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

Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like the servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes back and knocks. Luke 12:35-36



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 • Steve Thelen

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 Maintenance • Randy Wills

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 ● August 11

Deuteronomy 10:12-22/Matthew 17:22-27

No Mass

Tuesday ● August 12

Deuteronomy 31:1-8/Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

7:00 p.m. Mass †Betty Thelen

By: Paul and Ann Thelen

Wednesday ● August 13

Deuteronomy 34:1-12/Matthew 18:15-20

12:05 p.m. Mass †Cynthia Diekema

By: Brad & Andrea Rehmann Family

Thursday ● August 14

Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Matthew 18:21-19:1

8:30 a.m. Mass †Kenneth Brian LaCosse

By: Duane and Mary Beth Boak

Friday ● August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Revelation 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB/1 Corinthians 15:20-27/Luke 1:39-

56

8:30 a.m. Mass †Fr. David Rosenberg

By: Deacon Jerry and Alice Fust

6:00 p.m.Mass †Courtney J Craig-Nowak

By: Jacob and Ellen McManus Family

Saturday ● August 16

Joshua 24:14-29/Matthew 19:13-15

5:00 p.m. Mass *†Gerald and †Nancy Lott*

By: Sue Detloff

Sunday ● August 17

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10/Hebrews 12:1-4/Luke 12:49-53

8:00 a.m. Mass †John Sira

By: Gary and Jeanne Irrer

10:00 a.m. Mass For the People of the Parish

12:00 p.m. Mass †Russell Fletcher

By: Art and Mary Porubsky

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Summer Hours for the Parish Office

Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

(closed from noon - 1:00 p.m.)

Friday CLOSED (until Labor Day)



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from August 10 - 16, 2025

Bill Fox

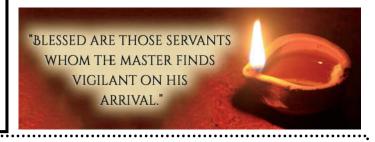
The Assumption of Mary

Friday, August 15, 2025

A Holy Day of Obligation

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have salvation and power come, and the Kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed One."

Masses: 8:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.



KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

Adam
Ari
Chris
Sawyer Ballinger
Lisa Clarizio
Sherri Couch
Verena DeBoer

Mick Droste
Mary Enneking
Keith Enneking
Trisha Fisher
Friend
Brenda Higgins
David Higgins
Korine
Mary Ladd
Alissa McKeown
Gabrielle Meece
Teresa Miller

Myah
Patrick
Jenny Pytlowanyj
Deacon Marv & Tita
Robertson
Patricia Rojas
Mary Schmitt
Joan Schrauben
Sherri
Anne Thelen
Jennifer
Jerry

Brad Walker Millie Wassa Fr. Don Wieber

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 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)

Pittsburgh Good

There was a network TV show called "This Is Us" that ran for six years on NBC -- ending in 2022. One of the many story lines was a flashback that had the character played by Mandy Moore as a 20-something" lead singer in a band from Pittsburgh who aspired to the bright lights of Los Angeles. With the help of her boyfriend, she made it to L.A. and got an appointment with an influential agent/producer who gave her an audition.

At the end of the audition he told her that her singing was good. But that he was looking for something special, something next level. When pressed by Moore and her boyfriend the agent finally said: "You're good, you're 'Pittsburgh good,' but this is L.A." That line popped into my head last week, after I appeared on the Catholic Channel's "The Catholic Guy Show."

Now, I did not have the ambition of Mandy Moore's TV character of trying to audition in the hopes of stardom. My career life is over and my current role is that of an ordained minister, of which I was conscious the whole 20-minute segment. I was aware of my word choice at all times, being careful not to step on the toes of host Lino Rulli and to not say anything at which Fr. Mike or Bishop Boyea might cast aspersions.

That being said, there was a widerange of grades for my appearance. In my own mind, I thought I was okay, my wife thought I was pretty good, my sister and brother-in-law thought I was very good, my friend, whom I mentioned on the show twice, was rolling on the floor laughing and my sister-in-law thought Lino was mean to me. I think I missed a couple opportunities to make a humorous quip, but I also have not had a call or email from the bishop's office, so that's a plus.

For those unfamiliar with the show, it often takes a call from a listener on a segment known as "What's on a Listener's Mind?" Since the title of the segment is similar to the title of my column "...and Whatever Else is on Deacon Eric's Mind," a friend of mine suggested I come up with a question and submit it. I asked: "How did you find the right mix of Catholic content and humor to make the show successful and how might I

find a similar mix to improve my bulletin column -- which also deals with Catholic content and humor?".

The closest answer I got to my question was really an answer for everyone who is searching growth. That is to identify our strengths, our gifts from the Holy Spirit, and to max them out. And that goes for me as well, because my goal was to see if I can make my columns any better.

So far, I know they are at least "St. Johns good" or else they would have been canned. They might even be "Pittsburgh good" but I'll never know because I'm not going to Pittsburgh to find out. I do know I will follow Lino's lead and play to my strengths and to see how good they might be.

Deacon Eric

deaconeric@hotmail.com

You can now watch and listen to Deacon Eric's column through this link on Youtube. https://www.youtube.com/@StJosephCatholicChurch-StJohns

Summer Faith Formation Series

Wednesday, August 20, at 6:00 p.m. Understanding The Inquisition

The word *Inquisition* conjures up the worst images popularly associated with historical Catholicism; however, most people are familiar with nothing beyond the stereotypes associated with it. Adults and teens are invited to join us as we examine this part of our "family history" as Catholics, coming to a better understanding of the origin, structure, aims, and procedures of this controversial and misunderstood part of Church history.

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary Monthly Event August 11, 2025 6:30 p.m. at the Columbian Hall

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary will hold its next monthly event on August 11th at the Columbian Hall. It's a novel event called a "Trade Market Exchange." In order to participate in the exchange, the doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for you to bring some type of product such as flowers, fresh garden vegetables, home baked goods or home canned goods such as jam. Once you have brought an



item, you can then exchange your item for an item brought by another. There is no money involved. This will be a fun way to share in the bounty found in our gardens and kitchens. During the exchange, enjoy some snacks and fellowship. We're looking forward to seeing many new faces at this unique event.

K-12 Grade Religious Education Program **Start Dates:**

- ♦ Wednesday, September 10: K-8th Grade Family Mass at 6:00 p.m., class and parent meeting
- Wednesday, September 17: Youth Group Night (9-12th grades) 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. (lower level of the church), K-9 Grade registration forms are available on the stjoecatholic.com website and near the church main entrance.

SAVE THE DATE!

<u>CONFIRMATION PREPARATION MEETING</u> Sunday, September 21: **9th Grade Confirmation Can**didate and Sponsor Meeting at 1:30 p.m. in the lower level of the church

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST COMMUNION SESSION

Thursday, September 25: Parent/Child session at 6:00 p.m. in the lower level of the church for all families with children seeking First Communion in the Spring of 2026

> Contact Jen Nelson for more information at: dre.stioseph@gmail.com

Parents Seeking Sacraments for Children:

If you are seeking a sacrament for yourself or your child, please make sure you are first an active participating member of the parish. That means that you are formally registered and participating in the life of the parish, especially participating in community worship through weekly attendance at Weekend Masses. When you are here for Mass, it is important that you place your contribution envelope in the collection, even if it is empty. There is no way I can possibly know how often, or even if a person is attending Mass otherwise. Extra envelopes will be available in the back of church in case you forgot to bring yours with you. So, please use your envelopes by placing them in the collection each time you come to Mass. This will allow me to verify a person's Mass attendance quickly and easily when they present themselves (or their children) for Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Godparents and Confirmation sponsors, or Marriage. When it comes to this policy you should know, multiple envelopes put in at a weekend Mass will be considered participation for that one Mass. Additionally, envelopes dropped off or mailed into the parish will not be considered participation at Mass. Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this matter.

Blessings ~ Fr. Mike

Do you have questions about St. Joseph Catholic School or are interested in registering this 2025/26 school year?



Please contact Chris wells at princpal@stjoecatholicschool.org.

Liturgical Minsters August 16 and 17

Altar Servers: 5:00 p.m. Volunteer Volunteer 8:00 a.m. Volunteer Volunteer 10:00 a.m. Quinn D. Palmer D. 12:00 p.m. Volunteer Volunteer

| Extraordinar | y Ministers of Holy | / Communion: |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | 5:00 p.m. | Group 2 |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Group 2 |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Group 2 |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Group 2 |
| Lectors: | 5:00 p.m. | Sheila B. |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Rich H. |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Steve M. |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Debbie T. |
| Ushers: | 5:00 p.m. | Group 5A |
| | 8:00 a.m. | Group 8D |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Group 10A |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Group 12A |

Collection Counters: August 11 Group 2

Sanctuary Cleaners: Mary Beth Elstro & Deb Szpont

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of August 3, 2025

| Adults (370) gifts Including online giving): | \$25,903.00 | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|
| Loose Cash: | \$583.00 | | |
| Total: | \$26,486.00 | | |
| Other Gifts Received | | | |
| Education Trust Fund: | .\$2,175.00 | | |
| Building Fund: | \$155.00 | | |
| Tuition Scholarship Fund: | \$583.00 | | |

Our weekly average since July 1, 2025 is \$19,498.64. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

Fatima Rosary Wednesday, August 13th 6:00 p.m.

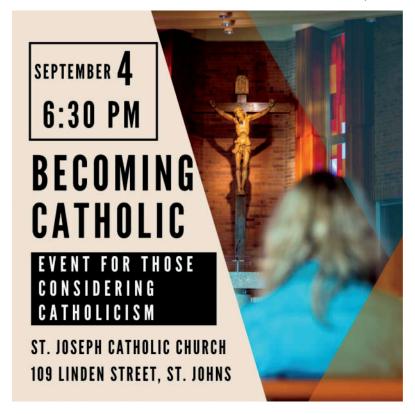
The Fatima Rosary will be prayed on the front steps of the church on Wednesday, August 13th at 6:00 p.m. to pray for our world. Bring a friend and bring a chair if you'd like! We will pray one complete rosary.

Attention All Widows/Widowers Please join "Kindred Friends"

at our next meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. In the church basement

Senior Mass and Luncheon October 15, 2025

Interested in helping to plan and organize this October's Senior Mass and Luncheon? The coordinating group will meet once in August and once in September. New faces are always welcome!! Leave your name at the office along with the best way to contact you.



St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary Future Events



October 11, 2025
Free Shrugs Clean Comedy Show
December 5, 2025
Women's Advent Celebration

More details to come for these events.



It's Often Hard to Get Started

Even when you discover that prayer is enjoyable, it's usually hard to get started. You have to find time, shift gears. Don't think there's something wrong if you have to push yourself to get started. People who like to swim sometimes have to push themselves to plunge into cool water. No matter how much you love to golf you have to push yourself to get up early. Don't expect prayer to be any different.

~Bishop Kenneth Untener





Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences Coming Up!

Light up your marriage at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience!

Upcoming experiences are being held

- October 3-5 at Augustine Center in Petoskey
- November 21-23 at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Detroit
- January 16-18 at St. William in Walled Lake
- January 30-February 1 at Country Inn and Suites in Grand Rapids.

Apply today at wwme.org or contact Amy and Joe Kopacz at 517-667-0433 information.



Do you like to sing?

Our choir is always looking for new members.

If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact our Music Director, Jeff Richards at musicdiretor.stjoseph@gmail.com



Michigan Catholic Women's Conference October 11, 2025 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lansing Center, Lansing MI

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

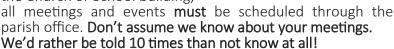
~Proverbs 3:5-6

Women from across Michigan are invited to come together to focus on their faith and experience the fellowship of sisterhood in Christ Jesus. Throughout the day, women will be encouraged and inspired to ignite their spirits and grow their faith by hearing from Catholic speakers, engaging in praise and worship music, and celebrating holy Mass with our bishops.

For more information go to michiganwc.org

Don't Forget to Let Us Know Your 2025/26 Meeting and Fundraising Schedules!!

If you are part of a parish, school, or outside organization that meets the Church or School building,



All organizations planning on fundraising after Masses must also confirm dates with the parish office.





- TOCtober 3-5, 2025 (registration closes September 28)
- St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI
- * Mass | Adoration | Guided Reflection | Support Services
- Scholarship inquiries and other questions: Contact Emma Rose Fisher erfisher@dioceseoflansing.org

More information and registration can be found at dioceseoflansing.org/event/revival-grieving-mothers-healing-retreat



Saint Joseph Catholic Church









Our Catholic Community is taking efforts to produce thought provoking, inspiring and faith-based content for the church YouTube Channel. Students at St. Joseph Catholic School are learning about creativity, story telling and video production. Students have produced segments with guests from the diocese, our church, and from our school. The school media team is comprised of students and adult volunteers. Church staff are also producing regular segments.

Visit our church channel to see what our talented community members are producina.

Please contact the church office to learn about volunteer opportunities to benefit our Catholic youth. Call (989) 224-8994.













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