



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.

Rest In Peace

We pray for Jack Morency

Husband to Barbara, father to Jack-lynn and Julia

...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.

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.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve....others' needs

Heartbeat of Greater Flint is an organization that was created after Roe versus Wade. If we are going to promote Women respecting life, we must be available to assist them. At heartbeat, we provide diapers, formula, clothing, car seats, and furniture (new and gently used).

There is a great need for all these items as we work strictly off donations. There is a donation box provided in both gathering areas. If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Mary Deering 810-513-7399 or Karrie Johnston 810-735-1827.

The family of Charles Klein would like to extend an invitation to a memorial service in his honor. There will be a Mass intention for Charles Klein at 8:30am on Sunday, November 11. We will have a memorial service at 10:00am at the St. Joseph gathering space, followed by a light brunch.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve....others' needs

There will be special training for *Homebound Ministry* that will be on Sat, Nov. 10 from 10:00am-11:00am at St Mary church. This training is for anyone who is active in this ministry, and for anyone who would like to learn more about this important ministry. A luncheon will be provided.

Welcome new Parishioners to St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish
Josh and Bridget Cannon - Owosso



GROW + GO

Grow - Engage....in parish life

St. Mary Advent by Candlelight, Sunday, November 25, 5:00pm in the church basement. Please sign up to host a table or come as a guest. Sign up sheets are in the gathering space. For more info, call Pam Corwin 989-288-4009 .

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass Schedule

Monday, November 5 - No Mass

Tuesday, November 6 - St. Mary

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

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

Wednesday, November 7 - St. Joseph

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

Mass - 8:30am - Ann Berger (birthday) by Marie Dyer

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

Thursday, November 8 - St. Mary

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

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

Thursday, November 8 - St. Mary

Special Mass for Healing Reparation - 6:30pm - For Reparation, Healing and Conversion. There will be Eucharistic Adoration with praise and worship immediately following Mass

Friday, November 9 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Carl & Kevin Purdy by the family

Friday, November 9 - Senior Care Center (rescheduled due the funeral held on November 2)

Mass - 10:30am - First Responders and Healthcare workers

Saturday, November 10 - St. Mary

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

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

Sunday, November 11

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Charles Klein by Bob Jonckheere and McGuire Family

St. Mary Mass - 11:30am - Bill & Cletis Nall by Joe & Patty Guzniczak

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.

Toby Versola, Roy Beville, Janette Borke, Samantha Allen, Brandon Rios, Cindy Goad, Sandy Corrion, Curt Rivard, Jean O'Bannon, and 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.

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time Prayer...



...Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. 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 brothers and sisters,

Well, this is the penultimate weekend for me, and so this is my second to last bulletin article with you. I think, more than anything, I want to take some time in these final two weeks to express my thanks to all of you as a parish and individually. It has been too short a time as your priest, but how can I not give thanks for the gift of having been sent here and now knowing all of you?

I am grateful to God, of course, for sending me to St. Mary and St. Joseph parish (at the time, St. Mary and St. Joseph *parishes*). I am grateful too, however, to all of *you* and for the blessing you have been to me. I am grateful for all the ways that you

have helped me grow in faith, hope and love, and, I pray, grown at being a happier, holier, and better priest.

I am grateful for having been able to bring you Jesus and God's mercy and abundant life in the Sacraments. I am thankful for having been able to serve you, even though imperfectly. One thing that I always seem to remember when I am aware of all the ways I could have been a better priest to you (and less of a sinner), is, "Better to have tried to love and serve and done it poorly than to have never tried at all. Better to be a priest who misses the mark at times than to have never become a priest in the first place!" I think it was G.K. Chesterton who said: "If a thing is worth doing, it's worth doing badly." Same idea. So I am grateful for having had the chance to be your priest, even though a part of me wants to have done more and done it better.

As I started to write this, I was listing all the people that I wanted to thank, and I realized as the list grew and grew that I don't have close to enough room! Plus, I know there are so many ways that you have blessed me and our parish that I have forgotten about, and I didn't want to leave those folks out. Also, it began to feel like some sort of thank you at an award ceremony. Not what I was going for. So, I'll have to find another way to thank you all individually.

For now, let me thank you for the ways that you have lived our faith. One of the greatest consolations of being a parish priest for me is being able to experience being with someone, and even more with a group of people, who are passionate about loving God, whose faith is alive in their hearts. I know even from my own life that we all experience times of doubt, times of uncertainty or worse, times when God seems unreal. And I know as a priest the importance and blessing it is to be constantly looking to reach out to the lost sheep, to boldly share the faith with others who don't believe in God (or our God), and to help strengthen the faith of those whose faith is weak. These moments and relationships can and do bring joy to my life also.

But there is something special, at least for me, in those times, whether at the church, in someone's home, or just wherever in the world, when it is clear that everyone is coming together for the same reason: to be with and follow Jesus: to worship God, to come to Him confidently with all our needs, to love one another and encourage one another in living our faith, to find new ways to share our faith, to enjoy one another's company, to simply allow God to love us and fill us with His Spirit. These moments carry a special joy and consolation.

While I first experienced my calling to the priesthood as a calling to be with Jesus in a special way, how often the consolations of the moment now come from seeing you all live our faith with joy, while my time with Jesus in prayer is spent with him in the garden of Gethsemane—important prayer, to be sure, but not always immediately consoling. I think it was Paul who talked about how his joy was the people of God and their faithfulness to God. I think this is what he was talking about.

So, Thank You for your faith, hope and love. Thank You for your witness not just to the world but to me and to each other. Don't lose it. Keep seeking God. Keep worshiping God, especially at Sunday Mass. Grow in your faith. Study our faith; it is beautiful and like food for our souls. Encourage one another. Love all others, especially one another and those in need, those who are hurting, abandoned, poor, hopeless. **Put all your hope and trust in Jesus and His merciful love. He is the way to happiness. He is the truth about the Father. He is abundant life.**

May God bless you and our parish abundantly this week.

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% overall), 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

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 – 1-888-308-6252 or cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org .

In addition, you may also report through the law enforcement toll-free reporting hotline at (844) 324-3374 (Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm) or by email at

aginvestigations@michigan.gov

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. 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

Early Thanksgiving Holiday Bulletin Submission Schedule Announcement:

The November 25 bulletin articles need to be submitted no later than Wednesday, November 14 at 2:00pm.

GROW + GO

Grow - Engage....in parish life

Come say thank you and good bye to Fr. Jon after all weekend Masses of Nov. 10 and 11, in the gathering spaces of both churches.



Knights of Columbus: Mass on Wed., 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.

GROW + GO

Grow - Pray.....every day

There will be a half hour class and re-training session for Protecting God's Children on Nov 8 at 7:00pm in the Franklin Hay education building at St. Mary. This is a required retraining for all who help with or work with the youth in the parish. All staff are required to be retrained. Everyone is welcome to participate. Thank you.

GROW + GO

Grow - Engage....in parish life

The Knights of Columbus would like to invite everyone to a luncheon after the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018 at the St. Mary's downstairs. We will be serving and treating everyone to Koegel Coney Dogs, chips, and refreshments. Please bring a passing dish if you wish.

The children will be singing before the 11:30am Mass and we would especially like them and their families to come down and enjoy the camaraderie and festivities. Thank you.

GROW + GO

Grow - Pray....every day

The Gaines K of C will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas Cards and yard signs" during the months of November and December. The cards will range from \$5.00-\$8.00 per box and the yard signs will be \$5.00. They will be after Masses. For more information, call Rich Ockerman at 810-444-9454.



PLEASE NOTE: Since we are in our eighteenth 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 now called **PFCU – Portland Federal 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

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:

Jesus, I pray for conversion of all lost souls.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve.....others' needs

St. Vincent truck will be at St Mary the weekend of Nov 18.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve.....others' needs

There will be a gently used, clean coat drive at the parish. Containers will be placed in each church building as well as in the Franklin Hay education building. Coats will first be offered to the needs of the parish first and then donated. Children and adult coats are needed. Children snow-pants and boots are needed also. Coat drive will run for two weekends Nov 4 and 11.



Dear Rev. Father,
My respectful greetings to you!
I thank you very much for your timely guidance, missionary support and hospitality to the visiting missionary during the mission appeal this year.
On behalf of my Bishop, the priests, the religious and the Catholics of my diocese of Kumbakonam, I convey our deep and prayerful gratitude to Your Reverence and your parishioners.
Requesting your invaluable prayers and blessing,
Yours sincerely in O.L., Fr. M.S. Salva Raj



PARISH SUPPORT FOR THE WEEKEND OF OCT. 28

COLLECTION FOR WEEKEND October 28, 2018	
General Collection (Budgeted weekend Amount).....	\$5,200.00
General Collection (Received).....	\$4,810.00
Shortfall.....	(\$390.00)
Energy.....	\$75.00
Outreach.....	\$131.00
Building Debt.....	\$260.00
World Mission.....	\$50.00
Assumption.....	\$10.00
Help Spread The Faith.....	\$10.00
Altar Society.....	\$10.00

Sponsor of the Week

DiscoverMass.com

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!

Nov. 11 bulletin cut off is Mon., November 5 by 10:00am. bulletinmj@gmail.com

