

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Creation is groaning in labor pains, says St. Paul, and we also groan. Yet the groaning attests to the pains of growing fruitfulness. ●

Which passage of Scripture would you choose as a motto for your life?

MATTHEW 13:23

Saint Michael's Catholic Church

17150 - 88th Ave, Coopersville, MI 49404
Parish Office: 616-384-4026

*Saint Michael's Catholic Community is a family challenged by Christ,
inspired by the Holy Spirit, to care for others and to become the body
Of Christ through worship, hospitality and service.*

Pastor: Fr. Michael Hodges—frmhodges@grpriests.org

Deacon: Deacon Tom Roberts—troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

For more information on staff, councils, ministries and schedules,
visit our website : www.saintmichaels.us

Prayerline: Chris Albrecht, 616.403.7110 or Judy Driedger, 616.899.2470

Mass Intentions

Saturday July 15

4:30PM † Bette Lipski by M/M Dennis Bochniak **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday July 16

8:30AM † Louis & Rose Goosen by Dave & Pat Goosen **MI**
10:30AM † Monica Zahm by Vivian Kosheba **MA**
4:30PM † Steven Rohen by Family **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

Monday July 17 No Mass

Tuesday July 18

† Rita Goosen by M/M Jim Harlett.....**MA**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

Wednesday July 19

† Sherm & SJ Hecksel by Mary VanDenBrink..... **MI**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

Thursday July 20

9:00AM † Ben Madison by Knights of Columbus #11581..... **MA**

Friday July 21

9:00AM † Steve Anderson by Mary VanDenBrink **MI**

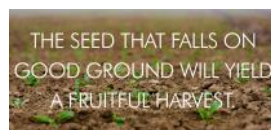
Saturday July 22

4:30PM † Sarah Hapon by Family **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday July 23

8:30AM † Jack Kirkwood by Chris & the late Chuck Albrecht ... **MI**
10:30AM † Judy Drong by The Todd Davis Family..... **MA**
4:30PM † Merlin Steffes by Norm & Barb Rohen **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

MA=St. Mary **MI**=St. Michael's



St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	July 23 / 8:30 AM	July 23 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Bryson Lindberg Lauren Meerman	NEED TWO
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom Denise Parish Andrew Bonter Kenny Harker Sharon Carlson Peter Nielsen Jennie Taylor	Deacon Tom NEED ONE
Lector	Carl Pohlman	Joe LeMieux
Sacristan	Rosemary Weigel	Sue DeVos
Ushers	Calvin Lindberg Ray Maka Dave Tronovich Deb Tronovich	NEED TWO
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	July 22 - 4:30PM	July 23- 10:30AM
Sacristan	Need One	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Need Two	Lauren LeMieux Calvin Davis
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Lisa Potts Kay Willcome	Deacon Tom Christina Withers Bruce Kamp
Precious Blood	Vito Dolci Kathy Gomez Jose Gomez Geary Farrell	Janette Ney Need Three
Hospitality	Bryson Potts Madison Potts MJ Potts Matt Potts	Jim Looks Marian Looks Anthony Leale Nettie Leale
Lector	Douglas Frantz	John Klein
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



15th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

He spoke to them at length in parables, saying:
"A sower went out to sow."

Matthew 13:3

© Osann
The Sower and the Seed by Vincent Van Gogh, 1888

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Thank you to our 13 families who purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$144.10.

2023 Vacation Bible School — STELLAR: SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

July 24-28th, from 6-8:30 pm.

Registration forms are in the narthex and on parish website. Many volunteers are needed! If interested please contact Debbie Veneklas with any questions. (616)384-4026. We are looking for donations for VBS. If you are willing to make a donation for teen snacks, please contact Debbie at 616-384-4026.



CSA 2023 — Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Our parish goal for 2023 is \$59,280.00 and 100% participation, which means every parishioner should return their pledge card. To date, we have pledged \$41,425.00 (or 70%) toward our goal. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.



St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—11:45 am (Mon. 8:45am-2:30pm for 4-year-olds). For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026. Now enrolling for the 2023-24 school year!

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Our program is now on summer break. CLW will resume in September.

Elementary Faith Formation: Grades 1-5 are now on Summer Break. Classes will resume in September.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 are on Summer Break. Classes will resume in September.

St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Brad Boerma, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Payton Patterson, Winnie Spencer, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +John VanDenBrink
by his wife

Finance Council — The Finance Council has an opening that needs to be filled. If you are interested in this position, please contact the Business Manager, Cindy Lindberg, at (616) 384-4026 or bsmgr@saintmichaels.us.

You may contact Cindy or Fr. Mike if you have any questions or would like to discuss the opening.



Parish Directory — We will be updating our parish directory this year, and we want you to be included! Stay tuned for more details to come on our photo-taking schedule!



St. Michael's Chicken Dinner

Come one, come all. Our parish festival is August 27, 2023! We will have big raffle, chicken dinner, mini-affle, kid's tent, grocery wheel . . . something for all ages! We will need many volunteers to help out. This year, we are looking for a lead chairperson for the large raffle. There will be a festival meeting today, after 8:30 AM Mass. Please contact our co-chairs, Cindy Lindberg (616-822-1213) or Jenny Lindberg (616-862-3588), to see how you can volunteer to make this year's festival a huge success!

Giving Back to God

July 9, 2023

Adult Envelopes	\$4,883.00
Loose Cash	\$108.00
Children's Envelopes	\$10.25
Total	\$5,001.25
Building Fund	\$105.00

Thank you for your continued support!

July 16, 2023 ~ The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Coopersville Cares Benefit Sale

Coopersville Cares a local helping organization, will be holding its "Annual Benefit Sale" on Friday, **August 18** and Saturday, **August 19** at the Grace Lutheran Church - 300 E. Cleveland. Donations of good usable clothing, toys, furniture and household items will be needed. Please remember this sale and start collection items that you will be willing to donate the week of the Sale.

Back to School Bash 2023

August 22, 2023 - 5PM -7PM

St Mary-St Michael and other local Churches and area businesses of Coopersville are hosting the 2023 Back To School Bash to celebrate and bless the schools, teachers, students, families, administrators, and the community as they head back to school this Fall. This **Free Family Event** will feature bounce houses, games, food, and much more! Come on out for a great family fun night at Vet's



Baby & Toddler Summer Clothing Needed

Catholic Charities West Michigan's St. Gianna Baby and Toddler Pantries in Muskegon and Grand Rapids need summer baby and toddler clothing in all sizes. Clothing can be new or gently used. Please contact Karol Maurer at kmaurer@ccwestmi.org if you would like to make a donation!

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry (6-12 Grade) Summer Activities for Youth

Youth may engage in a Mission Trip, Steubenville Trip, help with Vacation Bible School, Michigan Adventure Trip and engage in Parish service projects and other fun day trips! Some of these options are for High School aged Youth and some are for Middle School Youth and some are for both. Dates and times have been sent out in email. If you're not on the Youth Ministry email and would like to be, please contact Rebecca. After May 21, Middle School Youth are those entering 6-8 grade next fall and High School Youth are those entering 9th grade through 12 grade next fall, as well as, those newly graduated. For more information and/or dates please contact Rebecca.

Questions or comments

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or dre@saintmarysmaerne.org



Fr. Mike's Musings



Last week I discussed the reasons and importance of celibacy in the Catholic priesthood. But this is only one of the criticisms levelled at the Church and the maintenance of its clergy. Let me reassure you that I, and the majority of my brother priests, are not unhappy about living in a celibate state. As I mentioned this is only one of the "concerns" many lay people bring to their priest, as either a question or as the so-called "axe-to-grind". In either case we graciously try to assuage the questioning lay person without entering into a circular argument or allowing ourselves to be drawn into an angry, and fruitless, exchange.

A Catholic practice that is often questioned in the requirement that only men are ordained to the priesthood. The tradition here is based on the life of Jesus Christ. Jesus had many female followers, and His openness to women and His recognition of their dignity was in contrast to the culture of His age and region, where women were viewed as little more than property. In spite of the evident respect that Jesus had for women, He did not choose a woman to be one of the Twelve Apostles. The early Church imitated this practice in its formation and structure. Although several influential women are mentioned in the New Testament, there is no evidence that any served in a formal clerical state in the Church. Female deacons (deaconesses) and other prominent Christian women are mentioned in the New Testament, as well as in the later written works of the Church. But no women are ever mentioned as serving in a priestly state.

Because there is no precedent for the ordination of women to the priesthood in the scriptures or throughout the history of the early Church, the current Church maintains this practice of ordaining only men to this office. This does not mean that the Holy Spirit could not lead the Church to change this practice, but it would have to be a very clear and convincing sign from the Lord that would impel the Pope and his bishops to overturn a practice that is deeply rooted in the history and traditions of the Catholic Church and attested to in the holy scriptures.

It is easy these days to focus on the external qualifications for a Catholic priest, celibate and male, and to neglect the important spiritual qualities that a priest must possess. A priest must be a man of prayer, a witness to Christ and the Gospels, and a leader of their specific community. Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, the priest is set apart by God and the Church to perform a special role. The model for that role is Jesus Himself, who laid down His life for His flock. The priest is empowered by God, just as the Twelve Apostles were, to continue the mission of Jesus on earth. They are to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God, make Christ present to the faithful through the Eucharist, to teach with authority, to absolve the penitent, to pray for healing and for deliverance from the influences of evil, and to bring the world to God through Jesus Christ.

Priests should expect that the power of God is available to him by virtue of ordination. When a man is ordained by a bishop to the priesthood, he is set apart from the faithful body of the Church for a specific life and ministry. And through the support and the prayers of the faithful the priest is given the wherewithal to accomplish his task by the grace of God. The role of priest is not about power, but rather working and walking with God's people toward eternal life in His Kingdom. It is an arduous, yet joyful vocation; not to be taken lightly but performed in *persona Christi* for the good of all His Church.

Help Wanted

Catholic schools, parishes, affiliated organizations, and the diocese are hiring! Visit the diocesan website to see available opportunities, and check back regularly for new openings: <https://grdiocese.org/employment/>

Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

Joe Heminger & Laura Wierman.....July 22, 2023 (St Michael)
Wyatt VanDyke & Olivia Killebrew..... July 29, 2023 (St Michael)
Christian Hall & Kayleigh Kutchin August 25, 2023 (St Michael)
Marissa McDonald & Christopher Barczak.....October 7, 2023 (St Mary)

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

St. Mary's Parish News

Religious Education

Religious Education meets on Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m. and will resume in September.

Children's Liturgy of the Word meets during the 10:30 a.m. Mass and will resume in the fall.

Questions or comments:

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616-677-5065

High School Youth Ministry

See Cluster Page for more information.



Mass of Hope, Health & Healing

Healing Mass with The Sacrament of the Sick. **Friday, August 4 at 7PM** at St Mary. All are welcome. Please come and receive the healing power of God.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest"

Matthew 11:28



Save the Dates

July - Aug	School Supply Drive
August 4	Mass of Hope, Health and Healing-7PM
August 22	Back to School Bash-Vets Park 5PM
August 27	St Michael Parish Festival
Sep 10	St Mary Parish Picnic
Sept 12-16	Parish Directory Pictures- Watch for Sign Ups and more Info.
October 8	Knights of Columbus Councils Breakfast & Blood Drive

Catholic Service Appeal 2023

Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal!

Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Remember that any amount collected over the goal will stay in the parish. If you have not responded, please do so as soon as possible. Learn more at GRdiocese.org/CSA

CSA 2023 Pledge Goal: \$51,834.00

Total Pledges Made: \$37,860.00 (73%)

Balance: \$13,974.00

Participation: 105 of 292 Active Households (35%)

Totals as of July 10, 2023

Thank you for your stewardship



Knights of Columbus #11581 News

To learn more about the Knights of Columbus' activities and what they do to support our parish community, the surrounding area and the world, please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander at: roblander82@gmail.com or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in St Mary's Parish Hall.

Due to the Holiday and The Berlin Fair the July Meeting will be moved to July 13 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.

Save the Date: October 8

Community Breakfast and Blood Drive Register here:

https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/rive_schedule/149333



School Supply Drive

Our Lady of Fatima Guild is hosting their annual school supply drive. Donations of backpacks, lunch boxes, pencils, notebooks, markers, and other school supplies would be appreciated.

Donations will be collected July 22- through Aug 14.

There will be a box in the Narthex to place your donations.



Parish Picnic ~ September 10

St Mary's annual Parish Picnic is scheduled for September 11, beginning with outdoor Mass at the cemetery chapel at 10:30AM. (weather pending) If you would like to help with the planning of the picnic, or volunteer at the event, please contact the parish office.



New Parish Cluster Directory

We are making plans for a new parish directory. Watch for more details and photography dates and time slots. In the meantime, Be sure to update the parish office with your current contact information.



Meal Train for Fr Mike

Fr Mike has been enjoying his weekly homemade meals from our Parish Family. THANK YOU to everyone that has prepared a meal for him. It is very much appreciated. We have THREE open dates in August. Can you take one of them? It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are making for dinner. Put it in a microwaveable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on our way to (or home) from work.. (Sign up online: or call the parish office)

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n>



Giving Back to God

	July 1/2	July 8/9
Regular Contributions	\$2561.00	\$2954.00
Capital Improvement	\$345.00	\$350.00
Online Contributions	\$1342.00	\$245.00
Children's Contributions	\$9.00	\$13.17
Total	\$4257.00	\$3562.17

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

DAVID SHABLUK D.D.S ~ MARRIELLE MAY D.D.S.

General Dentistry ~ 616.837.6521 ~ 706 W. Randal St

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

Dear Padre,

I have a friend who has been coming to church with me, and he often has questions I can't answer. The big one last week was, "Why don't Catholics have more Bible preaching instead of all this ceremony?" I try to explain, but I don't think I have the right words. Help!

Your friend's question is very common because our Catholic ceremony can be confusing to those of other faiths.

The Catholic Mass comes from two prayer traditions. First, there is the tradition of the Jewish synagogue service where people gather to read and study the word of God. Second, there is the tradition of the early Christians who met in their homes to celebrate the breaking of the bread.

The earliest Christians, Jewish converts, maintained their Sabbath tradition of reading and studying the word of God. They added to that the gift of the Eucharist that Jesus gave them. Our Mass puts these two together in the Liturgy of the Word (readings, preaching, prayers) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (offering, eucharistic prayer, holy Communion).

The homily may not be as long as it is in some other Christian traditions, but the preaching should be solid, based on Scripture, and in line with the teaching of the Church. We are a Church of word and sacrament. We listen to the word of God and we celebrate the breaking of the bread. ●



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

It is difficult to distinguish, among the many voices and many words, that of the Lord, the only one that makes us free. Always keep a handy copy of the Gospel with you...and then, read a short passage every day, so that you become used to reading the word of God.

ANGELUS, ROME,
JULY 12, 2020



JANTANEE RUNPRANOMKORN / SHUTTERSTOCK

MONDAY

July 17
Weekday
Ex 1:8–14, 22
Mt 10:34–11:1

TUESDAY

July 18
Weekday
Ex 2:1–15a
Mt 11:20–24

WEDNESDAY

July 19
Weekday
Ex 3:1–6, 9–12
Mt 11:25–27

THURSDAY

July 20
Weekday
Ex 3:13–20
Mt 11:28–30

FRIDAY

July 21
Weekday
Ex 11:10–12:14
Mt 12:1–8

SATURDAY

July 22
St. Mary Magdalene
Sg 3:1–4b or
2 Cor 5:14–17
Jn 20:1–2, 11–18

SUNDAY

July 23
Sixteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Wis 12:13, 16–19
Rom 8:26–27
Mt 13:24–43 or
Mt 13:24–30

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.