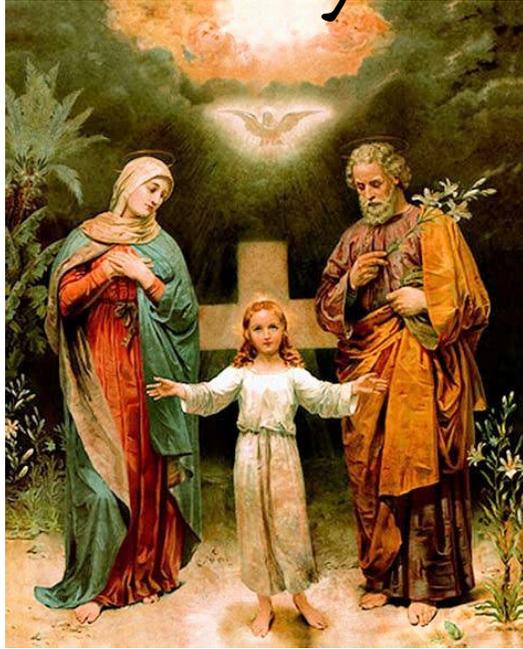


The Catholic Community of  
**St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish**



Ministering to Durand, Gaines  
& surrounding areas

***“Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” Jn 20:27***

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) ~ B April 11, 2021

**Durand Location**  
700 Columbia Dr., Durand, MI 48429  
1-855-288-6704

**Mass Times:**

See liturgical schedule in bulletin.  
Weekday Masses - See Bulletin  
Office hours: Mon., Thurs., Fri., 8:30am to 2:30pm.  
Tues. 8:30am to Noon  
Website: [stmarystjoseph.org](http://stmarystjoseph.org)  
[Myparishapp.com](http://Myparishapp.com)

**Gaines Location**  
9450 Duffield Rd., Gaines, MI 48436  
1-989-271-8434

**Mass Time:**

See liturgical schedule in bulletin.  
Weekday Masses - See Bulletin  
Office hours: Tues., 9:00am to 3:00pm  
Wed., Thurs., 9:00am to 1:00pm.  
Website: [stmarystjoseph.org](http://stmarystjoseph.org)  
[Myparishapp.com](http://Myparishapp.com)

### Mission Statement

As members of St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish, we believe that we share in the mission of Jesus through our baptism and commitment to the values expressed in the gospel.

The dedication of our parish to the Holy Spirit calls us to be particularly attentive to the inspiration and guidance of the Spirit as we:

- gather as a community that worships together and supports one another in spiritual growth;
- witness to our belief through sharing our faith with others and providing for education in faith to our members;
- respond with compassion to both the spiritual and corporal needs of those around us;
- care for the many gifts we have been given and seek to use them wisely.

We do all of this as members of a larger community of believers within the Diocese of Lansing and greater Roman Catholic Church.

Official correspondence should be sent to:  
700 Columbia Dr., Durand, MI 48429.  
1-855-288-6704

**Parish Administrator:** Deacon Wayne Corrian  
Email: [dcnwaynesmsj@gmail.com](mailto:dcnwaynesmsj@gmail.com)  
**Secretary/Business Manager:** Paul Williamson  
Email: [stmarydurand@gmail.com](mailto:stmarydurand@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Sandy Bensinger  
Email: [stjosephgaines@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephgaines@gmail.com)  
**Director of Religious Education (DRE):**  
Robin Doyle Email: [smsjdre@gmail.com](mailto:smsjdre@gmail.com)  
**Deacon:** Greg Middleton 989-721-7683  
**Sacramental Minister:** Rev. Bill Wegher

### ~Sacraments~

**Baptism:** You must be a registered active member of St. Mary & St. Joseph 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 our parish office for times and dates.

**Reconciliation:** Gaines location on Wednesday 9:00am to 9:30am. Durand location on Saturday 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Special request, contact the Durand office. Check the bulletin for special times.



St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church  
[@kofccouncil12186](https://www.facebook.com/kofccouncil12186)  
[@stmjaltarsociety](https://www.facebook.com/stmjaltarsociety)



*From Deacon Wayne's Desk*

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY - APRIL 11, 2021

***"Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Jn 20:27***

**Jesus Christ is risen, Alleluia.**

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Poor Thomas who says these words, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." One week later, he then has to swallow those same words that he spoke so boldly. Hence he receives his nickname "doubting Thomas." But honestly, haven't we all doubted our belief in Christ at one time or another? Or if you are like me, this doubt comes more often than I like to tell.

But this story is not about someone who doubts, it is about someone who experiences God's Mercy firsthand (no pun intended). Thomas experiences God's mercy in a way no other has or ever will again on this earth. Though Thomas doubts, he is given a great gift of being able to stick his finger into the nail holes and take his hand and puts it in the wound in Christ's side. Can you imagine placing your hand into the spear hole that went all the way to the heart of Jesus, which is the origin point of God's Great Mercy, the mouth of the River of God's sea of Divine love?

It was this same wound inflicted by a roman

soldier that made a pathway that leads directly to God's own Heart. The symbolic image is that there is nothing in your way that can stop you from going directly to the heart of God. It is completely open. The curtain in the temple was torn with the same symbolism and meaning that Fr. Bill brought out in his Easter homily. There is nothing in the way of you drawing closer to God that is the theological power of these happenings. There is nothing stopping you from uniting yourself to God other than your choice, your doubt, your lack of desire. These are the only things that can stop you now.

Here is the Good News! Mercy is not earned. It is given. When there is no justification for you and your deeds truly are as sinners, only Mercy can resolve this. A Mercy that is freely given by God that Jesus invites us to imitate His compassion and to give of ourselves to others. God gave us his Son, Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Being Christian means living the spirit of Christ. Can we think of a time when someone has been nice to us? Can we look back on our lives and when we were so troubled – when Jesus showed us a way? Jesus' side is pierced. We have a direct path to His Heart of Mercy without any external roadblocks.

Imagine yourself in Thomas' shoes. What will you say when you see the Risen Christ eye to eye, face to face? Well, what you might say won't matter. All that will matter, is that you will be completely submerged into the Glorious Mercy of God. What a day that will be, what an experience that will be to be in the presence of a Mercy that is truly a gift not earned. This will blow your mind.

**He is Risen, Alleluia.**

*Deon. Wayne*

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

**Monday, April 12 - No Mass**

Acts 4:23-31, Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9, Jn 3:1-8

**Tuesday, April 13 - No Mass**

Acts 4:32-37, Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5, Jn 3:7b-15

**Wednesday, April 14 - Gaines**

**Adoration - 7:20am**

**Mass - 8:30am - Porscha Merrill by Sandy Bensinger**

Acts 5:17-26, Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, Jn 3:16-21

**Thursday, April 15 - Durand**

**Adoration - 7:20am**

**Mass - 8:30am - Shirley and Frank Provenzola by Josie Conrad**

Acts 5:27-33, Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20, Jn 3:31-36

**Friday, April 16 - No Mass**

Acts 5:34-42, Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14, Jn 6:1-15

**Saturday, April 17 - Durand**

Acts 6:1-7, Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19, Jn 6:16-21

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

**Mass - 5:00pm - Jack Cyr by the Cyr family**

**Sunday - April 18**

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

**Mass at Durand - 11:30am - Thomas & Martha Marion by Georgeana Gavin**

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9, 1 Jn 2:1-5a, Lk 24:35-48

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SUFFERING OF  
ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH PARISH**

For those who are ill at home, in the hospital or in the nursing home.

**Joslyn Carpenter, Colin Williamson, Kathy Root, Louise Jarrad, Marge Reed, Shirley Koss, Christian Carpenter, Paul Davis, Barb Osborne, Ida & Nat and Spouses, Sam Yanta, Bill & Pat Sill, Al Proulx, Tony Tuczynski, and Janice Proulx**

**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.**

Please continue to pray for all those that have been afflicted with or caring for someone with the COVID-19. Also all the frontline Doctors, Nurses, EMTs, Police, Fire and all those continuing to work at Grocery Stores, Pharmacies, Food Banks and other essential stores. Thank you for all you do as we continue to pray for you.



Diocesan Service Appeal (DSA) collection continues. Thank you for your support.

## Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

### Elaine Cesar

Elaine has been an integral part of our parish since 2008. Elaine takes the lead in our Tuesday Rosary Group and has been an active participant in our food distributions. Many times, going beyond her call of duty to help those in need. You will see her assisting at Mass as an Usher. Thanks for all you do Elaine!

## Rest In Peace

We pray for **Maria Estela (Gonzales) Perry**  
Spouse to Al and mother to Travis, Todd, Al Jr. and Alex...

...that she may now enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray also for her family and friends that they may find peace in the promises of Christ.



**Food Distribution:** The next St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry mini distributions will take place beginning on **April 24 thru April 30**. We will be taking appointments on **April 12 - April 16** Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 5:00pm. For an appointment call St. Mary Church at [1 \(855\)-288-6704](tel:18552886704) ext. = 7017 and

follow the instructions on the answering service. **This distribution is to occur outside in the parking lot per the Greater Lansing Food Banks (GLFB) recommendation. Please stay in your vehicle. The food and paperwork will be brought to your vehicle.** Food will be placed in your trunk/hatchback, so **please make room**. Proof of Residency: Bring either a gov't-issued Id and/or mail with your address. Restrooms will NOT be available. To receive food, you must have an appointment and live in the following areas: Bancroft, Byron, Corunna, Durand, Gaines, Lennon or Vernon. The distribution will take place at the St. Mary Education Building, 700 Columbia Dr., Durand. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK



Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. Lord, we pray for Your grace to encourage and support our seminarians as they endeavor to become priests. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Diocese of Lansing Seminararian Mason Abbott, Church of the Resurrection, Lansing*



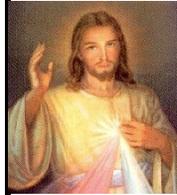
Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful women to become Brides of Christ and serve Your people. Lord, we pray that Your grace and love be enough for this woman in discernment of consecrated life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, Sr. Amaris Salata*



The KofC Council 7955 will be sponsoring a Coney Dog meal on April 17 & 18 after the 5:00pm & 11:30am Masses. The meal includes 1 Coney Dog, coleslaw & chips. It will be available for takeout in the Durand Location Gathering Space.

### Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) Prayer...



...God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



**SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**  
**Gardeners/ Volunteers are needed!**  
**Saturday, April 17,**  
**from 10:00am - 12:00pm.**

Clean up flower beds, pickup sticks and any trash in the gardens and lawns. Both locations are in need of clean-up!



Knights of Columbus - Gaines Council 12186  
Knights of the Month for March  
**Sir Knight James Norcross Sr.**  
Family of the Month for March  
**Sir Knight James and Lady Barbara Norcross**

### DURAND USHERS FOR APRIL 2021

5:00pm - Leonard & Pam Corwin  
Elaine Cesar & Lois Crawford  
11:30am - Lori Grumley, Tim Trebtoske  
Brenda Wells, Tom Gomos

### DURAND GREETERS FOR APRIL 2021

5:00pm - Dcn Wayne and/or Dcn Greg  
11:30am - Cindy Midkiff



## Parish Support

**COLLECTION INFORMATION FOR APRIL 4 & 11 WILL BE REPORTED IN NEXT WEEKENDS BULLETIN.**

### Sponsor of the Week

*McDonald's of Owosso*

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 NOTE: The Apr. 18 bulletin cut is Mon., Apr. 12 at noon.** If you missed this deadline, your article should run the following weekend. Submit to [bulletinmj@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinmj@gmail.com)

If you want to schedule an event utilizing a Parish facility, contact DCN Wayne using email [dcnwaynesmsj@gmail.com](mailto:dcnwaynesmsj@gmail.com)

