Institute Press (ISBN 1644132990 / 978-1644132999)
- 101 Questions & amp; Answers on the Four Last Things (Responses to 101 Questions), Joseph T. Kelley Paulist Press (ISBN 0809143755 / 978-0809143757)

Lansing 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.

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,

We turn our hearts to you on this day for giving thanks, mindful of your many gifts. For each one, we are grateful. For each one, we are blessed. For each one we are opened to the abundance of your love. May this Thanksgiving Day offer a reminder to be generous with others, as you are with us. We praise you. We rejoice in you. We give you thanks. Amen



Are you or someone you know the right person for this job? Please listen to God's calling – you might be the one!

CRISTO REY CHILDREN'S HOME (formerly known as St. Vincent Children's Home) is seeking a DIRECTOR.

We have plans to re-open the Children's Home. This service is greatly needed for children 6-17 years who need a residential treatment setting which is safe and secure. YOU may be their hope for the future.

You need compassion and experience to take on this position, please email your resume to Vicky at vschultz@cristoreycommunity.org. You must have a Master's Degree with at least 2 years of experience in a child care or placement agency or a Bachelor's Degree with 4 years post-bachelor's degree experience in a child caring institution or child placing agency. Salary range -\$80,000-\$100,000 with full benefit package.

Please pray for us that we find the right person for this challenging position.

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.

CHRISTKINDLMARKT December 17

Christkindlmarkt is a traditional German festival held during Advent to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. The Market will be held outside in front of St. Thomas the Apostle Church with an array of fun activities for everyone.

3pm Lessons and Carols 4:30 - 8:30 pm Christkindlmarkt 4:30-5:15 Mexican food in the parish hall for Our Lady of Guadalupe 5:15 Our Lady of Guadalupe play

SCRIP gift card fundraising! *Do you enjoy giving Gift Cards?*

For those of you that aren't aware of this, our SCRIP program is open to everyone. You do not need to have a child enrolled at St Joseph's school to utilize this program.

SCRIP is a form of fundraising for our school by simply purchasing gift cards to various businesses that allow a percentage of your purchase to go back to our school at no cost to you. You can purchase cards from gas stations, restaurants, and many clothing and accessory stores. Or simply purchase a Visa Gift Card with no activation fee like so many bank and stores require.

You simply fill out our SCRIP order form that lists gift cards from various businesses and restaurants. Drop off your orders with your check at the school before 10:00 a.m. on Mondays and cards will be available for pick up Thursday in the school office.

You can find the order form on our website at St Joseph Church under School/Supporting St. Joes/ SCRIP or in the parish office.

Kroger Community Rewards

Kroger donates millions of dollars to charities in Michigan through their rewards program that is linked directly to their customers' Kroger Plus Cards.



Sign into your Kroger digital account and begin earning money for our school. Link your Kroger Plus Card to St. Joseph Catholic School, and with each purchase you make, St. Joe's will get a per-centage of your spending. Detailed information is available on the parish website under School/ Supporting St. Joe's/SCRIP.

Have you liked us on FACEBOOK?



St. Joseph Church, St. Johns, MI



St. Joseph Catholic School St. Johns, MI

FRIENDSHIP IS OFFERED

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THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 19, 2023



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