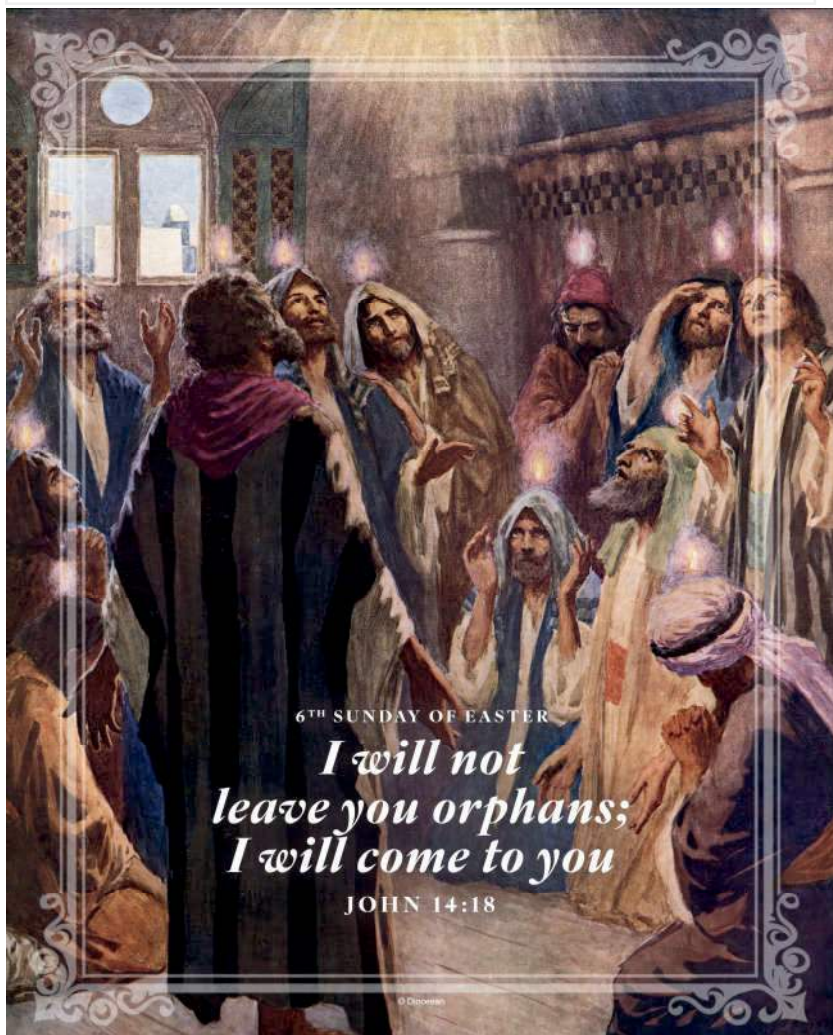


SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 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 • Glenn Esch  
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 • May 11**

Acts 16:11-15/John 15:26--16:4a

No Mass

**Tuesday • May 12**

Acts 16:22-34/John 16:5-11

6:00 p.m. Mass †**Louie Eisler Family**

By: Marvin Harr Family

**Wednesday • May 13**

Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/John 16:12-15

12:05 p.m. Mass †**Dorothy Quick**

By: Joe and Helen Kus

**Thursday • May 14**

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/John 15:9-17

8:30 a.m. Mass **The deceased members of the St. Vincent DePaul Conference**

By: Society of St Vincent DePaul

6:00 p.m. Mass **Souls in Purgatory**

**Friday • May 15**

Acts 18:9-18/John 16:20-23

8:30 a.m. Mass †**Charles Sisung**

By: Knights of Columbus #3281

**Saturday • May 16**

Acts 18:23-28/John 16:23b-28

5:00 p.m. Mass **Deceased members of the Arnold and Clara Schomisch family**

**Sunday • May 17**

Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11/Ephesians 1:17-23/Matthew 28:16-20

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

10:00 a.m. Mass †**Don Rademacher**

By: Family

12:00 p.m. Mass †**Vern Smith**

By: Charlie and Lisa Wieber

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish



The Sanctuary Lamp  
will burn from  
May 10-16, 2026  
In memory of

*Deceased members of the Arnold  
and Clara Schomisch Family*

On **Saturday, May 23, at the 5:00 p.m. Mass**, seven members of our parish will receive sacraments of initiation.

A reception will follow Mass to celebrate.

Please pray for Kaleob, John, David, Martha, Ivan, Vanessa, and Dayna during the final weeks of their preparation.



**Eucharist Adoration**

“Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth!”

*St. Teresa of Calcutta*

Would you like to join our team of monthly adorers and subs? We are in need of people who are willing to commit to one hour of Eucharistic Adoration during Exposition

These are the hours we are especially in need:  
First Fridays: 11:00 a.m., (2 needed), 2:00 p.m.,  
3:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m.

Saturday (following First Friday): 1:00 a.m., 2:00 a.m.  
and 3:00 a.m.

If you are interested in spending time praying in the presence of Our Lord present to us in the Blessed Sacrament, contact Rebecca at 989-292-2072.



**KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS**

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

Adam  
Ari  
Chris  
Dena  
Don  
Jill  
Kristi

Michael  
Sawyer Ballinger  
Ed Chope  
Jan Coffman  
Sherri Couch  
Verena DeBoer  
Mary Enneking  
Keith Enneking  
Trisha Fisher  
Friend  
Jack Hagerty  
Korine

Teresa Miller  
Myah  
Patrick  
Jenny Pytlowanyj  
Deacon Marv & Tita  
Robertson  
Patricia Rojas  
Mary Schmitt  
Joan Schrauben  
Sherri  
Anne Thelen  
Katelyn T.

Jennifer  
Brad Walker  
Millie Wassa  
Dan Yurek  
**Please pray for our parishioners in the service, especially:**  
Jake Hoskins  
Jacob Longoria  
Eric Martin

Colby Munger  
Adam Novak  
Murray Palmatier  
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 bulletin.**



## WE ARE ALL EVANGELIZERS

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

### Number Four

The number four is probably best known as the ordinal between three and five. It is also known to be a popular number worn on jerseys from kids sizes to those of Hall of Fame professional athletes. Probably the best known baseball player to wear the number four was Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees. And in the National Hockey League, probably the best known number four was that of Bobby Orr, who spent most of his years with the Boston Bruins. But the number four of most importance today was that of a priest.

I just came home from the funeral of a priest who lived for a short while in St. Johns, but because of his senior priest status flew under the radar for most of St. Joe parishioners. As a matter of fact, he initially flew under Fr. Mike's radar as well. He asked my wife and I, as well as others, if they knew of any priest that was living in the parish. Fr. Bernie Tyler was in full retirement mode by the time he got to St. Joe's, but still managed to get around and meet people before moving over to

Flint to be near family. It was his family that nicknamed him "Four", as in the fourth child of eight. His homilist friend Fr. Steve Anderson noted that he even signed his letters, "Four."

Fr. Tyler was an Augustinian and in his early years as a priest was on the faculty of Saint Augustine Seminary. And as the world found out about a year ago, there was a here-to-fore yet-to-become-famous student in his classroom. If you haven't figured out yet to whom I'm referencing, Fr. Bernie taught a student named Robert Prevost – now better known as Pope Leo the 14th. Fr. Bernie had two brothers who were deaf and so he took it upon himself to learn how to sign. That led to his being named Chaplain to the Deaf and Hearing-Impaired Community in the Archdiocese of Chicago in the 1970's.

Fr. Bernie's funeral was the third priest's funeral I've attended this year. Fr. Dennis Howard's funeral was just a couple weeks ago and Fr. Don Wieber passed away in January. Fr. Dennis, of course, had to take a medical retirement in 2022 after serving as pastor of Most Holy Trinity parish for 15 years due to a series of several medical issues. His friend, Fr. James Conlon, pastor of St. Francis Assisi parish in Ann Arbor gave a wonderful heartfelt homi-

ly that day.

And Fr. Don, whose family is still rooted in our area, spent his ordained years in the Kalamazoo Diocese and lived at Grace Haven for several years while meeting the pastoral needs of other GH residents throughout that period. Though I did not know these priests well, the funerals served as a reminder of a fact that we are running low on priests in our country. Each of these priests had been retired for several years, but there is still a loss to the Catholic community at-large. Their deaths remind us that we are not ordaining enough priests to cover all our parishes.

Parents, encourage your kids to discern the priesthood, the sisterhood and the religious life. It's imperative we encourage our children to serve the Lord. There's a crisis for them and their children right around the corner.

*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>



Clinton County Right to Life thanks all mothers for giving the gift of life. Your "yes" to God's call to motherhood is a blessing to all. Your love and care bring us all the blessings needed to live a complete life. Thank you for all that you do for your children. As a little token of our appreciation, please take a prayer card that is placed at the end of the church pews for you. May God bless all mothers today and always.



### The Baby Shower Ministry:

May is the month of Mary and in honor of our Holy Mother, we will be filling a "Pack 'n Play" for babies and their moms to be donated to the **Baby Pantry in St. Johns**. The Baby Pantry will accept all baby item donations but especially needs the following:

- Larger diapers (sizes 4 and up)
- Pull ups
- Baby wipes
- Paper products: Facial tissue, toilet paper, and paper towels.
- Personal care items

Thank you in advance for your support!



**K-12 Religious Education May Program Calendar:**

May 13: Youth Group (7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)



**Baccalaureate Mass  
and Reception  
Sunday, May 17, 2026  
Noon Mass**

All 2026 graduating Seniors are invited to the Baccalaureate Mass on Sunday, May 17, 2026 at the Noon Mass. Seniors should arrive at 11:30 a.m. in the lower level of the church for instructions. Reception will follow after Mass.

**Please RSVP for the reception by May 13**

at 989-224-8537 or email Jen at [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com)

The Children's Collection for May will be donated to:

**St. Johns Baby Pantry**

May 3/4: \$ 101.00

Total for the month: \$ 101.00

Children's and youth envelopes are available in the back of the Church and from the Parish Office

**This St Joseph School Lunch Menu  
has been chosen by Morgan Weber-  
winner of the Feast and Raffle  
"Menu Takeover" bid item.  
Congratulations, Morgan!**

**St. Joseph School  
LUNCH MENU**

**FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 11-15, 2026**

- Monday: Pig in a blanket, fresh veggie, fresh fruit, and milk.
- Tuesday: Pepperoni pizza, fresh veggie, fruit, and milk.
- Wednesday: Sweet and sour chicken over rice, peas, fruit, and milk.
- Thursday: Hamburger with cheese, fried chips, fruit, and milk.
- Friday: Breaded chicken leg, baked potato, 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  
May 16 and 17**

**Altar Servers:**

5:00 p.m.	Charleigh F. Volunteer
8:00 a.m.	Miles S. Kaynin S.
10:00 a.m.	Madison W. Morgan W.
12:00 p.m.	Averie D. Kasen D.

**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:**

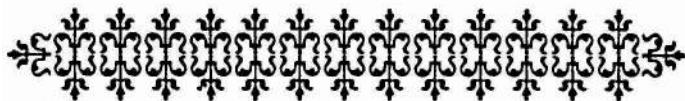
5:00 p.m.	Anne P.
8:00 a.m.	Lu Anne C.
10:00 a.m.	Joe T.
12:00 p.m.	Linda S.

**Ushers:**

5:00 p.m.	Group 5C
8:00 a.m.	Group 8C
10:00 a.m.	Group 10D
12:00 p.m.	Group 12A

**Collection Counters:** May 11 Group 3

**Sanctuary Cleaners:** Pat Snyder and Mary Harr



**STEWARDSHIP**

**For the weekend of April 26, 2026**

Adults (309) gifts Including online giving: .....\$14,923.05  
Loose Cash:.....\$918.77  
Total:.....\$15,841.82

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund: ..... \$303.00  
Building Fund: ..... \$ 218.00  
Tuition Scholarship Fund: ..... \$ 65.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2025 is \$21,495.46. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

**Why Pray for the Souls in Purgatory?**

When we offer prayers for the holy souls, we are practicing mercy in one of its most beautiful forms. Spiritual works of mercy include praying for the living and the dead. This is something the Church has always encouraged, rooted in Scripture itself.

Every prayer matters. Every small act of love offered to God on behalf of the departed becomes a means of relief, comfort, and hope for those awaiting heaven. And when they finally enter into eternal joy, they do not forget us. The souls we pray for will, in turn, intercede for us before God.

**Join us This Thursday, May 14th, at 6:00 p.m.  
(and every 2nd Thursday of the Month)  
for a special Mass offered for the  
Souls in Purgatory.**

Here are some other ways you can help the souls in Purgatory:

- ◆ Have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered for the souls in Purgatory.
- ◆ Offer your devout attendance at Mass and reception of Holy Communion for the repose of the faithful departed.
- ◆ Offer other prayers for them, such as the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross, Diving Mercy Chaplet
- ◆ You can also visit a cemetery to pray for the departed.
- ◆ Fast, give alms, or do some other work of mercy on their behalf.



**GUYS!!!** There has been some recent interest from a couple men about starting a **St. Joe's Men's Bible Study/prayer group**. There are several bible studies in the parish, but they are all predominately women.

The Knights of Columbus are service oriented and the Average Joes are discussion-based, but not bible or prayer oriented. There is definitely a need for another's men's group in St. Joes that is spiritual or bible-focused.

Please contact me at [deaconeric@hotmail.com](mailto:deaconeric@hotmail.com) if you are even remotely interested. Time and day of week TBD by the group itself. Most certainly Knights and Joes would be welcome as well, but we just need to have a ballpark idea of possible participants before putting any new group into operations.

Peace, my friends,

**Deacon Eric.**

Please join the whole parish from **May 12-20** praying a novena to Christ the King for an increase in virtue as we prepare for the Cristeros' Feast on May 21 and Pentecost on May 24. Daily reflections are available near the bulletin stands, or you can follow along on Facebook at St. Joseph Church, St. Johns Michigan.



O Christ the King,  
You reign over all of creation.  
Not by force or fear, but by love,  
especially in the hearts of those who love You.

When the world opposed the Gospel and Your Church,  
the Cristeros did not waver.  
They chose You in small ways and in great ones.  
Make me like them: ready to choose You today and  
always.

Teach me to seek You:  
in prayer, suffering, and the fog of everyday life.  
Grant me faith that cannot be shaken,  
hope that leads me toward You,  
and love that holds nothing back.

Reign in my heart.  
Reign in my relationships.  
Reign in my home and in every part of my life.

Make me Your witness:  
steadfast in the ordinary,  
courageous in the face of trial,  
and ready to give everything for love of You.

Whether the world accepts my witness or rejects it,  
may I too proclaim in my words and in my deeds:  
¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Amen.

**Things Every Catholic Should Know:**

**If a person is ignorant about Catholic doctrine is he really a Catholic?**

*Answer: If they have been baptized in the Catholic Church, they are Catholic even though they may not know or understand the doctrines of the Church. However, it is the duty of every catholic to learn the truths of their faith. This can be done by attending Catholic Bible studies, seminars and retreats, and also by sitting in on O.C.I.A. classes (call Amanda Grigar at the parish office)*



**If you lost it.....  
We probably found it!**

We have quite a collection of lost and found items gathered over the past few months that are looking for a good home. Perhaps it's yours? Kindly check out our lost and found box located at the back of the church to see if we found your missing items.

Any items still unclaimed by May 31st will be disposed of or donated.

This year's **Fatima rosaries** will take place on OR near the 13th of each month from May-October.

In order to avoid evenings when Mass is offered, we will meet on the following days:

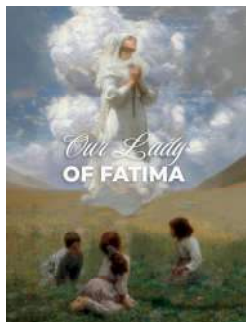
**Wednesday, May 13**

- Friday, June 12
- Monday, July 13
- Wednesday, August 12
- Friday, September 11
- Monday, October 12

We will begin at **6:00 p.m.** on the front church steps.

In case of dangerous weather we will not meet.

*Please bring a friend and join us!*



**A Mother's Day Blessing**

Blessed is the Mother who lets the Lord be her guiding hand. Whose faith brings her family courage. Whose wisdom comes from God and whose children still stand and honor her.

Amen



For Catholics struggling with infertility and child loss, Mother's Day can be hard. Acknowledging the grief and emotions of women who carry these crosses doesn't mean honoring moms any less; instead, it means being open to embracing the unique gifts all women possess: sensitivity to the needs of others, the desire to nurture and serve others, and hearts filled with love. This Mother's Day, let's honor those women who are moms through biology, fostering or adoption, the moms whose children rest with the Lord, and those women who are longing for children yet have a mother's heart that brings care and peace to those they encounter.

For infertility resources and accompaniment, visit [www.springsinthedesert.org](http://www.springsinthedesert.org).

"Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

**To the parents of young children:**

Bring your children to church.

God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house.

Bring your children to church.

Saturate their lives with the Word of God.

Even if they lay on the floor. Even if they need 36 goldfish and a sucker to be quiet.

Even if you stand in the cry room holding them, swaying for 10 minutes.

Even when it's hard.

Bring them to church.

Relax. Let them see you worship. Let them hear you praying, voicing the responses, and singing. Let them see you running toward our Lord—because if they don't see and learn these things from you, the world will teach them it's not a priority. The world won't teach them about Jesus.

**To the members of our parish:**

*The presence of children is a gift to the church, and they are a reminder that our parish is growing. The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Help them learn liturgical behavior by praying, singing, and responding.*

*Let them know that they are at home in his house of worship. (And give a smile of encouragement to their parents.)*

**VBS Registration Open!**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is scheduled for June 22- June 25, 9:30 a.m. to Noon for all children 4 years old and older. Registration and volunteer forms are available in the main entrance of the church.

**VBS needs many volunteers** (adults, middle school leaders, Confirmation and high school students) to help make VBS a success. This year's theme is *Playing for God's Team*, where we'll gather at Savior Stadium (the school gym) for Scripture, crafts, games, snacks, songs, and cheers, all related to the theme of baseball and being a team player working together as part of God's plan.

Contact Jen Nelson at [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com) with questions or **to say you can help!**





Do you have a High School Senior and are looking for a place to hold the Graduation Open House? Maybe you're looking for that special place for a baby shower, bridal shower, birthday or anniversary celebration? We have the perfect place!

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**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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