

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

# 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

## 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 •  
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

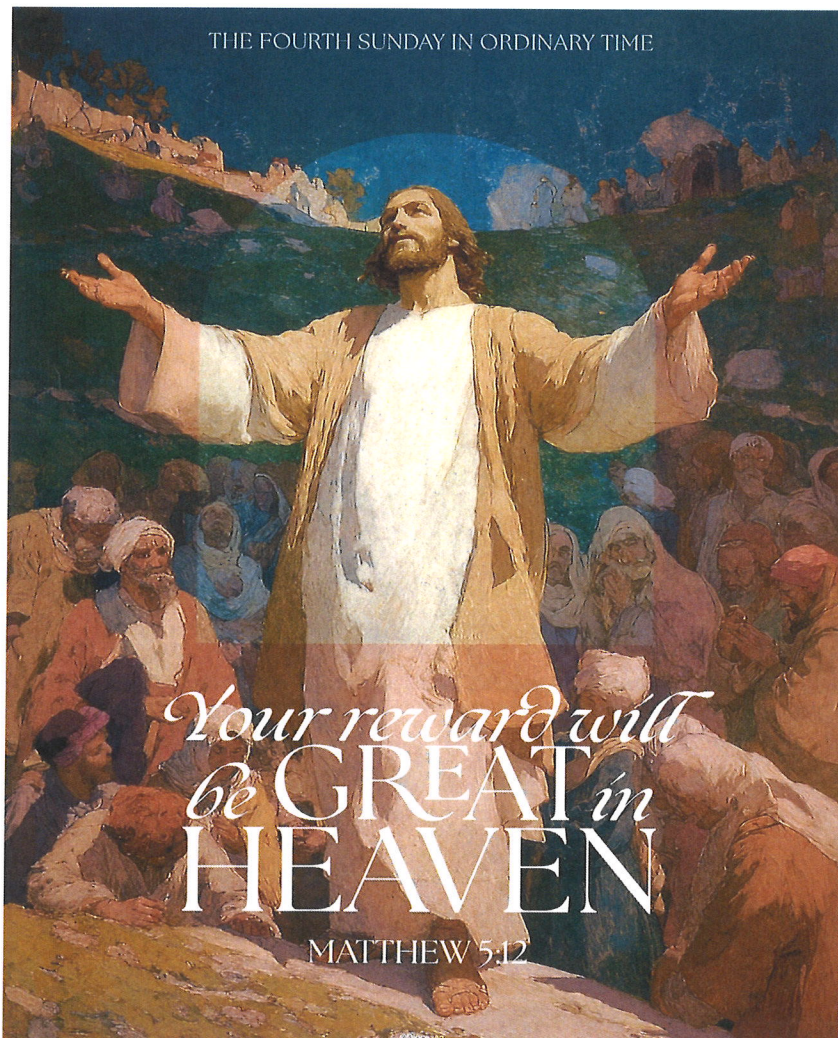
Saturday • 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday • 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.  
Mass in Spanish • 6:00 p.m.  
(Holy Days • Consult the bulletin)

### 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 • February 2**

*Malachi 3:1-4/Hebrews 2:14-18/Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32*

**No Mass**

**Tuesday • February 3**

*2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Mark 5:21-43*

**6:00 p.m. Mass †Doris Orson and †Amalia Kolpsmith**

*By: Kathy Orson*

**Wednesday • February 4**

*2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17/Mark 6:1-6*

**12:05 p.m. Mass †Carl and †Laurene Thelen**

*By: Family*

**Thursday • February 5**

*1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12/Mark 6:7-13*

**8:30 a.m. Mass †Stan and †Rita Thelen**

*By: Gail Wadell*

**Friday • February 6**

*Sirach 47:2-11/Mark 6:14-29*

**8:30 a.m. Mass Deceased Members of the VanElls Family**

*By: Monica Klaver and Family*

**Saturday • February 7**

*1 Kings 3:4-13/Mark 6:30-34*

**8:30 a.m. Mass For an end to Abortion**

**5:00 p.m. Mass †Alfred and †Adeline Huhn**

*By: Family*

**Sunday • February 8**

*Isaiah 58:7-10/1 Corinthians 2:1-5/Matthew 5:13-16*

**8:00 a.m. Mass For the People of the Parish**

**10:00 a.m. Mass †Kenneth Brian LaCrosse**

*By: Dan and Deb LeVeck*

**12:00 p.m. Mass †Craig L. Horning, Sr.**

*By: Fr. Mike*

**6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish**



The Sanctuary Lamp  
will burn from  
February 1-7, 2026  
In memory of

*Jeannette Schomisch*

**Office Hours**

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

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

**Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

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



**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
February 6 and 7, 2026**

The Blessed Sacrament will be Exposed for Adoration following First Friday Mass on February 6 until Benediction and Mass on February 7.

**We are in need of subs at the following times:**

Friday, February 6: 11:00 a.m. (2 needed), 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday, February 7: 1:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m.



Please text or call Rebecca at 989-292-2072 if you will attend for one of these hours, or sign up in the church gathering space.

**KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS**

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

Adam  
Ari  
Chris  
Danny Ball  
Dena  
Don  
Jill

Kristi  
Sawyer Ballinger  
Jan Coffman  
Sherri Couch  
Verena DeBoer  
Mary Enneking  
Keith Enneking  
Trisha Fisher  
Friend  
Jack Hagerty  
David Higgins  
Korine

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 par-**

**ish 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)

### How Does Following Jesus Change Us?

There is a group of parishioners who have been recently watching and discussing season five of the streaming TV series "The Chosen." The whole season is an overview of the Last Supper and it includes flashbacks on what may have happened during what we call Holy Week. We know Jesus overturned the tables of the money-changers and other merchants in the Temple area. But Scripture doesn't say anything else about what happened between Jesus' triumphant ride into Jerusalem and the Last Supper. So Director Dallas Jenkins fills in the blanks on plausible goings-on in those four days, including activities of Judas, of the Pharisees, of Caiaphas and of course, Jesus.

The most recent episode our parishioner group studied, concluded with a series of reflections by the apostles of what they were doing, just prior to being called into discipleship by Jesus. Last weekend we heard about the call of the fishermen, An-

drew, Simon, James and John to be fishers of men. Matthew's gospel goes immediately then into Jesus activities of preaching and healing and only a few verses after the call of his first disciples he launches into the Sermon of the Mount, the focus of which we heard in today's gospel selection from Matthew. And it's Matthew's call to become one of the twelve "Chosen" by Jesus to become his closest and most trusted disciples I turn my focus today.

In "The Chosen," we received an indication early on of how difficult it would be for a Jew to collect taxes for the Romans in Judea. The position paid well, but the tax collector was ostracized by his people for helping the occupying forces, the Romans, to extract money from the Jewish people. Director Jenkins showed the verbal abuse Matthew and others in his sandals would have faced from their own people. He even showed that Matthew had to travel between his home and his tax-collecting office in a wagon, while hiding under bales of hay. In Matthew's reflection during "The Chosen's" most recent episode, he remembered his first day and how he was spat upon after collecting taxes from one person.

In contrast, the book *In His Likeness*, uses the biblical scene whereby Matthew was called by Jesus to indicate how difficult it can be to become a disciple. The book by Dr. Edward Sri that will be the focus of our Lenten book study instead uses a famous painting by the artist Caravaggio to show how even one of the closest disciples of Jesus found it difficult to become a disciple. The contrast between the light behind Jesus let's us know that he is "the Light, while in Sri's words" Matthew has a "look of terror on his face." The painting depicts "the pivotal moment between "Matthew the tax collector and Matthew the disciple" as he considers Jesus call to "follow me."

Hopefully there is no look of terror on our faces as we consider joining the book study this Lent and take steps to becoming true disciples of Jesus.

*Deacon Eric*

[deaconeric@hotmail.com](mailto: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](https://www.youtube.com/@StJosephCatholicChurch-StJohns)

### Walk Closer to Christ This Lent

Join our Lenten book study on  
***Into His Likeness***  
and explore what it means  
to be transformed  
by following Jesus more closely in daily life.

Five ways to participate:  
three in-person group,  
an on-line session,  
or self-led.

Book cost: \$4.00



Register using the QR code or the paper registration form found near the church entrances. Everyone is welcome, wherever you are on your faith journey!

### St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary Potluck Gathering Monday, February 9, 2026

6:30 p.m.

*at the Columbian Hall*

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary invites all ladies of the parish to a special potluck gathering on Monday, February 9th at the Columbian Hall at 6:30 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to share, and enjoy faith and fellowship with your fellow parishioners.



Please join us and get acquainted with someone you don't know or spend time with old friends. We hope many ladies new to SMLA come to share in faith, fun and fellowship. Potlucks are always enjoyable with plenty of good food. Please call Mary Beth (989) 227-0088 if you have any questions.

**K-12 Religious Education Program**  
**February Program Calendar**

- February 4: K-8 Classes (6:00 p.m.-7:15 p.m.)
- February 11: K-8 Classes (6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.)  
 Youth Group (7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)
- February 18: NO CLASS - ASH WEDNESDAY
- February 25: K-8 Classes (6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.)  
 Confirmation Class (7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

Contact Jen Nelson for more information at:  
[dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com)



**Knights of Columbus**  
**St. John Council #3281**  
**Free Throw Contest**  
**Sunday, February 1, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**Boys and girls**  
**ages 9-14 years old**  
**No pre-registration required**  
**St. Joseph Catholic School Gym**  
**201 E Cass St., St. Johns**

**All are Welcome!**

**St. Joseph School**  
**LUNCH MENU**

**FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2 - 6, 2026**

- Monday: Sweet and Sour Chicken with rice, peas, fruit, and milk.
- Tuesday: Chicken fettuccine alfredo with bread stick, green beans, fruit, and milk.
- Wednesday: Chili with crackers, cinnamon roll, fruit, and milk.
- Thursday: Hot dog on a bun, French fries, fruit, and milk.
- Friday: Cheese or pepperoni pizza, fresh veggies, fresh fruit, and milk.

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

Lunches are \$3.25

Milk \$0.50

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**Liturgical Ministers**  
**February 7 and 8**

<b>Altar Servers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Charleigh F. Volunteer
	8:00 a.m.	Miles S. Kaynin S.
	10:00 a.m.	Liam K. Faye K.
	12:00 p.m.	Averie D. Kasen D.

**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

<b>Lectors:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Ignacio O.
	8:00 a.m.	Bob P.
	10:00 a.m.	Steve M.
	12:00 p.m.	Dawn L.

<b>Ushers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Group 5B
	8:00 a.m.	Group 8D
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10B
	12:00 p.m.	Group 12A

**Collection Counters:** February 2 Group 4

**Sanctuary Cleaners:** Lori Pung and LuAnn Keilen

**STEWARDSHIP**

**For the weekend of January 25, 2026**

Adults (372) gifts Including online giving:	.....\$14,135.88
Loose Cash:	.....\$321.00
Total:	.....\$14,456.88

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund:	.....\$160.00
Building Fund:	.....\$90.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	.....\$80.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2025 is \$21,945.95.  
 If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

# ST. JOSEPH PARISH CALENDAR

# FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon KC Coffee/Donuts (RR) 1:00 p.m. KC Free Throw Contest (G) <b>6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish</b>	<b>2</b> No Mass KC Blood Drive (KCH) 11:45 a.m.-5:30 pm. 7:00 PM KC Meeting (KCH)	<b>3</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 5:30 p.m. Confessions <b>6:00 p.m. Mass</b>	<b>4</b> 12:05 p.m. Mass 4:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Bible Study (L) 6:00 p.m. First Reconciliation (Rel/Ed)(C) 6:00 p.m. K-8 Rel Ed (RR) 7:00 p.m. OCIA (L) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)	<b>5</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 9:30 a.m. First Reconciliation (school) (C) 7:00 p.m. OCIA (L)	<b>6</b> 8:30 a.m. 1st Friday Mass <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (from after Mass thru 8:30 a.m. Benediction Saturday)</i>	<b>7</b> 8:30 a.m. <i>Benediction and 1st Saturday Mass</i> 9:00 a.m. Average Joes (RR) 4:00 p.m. Confession <b>5:00 p.m. Mass</b>
<b>8</b> Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon <i>Baptisms</i>	<b>9</b> No Mass PSC (TL) 6:30 p.m. St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary (CH)	<b>10</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 5:30 p.m. Confessions <b>6:00 p.m. Mass</b>	<b>11</b> 12:05 p.m. Mass 4:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Bible Study (L) 6:00 p.m. K-8 Rel Ed (RR) 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Svc Project (RR) 7:30 p.m. Youth Group (RR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)	<b>12</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) <b>6:00 p.m. Mass</b> for the Souls in Purgatory 7:00 p.m. OCIA (L)	<b>13</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass <i>Adoration (C) from after Mass until 6:00 p.m.</i> 6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Valentine dinner/dance (CH)	<b>14</b> 9:00 a.m. Average Joes (RR) 6:00 p.m. Speed Dating (CH) 4:00 p.m. Confession <b>5:00 p.m. Mass</b>
<b>15</b> Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon	<b>16</b> No Mass	<b>17</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 5:30 p.m. Confessions <b>6:00 p.m. Mass</b>	<b>18</b> <i>Ask Wednesday</i> Masses: 8:30 a.m. 12:05 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 10:30 a.m. Kindred Friends (L) 4:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Bible Study (L)	<b>19</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L)	<b>20</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass <i>Adoration (C) from after Mass until 6:00 p.m.</i> 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross 6:30 p.m. Book Study (L) 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. KC Fish Fry (KCH)	<b>21</b> 9:00 a.m. Average Joes (RR) 6:00 p.m. Daddy/Daughter Dance (G) 4:00 p.m. Confession
<b>6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish</b>	<b>No School</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 5:30 p.m. Confessions <b>6:00 p.m. Mass</b> 6:30 p.m. Book Study (L)	<b>25</b> 12:05 p.m. Mass 1:00 p.m. Book Study (L) 4:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Bible Study (L) 6:00 p.m. K-8 Rel Ed (RR) 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class (RR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)	<b>26</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 7:00 p.m. OCIA (L)	<b>27</b> 8:30 a.m. Masses <i>Adoration (C) from after Mass until 6:00 p.m.</i> 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (L) 6:30 p.m. Book Study (L) 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. KC Fish Fry (KCH)	<b>28</b> 9:00 a.m. Average Joes (RR) 4:00 PM Confession <b>5:00 PM Mass</b>
<b>6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish</b>	<b>23</b> No Mass	<b>24</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 5:30 p.m. Confessions <b>6:00 p.m. Mass</b> 6:30 p.m. Book Study (L)	<b>25</b> 12:05 p.m. Mass 1:00 p.m. Book Study (L) 4:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Bible Study (L) 6:00 p.m. K-8 Rel Ed (RR) 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class (RR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CL)	<b>26</b> 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (L) 7:00 p.m. OCIA (L)	<b>27</b> 8:30 a.m. Masses <i>Adoration (C) from after Mass until 6:00 p.m.</i> 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (L) 6:30 p.m. Book Study (L) 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. KC Fish Fry (KCH)	<b>28</b> 9:00 a.m. Average Joes (RR) 4:00 PM Confession <b>5:00 PM Mass</b>

**Abbreviation Key:** (C) Church (RR) Reception Room (RoR) Reception overflow Room (CL) Choir Loft (G) Gym (KC) - Knights of Columbus (CH) Columbian (KC)Hall (L) Library

(OCIA) – Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (Rel Ed) – Religious Formation/Class (S) Social Hall/Cafeteria (Sch) School (TL) Teacher’s Lounge

**Please Note: events on this calendar can change without notice, please see the bulletin for most up to date info**

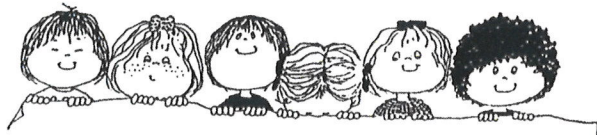
**Things Every Catholic Should Know:**

**What prominent heresy did the First Council of Nicaea condemn?**

*Answer: Arianism*

The First Council of Nicaea, convened in 325, condemned the heresy of Arianism. Arianism was first proposed by the Catholic priest, Arius, who lived in Alexandria, Egypt. Arius promoted the claim that Jesus Christ was not divine.

Although this contradicted the Church's teachings, as expressed through Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture, the idea became so popular that a majority of Catholic bishops accepted Arius' claims by the time the First Council of Nicaea was convened. Under the guidance of Saint Nicholas, the council developed the Nicene Creed and condemned Arianism as a heresy. The divinity of Christ was reasserted and Arius was pronounced a heretic.



**Children's collection**

Starting this weekend, we're excited to bring back the Children's Collection. Kids can express their generosity by placing their offerings in the altar basket during weekend Mass. We will have children envelope boxes in the gathering space for those who wish to use them. Together, let's spark the joy of generosity in our youth.



**PLEASE NOTE:**

This is just a friendly reminder we no longer make our own ashes for Ash Wednesday, so we will NOT be needing you to drop off your blessed palms from years' past. Please burn or bury them since they have been blessed.

*St. Joe Feast & Raffle*  
**GET YOUR TICKETS**

**EVENT DATE: 3.21.26**  
 FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[feastandaffle.com](http://feastandaffle.com)

**Red Cross/ Knights of Columbus  
 Blood Drive**

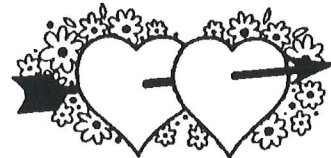
**Monday, February 2, 2026**

11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

*St. Johns KC-Columbian Hall*

1108 N US 27, SJ

Sign up to donate at  
[Redcrossblood.org/](http://Redcrossblood.org/) 1-800-733-2767



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**Knights of Columbus**

**Valentine's Dance**

Friday, February 13, 2026

Columbian Hall 1108 Old US 27, St Johns MI

dinner served at 6:30pm by **Country Spice Catering**

music by **33 1/3 Street Sound and Video**

Cost \$30 per person everyone 21 and over welcome!!

Get tickets today: email at [kofc3281@gmail.com](mailto:kofc3281@gmail.com) or

pickup at **RESA at the Southpoint Mall**

Pick up tickets at  
 RESA at the Southpoint Mall or  
 Dersheys Café, 109 W Higham St.

**A VALENTINE'S  
 SPEED DATING**

SATURDAY  
**14 FEBRUARY**  
 5:30-9PM

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to learn more and register!  
[dioceseoflansing.org/ValentineSD](http://dioceseoflansing.org/ValentineSD)

Knights of Columbus Hall  
 St. Johns, Michigan

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

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

Grace B.	Sylis M.
Kara B.	Elizabeth M.
Brayden C.	Joslynn R.
Owen D.	Cassandra S.
Will G.	Addelyn S.
Brody K.	Lauryn S.
Carter K.	Paige T.
Morgan L.	Daniel V.
Owen M.	Marie W.
Isabelle M.	Ace W.
Maddox M.	

Quinn C.	Benjamin H.	Remi S.
Caleb C.	Eli H.	Adeline S.
Grace D.	Cam M.	Luke T.
Elizabeth D.	Alessandra M.	Brinley W.
Mya D.	Zoey N.	
Lynden D.	Adalyn P.	
Eloise F.	Grace R.	
Ruby F.	Kensington S.	
Sadie G.	Isla S.	
Jace G.	Canaan S.	
Bryer H.	Maxwell S.	

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- Exhaust System Repair
- Tires
- Tune-ups
- Oil Changes

Mon. - Fri. 8:00am - 5:30pm  
989-224-9367  
700 N. US-27 St. Johns, MI 48879

# Smith FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES Osgood CHAPEL

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