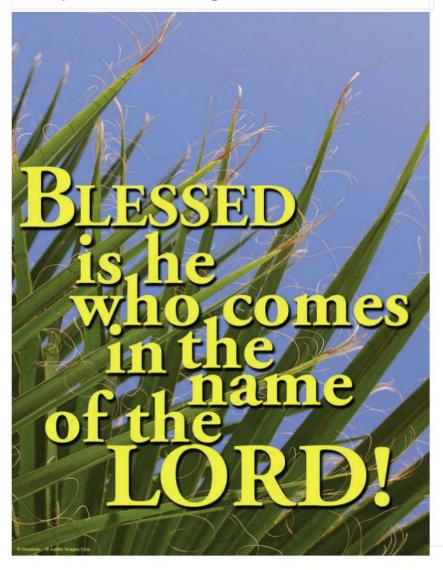
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 • Glenn Esch

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 • March 25 Isaiah 42:1-7/John 12:1-11 No Mass Tuesday • March 26 Isaiah 49:1-6/John 13:21-33, 36-38 7:00 p.m. Mass

> In Honor of Fr. Steve Mattson By: Matt and Monica Poff Family

Wednesday • March 27 Isaiah 50:4-9a/Matthew 26:14-25 12:05 p.m. Mass

+Chad Keck

By: Chris and Brenda DeLiso

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Corinthians 11:23-26/John 13:1-15 6:00 p.m. Mass

For the Priests of the Diocese of Lansing

Friday March 29

Thursday

March 28

Good Friday-Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion Isaiah 52:13-53:12/Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9/John 18:1--19:42 1:00 p.m

Saturday • March 30 Genesis 1:1, 26-31a/Genesis 22:1-18/Exodus 14:15--15:1/Isaiah 55:1-11 Easter Vigil 6:00 p.m. Mass For the Elect

Sunday March 31

Easter Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8/John 20:1-9 8:00 a.m. Mass The People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. Mass †Doug Schafer By: Ray Schomisch

12:00 p.m. Mass †Jim Kus By: Charlie and Lisa Wieber

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish †Olga Martinez By: The Knights of Columbus

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially: Adam Beverly Sawyer Ballinger Joan Bozung Carol Burgtorf Lisa Clarizio Sherri Couch Friend

2

Joe Cindy Fontus Marcia Goerge Melissa Brenda Higgins David Higgins Korine Lynday Lucier Alissa Mckeown Gabrielle Meece 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

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

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: <u>only</u> immediate family members may add names to the bulletin.

THE SACRAMENTS ARE CELEBRATED

Abstinence and Fasting: Catholics of

age 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent. In addition, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics from ages 18-59 must fast (limit themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals) each of those days.

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

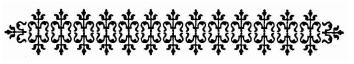
9:00 a.m. to noon 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed in observance of Good Friday



Friday

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from March 24 to 30, 2024 in memory of

Leon Kramer



Holy Thursday Eucharistic Adoration

"This is My Body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." 1 Corinthians 11:24-25

Following the 6:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Eucharistic Adoration Vigil will be held in the school's Religion Room until 10:00 p.m.



As we enter into the mystery of Our Lord's Passion and Death, come spend time with Our Lord to comfort Him in His grief, and to thank Him for the gift of the Holy Eucharistic, the priesthood, and for dying for us.



WE ARE ALL Evangelizers

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

A Question of Good vs. Evil I usually steer clear of philosophical

questions in this column because I'm never sure that I can get myself out if I get in too deep. Thus, when I come across such questions I usually try to present them in a way that might allow the readers to dig into them on their own terms. Today I present a quote from a Russian author who wrote a powerful best seller about the spirit-crushing Soviet prison system during the Cold War. The 50th edition of the "Gulag Archipelago" by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was recently released, stimulating a new generation of thinkers to delve into some of the most well-known quotes from the Russian dissident, such as this on good versus evil:

"The line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either—but right through every human heart—and through all human hearts."

"This line shifts. Inside us, it oscil-

lates with the years. And even within hearts overwhelmed by evil, one small bridgehead of good is retained. And even in the best of all hearts, there remains . . . an un -uprooted small corner of evil."

As we can see, there is much in these two quotes to get us thinking and get us debating. Imagine what the great intellectual minds can do with this most basic question of good versus evil, the personal and societal fight within humans since the days of Adam and Eve. This "good and evil" fight is evident in Christ's Passion.

We will be dealing this week with two Scriptural accounts of the evil that flourished in Jerusalem as Jesus approached his passion and death. Where was that line of evil in Judas' heart and why did it move to favor evil? Similarly, where were the lines of evil in the hearts of Caiaphas, Pilate and Herod?

And one more thought on good and evil. Evil is running rampant in Haiti, and those who have hearts with an abundance of good are getting overrun. Pray for these Haitians. Read the moving article by Mitch Albom in the Detroit Free Press from last Sunday (3-17) about his daring rescue from the Haitian tragedy.

It's becoming a tradition of mine that each year, I devote a space in the Palm Sunday bulletin for two reasons. First, I would like to encourage all those who have never attended an Easter Vigil Mass to join us next Saturday evening for this year's Mass. It includes a very moving opening procession by candlelight and features the most comprehensive set of readings all year, as well as the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion.

Secondly, I want to introduce all those coming into Full Communion with the church at this Mass. Check out their pictures in the gathering space so that we can give them a warm St. Joe welcome when we see them at Mass. Our new parishioners -to-be are: Aaron Fox - candidate, Zackery Manning - candidate, Ben Studer - candidate, Max Studer - elect Nixie Studer - elect and Dustin Sulcer - elect.

Deacon Eric deaconeric@hotmail.com



The Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is an intercessory prayer that asks the Lord to send His mercy upon us and upon everyone living in the world. It is prayed using the rosary and takes ten minutes to pray. The chaplet is traditionally said during the hour of mercy, the 3:00 pm hour. According to the Diary of St. Faustina, Jesus promised that all who recite this chaplet at the hour of death or in the presence of the dying will receive great mercy. The Vatican has approved Jesus' promises to St. Faustina regarding the Chap-

let, Divine Mercy Sunday & the Divine Mercy picture. You may want to research the many promises of mercy that Jesus made to St. Faustina. The chaplet is an intercessory prayer that extends the offering of the Eucharist so it is especially appropriate to pray it after receiving the Eucharist at Mass.

Please join the Path of Divine Mercy Grief Ministry after the last Saturday Mass each month when the Divine Mercy Chaplet is said for the parishioners who died during the month.

Prayers for Those Entering the Church at Easter

Please show your support for those completing their sacraments of initiation into the Catholic Church this Easter by leaving them cards, notes, words of encouragement, etc.



There is a board with photos in the gathering space, with a basket to leave notes in. Thank you for your support of Aaron, Zackery, Ben, Max, Nixie, and Dustin during this exciting time in the lives

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of March 17, 2024

Adults (244 gifts Including online giving):	\$19,305.73
Loose Cash:	\$725.00
Total:	\$20,030.73

Other Gifts Received

Education Trust Fund:	\$131.00
Building Fund:	\$450.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$22.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$19,105.02. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

Holy Week Schedule Tuesday March 26: 6:30 PM Confession 7:00 PM Mass Wednesday March 27: 12:05 PM Mass

Holy Thursday March 28: 6:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper -Incense Exposition in the School after Mass until 10:00 PM

Good Friday March 29: Parish Office is Closed 1:00 PM Passion of the Lord - No Incense

Holy Saturday March 30: No Confession 6:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass - Incense

Please join us after Mass for a reception downstairs to welcome our new Catholics

Easter Sunday March 31: 8:00 AM Mass - No Incense 10:00 AM Mass - Incense 12:00 PM Mass - Incense

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



Joseph Catholic School FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22 - 29, 2024 HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED EASTER!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Holy Week Schedule

Thursday, March 28@ 6:00 p.m. - Solemn Mass of the Lord'sSupperLector:Altar Servers:EM:Deacon Jerry, Deacon Eric, 2 volunteers

Usher Group: Volunteers

Friday, March 29 @ 1:00 p.m.- Good Friday of the Lord's PassionLector:VolunteerAltar Servers:VolunteersEM:Deacon Eric, Deacon Jerry, 2 volunteersUsher Group:Volunteers

Saturday, March 30 @ 6:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

Lector: Jane Miller Altar Servers: Icnacio Orta-Oski, Nolan Carn, **2 Volunteers** EM: Deacon Eric, Deacon Jerry, Amber Carn, Mary Beth Elstro Usher Group: Volunteers

Easter SundayAltar Servers:8:00 a.m.Kara B.
Logan B.10:00 a.m.Mara T.
Ellis T.12:00 p.m.Lauryn S.
Addelyn S

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

		communion
	8:00 a.m.	E. Schaefer, P. Brya,
		2 Volunteers
	10:00 a.m.	Deacon Eric & Mary Beth
		Elstro, 2 Volunteers
	12:00 p.m.	Volunteers
Lectors:	8:00 a.m.	Volunteer
	10:00 a.m.	Volunteer
	12:00 p.m.	Volunteer
Ushers:	8:00 a.m.	Group 8B
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10A
	12:00 p.m.	Group 12A
Collection Coun	nters: April 1	Group 4 & 1
Sanctuary Cleaners: Judi Thelen and Thelma Miller		

BE A PART OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

4



You are invited to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday St Mary Cathedral 219 Seymour Ave, Lansing April 7, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Homily,

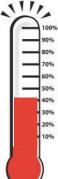
Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction, Prayers and Sacrament of Reconciliation. Prepare for Divine Mercy Sunday be starting the novena on Good Friday.

Celebration of Divine Mercy was requested by Jesus through St. Faustina, who was canonized on April 30, 2000. Saint John Paul II designated the Second Sunday of Easter as *Divine Mercy Sunday*.

Additional free parking will be in the State parking structure across from the Cathedral on Seymour Ave. Questions? Please call or text Diane Arzberger at 517-402-1562



Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge commitment to our Diocesan Services Appeal. Our gifts to DSA enable our diocese to provide services crucial to our parish. The programs and services funded by DSA offer direct assistance to individuals and families, and to parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities agencies. An "Offering of the Just" is enriching the Church right now through our contributions to DSA helping to support dozens of ongoing ministries.



If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, I invite you to do so today. Gift envelopes are available in church or the parish office. Or you may submit your gift online at <u>www.dioceseoflansing.org/appeal</u>. Your DSA gift will support the vital services and ministries that help bring the love of Christ to all we encounter

In our third weekend we reached 41.9% of our DSA goal of \$98,185.00 from only 93 of our 1010 families with total pledged at \$41,165.25. We are grateful for these contributions and invite others to join together to push us over goal for the benefit of our parish and the wider church.

Observe Holy Week as a Family

The week between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, Holy Week, is the most sacred time of year. Our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are meant as preparation for the three days of the Triduum. (Triduum is one celebration that last for three days).

Holy Thursday – The evening Mass on Holy Thursday begins the Sacred Triduum. On this night, we remember the Last Supper and celebrate the institution of the Eucharist. Talk with your children about how Jesus is really present in holy Communion and how sharing in his body strengthens us to become the Body of Christ and to follow him each day.

Good Friday – The day is a somber remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and death on the cross. It is a day of fasting and penance and a time to examine all of the places in our lives where we fail to follow Christ and fall into sin. Pray the Our Father with your children at bedtime on this night in remembrance of Christ's gift for all of salvation.

Easter Vigil – This night is the high point in the liturgical year. There is a procession of candlelight that reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world who has conquered all darkness and death. The Paschal candle that is lit at the Easter vigil will remain in the church throughout the year as a sign of Christ's death and resurrection. During the day on Holy Saturday, spend some time as a family talking about the Paschal Mystery-Jesus' crucifixion, death and resurrection. Take a walk around the neighborhood looking for signs of new life in springtime.

Easter Sunday – Celebrate the risen Lord at Mass with the singing of the Gloria and alleluias, and the renewal of the baptismal vows.

The time you spend on your Holy Week preparations will make Easter Sunday and the Easter Season more meaningful for the whole family!

FRIENDSHIP IS OFFERED



BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS

Saturday, March 30 - 10:30 a.m. (in the church) This is a great opportunity for families to prepare for their Easter celebration. Putting together this basket gives kids (of all ages) a wonderful way to spend some time on Saturday morning preparing for our Easter Celebration.

The tradition of this Easter Basket of blessed foods is shared at Easter morning breakfast. Be sure to include some Easter candy in the basket and that will be the first Easter candy eaten. Some items to include may be:

- BREAD which symbolizes our Lord himself, who is the Living Bread, some down from heaven to give eternal life.
- MEAT (ham, sausage) which ends our time of fasting and waiting.
- EGGS symbolizes new life and resurrection
- SALT reminds us of our Christian duty to others
- CHEESE symbolizes the moderation that Christians should have in all things
- BUTTER molded in the shape of a Lamb reminding us of the goodness of Christ that we should have towards all things.
- CANDLE which reminds us of the light of Christ and can be used during the Easter season.
- FLOWERS for the joy of spring and new life.

If you have any questions, email families.stjosephchurch@gmail.com OR call the parish office at (989) 224-8994. More information can be found by an internet search of Catholic blessing Easter baskets.

From Fr. Mike:

I would like to invite those families that have been using the **Trinity House Community** Resources and those who are interested in doing so, to join me for an evening gathering with your family. **A dinner will be provided as well as childcare.** The purpose of the gathering is three-fold.

- 1. To gather as a faith community in prayer.
- 2. To watch and discuss a video on the first stage of a Trinity House (namely Family Life).

3. To give you and your family an opportunity to socialize with like-minded folks who are on the same journey.

Our evening gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the lower level of the church. All are welcome; however, we need to know ahead of time (for the dinner) how many will be attending. Therefore, **if you plan on attending the May 8th gathering, please RSVP by calling the parish office at (989) 224-8994**.



What is Trinity House?

Trinity House is a method of creating and deepening a Catholic environment in our homes. It is best suited for families with children, but everyone can use their tips and methods at home. The best part? It's free! Here's how it works:

Go to https://trinityhousecommunity.org

- Click on the first menu (Dream of heaven in Your Home)
- Click "Learn about the Trinity House Way" button in the menu that unfolds
- Click "Access Free Workshop"
- Fill out the brief form
- Watch the four (15 minute) videos to have a better understanding of the program.

Start forming your house into a Trinity Centered Home.





THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

6



40 DAYS FORLIFE.

40 Days of Life is peaceful and prayerful vigil held outside of abortion facilities across the world. Our local spring vigil begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, outside the Planned Parenthood in Frandor Shopping Center. The vigil is held Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. This is a time to pray for an end to abortion and for the conversion of those who support abortion. Prayer is the greatest weapon to combat evil. I will be going on Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. You are welcome to join me in prayer or you can sign up for another time at **www.40daysforlife.com**. Feel free to call Mary Beth at (989) 227-0088 with any questions.



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