# 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



THE TEMPLE OF GOD
WHICH YOU ARE
IS HOLY



#### **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 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 10

Wisdom 1:1-7/Luke 17:1-6

No Mass

#### **Tuesday ● November 11**

Wisdom 2:23--3:9/Luke 17:7-10

6:00 p.m. Mass

†Gary L. Brown

By: Knights of Columbus #3281

#### Wednesday • November 12

Wisdom 6:1-11/Luke 17:11-19

12:05 p.m. Mass †Mark Hensler

By: Doug and Barb Hogan

#### Thursday • November 13

Wisdom 7:22b--8:1/Luke 17:20-25

8:30 a.m. Mass *†Mark Esper* 

6:00 p.m. Mass For the Souls in Purgatory

#### Friday • November 14

Wisdom 13:1-9/Luke 17:26-37

8:30 a.m. Mass †Marie Feldpausch

By: Her Family

#### Saturday ● November 15

Wisdom 18:14-16, 19:6-9/Luke 18:1-8 5:00 p.m. Mass The People of the Parish

#### Sunday ● November 16

Malachi 3;19-20a/2 Thessalonians 3:7-12/Luke 21:5-19

8:00 a.m. Mass †Dennis and †Celine Ozanich

By: Tom and Brenda Thelen 10:00 a.m. Mass †Dale Kraus and members of the Cardy

**Family** 

By: Lori Krause

12:00 p.m. Mass †Larry Randolph

By: Jane and Family

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

†Luis and Margarita Porras Alor

By: Family

# ANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from November 9-15, 2025 in memory of Sanet Smith

## Rest in Peace

Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of

Dale H. Rhynard Vernor Smith Ron C. McCarty Stanley Divish anna Blasen

#### 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.

#### KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially:

Adam Ari Chris 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 Mary & Tita Robertson Patricia Roias 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: only immediate family members may add names to the bulle-



## WE ARE ALL EVANGELIZERS

(AND WHATEVER ELSE IS ON DEACON ERIC'S MIND)

#### **Hope Never Ceases**

With the onset of the month of November, a month in which we remember all those who have gone before us, it's important for us to revisit the virtue of hope. For the second time this year, we are having a significant run of funerals at St. Joe's. At this point, we have funerals scheduled for five straight days – a reminder that praying for all souls is a non-stop necessity for us.

Some of our non-Catholic friends wonder what we are doing by praying for souls who have left this earth. To many non-Catholics, the fate of our souls at the time of earthly death is cut and dried. If you have been saved (accepting Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Savior) or you have not. It's either heaven or hell at that moment the soul leaves the body. In essence, hope is gone.

But, as Catholics, we believe in Purgatory. We all know that we are imperfect and so we know all of us will need purification before we can

move into our heavenly home. As such, we may believe that our loved ones are in heaven, but we don't know for sure. So we maintain hope and pray that those we love who may still be in Purgatory can be aided by our prayers.

I remind my readers periodically to always maintain hope. I rely on St. Paul's description of hope as he states in his letter to the Romans (Rm 5:3-5) "We even boast of our afflictions knowing that affliction produces endurance and endurance proven character and proven character hope, and hope does not disappoint." Endurance is critical for Christians in this world today, not only because it's a critical step toward hope, but also because the secular world is constantly trying to crush our spirit.

St Joe's has a checklist it gives to the family of a newly deceased parishioner to help give Fr. Mike or any other homilist an idea of the depth of the deceased's spiritual life. This is how hope is defined on this spiritual inventory list: "The virtue by which we firmly trust that God, who is all powerful and all-faithful, will in his mercy give us eternal happiness and the means to obtain it." The key

word there, of course, is trust. If we can't firmly trust in God, hope doesn't have a leg on which to stand.

The four boxes on the hope check-list determine whether the deceased knew: that God's help is needed to get to heaven; that one must long to get to heaven; that one must trust God when they are ill and; that one encourages others to have hope. It most certainly is not an exhaustive list, but one in which we can check ourselves to determine if our level of hope is lacking or not.

So let's continue praying for all the souls who have left us, not just this month, but every month.

Let endurance pave the way to hope, or even better, "pray the way to hope."

#### 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

#### St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary

next monthly gathering November 10, 2025 6:30 p.m. Columbian Hall

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary's next monthly gathering will be on Monday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbian Hall. All ladies of the parish are invited to join in the Thanksgiving Potluck. We will come together to share a meal of harvest favorites as we consider all God's bless-



ings for which we are truly thankful. We remember how loving and generous is our God. Bring your favorite dish to share. Plates and utensils will be provided. It will be a blessing to see many new ladies to share in the bounty and joy of our parish.



The wait is over!
After months of anticipation,

#### "The Chosen"

Season Five entitled "Holy Thursday"
Has returned to the (not-so-big) screen
in the church library
On Fridays
November 14 and 21, 2025,
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Please come and enhance your understanding of the Gospel through this unique TV series. The final four episodes will run throughout January, Beginning on Friday, January 9th.

Deacon Eric

# K-12 Religious Education Program for November

November 12: K-12 Classes/Youth Group

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

November 19: K-9 Classes/ Confirmation

Class at 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

November 26: No Class

**Youth Group Night** 

All 9th-12th graders are invited to YOUTH GROUP on Wednesday, November 12, 2025
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
in the lower level of the church.

#### PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO ATTEND



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

Dates will vary each month, please see the stjoecatholic.com 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 10-14, 2025

Monday: Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo, bread

stick, green beans, fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Loaded baked potato soup with

grilled cheese, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Hot dog on a bun, French fries,

fruit, and milk

Thursday: 1/2 Day - No Hot Lunch Served

Friday: 1/2 Day - No Hot Lunch Served

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

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

# Liturgical Minsters November 15 and 16

Altar Servers: 5:00 p.m. Nolan C.

Zeke B.

8:00 a.m. Miles S.

Beau H.

10:00 a.m. Ella C.

Liam K.

12:00 p.m. Anna H.

Derek C.

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:00 p.m.	Group 3
8:00 a.m.	Group 3
10:00 a.m.	Group 3
12:00 p.m.	Group 3

*Lectors:* 5:00 p.m. Lisa W.

8:00 a.m. Lu Anne C. 10:00 a.m. Cassandra G.

12:00 p.m. Dawn L.

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

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

Collection Counters: November 10 Group 3

Sanctuary Cleaners: Teisha Schmitt and Janet Thelen

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

#### For the weekend of November 2, 2025

Adults (298) gifts Including online giv	ing):\$24,105.73
Loose Cash:	\$973.00
Total:	\$25,078.73

#### **Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund:	.\$617.00
Building Fund:	.\$135.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	\$30.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2025 is \$21,086.87. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

## 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.

#### Save the Date!

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Minister Meeting

Thursday, November 13

6:30 p.m. in the church

For our current Eucharistic Ministers and those who serve the homebound. This meeting is also for those interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister as there will be a brief training afterwards.



#### Have you Heard?

You can receive the St. Joseph Parish bulletin and other communications via email or text messages. Scan this QR code or visit eva.us/joe48879

## 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



country.

#### **Veterans Shower**

to benefit
Michigan Veterans Homes

November 1-20, 2025

The gathering space will once again be the location to receive donations for the Veterans who have served our

Reminder: No Monetary Donations!!

If you are purchasing Forever Postage Stamps for this event, please leave them at the parish office.

Please thank a veteran this year by helping these heroes.

USHER MEETING
November 20, 2025
6:00 p.m. in the church
Attention All Ushers,
and those who are interested in
becoming an usher
please plan on attending this important
meeting to discuss
security and other usher procedures

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?



52 Sundays helps families celebrate and reclaim Sunday as a day set apart for the Lord, for family, and for works of mercy through free weekly family reflections, family crafts, recipe of the week, family prayers, family challenge, fun facts and more.

Reclaim Sunday as a family! Learn more and sign up for the weekly newsletter at 52sundays.com. St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary
Hosts their Annual
Women's Advent Celebration
On

Friday, December 5, 2025
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

Guess Speaker
Bianca Murray
Mother Teresa House
Theme for the Night:
Trusting in God's Plan-Successfully
Living Out God's Plan as
Christian Women
Tickets are \$10.00



Use this QR code to register for parish communications related to entering into the liturgical year more deeply (the Holy Souls, Advent, etc.) or text joe48879-liturgy to 55321

## 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.

#### Sick or Homebound?

Please keep in touch! Let us know your temporary address or your situation/plans. Would you like to receive homebound Communion? Are you hospitalized? We're here for you and want to minister to your needs, offer prayers, and like to know how you're doing, etc. Just call the office with an update and we'll connect you to our Homebound Communion Team and/or add you to our prayer intentions, send mail to a different address., etc.

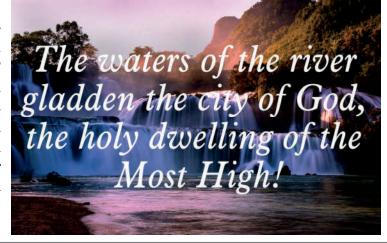
#### Funerals when Fr. Mike is Away from the Parish

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 on once Fr. Mike returns to the parish or at a later date.











i'm lovin' it

Text Mi328 to 38000

McDonald's of St. Johns

Owners, Brandon & Kelly Van Poppelen

Simply go to





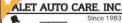


Celebrate your next event at our newly remodeled hall!

1108 North Old US 27 989-620-1693 columbianhall org

#### **AUTUMN RIDGE APARTMENTS** 224-1770

autumnridgestjohns@yahoo.com 1220 SUNVIEW - ST. JOHNS



- Pickup Toppers Truck Accessories Tonneau Covers
- **LEER** Pickup Toppers Over 100 new and used toppers on site! Factory seconds also available.

610 N. Mission, Mt. Pleasant (2 blocks S. of Meijer)

Jim Motz 989-773-3477

www.valetauto.com

### catholicmatch<sup>6</sup> Michigan

CatholicMatch.com/goMI

Consider

Remembering

Your Parish in

Your Will

For further information, please call the parish office



3 locations to serve you. ST. JOHNS OFFICE 989-224-9511 OWLER BRANCH 989-593-4240 OVID BRANCH 989-834-9800 www.journeyfcu.org

Family Owned & Operated Since 1946



Downtown Fowler Interior design service available

beckerfurniturefowler.com 989-593-3500



- Commercial
- Agricultural

10760 E. 2nd St

989-593-2300

Get this bulletin emailed to

#### **ADVERTISE** HERE

**Promote your Business AND Support your Parish.** 

Greg Pope ~ 616-295-0390 gpope@diocesan.com

**Remodeling & New Construction** 

www.kfedewabuilders.com • (517) 388-6123 Kurt & Kelly Fedewa . Owners



www.KensKarKare.com

you every week.

www.DM.CHURCH/1034 ... or scan









989-224-9367

 Scheduled Maintenance • Engine Repair • Air Conditioning Service
 Transmissions • Brake Service • Alignments • Shocks & Struts • Exhaust System Repair • Tires • Tune-ups • Oil Changes

### ith Family Funeral Homes SGOOD CHAPEL St. Johns | Elsie | Ovid | Fowler | Ithaca | St. Louis

Our family, Serving yours.

104 E. Cass St., St. Johns • 989.224.2365



HARR'S JEWELRY. INC. - Your Diamond Source -110 N Whittemore (Bus. US-27) 224-7443

AGRICULTURAL . COMMERCIAL . RESIDENTIAL



Catherine Kuzma

RAGE

Lee & Dori Smith ~ Owners

989-292-4477 • mintcitystorage.com SELF STORAGE UNITS • RV PARKING

St. Vincent de Paul Store 1009 S. US-27 • St. Johns 989-224-8852

Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5 • Sat 9-3



Catholic Investments for Catholic Families

Affordable Professional Audio and Vide

Recording St. Johns

517-285-5722



douglas.nurenberg@kofc. www.kofcassetadvisors.org





THE HUB TIRE CENTER

**BFGoodrich** 

Alignment, Brake, Diesel & Gas Engine Repair Serving Clinton County Since 1963

819 N US 27

hubtires.com 224-3218

FRENCH/SILM/ WEBER AGENCY

T.H. MILLER

**EXCAVATING, INC.** 

TOM MILLER, Owner

JORDAN MILLER, Owner

Call for a quote today! (989) 593-3104



989-593=3399

Jandernoa Water Systems, Inc. Locally Owned & Operated

Water Well Drilling & Repair of FARM · HOME · COMMERCIAL TimJandernoa@live.com

Call TIM JANDERNOA

Cell 989.666.6426 • Kent 989.292.7502



33<sup>1</sup><sub>3</sub>STREET

· Roasted Beans · Canola Meal · Custom Mixing Soybean Meal . Soyhull Pellets . Cottonseed Dry Distillers Grain • Dry Animal Fat

135 N. BATH smith **FOWLER** www.smithlawnscapes.com

989.224.9211

Mark Smith, Owner 504 E. Steel



2761 N. US Highway 27 • St. Johns

#### 989-224-0004

**Collision & Light Mechanical Repairs Pre-Owned Vehicles for Sale** Parishioner Tom Thelen • Owner



St. Johns 989-227-5404 Laingsburg 517-651-1322 Portland 517-743-6122



Installations, Repairs,

- & Replacements:
   Sewer & Water Lines
- Drain Fields Septic Tanks
- Tank Risers & Filters Trenchless Sewer



#### JOE MULLANEY

Broker • Owner

**Over 3710 Homes Listed & Sold By Joe!** 

517-204-4004

Local Realtor for the last 25 years! remaxfinestjoe@gmail.com

FINEST



KOENIGSKNECHTDENTISTRY.COM

GLEN MILLER

"We Dig Michigan 3026 W. M-21, ST. JOHNS, MI 48879



Reggie Denny



Ron & Maurine Mitchell, Owners/Operators RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL • 24 HR. EMERGENCY SERVICE

517-333-9473(WIRE)

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL m Mullaney, Master Electrician 24 Hr. Servic www.WireWorksinc.com • scheduling@wireworksinc.com



www.gentnerfamilydentistry.com 989-224-7559



We are not just AMAZING PIZZA! For our menu and in-house dining specials, go to: www.brunosbarmi.com

www.deanospizzami.com Bring in this coupon for 10% OFF all food at Deano's.

Fowler, MI 989-593-2280 www.wieberlumber.com

DECKS • COMMERCIAL • NEW HOMES • POLE BARNS

PLUMBING & HEATING, LLC

Office: 989-224-3034 • www.chasco1.com 407 N. Clinton Ave. • St. Johns, MI 48879



II MLS 989-224-4000 ravvitek@charter.net

Open by appointment only

**MILLER'S** REDI-MIX, INC.

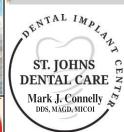
Quality Concrete 6218 Wright Rd. - Westphalia • 587-6511 COMPLIMENTS ISH FRIENIE



- Flexible schedules Tuition Assistance
- Management Training



stjohnsdentist.com



Implant and **General Dentistry** 

989-224-2379

St. Johns, MI 48879



## McGeehan Funeral Homes Keck-Coleman Chapel

(989) 224-4422 www.mcgeehanfh.com 1500 Waterford Pkwy



CELEBRATING THOSE BEFORE US. SUPPORTING THOSE BESIDE US