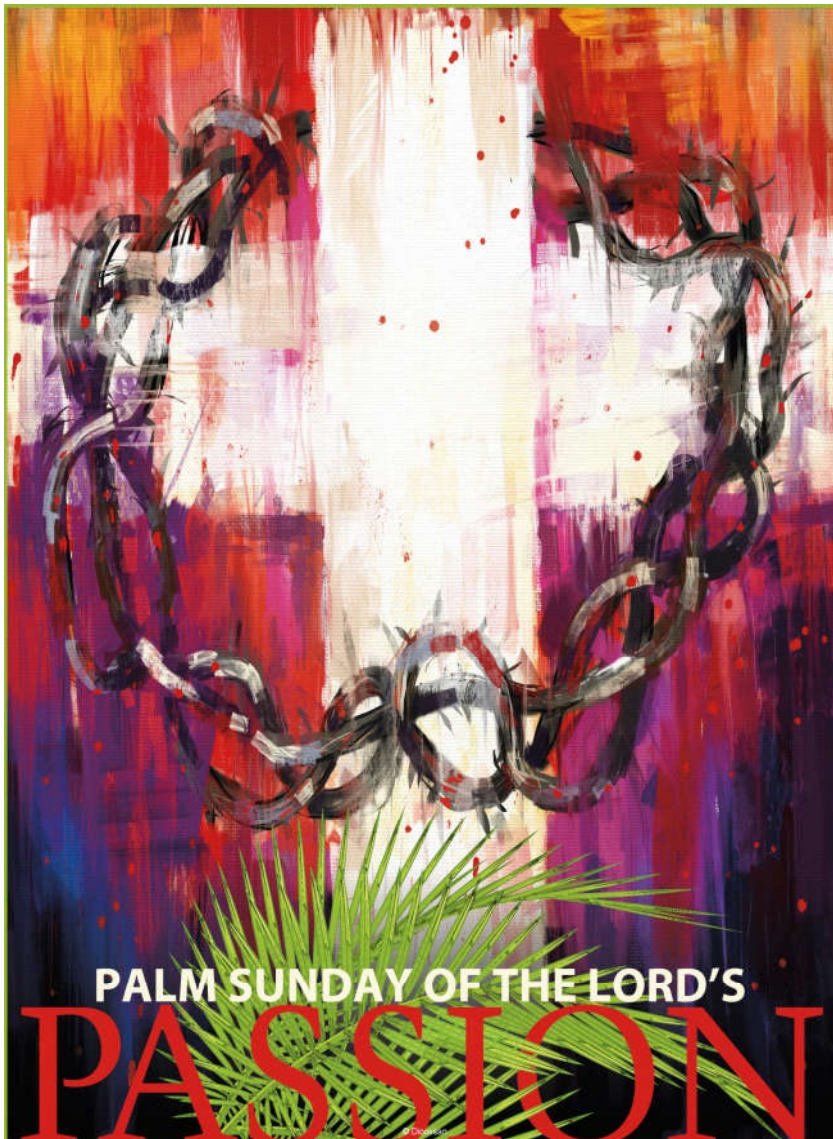


# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

109 Linden Street  
Saint Johns, Michigan 48879-1837  
(989) 224-8994  
Fax: (989) 224-3475  
[www.stjoecatholic.com](http://www.stjoecatholic.com)  
[stjosephchurchstjohns@gmail.com](mailto: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 • 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 • April 14**

Isaiah 42:1-7/John 12:1-11

**No Mass****Tuesday • April 15**

Isaiah 49:1-6/John 13:21-33, 36-38

**7:00 p.m. Mass** †Jerry and †Virgene Henning

By: Jay and Donna Henning

**Wednesday • April 16**

Isaiah 50:4-9a/Matthew 26:14-25

**12:05 p.m.** †Patrick Day

By: Susan Cardoso

**Thursday • April 17****Holy Thursday**

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 • April 18****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 • April 19****Easter Vigil**

Genesis 1:1, 26-31a/Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Exodus 14:15--15:1/Isaiah 55:1-11/Romans 6:3-11/Luke 24:1-12

**7:30 p.m. Mass** For the Elect**Sunday • April 20**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 or 1 Corinthians 5-6b-8/Colossians 3:1-4/John 20:1-9

**8:00 a.m. Mass** †Carol Fust

By: Kenney Family

**10:00 a.m.** †Dale Feldpausch

By: Family

**12:00 p.m.** People of the Parish**6:00 p.m.** Mass in Spanish

## Looking Ahead

There will be **no Masses or Confessions**  
April 22-23.**Additional Penance Services**

St. Mary Parish - Westphalia

Monday, April 14th at 6:30 p.m.

(8 Priests will be available to hear confessions)

St. Joseph Church-St Johns

Tuesday, April 15: 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

The Sanctuary Lamp  
will burn from  
April 13-19, 2025*The Day Family***Fasting & Abstinence****Age 14 and up** - Abstain from meat on Good Friday.  
**Age 18-59** - Fast on Good Friday.**Fasting** ~ eat one full meal, as well as 2 smaller meals, not equaling the one full meal.**Abstinence** ~ Not eating meat.**Holy Thursday Adoration****April 17, 2025**

Following 6:00 p.m. Mass of the Lords' Supper until 10:00 p.m.

In the Religion Room in the school

(formally known as the Day Chapel during the renovation)



Come spend time in Adoration as we keep watch with Our Lord. This is a time to meditate on what Our Lord has done for us by giving us Himself in the Holy Eucharistic and through His suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane and on Good Friday.

## KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for  
our parishioners  
and their families,  
especially:Adam  
Chris  
Sawyer Ballinger  
Lisa Clarizio  
Richard Connors  
Sherri Couch  
Verena DeBoerMary Enneking  
Keith Enneking  
Trisha Fisher  
Friend  
Cindy Fontus  
Brenda Higgins  
David Higgins  
Korine  
Alissa McKeown  
Gabrielle Meece  
Myah  
Colleen PlunkettDaniel Pung  
Jenny Pytlowanyj  
Deacon Marv & Tita  
Robertson  
Patricia Rojas  
Joan Schrauben  
Sherri  
Anne Thelen  
Michael VanElls  
Jeff Wadell  
Jennifer  
JerryBrad Walker  
Millie Wassa  
Fr. Don Wieber  
Bill Darnell  
Susan Darnell  
Please pray for  
our parishioners  
in the service,  
especially:  
William Hess  
Jake HoskinsJacob Longoria  
Eric Martin  
Colby Munger  
Adam Novak  
Alex Rojas  
David Seperic  
Noel Smith II  
Jordan Van Amburg  
To add or remove a  
name from the  
bulletin prayer list,please call the parish  
office: 989-224-8994  
or email  
Stjosephchurchst-  
johns@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)

### Joy Short-lived

Palm Sunday Mass always begins with a reading of Jesus' joyous entry into Jerusalem, as ushers hand out palms to Mass-goers. Each of the four gospel writers has a version of the procession, with Luke's account front and center this year. What makes it noteworthy in some respects is that it is so short.

The fifth season of the TV series "The Chosen" has just been released in movie theaters and I recently heard an interview about this story with the actor who plays Jesus in the series, Jonathon Roumie. Although all actors try to "get into character" for their roles, Roumie says he really got swept up into the joy of the people as he portrayed Jesus riding into Jerusalem, noting he truly experienced what it must have been like for Jesus in the midst of such adulation. His huge smile echoed the emotion.

This scene in "The Chosen" also showed

the apostles running alongside Jesus, jumping up and down, pumping their arms into the air and shouting with joy. The celebration was as if Jesus were the star as his team won the Super Bowl, the World Series and the Stanley Cup. In essence, the apostles were saying to those who lined the road that "we're with him (Jesus), we're his disciples and we're going to be important people when he becomes king."

The apostles still didn't get it. They thought in terms of themselves as the crowd was cheering Jesus so enthusiastically. How often do we live our lives with that same attitude -- us first, Jesus second, or maybe even lower for some?

The gospel accounts vary a bit about what happened at the end of the ride. Matthew and Luke have the cleansing of the temple -- the overthrowing of the moneychangers' tables immediately upon arriving. Mark has Jesus assessing the commerce in the temple area, then returning the next day. John has Jesus confronting the moneychangers early in his gospel account, right after the wedding feast at Cana. But the bottom line is that Jesus' ride into Jerusa-

lem was only a few miles, and as such, his joy was very short-lived, before the reality of his Jerusalem visit set in.

Though most of us refer to this Sunday as Palm Sunday, others note it as Passion Sunday. Officially, however, it is known as Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion. And in real time we experience the change from Palm Sunday because seven or eight minutes after we hear the account of Jesus' joyous trip we hear of the Passion and death of Our Lord.

On the way from Galilee to Jerusalem Jesus preached, knowing all along how the trip was going to end. The Father allowed his Son a few moments of joyous human emotion before he was crucified. Three days later, his Resurrection made possible a permanent joy for all.

(NOTE: If you know someone who has difficulty reading the Sunday church bulletin, please note that this column can now be heard at St. Joe's YouTube channel.)

*Deacon Eric*

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

### St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary monthly event a Lady's tea Monday April 14th at the Columbian Hall at 6:30 pm

A variety of snacks to go with the tea will be provided. Dust off your Easter Bonnets and give them a trial run as you enjoy your tea. The evening's topic will be preparing for the Holy Week which begins with Maudie Monday and ends with the Triduum. We will learn about the many blessed services and events during this week. The legends and traditions surrounding Holy Week that will be discussed. All ladies are invited to come share in the tea, food and faith as we prepare for this most Blessed Week.



Questions can be directed to Mary Beth at (989) 227-0088.



## ST. JOSEPH EASTER RETREAT JOURNEY WITH THE APOSTLES

**Saturday, April 26  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m**



Discover the ordinary men whose witness changed everything. Dynamic instructors will unpack the Apostle's encounters with Jesus, and how they were sent as witnesses.

### RETREAT INCLUDES

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OR CALL/TEXT (586)438-3085



**K-12 Grade Religious Education April Calendar:**

- Wednesday, April 16: NO K-8 Classes-Holy Week
- Wednesday, April 23: K-12 Classes and Youth Group for 9-12 Grades
- For more information, class times, and other dates go to [stjoecatholic.com](http://stjoecatholic.com)

**First Communion Preparation Dates:**

- Sunday, April 27: First Communion Practice at 1:30 p.m. in the church.

Contact Jen Nelson at 989-224-8537 or [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com) for more information.

**Liturgical Ministers for Holy Week**

**Holy Thursday, April 17**

Lector - Diane Armbrustmacher  
EM - Deacon Eric Deacon Jerry,  
Mary Beth Elstro Sharon Conley  
Altar Servers - VOLUNTEER VOLUNTEER

**Good Friday, April 18**

Lector - Debbie Thiedt  
EM - Deacon Eric Deacon Jerry  
Altar Servers - Nolan Carn VOLUNTEER

**Easter Vigil, April 19**

Lector - Steve Mahoney  
EM - Deacon Eric Deacon Jerry,  
Mary Beth Elstro Tom Reynolds  
Altar Servers - Nolan Carn VOLUNTEER

*Ushers are needed for all Services*

**St. Joseph Catholic School**

**Lunch Menu**

**FOR THE WEEK OF**

**APRIL 14-18, 2025**

Monday: Corn dog, carrots, fruit, and milk.  
Tuesday: Baked ziti with breadstick, green beans, fruit, and milk.  
Wednesday: Broasted chicken, rice, peas, fruit, and milk.  
Thursday: **No School - Holy Thursday**  
Friday: **No School - Good Friday**

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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

**Liturgical Ministers**

**April 19/20**

**Altar Servers:** 7:30 p.m. Nolan C.  
Volunteers  
8:00 a.m. Miles S.  
Kaynin S.  
10:00 a.m. Cassie S.  
Gracie H.  
12:00 p.m. Mabel R.  
Willow R.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

7:30 p.m. on separate schedule  
8:00 a.m. Group 3  
10:00 a.m. Group 3  
12:00 p.m. Group 3

**Lectors:** 7:30 p.m. Steve M.  
8:00 a.m. Rich H.  
10:00 a.m. Karen D.  
12:00 p.m. Mary Beth E.

**Ushers:** 7:30 p.m. Volunteers  
8:00 a.m. Group 8B  
10:00 a.m. Group 10D  
12:00 p.m. Group 12A

**Collection Counters:** April 14 Group 4

**Sanctuary Cleaners:** Bonnie Weber and Mary Cole

**STEWARDSHIP**

**For the weekend of April 6 , 2025**

Adults (345) gifts Including online giving): .....\$29,507.47  
Loose Cash:.....\$1,481.47  
Total: .....\$30,988.94

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund: .....\$603.00  
Building Fund: .....\$118.00  
Tuition Scholarship Fund: .....\$131.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2024 is \$20,290.55. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.



## Easter Vigil Reception for New Catholics

Following the Easter Vigil, there will be a reception to celebrate with those who will be joining the Catholic Church: Elect, Chris and Jesse, and Candidates, Lindsey and Laureen. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to become Catholic.



### *Blessing of Easter Baskets April 19th (Holy Saturday) 10:30 a.m. in the church*

This is a great opportunity for families to prepare for their Easter celebration. Holy Week is long with waiting and watching. Putting together this basket gives kids (of all ages) a wonderful way to spend some time on Saturday morning preparing for our Easter Celebration.

We will gather around at the front of the altar to have this blessing. 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 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, come down from heaven to give eternal life.

**MEAT** (ham, sausage) which ends our time of fasting and waiting.

**EGGS** symbolize 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 reminds 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](mailto:families.stjosephchurch@gmail.com) or call the parish office. Lots of information can be found by an internet search of Catholic blessings of Easter baskets.



### Lenten Almsgiving

This year's Lenten Almsgiving is for our local food banks. There are boxes located at the back of church. Please take one for your family. At the end of the Lenten season, **please write a check** for the amount collected in your box.

### Parish Office Hours

**Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to noon  
1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Friday - Closed for Good Friday**



### SAVE THE DATE!!!

Parents with children ages 4-12 are invited to:

### A SUMMER WITH THE SACRED HEART VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

June 23-June 25.  
Registrations forms and more information coming soon!

### **Attention All Widows/Widowers**

Please join  
"Kindred Friends"

at our next meeting on  
**Wednesday, April 16, 2025**  
at 10:30 a.m.  
In the church basement



**POSITION OPENING - Business Manager**

We are accepting applications for our parish Business Manager position. The position requires excellent organizational skills, experience with accounting principles and processes, and an understanding of facility maintenance needs. This position is full time with insurance, leave time, and pension benefits. Full position description is available at <https://www.dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers>

If you are someone who embraces the teachings and mission of the Catholic Church and are interested in working in this environment, please apply online or send your resume, cover letter, and references to Business Manager Position, St. Joseph Church, 109 Linden St., St. Johns, MI 48879, or email to [business.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:business.stjoseph@gmail.com).

**Grief Support Workshop 2025**

**Friday, May 9, 2025**

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**Saturday, May 10, 2025**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.\*

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
109 Linden Street., St Johns

Grieving with Great HOPE is a weekend grief support workshop that offers a prayerful, practical, and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. If you have lost a spouse, a child (including pregnancy loss), a grandchild, a parent, another family member or a friend, you are encouraged to attend. Presenters include Deacon Eric Elstro, and John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement apostolate.

For registration forms and details visit: [www.goodmourningministry.net](http://www.goodmourningministry.net)

Or call Jackie at 517-449-2928.

Seating is limited. Registration is \$10.

**Please register by April 13, 2025.**

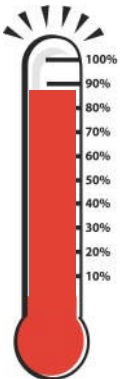
\*with light breakfast options available at 9:30 a.m. and lunch.



As of April 6, 2025\*, we reached \$87,404.39 (or 89.0%) of our DSA goal of \$98,185.24. Thus far 202 families have contributed to this year's appeal which is 19.7% our 1025 families. We are grateful for these contributions and invite others to help push us over goal for the benefit of our parish and the wider church.

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

\*We are awaiting totals from the Diocese of pledges made directly to them.

**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 hospital.

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Featuring personal stories from those who knew him in real life, this documentary goes beyond the headlines to reveal the heart of a boy who saw Jesus in everyone and never missed an opportunity to love. His simple yet profound faith continues to touch lives, proving that sainthood is for all of us.

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# THE PURSUIT OF WISDOM:

The Church and Science (Faith and Reason)

Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 6:20 p.m.

St. Joseph Parish, lower level of the church

Today there is a popular narrative that Catholicism and science are irreconcilable enemies. Many even believe that the Church has been responsible for hindering scientific progress and continues to do so through its opposition to procedures like in vitro fertilization and euthanasia. But is this really the case?

In this talk, Catholic history author Phillip Campbell will discuss the historical relationship between Catholicism and scientific inquiry, demonstrating that the relationships between the two has always been one of respectful and fruitful discourse, leading to some of history's most important scientific breakthroughs.

"TO BE A GENTLEMAN, YOU FIRST HAVE TO BE A MAN"  
-John Wayne



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- The Courage to Live your Faith!
- Overcoming Challenges
- Christ-Centered Leadership
- Respecting Women
- Virtue in Society
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