



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. Dan Westermann Email: fr.danwest@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.

From the Pen of the Pastor...



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
It has been a great first few weeks here at the parish. I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you and the area. I humbly ask for your patience as I do want to learn names, but I may need to be reminded several times. Please, don't be offended if I have to ask for your name for the 4th or 5th time, but I do hope to learn them.

Advent is my favorite liturgical season of the year. It is a time for hopeful waiting- especially a time for vigils. As the days get shorter and shorter, and we are more in darkness, we can wait in prayer for the coming of the Lord's light. He is the light to the nations! As I've been praying about advent commitments, the Lord has been putting on my heart the need for even more prayer. I'm not sure exactly what that will look like, but we will possibly try some times of Eucharistic adoration with added confessions on Saturday mornings for the 3rd and 4th Saturdays in Advent. I encourage you as we begin this season to be taking time to ask the Lord what He is inviting you to do.

Holy Day- A reminder that this Saturday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. Because this is the patronal feast of the US, it is still a holy day even though it bumps up against Sunday. So, to be clear about Mass attendance, it is like the situation with Christmas last year. You need to go to Mass at least once on Friday evening/Saturday and once on Saturday evening/Sunday for both the Immaculate Conception and the Second Sunday of Advent. I get the blessing of seeing you twice!

May you have a blessed week, walking with our Lord. In Christ, Fr. Dan

GROW + GO

Grow - Pray....every day

Mass Intentions - please call the office at St Joseph church if you would like to offer a Mass Intention for dates in December and in the coming months. There are several dates that need to be filled. 989-271-8434.

Rev Joseph Aubin, a Senior Priest of the Diocese of Lansing, has been removed from public ministry due to a credible allegation, dating to the 1960s, of instances of inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature involving a minor. Father Aubin served St Mary Parish, Durand, as Pastor from 1983-2002.

If you or someone you know has been harmed by someone representing the Church, call the police. In addition, you may also report through the law enforcement toll-free reporting hotline at (844) 324-3374 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or by email to aginvestigations@michigan.gov

In cases of sexual abuse of a minor you may contact the diocesan Victim Assistance coordinator, Cheryl Williams-Hecksel, [888-308-6252](tel:888-308-6252) or via e-mail to: cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org

If you have experienced harassment or abuse as a church employee, you may contact the third-party reporting service, Lighthouse by calling the hotline at [844-446-0009](tel:844-446-0009).

You may also contact the diocesan Director of Human Resources, Lisa Kutas at [517-342-2511](tel:517-342-2511), or via e-mail to: lkutas@dioceseoflansing.org

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass Schedule

Monday, December 3 - No Mass

Tuesday, December 4 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - John and Margie Solac by the Bensinger family

Wednesday, December 5 - St. Joseph

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

Mass - 8:30am - Joann Smarney by Frank and Jackie Kondel

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

Thursday, December 6 - St. Mary

Mass - 8:30am - Bob Tillson by Virginia Loomis

First Friday, December 7 - St. Mary - Canceled

Due to evening Mass

Friday, December 7 - St. Joseph (Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass)

Mass - 7:00pm - Crandell Family (living members) by Rita Crandell

Saturday, December 8 - St. Mary (Immaculate Conception Mass)

Mass - 8:30am - Carl, Kevin and Ted Purdy by the family

Saturday, December 8 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 5:00pm - Barry Krembs by Mike & Sharon Mcrae

Sunday, December 9

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Steve and Rene Kondel by Frank and Jackie Kondel

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.

Mike Gentry, Kim Bartes, Brian Sweet, Cindy Goad, Jessica Yanta, Louise Jarrad, Alice Harris, 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.

**Rest In
Peace**

**We pray for
Chuck Harris**

Husband to Alice

...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.

Deacon Wayne's Wonderings

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 2, 2018

Jer 33:14-16 / Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 / 1 Thes 3:12—4:2 / Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay . . .

Well we made it to the beginning of our liturgical year, the first Sunday in Advent and just a few short weeks before Christmas where we celebrate Christ breaking into our world.

So, what's with this gospel telling us of our world sort of collapsing as we know it?

Remember, the wisdom of the advent season is to teach us to watch for Christ coming, not as a child, he did that once. The next time, we will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. The revelation of Christ! And it can happen TODAY, hopefully!

Whenever Christ breaks into our world to reveal himself to us, it will feel like our world is sort of collapsing as we know it. And when He comes, your world will be shaken because he will ask you to change and you know how much we all just love change (wink wink)

So, should I look for Him in a cloud? Or a tremendous storm? Could be, but more often it will be like a whisper.

So, when will he come? On Christmas Day? Or maybe on 1/1/19, or a specific day? Maybe, but the exact answer is any day and every day.

So, if this could happen any day and come as subtle as a whisper, what are we to look for?

What you are to look for is God inviting you to draw closer to him. So, it may;

Look like you working to forgive someone you can't imagine ever forgiving. Or maybe you will take some of your precious time to spend in prayer, to build your relationship with Him. Or maybe by reaching out to someone who has separated themselves from Christ, leading them back to God. Or, helping someone (a stranger) in need.

And that my friends will rock our world. Transforming us. Oh, I know that sounds painful, because it will lead us out of ourselves, our time, our treasure, our talents and put others first.

And that will be the end of the world as you know it and the start of a new one in its place.

So, stay awake, praying always for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth.

Yes, even you.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will break us open and empty us of our darkness, guile. and stubbornness, so that we may be transformed by Gods Mercy this Advent.

December Event Calendar

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Angel Tree	Sat-Sun/ 1-2 nd		St Mary
RCIA	Mon/ 3,10,17 th	7:00pm	St Joseph
Vigil Mass- Immaculate Conception	Fri/ 7 th	7:00pm	St Joseph
Mass- <u>Immaculate Conception</u>	Sat/ 8 th	8:30am	St Mary
<i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>			
Finance Council Meeting	Tues/ 11 th	7:00pm	St Mary
<i>All gifts due back for Giving Tree</i>	Wed/ 12 th	12noon	St Joseph
Food Baskets- Packing baskets	Fri/ 15 th	12 noon	St Joseph Hall
Food Baskets- Pick-up	Fri/ 15 th	1:00pm	St Joseph Hall
<i>All gifts due back for the Angel Tree</i>	Sat, Sun/ 15,16 th	12:30pm	St Mary
Parish Council Meeting	Tues/ 18 th	7:00pm	St Mary

Christmas Masses *Schedule to Follow in Bulletin*

*******Merry Christmas!*******

Life Teen
Life Teen Youth Meeting

Dec 8th
6:15-7:45
St Mary Ed Bldg

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
Dec 6, Thurs, 7pm
Dec 20, Thurs, 7pm
Education Building

St. Joseph
Dec 4th, Tuesday
7pm
St Joseph Hall

Mother Teresa

Group

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

Bake Sale:
Last Sunday -
After 8:30am Mass



St. Joseph Food

Pantry

Wed, 12/5
Wed, 12/19
St Joseph Hall

For unto us
a Child is born,
A son is given

RCIA

Rite of Christian
Initiation for
Adults

Mondays

7pm

St Joseph Church

Choir

St. Mary

Saturdays at 3:30pm
Sundays at 10:30am

St. Joseph

Every Saturday at
10:00am or
as scheduled

CALLING ALL CHILDREN, TEENS, AND ADULTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT ST. JOSEPH.



Bell ringers, singers, speakers, musicians, of all ages are welcome. There is a part for everyone. Practices will most likely be Saturday mornings but may be adjusted if necessary to accommodate those involved. PLEASE CALL Pamela Schaefer, 810-252-5006 if you are interested.

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:
Pray for, bishops, priests, and deacons.



"Everyone" Join in Knights of Columbus 'Light Up for Christ' celebration to kick off the Christmas season at St. Mary church, Tuesday, Dec 4 at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 There will be a **Finance Council** meeting on Tuesday, Dec 11, at 7:00pm at St Mary. Please all council members plan on attending.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve.....others' needs**
 The **St Mary Angel Tree** will be in the gathering space this weekend! Please pick up an angel tag for a needy child in the area, and for any seniors from the senior care facility. Please bring back a wrapped gift with the tag loosely attached and place under the tree. Thank you!

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
The tags for the Giving Tree...
 Are on the tree and available to be picked up, along with the Hat and Mitten tree at St Joseph church.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 St. Mary's Altar Society is in need of a few more ladies to help with cleaning the sacristy in 2019. We need one person for June, October and November and 2 people for July. We clean twice per month and it takes 1-2 hours. Please call Carol Spoor if interested. 989-980-3642.

PLEASE NOTE: Since we are in our twenty second 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

Sponsor of the Week
Knights of Columbus #12186, Gaines
 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!

The First Sunday of Advent Prayer...



...Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. 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.



The Gaines K of C council 12186 will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" Christmas cards and signs during the months 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.



GROW + GO **Grow - Serve...others' needs**
ST. MARY USHERS FOR NOV. 2018
 5:00pm – Sharon & Michael Gould,
 Elaine Cesar and Ann Skunda
 11:30am – Lori Grumley, Renee Walters,
 Tim Trebtoski, Brenda Wells

ST. MARY GREETERS FOR NOVEMBER 2018
 5:00pm – Michael & Sharon Gould
 11:30am – Cindy Midkiff

GROW + GO **Grow - Engage.....in parish life**
 The Advent by Candlelight was a huge success! We would like to thank the presenters: Marie Dyer and Cheryl Quinn, Melanie Rea for doing the music and Nanette Cecil as technician. Also to Sandy Corrión for the excellent job as MC and invocation. We would also like to thank all who attended and brought all of the delicious food. We are blessed to have such a loving supportive church family! Thanks, Mother Teresa Group



Parish Support for the weekend of Nov. 18 & 25

COLLECTION FOR WEEKEND Nov.18, 2018

General Collection (Budgeted weekend Amount).....	\$5,200.00
General Collection (Received).....	\$4,769.70
Shortage.....	(\$430.30)
Energy.....	\$60.00
Outreach.....	\$548.00
Building Debt.....	\$125.00
Human Development.....	\$213.00
Altar Society.....	\$160.00
Cemetery.....	\$1,200.00
Altar Society Bake Sale.....	\$591.28

COLLECTION FOR WEEKEND Nov.25, 2018

General Collection (Budgeted weekend Amount).....	\$5,200.00
General Collection (Received).....	\$5,183.00
Shortage.....	(\$17.00)
Energy.....	\$22.00
Building Debt.....	\$110.00
Outreach.....	\$111.00
All Saints.....	\$20.00
Human Development.....	\$51.00

