

# 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 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

**THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES**

**Monday • March 3**

Sirach 17:20-24/Mark 10:17-27  
**No Mass**

**Tuesday • March 4**

Sirach 35:1-12/Mark 10:28-31  
**7:00 p.m. Mass †Jeanette Fox**  
 By: Chuck & Linda, Lisa & Charles,  
 Brenda & Chris

**Wednesday • March 5**

**Ash Wednesday**  
 Joel 2:12-18/2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2/Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18  
**8:30 a.m. †Michael Savard**  
 By: Judy Fox and Family  
**12:05 p.m. †Charlotte Voisin**  
 By: Charles and Lisa Wieber  
**6:00 p.m. †Charlie, †Barb, and †Becky Kuripla**  
 By: Donna Kuripla

**Thursday • March 6**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20/Luke 9:22-25  
**8:30 a.m. Mass Education Trust Fund**

**Friday • March 7**

Isaiah 58:1-9a/Matthew 9:14-15  
**8:30 a.m. Mass †Leon and †Marie Armbrustmacher**  
 By: Art and Mary Porubsky

**Saturday • March 8**

Isaiah 58:9b-14/Luke 5:27-32  
**5:00 p.m. Mass †Eva Lambertson and †Hattie Nichols**  
 By: Kathy Orson

**Sunday • March 9**

Deuteronomy 26:4-10/Romans 10:8-13/Luke 4:1-13  
**8:00 a.m. Mass †Rita M Thelen**  
 By: Ray Schomisch  
**10:00 a.m. †Hope Hoskins**  
 By: Dad  
**12:00 p.m. The People of the Parish**  
**6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish**



**Age 14 and up - Abstain from meat on all Fridays (including Good Friday) of Lent**  
**Age 18-59 - Fast Good Friday.**

**Fasting ~ eat one full meal, as well as 2 smaller meals, not equaling the one full meal.**  
**Abstinence ~ Not eating meat.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening in Lent at 6:00 p.m.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn from March 2 - 8, 2025

*Maurice and Etha Eisler*

**First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

The Blessed Sacrament will be Exposed for Adoration following the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Friday, March 7 until Benediction at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 8 (No Mass Saturday morning)

**We are in need of subs at the following times:**  
**Friday, March 7th: 11:00 a.m. (2 needed), 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, March 8th: 1:00 a.m. and 3:00 a.m.**

Please text/call Rebecca at 989-292-2072 or sign up in the gathering space if you plan to attend at one of these times. It is not necessary for everyone who comes to sign up for a specific hour or stay for an hour, however, we must have someone in attendance at all times that the Blessed Sacrament is Exposed, so your commitment is helpful. Thank you for helping to make this time of Exposition possible.

**KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS**

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

- Adam
- Chris
- Sawyer Ballinger
- Lisa Clarizio
- Richard Connors
- Sherri Couch
- Verena DeBoer

- Mary Enneking
- Keith Enneking
- Trisha Fisher
- Friend
- Cindy Fontus
- Brenda Higgins
- David Higgins
- Korine
- Alissa McKeown
- Gabrielle Meece
- Myah
- Daniel Pung

- Jenny Pytlowanyj
- Deacon Marv & Tita
- Robertson
- Patricia Rojas
- Joan Schrauben
- Sherri
- Anne Thelen
- 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
- 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)

**Let Me Help You With That BeamSo**

"Most of us think that we have more forgiveness to give than to receive. We like to think that more people are unfair or unjust to us than we are to them. Because we think in that way, we find it hard to offer forgiveness, real forgiveness to others."

wrote Fr. Richard McCullen, worldwide leader of Vincentian communities some 30 years ago. His words are a reflection on the part of today's gospel whereby Jesus chastises his disciples for being judgmental of others, when they (and us) should be reflecting on their (our) own wrongdoings. Thus we get today's well known statement of Jesus: "How can you say to your brother 'Brother let me help you with the splinter in your eye' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye?"

This brings me to a great opportunity for all parishioners to have their wooden beams removed from their eyes this Lent. Adult faith director Amanda Grigar will be moderating a three-week group study of the extremely under-utilized sacrament of Reconciliation. If we morph Fr. McCullen's words with Jesus' statement, the necessity for confession becomes obvious. The beams affect our vision as we look into our souls, not allowing us to see our great need for the Lord's forgiveness.

The group study entitled "Forgiven" is built around three videos via Formed, just like last year's study of the Eucharist. Each evening will begin with the video, followed by group discussion. As noted in the church bulletin, the "study will look at the revelation of God's mercy in scripture, make an examination of the Rite itself and allow us to grow a more profound appreciation for this great sacrament." In Amanda's words "confession isn't a rule, a formality or an old-fashioned ritual. It's an intimate and life-changing experience of God's mercy."

This is really an opportunity for all adult

parishioners, whether regular Reconciliation attendees or not, to gain a deeper understanding of the sacrament, and its roots. I previewed the first "Forgiven" episode and found it to be very enlightening, especially a segment when Catholic scholars talked about excuses they have made in their lives to avoid confession. Perhaps the most-telling one was a scholar who said, "I realized that for a long time, I found myself modifying God's law in my mind to justify my actions, when I should have been modifying my behavior to meet God's law." That's what a beam in our eyes does to us. Let "Forgiven" help to get rid of it.

*(I encourage everyone to compliment the "Forgiven" program with a Lent-long study using one of the many on-line apps. There are great studies out there from Matthew Kelley, Bishop Robert Barron, and one on the Hallow app that features, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jonathan Roumie and Mark Wahlberg. Make this Lent count.)*

*Deacon Eric*  
**deaconeric@hotmail.com**

**Save the Dates:**

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting two opportunities for fasting and alms giving this Lent by provided two soup suppers.

The dates for the soup suppers are

**March 19th and April 9th.**

Stay tuned for further information in upcoming bulletins



**Oratory Contest - March 15, 2025**

Clinton County Right to Life announces their annual Oratory Contest for high school students on Saturday, March 15, 2025. The contest consist of a 5 to 7 minute speech on a pro-life issue such as abortion, infanticide, or euthanasia. A panel of judges will select the best of the speeches. The top three speeches win cash prizes of \$200, \$175, or \$150. The first place winner moves on to the state competition in Lansing on April 26, 2025.

For an application or more information, please contact Mary Beth at (517) 974-2499 or go to migenleads@rtl.org.



**FORGIVEN Group Study Coming this Lent!**

Sin, guilt, failure, disappointment...these are all an unpleasant but universal reality of the human experience. We all have to deal with them, but we can't do it alone. The remedy is immediately available and miraculously effective---the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession isn't a rule, a formality, or an old-fashioned ritual. It's an intimate and life-changing experience of God's mercy. Join us for this three-week study that will look at the revelation of God's mercy in scripture, make an examination of the Rite itself, and allow us to grow a more profound appreciation for this great sacrament in which we experience his indescribable love.

**Thursdays: March 6, March 13,**  
**in the parish basement.**

**The last date will be determined**

**K-12 Grade Religious Education**

**March Calendar:**

- Wednesday, March 5: K-8 NO Classes/  
Ash Wednesday
- Wednesday, March 12: K-8 Classes
- Wednesday, March 19: K-12 Classes and Youth Group
- Thursday, March 20: Confirmation Mass and Celebration
- Tuesday: March 25: Rite of Enrollment for 8th Graders

For more information, class times, and other dates got to [stjoecatholic.com](http://stjoecatholic.com)

Contact Jen Nelson at 989-224-8537 or [dre.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stjoseph@gmail.com) with questions or to register.



**INCLEMENT WEATHER**

**Parish Office Closure**

When St. Johns Public School closes for Inclement Weather, **so does St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Office.** If there is a weekday Mass scheduled that day, the Mass will still take place. Please consider all precautions if you still plan on attending the weekday Mass. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the parish office.



**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 MARCH 3-7, 2025**

- Monday: Taco, lettuce salad, fruit, and milk.
- Tuesday: Chicken Tenders, carrots, fruit, and milk.
- Wednesday: Shrimp poppers, tator tots, fruit, and milk.
- Thursday: 1/2 day - NO LUNCH SERVED.
- Friday: 1/2 day - NO LUNCH SERVED.

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

***Liturgical Minsters***

**March 8 and 9**

<b>Altar Servers:</b>	5:00 p.m.	Charleigh F. Averie D.
	8:00 a.m.	Madison W. Morgan W.
	10:00 a.m.	Cassie S. Gracie H.
	12:00 p.m.	Tanner K. Miles S.

**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.	Diane A.
	8:00 a.m.	Lu Ann C.
	10:00 a.m.	Ted S.
	12:00 p.m.	Dawn L.

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

**Collection Counters:** March 3 Group 2

**Sanctuary Cleaners:** Kate Mullen and Kari Schneider

**STEWARDSHIP**

**For the weekend of February 23, 2025**

Adults (255) gifts Including online giving):	..... \$15,401.38
Loose Cash:	..... \$576.00
Total:	..... \$15,977.38

**Other Gifts Received**

Education Trust Fund:	..... \$130.00
Building Fund:	..... \$360.00
Tuition Scholarship Fund:	..... \$252.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2024 is \$20,039.80. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

**Some Adult Formation Opportunities to Look Forward to in 2025**

**A partial sneak peek at what lies ahead**

- ◆ **Lent - starting March 6: Forgiven: *The Transforming Power of Confession*.** This three-week parish group study will help us grow in our appreciation of this great sacrament of God's mercy.
- ◆ **April 26, 2025: The Catholic Biblical School of Michigan will present *Journey with the Apostles* at our parish.** This half-day retreat will provide inspiration for us in our own unique mission as a Christian after encountering Our Risen Lord on Easter.
- ◆ **Late Spring/Summer (dates TBD): Understanding Catholic Historical Controversies series.** We will be tackling some of the most questioned and controversial topics in the history of the Church, including: the Crusades, the Inquisition, the Native Missions, the Galileo Affair, and Pope Pius XII and the Holocaust. Helpful for a variety of people, from those curious about Catholicism to those seeking to better navigate these tricky topics when they come up.
- ◆ **June 21, 2025: A Diocesan-wide Mass and Eucharistic Procession will be held in Lansing.** 6,000 people participated in a similar event in 2018; you will not want to miss this powerful experience.

And more! Watch the bulletin for additional information about these and other opportunities to grow in your faith.

**Parents with one or more students attending Lansing Catholic High School** may apply for a parish subsidy grant from St. Joseph Church to help with tuition costs. There are basic requirements to apply and forms are available through the parish office or on our website: [stjocatholic.com/forms/](http://stjocatholic.com/forms/)

Application deadline is March 31, 2025 for the 2025-26 school year.



The Spring 2025 40 Days for Life Vigil campaign is set to begin on Ash Wednesday and we will again be praying across from the Frandor Center Planned Parenthood facility Monday through Saturdays from 7:00 am until 6:00 p.m. 40 Days for Life is a prayerful and peaceful vigil in which prayers are sent out for the end of abortion, for those who have had abortions and for the conversion of those who support abortion. We need many pro-life advocates to help us cover the vigil hours. To sign up for a time, go to [40daysforlife/lansing.com](http://40daysforlife/lansing.com). I will be going to pray each Thursday at 2:00 p.m. if you would like to pray that hour. Please call Mary Beth if you have any questions.

**Lenten Fish Fry 2025**



**Knights of Columbus, Council #3281  
1108 North US-27  
St. Johns MI**

Fridays  
March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th  
April 4th and 11th

*Serving 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m*

Baked fish, fried fish, baked potato, steak fries, macaroni and cheese, green beans, coleslaw, dinner roll

Coffee, juice, and water provided  
\$15.00 for adults  
\$8.00 for children ages 6-12  
Children under 6 are free

Carry out meals available  
Call (989) 224-1225

**Lenten Almsgiving**

This year's Lenten Almsgiving is for our local food banks. There are boxes located at the back of church. Please take one for your family. At the end of the Lenten season, please write a check for the amount collected in your box.

**Black and Indian Missions**

*formerly known as The Black and Indian Home Mission Collection*

Mandated by the III Plenary Council in 1884, the 125 year old National Collection for Black and Indian people continues as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States. The funds are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease.



Our parish goal is **\$98,185.24**. No gift is too small...every dollar donated helps those in our parish and in our unified efforts in the wider church. Further, one-half of all paid contributions received, over and above our parish goal, will be returned for our local use here at St. Joseph Church.

Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge commitment so far.

If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, I invite you to do so today. Gift envelopes are available in the church or the parish office. Or you may submit your gift online at: [www.dioceseoflansing.org/appeal](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/appeal). Your DSA gift will support the vital services and ministries that help bring the love of Christ to all we encounter.

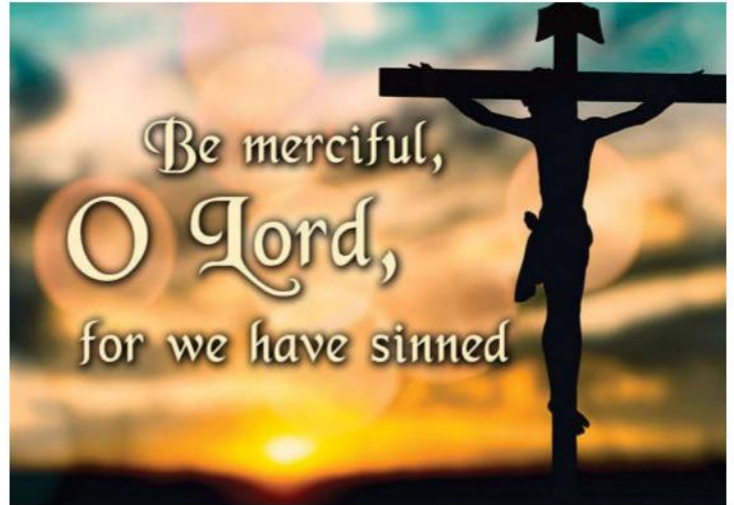
### Light Weigh Catholic Weight-loss

Are you seeking a healthy relationship with food and your body? Light Weigh Catholic Weight-loss is coming to your parish! Peace with food, Weight-loss, Saints, Bible Study, friendship, Spiritual Healing & Prayers! Transformations happen. Connect to the power of God and the group today. A 12 week study is beginning this Lent at St Joseph Church in the reception room.

Beginning March 10, 2025  
Every Monday from 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
St. Joseph Church - Reception Room

To learn more about this program, go to [www.lightweigh.com](http://www.lightweigh.com)

To register and for more information email [lightweighinfo@gmail.com](mailto:lightweighinfo@gmail.com).



### Grief Support Workshop 2025

Friday, May 9, 2025

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 10, 2025

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.\*

St. Joseph Catholic Church

109 Linden Street., St Johns

Grieving with Great HOPE is a weekend grief support workshop that offers a prayerful, practical, and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. If you have lost a spouse, a child (including pregnancy loss), a grandchild, a parent, another family member or a friend, you are encouraged to attend. Presenters include John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement apostolate.

For registration forms and details visit:

[www.goodmourningministry.net](http://www.goodmourningministry.net)

Or call Jackie at 517-449-2928. Seating is limited.

Registration is \$10. Please register by April 13, 2025.

\*with light breakfast options available at 9:30 a.m. and lunch.

..... ALL YOU CAN EAT  
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- Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Applesauce, Orange Juice and Coffee
- First Sunday of Every Month, September through June
- In the School Cafeteria following 8 AM Mass until 11:30 AM
- \$5 Suggested Donation

EVERY FIRST SUNDAY

### 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. We have all sorts of things-- hats, mittens, books and even a hearing-aid (you'll have to go to the parish office to claim this).



**Golden Gala  
Feast and Raffle Tickets**

**Win a trip to Oahu, Hawaii!**

St. Joseph Feast and Raffle Committee members will be selling tickets at the back of church this weekend

**Tickets are:**  
1 for \$50  
3 for \$125  
5 for \$200

Grand prize is a 5 night stay in a beach front villa in Oahu, Hawaii plus \$5000 cash or \$10,000 cash only

2nd prize is \$2,500.

3rd Prize is \$1,000

Tickets will be drawn at the annual Feast and Raffle Dinner on March 15th.

You do not need to be present to win.

Tickets are also available for purchase at the School Office, Parish Office.

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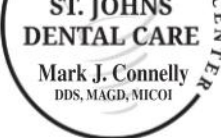
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