



# 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: 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 sisters and brothers,

**I am always inspired by, and grateful for, the quick generosity that exists in our parish.** I was reminded again this weekend as the gifts poured in for families in need. This was doubly true of the many of you who eagerly

stepped up at the last minute at our 11:30am Mass to provide gifts for some tags remaining from the tree at St. Joseph. With our Angel Tree absent this year, it was a testament to the love that exists among us. May we all be as generous to share the gift of our faith with those we meet as we are to share the gift of our treasure.

**A big thank you to our Knights of Columbus councils and our Altar Society and Mother Theresa group for their tireless work in caring for our parish needs, and the needs of the wider community.** These men and women are a great example of our faith in action. From keeping our facilities safe, maintained and clean, to supporting our youth and children, to reaching out to care for those in need (in all sorts of ways), these groups and parishioners make up the backbone of our parish. Every woman is invited to be a part of the Altar Society and/or our Mother Theresa group. And what about the Knights?

**I applaud our Knights councils in recently working to find a way to make a college scholarship program that can be supported by both councils and benefiting our entire parish.** If you are a Catholic man, over 18, and not yet a Knight of Columbus, I encourage you to become one. Being one can help you be a better husband, a better citizen, and above all a better Catholic.

**It's the last week of Advent!** One of the gifts and purposes of Advent is so that our amazement and gratitude over Jesus' coming can be renewed and deep-

ened. In this way, our celebration of Christmas will be even more fruitful. What astounding good news that God became one of us to crush our enemy, to heal the wounds of sin, to reconcile us with God and one another, to destroy death and win for us divine life—eternal happiness. Ask for the grace to be amazed anew, then take some time this week to meditate on Jesus' birth... and all that it means for us. What a God we have. What a blessing our faith in Him is!

**May God bless you and your family abundantly this week.**

## St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass & Reconciliation Schedule

**Monday, December 18 - No Mass**

**Tuesday, December 19 - St. Mary**

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

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

**Wednesday, December 20 - St. Joseph**

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

**Mass - 8:30am - David Hollenbeck Jr by Frank & Jackie Kondel**

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation - St. Joseph**

9:00am to 9:30am

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation - St. Mary**

7:00pm to 8:00pm

**Thursday, December 21 - St. Mary**

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

**Mass - 8:30am - Margaret Doyle by Ann Marie Young & family**

**Friday, December 22 - St. Mary**

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

**Mass - 8:30am - Jean Vandendries by Joe & Karen Lezovich**

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation - St. Mary**

1:30pm to 2:00pm AND 7:00pm to 8:00pm

**Saturday, December 23- St. Mary**

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

10:00am AND 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Mass - 5:00pm - Elton Loomis by Virginia Loomis**

**Sunday, December 24**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**St. Joseph Masses**

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation - 8:00am to 8:20am**

8:30am - Floyd Tymrak by Rita Crandell

**St. Mary Masses**

10:00am (note earlier time) - St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners

**Christmas Eve**

**St. Mary Masses**

4:00pm - Joel Trimble by family

12:00am (midnight) - Jennie DeNolf by friends of Jennie

**St. Joseph Masses**

6:00pm - Brendon Fitch by Family



### Campaign Update

We are excited to announce that we have raised **\$301,573**

from **154** households: **88%** of goal!

**Help Us Raise \$43,000 to Reach Goal**

If **15 families** make a pledge of **\$600** over five years,

we will hit our goal!

Please visit [www.witnesstohope.net](http://www.witnesstohope.net) to make your contribution!



**St. Joseph Liturgical Assignments for December 24 & 25**

*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.*

**December 24 - 8:30am**

Eucharistic Ministers: Frank Kondel, Gayle Stanis, Sue Jaskiewicz

Sacristans: Frank Kondel, Gayle Stanis

Lectors: Maureen Schisler, Jim Mathis

Servers: Kirklynd Lake, Volunteer

**December 24 - 6:00pm**

Sign up sheets will be in the Gathering Space

**December 25 - 9:00am**

Sign up sheets will be in the Gathering Space

**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. Theresa Turski, Jim Elford, Jennifer Monroe, Judy Fortino, Bill & Rosemary Gumble, Loretta Clifford, Mabel Hart, Casimir Hincka, David Hincka, and Marge Reed.



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.**

**Advance Christmas Mass Schedule... Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Saturday, December 23, 5:00pm Mass - St. Mary

Sunday, December 24, 8:30am Mass - St. Joseph

Sunday, December 24, 10:00am Mass - St. Mary

**Christmas Eve Masses - Sunday, December 24**

3:30pm - Children's Christmas Play - St. Mary

4:00pm - Mass St. Mary

6:00pm - Mass St. Joseph

12:00am - Midnight Mass St. Mary

**Christmas Day Masses - Monday, December 25**

9:00am - Mass St. Joseph

11:00 - Mass St. Mary

Daily Masses resume Tuesday, December 26, 8:30am St. Mary

**New Years Day Mass - Monday, January 1**

10:00am - Mass St. Mary

**Register for Alpha**



Save the date for our 8 week Alpha series starting January 3 from 10:00am-noon at St. Mary. Alpha gives guests a relaxed and low-key opportunity to explore the meaning of life. Each session includes food, a short DVD presentation and then time for discussion in a friendly small group. Know someone who might benefit from Alpha? Invite them, and come with them!

Register by contacting Adriana Lindgren at the parish office at (855) 288-6704. Space is limited and registration is on a first come first serve basis.

**Working Hands Ministry...**

will not have its regular schedule during December. It will resume in the Education Building at St. Mary on Wednesday, Jan. 10, from 7-8:30pm and Thursday, Jan. 11, from 1-2:30pm. We are in great need of yarn. A shawl or lapghan takes 3-4 skeins of yarn in one color or coordinating shades. We would appreciate yarn in any color and we usually use regular weight, 4 ply, yarn. We look forward to the new year of meeting to knit, crochet and pray together. Please join us.

**Christmas Decorators...**

...needed for St Joseph's for Sat., Dec. 23 at 10:00am, and after Mass on Sun., Dec 24. Please sign up in the gathering space.

**ST. MARY USHERS FOR JANUARY**

5:00pm – Jim Morency, Diana Lippstrew, Gary & Lois Crawford

11:30am – Tom Gomos, Brenda Wells, Lori Grumley & Tim Trebtoske

**ST. MARY GREETERS FOR JANUARY**

5:00pm – Peggy Lewis  
11:30am – Renee Walters



**Parish Support for the weekend of December 10**

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>December 10 offerings (general collection).....</b> | <b>\$5,917.00</b> |
| Immaculate Conception.....                             | \$758.00          |
| Building Debt.....                                     | \$371.00          |
| Improvement.....                                       | \$5.00            |
| Energy.....  | \$203.00          |
| Outreach.....  | \$260.00          |
| St. Vincent de Paul.....                               | \$13.00           |
| Share in the Care.....                                 | \$167.00          |

**CALLING ALL BELL RINGERS AND CHRISTMAS SINGERS**

Plans are underway for the 6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass at St. Joseph. We welcome young, old, and in-between to be part of the music for our liturgical celebration. Practice times will be on weekends, exact days/times yet to be determined.

Please contact Pamela Schaefer  
pjschaefer@gmail.com or call at 810-252-5006.

**Sponsor of the Week**

**R.S. Green Agency**

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!

**Special Bulletin Cut off Dates:**

**Early cut off notifications:**  
Dec. 24 cut off was Fri., Dec. 15.  
Dec. 31 cut off is Fri., Dec. 22 by 10:00am.  
bulletinmj@gmail.com