



# St. Mary & St. Joseph Parish

One Holy Family  
Together In Christ

Official correspondence should be sent to:

700 Columbia Dr., Durand, MI 48429. 1-855-288-6704

**Pastor:** Rev. Jonathan Perrotta Email: frjonathanp@gmail.com

**Deacon:** Wayne Corrion Email: Deaconwaynecorrion@gmail.com 989-271-8434

**Deacon:** Greg Middleton 1-855-288-6704 Ext. 7014

**Secretary/Business Manager:** Paul Williamson Email: stmarydurand@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Sandy Bensinger Email: stjosephgaines@gmail.com

**Discipleship Coordinator for Youth and Young Adults:**

Adriana Lindgren Email: adrianadcy@gmail.com

**Director of Religious Education (DRE):** Robin Doyle Email: smsjdre@gmail.com

## St. Mary Church

700 Columbia Dr., Durand, MI 48429

1-855-288-6704

### Mass Times:

Sat.: 5:00pm - Sun.: 11:30am

Weekday Masses - See Bulletin

Office hours: Mon., Thurs., Fri., 8:30am to  
2:30pm.

Tues. 8:30am to Noon

Website: stmarystjoseph.org

Myparishapp.com

## St. Joseph Church

9450 Duffield Rd., Gaines, MI 48436

1-989-271-8434

### Mass Time:

Sun.: 8:30am

Weekday Masses - See Bulletin

Office hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs.,  
9:00am to 3:00pm.

Website: stmarystjoseph.org

Myparishapp.com

## ~Sacraments~

**Baptism:** You must be a registered active member of either Parish for three months prior to the baptism. Parents are expected to attend a baptismal preparation class before baptism.

**Marriage:** Arrangements should be made at least 12 months before the date of the marriage to take marriage preparation courses.

**Anointing of Sick:** Upon request, contact the Durand office, 1-855-288-6704.

**RCIA:** Starts in the fall. Contact your respective parish office for times and dates.

**Reconciliation:** St. Joseph on Wednesday 9:00am to 9:30am. St. Mary on Saturday 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Special request, contact the Durand office. Check the bulletin for special times.

## St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass Schedule

**Monday, January 22 - No Mass**

**Tuesday, January 23 - St. Mary**

**Eucharistic Adoration** - 7:20am to 8:20am

**Mass** - 8:30am - Margaret Doyle by Ann Marie Young & family

**Wednesday, January 24 - St. Joseph**

**Eucharistic Adoration** - 7:20am to 8:20am

**Mass** - 8:30am - Floyd Tymrak by Richard Cirlek

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation** - 9:00am to 9:30am

**Thursday, January 25 - St. Mary**

**Eucharistic Adoration** - 7:20am to 8:20am

**Mass** - 8:30am - Karen Stinger by Cynthia Johnson

**Friday, January 26 - St. Mary**

**Eucharistic Adoration** - 7:20am to 8:20am

**Mass** - 8:30am - Jean Vandendries by Joe & Karen Lezovich

**Saturday, January 27 - St. Mary**

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation** - 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Mass** - 5:00pm - St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners

**Sunday, January 28**

**St. Joseph Mass** - 8:30am - Gary and Kathy Beiser by Family

**St. Mary Mass** - 11:30am - Irene Sworthwood by Michael & Brenda Wells

## RCIA...

...Anyone wanting to enter the Catholic Church or wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith, please contact Dcn Wayne at the parish office 989-271-8434.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SUFFERING OF ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH

For those who are ill at home, in the hospital or in the nursing home. Chuck Harris, Claire Clough, Helene Sloan, James Elford, George Newberry, Debbie Newberry, Christian Carpenter, Ben Monroe, Diane Hincka, Kaylie Terry, Brooke Fuller, Derek Monroe.

Please note: Individual names will remain on the prayer list for four (4) weekends, before being removed. If your illness is long term, your name should be put on the prayer board in the back of your church. St. Mary's parish office 1-855-288-6704 or the St. Joseph's office at 989-271-8434.



Pray for all men and women in the armed services.

## Mardi Gras Dinner & Benefit...

...Saturday, February 10, 6:00pm - 11:00pm at St. Mary in the lower level. Pre-event tickets can be purchased after Mass in the gathering space or by calling the parish office for \$20, \$30 at the door. Our Mardi Gras Benefit includes a delicious dinner, Bourbon Street Raffle, 50/50 Raffle, King Cake Prize, open bar, music and more! All proceeds benefit St. Mary & St. Joseph Life Teen youth group. For more information, call Adriana Lindgren at the parish office, 855-288-6704.



## Eucharistic Adoration



Wednesday, January 24, 7:00pm-8:00pm at St. Mary church. Come spend an hour before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Join us for an hour of prayer, reflection by Fr. Jonathan, praise and music. Light reception to follow in the gathering space.

## LIFE TEEN

### Life Teen Mass

Sunday, February 4, 11:00am - 2:00pm, St. Mary Church. Come at 11:00am to prepare for the Mass. All high school students and families are invited for lunch and discussion groups in the gather space.

## Marriage Matters

Valentine's Themed Date Night, Saturday, January 27, 6:30pm-9:00pm St. Joseph Hall. There is



still time to RSVP for our Date Night! Open to all married, couples, engaged couples and seriously dating couples of all ages. RSVP in the gathering space to save your spot!

## The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Prayer...



...Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## From the Pen of the Pastor



Dear sisters and brothers,

**Mid-January in our beloved U.S.A. provides us the opportunity** to *both* reflect on the fact that justice and justice laws, even in a country as blessed as ours, only come through constant effort, *and* to take new steps ourselves in making that effort. I am thinking of the anniversaries of Roe v Wade, on January 22, and of the birth of Martin Luther King Jr., on January 15. Both racism and abortion are evils and sins that we vehemently condemn as Catholics, and pledge to work against with love, patience, courage, compassion and wisdom. We should all be troubled by any injustice anywhere, especially in our own area and country.

God makes abundantly clear to us that every person is made in His image and likeness, that He finds each of us worthy of sending His son to die to save us, and that if we want to share in His happiness and heaven, we *must* love others as another-self, no matter how different or inconvenient. The color of a person's skin, how they might be conceived, where they were born, what abilities or limitations they may have, even the sins they have committed, does not alter that fact that each human being has an infinite worth and must be respected as such.

At the same time, the laws of our land, both present and past, have not always reflected this reality. And while an unjust law is in truth no law at all, when there are unjust law, there is the danger, above the fact that someone is being unjustly hurt, that many will come to think the unjust law is OK simply because it is a law. As good citizens (and good Catholics), we must be willing to work for the justice, not just of those we know and care about, but for all.

One upcoming way to work for the justice of the unborn is by participating in 40 Days for Life in some way: through prayer & fasting, participating in the local vigil and/or community outreach. The Spring campaign will start on February 14 this year, which happens to be Ash Wednesday, in addition to being Valentine's Day. Abortion is often the result of many poor choices and much fear and pressure, which means being willing to love those involved through helping them not only make the good choice to keep their baby but also help them care for him or her.

When it comes to eradicating racism, the work can be more challenging because the laws and actions that still reflect this injustice are not always as obvious. Yet the need remains to find ways to be agents of justice. Thankfully, we have made progress as a country in this area; sadly at the cost of many lives lost, while there is still work to do. I would suggest that helping with the needs in Flint is one practical and local way that will help address injustice in our land. Contact Catholic Charities to find out about upcoming ways to help.

Wisdom and prudence are also always needed. One recent example that you may have heard about was a protest at our Diocese on Monday, January 15, in connection to our diocesan school policy that all must stand during the pledge of allegiance and national anthem. Some students at Lansing Catholic had knelt last Fall during the anthem to protest racism, which resulted in disciplinary measures (they were not allowed to start that game). Our bishop met with the leaders of this protest for two hours on Monday, listening to their concerns. You can read his statement at our Diocese of Lansing website.

A part of it says: *"Racism is abhorrent and is the antitheses of all Catholic teaching and values...Bishop Boyea is very troubled by any injustice anywhere, especially in any Catholic parish or school...At the same time, in our Catholic schools, we have always asked students to stand for the anthem and pledge. Too many have died for what our flag represents. It is not a racist policy to have a rule asking all students to stand to honor our nation's flag. Our rules are applied equally, no matter the race. It is simply not accurate to say we are singling out some students over others for punishment based on race. We have rules and we apply those rules equally."*

As you can see, wisdom, courage and patience are needed to both address injustices like racism, while also upholding other virtues and values, like citizenship and honoring one's country, and those who have sacrificed for us. These too are aspects of a just society. May we continue to pray to God and work for justice for all in our land and the entire world.

May God bless you, your family, and our country abundantly this coming week.

### Quick Catholic Question

Question: Why can't a Catholic take communion in a Protestant church?

Answer: Canon 844 states: "Catholic ministers may licitly administer the sacraments to Catholic members of the Christian faithful only and, likewise, the latter may licitly receive the sacraments only from Catholic ministers.

Now, let's look a little deeper to understand why this is so important:

(1) Christ established ONE Church and it subsists in its fullness in the Catholic faith. The Catholic Church views these denominations (Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopal, non-denominational), most importantly, they do not have a valid priesthood and priesthood is required for the Eucharist. Hence, their communion is, for Catholics, invalid as well as illicit (it isn't what it is supposed to be and it is forbidden for Catholics to receive it.) in doing so, knowing full well that the Church forbids it may constitute a grave (mortal) sin, that of blasphemy.

(2) The Church teaches one can be in communion with only one body at a time. If you are in communion with the Catholic Church, then you cannot be in communion with another ecclesial body. Remember that as a Catholic you are "married" to Jesus through His Church and one of the sacraments of that marriage is the Eucharist. Taking communion in another Church is like cheating on your spouse.

(3) Catholics do not believe what these protestant churches believe about Holy Communion and should not receive communion there, no matter what well-meaning Protestants say to encourage Catholic participation in communion services. A Catholic looks to the Catholic Church to teach him, form his conscience and guide his life.

Protestants view things very differently from Catholic and although their advice may be well meaning, it is not the advice of the Church. Protestants may be willing to have Catholics at their table, but Catholics are not free to participate.

(4) When a Catholic receives communion in another ecclesial setting, it causes scandal. As much as we wish for Christian unity, we do not yet have it and making it appear that we do sends a signal to those with weak faith or unformed faith that it doesn't matter where one worships.

Is receiving a cracker and some grape juice (or even bread and wine) the same as receiving Our Lord, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity? Not to recognize that is the indifferentism that Canon law warns against.

The Eucharist is the source, summit and focus of our life in Christ; it communicates Christ to us and is a real and powerful means of grace. It should not be confused with the communion services of other traditions.

Catholics have the full complement of sacraments as channels to experience God in everyday life to help us on our journey to heaven.

So, isn't the neighborly thing to do to invite others to come, learn about our Catholic faith so that they too can make a declaration of faith and share the feast with us rather than the other way around?

*Remember if you have a question you want to ask, just email us at [quickcatholicquestions@gmail.com](mailto:quickcatholicquestions@gmail.com) or simply write your question down and drop it in the collection basket and it will find its way to us*

**Liturgical Ministers**  **St. Joseph Liturgical Assignments for January 28**  
 NOTE: All Liturgical Ministers should meet 5 minutes before mass every Sunday, in the gathering space near the Sacristy, to pray as requested by Father Jon.  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Tedd & Susan McDowell, Gayle Stanis  
 Sacristans: Tedd & Susan McDowell  
 Lectors: Deb Boucha, Bill Feudale  
 Servers: Kaitlynn & Justin Monroe

**There will be a Parish Council Meeting...**  
 ...on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 7:00pm at St Joseph church in the gathering space.

**Religious Education classes have resumed...**  
 ...for the winter session at St. Mary. Class times are 9:45am-11:15am. Parishioners, please be alert of our youth in the parking lot on their way to mass or going to their transportation before the 11:30am Mass.

**The 2018 Knights of Columbus Scholarship...**  
 ...Applications are now available in the St. Mary Gathering Space. The scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors planning college and current college students who are members of the parish. Remember, these scholarships are judged on Faith and volunteerism within the church and community and due March 9, 2018 to Shiawassee Community Foundation. There will be two \$1,000 awards.  
 The Scholarship Committee.

**St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry Volunteers Needed...**  
 ...The next food distribution is on **January 27**. There are sign-up sheets in the back of the church (on a clipboard). A **food truck delivery** is scheduled for Friday, January 26 at 8:30am. Initial food packaging (packers) and building setup takes place on Friday, January 26 at 6:00pm. For any questions concerning the St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry, please contact Diane Pelky at 989-288-4446 or Kathy Schmidt 989-288-4183 or [stmaryfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryfoodpantry@gmail.com). Thank you again for your continued support. God Bless

**St. Francis Retreat Center Events Announcement...**  
  
 ...All couples are invited to a day-long marriage retreat, **"Building trust, communication, and intimacy with each other and Our Lord,"** Saturday, Feb. 10, from 9:30am - 4:00pm at St. Francis Retreat Center. The cost is \$95 per couple and includes morning Mass, lunch and materials.  
 ...Take a mini pilgrimage to St. Francis Retreat Center to start your Lenten journey on a retreat entitled, **"40 Days to a Better You,"** Feb. 14 from 9:00am - 3:30pm. Includes Mass, lunch, and materials. The cost is \$65 or \$55 for seniors 60+.  
 ...Contact St. Francis Retreat Center for more info at: [stfrancis.ws](http://stfrancis.ws) or 517-669-8321.

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS**  
 Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Burton hosts a special needs Mass, the 4th Sunday of each month at 1:00pm. We attempt to focus this service on the special needs families.  
 While a little shorter, this Mass has a homily and music that is tailored to those with Special needs. The Mass enables children and adults with special needs to serve, to read, to usher and to participate in whatever else that they may feel comfortable doing. It allows them to be themselves.  
 The next mass will be on January 28 at 1:00pm at Holy Redeemer.

 **Parish Support for the weekend of January 14**  
 Thanks for Your Support!

**This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time: Pray for the souls in purgatory.**

<b>January 14 offerings (general collection)</b> .....	\$4,061.00
Christmas.....	\$70.00
Energy.....	\$308.00
Outreach.....	\$10.00
Building Debt.....	\$253.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$60.00

Sponsor of the Week  
**Knights of Columbus #7955**  
 See the full ad on the back page. Please patronize these sponsors, as they make our bulletin possible. Also, let them know where you saw it!

 **Jan. 28 cut off is Jan. 22 by 10:00am**  
[bulletinmj@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinmj@gmail.com)