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stmarystjoseph.org

Smart Phone:

Myparishapp.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/
dcnwayne

Location office hours are
posted on our website at
stmarystjoseph.org

The Catholic Community of St. Mary St. Joseph Parish

Durand Campus

700 Columbia Dr.,
Durand, MI 48429

1-855-288-6704

Gaines Campus

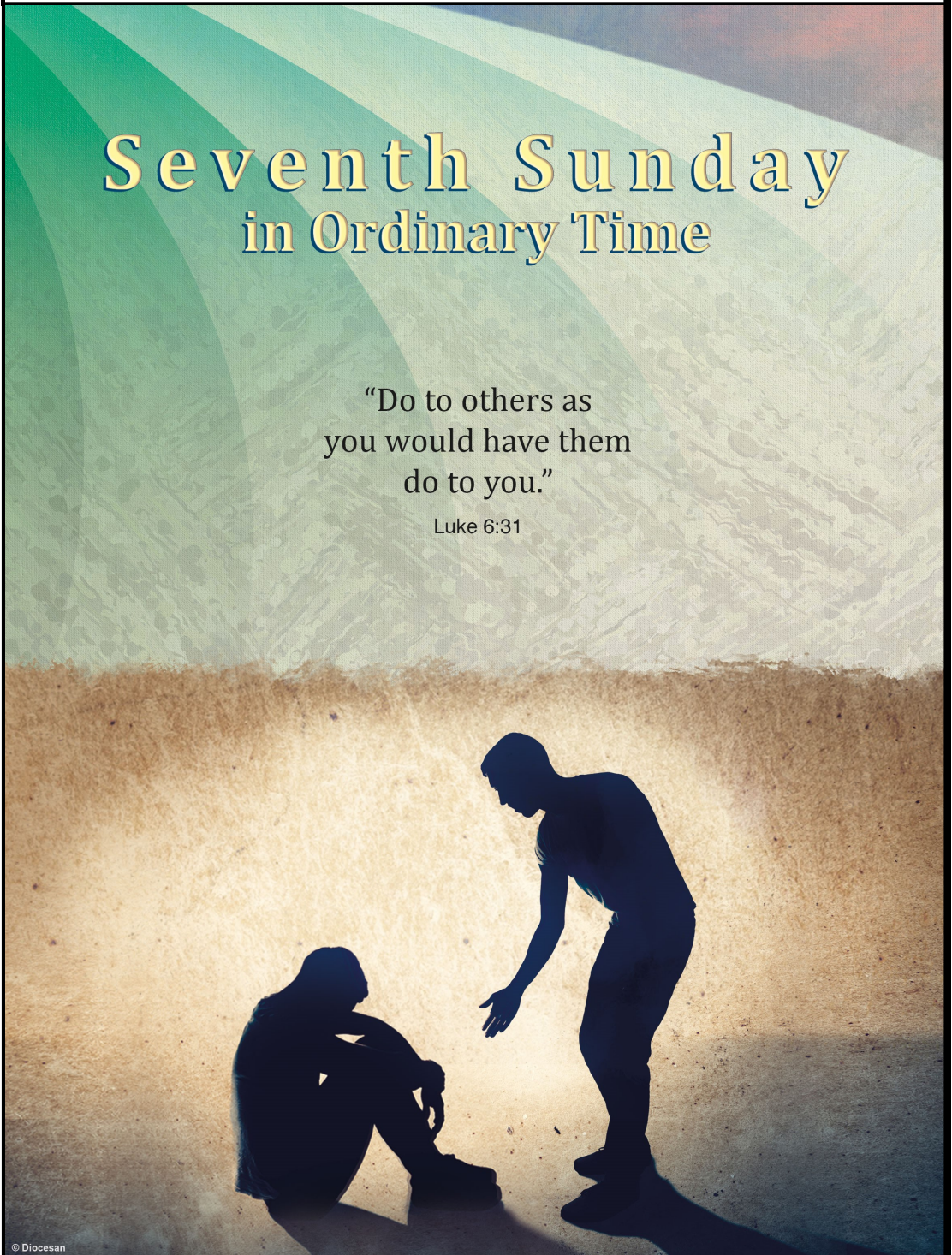
9450 Duffield Rd.,
Gaines, MI 48436

1-989-271-8434

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Do to others as
you would have them
do to you."

Luke 6:31



© Diocesan

Ministering to Durand, Gaines & surrounding areas
The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - C - February 20, 2022

From Deacon Wayne's Desk

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -
FEBRUARY 20, 2022



Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

1 Cor 15:49

Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and do not demand it back. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Lend expecting nothing back. "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you.

In our gospel today, Jesus lays out some very simple to understand "do's and don't's." Christ's words can be so simple, but their profoundness can defy fairness and reason. Hearing these words, challenges most of our human instincts. When someone hits you, do your fists come up? When someone insults you, do you have a harsh comeback? When someone comes and asks to borrow something, does your "risk assessment alert" kick in? Is it so hard for us to stop judging? To stop hating someone who hurt you terribly?

Very tough words, but very simple words. Some folks are "verbal" people. That is, they think and pray in words. They meditate on the Word. Jesus gathered the simple to Himself; He gave a simple message in simple words. So simple was His call, that it was considered "foolishness" by the wise and powerful. Then we have those who are visual and picture the things of God. When they hear these words, they may come up with a image in their head of someone slapping them on both sides of the face.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

Did you know that we have an Adult Faith Formation Series that runs bi-monthly on Sunday mornings at the Durand Campus? We gather at 10:00am for a continental breakfast and spend time in community with our fellow parishioners. The session begins at 10:15am ends at 11:15am. Each session will have a different topic and presenter. Come join us for this time of faith and fellowship. **The next session is on February 20.**



OUCH!

No matter what kind of person you are, these words should point us to the central symbol in our Catholic Church. The Crucifix. The crucifix whispers these same statements because on it hangs a Man, Christ our Lord, who was beat on both sides of his face. Christ who was hated by many and gives his life for all. Christ who was stripped and never asked for His cloak back. Christ who does neither condemns nor judges as He is dying for those who persecute him (all of us). Jesus, who paid the ultimate price for our sins, and never ever says "I'm going to come back and get those who put me on this cross!" which is all of us.

Here is a challenge for each of you, to sit in front of a crucifix and very slowly re-read the gospel from today. When we can comprehend these statements and understand the power of Christ Crucified, it is then we can begin to understand what we are called to by Christ. To forgive and love those who have hurt you, and never retaliate or judge. This is the power of the Crucifix. It absorbs, eliminates, and puts an end to the sin of the world, with no retaliation.

You may be saying, "this is impossible for me," but in fact, it is not. St Paul is trying very hard to help us understand that we do have the power because Christ is in us, and we by our choice, are in Him. We are both earthly and divine. We are both body and soul. When we get ticked off at folks, we have the power to forgive, and free those who hurt us and OURSELVES from the bondage of sin. St Paul reminds us; *Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one (Adam), we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one (Christ).* Let's never forget this.

Maybe you have noticed that we find ourselves in a world divided on almost every level, it maybe worse than we may have ever seen. Many of you a sick and tired of it. I know I am. If you long for healing, if you long for peace, if you long for a reaching out and cooperation, then it can only start with you. Absorbing the pain and suffering of this world, not perpetuating it, is what we are called to do, making Jesus Christ, and His Truth the center of our healing process. Do not live in fear. Live in the Truth of Christ Crucified.

Deacon Wayne



Welcome New
SMSJ parishioners!
Terry & Wendy Greig
Our family is growing! Please greet them, and make them feel welcome.

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Liturgy Schedule

Monday, February 21 - No Mass

Jas 3:13-18, Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15, Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday, February 22 - No Mass

Scriptural Rosary Durand - 1:00pm

1 Pt 5:1-4, Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6, Mt 16:13-19

Wednesday, February 23 - Gaines

Adoration - 7:20am

Mass - 8:30am - Fr. Bill Wegher by Jaqueline Elford

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

Rosary - 2:30pm

Jas 4:13-17, Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11, Mk 9:38-40

Thursday, February 24 - Durand

Mass - 8:30 - Steve & Helen Vencil by Josie Conrad

Rosary - 2:30pm

Jas 5:1-6, Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20, Mk 9:41-50

Friday, February 25 - No Mass

Jas 5:9-12, Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12, Mk 10:1-12

Saturday, February 26 - Durand

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

Mass - 5:00pm - Gary Crawford by Dianne Lippstrew & Jim Morency

Jas 5:13-20, Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8, Mk 10:13-16

Sunday, February 27

Rosary - 8:00am at Gaines

Mass at Gaines - 8:30am - Deacon Jerry O'Toole by Arlene Borland

Mass at Durand - 11:30am - SMSJ Parishioners
Sir 27:4-7, Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16, 1 Cor 15:54-58, Lk 6:39-45

We are Welcoming Back,

an effort that had been in hibernation for a few years "Quick Catholic Questions"

This weekly article will field and answer questions you may have about the Catholic Church. It's a simple process.

1st, whenever a thought or question comes to mind of, "**Why do we do, what we do, as Catholics?**"

2nd, you can either write down your question and drop it in the collection basket OR you can email your comment/question to quickcatholic-questions@gmail.com, and we will put it in our cue and either Fr. Bill or Dcn. Wayne will answer them as we collect them.

3rd, watch the bulletin or your email for the answer/comment to your inquiry.

Your inquiries can be completely anonymous as you feel comfortable. Go ahead, hit us with your best shot.

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.

Pat Loomis, Joanne Culver, San Bates, Joyce Gardner-Lawton, Marge Reed, 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.

Setting Captives Free

Living a discerning life according to St. Ignatius

St. Ignatius' eyes were opened "just a little" when the Lord taught him to pay attention to the stirrings within him. By focusing on becoming aware of these movements, St. Ignatius teaches us how to remove barriers to living our lives in close union with our Redeemer.

In this seven-week series, we will learn to live a discerning life. For anyone already familiar with this teaching, the series will be an opportunity to deepen your understanding and apply it more fully in daily life.

Monday nights, 7:00pm - 8:30pm in the Father

Harvey Activity Center, Grand Hall

February 21 & 28, March 7, 14 & 21, April 4 & 11

Book required: Discernment of Spirits: An Ignatian Guide to Everyday Living

Register online at <https://www.stjohnfenton.org/setting-captives-free.html>

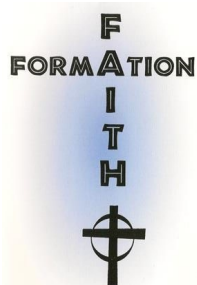
**Rest In
Peace**

**We pray for
Suzanne Lorraine**

McDowell,

Mother to Tony & Tedd.

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.



St. Mary St. Joseph Catholic Community Faith Formation News.

Thus far, February is proving to be a snowy month! In addition, that famous groundhog is predicting six more weeks of winter! Instead of bemoaning our fate, let us look at the good side of winter. Snow days offer an opportunity for families to slow down and enjoy each other's company. Time to build a snowman, sit by a warm fire, and sip a big cup of hot cocoa. But guess what? Snow days also offers an opportunity for families to pray together and share their faith. Here is a story you can share with your children and one another about a truly dedicated saint.

This month we celebrate the feast day of St. Valentine. Saint Valentine is the patron saint of love. Believers say God worked through his life to perform miracles and teach people how to recognize and experience true love. This famous saint, an Italian doctor who later became a priest, inspired the creation of the holiday of Valentine's Day. He was sent to jail for performing weddings for couples during a time when new marriages were outlawed in ancient Rome. Before he was killed for refusing to renounce his faith, he sent a loving note to a child he had been helping to teach, the daughter of his jailer, and that note eventually led to the tradition of sending Valentine's cards.

As we exchange Valentines and partake of those wonderful heart shaped boxes of chocolate, let us remember St Valentine and the holy life he led as a saint.

Blessings on your week!

Teresa Hurd, Faith Formation Director
(855) 288-6704 , ext. 7003
ffdsmsj@gmail.com

FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR February

- 20 Family Faith Formation Session at Parish Durand Campus - Luke 6: 27-38
- 27 Family Faith Formation Session at Home - Luke 6: 39-45

High School Youth Group News



Our next session on 2/20 will feature guest presenter Fr. Bill who will be speaking on...? Please plan to join us to find out!! There will be no YG on Feb. 27 as there will be a Family Faith Fest in the lower level of the church. Please plan to attend.

~Upcoming Event~

We will be attending a retreat at The Subiaco Retreat House in Oxford on March 4, 5 and 6. Cost is \$65 per student. **\$25 down payment is due this Sunday.** Registration forms now available! SCAN QR CODE.



Confirmation Preparation News

Our next session will be on 3/13/22. Students who missed our last session should pick up the 6th edition of Gifted With The Spirit from the gathering space at the Durand Campus.

As always, please read through all of it and be prepared to engage in thoughtful discussion.

Remember, Jesus went all in for us! Please consider going all in for Him!

Abundant Blessings!

John Michailo

High School Youth Group Minister
Confirmation Preparation Coordinator
(855)288-6704, ext. 7013
ymsmsj@gmail.com



The Grieving With Grace group will meet the second Sunday of the month on a quarterly basis. Our meetings for 2022 will be: March 13, June 12, September 11 and December 11, from 1:00pm-3:00pm at St. Joseph (Gaines Campus) gathering space. Lunch provided. Please contact Joelle McGuire with questions. (989) 627-7707.



Parish Support

COLLECTION INFORMATION FOR Feb. 13, 2022

Envelopes for General Fund (mail/drop off)	\$4,735.00
Online donations for Gen Fund 2/7-2/13	\$1,205.00
Total donations General Fund.....	\$5,940.00
One week budgeted amount FY 2022.....	\$5,519.22
Above (Below) budget.....	\$420.78

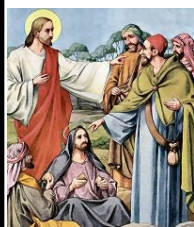
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE (JULY 1 THRU FEB. 13, 2022)

General Fund Donations (Env/Mail/Online)	\$176,150.33
Total Budget General Fund 7/1-2/13	\$182,134.26
Above (Below) Budget.....	(\$5,983.93)

Other Collections for February 13, 2022

Family Faith Formation.....	\$174.00
Outreach.....	\$330.00

The Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time Prayer



Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, always pondering spiritual things, we may carry out in both word and deed that which is pleasing to you. 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.

Join Fr. Anthony Strouse for a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Fr. Anthony will be leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land 17-27 October 2022 and would love you to join him. The pilgrimage will have stops in Nazareth, Bethlehem, Mt. Tabor, Galilee, and Jerusalem, and will include daily Mass. Once you visit the Holy Land, you never read the Gospels the same again. For more information and to register, visit

<https://spxparish.com/pilgrimages>.

Sponsor of the Week

Powers Catholic High School

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!

The February 27 bulletin article due date is Monday, February 21 at 10:00am.

Submit to bulletinmj@gmail.com

If you want to schedule an event utilizing a Parish facility, contact DCN Wayne using email

dcnwaynesmj@gmail.com



St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry Volunteers Needed:



The next food distribution is on **February 26**. Volunteers are needed for the following: Food packaging (packers) will be done on SATURDAY morning. Volunteers, please gather at **8:00am** in the education building. **Due to the Covid-19 virus, this distribution is to occur outside in the parking lot per the Greater Lansing Food Banks (GLFB) recommendation.** We are trying to keep volunteers to a minimum, so if you can volunteer please sign-up on the sheet in the Durand gathering space or contact **Diane Pelky or Kathy Schmidt**. That way, we will know that we have the volunteers that we need (about 15). We do appreciate you volunteering. There will be no picking table or baked goods tables.

For any questions concerning the St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry, please contact Diane Pelky at 989-288-4446 or Kathy Schmidt 517-230-9613 or stmaryfoodpantry@gmail.com.

Thank you again for your continued support. God Bless.

A Special Request from Deacon Wayne

Every Lent as Catholics we pray about what we are going to "give up." With only 9 days until Lent 2022, we are presenting an idea where we are asking you to pray and embrace our Lenten offering together as the family of faith. We are setting before you a Lenten Challenge that we are asking everyone from the Catholic Community of St Mary St Joseph will partake in.

God calls us to be a people in action, carrying the Catholic Faith into the world as a Beacon of Hope. This year, let's all as a community, find something we can do, rather than giving something up. Let's go out into our community beyond the walls of our church buildings and find something we can do *Large or Small*. This is a call to action this 2022 Lent.

Let's face it, giving up chocolate or coffee, or throwing a few pennies in a box has been more our norm but, in the end, has our past Lenten Offering changed the world or has it just become a simple chore that we offer up?

Yes, we are asking you to break out of your comfort zone! With this in mind, we are setting this **SMSJ Lenten Offering Challenge** in front of you to embrace. Here are a few possibilities, but please use your God given ability to think of other things that can help change our community.

Reach out to those hurting in our community . . . the hungry, the homeless.

Following the Bishops lead to go to fallen away family members and have a compassionate discussion to encourage them to be open to the return to the Catholic community.

Go one on one with someone who is in deep conflict with you to try to resolve matters. . .

If this challenge scares you because you are being called to break out of your comfort zone, sit in front of the Crucifix in pray and understand the discomfort God went through for you. We are not called to comfort we follow the Christ crucified. When this Lent concludes, share with us how your Lenten offering helped change the community around you. How your efforts helped bring about a resurrection.