



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: stmarydurand.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: stjosephgaines.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,

We have a new website! Now that we are one parish, we needed a shared website. We made the decision to go with a new provider that could offer us a platform that we found more vibrant and inviting. Thank you for your patience and prayers, and a special thank you to those who have worked to get us to this point.

The two main goals of our website are (1) to help all us parishioners get the information we need and communicate with one another, and (2) to help visitors to our parish or the Catholic faith learn a little about us and be inspired to come visit.

We are still adding more content to our website, and want to find new ways to make it even better. So, please let me or someone on our staff know what you think. If you are willing to help out (taking pictures, making videos, helping with text or layout), give us a call at the office and we will get you involved.

This coming Advent, we are going to try something a little different for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Recently, we have offered a one evening Penance service at either our St. Mary church or St. Joseph church. About 30-35 people come. This year, I am going to offer extra times for confession throughout Advent. Hopefully, this will work better for folk's schedules. The times are posted in our gathering spaces, will be on our website, and during Advent in our bulletin.

If you still want to go to a Penance Service, we made a note of nearby ones on the bottom of our Confession schedule sheet. I know Owosso will be having a service on 12/12 at 6:30 PM at St. Joseph because I will be helping out. Whatever you do, give Jesus and your heavenly Father the Christmas gift of accepting His mercy and being healed and reconciled through this necessary and beautiful Sacrament.

This past week, a couple of our Parish Council mem-

**This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:
Jesus I trust in you.**

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. Dereck Monroe, Kim Bartes, Bob Tillson, and John Klim.



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.

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE! Check it out!

Go see our new parish website at www.stmarystjoseph.org Let us know what you think. It's a work in progress and we are excited about the opportunities we have with this new platform. Fr. Jonathan

bers and I went to an afternoon session about initiatives taking place in the near future in our diocese to invite Catholics back to the practice of the faith (and to invite all others to learn more about our faith). These initiatives are practical ways of inviting, welcoming and accompanying those people we have been praying for in a special way over the past year. The over all name: GROW and GO. The GROW part is us *growing* in being disciples of Jesus and the GO part is, of course, us *going* and sharing the faith with others, inviting them to encounter and follow Jesus too.

There will be Catholics Come Home TV ads in our diocese during the month of December and then a slew of different tools we can use at the parish to reach out not only to those we know who have wandered from the practice of the faith, but all others.

One big take away for me, was the fact that the biggest reason why Catholics stop going to Mass every week and regularly living the faith is they got busy. No big decision to leave; they just got out of the habit of living their faith. They miss a week of Mass, then two, then a month, then several months, and suddenly they are not going to Mass or involved in parish life anymore. And even those who go to a Protestant community, often feel the lose of the Eucharist and are looking for more after a few years away.

Often all it takes is loving, patiently persistent, inviting from us for them to come back home. On our part, it takes the conviction that their lives and our lives are better with them here with Jesus and His Church then apart. It takes the conviction that our eternal destinies and happiness are at stake. Don't be afraid: let's support one another in reaching out to all those in our area.

May God bless you and your family abundantly this week.

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass Schedule

Monday, November 13 - No Mass

Tuesday, November 14 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Karen Stinger by Ronald & Vicki Wagner

Wednesday, November 15- St. Joseph

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

Mass - 8:30am - Dcn Lester Arquette by Diocese of Lansing

Thursday, November 16 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Betty Vargo by Kathleen Girgen

Friday, November 17 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Margaret Doyle by Doug & Debbie Drury

Saturday, November 18 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 5:00pm - Alexander Rushka by Annie Ehrnst & Charlie Williams

Sunday, November 19

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners

St. Mary Mass - 11:30am - Janet Young by Michael & Brenda Wells



St. Joseph Liturgical Assignments for Nov. 19

Ministers
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: Jerry & Marge Reed
Sacristans: Jerry & Marge Reed
Lectors: Jim Mathis, Maureen Schisler
Servers: Jared & Johnny Moe

Eucharistic



Adoration

Adoration...

Wednesday, November 29, 7:30-8:30pm, St. Joseph Church.

"And Behold I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20
Come spend an hour before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration is a great time to give thanks for what we have, come to know Jesus more and bring our needs before Him. Join us for a night of music, prayer and praise. There will be a light reception following.



The tags for the Giving Tree...

...will be on the tree and available to be picked up starting Sunday, Nov 19, along with the Mitten Tree at St Joseph Church.

The 8th grade students...

...are preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. Please take a name and pray for them as they continue on their journey. Confirmation is in May being celebrated at St. Paul Church in Owosso. Names are in a basket in the gathering space.



Alpha...

Mark your calendars for 2 more nights of Alpha. Thursday, November 16 & 30 from 7:00pm-8:50pm at St. Mary in the lower level.

Anyone who would like to be...

...on a "Welcoming" committee for "Welcome Home Catholics" please contact Sandy at the St Joseph Church office...989-271-8434.



There will be a gently worn clean coat collection...

...for those who need to be warm this winter. There will be containers in the St. Mary gathering space and in the Franklin Hay Education building. All collected coats will be offered to the area food distributions. Snow pants will be collected also.

Parish Support for the weekend of November 5:



November 5 offerings (general collection).....	\$5,758.53
Outreach.....	\$425.00
Building Debt.....	\$984.00
Improvement.....	\$118.00
World Mission.....	\$5.00
All Saints.....	\$902.00
Online donations for October	\$770.00



Nov. 19 bulletin cut off is Nov. 13 by 9:00am.
bulletinmj@gmail.com

St. Mary Annual Advent by Candlelight...

...will be held on Sunday, November 19, 5:00 pm in the church basement. This is a time to relax and refocus on the season of advent. Our guest speaker is Jane Knuth, author of "Thrift Store Saints: Meeting Jesus 25 cents at a Time". Sign up sheet in the gathering space or call Carol Spoor [989-980-3642](tel:989-980-3642), Lori Grumley [517-927-6531](tel:517-927-6531) for more information. Inviting all women of the parish to come for a great evening.



St. Joseph Annual Advent by Candlelight...

...is coming on Sun., Nov. 19, 5:00pm. Please look for the sign up sheet in the gathering space at St. Joseph Church. We are asking for table sponsors and inviting all the ladies of the Parish to attend. There is a sign up sheet for food also. This event has been well received in the past and if you have never attended, you will be in for a real treat.



Witness to Hope: Questions and Answers

Q: If I have been giving to pay down the St. Joseph Church building loan, should I stop those offerings and direct them to Witness to Hope?

A: No. We still have just under \$189,000 left on our building loan, and our first priority is to pay this off. Our current rate of giving would have this paid off in less than four years, which would be a great blessing. Witness to Hope giving is meant to be extraordinary—in addition to our regular tithing and charitable giving.

Q: I understand the Witness to Hope is a five year campaign and that there was no DSA (Diocesan Service Appeal) this year. Will there be a DSA at all over the next four years?

A: Yes. DSA will start up again in 2018. The 2017 DSA was actually a part of Witness to Hope as the first \$5 million of the diocesan share went to what is normally funded by DSA. In 2018, our DSA will be during the Easter season. Please keep this in mind as you prayerfully consider what gift God is calling you to make to Witness to Hope.

Quick Catholic Question

Question: The Lord says we should pray for our enemies. Is there a special prayer to say for your enemies?

Answer: There are prayers when you want to pray for your enemies. I found this one very helpful:

God our Father, your Son commanded us, "Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you" (Mt 5:44). By dying for all humanity (see Rom 5:10) and asking you to forgive those who crucified Him (see Lk 23:34), Jesus saved us and made us sons and daughters of God.

Following his example, we pray for our enemies known and unknown. We ask that the loving will of God be done in their lives. We summon the Holy Spirit to come into their lives and transform their hearts and OURS. Leading us to peace and reconciliation among all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen
Remember that asking God for help with this, many times, involves us having a change of heart towards others. Don't be surprised if the Holy Spirit leads you first to this resolution.

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

Special Note: Please be advised until further notice do not use the St. Vincent de Paul Group envelopes that are in your monthly envelope packets. There currently is no St. Vincent de Paul Group at St. Mary Church. Thank you.

Sponsor of the Week Ed's Service

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!