# 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

#### APRIL 21. 2024



Adam Beverly Sawyer Ballinger Joan Bozung Carol Burgtorf Lisa Clarizio Sherri Couch Friend

2

David Higgins Korine Alissa Mckeown Gabrielle Meece Mary Myah Noah

Danielle P.

Donna Smith Jason Thelen Michael VanElls Jeff Wadell Brad Walker Millie Wassa Fr. Don Wieber Bill Darnell

#### especially: William Hess Jake Hoskins

Eric Martin

Jessica Mitchell

Jacob Longoria

David Seperic Noel Smith II Joshua Szpont Jordan Van Amburg Jacob Wells

Stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com \*Please note: only immediate family members may add names to the bulletin.

THE SACRAMENTS ARE CELEBRATED



#### WE ARE ALL Evangelizers

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

#### Perfect as My Heavenly Father

When Jesus tells us in the "Sermon on the Mount" to be perfect "as my heavenly Father is perfect" it is easy to shrug our shoulders and think we have no chance. Beyond the Blessed Virgin Mary, even the greatest saints weren't perfect, so how can the average person on the street be expected to achieve that impossible goal? And if none of us can be perfect, then how can we expect the Church, governed by less -than-perfect people, to be perfect? Obviously, it's not and has never been.

There have been many times in Church history that could be considered dark moments. The Great Schism, Protestant Reformation and the Crusades are probably known by most Catholic adults, but there have been other dark moments in the Church's past that we might like to forget. But what are they and how do we survive and grow amidst scandal, corruption and embarrassments over many centuries? To find out the answers to these and other Catholic challenges, St Joe's will be hosting noted Catholic history authority Phillip Campbell on Thursday May 9th . (For a preview, watch him on EWTN's popular show *The Journey Home* tomorrow night {April 22nd } at 8 p.m.) Many people today say we are in a dark period of the Church in America due to the declining number of priests and the parallel drop in regular Sunday Mass attendance.

Campbell will use examples from the two thousand years of the Church and its struggles, while giving us the tools we need to confront past scandals with faith as well as handle conversations with others with confidence and grace. Keep in mind, that despite its missteps, the church now has over a billion faithful worldwide.

In each dark period, the Lord always gives us the saintly leaders we need to carry on. For example, the Church has blessed only 37 saints with the title of Doctors of the Church --those who have greatly advanced theological understanding of the faith. If you average that out over 20 centuries since Jesus walked the earth, that would come to an average of fewer than two Doctors per century. Yet in the two centuries following the end of Roman persecution in the early fourth century, God raised up 12 spiritual and intellectual saints to help stave off numerous heresies. These saints also helped prove important Church doctrines such as the Holy Trinity and Jesus as true God and true man. These include well known saints such as Ambrose, Augustine and Jerome. Then again, in the 16th century when Martin Luther sparked the Protestant revolt, God gave us seven Doctors to help the Church not only to address some of its flaws, but also to counter Luther where he was incorrect in his theology. That's 19 of 37 intellects in three centuries (6 per century) that the Lord has provided us at critical points in Church history. This is the type of information that Phillip Campbell will present, so, adults and teens, if you've ever had any questions about Church history, mark your calendars for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9th at St. Joe's. You won't be disappointed.

*Deacon Eric* deaconeric@hotmail.com

# Congratulations to our newly baptized April 14, 2024



*Ellie Jo Wagner* the daughter of Zachary and Ronna (Woock) Wagner

*Luke Davíd Norburg* the son of Matthew and Michele (Glowacki) Norburg

Kaden Brían Schueller the son of Kody and Amanda (Glowacki) Schueller





## May Crowning Mass-May is Mary's Month!

There will be a May Crowning Mass on Wednesday, **May 1st at 6:30 p.m**. with the K-9 Religious Education Program families. All parishioners are also invited to attend this Mass where we recognize Mary as Queen of heaven and earth.

## Flowers are welcome!



#### Steubenville Youth Conference Summer 2024

All current 8th grade and high school students are invited to attend the annual Steubenville Conference on June 21-23, 2024 in Steubenville, Ohio. In our everchanging world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts for meaning fulfillment, security, and love. This summer, join hundreds of Catholic teens to be illuminated by the light of Christ and love that He has for all.

Contact the DRE at Most Holy Trinity Parish at 989-493-2162 or email at dre@mhtparish.com for more information and to register.

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

This institution is an equal

## St. Joseph Catholic School LUNCH MENU

LUNCH MENU opportunity provider. For the week of April 22-26, 2024

Monday:	French toast, hash browns, sausage, pears, and milk.
Tuesday:	Chicken noodle soup, crackers, blueberry muffin, carrots, peaches, and milk.
Wednesday:	Pigs in a blanket, green beans, applesauce, and milk.
Thursday:	Grilled cheese sandwich, loaded baked potato soup with crackers, mixed fruit, and milk.
Friday:	Chicken poppers, peas, fresh apple, and milk.
Lunches are \$3.2	5 Milk \$0.50

APRIL 21, 2024

Liturgical Minsters April 27/28				
Altar Servers:	5:00 p.m.	Icnacio O.		
	·	Volunteer		
	8:00 a.m.	Kara B.		
		Logan B.		
	10:00 a.m.	Quinn D.		
		Bryson S.		
	12:00 p.m.	Lauryn S.		
		Addelyn S.		
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:	F:00 n m	Ann D		
Leciors:	5:00 p.m.	Ann P.		
	8:00 a.m.	Kathleen W.		
	10:00 a.m.	Karen D.		
	12:00 p.m.	Linda S.		
Ushers:	5:00 p.m.	Group 5B		
	8:00 a.m.	Group 8A		
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10A		

Collection Counters: April 22 Group 4

12:00 p.m.

Group 12A

Sanctuary Cleaners: Sue Fox

## **STEWARDSHIP**

#### For the weekend of April 15, 2024

Adults (308 gifts Including online giving):	\$19,856.54
Loose Cash:	\$805.75
Total:	\$20.662.29

#### **Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund:	\$711.00
Building Fund:	\$303.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$81.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$19,482.12. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

## BE A PART OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

4



A big "thank you" to those volunteers that helped with distribution of the new pictorial Directory after all Masses. Your help and generosity of time is so appreciated.

Every family whose picture is in the book is entitled to a directory, you can still pick it up at the parish office.

Sincerely, Pictorial Directory Committee

## The Dresser Ministry Reminder

Beginning the first weekend of May, the Dresser Ministry will have the playpen set up in the gathering space for donations to the Baby Pantry. There will be more details in next weekends bulletin.

Thank you in advance for your support!



## 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 Chaplet, 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.

## This month it will be prayed after the 5 PM Mass, April 27th

## 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.

If you plan on attending the May 8th gathering, please RSVP by calling the parish office at (989) 224-8994.



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.

## **Baccalaureate Mass**

All graduating seniors are invited to the Baccalaureate Mass on Sunday, May 19th at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Seniors should arrive at 9:30 a.m. in the lower level of the church for instructions. Mass will follow with a reception.

**Please RSVP by May 9th,** at 989-224-8537 or email Jen at dre.stjoseph@gmail.com





THE OFFERING OF THE JUST ENRICHES the altar

Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge to DSA. This week we surpassed our goal of \$98,185.00. Now that we have reached our goal, onehalf of all additional contributions received will be returned to our local parish for our use. If you have not yet made a pledge, please consider supporting our appeal with a gift that will benefit the work of Christ in our parish and through the wider church. You may submit your gift online at www.dioceseoflansing.org/ appeal or with a DSA pledge envelope to the parish office.

This weekend we reached 100.8% of our DSA goal of \$98,185.00 from only 248 of our 1010 families with total pledged at \$98,942.78. 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.

## **Face to Face with History: Confronting the Dark Spots of Catholic History**

We all want to be inspired by the stories of heroism and sanctity we find throughout Church history, but how do we handle discussions about the not so savory people and events we encounter? In this talk, Catholic history author Phillip Campbell will discuss the problem of scandal and corruption throughout Church history. This talk will help empower you to confront historical scandals with faith, as well as handle these conversations with confidence and grace when others bring them up, remembering St. Paul's dictum, "Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more" (Rom. 5:20)

> Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Parish 109 Linden St., St. Johns



Phillip Campbell is a history teacher for Homeschool Connections and a prolific author of historical works, most known for the Story of Civilization series from TAN Books. Phillip received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Ave Maria University and a certificate in Secondary Education from Madonna University. Phillip has appeared on EWTN, Ave Maria, the Catholic Faith Network, and numerous other programs and podcasts promoting historical literacy.

## THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

6



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