



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

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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 brothers and sisters,

While there was no official end date for our diocesan Witness to Hope campaign, the beginning of Lent seemed a good time to conclude activities here at our parish. I want to thank the 170 households from our parish who participated. Your generosity and sacrifice will go to benefit our parish and people throughout our diocese for decades to come. On behalf of those who will be blessed: thank you. thank you. thank you!

You may recall that our parish goal was \$344,479. This amount was the combined Sunday offertory from St. Joseph and St. Mary from July 2014-June 2015. We reached over \$307,000 in pledges, which is 90% of our goal. With 170 households participating, this puts us over 42% of the parish, which is well above the diocesan average of 33%. Bravo! Of the \$307,000 pledged, around \$129,000 will come back to our parish (42% of the total).

Personally, I think the amount that our parishioners' pledged is a great success for two big reasons. First, we as a parish had just finished a campaign to pay down the St. Joseph church building loan. Most parishes in our diocese were not in this situation, with some not having had a campaign in decades. Second, since going to two Masses on Sunday from three, the number of parishioners and givers has decreased, as you are aware. This means that compared to our projected Sunday offertory for this year, which is around \$285,000, we have well exceeded this amount. This too is a change that most other parishes did not go through. **So while I suppose it is nice to meet and exceed goals, even those set by others, in my mind, because of the reality of our situation, we have done as much as, or more than, many others parishes.** Finally, we know it is not the amount given but the sacrifice made that matters to God. Think about Jesus's words praising the tithe of the widow (see Lk 21:1-4); she who gave far less money gave far more in God's eyes. My prayer is that all our gifts were of value in this

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.

Dorothy Spiekermann, Debbie Love, Teresa Chesney, Lucas Corwin, Steve Doyle, Robert Cormier, Jacqueline Calhoun, Raymond Calhoun Jr., John Reaume, Samantha Allen, Pat Elliott, Kathy Root, Brian Jones, and Jerry Reed II.

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.

respect, which is truly only known by God and the giver.

As a diocese, there is now over \$80,000,000 pledged! Amazing! This is a sign that the faith is alive in our part of Michigan and that there will be resources to help pass on the faith and announce the Gospel for decades to come. What a gift it is to be Catholic!

Looking forward, in a few months our parish will receive its first installment from your gifts. I don't have an exact number to give you, but I believe it will be around \$20,000. We will be dedicating these funds to those we presented during the campaign, from refreshing our savings to a variety of projects. One important one from a safety perspective is lights for the St. Joseph parking lot, so this may be the first project to be addressed. Our Finance and Parish councils will be helping me determine the order in which we address the projects.

One new question is what to do about the elevator at St. Mary's church. We had hoped to use some of the funds to improve the elevator. Since making these plans, however, we have found that this project would cost many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Further planning is needed to decide how best to proceed. Please keep this in your prayers and I welcome all your ideas and suggestions.

May God bless your Lenten journey this week.

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Mass Schedule

Monday, February 26 - No Mass

Tuesday, February 27 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Shirley Merdyke by Tim Trebtoske

Wednesday, February 28 - St. Joseph

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

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Rod Sedlak by Kathy Root

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

Thursday, March 1 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Irene Stiles by Betty Brandford

First Friday, March 2 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Elmer "Andy" Anderson by family & friends

Saturday, March 3 - St. Mary

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

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

Sunday, March 4

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Carl Schisler by Ron and Marcia Bartlett and family

St. Mary Mass - 11:30am - Ellis & Isabelle Bowler by Tom & Jane Bowler

March Event Calendar

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Photos for Directory	Fri, 9th	10am	St Mary
K of C Lenten Dinner	Fridays, 2 - 30 th	5pm	St Joseph Hall
Stations of the Cross	Fri, 2 - 23 rd	7:00pm	St Mary
Confession & Reconciliation	Fri, 2 - 23 rd	6:30-7pm	St Mary
		7:30-8pm	St Mary
24 Hours for the Lord	Fri- Sat, 9-10 th	5pm	St Mary
Penance Service	Wed, 14 th	7pm	St Mary
Finance Council Meeting	Tues, 20 th	7pm	St Joseph
Marriage Date Night	Sat 24 th	6:30pm	St Mary
Parish Council Meeting	Tues, 27 th	7pm	St Mary
Holy Thursday Mass	Thurs, 29 th	7pm	St Mary
Good Friday	Fri, 30 th	12noon	St Mary
Holy Saturday Vigil Mass	Sat, 31 st	8:35pm	St Mary
Easter Sunday Mass	Sun, April 1 st	9am	St Joseph
Easter Sunday Mass	Sun, April 1 st	11am	St Mary

Life Teen

Life Teen Mass

Sunday, Mar 4th

8:30am Mass, St Joseph

Sunday, Mar 25th

6-9pm

Joint Youth Night at

Holy Family, Grand Blanc

Rosary

St. Mary:

Gathering space, Tues., 1:30pm

St. Joseph:

Sun. before 8:30am Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet

St. Mary-Fridays at 9am

Litany to the Sacred Heart-

First Fridays

K of C

St. Mary

Mar 1st, 7pm

Mar 15, 7pm

Education Building

St. Joseph

Mar 6, Tuesday

7pm

St Joseph Hall

Mother Teresa

Meeting:

St. Joseph

First Tuesday at

6:30pm

Bake Sale:

Last Sunday -

9:30am

Working Hands

Ministry

Wed, 3-7, 3-21

7pm-8pm

Thurs,

3-8, 3-22

1pm-2pm

St Mary Education

Building

St. Joe Food

Pantry

1st & 3rd Wed.

9:30am, St. Joe Hall

Monday Night

Scripture

6:30pm, St Mary

Religious

Education

St Mary

Education Building

Sundays

9:45 am-11:15 am

Choir

St. Mary

Thursdays at 6:30pm

Saturdays at 3:45pm

Sundays at 10:30am

St. Joseph

Every Saturday

At 10:00am

Quick Catholic Question

Question: So why is it that the Church instructs Catholics to abstain from meat on Fridays (as well as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday), but gives the “thumbs-up” for Catholics to eat fish? Sounds fishy to me 😊

Answer: According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the laws of the Church classify the abstinence from “land animals.”

Abstinence laws consider that meat comes only from animals such as chickens, cows, sheep or pigs — all of which live on land. Birds are also considered meat.

Fish, on the other hand, are not in that same classification.

Fish are a different category of animal. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles (cold-blooded animals) and shellfish are permitted.

In Latin the word used to describe what kind of “meat” is not permitted on Fridays is *carnis*, and specifically relates to “animal flesh” and never included fish as part of the definition. Additionally, fish in these cultures was not considered a “celebratory” meal and was more of a penance to eat.

Our current culture is much different as meat is generally considered the cheaper option on the menu and no longer has the cultural connection to celebrations. This is why many people are confused about the regulations, especially those who love to eat fish and do not consider it a penance.

In the end, the Church’s intention is to encourage the faithful to offer up a sacrifice to God that comes from the heart and unites one’s suffering to that of Christ on the cross. Meat is given as the very basic penance, while the purpose of the regulation should always be kept in mind. For example, it does not necessarily give a person the license to eat a lobster dinner every Friday in Lent. The whole point is to make a sacrifice that draws a person closer to Christ, who out of love for us made the ultimate sacrifice a person can make.

Also see (Summa Theologica II-II q. 147, a. 8.)

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

St. Joseph Liturgical Assignments for March 4



Eucharistic Ministers: Life Teen
 Sacristans: Life Teen
 Lectors: Life Teen
 Servers: Life Teen

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:
St. Teresa, teach us to appreciate the "little things".

RCIA (Right of Christian Initiation for Adults)...

...Anyone wanting to enter the Catholic Church or wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith, please contact Dcn Wayne at the parish office 989-271-8434.



ATTENTION ALL CRAFTERS

St. Mary Altar Society Annual Raffle and Bake Sale will be held in March. We are asking our talented parishioners to get ready to donate craft items. We would appreciate the items by March 3 and will be collecting them in the St. Mary gathering space. Our Raffle and Bake Sale will be held on March 17 & 18. Please call Patty Dotson at [989-413-2111](tel:989-413-2111) or Renee Walters at [989-251-3125](tel:989-251-3125) with any questions. We really appreciate you sharing your talents!



ST. MARY USHERS FOR MARCH

5:00pm – Leonard & Pam Corwin,
 Elaine Cesar, Claudia Holek
 11:30am – Joe & Patty Guzniczak,
 Renee Walters

ST. MARY GREETERS FOR MARCH

5:00pm – Denise Maranzano
 11:30am – Beth Butcher

Grow and Go...

You are invited to Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:00pm at St Mary's. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered at 6:30pm and 7:30pm. Encounter Jesus in His Passion in this special time during Lent.



Heartbeat's 39th Annual IRISH NIGHT...

...will be Sun, Mar. 11 at 5:00pm at Holy Family in Grand Blanc. Reservations are required \$25 pp. Please call Dan at [248-390-3756](tel:248-390-3756) for more information.

Sponsor of the Week

Monroe Point Shell

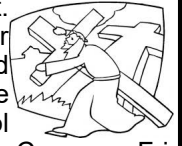
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March 4 cut off is February 26 by 10:00am
bulletinmj@gmail.com

Stations of the Cross Religious Ed Presentation...

The 6th, 7th & 8th graders will be presenting the Living Stations on Thursday, March 8 at 7:00pm at St. Mary church. Please come and support our students. Light refreshments will be served following in the lower level of the church. Because of this middle school presentation, there will be no Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 9. Thank you.



Fasting and Abstinence...

...This means every Catholic (except for medical reasons, like sickness or pregnancy) from 18 years old until you turn 59 is supposed to fast, and every Catholic from 14 years old and up is to abstain from eating meat. In addition, all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat, and the entire season of Lent is a penitential time. It is a praiseworthy practice for parents to find suitable ways for their younger children to also enter into the penitential nature of these days.



Fish and Soup Dinners....

...will be held every Friday during Lent, 5:00pm until 7:30pm at the St. Joseph Hall and will continue until Good Friday. Fish dinner is \$10. Shrimp dinner is \$11. Fish & Shrimp dinner is \$11.

Lenten Inspirations

Lent: A time for being renewed as disciples of Jesus and children of God through Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. **The goal of Lent:** to arrive at Easter more full of God's love and more in love with God and all others.



Fasting: "Dear friends, what the Christian should be doing at all times should be done now with greater care and devotion, so that the Lenten fast enjoined by the apostles may be fulfilled, not simply by abstinence from food but above all by the renunciation of sin." —St. Leo the Great

Parish Support for the weekend of February 18



February 18 offerings (general collection).....	\$5,237.60
Ash Wednesday.....	\$1,169.00
Initial Offering.....	\$185.00
Outreach.....	\$1,168.00
Building Debt.....	\$400.00
Energy.....	\$130.00
Home Missions.....	\$144.00
Worldwide Evangelization.....	\$5.00



Our Final Numbers

We had **170** households pledge **\$307,553**. **THANK YOU!** \$307,553 was **90%** of our goal, of which **\$129,172 (42% of the total)** will remain here at our parish. As a diocese, over **\$80,000,000** has been pledge. Wow!