

# 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

### 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

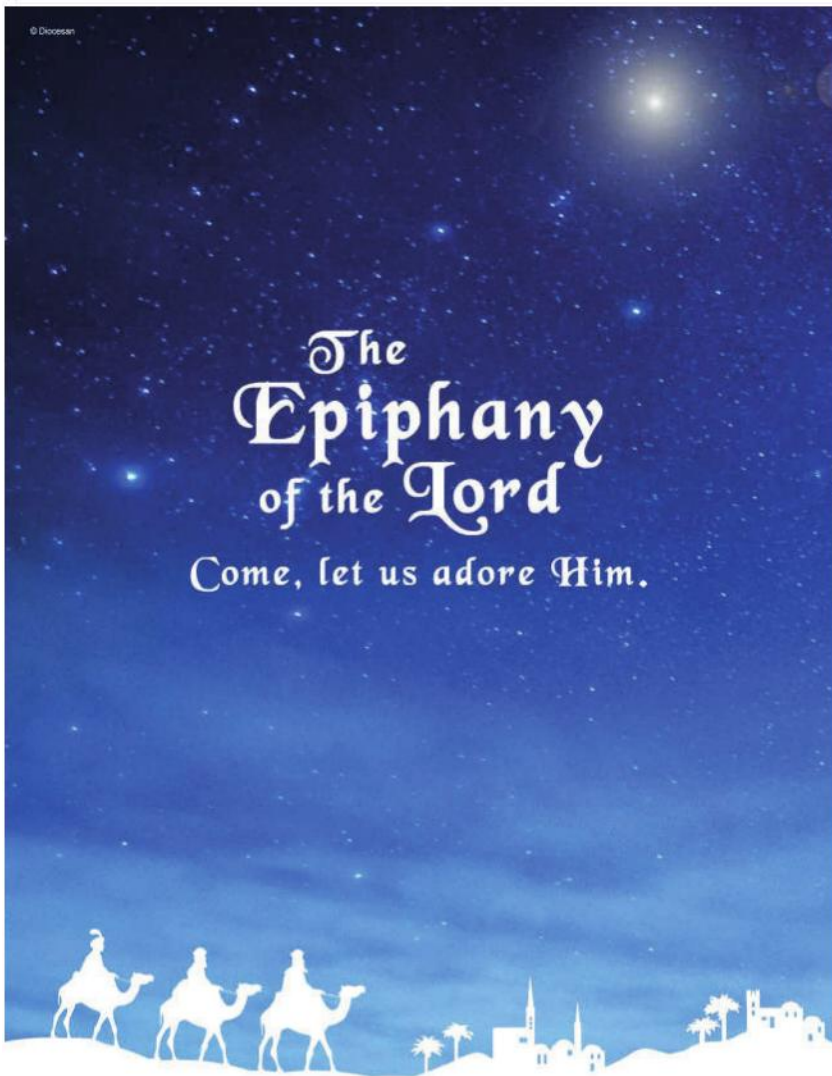
Saturday • 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday • 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.  
Mass in Spanish • 6:00 p.m.  
(Holy Days • Consult the bulletin)

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

#### Prayer Tree

Parish Office: (989)-224-8994





THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday • January 8

**The Baptism of the Lord**

*Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or Isaiah 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 John 5:1-9/Mark 1:7-11*

No Mass

Tuesday • January 9

*1 Samuel 1:9-20/Mark 1:21-28*

7:00 p.m. Mass †Bea Karber

By: Joyce Karber and Family

Wednesday • January 10

*1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20/Mark 1:29-39*

12:05 p.m. Mass †Jerry & †Virgene Henning

By: Jay and Donna Henning

Thursday • January 11

*1 Samuel 4:1-11/Mark 1:40-45*

8:30 a.m. Mass †David Geller

By: Thomas and Alice Geller

Friday • January 12

*1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mark 2:1-12*

8:30 a.m. In Honor of Mark Gellar

By: Brad and Andrea Rehmann

Saturday • January 13

*1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1a/Mark 2:13-17*

5:00 p.m. Mass †Mike Schneider

By: Dave and Margaret Jorae

Sunday • January 14

*1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19/1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20/John 1:35-42*

8:00 a.m. †Bill Fox

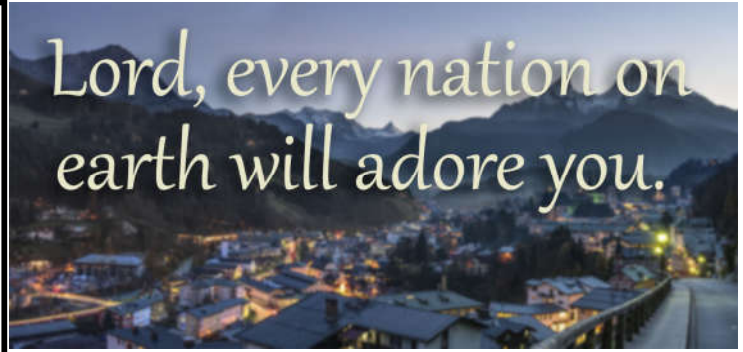
By: Bob and Deb Sutherland

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

12:00 p.m. †John A Ballinger

By: Family

6:00 p.m. **Mass in Spanish**



Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from January 7, 2024 to January 13 2024

Kevin J. Schafer

Rest in Peace

Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of

Bernice Karber

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

Adam  
Beverly  
Sawyer Ballinger  
Daniel Blair  
Joan Bozung  
Carol Burgtorf  
Lisa Clarizio

Sherri Couch  
Friend  
Joe  
Cindy Fontus  
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:  
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.**



## WE ARE ALL EVANGELIZERS

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

### From Presents to Presence

Well, the Christmas season is officially over. For many of us it ended January Second, for others it ends with the kids going back to school, but on the Church calendar the season ends today on Epiphany. As the magi hit the road (by the back route) they left behind their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh with the baby Jesus, thus ending our snow-less Christmas season. It's back to normal for us.

During the Christmas season, like the magi, we too went through a ritual of giving presents. Though some of us may have given a gift of gold to a loved one, as did the magi, I doubt that any of us gave or received any frankincense or myrrh. Our gift-giving is in honor of Jesus' birthday, remembering God's gift to us all. The Father's gift of his Son was one never to be topped, as Jesus' birth was the turning point in salvation history.

Our Christmas celebrations are over however, so now it's time to turn our thoughts from "presents" to "Presence," as in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. We are in the midst of a Eucharistic Revival in the Church, which will peak in mid-July in the United States with the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. It's a five-day event to be held at Lucas Oil Stadium and it is open to all Catholics. Single day passes start at 49 dollars, with kids 12 and under free. There are weekend and full event passes available as well.

The parish continues to present opportunities for us to grow in our understanding of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. A few months ago, St. Joe's sponsored a display of all Eucharistic miracles and this month we will explore the sacrament of the Eucharist in a three-part series entitled "Presence," based on the "Formed" video series of the same name. These sessions, moderated by St. Joe Christian Initiation director Amanda Grigar, will explore not only Catholic beliefs, but their Scriptural foundations as well.

No matter where we are in our spiritual journey, this series can enhance us. It will not only help us grow in our faith, but will give us the tools to defend our beliefs in conversation with people, Catholic or not, who don't believe or understand the concept of transubstantiation, whereby simple bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ when consecrated at a Catholic Mass. They are not symbols.

When the Church says Real Presence, it is saying that when we receive the Eucharist at Mass we receive Jesus - Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. It is considered by the Church as "the source and summit of the Christian life." This series explains how Vatican II arrived at that definition. Please consider joining us on January 18 th and 25 th and February First. It will not only help us in understanding our faith better it will be a great prep for Lent.

*Deacon Eric*

[deaconeric@hotmail.com](mailto:deaconeric@hotmail.com)

## PRESENCE

Looking to jump start your faith life in the New Year? Presence is an opportunity to grow in your love and understanding of the Holy Mass and the sacrament of the Eucharist. This three-part series will explore many topics, including: Catholic beliefs, the Eucharist's role in sustaining us spiritually, and biblical references. Regardless of where you are in your faith journey, this series is for you! Please email Amanda at [rcia.stjosephparish@gmail.com](mailto:rcia.stjosephparish@gmail.com) or contact the parish office to register to participate in this free series.



**Thursdays at 6:00pm  
in the church  
basement:  
January 18  
January 25  
February 1**



## St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary brings together the ladies of the St. Joseph parish once a month for Faith sharing, fellowship and food. The meeting also allows for the organizing of several events that St. Monica hosts each year. These events include the Ladies Advent Celebration, Ladies Spring Tea as well as several others. St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary meeting is held the second Monday of the month and is open to **all ladies of the parish**. New members are always welcome so come and check us out.

**The next scheduled meeting will be held on January 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the (KofC) Columbian Hall**

**THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED**

**First Reconciliation Parent/Child Workshop**

Parents with children who are preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion are scheduled for a First Reconciliation Workshop on **Thursday, January 11th at 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 pm.** in the school cafeteria. This is for **all** school and parish religion program families.

Please contact Jen Nelson for questions at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com or 989-224-8537.

***It's a new year  
Is it time for a new ministry?***

Deacon Eric will be conducting trainings for Eucharistic Ministers and lectors later this month. Exact date to be determined, based on availability of trainees. Please contact the parish office by Friday, January 19th if interested

Do you have questions about St. Joseph Catholic School or are interested in registering this 2023/24 school year?

Please contact Chris wells at principal@stjoecatholicschool.org.



**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**

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8-12, 2024**

- Monday: Pancakes with Syrup, sausage, hash browns, fruit, and milk.
- Tuesday: Chicken noodle soup with crackers, blueberry muffin, fruit, and milk.
- Wednesday: Chicken poppers, carrots, fruit, milk.
- Thursday: Hot dog on a bun, French fries, fresh fruit, and milk.
- Friday: Macaroni and cheese, pretzel, green beans, fresh fruit, and milk.

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**January 13/14**

<b>Altar Servers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Ignacio O. Volunteers
	8:00 a.m.	Kara B. Logan B.
	10:00 a.m.	Quinn D. Bryson S.
	12:00 p.m.	Lauryn S. Addelyn S.
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:</b>		
	5:00 p.m.	Group 1
	8:00 a.m.	Group 1
	10:00 a.m.	Group 1
	12:00 p.m.	Group 1
<b>Lectors:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Shelia B.
	8:00 a.m.	Rich H.
	10:00 a.m.	Tori S.
	12:00 p.m.	Mary Beth E.
<b>Ushers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Group 5C
	8:00 a.m.	Group 8A
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10B
	12:00 p.m.	Group 12A

**Collection Counters:** January 8 Group 4

**Sanctuary Cleaners:** Pam Ervin and Karen Feldpausch



**STEWARDSHIP**

**For the weekend of December 31, 2023**

Adults (162) Envelopes/Gifts: ..... \$12,666.29  
 (Including online giving)  
 Loose Cash: ..... \$829.00  
 Total: ..... \$13,495.29

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund: ..... \$70.00  
 Building Fund: ..... \$550.00  
 Tuition Scholarship Fund: ..... \$0.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$18,850.26. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Fourth week of Advent December 23/24, 2023**

Adults (386 Envelopes/Gifts): ..... \$37,869.65  
 (Including online giving)  
 Loose Cash: ..... \$782.00  
 Total: ..... \$27,329.03

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund: ..... \$545.00  
 Building Fund: ..... \$1,835.00  
 Tuition Scholarship Fund: ..... \$25.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$19,056.72. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**For Christmas December 24/25, 2023**

Adults (162 Envelopes/Gifts): ..... \$9,468.41  
 (Including online giving)  
 Loose Cash: ..... \$1,239.75  
 Total: ..... \$10,708.16

Education Trust Fund: ..... \$0.00  
 Building Fund: ..... \$500.00  
 Tuition Scholarship Fund: ..... \$10.00

**Catholic Homeschool Support Program**

Sanctuary Academy of Dewitt is enrolling new families! We are a Catholic Homeschool Support Program at the St. Francis Retreat Center. We are offering an Enrichment Day (1 day/week) and a Hybrid Program (2 days/week) for the 2024/25 school year. If your family is looking for support on your homeschool journey, or seeking a hybrid education option, please see our website for program information:

[www.sanctuaryacademydewitt.com](http://www.sanctuaryacademydewitt.com). Also please join us for a Parent Information Night on Sunday January 14th, from 3-5:30pm at the Retreat Center. Email Monica to register: [monicarpoff@gmail.com](mailto:monicarpoff@gmail.com).



**An Ecumenical Prayer Service  
 Friday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.**

St. Therese Church, 102 W Randolph St., Lansing

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated from Thursday, January 18 - Thursday, January 25, 2024, the Octave of St. Peter and St. Paul. This week brings together Christian denominations from around the world to pray that Jesus' desire that his followers be one come true (John 17:21-23). This year's theme is "You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27). An Ecumenical Prayer Service, **co-officiated by Bishop Earl Boyea of the Catholic Diocese of Lansing** and Bishop David Bard of the United Methodist Church of Michigan, will take place at St. Therese Church on Friday, January 19, at 6:30PM. A reception will follow in Fr. Murray Hall. St. Therese Church is located at 102 W. Randolph Street, Lansing. For more information, please contact Fr. John Fain at 517-487-3749. Please come and pray with your fellow Christians!



## Miscellaneous Money Matters

**Year-End Contribution Statements** for 2023 will be mailed by the end of January. In compliance with the IRS, any donations postmarked after 12/31/23 or received in the office after 12/31/23 will be recorded as 2024 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](http://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 72 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.

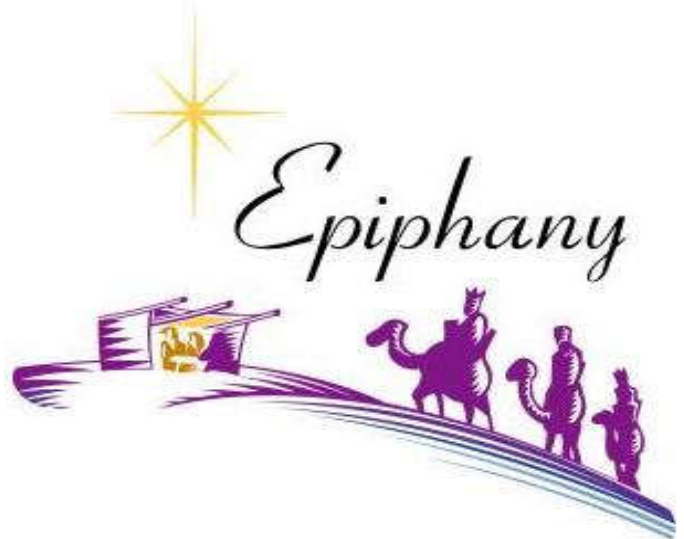
### Remembering the Parish

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.

Our apologies to anyone whose loved one's name was misspelled on the dedication list. If you would like a new, corrected copy, please email the parish office at [stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com).

### In a Lansing Area 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



## 52Sundays.com

**52 Sundays.com** is a dynamic guide to help you and your family reclaim the Lord's Day with prayer, activities, food, and more! It offers simple and insightful ways for your family to spend time together each Sunday learning more about the Catholic faith and having fun while you're at it.



EPIPHANY

JANUARY 7, 2024

## A Place for You at Lansing Catholic High School

Lansing Catholic High School invites parents and students to attend our **Prospective Family Night Open House** on Wednesday, January 17, any time between 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Discover what Lansing Catholic High School has to offer by enjoying a tour of the campus with a student ambassador. Students and parents will also have the opportunity to ask questions and meet with our faculty and administration. Save time at the door and pre-register at [lansingcatholic.org/visit](http://lansingcatholic.org/visit). Registration is not required, but is appreciated. Can't make it? Check out other dates or schedule your own visit with the admissions office at [admissions@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:admissions@lansingcatholic.org).



# Upcoming Events

AT ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTER IN DEWITT, MI

<p><b>JAN. 5-6</b></p> <p><b>Engaged Couples Retreat</b> This retreat for engaged couples is designed to prepare them for receiving the sacrament of Holy Matrimony.</p>	<p><b>JAN. 26-28</b></p> <p><b>The Gift of the Eucharist Retreat for Men</b> This retreat for men will explore several aspects of the Eucharist from its Jewish roots through how it is meant to transform every one of us.</p>
<p><b>JAN. 12-14</b></p> <p><b>The Gift of the Eucharist for Women</b> This retreat for women will explore several aspects of the Eucharist from its Jewish roots through how it is meant to transform every one of us.</p>	<p><b>FEB. 2-4</b></p> <p><b>Married Couples Weekend</b> Married couples are encouraged to join us for a weekend away from the busyness of daily life to reconnect with their spouse.</p>
<p><b>JAN. 19-21</b></p> <p><b>The Gift of the Eucharist Retreat for Men</b> This retreat for men will explore several aspects of the Eucharist from its Jewish roots through how it is meant to transform every one of us.</p>	<p><b>FEB. 16</b></p> <p><b>Are You Smarter Than Your 8th Grade Nun?</b> A fun fundraiser for furniture! This is an interactive comedy game show which takes place at Lansing Catholic High School. Doors open at 6:00, the show begins at 7:00</p>

**MORE INFORMATION AT [WWW.STFRANCIS.WS/RETREATS](http://WWW.STFRANCIS.WS/RETREATS)**

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