

# 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)

## 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

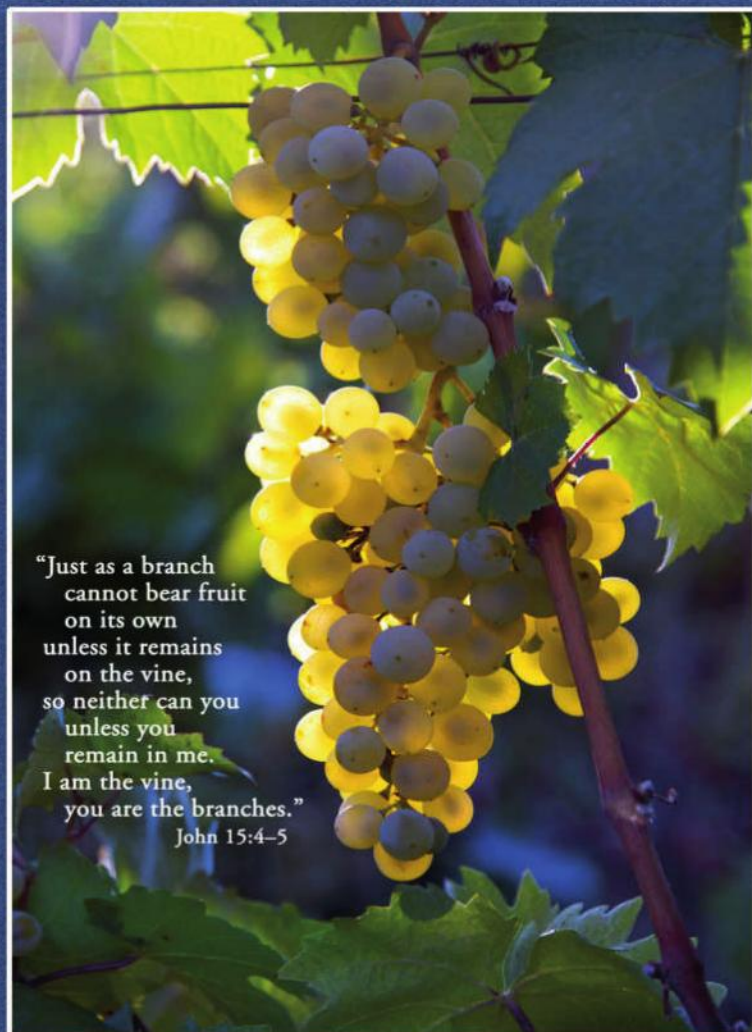
Saturday • 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday • 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.  
Mass in Spanish • 6:00 p.m.  
(Holy Days • Consult the bulletin)

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

### Prayer Tree

Parish Office: (989)-224-8994



“Just as a branch  
cannot bear fruit  
on its own  
unless it remains  
on the vine,  
so neither can you  
unless you  
remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.”  
John 15:4-5



**THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES**

**Monday • April 29**

*Acts 14:5-18/John 14:21-26*

**No Mass**

**Tuesday • April 30**

*Acts 14:19-28/John 14:27-31a*

**7:00 p.m. Mass**

**†Dennis and †Alice Gallagher**

*By: Ron and Maureen Mitchell*

**Wednesday • May 1**

*Acts 15:1-6/John 15:1-8*

**12:05 p.m. Mass**

**†Louis and †Margaret Brya**

*By: Jim and Pat Brya*

**6:30 p.m. Mass**

**†Richard and †Rose DeLoff**

*(May Crowning)*

*By: Matt and Monica Poff*

**Thursday • May 2**

*Acts 15:7-21/John 15:9-11*

**8:30 a.m. Mass**

**†John and †Shirley Fox**

*By: Your loving Family*

**Friday • May 3**

*1 Corinthians 15:1-8/John 14:6-14*

**8:30 a.m. Mass**

**†Lewis Kramer**

*By: The Kramer Family*

**Saturday • May 4**

*Acts 16:1-10/John 15:18-21*

**8:30 a.m. Mass**

***For an End to Abortion***

**5:00 p.m. Mass**

**†Roman Arens**

*By: Bernadette Arens*

**Sunday • May 5**

*Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 John 4:7-10/John 15:9-17*

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**†Paul, †Joan, and †David Geller**

*By: Bruce and Irene Pline and Family*

**10:00 a.m. Mass**

***The People of the Parish***

**12:00 p.m. Mass**

**†Marvin and †Rita Harr**


*By: Family*

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

***The Eternal Rest of Maria Emilia Castaneda***

**First Holy Communion**  
will be celebrated next weekend  
**Saturday May 4th at the 5:00 p.m. Mass**  
and **Sunday, May 5th**  
at the **10:00 a.m. and Noon Mass**

 **Wedding Banns**  
  
**Quinn J. Keilen &**  
**Brad G. Wilton**

 **The Sanctuary Lamp**  
will burn from  
**April 28 to May 4, 2024**  
in memory of  
**Clayton and Elizabeth Kramer**

**Congratulations!**  
**Bryce and Emily (Thelen) Harger**  
Who were married here at St. Joseph's on  
**April 20, 2024**

**First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on May 3 and 4**  
The Blessed Sacrament will be Exposed for Adoration following the 8:30 a.m. Mass on First Friday, May 3rd and reposed prior to the 8:30 a.m. Mass on First Saturday, May 4th.

All are welcome to attend this beautiful time of prayer in the presence of Our Eucharistic Lord!



You do not have to be scheduled for a specific hour, however, **we are in need of subs for the following hours this month:**  
Friday: 1:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 1:00 a.m.

Please call/text 989-292-2072 if you plan to attend at one of these hours or sign up at the gathering space.

**KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS**

<p><b>Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:</b></p> <p>Adam Beverly Sawyer Ballinger Joan Bozung Carol Burgtorf Lisa Clarizio</p>	<p>Sherri Couch Friend Joe Cindy Fontus Marcia Goerge Melissa Brenda Higgins David Higgins Korine Alissa Mckeown Gabrielle Meece</p>	<p>Myah Noah Patricia Jenny Pytlowanyj Frank Rademacher Deacon Marv &amp; Tita Jerry Schafer Joany Schraubon Donna Smith Jason Thelen Michael VanElls</p>	<p>Jeff Wadell Brad Walker Millie Wassa Fr. Don Wieber Bill Darnell Susan Darnell</p> <p><b>Please pray for our parishioners in the service, especially:</b></p>	<p>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</p>	<p>To add or remove a name from the bulletin prayer list, please call: 989-224-8994 or email Stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com <b>*Please note: only immediate family members may add names to the bulletin.</b></p>
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**WE ARE ALL  
EVANGELIZERS**  
(and whatever else is on  
Deacon Eric's mind)

**Agree or Disagree?**

We must love them both -- those whose opinions we share, and whose opinions we reject-- for both have labored in the search for truth, and both have helped us in finding it.

These are the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas, thought by many to be among the greatest Catholic thinkers, if not the greatest. Aquinas was known to be very pragmatic with a great scientific mind. Though those words may have been quite true in the 13th century when he wrote them, they appear to be pie-in-the-sky thoughts when placed in our society.

Everywhere we look and listen nowadays, we are faced with somebody's opinion -- whether we are seeking it or not. Debate in search of the truth has its roots in the orations of the great Greek philosophers Plato, Socrates and

Aristotle. Aquinas, for example, based much of his Catholic writings on Aristotelian philosophy. The great minds debated, but when they were done talking, they listened. Some then accepted what others had said and modified their positions accordingly. This is to be expected when all parties are seeking the truth. When they find it they accept it, even if it's not what they had thought previously. Unfortunately, opinion seems to bury truth today.

Perhaps, my own opinion is clouded by the fact that my search for the ultimate truth ended with the realization that Jesus is the Truth -- beginning and ending right there. Aquinas was in a philosophical world with dozens of voices. The plethora of philosophers continued through the Protestant Reformation, the Enlightenment and numerous revolutions, including our own. It seems this search will be ongoing unless the whole world accepts Jesus.

Far be it from me, of course, to argue against Aquinas. He lived 800 years ago and quite likely he

might phrase his thoughts a bit differently if he were living in the 21st - century America. In any century, I feel comfortable in saying God granted him more Wisdom than he granted me, but, of course, God's plan for each of us is different. There's no question he would have found a worthy opponent to debate in search of truths in any century.

Opinion runs rampant in our world. It's hard, even in watching local news, to separate fact from opinion. As a person who enjoys playing around with words, I realize how easy it is to manipulate thought by inserting a particular slant into a sentence that affects perspective. Much of our world now wants to put us in a box, separating those who believe in science from those who have faith. Aquinas wrote that we don't have to be separated, that reason (science) and faith are compatible. It's time we all realize that and bring this world together again.

*Deacon Eric*  
[deaconeric@hotmail.com](mailto:deaconeric@hotmail.com)

**St. Joseph Parish** ●●●

**Question and Answer Event**



Have you ever experienced confusion about a Church teaching, questioned what "Catholic protocol" would be in a situation, or wondered, "why do Catholics do that?"

Join Fr. Mike, Deacon Eric, and Deacon Jerry as they answer questions submitted by parishioners.



**Thursday, May 16**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Inside the Church**

*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.**

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.**



**9th Grade Post Confirmation Session,  
Youth leadership sign ups, and Pizza!!**

All current 9th grade students are invited to attend a **post-Confirmation gathering on Wednesday, May 15 at 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** In the lower level of the church. We are looking for high school youth leaders for the 2024/25 year and you qualify! We have some promising things in store for the Youth Group (HS Faith Formation) next fall and can't do it without you! Join us for pizza and a chance to **sign up for Youth Leadership.**

*This is also a great opportunity to gain service hours during high school. Why do this? Come and find out! RSVP to Jen at [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com) or 989-224-8537.*

If you are a HS junior or senior please contact Jen for more information.

**First Communion Practice**

First Communion practice is scheduled for **Thursday, May 2nd from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** in the church for all 2nd grade Religious Education Program and school families. Contact Jen Nelson for questions at [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com)

*Please pray for all the 2nd grade children who are celebrating their First Holy Communion next weekend.*

<i>Liturgical Minsters</i>		
<b>May 4/5</b>		
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Joslynn R. Sophia R.
	8:00 a.m.	Audrey D. Cora D.
	10:00 a.m.	Caroline V. Gracie H.
	12:00 p.m.	Lyndie R. Mason W.
<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.	Diane A.
	8:00 a.m.	Lu Anne C.
	10:00 a.m.	Steve M.
	12:00 p.m.	Mary Beth E.
<b>Ushers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Group 5C
	8:00 a.m.	Group 8B
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10B
	12:00 p.m.	Group 12A
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	April 29	Group 1
<b>Sanctuary Cleaners:</b>	Pat Snyder and Mary Harr	

**St. Joseph Catholic School  
LUNCH MENU**

**FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 29-MAY 3, 2024**

- Monday: Ham, scalloped potatoes, dried cherries, and milk.
- Tuesday: Breaded chicken leg, carrots, mixed fruit, roll, and milk.
- Wednesday: Chicken salad in an edible bowl, peaches, and milk.
- Thursday: Hot dog on a bun, baked beans, fresh apple, and milk
- Friday: Cheese pizza, green beans, fresh fruit, and milk.

Lunches are \$3.25

Milk \$0.50

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**For the weekend of April 21, 2024**

Adults (226 gifts Including online giving): .....\$15,380.32  
 Loose Cash:..... \$610.60  
 Total: .....\$15,990.92

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund: .....\$26.00  
 Building Fund: .....\$535.00  
 Tuition Scholarship Fund: .....\$65.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2023 is \$19,400.93. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

# St. Joseph Parish Calendar

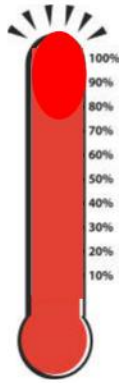
# May--2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>MAY</b></p> <p>5 - Masses: 8 &amp; 10 am, Noon 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. KC Pancake Breakfast (SH)</p> <p>Happy Mother's Day!</p>	<p>6 - No Mass</p> <p>7:30 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting (CH)</p> <p>13 - No Mass</p> <p>6:00 p.m. PSC (TL)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. St. Monica Meeting (CH)</p> <p>20 - No Mass</p> <p>19 - Masses: 8 &amp; 10 am, Noon 10:00 a.m. Mass - Baccalaureate Mass and Reception</p> <p>27 - No Mass</p> <p><b>MEMORIAL DAY</b></p>	<p>7 9:30 am Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confessions (C) 7:00 p.m. Mass</p> <p>14 9:30 am Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confessions (C) 7:00 p.m. Mass</p> <p>21 - 9:30 am Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confessions (C) 7:00 p.m. Mass</p> <p>28 - 7 pm Mass</p> <p>St. Joseph School Construction Begins</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confessions (C) 7:00 p.m. Mass</p>	<p>1 - 12:05 pm Mass 4:00 p.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Rel Ed 1-7 and H.S. Faith Formation MASS and May Crowning</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)</p> <p>8 - 12:05 pm Mass 4:00 p.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Trinity House Dinner (RR)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)</p> <p>15 - 12:05 pm Mass 4:00 p.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Post Confirmation Meeting (L)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)</p> <p>22 - 12:05 pm Mass 4:00 p.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>29 - 12:05 pm Mass 4:00 p.m. Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>2 - 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. RCIA (L)</p> <p>6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Practice (C)</p> <p>9 - 8:30 am Mass 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Face to Face with History Event (C)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. St. Joseph School Spring Concert (G)</p> <p>16 - 8:30 am Mass 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Questions and Answers event (L)</p> <p>23 - 8:30 am Mass 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>Last day of School St. Joseph's school only 5:00 p.m. RCIA (L) 7:00 p.m. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation</p> <p>30 - 8:30 am Mass 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (L)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. RCIA (L)</p>	<p>3 - 8:30 am Mass - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</p> <p>10 - 8:30 am Mass Adoration All Day (C)</p> <p>17 - 8:30 am Mass Adoration All Day (C)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (C)</p> <p>24 - 8:30 am Mass Adoration All Day (C)</p> <p>31 - 8:30 am Mass Adoration All Day (C)</p>	<p>4 - 8:30 am Mass (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday) 8:30 a.m. Mass 8:30 a.m. Average Joes (L) 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Mass</p> <p>11 8:30 am Average Joes (L)</p> <p>4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Mass</p> <p>18 8:30 a.m. Average Joes (L) 1:00 p.m. Keilen/Wilton Wedding 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Mass</p> <p>25 8:30 a.m. Average Joes (L) 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Mass</p> <p>Red Tulips</p>

**Abbreviation Key:** (L) Library (RR) Reception Overflow Room (C) Church (CL) Choir Loft (SH) Social Hall/Cafeteria (TL) Teacher's Lounge (G) Gym (Sch) School (CH) Columbian Hall KC - Knights of Columbus RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults/Children  
Events on this calendar can change without notice



“THE OFFERING OF THE JUST ENRICHES the altar”



Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge to DSA. Last week we surpassed our goal of \$98,185.00. Now that we have reached our goal, one-half of all additional contributions received will be returned to St. Joseph Church. 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](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/appeal) or with a DSA pledge envelope to the parish office.

This weekend we reached 111.8% of our DSA goal of \$98,185.00 from only 275 of our 1010 families with total pledged at \$109,779.78. 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.

*From Fr. Mike:*

**What to do with your old and unwanted Religious items**

A sacramental is a sacred sign that bears resemblance to the sacraments. Sacramentals include religious articles such as scapulars, blessed holy cards, crucifixes, statues, Bibles, missals, Lectionaries, holy water and oils, liturgical vestments, and altar cloths. But what are you to do with them when they break, become tattered and worn out? You can't just discard them. They're almost like people, sacred. They need to be treated properly, even at the end.

The basic rule for the disposal of these items is to burn or to bury them. During the 1800s the Church issued several decisions concerning this issue. Here are a few examples: A chalice which becomes "unserviceable" is not to be sold but must be used for some other sacred purpose or melted. Vestments, altar cloths, and linens must be destroyed. Polluted or excess holy water must be poured into the ground. Palms are to be burned, and the ashes then used for distribution on Ash Wednesday or returned to the ground. A broken rosary or religious statue normally would be buried. In all, the underlying idea is that when has been dedicated to God should be returned to God. Never should one just "throw out" what has been blessed and dedicated to God.

With the exception of rosaries which can be placed on the rosary rack, please do not bring your unwanted items to the parish nor leave them in the back of the church. I understand the idea of leaving those things for someone else to pick up and use. However, that is not happening, and items just continue to pile up. After a while this becomes a problem because it makes the church look unkept. If you don't have a fire pit to burn the items or have a yard in which to bury them, then ask a neighbor or relative if they can help you dispose of those items. This is precisely what we do with items that are left in the church.

**Face to Face with History:  
Confronting the Dark Spots of Catholic History.  
Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.  
St Joseph Parish**

Guest Speaker: 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 conversation with confidence and grace when others bring them up.

**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!*



**St. Joseph School  
Spring Concert**

May 9 2024  
6:30 p.m.  
in the school gym

*All are welcome!*

**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](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com)

..... ALL YOU CAN EAT  
**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
Sponsored by St. John Knights of Columbus

- Fellowship and Good Food!
- Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Applesauce, Orange Juice and Coffee
- First Sunday of Every Month, September through June
- In the School Cafeteria following 8 AM Mass until 11:30 AM
- \$5 Suggested Donation

EVERY FIRST SUNDAY



**St. Therese Church**

102 W Randolph St., Lansing  
 frfain@sttherese.org

**Bookkeeper/Business Manager Position**

St. Therese, a friendly parish of 500 families, is seeking a 35 hour/week business manager/bookkeeper. Excellent benefits are available. The ideal candidate will be a practicing Catholic, possess a bachelor degree in accounting, in finance or business, with two years of experience as an administrator or as the manager of an office. Strong familiarity with Microsoft platform is necessary. Some training will be provided. Applicants must pass a criminal background check and complete the Protecting God's Children training. For a complete job description, please contact Fr. John Fain at the number or email above. The position will be open until it is filled.

**Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor**

St. Therese is also seeking 30 hour week maintenance custodial supervisor. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, have a great attention to detail, work well with volunteers and possess a desire to help maintain our building and grounds to ensure safety to all persons as well as preserve the appearance and usability of our facilities. He/she must have a high school diplomat or equivalent, and experience in custodial and maintenance work is needed. Applicants must pass a criminal background check and complete the Protecting God's Children training. If you are interested in the position please contact Fr. John Fain at the above number or email.

**The Dresser Ministry:**

May is the month of Mary. In honor of our Holy Mother, we will be filling a "pack and play" for babies and their moms to be donated to the **Baby Pantry in St. Johns**. The Baby Pantry will accept all baby item donations but especially needs the following:

- Larger diapers (sizes 4 and up)
- Pull ups
- Baby wipes
- Paper products: facial tissue, toilet paper, and paper towers.
- Personal care items

Thank you in advance for your support!



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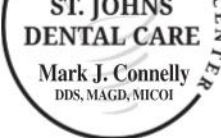
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