



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 - Pray....every day
Important Financial Update**

Over the past year and a half, our Sunday offertory has decreased significantly. This is partly due to having one less Mass on Sunday. There are fewer parishioners giving every week.

In our current fiscal year, which started July 1, 2018, we are averaging about \$600 less per week than we need to pay our regular bills. While we are financially sound over all, much of the money we have in the bank can only be used for the upkeep of our buildings, not for salaries, utilities, etc. Long term, a parish must be able to have a balanced budget, paying for its usual expenses from its weekly offertory. With limited staff and no costly parish activities, we have already trimmed the budget as far as possible without taking more significant steps.

So while there are significant reasons to give thanks to God for the financial situation at our parish, and to see that God is with us and to know that if we are faithful to Him, He will provide for us, I also see, especially as I listen to the leaders of our parish, that we need to take new action now.

I wanted to bring this to everyone's attention because this is your parish. I know that you have a great love of it, for our Catholic faith and for our merciful God. I am constantly grateful for the boundless generosity on the part of so many of you. One suggestion I will offer: If you are not currently tithing 5% of your income to the parish (and 10% over all), please consider increasing your offertory. If you are already giving at this level, please prayerfully consider if God is inviting you to give a little more. May God bless you and our parish abundantly this week. —Fr. Jon

GROW + GO

**Grow - Study....the faith.
Women of the Magnificat:
A Contemplative Retreat for Women
St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt MI
November 16-18, 2018**

Come away and spend some quiet time with Mary and Elizabeth in preparation for the Advent and Christmas season at this silent retreat. Topics covered include Church Teaching on the Magnificat, The Annunciation, Mary's Fiat, and The Visitation. Daily Mass is offered, as well as the opportunity for Reconciliation and Spiritual Direction. Cost is \$175 per person with \$25 due at registration as a non-refundable deposit. This includes all lodging, meals, and materials. Register online at www.stfrancis.ws or call 517-669-8321

GROW + GO

**Grow - Serve....others' needs
St. Mary's Angel Tree**

St. Mary's Angel Tree program is returning this year. If you or someone you know may need extra help with their children's Christmas gifts, please contact Becky Landris at 989-288-6265 as soon as possible. Thank you.

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass Schedule

Monday, October 22 - No Mass

Tuesday, October 23 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Bob Tillson by Michael & Brenda Wells

Wednesday, October 24 - St. Joseph

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

Mass - 8:30am - Jerry Woodard by Maureen Schisler

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

Thursday, October 25 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Anne & Donald Drake by family

Friday, October 26 - No Mass

SPECIAL NOTE:

Fr. Jon will not be available this day.

Saturday, October 27 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 5:00pm - Mike Deters (Living) by Marilyn Marsh

Sunday, October 28

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Charles Klein by Maureen Schisler

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

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.

Roy Beville, Janette Borke, Samantha Allen, Brandon Rios, Cindy Goad, Sandy Corron, Curt Rivard, Jean O'Bannon, Joe Lezovich, Alex Proulx.



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.

GROW + GO

Grow - Pray....every day

All Saints Day -

November 1, 2018 - Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times:- 8.30am - St. Mary, 7.00 pm - St. Joseph

GROW + GO

**Grow - Serve....others' needs
CPR/AED TRAINING**

On Monday, November 5, 2018, the Knights of Columbus #7955 will be hosting a CPR/AED training session at St. Mary Parish Basement Hall from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Even though all are invited to attend, we urge all Ushers, Greeters, Parish Staff, and teachers to attend. This is free to all. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions. Light refreshments will be provided.

From the Pen of the Pastor



Dear brothers and sisters,

By now most of you have heard the unexpected news: On November 15, I am leaving to go be the pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine in Flushing and Good Shepherd in Montrose.

As this is such surprising news and there are so many priests, parishes, and “moving parts” involved, I thought it might be helpful to share again some of the details that have unfolded over the last week.

On Thursday 10/11 at 2:10pm, I got a call from Bishop Boyea. He asked me to go as pastor to St. Robert in Flushing and Good Shepherd in Montrose. I was stunned, to put it mildly. I didn’t really know what to say, except, can I call my spiritual director and talk to him before giving you an answer?

See, early that day the Bishop posted a statement that Fr. Mark Ingot, the pastor at St. Thomas/St. John’s in East Lansing, who has been on administrative leave for the past month, submitted his resignation as pastor to Bishop Boyea. You might remember that Fr. Mark went on leave because of a credible claim of sexual harassment by a co-worker. Fr. Mark, in resigning, also asked the bishop to extend his leave from public ministry to continue in therapy.

So, Bishop asked Fr. Gordon Reigle, who is the pastor at St. Robert’s and Good Shepherd, to go be the pastor at St. Thomas/St. John. He asked me to go to St. Robert and Good Shepherd, and then he asked Fr. Daniel Westerman to come be the pastor here at St. Mary & St. Joseph.

Well, after talking to my spiritual director and processing just a bit this unexpected request, I told the bishop, “Yes.” Yes, *not because I want to leave here*, but because I didn’t think I should say no. See, in being ordained, I already said Yes to the bishop, to whatever he needs from me, as long as he doesn’t ask me to do something sinful. He wasn’t doing that so I knew I should say yes even though I was—and still am!—in a daze.

So, I told Bishop Boyea yes, as did Fr. Gordon and Fr. Dan Westerman. Normally, priest moves happen in the summer, at the end of June. The bishop asked for this move to happen soon, so that St. Thomas/St. John’s isn’t without a pastor. Seeing that Advent is coming up, which wouldn’t be a good time to try to switch parishes, he asked that we make this move on Nov. 15. Yes, as I told the bishop, that’s opening day of gun deer season.

On Nov 15, then, I will be leaving to go to St. Robert and Good Shepherd to be the pastor for those two parishes and Fr. Dan Westerman will be coming here. I will be working with Fr. Dan to help make this transition as smooth, peaceful, and grace-filled as possible. I will need your help in all this. I will be working with Paul and Sandy to communicate everything as best we can. Thank you in advance for all the ways I know you will help me and welcome Fr. Dan.

Fr. Dan is at Holy Family in Grand Blanc right now. He was ordained in 2014, and he entered the seminary right out of high school. Before being at Holy Family, Fr. Dan was at St. Thomas/St. John’s in East Lansing. Like me, when I came here from Holy Family, this will be his first assignment as a pastor. The bishop likes to give guys a year as parish administrator before installing them officially as pastor, but his duties will be the same.

I know one question that many have asked me is “Why all these moves?” Why move three priests, not even counting the one who will be taking Fr. Dan’s place (he hasn’t been named yet)? Why not just move one? Well, I can’t speak fully for the bishop, but I did ask him, “Why are you asking me to go to St. Robert & Good Shepherd? He said four things: first, that I had experience leading two parishes. Second, he thought it would be a good challenge for me to have a school, which St. Robert’s does. Third, it would keep me in the Flint area, where I have been my whole priesthood. And Fourth, he said he thought I was good at administration.

In talking to Fr. Gordon, he expressed that Bp. Boyea wanted him to go to St Thomas/St. John because he thought Fr. Gordon has gifts that will help the parish heal and deal with the painful way that Fr. Mark has left. Also, Fr. Gordon knows many there and has experience in working with youth/college aged adults, which is kinda important for the parish in charge of MSU.

So to get the right priest at St. Thomas/St. John meant moving Fr. Gordon, which lead to my move, which lead to Fr. Dan coming here. Not perfect, but God is still present, still good, still faithful, and still working in our midst.

As I shared last Sunday, I do see God’s hand at work in this, even though there is great sadness on my part, a sadness that many of you have expressed to me on your part too. More than anything, though, I am grateful for the time I have had with you, the new friendships in Jesus that I have with you. This past week we heard Jesus promise us:

There is no one who has given up houses, or sisters or brothers, or fathers or mothers or children or lands for my sake and the sake of the Gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in the present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and eternal life in the age to come. (Mk 10:29-30)

I know that promise to be true, and so I am encouraged in my faith, reminded that Jesus is our good and faithful God with us and that all his promises are true and certain. If I had not said yes to Jesus calling me to be a priest I would not have come here, I would not have gained so many brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers and children in all of you. And in Jesus, we know that what we must let go of in this life is never lost fully, but received back fully glorified in eternal life. May we all stay faithful to God so that we might receive what he died to share with us. I hope and pray that you feel the same way.

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time: Jesus, I offer by prayers for vocations.



Knights of Columbus: Mass on Nov. 7 for deceased Knights
 All Knights, wives, families and widows are invited to a special Mass in November (the month we pray in a special way for those who have died) for all Knights and their wives who have gone before us. Mass will be Wednesday November 7 at 7:00pm at our St. Mary church. More details to come.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry
Volunteers Needed:
 The next food distribution is on November 3. Volunteers are needed for unloading. Initial food packaging (packers) and building setup takes place on Friday, November 2 at 6:00pm. On distribution day, we gather at 8:30am in the education building. 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.
 Thank you again for your continued support. God Bless.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
Food Distribution:
 The next St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry distribution will be on November 3. Appointments will be taken October 22 – October 26; Mon.- Fri. from 9:00am - 5:00pm. For an appointment, call St. Mary Church at [1 \(855\)-288-6704](tel:18552886704) ext. = 7017 and follow the instructions on the answering service. To receive food you must have an appt. and live in the following areas: Byron, Bancroft, Durand, Corunna, Lennon, Vernon or Gaines. The distribution will take place at the St. Mary Education Building, 700 Columbia Dr., Durand. If you or someone you know is in need of food, please call [1 \(855\)-288-6704](tel:18552886704) for an appointment. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 There will be a **Parish Council Meeting** on Tuesday, Oct 23, at 7:00pm at St Mary church in the gathering space.



GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 The Durand St. Mary Knights of Columbus Council 7955 is temporarily changing their monthly business meeting from the first Thursday to the second Thursday of the Month at 7:00pm. This change will stay in place as long as there is a Reparation mass on the first Thursday. Thank You. K of C council 7955

Sponsor of the Week
OWOSSO CARPET CENTER, INC.

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!

 October 28 bulletin cut off is Mon., October 22 by 10:00am. bulletinmj@gmail.com

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 The Mother Teresa Group is planning our second annual Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, Nov. 3. We are looking for crafters and vendors interested in renting tables for this event. This year tables will rent for \$25. The Mother Teresa Group is also looking for crafts to sell at our table. If you have something to donate, please contact any of the ladies. Lunch will be available as well as a bake sale. Table rentals are available. Please contact Jill Rohner for additional information at 810-836-1557

GROW + GO **Grow - Study....the faith**
 Ladies: You are cordially invited to attend the 6th Annual Diocese of Lansing Catholic Women's Conference entitled "Arise My Beloved" on Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 9:00am until 5:00pm at the Lansing Center. Join speakers Father Chris Alar and Kelly Wahlquist, musician Melanie Rea, emcee Erin Looby Carlson, Bishop emeritus Carl Mengeling, and Bishop Earl Boyea. We provide lunch, shopping, music, Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Mass. Please join your sisters, daughters, and friends as we explore the deep treasure we have as a Catholic church. For more information and to register please visit www.LansingDioceseCWC.org.



GROW + GO **Grow - Engage....in parish life**
EVELYN SMALLBLADDER
 Comedy Show! For an evening of lots of side splitting laughter. Tickets \$10.00, will be sold after each Mass and at the door. Save the date Thursday, October 25, St. Mary's hall. Doors open at 6:00pm, show at 7:00pm.



GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 The Altar Society will be selling Rohllicky (nut crescent pastry) after all Masses on October 27 and 28. Order early so you won't miss out on these fine pastries. They go fast!

 **Parish Support for the weekend of Oct. 14**

Oct. 14 offering (general collection).....	\$4,725.00
Energy.....	\$205.00
Outreach.....	\$35.00
Building Debt.....	\$231.00
Mother Teresa Group bake sale.....	\$355.00

PLEASE NOTE: Since we are in our sixteenth month since St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishes merged and changed our name to **St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish**, we are asking for those parishioners that make their donations by check, to please start writing their checks out to St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish if you haven't already. At some point, Sagelink Credit Union (our banking institution) will be requiring that all checks be made out to our new name. Please keep this in mind when writing out your donation checks. Thank you so much. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Williamson at the office at 1-855-288-6704 Ext 7001