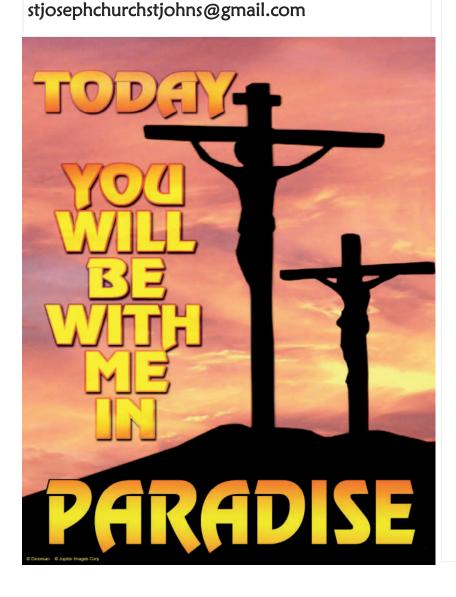
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St. Joseph is a place of refreshment, peace and love, a place of ministry and renewal. We welcome you to be part of our faith community where the Word of God is proclaimed, friendship is offered and the Sacraments are celebrated.

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Fr. Michael Williams 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 Maintenance • Randy Wills School Custodian • Steve Dyer

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 • 5:30 p.m. Saturday • 4:00 p.m.

Prayer Tree

Parish Office: (989)-224-8994



THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday ● November 24

Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20/Luke 21:1-4

No Mass

Tuesday ● November 25

Daniel 2:31-45/Luke 21:5-11

6:00 p.m. Mass †Claire Lycia Wineland

By: the Jury Family

Wednesday • November 26

Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Luke 21:12-19

12:05 p.m. Mass †Wolodymyr (Walt) Pytlowanyj, Sr.

By: Family

Thursday • November 27

Sirach 50:22-24/1 Corinthians 1:3-9/Luke 17:11-19

Thanksgiving

8:30 a.m. Mass †Dorothy Quick

By: Doug and Barb Hogan

Friday • November 28

Daniel 7:2-14/Luke 21:29-33

No Mass

Saturday ● November 29

Daniel 7:15-27/Luke 21:34-36

5:00 p.m. Mass †Wolodymyr Pytlowanyj, Jr.

By: Family

Sunday ● November 30

Isaiah 2:1-5/Romans 13:11-14/Matthew 24:37-44

First Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Mass †Leon and †Bertine Thelen

By: Tom and Brenda Thelen

10:00 a.m. Mass †Bill Kissane (3rd anniversary)

By: Judy Kissane

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

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from November 23-29, 2025 in memory of Nora, Cory, and Craig Linzey

Office Hours

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

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

Thursday-Friday

Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday



O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry; When I have work, help me to remember the jobless; When I have a home,

help me to remember those who have no home at all; "When I am without pain,

help me to remember those who suffer,

And remembering, help me to destroy my complacenrcy;
bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help;

By word and deed, those who cry out for

what we take for granted.

Amen

~Samuel F. Pugh



KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

Adam
Ari
Chris
Danny Ball
Sawyer Ballinger
Jan Coffman
Sherri Couch

Verena DeBoer Mick Droste Mary Enneking Keith Enneking Trisha Fisher Friend Jack Hagerty David Higgins Korine Alissa McKeown Gabrielle Meece Teresa MIller Myah Patrick Jenny Pytlowanyj Deacon Marv & Tita Robertson Patricia Rojas Mary Schmitt Joan Schrauben Sherri Anne Thelen Jennifer

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)

Good News, Maybe Not – Go Figure

Here's some news that doesn't sound good to people of faith in our country:

"A sharp decline in U.S. adults' religiosity during the past decade is among the most dramatic drops recorded by Gallup in any country over any 10-year period", the pollster reported Thursday.

Gallup found that the share of Americans who say religion is an important part of their daily life went from 66% to 49% between 2015 and 2025. A 17-point shift is rare, according to Gallup —only 14 out of more than 160 countries in its World Poll dropped more than 15 points in a 10-year time-frame."

So what does this mean? I'm not sure, I was hoping you might, but we'll get back to it shortly.

Moments after first reading this Gallup news I read this in my daily news feed (Catholic Vote):

"Young people come to New York City to

chase careers, materialism and pleasure. The pursuit of faith isn't exactly on the Big Apple checklist. However, at a recent, very crowded Sunday night mass at St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich Village, Father Jonah Teller, OP made a simple announcement indicating that times are changing.

According to Teller, the number enrolled in the parish's Order of Christian Initiation of Adults — the process in which adults convert to Catholicism — had tripled since last year, with roughly 130 people signing up."

So in a matter of two minutes, I'm told that the nation, as a whole is turning away from all religion, not just Christianity, at an unprecedented rate. At the same time, Catholicism is rapidly drawing converts in a city most of us would not identify with Christianity, let alone Catholicism. How can each of these stories be true at the same time?

Well, first of all the Gallup statements are very broad and there's not enough data given in the article to make any independent analysis. Secondly, the New York City article, which does have other examples of great Catholicism growth, focuses on a singular subset over a shorter period of time and this

juxtaposition of these articles only seem to contradict. It's more of a "comparing apples and oranges" type of situation.

What got me thinking, however, was how viewing only one of those two news articles might leave a false impression on the state of religion in our country. The Gallup numbers might leave the reader with a negative view, while the New York story would certainly be encouraging to Catholics, it would not be to non Catholics.

So this all leads us back to the title of this piece "Good News, Maybe Not –Go Figure." I'll take the good news and run with it – the largest city in our country is seeing substantial growth in converts to Catholicism. It shows that our directive from the Church to go out and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ is at work. Hope is alive there and as we know, "Hope does not disappoint." I have no time for the Maybe Nots--go figure.

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

Advent Candlelight Holy Hour: Friday, December 19, 2025 6:00 p.m.

in the church

Step away from the busyness of the season with a led holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration. This candle-lit event will feature music, a reflec-

tion, quiet moments with Our Lord, and more, as we prepare to step out of the darkness and into the light of Christ. Bring your family and friends; young children are welcome!



YOU'RE INVITED!!

Clinton Community Thanksgiving
Celebration and Dinner
November 27, 2025
St. John's Lutheran Church
511 E Sturgis St., St. Johns
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Dinner
RSVP 989-292-0972 or CCThanksgiving.org

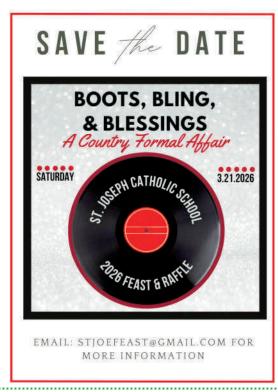
There will be kids activities, fellowship, music, football and lots of food! Community Sponsored - No Cost to You

K-12 Religious Education Program for November

November 26: No Classes

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

Dates will vary each month, please see the <u>stjoecatholic.com</u> website.



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 NOVEMBER 24-28, 2025

Monday: Chicken tenders, fresh veggie, fruit,

and milk.

Tuesday: Chili with crackers, cinnamon roll,

fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: No School

Thursday: No School- Happy Thanksgiving!

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 November 29-30

Altar Servers: 5:00 p.m. Caroline V.

Blaze V.

8:00 a.m. Kaynin S.

Ella S.

10:00 a.m. Paisley S.

Eli P.

12:00 p.m. Mabel R.

Willow R.

Extraordinary 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. Ann P.

8:00 a.m. Bob P. 10:00 a.m. Rose R.

12:00 p.m. Mary Beth E.

Ushers: 5:00 p.m. Group 5A

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

Collection Counters: November 24 Group 1

Sanctuary Cleaners: Mary Beth Elstro & Deb Szpont

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of November 16, 2025

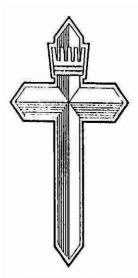
Adults (418) gifts Including online givi	ng):\$13,189.96
Loose Cash:	\$814.00
Total:	\$14,003.96

Other Gifts Received

Education Trust Fund:	\$1,753.00
Building Fund:	\$265.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$65.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2025 is \$21,200.48. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.







Traveling Chalice for Vocations

If you love the Catholic faith and want to contribute in a meaningful way, please pray for vocations. The Knights of Columbus has provided a traveling chal-



ice that you can take home for a week of daily prayers. The chalice is located on a table in the front of the annex. Simply sign up for the week that you want, and the chalice as well as suggested prayers are yours for that week.

Long-Term Substitute Teaching Position: February - May, 2026

St. Joseph Catholic School in St. Johns, Michigan is accepting applications for a Kindergarten long term substitute teaching position. This position will last for twelve (12) weeks and begins in February, and finishes in May, 2026. Experience in teaching and/or substitute teaching in the classroom is preferred. The classroom also has a part-time aide Monday-Friday each school week.

Interested applicants please contact: Chris Wells, Principal, principal@stjoecatholicschool.org. or call the school office at 989- 224-2421.

THE BIG TO

Thank you for all your help with the donations to the Marquette, Michigan Homes for Veterans.

This was the fifth year for the Veterans Shower donations, and everyone was so generous! It's a great feeling to know that so many people support and honor our military veterans by these generous donations!

So, a big THANK YOU to the St. Joseph Catholic Church parishioners for allowing this to happen. The Veterans appreciate you and so do we!

~Alice Fust and Janet Pline.

St. Joseph Parish Advent Series O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: Reflections on the O Antiphons

This Advent, journey with your parish family through a seven-part series on the Church's timeless cry for the coming Light, Who is Christ. In response to your adult faith formation survey preferences, this series will be available online.

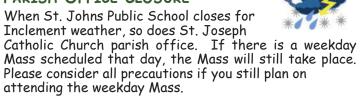
To receive the reflections directly via text or email, scan this QR code, or text joe48879-liturgy to 55321. Please check your email and text spam filters if you do not receive a confirmation.



Is there something special you would like Father Mike to bless?

At the top of the ramp entrance, near the sacristy door, there is a table set up for you to place any items you'd like to have blessed. Father will bless them before Mass begins, and you can easily pick them up afterward.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE



If you have any questions or concerns, please call the parish office.



Calling families big and small!

We are seeking volunteers to light the wreath before Masses during Advent.

If you and your family are interested, please scan this QR code to sign up.





The Food Box

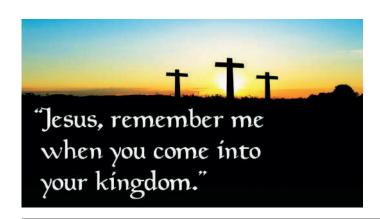
The Food Box donations help families in our community through the Beacon of Hope or Basic Needs here in town.

Donations can be placed in the wooden box in the back of church, at the top of the stairs by the office.

<u>A thought:</u> If each family brought just one item for the Food Box each Sunday, we could fill that wooden box every week.

Prayer for Travelers

Gracious God, we thank you for making this beautiful world and for calling us your people. Bless us with every heavenly blessing and give us a safe journey. Help us to enjoy these days of vacation and let them be a time of refreshment and joy. Give us grace that we may serve you each day and grow in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.







Career Opportunity Diocese of Lansing

The Diocese of Lansing is accepting applications for the Director of Marriage and Family Life position. The role assists the Bishop of Lansing in his sanctifying responsibilities by leading our diocesan marriage ministry, which helps couples prepare and continually educate the people of the diocese to faithfully live the covenant vocation of marriage. The position also provides support and resources through the changing life cycle of marriage and family life, which includes young families, empty nesters, those who have lost a spouse, and those whose marriage is in crisis.

To learn more about this important role and how to apply, please visit our website at https://www.dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/ careers



Please pray for the following children preparing for First Holy Communion this 2026 Spring.

Quinn C. Benjamin H.

Caleb C. Eli H. Grace D. Cam M.

Elizabeth D. Alessandra M.

Mya D. Zoey N. Lynden D. Adalyn P. Bravden G. Grace R.

Sadie G. Kensington S.

Jace G Isla S. Bryer H. Canaan S.

Please pray for the following Confirmation Candidates that will be Confirmed in March 2026.

Grace B. Sylis M.

Kara B. Elizabeth M. Brayden C. Joslynn R. Owen D. Cassandra S. Will G. Adelyn S. Brody K. Lauryn S. Carter K. Paige T. Morgan L. Marie W. Owen M. Ace W.

Isabelle M.



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