# 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

> Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.

**JANUARY 5 2025** 

#### **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 • Paul Atchley

#### **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 6 1 John 3:22--4:6/Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25 No Mass

Tuesday • January 7 1 John 4:7-10/Mark 6:34-44 7:00 p.m. Mass *†Carl Murray* 

By: Lee and Dori Smith Wednesday ● January 8 1 John 4:11-18/Mark 6:45-52

12:05 p.m. *†Betty Thelen* By: Helen Pung

Thursday ● January 9 1 John 4:19--5:4/Luke 4:14-22 8:30 a.m. Mass †Bill Thelen

By: Charlie and Lisa Wieber

Friday • January 10 1 John 5:5-13/Luke 5:12-16 8:30 a.m. Mass †Mark Simon By: The Sunshine Club

Saturday • January 11 1 John 5:14-21/John 3:22-30 5:00 p.m. Mass *†Ed Harr and †John Fabus* By: Family

Sunday • January 12 The Baptism of the Lord Isaiah 42-1-4, 6-7 or Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11/Acts 10:34-38 or Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 8:00 a.m. Mass †Leon and †Bertine Thelen By: Don and LuAnne Cuthbert

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

12:00 p.m. *†Stephen Fitzpatrick* By: Mom

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Rest in Peace Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of Carol Fust



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from January 5 - 11, 2025

Stephen Fitzpatrick

#### **Epiphany House Blessing**

"Chalking the door" is a centuries-old custom in which Christians gather on the feast of Epiphany (January 6) to ask God's blessing on their home. A traditional way of doing this is to take a piece of blessed chalk and inscribe the following above the entrance door at the home:

#### 20 + C + M + B + 25

The "20 and "25" refer to the year. The "+" between the letters symbolizes the cross of Christ. The "C M B" initials have two meanings:

- 1. The initials represent the three Magi: Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar
- 2. The initials are an abbreviation for the Latin,

"Christus mansionem benedict" (May Christ bless this house).

Be sure to pick up your Home Blessing Kit, which includes a piece of blessed chalk and instructions, near the church entrances.

# KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially: Adam Sawyer Ballinger Lisa Clarizio Sherri Couch Mary Enneking Keith Enneking Friend Cindy Fontus Brenda Higgins David Higgins Korine Alissa McKeown Gabrielle Meece Myah Jenny Pytlowanyj Frank Rademacher Deacon Marv & Tita Robertson Patricia Rojas Joan Schrauben Sherri Michael VanElls Jeff Wadell Jerny 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

Colby Munger

Adam Novak

Alex Rojas

David Seperic Noel Smith II Joshua Szpont Jordan Van Amburg

To add or remove a name from the bulletin prayer list, please call the parish office: 989-224-8994 or email Stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com

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



#### WE ARE ALL Evangelizers

(and whatever else is on

#### Deacon Eric's mind) Time is Precious, Handle with Care

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a wonderful time bringing 2024 to its' conclusion. But now, for most people, it's back to work time. All the fun of the last couple weeks is in the rear-view mirror. Children are back to school and the daily routines have kicked backed in. For some, adults and kids alike, they are refreshed after some time off and for others it's a matter of downtrodden faces and the need to get back to the grind.

Each new year brings it's hopes and dreams, while the disappointments of the previous year are put aside. We try to look ahead with optimism at the beginning of each year and the Catholic Church will do that by celebrating a jubilee year of hope in 2025. A Jubilee year is celebrated every 25 years with a specific prayer focus. This time it is on hope and I think all of us can agree that we can use more of that in 2025. The Church celebrates that will be filled with festivities in Rome, and throughout the world. The Lansing Diocese's plan, for example, is to include a jubilee Mass at Jackson Field, home of the Lansing Lugnuts, and from there, a Eucharistic procession to the Cathedral.

I thrive on hope, but this time of year I also take notice of how precious time is. There were several funerals in the St. Joe families in December, for example, meaning time with loved ones had run out. All of my out-of-state grandchildren will have gathered here at my home by the time this is printed. The last time all my kids were together was at my ordination in 2019. That means all of their children under the age of five had never met each other until this visit. The time with them will be/was precious.

There were even outside influences this year on my reflections of time. I just went to see a movie called "Homestead." I didn't know it at the time, but the movie served as the opening episode of the streaming TV series of the same name. Without giving away the whole story line, the story focuses on a self-sustaining Homestead in the Rocky Mountains as a shelter from a disaster that might be making its way after nuclear bombs were set off by terrorists just off the Los Angeles coast. Many story lines developed in the movie, but to my point today, how will the people live, how will they use their time, knowing a nuclear cloud may be on the horizon.

And there was one sad but poignant story about time in the Detroit Free Press on Christmas Day. It was about a son who was overjoyed that he was given field passes for the Detroit Lions -Chicago Bears game last week. He asked his Dad to join him on the field before the game, but while they were on the field Dad had a heart attack. An offduty paramedic, with a team AED, shocked the non-beating heart into rhvthm, and the son was able to have a final conversation with his father on the way to the hospital, but Dad later passed away on the operating table. In his grief, the son was effusive in thanking the paramedic for giving him a precious extra five hours with Dad.

Let's value our time with grandkids, parents and grandparents. As we pray for hope with Pope Francis in 2025, let us all be prepared for our time. All time is precious.

# *Deacon Eric* deaconeric@hotmail.com

#### St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary Meeting January 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. Columbian Hall

All ladies of the parish are invited to the fun, prayer and fellowship at the next St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary meeting on January 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbian Hall. The new year is a perfect time to come and check out an Auxiliary meeting. Come hungry because there is always some type of food to enjoy. The fun activity planned for this first meeting will be card games. Maybe you have a favorite game you would like to share. The new year is a time for new beginnings, so we hope that attending St. Monica meetings will become one of your new beginnings.

# Are you grieving and missing a beloved spouse?

Are you lonely and wishing you could meet with other like-minded men and women who are experiencing similar situations? Please join us in the coffee and donuts room (RR) in the church basement where you can gather for conversation and companionship.

#### Wednesday, January 8 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

We will break in time for Noon Mass.





#### K-12 Grade Religious Education January Calendar

- Wednesday, January 8: K-8 Classes
- Wednesday, January 15: K-8 Classes
- Wednesday, January 22: K-12 Classes, Confirmation Class and Youth Group
- Wednesday, January 29: Confirmation class and interviews

For more information, class times, and other datesgo to: stjosecatholic.com

Contact Jen Nelson at 989-224-8537 or

dre.stjoseph@gmail.com with questions or to register.

#### Would you like to join the Adult Choir?

New Members are always welcome! Practices are on Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.

in the choir loft, and they sing at the 10:00a.m. Mass.

For more information, please contact Jeff Richards at musicdirector.stjoseph@gmail.com

#### 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 6-10, 2025

Monday:	Pancakes, sausage, hash brown, fruit, and milk.		
Tuesday:	Chili, crackers, cinnamon roll, fruit, and milk.		
Wednesday:	Cheese stuffed breadstick with dipping sauce, carrots, fruit, and milk.		
Thursday:	Hot dog on a bun, French fries, fruit, and milk.		
Friday:	Broasted chicken with rice, green beans, fruit, and milk.		
Lunches are \$3.	25 Milk \$0.50		

# Liturgical Minsters

January 11/12 Altar Servers: 5:00 p.m. Volunteer Volunteer 8:00 a.m. Volunteer Volunteer 10:00 a.m. Volunteer Volunteer 12:00 p.m. Volunteer Volunteer

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

	5:00 p.m.	Group 1
	8:00 a.m.	Group 1
	10:00 a.m.	Group 1
	12:00 p.m.	Group 1
Lectors:	5:00 p.m.	Lisa W.
	8:00 a.m.	Bob P.
	10:00 a.m.	Joe T.
	12:00 p.m	Dawn L.
Ushers:	5:00 p.m.	Group 5A
	8:00 a.m.	Group 8C
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10B
	12:00 p.m.	Group 12A

*Collection Counters:* January 6 Group 2

Sanctuary Cleaners: Mary Beth Elstro & Deb Szpont

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

#### For the weekend of December 23, 2024

Adults (177 gifts Including online giving): .	\$19,357.95
Loose Cash:	
Total:	\$20,116.05
Other Gifts Received	
Other Gifts Received Education Trust Fund:	
Building Fund:	\$660.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$75.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2024 is \$19,519.59. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

#### **Christmas Masses:**

Adults (257 gifts Including online giving):	\$11,549.30
Loose Cash:	\$1,450.52
Total:	\$12,999.82

# FRIENDSHIP IS OFFERED

## **\$\$** MISCELLANEOUS MONEY MATTERS **\$**\$

#### Year End Contributions

**Year-End Contribution Statements** for 2024 will be mailed by the end of January. In compliance with the IRS, any donations postmarked after 12/31/24 or received in the office after 12/31/24 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 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 73 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, considering transferring them to St. Joe's as your donation. Contact your investment advisor and the parish office to make this transfer.

# FORMED

With a FORMED.org account you have access to free movies, programs, audio, and ebooks! Did you know that your FORMED subscription includes inspirational, engaging content for your Children?

#### **Priest, Prophet, King Retreat**

January 12, 2025, 9am-8pm St. Joseph Parish - Pewamo 106 East St., Pewamo

Come join St. Joseph Parish-Pewamo for an incredible day centered on Christ present in the Eucharist. This retreat is a guided reflection of faith including Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Praise Worship, Small Group Discussion, Interactive Prayer Experiences, two workshop breakouts, lunch, Eucharistic procession, and Mass. The entire day is designed to help you intentionally embrace Jesus Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament and in your daily life. This year's theme is Adoratio. Christianity is a relationship with Jesus Christ. We are called to a deeper relationship with Him in everything we do. How we act in our daily lives should reflect Him who sends us. How do you order your family, your daily life, and your worship to make you an example of Christ's love to those you encounter? How you act is a reflection of how you rightly or wrongly worship in this world. Come and learn how to adore Christ as our Savior in your everyday life. This retreat is free, but does require registration. Learn more and register at stjosephpewamo.org.

THE SACRAMENTS ARE CELEBRATED

#### Ecumenical Prayer Service Friday, January 17, 2025 6:30 p.m. University of Methodist 1120 S Harrison, East Lansing

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated from January 18 - January 25, 2025. 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 "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26). The 1,700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Nicene Creed is also being celebrated.

An Ecumenical Prayer Service, co-officiated by Bishop David Bard of the United Methodist Church of Michigan, **Bishop Earl Boyea of the Catholic Diocese of Lansing,** and Bishop Craig Satterlee of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Northwest Lower Michigan Synod, will take place at University United Methodist on Friday, January 17, at 6:30PM. Fellowship and refreshments will follow. University United Methodist is located at 1120 S. Harrison, East Lansing. For more information, please contact Fr. John Fain at 517-487-3749. Please come and pray with your fellow Christians!



every nation on earth will ADORE

you



# Stewardship for Saints and Scholars

Our campaign thermometer is on the rise! Be sure to keep an eye on our progress as we continue to push those lines higher and higher. As of December 23, 2024, we have raised **\$856,314.00**. As you may remember, our target at St. Joseph Church is \$1,260,000.00. Thank you to everyone who has participated and to those who are praying about how they may make a difference.

During the last several weeks we have made a concerted effort to educate every parishioner about the campaign. We want to continue answering any questions you might have and ask for your participation. We need everyone's help in order to reach our target.

Did you know that a blue envelope donation goes to the Educational Trust Fund? The Educational Trust Fund supports education of our school students, religious education programs and RCIA.



Please consider either donating to the Educational Trust Fund in the collection basket on Sunday or online at:

www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1479



#### Some Adult Formation Opportunities to Look Forward to in 2025

#### A partial sneak peek at what lies ahead

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50%

40%

30%

20%

10%

- Lent (dates TBD): Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession. This three-week parish group study will help us grow in our appreciation of this great sacrament of God's mercy.
- <u>April 26, 2025: The Catholic Biblical School of Michigan will</u> <u>present Journey with the Apostles at our parish.</u> This half-day retreat will provide inspiration for us in our own unique mission as a Christian after encountering Our Risen Lord on Easter.
- ♦ Late Spring/Summer (dates TBD): Understanding Catholic Historical Controversies series. We will be tackling some of the most questioned and controversial topics in the history of the Church, including: the Crusades, the Inquisition, the Native Missions, the Galileo Affair, and Pope Pius XII and the Holocaust. Helpful for a variety of people, from those curious about Catholicism to those seeking to better navigate these tricky topics when they come up.
- June 21, 2025: A Diocesan-wide Mass and Eucharistic Procession will be held in Lansing. 6,000 people participated in a similar event in 2018; you will not want to miss this powerful experience.

And more! Watch the bulletin for additional information about these and other opportunities to grow in your faith.





The Society of St Vincent de Paul has been serving in our parish since 1946. In 1996, St. Vincent's began operating a retail store which is now located in the Southpoint Mall at 1009 S. US-27 in St. Johns across from McDonalds.

St. Vincent's has volunteer opportunities for people to assist with accepting, processing & pricing donations and volunteers in our Resource Center where they assist people with emergency needs such as rent, utilities, prescriptions, auto repairs, etc.

Last year, St. Vincent de Paul assisted families in Clinton County with over \$226,000 of emergency financial assistance!!

If you are interested in exploring volunteer opportunities or if you find yourself with an emergency financial need, please call St. Vincent's at 989 292-7057.

The word of god is proclaimed

JANUARY 5 2025

Please pray for the following Confirmation Candidates that will be Confirmed in March 2025.		Please p preparin	Please pray for the following children preparing for <b>First Holy Communion</b> this 2025 Spring.		
Noah B	Gage M.	Paulina A.	Joshua G.	Reed R.	
Logan F.	Lily Marie M.	Oaklee B.	Jace G.	Roan R.	
Archer G.	Madden R.	Zachary B.	Kasin H.	Daryl S.	
Lucas H.	Ty S.	Paola C.	Micki H.	Eli S.	
Trevor H.	Alayna S.	Thea D.	Easton L.	Kizer S.	
Teaghan H.	Laney T.	Larson D.	Lydia M.	William S.	
Levi L.	Jakson V.	Zane D.	Sarah M.	Connor S.	
Claire M.	Gracyn W.	Ava F.	Millie R.	Henrik T.	
Cole M	Elliott W.	Atalia G.	Owen R.	Sophia V.	



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