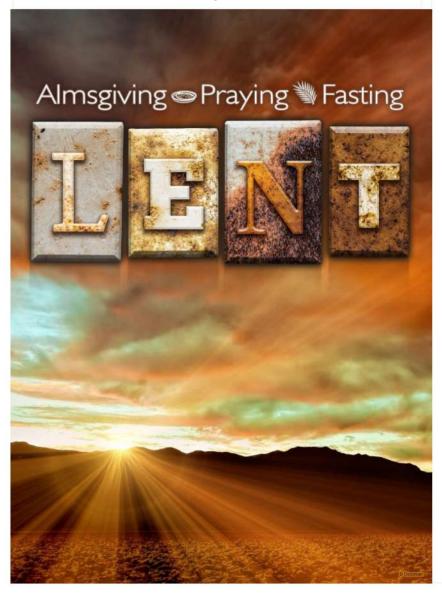
MARCH 9. 2025

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 10

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18/Matthew 25:31-46

No Mass

Tuesday ● March 11

Isaiah 55:10-11/Matthew 6:7-15 7:00 p.m. Mass The Pope

By: Society of St. Vincent DePaul

Wednesday • March 12

Jonah 3:1-10/Luke 11:29-32

8:30 a.m.

†Marie H. Fox

Bv: Linda Cremer

Thursday ● March 13

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Matthew 7:7-12 †Joseph Castle

8:30 a.m. Mass

Bv: Lisa, Linda and Brenda

Friday • March 14

Ezekiel 18:21-28/Matthew 5:20-26 8:30 a.m. Mass †Lois Padgett

By: St. Joseph Sunshine Club

Saturday ● March 15

Deuteronomy 26:16-19/Matthew 5:43-48

5:00 p.m. Mass †Don and †Bonna Rae Henning

By: Chelsea and Courtney

Sunday • March 16

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18/Philippians 3:17--4:1 or Philippians 3:20--4-1/ Luke 9.28h-36

8:00 a.m. Mass †Ann Green

By: Jeff Cuthbert

10:00 a.m. †Bernard Feldpausch

By: Family

12:00 p.m. †Jack Sira

By: Charles and Lisa Wieber

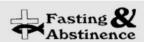
6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

†Darrel Garner

By: Friends



Daylight Savings Time starts March 9, 2025 Don't forget to SPRING forward one hour



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 9 - 15, 2025 Hope Hoskins

Eucharistic Adoration

"Jesus said, "It is written: 'You shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him alone shall you serve." (Luke 4:8)

Setting aside the time for Sunday Mass and daily prayer, along with things such as weekday Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and serving others, requires us to prioritize what is most important to us. Often, making the time requires us to remove the things of lesser importance that can creep in and occupy our schedules.

This Lent, what can we remove from our daily schedules that will allow us more time to spend with Our Lord?.

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 Mary & Tita Robertson Patricia Roias Joan Schrauben Sherri Anne Thelen Michael VanElls Jeff Wadell Jennifer Jerry **Brad Walker**

Millie Wassa Fr. Don Wieber Rill Darnell Susan Darnell

Please pray for our parishioners in the service. especially: William Hess

Jake Hoskins

Eric Martin Colby Munger Adam Novak Alex Roias David Seperic Noel Smith II Jordan Van Amburg

Jacob Longoria

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)

Turning Nothing into Something

When I sat down at the computer today to write this column, I stared at a blank page. This was appropriate for the moment because it marked a reflection of what was on my mind. When one puts in the title of one's church bulletin column "and whatever else is on Deacon Eric's mind" the expectation would be that there would be something on that fella's {sic} mind. Occasionally it may be mindless drivel -- but at least there's some drivel on that mind.

Well the truth is I will be out of state for several days between the time this is written and the time it is read. Since I did not adequately plan for what I need to take on this quick trip or generally prepare for it, my mind is more on getting things done for something I do once a year (Detroit Tiger Spring Training) instead of something I do every week of the year (write this column). As I'm setting the stage here, the Holy Spirit is reminding me that while I am writ-

ing this in the **penultimate** (I don't think I have ever written that word before) day before Lent, it won't be read until the First Sunday in Lent which features one of my favorite stories from Luke's Gospel.

Though Matthew and Mark also present us with Jesus going out in the desert for 40 days, I like Luke's version the best. Mark only gives us two verses on Jesus' trip to the desert following his baptism in the Jordan. That's not unusual, given that fact that Mark's gospel displays very tight writing and is by far the shortest of the three synoptic gospels. Those two verses of Jesus in the desert serve as a transition from Jesus' baptism to his ministry. Matthew gives an expanded version, detailing the feisty tete-a-tete between the Son of God and the tempter.

Luke's portrayal of the 40 days in the desert is very close to Matthew's, except for a couple specific instances. Matthew uses the word "tempter" to describe Jesus' adversary and we all likely know to whom he is referring, yet I like the fact that Luke leaves no ambiguity while describing Jesus' opponent as "the devil." It's possible

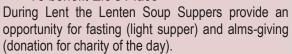
that it is just a matter of translation, but if not, Luke leaves no doubt the Lord was facing the top dog in the temptation hierarchy of evil spirits. This was no Wormwood from "The Screwtape Letters" training to be a master of maliciousness.

And the other significant difference between Matthew and Luke is that Matthew tells readers Jesus was hungry after the 40 days, but Luke explains that Jesus did not eat anything during that 40 days. We are hungry if we go a day without eating, Jesus had to be famished when he fought off the devil, who's first temptation was a suggestion that Jesus turn a stone into bread and satisfy his hunger. At his weakest, Jesus remained strong. He is there for us when we are at our weakest. Let's turn our "nothings" into "somethings" this Lent by leaning on the strength of Our Lord.

Deacon Eric deaconeric@hotmail.com

Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 To benefit Ele's Place



St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary will host the first 2025 soup supper on Wednesday, March 19th at the (KC) Columbian Hall. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. for soup drop-offs, with supper at 5:30 p.m. and guest speaker at 6:00 p.m.



The designated charity for the evening is Ele's Place - a healing center for grieving children, teens, young adults and their families. All donations for the

evening will go to support this program. There will be a sign-up sheet in the gathering space of the church for soup and bread donations for this event.



Oratory Contest - March 15, 2025 Clinton County Right to Life announces their annual Oratory Contest for high school students on Saturday, March 15, 2025. 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.

St. Monica Ladies Auxiliary
March event is a

St. Patrick's Bingo
on March 10th
at the (KC) Columbian Hall
beginning at 6:30 p.m.
So, don your lucky green outfits
and try your luck at bingo to win
special prizes. There will be a
few green snacks to share.

Ladies, join us for a fun evening to share the fellowship of the Irish.

St. Patrick's Day is the one day of the year when we are all Irish!



K-12 Grade Religious Education March Calendar:

- 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 stipecatholic.com

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

Attention All Widows/Widowers

Please join

"Kindred Friends"

at our next meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. In the church basement

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.

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 10-14, 2025

Monday: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, corn,

fruit, and milk.

Tuesday: Pig in a blanket, carrots, fruit, and milk. Wednesday: Lasagna with breadstick, green beans,

fruit, and milk.

Thursday: Hamburger with cheese, fried chips, fresh

fruit, and milk.

Friday: Macaroni and cheese with warm pretzel,

peas, fruit, and milk.

Lunches are \$3.25 Milk \$0.50

Liturgical Minsters March 15 and 16

Altar Servers: 5:00 p.m. Joslynn R. Sophia R.

8:00 a.m. Miles S.

Kaynin S. 10:00 a.m. Quinn D.

Palmer D.

12:00 p.m. Mabel R.

Willow R.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

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. Chad G. 8:00 a.m. Rich H.

10:00 a.m. Joe T. 12:00 p.m. Linda S.

Ushers: 5:00 p.m. Group 5A

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

Collection Counters: March 10 Group 3

Sanctuary Cleaners: Sue Fox

STEWARDSHIP

For the weekend of March 2, 2025

Adults (234) gifts Including online giving): \$23,834.76 Loose Cash: \$1,791.00 Total: \$22,043.76

Other Gifts Received

Education Trust Fund: \$215.00

Building Fund: \$143.00

Tuition Scholarship Fund: \$100.00

Our weekly average since July 1, 2024 is \$20,148.23. If we continue to keep this average, we will meet our budgeted goal.

POSITION OPENING - Business Manager

We are accepting applications for our parish Business Manager position. The position requires excellent organizational skills, experience with accounting principles and processes, and an understanding of facility maintenance needs. This position is full time with insurance, leave time, and pension benefits. Full position description is available at https://www.dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers

If you are someone who embraces the teachings and mission of the Catholic Church and are interested in working in this environment, please apply online or send your resume, cover letter, and references to Business Manager Position, St. Joseph Church, 109 Linden St., St. Johns, MI 48879, or email to business.stjoseph@gmail.com.



Feast/Raffle Silent Auction

Silent Auction items can now be previewed at http://bidpal.net/stfr100. Bidding will start on Thursday, March 13th and close at 10:30 p.m, Saturday, March 15th.

Last chance to support the event in person! Ticket sales will close Wednesday, March 12th and can be purchased online at www.feastandraffle.com. Please join Fr. Mike and the St. Joe community in a night of fellowship to support current and future students!

Oahu raffle tickets or \$10,000.00 cash grand prize raffle tickets will be sold until the event. Tickets are available at the parish or school office.

Tickets are 1 for \$50, 3 for \$125 and 5 for \$200.

A note from Fr. Mike:

As we continue to celebrate the 100th year of St. Joseph School, I'd like to invite each of you to join me for the **Gala Feast and Raffle** celebration on Saturday March 15 at 6:00 pm. Each year we have a wonderful time as we gather for this main fundraiser for our school. This year's event is shaping up to be, like our past celebrations, an evening of fellowship and fun unlike anything else.

To purchase tickets, please go on line at one bidpal.net/sjfr100



This week, we reached \$22,171.00 (or 22.6%) of our DSA goal of \$98,185.24. Thus far 44 families have contributed to this year's appeal which is 4.4% of our 1025 families. We are grateful for these contributions and invite others to help push us over goal for the benefit of our parish and the wider church.

If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, we 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. Your DSA gift will support the vital services and ministries that help bring the love of Christ to all we encounter.

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.

Lenten Fish Fry 2025



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

> Fridays March 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

FORGIVEN Group Study

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.

Thursday March 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish basement.

The last date will be determined

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:

stjoecatholic.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. 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.

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

To register and for more information email lightweighinfo@gmail.com.



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