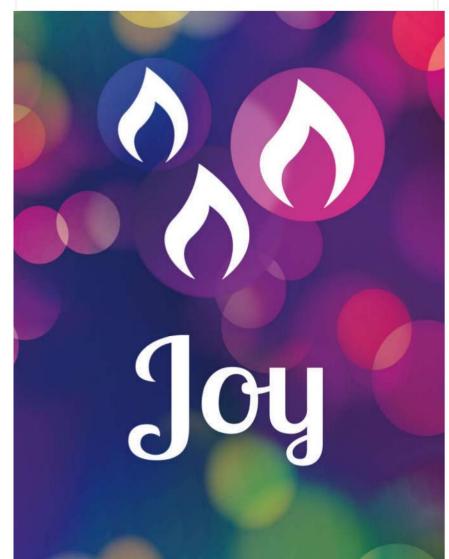
# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



#### 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 • Susan Mahoney Maintenance • Paul Atchley

#### **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 • 6:30 p.m. Saturday • 4:00 p.m.

Prayer Tree Parish Office: (989)-224-8994

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



#### THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday • December 16 Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a/Matthew 21:23-27 No Mass

Tuesday • December 17 Genesis 49:2, 8-10/Matthew 1:1-17 7:00 p.m. Mass *†John J Kusnier* By: Peter W and Margaret M Klein Family

Wednesday • December 18 Jeremiah 23:5-8/Matthew 1:18-25 12:05 p.m. *†Dave Motz* By: Loving Family

Thursday • December 19 Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a/Luke 1:5-25 8:30 a.m. Mass †Cheryl Rogers By: Brian and Deb Szpont

Friday • December 20 Isaiah 7:10-14/Luke 1:26-38 8:30 a.m. Mass †Cindy Nunn By: Mom and Dad

Saturday • December 21 Son of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a/Luke 1:39-45 5:00 p.m. Mass *†Fred and †Josephine Rogers* By: Monica Klaver and Family

Sunday • December 22 Micah 5:1-4a/Hebrews 10:5-10/Luke 1:39-45 8:00 a.m. †Laurie Baldino Wesolek By: Family 10:00 a.m. †Bill Asher By: Kathy Randolph

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

6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish †Karl Hufnagel By: Eric, Monica and Camila Hufnagel **Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines:** 

Noon on December 19th for the December 29th bulletin and

Noon on December 26 For the January 5th bulletin



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from December 15-22, 2024 in memory of *Mike Norris* 

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#### Advent Candlelight Holy Hour

Friday, December 20, 2024 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m In the church

Prepare for the coming of Our Lord during a candle-lit holy hour of Eucharistic



Adoration. This event will feature music, a reflection, quiet moments with Our Lord, and more, as we prepare to step out of the darkness and into the light of Christ.

People of all ages are welcome.

Please pray for our parishioners and their families, especially: Adam Sawyer Ballinger Lisa Clarizio Sherri Couch Mary Enneking Keith Enneking Friend Cindy Fontus Brenda Higgins David Higgins Korine Alissa McKeown Gabrielle Meece Myah Jenny Pytlowanyj Frank Rademacher Deacon Marv & Tita Robertson Patricia Rojas

Joan Schrauben Sherri Michael VanElls Jeff Wadell Jennifer Jerry Brad Walker Millie Wassa Fr. Don Wieber Bill Darnell Susan Darnell

Please pray for our parishioners in the service, especially: William Hess Jake Hoskins Jacob Longoria Eric Martin Colby Munger Adam Novak Alex Rojas

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

David Seperic Noel Smith II Joshua Szpont 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)

# Keep your Head on a Swivel

Remember when Christmas seemed way off in the distance? That was only a month ago during a sunny day in mid-November and the high temperature for the day was 50 degrees. Christmas wasn't even a blip on our radars -- now it is but 10 days away. Yes, indeed our heads need to be on a swivel at this time of year as we look back in disbelief at how fast autumn has come and gone and all of a sudden we have a halfdozen Christmas-related deadlines right in front of us. Did I mention that there are only 10 days until Christmas?

Of course, there are extremely organized people who have Christmas shopping done, Christmas cookies baked and this year's version of matching Christmas pajamas folded neatly in the bedroom closet waiting for distribution on Christmas Eve. God bless you for keeping some sense of order in this world for the rest of us. Nonetheless, keep your head on a swivel, as I look back and ahead, for the rest of the column.

Looking ahead: Today is Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday in which the Church takes a turn from preparing for the Second Coming of Christ on the first two Sundays of Advent and asks us to start preparing our hearts for the birth of Jesus. In today's gospel, John the Baptist gives us a litany of what I will call minibeatitudes, primarily reminding us to share and not hoard our gifts.

Looking back: A belated thank you to all the St. Joe parishioners who helped out with the Clinton Community Thanksgiving Celebration and Dinner. All your hours of food prep during the week or help on the Thanksgiving service, as well as the dinner itself, is most appreciated.

Looking ahead: I mentioned it last week but it's worth another reminder today -- the new St. Joe adult formation team is sponsoring a candlelight Advent Holy Hour this Friday, the 20th. . This will be a led Holy Hour with Exposition, prayers and song, a special procession, and Benediction. We spend dozens of hours planning, shopping and giftwrapping for Christmas, let's step away for one hour of peace and prayer. Looking back: Squirrel update -- at the end of September I wrote a lighthearted column on squirrel activities on or near our property. Another squirrel event occurred in our backyard several days ago. I hung a pine cone with peanut butter and delectable seeds for birds on a hook about seven feet off the ground on the garage wall. A week later, my wife noticed a squirrel trying to climb the wall, then unsuccessfully trying

to jump and get the cone. So this sly squirrel went over to the fence, climbed it and jumped onto the roof of our garage, then leaned over and while clinging by his back feet to the edge of a shingle, reached down about 10 inches and chowed down. This could be a lesson for us in perseverance in prayer.

Looking ahead: A call to all men of the parish to attend the Men's retreat at St. Francis on the last weekend of January (24-26). Wives, please consider giving this weekend to you husband for Christmas. Everyone in your family will benefit.

*Deacon Eric* deaconeric@hotmail.com



Congratulations to newly Baptized Everlee Foan Wenzlick

Sunday, December 8, 2024

on

She is the daughter of

Jacob Wenzlick and

Natividad (Ochs) Wenzlick



St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary would like to thank all the ladies who came to the Ladies Advent Celebration on December 6th. It was a wonderful night of fellowship, faith and food.

The night began with refreshments as guests arrived and socialized. As they moved to the meeting room, guests were seated at tables beautifully decorated by table hostesses. Dawn Hausman gave a very inspiring talk about Blessed Mother Mary. After this talk, we were treated to delicious desserts provided by the table hostesses.

Thank you again for sharing in this inspiring evening and may it make your Advent season even more blessed. Also, thank you for the donations of women's hygiene supplies that were then passed on to the Safe Center.

#### **K-12 Grade Religious Education December Calendar:**

Wednesday, December 18: K-12 Classes, Confirmation Class and Youth Group

For more information, class times, and other dates, go to: stjoecatholic.com

Contact Jen Nelson at 989-224-8537 or dre.stjoseph@gmail.com with questions or to register.



St. Joseph School Christmas Program Join us at Thursday, December 19th at 1:00 PM or 6:30 p.m. In the school's gymnasium All are welcome!



#### St. Joseph Catholic **School** LUNCH MENU

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

### FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16-20, 2024

Monday:	Tacos with meat and ch	eese, l	ettuce
	salad, fruit, and milk.		
Tuesday:	Chicken and cheese que	sadilla	,
	cucumbers, fruit, and m	ilk.	
Wednesday:	Chicken noodle soup, blueberry muffin,		
	and milk.		
Thursday:	Hot dog on a bun, French fries, fruit,		
	and milk.		
Friday:	Cheese stuffed breadstic	ese stuffed breadstick, cucumbers,	
	fruit, and milk.		
Lunches are \$3.	25	Milk	\$0.50

	<i>Liturgical Minsters</i> December 21/22		
Altar Servers:	5:00 p.m.	Volunteer	
		Volunteer	
	8:00 a.m.	Miles S.	
		Kaynin S.	
	10:00 a.m.	Anna H.	
		Liam K.	
	12:00 p.m.	Mabel R.	
		Willow R.	
Extraordinary	Ministers of Hol	ly Communion:	
	E:00 n m	Croup 1	

	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.	Ann P.
	8:00 a.m.	Dean H.
	10:00 a.m.	Steve M.
	12:00 p.m.	Linda S.
		·
Ushers:	5:00 p.m.	Group 5A
	8:00 a.m.	Group 8E
	10:00 a.m.	Group 10C
	12:00 p.m.	Group 12A
Collection Cour	n <i>ters:</i> Decemb	er 16 Group 2

Sanctuary Cleaners: Judi Thelen & Thelma Miller

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

#### For the weekend of December 8, 2024

Adults (309 gifts Including online giving):	\$25,488.97
Loose Cash:	\$635.00
Total:	\$26,123.97

#### **Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund:	. \$283.00
Building Fund:	. \$276.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	.\$101.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2024 is \$19,240.62. If we continue to keep this average, we will not meet our budgeted goal.

FRIENDSHIP IS OFFERED

Rest in Peace Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of

Rita Antoinette Cole And

Donna Mae Smith



What is the Prayer Tree?

The Prayer Tree is an organized group of individuals who pray for our parish family. Prayer requests are confidential and are not shared with anyone outside of the prayer tree members. Parishioners can add their prayer requests for themselves, family members, or friends by contacting the Parish Office at 989-224-8994. The prayer request will be passed on to the prayer tree participants within one business day.

*The prayer list published in the bulletin is not the same as the Prayer Tree. To add an immediate family member to the bulletin prayer list call the office 989-224-8994.* 



#### In a Lansing area hospital and need the Anointing of the Sick?

When you or your loved one is ill, receiving the Sacrament of the Sick is important. When in a Lansing area hospital, please let your attending nurse know you would like the Anointing of the Sick. They will contact the chaplain who will, in turn, contact a local priest who is "on call" to come and give you the sacrament. This is the quickest way for you or your loved one to receive the sacrament, if they didn't already receive it before going into the hospital.

### UPCOMING HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:

#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

#### **Tuesday December 24:**

\*4:00 рм, \*7:00 рм, 10:00 рМ Wednesday, December 25: 9:00 Ам

#### Solemnity of Mary

Tuesday, December 31: \*6:00 PM Wednesday, January 1: 8:00 AM

\* Incense Free Masses

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers can sign up for any of the Holy Days Masses at this time. Please call or email the parish office or sign up on the sheets in the gathering space.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION\*

If you would like to make a donation of any amount towards our Christmas Poinsettias in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please use this form. Place in your red Christmas flower envelope.

Donated by:

In memory of (For the deceased)

In honor of (For the living)

Please return to the parish office no later than

#### Monday, December 16th

to be included in the memorial list.

Donations received in excess of flower costs will be applied towards decorations and other liturgical expenses.

THE SACRAMENTS ARE CELEBRATED

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## ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL 100TH ANNIVERSARY REQUEST

While your family gathers for the holidays, how about taking a group picture of all family members who either attended or worked at St. Joseph School (or do now)? We would love to have these for a display at our 100th anniversary **Open House on January 26**, **2025**. Please identify who the picture includes and any other pertinent information. You can either print the picture and mail it, bring it to the school or church office, or email it to: padgetts@stjoecatholicschool.org by January 10, 2025.

Also, it would be wonderful to read about memories or positive impacts from your time at St. Joe's, even if it is not possible to send a picture.

### 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 chalice that you can take home for a week of daily prayers. The chalice is located on a table by the sacristy door. Simply sign up for the week that you want, and the chalice as well as suggested prayers are yours for that week.





Bishop Earl Boyea invites you to join him on a year-long catechetical journey as – week by week – he teaches us how to respond best to the call of Jesus Christ to "be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8) within contemporary society. Beginning in January 2025, Bishop Boyea will send subscribers a weekly installment – via text or e-mail – focused on four key factors: prayer, learning, belonging, and mission.

TO SIGN UP TEXT BMW TO 84576



Thank you to the seven women and one man who came to clean the church on Monday night, December 9th. A job well done and greatly appreciated!

If you are interested in becoming a Sanctuary Cleaner, we're always looking for more teams of two or three people. It only takes about an hour of your time every 5 or 6 weeks. Please contact the parish office if you would like more information or to sign up to help.

Sue Fox

#### Remembering the Farish

After providing for families and loved ones, you may wish to include St. Joseph Parish in your will. All gifts are welcome, and we ask that you prayerfully consider whether a portion of your estate should be used to continue the ministries of the parish. This can be accomplished with the words:

I bequeath to St. Joseph Parish of St. Johns, Michigan, [insert amount being given or percentage of residue] to be used to support the ministry of the parish.

A bequest can be a specific dollar amount, a specific piece of property, a percentage of an estate, or all or part of the residue of an estate. It is always recommended that you consult a lawyer for drafting or amending a will. 6

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### **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.



### **Traveling this Holiday Season?**

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



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC

SCHOOL GYM

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