

The Catholic Community of St. Mary St. Joseph Parish

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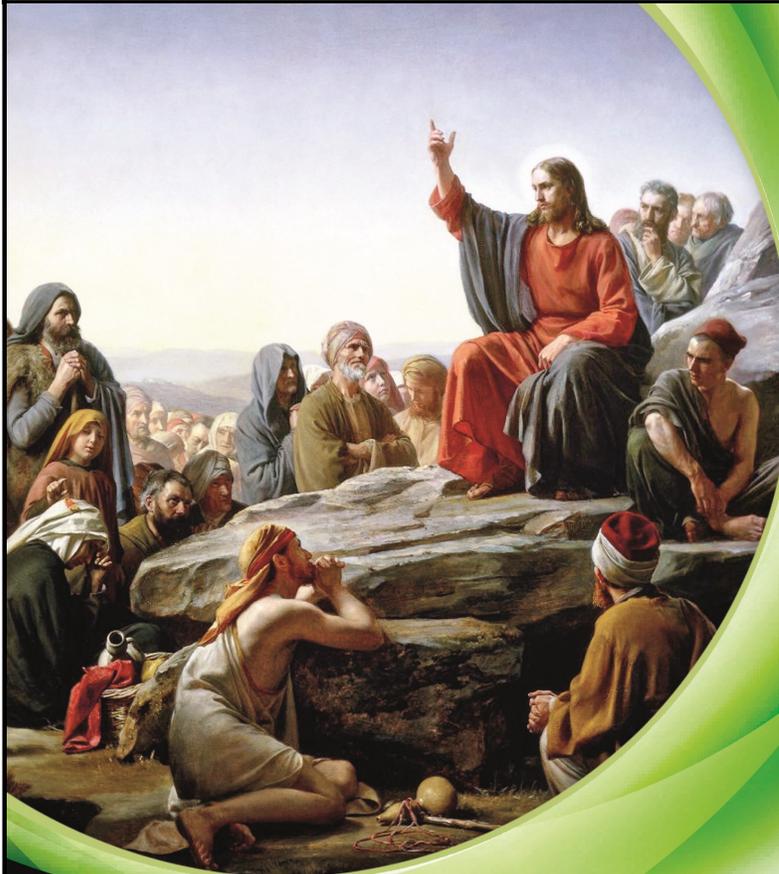
Social Media
Website:
stmarystjoseph.org
Smart Phone:
Myparishapp.com
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/
dcnwayne

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

Office Hours: Mon., Thurs. & Fri.:
8:30am-2:30pm. Tues.: 8:30am-Noon

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

Office Hours : Tues.: 9am-3pm
Wed. & Thurs.: 9am-1pm



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down,
his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” *Matthew 5:1-3*

© Diocesan
The Sermon on the Mount, by Carl Bloch, 1877

Ministering to Durand, Gaines & Surrounding Areas
The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A - January 29, 2023

From Deacon Wayne's Desk

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 29, 2023

On the day of the LORD's anger Zep 2:21

Today, the prophet Zephaniah helps us to refocus on our life's goal and that is to **Seek the Lord. Seek justice, seek humility; perhaps you may be sheltered on the day of the LORD's anger.** It may seem frightening to us that there is such a thing as a day of the Lords anger. We'd much prefer a gentle quiet God who simply loves, wouldn't we? We know from biblical stories we have heard that God and Jesus display their anger. And, it seems, it is always when folks who should know better behave as though there is no God but themselves, taking on selfish ways. To name a few: When God led the people of Israel out of Egypt, telling them time and time again, "I am your God and you are my people," and they go off and make a golden cow to worship, rather than worshiping God. Then we have Jesus in a few areas like, the cleansing of the temple. Very angry with the money changers, He flips their tables. Then there is the time when He calls the Pharisees and Scribes "white washed tombs" and a "brood of vipers." He is ticked when this happens. No doubt at all.

Are there still times when God gets angry? Even today? I will answer this with a question, "Do we as Christians, who were taught and educated, on how we should live, glorifying God, protecting and caring for others, respond accordingly to God?" We stand convicted, even today by our own actions, thoughts, and words. Do we live our life as to not anger God? The available answers are yes or no. There is no "maybe" or "I kinda do." We either commit to following Him or we don't. When we follow His commands, we are in His good grace. When we don't, He wonders WHY. He gets angry. We know better, but still follow our human inclinations of doing what we want, regardless of what has been commanded us. He can flip over the tables of our life (with our help of making bad judgments) to get us to think about what we are doing. "Repent," He yells. "Turn back to Me."

The good news is that God continues to give us a new chance each day to make Him happy or angry. All we have to do is humble ourselves as a child, and in doing so, we will gratefully follow the Lords lead, putting a huge smile on His face.

Today, we are given the exact recipe on how to humble ourselves before God and man. They are called the "Beatitudes." If we call the 10 Commandments the 'laws' we are to follow, then the Beatitudes are the "how to" to accomplish being humble to God and our fellow human beings.

Living as those poor in spirit. Embracing our suffering instead of rejecting it or retaliating. Blessed are they who mourn. Do you live as a meek person, or one who is powerful over others? Do we strive for what is just and thirst for what is right, or do we do what is just that benefits us? Can we show mercy, even to those who hate us? Do we have pure hearts allowing God to lead our lives? Do you strive for peace, even in the midst of chaos? And, what do you do when you are persecuted for what is right and just? Do you cave in and follow what is the path of least resistance?

Be humble, carry your sufferings courageously, put others before yourself, be just and stand in the Truth of Christ. Always show mercy, for God teaches us how. Purify your life, make it your goal every day to do what God asks of you. And remember, He doesn't need your help on **making His** plan. Do not persecute when you are persecuted. Forgive.

Zephaniah the prophet and St. Paul remind us that it is all about being humble. Being humble, is the best way to God. **Rejoice** and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Dcn. Wayne

SMSJ Durand/Gaines Inclement Weather Statement

We are a parish who believes in God, and each of us have the gifts/resources of faith and reason. So, when it comes to instances of bad weather/road conditions and traveling back and forth for activities sponsored by the church including Masses and other liturgies, we are asking each of you to use those God given gifts of faith and reason to do what is best for your situation that ensures your safety. The scheduled liturgies/liturgical events will always continue to be held, unless otherwise notified. If our scheduled priest cannot make it, we will still gather and pray. Again, do what is best for your situation that ensures your safety.

On Faith Formation meeting days, our directors will discuss with Dcn Wayne each situation, and publish any cancellations no later than the day/evening before.

For all other events outside of liturgies/events that are being held by any of our ministries, we ask that the leaders of those groups discuss each situation with Dcn Wayne and publish any cancellations no later than the day/evening before.

St. Mary & St Joseph Parish Liturgy Schedule

Monday, January 30 - No Mass

Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, January 31 - No Mass

Memorial of St. John Bosco

Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday, February 1 - Gaines

Eucharistic Adoration - 7:20am

Mass - 8:30am - Kenneth Strahorn by Knights of Columbus Council 12186

Community Rosary - Following Mass

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

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, February 2 - Durand

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mass - 8:30am - Earl Chamberlain & family by Michele

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

First Friday, February 3 - Durand

Memorial of St. Blaise

Eucharistic Adoration - 3:00pm-4:20pm

† **Sacrament of Reconciliation** - 3:45pm-4:20pm

Mass - 4:30pm - Mary Delaney

Community Rosary - Following Mass

Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday - February 4 - Durand

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

Mass - 5:00pm - Barry Krembs by Tammy Krembs

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday, February 5 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass at Gaines - 8:30am - Fr. Bob McKeon by Christine Morse-Laverty

Mass at Durand - 11:30am - SMSJ Parishioners

Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

In the Gathering Space the next couple of weeks you will see RCIA prayer cards.

Please take one or more to pray specifically for those who will be entering the Church. We are excited as a Parish to support the Catechumens and Candidates on their journey. It also helps you to put a face to the name and learn a little bit about them.

Sandy Corrion

RCIA/Adult Formation Director



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.

Lloyd Cunningham, Shirley Licquia, Pat Finney, Pat Loomis, Vic Huddas, Jan Proulx, Tony Tuczynski.



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 the church. SMSJ-Durand office 1-855-288-6704 or the SMSJ-Gaines office at 989-271-8434.

Homebound Ministry

If you or a member of your family are convalescing or homebound and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact:

Sandy Bensinger 810-449-9249 or

sjflute@aol.com

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers

There will be a meeting on Saturday, February 18 at 10:00am in Durand for current Eucharistic Ministers as well as anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister. We are always looking for new people and thankful for those who continue to serve.

Ushers

There will be a meeting on Saturday, February 18 at noon in Durand for current ushers as well as anyone interested in becoming an usher. We are always looking for new people and thankful for those who continue to serve.

Have you ever asked: What is adoration? Why do we do this at our Parish? Why is it important? Join us January 29 at 10:00am to explore the meaning behind Eucharistic Adoration. We will look at the history, what it means and how to participate this year in this beautiful celebration.

Sandy Corrion

Director of Adult/RCIA Formation



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration Reconciliation, and Mass February 3, Durand Campus

Eucharistic Adoration-
3:00pm-4:20pm

Blessing of the throats Feast of St. Blasé 4:00pm

Reconciliation- 3:45pm-4:20pm
Mass- 4:30pm

*Durand Knights will provide a
Soup Supper following Mass*

(Please note: Adoration will begin at 3:00pm)



Mardi Gras Dinner

Save the Date: The Mardi Gras dinner to benefit Faith Formation will be **February 11 from 6:00pm-11:00pm**, at the Durand Location Lower Level. The cost will be \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door. Tickets will go on sale after all masses beginning January 28. See the Posters in the gathering spaces for more details!



High School Youth Group News

Please pray for the following Youth Group teens attending the Holy Spirit Outpouring Retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center in Dewitt this weekend: Alexis, Anna, Austin, Callie, Jacob, Joseph, Justin, Kaitlyn, Nate, Terry and Trent. May they experience an outpouring of the Holy Spirit as they encounter it working in their lives. Please pray for our YG leaders as well: John, Sara and Ben.



As noted earlier, we're bringing back the Mardi Gras Dinner this year on February 11. This catered dinner event includes a DJ for dancing. The funds raised support all aspects of our Faith Formation at SMSJ. Traditionally, YG students have served coffee, water, dessert, bussed tables etc. In addition, the students help decorate on Friday, the day before the event. These are 2 traditions I'd like to reestablish. Many of you are in need of service hours for Confirmation. Students should plan to take part in one or both of those 2 days (Feb. 10, Feb. 11).

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

Confirmation Preparation News

Dcn. Wayne would like to meet with our four CP2 Confirmandi and their parents for a brief "Readiness" discussion. Last week, I posted the date as Feb. 12 at 10:00am, however, that is the same weekend as our Mardi Gras Dinner. We will already be asking them to help decorate Friday, Feb.10, and serve at the dinner on Feb. 11. So, we are pushing this "Readiness" session to Sunday, Feb.19 (President's Weekend).

Candidates should write a brief letter to Dcn. Wayne (2 - 3 paragraphs) explaining what receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation means to them personally and why they want to receive the Sacrament. This is similar to the letters we used to have to write to the Bishop, but less formal. They will be used to drive the "readiness" conversation. CP1 will also be moved to Feb.19 as well due to Mardi Gras. Please note that it is President's Weekend, as well.

Abundant Blessings!

John Michailo, Teen Ministry Coordinator
ymsmsj@gmail.com

1-855-288-6704 ext. 7013, Cell - (989) 413-5234

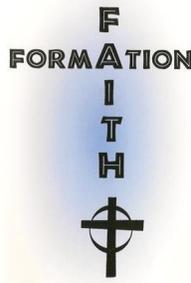


Join us on Remind



Join us on Bookface

"The more you trust God,
the happier you will be."
~Fr. John Catoir



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

It's time for another Faith Formation session this weekend, and then just to mess with you, we will be having another one the following weekend, because we have an extra Sunday this month. We didn't have F.F. on January 1st because of the holiday, so we are making it up January 29, and then we have F.F. again February 5.

If you haven't noticed, there are kid's bulletins in a white bucket each week, and I also put a double sided coloring sheet in each kid's bulletin. The kid's bulletins follow along with the weekly reading we have in Mass, I also try to incorporate one side of the coloring sheet, so it also goes with the weekly reading. Please, have your kids or "kids at heart" grab one and some crayons and a pencil and have some fun while you follow along. Hope to see everyone at the K of C soup supper on February 3 and our fantastic Mardi Gras party on February 11.

Mollie Shay, Pre K-7th Grade

Family Faith Director

C~989.666.1051, O~855.288.6704 x7004

ffdsmsj@gmail.com

 The **Altar Society** will be meeting on Thurs., Feb. 2 at 6:30pm in the Fr. Hay Education Bldg, Durand Campus.

 The **KofC Council 7955** meeting will be on Thurs., Feb. 2 at 6:30pm in the Father Hay Education Bldg., Durand Campus.

 The Altar Society will be hosting a Bake Sale after the 5:00pm and 11:30am Masses on February 4 & 5 in the Durand Gathering Space. All parishioners are welcome to donate baked goods.



SMSJ Chime Choir: We are assembling a parish chime choir and looking for 8 members minimum to begin practicing together. If you can read music at least a little, are looking for a joyful way to express your love of God, enjoy an encouraging and fulfilling teamwork experience, and can make room in your life for an hour a week of practice together, then this ministry is definitely for you!

As a chime ringer, you become part of a musical keyboard! Ages 8 and up are welcome. Practice day/time/location will be determined by needs of the group. Please call Pam Schaefer at 810-252-5006 if you are interested and an introductory planning meeting will be set up when the required number of members is reached. *We hope to be able to start practicing during 4 Lent and be able to ring at our parish Easter masses!*

**COLLECTION INFORMATION
FOR JAN. 22, 2023**

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Envelopes for General Fund (mail/drop off) | \$4,747.00 |
| Online donations for Gen Fund 1/16-1/22 | \$1,097.20 |
| Total donations General Fund..... | \$5,844.20 |
| One week budgeted amount FY 2023..... | \$6,133.17 |
| Above (Below) budget..... | (\$288.97) |

**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
(JULY 1 THRU JANUARY 22, 2023)**

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| General Fund Donations (Env/Mail/Online) | \$177,853.44 |
| Total Budget General Fund 7/1-1/22..... | \$183,995.19 |
| Above (Below/Deficit) Budget..... | (\$6,141.75) |

Other Collections for Jan. 22, 2023

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Mass Intentions..... | \$460.00 |
|----------------------|----------|

**Special
Donation
Request**

Your Parish wants to be sure you are given credit towards your weekly donations. Please write your name on the temporary envelopes being used, especially if you are donating using cash. Thank you.

WE ARE IN TROUBLE AND NEED EVERYONES HELP

As we continue as a parish family through the rest of this 2022/2023 fiscal year, we find ourselves in a bit of a financial slump. As of today, we are operating in the red. Which means, that what we are taking in for collections is not enough to cover our in bills. (Please pay attention to our financial column in this bulletin above).

It is not easy to bring this to your attention, but it is very important that we do, to keep you informed. Our country's economy is under strain from inflation/rising costs. We understand that this has affected your household, as well as, our parish family. So, today I make a plea to every one of you to prayerfully consider increasing your giving/asking, "how am I Honoring God with my income?" If each of our registered families could see to it to increase their weekly giving by \$5/week, we would have a good chance to come through this fiscal year operating in the black (enough income to cover our bills). If you haven't been giving at all, then maybe, you should consider helping financially. Your parish is here for you, and it needs your financial support. It is our duty, obligation, and privilege to care for it.

Please call me so we can discuss any concerns you may have, and I'd be more than happy to help you understand our situation, and listen to any ideas or concerns you have about the finances of our SMSJ parish family. You all are a blessing to our parish family.

Dcn. Wayne, Parish Administrator, 989-721-0571



The February 5 bulletin articles are due by Monday, January 30 at 10:00am.

Submit to bulletinmj@gmail.com



Facility Usage

If you want to schedule an event utilizing a Parish facility, contact Jen by using email stjosephgaines@gmail.com

**MONKEYS & MATES
Monkeys & Mates Stuffed Animal Drive
for Sick Children!**



With inflation and the fact that it has become increasingly difficult to find stuffed monkeys at a reasonable price, other furry friends are being included this year with the primary focus still on stuffed monkeys.

Right now, Curious George Monkeys are available online and in some Kohl's stores for only \$5 through the Kohl's Cares for Kids Program. 100% of the profits from the Kohl's Cares for Kids Program goes towards the health and wellness of families in our community.

You may purchase monkeys or other stuffed animals yourself and get them to our parish office in Gaines. The stuffed animals collected will then be delivered to Sparrow to be handed out to children in the hospital, outpatient surgery and cancer center. Please consider helping put a smile on a child's face by donating.

THANK YOU for your participation!

**Rest In
Peace**

**We pray for
Allen James LaJoye**

Husband to Colleen. Father to Bridgette, Michelle, Teresa, Patti, Danyelle and Jesse.

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



Reminder! Mother Teresa Group is having a fundraising Bake Sale on the first Sunday of every month at the Gaines campus. All proceeds go to Heartbeat of Flint or other Parish needs. Thank you for your continued generous support!

We couldn't do what we do without you!



The St. Mary Outreach Food Pantry is in need of food, especially pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, hamburger helper, peanut butter, canned fruit, canned meat, and powdered milk. If you are able to donate any of these items, we would greatly appreciate it. Food can be placed in the food pantry bin located in the Durand Gathering Space.

Sponsor of the Week

Durand Meat Processing, Inc.

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!