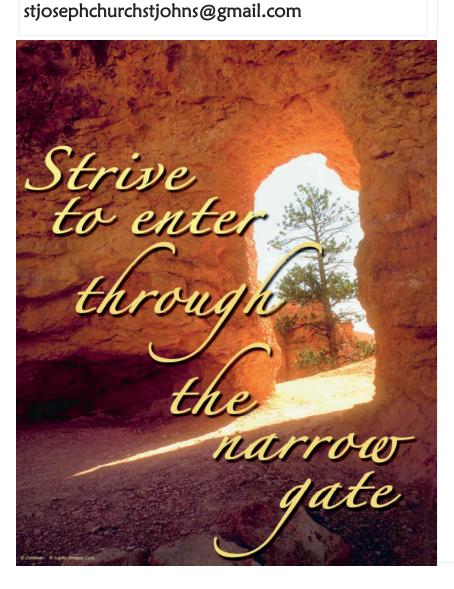
# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

109 Linden Street Saint Johns, Michigan 48879-1837 (989) 224-8994 Fax: (989) 224-3475 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 • 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 25

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10/Matthew 23:13-22 **No Mass** 

#### **Tuesday ● August 26**

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8/Matthew 23:23-26

7:00 p.m. Mass †Cindy (Hufnagel) Fontus

By: Ron and Kay Atkinson

#### Wednesday • August 27

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13/Matthew 23:27-32

12:05 p.m. Mass †Fr. Eduardo H. Lorenzo

#### Thursday • August 28

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13/Matthew 24:42-51

8:30 a.m. Mass St. Joseph Trust Fund

#### Friday ● August 29

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8/Matthew 6:17-29

8:30 a.m. Mass †Morris Sharick

By: Doug and Barb Hogan

#### Saturday ● August 30

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11/Matthew 25:14-30

5:00 p.m. Mass †Brenda Hogan

By: Family

#### Sunday ● August 31

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a/Luke 14:1, 7-14

8:00 a.m. Mass †Joan Bozung

By: Her Family

10:00 a.m. Mass †Elaine Weber

By: Tom and Barb Thelen

12:00 p.m. Mass The People of the Parish

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 24 - 30, 2025

Helen Makara

# Rest in Peace

Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of

gary L. Brown



## **Eucharistic Adoration**

"Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you--for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart."

~St. Therese of Lisieux



Please prayerfully consider committing to an hour of Eucharistic Adoration on the First Fridays of the month. If you cannot commit to a specific hour, come at a time that works best for you, or add your name to the sub list. Text or call Rebecca at 989-292-2072 for more information

#### 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 Sonia Fedewa 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)

### Reflecting on Time

In St. Peter's second letter, he tries to tell some restless Christians that the Lord does not look at time the way we do, saying: "But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day." It's not an exact numerical relationship as Peter describes time, but he's just trying to make the point that God lives outside of time.

Time is a part of our life that almost seems contradictory when we consider that we start running out of it on this earth the moment we are born. Time is an aspect of life which mankind wishes it had more control over. Most certainly, there are those who manage their time more effectively than others, but then there are those who act as if they have all the time in the world and don't want to be controlled by schedules. The second group drives the first group crazy. Fortunately, most of us live in the middle, trying our best to be "on time" when we have to be, but not living by a strict daily schedule.

The topic of time seems most relevant this time of year, because this is the last full week of August – the traditional end of summer – the end of the vacation. For many, the end of August is a sad time (kids), and for others it is a happy time (parents—and football fans.) The four seasons are a measure of time for those of us who live in a temperate climate, a constant reminder that time is moving on.

The topic of time is relevant for another reason in our household following the death of my wife's Auntie Virginia, who died at the ripe old age of 102. Funerals allow us to reflect on our lives. We pray for the repose of the soul of the deceased and take stock of the state of our own. Death marks the end of one's season of life on earth. Our turn is coming. When, we don't know, but the gospels give us many a warning to be ready at all times.

In formulating a homily for the funeral, I asked Auntie Virginia's son if he could remember a unique story about his mother. He didn't have a lot of the details, but he always remembered a story his mother told about a trip she and a sibling made with their grandparents to Missouri

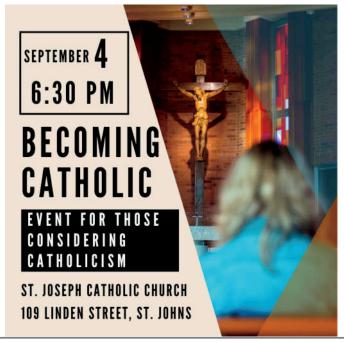
probably around 1930. The story ends with grandpa, who was probably born in the 1870s, tossing the car keys on the table and saying he would never drive again. He never did

One can only imagine what happened on that drive, traveling all the way to Missouri and back at about 35 miles per hour, causing grandpa to react that way. I suspect it was quite an adventure — probably a metaphor for life, with potholes and bumpy roads, smoothed over by warm visits with family in Missouri. We know not our time, but let's try to fill it with family and friends, because we know the potholes are always going to be there.

#### **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



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

# 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!

#### **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION MEETING**

Sunday, September 21: 9th Grade Confirmation
Candidate 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.stjoseph@gmail.com

#### **YOUTH GROUP NIGHT - September 17, 2025**

All 9th-12 Grade youth are invited to attend a "Discipleship Groups in the Making" night on Wednesday, September 17th at 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the lower level of the church. Plan ahead for the next one on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Scan the QR code below to say you're coming.

Contact Jen Nelson for more information at: <a href="mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com">dre.stjoseph@gmail.com</a>



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

# St. Joseph School LUNCH MENU

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

#### FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 25-29, 2025

Monday: Pancakes with syrup, hash brown, fruit,

and milk.

Tuesday: Lasagna with breadstick, green beans,

fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Corn dog, peas, fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Cheese stuffed breadstick with dipping

sauce, carrots, fruit, and milk.

Friday: No School

Milk choice includes chocolate fat free milk or white 1% Low fat milk

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

# Liturgical Minsters August 30/31

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. Icnacio O. 8:00 a.m. Bob P.

10:00 a.m. Ted S 12:00 p.m. Linda S.

*Ushers:* 5:00 p.m. Group 5C

8:00 a.m. Group 8A 10:00 a.m. Group 10C 12:00 p.m. Group 12A

Collection Counters: August 25 Group 4

Sanctuary Cleaners: Pam Ervin & Karen Feldpausch

## **STEWARDSHIP**

#### For the weekend of August 17, 2025

Adults (277) gifts Including online giving):	\$18,244.10
Loose Cash:	\$1,039.00
Total:	\$19,283.10
Other Gifts Received	
Education Trust Fund:	\$536.00
Building Fund:	\$360.00

Tuition Scholarship Fund: ......\$115.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2025 is \$19,597.72. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

## Job Postings:

School Kitchen Aide and School Lunch Aide St. Joseph Catholic School is seeking applications for 2 part-time positions.

The <u>Kitchen Aide position</u> is helping in food preparation, serving and cleaning the kitchen. This is a part-time, 5 days per week position

The <u>Lunch Aide position</u> is helping and supervising students while in the lunchroom and while outside during lunch recess. This part-time position can be 2, 3, or 5 days per week.

Interested people, please contact the school office at 989-224-2421 or at <a href="mailto:principal@stjoecatholicschool.org">principal@stjoecatholicschool.org</a>

#### 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.

# Journeying Through Grief A simple, powerful way to care for people who are grieving

Journey through Grief is a 6-week, loving, caring, and supportive program for individuals who are grieving the loss of a loved done. We will be using a four-booklet series as a base for our small group sessions. Author Kenneth C. Haugk writes in a warm, caring style, with short, easy-to-read chapters. He walks alongside the reader through the grief journey, sharing helpful insights about grief, biblical truths, and stories that provide comfort and reassurance.

#### **Catholic Community of St. Jude** 801 N Bridge Street, DeWitt MI

Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

September 24th, October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th \$10 optional donation

Co-Leaders: Trink Fetzner, Jim Kurt and Linda Kahler Register by calling or emailing Trink Fetzner: (989) 620-4464 or Fetzerjohn@aol.com

Catholic Community of St. Jude: Compassion Ministry

# St Monica Ladies Auxiliary Presents the 2nd Annual Fundraiser



Saturday, October 11, 2025
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
at the
VFW Hall
2497 Old US 27, St. Johns
Tickets (ages 14 and up) are \$15.00
from any Auxiliary member
Or call Dawn at
(517) 282-7648

#### Surviving Divorce

September 8 - December 8, 2025 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. St. Mary Parish 201 N Westphalia St. Westphalia

St. Mary's Parish in Westphalia is pleased to announce that we will once again be offering Surviving Divorce sessions, to bring hope and healing of anyone who has experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Surviving Divorce is designed to help you work through the emotional upheaval of separation and divorce from others who share your experiences. The program will help you navigate new concerns like custody, court hearings, and finances.

This program is for the newly separated and divorced, and those still struggling with issue many years later. It's aimed to help you discover a deeper understanding of God's love for you, find answers, restore hope, and begin authentic healing.

Surviving Divorce will be held every Monday starting September 8 to December 8, 2025 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Library at St. Mary, Westphalia (No meeting on November 24th - for Thanksgiving). The program fee is \$20 to cover the cost of the Personal Guide.

To register, please go to <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YQ5Q1UBB-Y5AQR4Qs1\_x5XzISy3Ynxi9Q6qD7v5zmaU/edit">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YQ5Q1UBB-Y5AQR4Qs1\_x5XzISy3Ynxi9Q6qD7v5zmaU/edit</a> or contact St. Mary Parish at 989-587-4211 by September 8, 2025.

The Most Reverend Earl Boyea
Bishop of Lansing
Cordially invites you to
A Celebration of your Marriage
On Saturday, September 27th, 2025
4:30 p.m. in the afternoon
St. Thomas Aquinas
955 Alton Rd East Lansing

Holy Mass followed by cake and punch reception in the parish hall.

Please RSVP at: dioceseoflansing.org/event/ anniversary-mass

#### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



#### Funerals when Fr. Mike is Away from the Parish

In 1970, the average age of active Catholic priests in the US was 35. Today that average age is 63. Many older priests are being asked to postpone their retirement to compensate for the shortage, but this is only a temporary solution. In just ten years, the number of priests is set to drop even more dramatically.

Canon 533 of the Code of Canon Law states: §2. "Unless there is a grave reason to the contrary, a pastor is permitted to be absent from the parish each year for vacation for at most one continuous or interrupted month; those days which the pastor spends once a year in spiritual retreat are not computed in the time of vacation."

With the increasing shortage of active priests, it is becoming more and more difficult for the average parish priest to "get away" for any extended period of time whether for vacation, retreat or family matters. Therefore, there is a great likelihood that if a funeral was to occur during the absence of one's parish priest, the parish deacon would be called upon to preside at that funeral.

Here, in St. Joseph Church, those in the parish office will do their best to find another local priest to preside at a funeral in such a situation. However, one needs to understand that it is not always possible to find an available priest. In that situation, Deacon Jerry Fust or Deacon Eric Elstro (our parish deacons) will be called upon to preside over a funeral if such a situation should arise. If this were to occur, the family of the deceased should expect to have a Vigil Service (as usual) the night before, The Rite of Christian Burial (without Mass), a Committal Service at the graveside, and be encouraged to have a Memorial Mass for their loved once Fr. Mike returns to the parish or at a later date.

Church of the Resurrection 90th Ox Roast Festival 127 Rumsey Ave., Lansing (blocks east of Sparrow Hospital)

Friday, October 10th, 4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Saturday, October 11th, 2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Raffle drawings 8 p.m. Saturday - \$10,000 Grand Prize

Featuring the original Ox Roast sandwich,
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Includes the Shamrock Pub, children's games,
DJ & live entertainment, hourly 50/50 drawings,
Miscellaneous Raffle featuring
a large variety of new items & famous Wheelbarrow of Cheer!
Follow us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/
resurrectionoxroast/



# **Traveling this summer?**

MassTimes.org provides worship times, locations, contact info, websites and maps of over 117,000 churches in 201 countries and territories.

#### **Prayer for Travelers**

Lord, be our guide and our protector on the journey we are about to take. Watch over us. Protect us from accidents. Keep us free from harm to body and soul. Lord, support us with Your grace when we are tired. Help us be patient in any trouble which may come our way. Keep us always mindful of Your presence and love. Amen.



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