



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.

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

Monday, September 24 - No Mass

Tuesday, September 25 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Steve Doyle by Louis Male

Wednesday, September 26 - St. Joseph

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

Mass - 8:30am - Cheryl Quin (birthday) by Marie and Mark Dyer

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

Thursday, September 27 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Anne & Donald Drake by family

Friday, September 28 - St. Mary

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

Mass - 8:30am - Chester Grifka by John & Marge Hricik

Saturday, September 29 - St. Mary

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

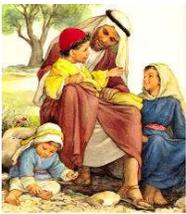
Mass - 5:00pm - Bob Tillson by Jackie Elford

Sunday, September 30

St. Joseph Mass - 8:30am - Gerard "Gary" Kalinowski by Phyllis and Fritz Balmer

St. Mary Mass - 11:30am - St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Prayer...



...O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbor, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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.

Thank You! Thank you!!!! Thank you!!!! I want to thank everyone for their prayers and well wishes on my recovery from this past March when I suffered a seizure. The Doctors have given me a clean bill of health which means I will be able to drive again this weekend (it's been a long 6 months). I want to especially thank my wife, Virginia, for driving me here, there and everywhere; Denny Schmidt for bringing me to work, getting me to the bank and various restaurants for lunch; Pat Loomis and her family for taking me home and for all others who have been so gracious in offering rides for me. You are all awesome!! It will be very nice to be back on the road again.
God Bless, Paul Williamson

Mark Your Calendar...

Fr. Jon will be at the annual priest convocation from Oct 1-4. Because of this there will be no 8:30am Masses or Eucharist Adoration on Oct 2-4. Fr. Jon will be back to celebrate Mass Thursday evening (Oct 4) at 6:30pm in reparation for the sins of priests and bishops, for healing and conversion.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve....others' needs

The Next Mother Teresa Group...

...meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 2, starting at 6:30pm in the St. Joseph gathering space. All women of the Parish are invited.

Also, we are planning our Advent by Candlelight to be held on November 18.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve....others' needs

The Bake Sales are returning...

...by the Mother Teresa Group at St. Joseph. The next bake sale will be held on Sunday, September 30 (last Sunday of the month). Proceeds will go to benefit a family that needs a stove and refrigerator. Thanks for your past and future support.

GROW + GO

Grow - Serve....others' needs

Do you have **one hour** a week to volunteer in our Lunch Buddy Program? I am responsible for two elementary schools in Swartz Creek, Syring Elementary and Morrish Elementary. Can you volunteer at a Lunch Buddy Program (**one hour a week!**) at either school? **We meet at Syring Elementary on Tuesday's, from 12:00-1:00 and at Morrish Elementary on Thursday's, from 11:50-1:00 pm.**

You would be considered a "Big" in the program, and I would match you to a "Little" (child) in the school. Your commitment to the child is quite simple. Come to the school, eat lunch with a child, and create a positive and powerful bond that will last a life time! **Every child can benefit from the friendship of a caring grown up. Will you be that person? Contact: Katie Zendler (810) 235- 7225/kzendler@bbbsflint.org**

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.

Joe Lezovich, Dale Osborn, Hope Reed, Jerry Reed II, Janette Borke, Curt Rivard, Bob Smith, Alex Proulx, Dick and Stephanie Schlenker.

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.



From the Pen of the Pastor



Dear brothers and sisters,

One of the topics that has come up recently in discussions about the horrific sexual abuse of children and adults by clergy that has come to light (and its cover-up) is the relationship between justice and mercy. What exactly is that relationship? As Christians do we profess that we must abandon justice in order to be merciful? Is this the God that Jesus reveals?

This week I came across an excerpt from *The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ*, by Fleming Rutledge. A brother priest, himself a victim of sexual abuse (not by anyone connected in any official way to the Catholic Church, clergy or otherwise), had shared it as a helpful passage for him. In turn, I share it here for all those of you who are struggling with the nature of this relationship between forgiveness and justice, whatever the issue may be.

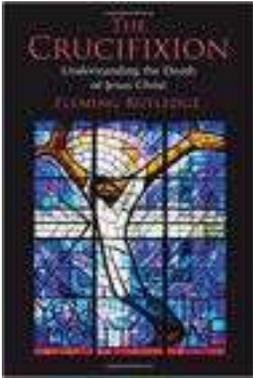
May God's blessing be upon you. -Fr. Jon

Justice and mercy are two foundational aspects of God's character. Working out the relation between the two is an essential tasks of Christian theology, preaching and pastoral care...There is a wide spread impression that Christian forgiveness can be construed separately from the question of justice—that, in fact, forgiveness can be offered without reference to justice. However, forgiveness is by no means as simple or expeditious as is often suggested; it is a complex and demanding matter. The question of forgiveness and compensation really should not be discussed apart from the question of justice. When a terrible wrong has been committed and an apology is offered, the person or persons wronged may be justified in feeling that too much is being asked of them. If the impression is given that the wronged parties are simply supposed to 'forgive and forget,' the wrong will linger under the surface and cause further harm...

'A psychologist wrote: 'Forgiving is hard work. It takes time, and involves pain. It's not just a simple declaration or automatic, reflexive action. False forgiveness is going through the motions without anything changing on the inside. It's lip service, and it actually interferes with authentic resolution and estranges people from their real feelings.'

'This is a strong argument...Even more pertinent, however, is a theological point: ***Forgiveness in and of itself is not the essence of Christianity, though many believe it to be so. Forgiveness must be understood in its relationship to justice if the Christian gospel is to be allowed its full scope.*** As Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa has said, 'Forgiveness is not cheap, is not facile. It is costly. Reconciliation is not an easy option. It cost God the death of his Son.'...

'In January 1998, Tutu was in New York to receive treatment for prostate cancer. He gave just one interview during that time...'It is not enough to say let bygones be bygones...Reconciliation does not come easy. Believing that it does will ensure that it will never be.' At the same time, he said, 'We seek to do justice to the suffering without perpetuating the hatred aroused.' He continued, 'We



recognize the past can't be remade through punishment. Instead—since we know memories will persist for a long time—we aim to acknowledge those memories. This is critical if we are to build a democracy of self-respecting citizens. As a victim of injustice and oppression, you lose your sense of worth as a person, your dignity. Restorative justice is focused on restoring the personhood that is damaged or lost. But restoring that sense of self means restoring memory—a recognition that what happened to you *happened*. You are not crazy. Something seriously evil happened to you.'...

“Gross injustice demonstrates a basic premise: *in our world, something is terribly wrong and cries out to be put right*. Perhaps this seems so obvious to the reader as not to be worth mentioning, but such is not the case. The wrongness of things is not as readily acknowledged as one might think. ‘In spite of all evidence,’ wrote one observer, ‘**modern-day Americans keep trying to convince ourselves that happiness is the natural state of our species.**’ We are usually naïve about the dark side of human life, and are known as Pollyannas throughout the world. Our boundless optimism, our ‘chipper avoidance of the tragic,’ is part of who we are; it is a central component of the engine that drives our energy and success. We do not want anything to interfere with the smooth functioning of the engine. **There is a downside, however; this tendency contributes to a distorted and sentimental view of reality....**

“We cannot, it seems, come to terms with these thoughts....It is very important for us Americans to believe that in spite of the evidence, the world and human nature are essentially benign. The American way of denial is a good match for the message of the Dalai Lama, which explains a lot of his astonishing popularity in our country. Richard Gere, the actor who is also a practicing Buddhist, knows the Dalai Lama well, and said this about him: ‘In his presence, one feels that this man wants things to be right in the universe.’ Although people feel blessed in the present of a holy man who wants the world to be right and people to be happy, *the holy man cannot make that happen*.

“The message of the cross of Jesus Christ is that only the Creator of the universe can make perfect justice come about in the world that he created, and that he has done so in the body of his own Son, and that he will do so in the future Day of the Lord.”

To be continued next week...

Rutledge, Fleming, *The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ*, Wm. Eerdmans Publishing, Grand Rapids, MI, (pp 122-125)

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 The two Knights of Columbus Councils at St. Mary/St. Joseph Parish have worked out the details to work together and will offer three scholarships to our qualifying High School graduates and enrolled college students of the parish for 2019. The applications will be offered on line through The Shiawassee Community Foundation and will be available soon. We will supply the details as soon as they are made available.
 Buildings are wood, brick and mortar, but the Church is its people. What better way to insure the Churches future then to educate our young people who will be leading the way. Please remember these K of C scholarships in any way, through contributions, support of fund raisers or through a will. Thank You, The St. Mary/St. Joseph K of C Councils

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 Northeast Regional Council of Catholic Woman (NECCW) Fall Meeting: Sept. 27, starting with 8:30am Mass with meeting and event to follow. St. Roberts Catholic Church, 310 N. Cherry St., Flushing. Theme: Human Trafficking. Guest Speaker, Amy Rouleau of Restoration Place. Registration in Angel Hall, Refreshments, Business meeting & Free Luncheon. RSVP Kay Huggins, 810-659-8129.

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
Altar Server Training
 Altar Server Training will be Sat, Sept 29. St Joseph church from 9:30am-11:00am. St Mary church from 12 noon- 2:00pm. All current altar servers are asked to attend, and any young people or adults that are interested in being an altar server please attend.



GROW + GO **Grow - Serve...others' needs**
 St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry; Save the Dates for the 2019 distributions!!! Looking forward to another great year!

Call Dates:	Distribution Date
Jan 14 – Jan 18	Jan 26
Feb 11 – Feb 15	Feb 23
Mar 25 – Mar 29	Apr 6
June 3 – June 7	June 15
Aug 12 – Aug 16	Aug 24
Oct 21 – Oct 25	Nov 2

PLEASE NOTE: Since we are in our fourteenth 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 (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
Ed's Standard

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!



September 30 bulletin cut off is Mon., Sept. 24 by 10:00am. bulletinmj@gmail.com

GROW + GO **Grow - Pray...every day**
 The St. Mary Rosary Group invites St. Mary and St. Joseph Parishioners who are interested in praying the Rosary to come join us each Tuesday at 1:30pm in the St. Mary gathering space. We pray the Rosary and other beautiful prayers which you might enjoy. We hope you will be able to attend and look forward to meeting you. Contact Pat Root 989-288-2775 or Linda Carsten at 989-288-3161 for more information.

GROW + GO **Grow - Study....the faith**
 Ladies: You are cordially invited to attend the 6th Annual Diocese of Lansing Catholic Women's Conference entitled "Arise My Beloved" on Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 9:00am until 5:00pm at the Lansing Center. Join speakers Father Chris Alar and Kelly Wahlquist, musician Melanie Rea, emcee Erin Looby Carlson, Bishop emeritus Carl Mengeling, and Bishop Earl Boyea. We provide lunch, shopping, music, Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Mass. Please join your sisters, daughters, and friends as we explore the deep treasure we have as a Catholic church. For more information and to register please visit www.LansingDioceseCWC.org.

GROW + GO **Grow - Pray....every day**
Focus on Life Benefit Dinner
Right to Life of Michigan-Genesee County Affiliate
 Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2018. The Captains Club of Woodfield, 10200 Woodfield Dr., Grand Blanc 48439.
Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Robin Pierucci. Activley pro-life, Dr. Pierucci is a practicing neonatologist who cares for the finest pre-mature babies. She is a Jewish convert to Catholicism and has been seen on a number of EWTN shows. Tickets: Adult \$35 / Student \$20. Table of eight \$250. For info and reservations: call Fran 810-694-5079

This week's prayer to carry in your hearts and your prayer time:

Pray the Peace prayer.



Parish Support for the weekend of Sept. 16

Sept. 16 offering (general collection).....	\$4,062.00
Energy.....	\$55.00
Outreach.....	\$525.00
Building Debt.....	\$155.00
Assumption.....	\$5.00
RE Student Fees.....	\$50.00
Altar Society.....	\$389.50

GROW + GO **Grow - Pray....every day**
40 DAYS FOR LIFE
 You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization- through prayer and peaceful vigils. All events take place in front of Planned Parenthood, G-3371 Beecher Rd, Flint, MI. Kick off is Sept 23.- through Nov 4. Please contact Sarah Stapleton or Tina Phillpotts, info@prolifeflint.com, 810-892-FLNT. 40daysforlife.com/flint

GROW + GO **Grow - Serve....others' needs**
 There will be a **Parish Council Meeting** on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7:00pm at the St. Joseph Church gathering space.