



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

Lifeteen Coordinator: Sara Folsom Email: stmjlifeteen@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.

GROW + GO

Grow - Study....the faith
Excerpts From Pope Francis' New
Exhortation, Rejoice and Be Glad:

"REJOICE AND BE GLAD" (Mt 5:12), Jesus tells those persecuted or humiliated for his sake. The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created. He wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence... The Letter to the Hebrews presents a number of testimonies that encourage us to "run with perseverance the race that is set before us" (12:1). It speaks of Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Gideon and others (cf. 11:1-12:3). Above all, it invites us to realize that "a great cloud of witnesses" (12:1) impels us to advance constantly towards the goal...The saints now in God's presence preserve their bonds of love and communion with us.

Each of us can say: "Surrounded, led and guided by the friends of God...I do not have to carry alone what, in truth, I could never carry alone. All the saints of God are there to protect me, to sustain me and to carry me"...

Nor need we think only of those already beatified and canonized...I like to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God's people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile. In their daily perseverance I see the holiness of the Church militant. Very often it is a holiness found in our next-door neighbors, those who, living in our midst, reflect God's presence. We might call them "the middle class of holiness"...

With this Exhortation I would like to insist primarily on the call to holiness that the Lord addresses to each of us, the call that he also addresses, personally, to you: "Be holy, for I am holy" (Lev 11:44; cf. 1 Pet 1:16).

Go to vatican.va and click on the GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE button to read more.

Rest In Peace

We pray for
James Richard Elford Jr.
 Husband of Jacci, father of Sherry,
 James III, Craig and Brian.

...that he may now enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray also for his family and friends that they may find peace in the promises of Christ.

5th Sunday of Easter Prayer...



...Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. 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.

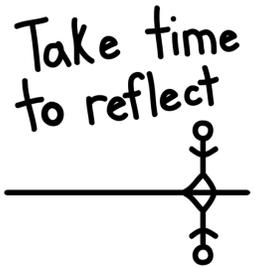
If you have been abused or victimized...

...by someone representing the Catholic Church, please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every diocese in the United States now has a Victim Assistance Coordinator who is available to obtain support for your needs, to help make a formal complaint of abuse to the diocese, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative if you desire.

The Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Lansing is Cheryl Williams-Hecksel, LMSW, 1-888-308-6252, cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org

A Day of Reflection

Shiawassee County Catholic Council on Aging would like to invite you to a Day of Reflection. A day to gather for a time of encouragement, rejuvenation, and to count our blessings in our senior years. St Mary Catholic Church, Morrice, Thurs, May 10. Mass at 10:00am. RSVP to the parish office, 517-625-4260, by May 4, \$10 per person.



St. Mary & St Joseph Parish

Mass Schedule

Monday, April 30 - No Mass

Tuesday, May 1 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Dorothy McDonald by Barb & Frank LaChance

Wednesday, May 2 - St. Joseph

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

Mass - 8:30am - Ronald and Marcia Bartlett (Anniversary) by the Children

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

Thursday, May 3 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Sophie Nequist by Mike & Kay Meyer

First Friday, May 4 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Margaret Doyle by Louise Hemond-Wilson & family

Saturday, May 5 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 5:00pm - Kay and Gene King by the family

Sunday, May 6

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Dcn. Currie and Donna Cormier (Anniversary) by Donna and family

St. Mary Mass - 11:30am - St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners

From the Pen of the Pastor



Dear brothers and sisters,

We are on the threshold of the greatest month of the year—May. May is dedicated to Mary. May is always full of the beauty of Spring and warmer weather. May is when I was born (thus the greatest month!). And May is the month, for our parish, when our children receive two of the sacraments of initiation: Holy Communion and Confirmation. Who doesn't love May!?

On Wednesday, May 2, our eighth graders will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from our Bishop Boyea at St. Paul's in Owosso. I look forward to being able to be with them for this great gift of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Next weekend our second graders will be receiving their first Holy Communion. Please keep them and their families in your prayers in a special way this week. This is also a great opportunity for those of us who have been blessed to receive these sacraments, to give thanks to God for them and ask Him for the blessing of being renewed in the graces of these sacraments.

On April 9, the day after Divine Mercy Sunday, Pope Francis released an Apostolic Exhortation on Holiness called "*Rejoice and Be Glad*" (or *Gaudete et exsultate*, its official, Latin name). One essential part of being Catholic and living our faith is to spend time studying our faith (part of the GROW in GROW and GO). To help us in this endeavor, I thought it would be good to add a short excerpt from *Rejoice and Be Glad* in the next several bulletins. Check it out. I encourage you to go also to the Vatican web site (vatican.va) and read the whole thing for free.

Finally, the importance of human life seems to be on my mind this week. As always, the world presents a mixed, and often contradictory, message about the value of human life. Just this week, we read in the news about truckers who stopped under a bridge down on 696 in Detroit to save a man who was contemplating suicide. Message: human life is good. At the same time, we hear of a family who is fighting against a hospital in England to save the life of their young son (less than two years old), Alfie Evans, who the hospital wants to stop treatment. Message: human life is not always good. And then there are the two men, one in Toronto with a van and one in Nashville with a gun, who violently killed and injured others. Message: human life is good because we rightly condemn these acts as a society, but what are we doing to address the fact that many don't think life is good and would do such things.

Then there are the ongoing situations of how we treat the unborn, those fleeing war, violence and situations of grave injustice and poverty, immigrants (illegal or not) already living in our country, those subject to abuse and human trafficking, the elderly, sick and dying. Message: human life is not good if those in power decide it isn't. Indeed, when our rights as humans aren't based on simply being human, then those in power will always get to decide who has rights, even who is human, which always ends in injustice and acts of horror.

One blessing of our faith is to help us see clearly the infinite dignity of every human person, which helps guide our actions toward one another. May the month of May be a time when we confidently and lovingly witness to the world and our country the importance of every human life. What can and will you do to promote a culture of life this month? May we help our country be a place where wisdom, justice and the truth guide our actions.

May God bless our parish abundantly this week.

May Event Calendar

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Sacrament of Confirmation	Wed, 2 nd	7pm	St. Paul Owosso
First Communion Weekend	Sat, 5 th Sun, 6 th	5pm 8:30am	St Mary St Joseph
Spring Clean-up Day	Sat, 5 th	10am 10am	St Mary St Joseph
<i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>			
RCIA	Sun, 13 th	9:45am	St Joseph
Finance Council Meeting	Thurs, 17 th	7pm	St Mary
Marriage Matters <i>Date Night</i>	Sat, 19 th	6:30pm	St Mary
Parish Council Meeting	Tues, 22 nd	7pm	St Joseph
Eucharistic Adoration Praise and Worship	Wed, 30 th	7pm	St Mary

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love."

Life Teen

Life Teen Mass
Sunday, May 6th
11:30 Mass
St Mary

Joint Youth Night
Sun, May 20, 6-9pm,
St Roberts

Rosary

St. Mary:
Gathering space, Tues., 1:30pm

St. Joseph:
Sundays at 8am

Divine Mercy Chaplet

St. Mary-Fridays at 9am
Litany to the Sacred Heart-
First Fridays

K of C

St. Mary
May 3, Thurs 7pm
May 17, Thurs 7pm
Education Building

St. Joseph
May 1, Tuesday
7pm
St Joseph Hall

Mother Teresa

Meeting:
St. Joseph
First Tuesday at
6:30pm

Bake Sale:
Last Sunday -
9:30am

Working Hands Ministry

Wed, May-2,
7pm-8pm

Thurs, May-3
1pm-2pm
St Mary Education
Building

St. Joe Food Pantry

1st & 3rd Wed.
9:30am, St. Joe Hall

Monday Night
Scripture
6:30pm, St Mary



Choir

St. Mary
Thursdays at 6:30pm
Saturdays at 3:45pm
Sundays at 10:30am

St. Joseph
Every Saturday
At 10:00am

GROW as a disciple of Jesus!
The purpose of your life is to continually GROW in intimate relationship with God
Pray...every day
Study...the faith
Engage...in parish life
Serve...others' needs

GO evangelize!
Jesus' final command to his disciples was, "GO and make disciples of all nations." (Mt 28:19)
Pray....for those who are separated from God.
Witness...about Jesus..
Invite...them to church.
Accompany...them as they grow.

GROW + GO

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:
 Mother Mary, help us to be humble and patient.

GROW + GO **Grow - Pray**....for others
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. Alice Harris, George Zimmer, Jack Bollinger, Elle Madoline Beiser, Gehrig Michael Beiser, Sue & Jerome Kekel, Paul Williamson, and Karen Carsten.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve**.....others' needs
The St. Joseph Food Pantry is in need of items such as canned: soup, fruit, stew and personal hygiene items such as toothpaste and brushes, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, and paper products such as toilet tissue, Kleenex and paper towel. We thank you for your continued support in helping others. There is a plastic tote in the St. Joseph gathering space to place your items.



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.

Photos needed for the new Parish Directory...
 ...if you have any candid shots or pictures you would like to share of the parish picnic and/or special events that the church has held throughout the past year, please pass on to the parish rectory for publication. Thank you in advance, Patty Dotson.

GROW + GO **Grow - Engage**.....in parish life
 The Mother Theresa Group meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm on May 1, 2018. at St. Joseph church.

GROW + GO **Grow - Engage**.....in parish life
Spring Clean-up Day.
 An outside Spring Clean-up day will be Sat., May 5 (changed from April 21) at 10:00am for both St Joseph and St. Mary churches. Please be ready to use your gardening skills to mulch, clean up, and beautify the flower gardens! **ALSO.** If you are willing to volunteer to cut lawn at either church, contact the office. Thanks!



GROW + GO **Grow - Study**.....the faith
Retreats at St Francis Retreat Center:
 May 17, 9:00am-3:30pm - **"Living a Purpose Driven Life: Take firm hold on the everlasting life to which you were called."**
 May 20, 9:30am-4:00pm - **"Marriage: Building Trust, Communication, and Intimacy with Each Other and the Lord."**
 For more information and registration: stfrancis.ws or 517-669-8321.

GROW + GO **Grow - Study**.....the faith
Monday Night Scripture group meets on Monday evenings at 6:30pm in the Gathering space at St. Mary for a study on the Holy Spirit. Please join us for prayer, scripture, and discussion.



Parish Support for the weekend of April 22



April 22 Offerings (General Collection)	\$6,517.00
Energy.....	\$25.00
Good Friday - Holy Land.....	\$10.00
Outreach.....	\$433.00
Building Debt.....	\$595.00
Easter.....	\$10.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$20.00
DSA Pledges Week One.....	\$2,770.00

Kindergarten Round Up and All School Open House, May 7 & 8 from 8:00am-4:00pm
St. Pius X Catholic School offers a loving Catholic atmosphere for 3 year-olds all the way through 8th grade. Call the school office to set up a tour and/or schedule kindergarten testing at (810) 235-8572 or email Carrie Hatfield, Early Childhood Director, at cjhatfieldspx@gmail.com

Sponsor of the Week
Rajiva Tirtha D.D.S.
 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!

 May 6 cut off is April 30 by 10:00am bulletinmj@gmail.com