



# 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.

*From the Pen of the Pastor...*



Dear brothers and sisters,  
I will be traveling to California this coming week for the college graduation of the eldest daughter of my good friends. She has become quite an amazing young woman, and she happens to be graduating from the same college I went to—Thomas Aquinas College—now 23 years after me. Life is sure odd at times. Please welcome Msgr. Groshek, Fr. Tom Thompson and Fr. Bob Kolenski in my absence. Note that there will not be Eucharistic Exposition/Adoration before the daily Masses while I am away.

**Looking ahead a couple weeks**, don't forget that we will have a Memorial Day Mass at our St. Joseph Cemetery (weather permitting) at 9:00am on Monday, May 28, Memorial Day. Please bring a chair to sit in. If the weather is bad, we will have Mass inside at our St. Joseph church.

**First Communions and Confirmations single the end of another year of catechesis for our children.** In addition to you parents, who are the primary educators of your children in the faith, our catechists play an essential role. Their sacrifice helps announce the Gospel of the Lord and hand on the faith. Please take a moment to say a prayer for and offer a thank you to each of our catechists:  
Robin Doyle, Sara Folsom, Julie Folsom, Sharon Gould, Anita Holeck, Michael Gould, Julie Rawlins and Glenna Tilman.

**St. Mary & St Joseph Parish  
Mass Schedule**

- Monday, May 7 - No Mass**
- Tuesday, May 8 - St. Mary**  
Mass - 8:30am - Jean & Tomas Siminski by Tim Trebtoske
- Wednesday, May 9 - St. Joseph**  
Mass - 8:30am - Rev. Bennett Constantine by the Diocese of Lansing  
† **Sacrament of Reconciliation** - 9:00am to 9:30am
- Thursday, May 10 - St. Mary**  
Mass - 8:30am - Alexander Ruska by Annie Ehrnst & Charlie Williams
- Friday, May 11 - St. Mary**  
Mass - 8:30am - Margaret Doyle by Louise Hemond-Wilson family
- Saturday, May 12 - St. Mary**  
† **Sacrament of Reconciliation** - 3:30pm to 4:30pm  
Mass - 5:00pm - St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners
- Sunday, May 13**  
**St. Joseph Mass** - 8:30am - Brendon Fitch by Family  
**St. Mary Mass** - 11:30am - Dorothy Mcdonald by Agnes Horstman

**Witness to Hope Update:**

We have received our first Witness to Hope donations. Every quarter we will receive our share from the Catholic Foundation. So our next disbursement will be in July.

The parish portion of received gifts is just over \$22,000. Thank you to all those who have begun to fulfill their pledges. The first project, which we have already begun to line up bids on, is to have parking lot lights installed in our St. Joseph church parking lot. As this is important not only for convenience but safety, this took top priority.

While we know installing a better elevator in our St. Mary church will be a costly project, our Finance Council unanimously recommended getting serious proposals for this too, as it may be in our best interest to move forward with this project by using money from our Building fund. So we are working on that too. As we believe there will still be funds available after installing parking lot lights, we are also looking at some of our other Witness to Hope projects: finishing the pews and improving the floors and street sign at our St. Joseph church. Finally, we decided to take a portion (about 42%) of our parish share and put into our savings for whatever we might need. So we will be taking 42% of the \$22,000 (about \$9,240) and putting it into our general savings.

May God bless you and your family abundantly this week.

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 ★ **Happy Birthday Father Jon (May 11)** ★  
 ★ May God bless you with peace and happiness ★  
 ★ on your unique day that you celebrate. And ★  
 ★ may that divine peace and happiness follow ★  
 ★ you the rest of your life. ★  
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**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. Jennifer Chadwick, Steve Steffen, Alice Harris, George Zimmer, and Jack Bollinger.



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.**

**GROW + GO**

**Grow - Engage...in parish life  
Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers will be needed for decorating for Ordinary Time and removing Easter Decorations at St Joseph on Tues., May 22, at 10:00am. Please sign up in the gathering space.



**Pentecost is only a couple weeks away, which** means now is the time to start preparing by asking the Father for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is, arguably, the most neglected and most difficult to grasp Person of the Triune God. Yet He is the one who makes it possible for us to know that God is our good Father, that Jesus is Lord. He is the one who leads us to Jesus and into all truth. He is the one who brings the gifts of God to us, so that we might carry out our mission in this life. He is the one who brings the fruits of God. He helps us fall in love with God, gives us enthusiasm and joy in prayer and doing our Father's will. He is the very gift of God to us. God as gift, St. John Paul II once said. Without the Holy Spirit, we don't have a share in Jesus' life. Heck, without the Holy Spirit, we don't have Jesus, our Savior

(remember He's the one who conceives Jesus in Mary's womb).

**We call the Holy Spirit "He" not because He is male** (He is neither male nor female. He is not material at all. He is God), but because He is person and not a thing. It is the generic way of designating that the Holy Spirit is not in it, or a mindless force or energy, but the living God. Yet we know Him more from His effects than directly, though the closer we grow to God the more we know Him in Himself. In fact, our happiness is found in knowing the Holy Spirit along with God the Father and Jesus, God the Son.

**Jesus encouraged us to persistently ask for God the Father to give us His Holy Spirit:** "And I tell you, Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened...If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Lk 11:9-10,13) The verb Jesus uses here is "keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking," implying that we need to be persistent in this prayer, that it's not a one and done type of prayer. While we have the Holy Spirit through faith, baptism and Confirmation, there is always more, and God wants us to ask for more.

**I would ask all of us to join together as a parish in these days leading up to Pentecost by praying daily the Holy Spirit prayer that we prayed as a diocese back in 2012-13:**

*Come, Holy Spirit.*

*Fill the heart of your faithful*

*And kindle in them the fire of Your love.*

*Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.*

*And You shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit*

*Did instruct the hearts of the faithful,*

*Grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be*

*Truly wise and ever enjoy in His consolations.*

*Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

### Excerpts from Pope Francis' Exhortation "Rejoice and Be Glad" (*Gaudete et Exsultate*)

We continue to offer quotes from the Pope's most recent Apostolic Exhortation, which he wrote to remind us that we are all called to holiness and to help us reach that holiness without which none of us can be happy or in heaven.

We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. That is not the case. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. Are you called to the consecrated life? Be holy by living out your commitment with joy. Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife, as Christ does for the Church. Do you work for a living? Be holy by laboring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain.

Let the grace of your baptism bear fruit in a path of holiness. Let everything be open to God; turn to him in every situation. Do not be dismayed, for the power of the Holy Spirit enables you to do this, and holiness, in the end, is the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life (cf. Gal 5:22-23). When you feel the temptation to dwell on your own weakness, raise your eyes to Christ crucified and say: "Lord, I am a poor sinner, but you can work the miracle of making me a little bit better". In the Church, holy yet made up of sinners, you will find everything you need to grow towards holiness. The Lord has bestowed on the Church the gifts of scripture, the sacraments, holy places, living communities, the witness of the saints and a multifaceted beauty that proceeds from God's love, "like a bride bedecked with jewels" (Is 61:10).

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**A FAMILY FESTIVAL OF FAITH**  
SATURDAY JUNE 23, 2018

A FULL DAY OF  
CONTEMPORARY +  
CHRISTIAN MUSIC

Adoration • Reconciliation • Devotional Displays  
Vigil Mass with Bishop Boyea • Fireworks  
Activities for Children • Local Food Vendors

MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.FAITHFEST.COM](http://WWW.FAITHFEST.COM)

MATT MAHER    UNSPOKEN    SANCTUS REAL    JASON GRAY    JJ HELLER

SPONSORED BY THE DIOCESE OF LANSING AT ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTER

**GROW + GO** **Grow - Study...the faith**  
 Congratulations to Carson, Skyler, Brock, Rachel and Zackary as they received the fruits and the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Confirmation this past week. May your lives be enriched as you grow in your faith.



**GROW + GO** **Grow - Study...the faith**  
 Congratulations to Teaghan, Claire, Adelen, and Matthew as they receive the sacrament of First Eucharist today. May you always feel the love and presence of the Lord as you receive Him.



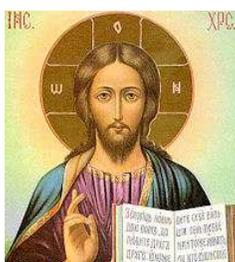
**Photos needed for the new Parish Directory...**  
 ...if you have any candid shots or pictures you would like to share of the parish picnic and/or special events that the church has held throughout the past year, please pass on to the parish rectory for publication. Thank you in advance, Patty Dotson.



**Kindergarten Round Up and All School Open House, May 7 & 8 from 8:00am-4:00pm**  
 St. Pius X Catholic School offers a loving Catholic atmosphere for 3 year-olds all the way through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Call the school office to set up a tour and/or schedule kindergarten testing at (810) 235-8572 or email Carrie Hatfield, Early Childhood Director, at cjhatfieldsp@gmail.com

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:  
 Lord, increase my faith.

**6th Sunday of Easter Prayer...**  
 ...Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honor of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. 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.



**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, LMSW, 1-888-308-6252, [cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org)

**GROW + GO** **Grow - Serve...others' needs**  
 Finance Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, at 7:00pm at St Mary Church.

**GROW + GO** **Grow - Engage.....in parish life**  
**Attention High School Graduates!!**  
 There will be a planning meeting on May 20 after the 11:30am mass in the St. Mary gathering space. Please join as we prepare for our graduation mass, on Saturday, June 2, at the 5:00pm Mass. Please try to join us as we plan for this celebration. All high school graduates are welcome to attend.

**GROW + GO** **Grow - Study.....the faith**  
**Retreats at**  
**St Francis Retreat Center:**  
 May 17, 9:00am-3:30pm - *"Living a Purpose Driven Life: Take firm hold on the everlasting life to which you were called."*  
 May 20, 9:30am-4:00pm - *"Marriage: Building Trust, Communication, and Intimacy with Each Other and the Lord."*  
 For more information and registration: [stfrancis.ws](http://stfrancis.ws) or 517-669-8321.

**Parish Support for the weekend of April 29**



<b>April 29 Offerings (General Collection).....</b>	<b>\$4,525.00</b>
Energy.....	\$40.00
Outreach.....	\$170.00
Building Debt.....	\$155.00
Good Friday - Holy Land.....	\$5.00
Easter.....	\$5.00
DSA Pledges through Week Two (40%).....	\$12,899.00
Online giving for April 2018.....	\$1,045.00

**Sponsor of the Week**  
**Rebecca C. McClear, Attorney at Law**  
 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!  
 May 13 cut off is May 7 by 10:00am  
[bulletinmj@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinmj@gmail.com)

