



# The Kingdom of Heaven *is Like a Treasure* buried in a field

## Listening to God's Voice in Steubenville

*Claire Jandernoa*

During the opening Friday night Adoration session of our recent trip to Steubenville, I felt a great need for our country to return to God. America needs to find our identity in Christ so we know who we are. I told God to use me, and then I felt God telling me my future husband needed my prayers right then and there. Whoever he is, God told me to pray for him. As I continued to pray, He then told me that one of my future grandsons would go through great hardship and that he would need to trust in God, but in the end he would experience great peace and joy. I felt God asking me if I would give Him my family and entrust them to Him, and I told Him to have them. I told Him my future family is His – He loves them more than I can, He knows what they need more than I ever will and He can protect them better than I can; I don't even know them yet, but I told Him they are His. God then looked right at me in that moment and said, "And so are you. You are Mine. Right now, in this moment, you are Mine." I felt Him pull me into His embrace and I received the refuge I needed. I know this is what I need to seek whenever I'm frustrated or need help. God then told me He understands me. I know there will be times in the future where I wish people would understand me, but I don't need them to because the King of the universe understands me, and He listens. As Adoration continued, my hands, feet and mouth would oftentimes tremble and tingle – I asked God why, and He told me it's because He wants me to be His hands, feet and mouth here on Earth.

As the priest began to process with the Blessed Sacrament throughout the room and as he came our way, I immediately jumped up and my whole body was overcome with trembling. My arms were outstretched in prayer, but suddenly became heavy. Before I lowered them, I felt God say, "Keep them up, stay strong. I'll need you to be strong for My children. Don't worry, I'll be your strength, but I need you to be strong." I responded out loud, "I want to be bold for You! I want to be strong for You! I want You to use me! Mama Mary, help me say yes to your Son! Help me choose your Son! St. Joseph, give me your steadfast devotion! Mary and Joseph, give me your courageous humility! Holy family, give me strength and guide me!"

As Friday night Adoration came to an end, I knew in my heart God had chosen me that night. Steubenville hosted another large Adoration session the following night, and this time around, I wanted to choose Him. As music played and we all worshipped, I began to sway on my feet and had very little control of my body. God then said to me, "I am your foundation and you will not fall, but if you did I would knock you down and catch you."

My body became completely paralyzed once I sat down and I couldn't move anything except my eyes, and was reminded of the paralytic from the Bible before Jesus healed him. I tried to move my legs but couldn't, and then felt God say, "There's a reason I'm doing this to you. We both know you're always nonstop go-go-go, but you need to make time to sit still and be silent with Me. I'm forcing you to right now, but you need to remember to choose it."

St. Mary's Parish  
Westphalia,  
Michigan  
July 30, 2023



## Liturgy Schedule

**Monday, July 31st • St. Ignatius of Loyola**  
8:15 AM †Mike Kramer

**Tuesday, August 1st • St. Alphonsus Liguori**  
8:15 AM For Greg Giles

**Wednesday, August 2nd**  
7:00 PM †Fr. Ken McDonald

**Thursday, August 3rd**  
8:15 AM In thanksgiving for St. Mary School Staff, students and families

**First Friday, August 4th • St. John Vianney**  
6:15 AM †Robert Shannon, including living & deceased family members

8:15 AM †Ronald Trierweiler, including living & deceased family members

**First Saturday, August 5th**  
1:00 PM Wedding Mass Joseph Smith & Kimberly English

4:30 PM †Leon Kramer, including living & deceased family members

**Sunday, August 6th • The Transfiguration of the Lord**  
8:00 AM †Robert Schmitt, including living & deceased family members

10:00 AM †Jim Keilen, 1 year anniversary

6:00 PM People of the Parish



The Sanctuary Lamp for this week  
is in loving memory of  
Stanley Wieber

## Week at a Glance

**Monday, July 31st**

5:45 AM Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)  
5:30 PM Reconciliation  
6:00 PM Holy Hour with Rosary  
7:00 PM FSU/Omega Project/ARK

**Tuesday, August 1st**

7:00 PM Lost Sheep Holy Hour  
7:30 PM AA (Office Basement)

**Wednesday, August 2nd**

5:45 AM Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)  
5:30 PM Reconciliation

**Thursday, August 3rd**

5:45 AM Eucharistic Adoration (Until 6:45 AM)  
2:00 PM Reconciliation

**First Friday, August 4th**

9:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration (Until 10:00 PM)

**First Saturday, August 5th**

8:15 AM Marian Devotions  
3:00 PM Reconciliation

## World Youth Day 2023

Seventeen of us from the area will be travelling to World Youth Day in Portugal for the next week and a half. World Youth Day features many faith-building opportunities. The centerpiece of the pilgrimage takes place on August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, the pilgrims take a long hike (for us 11 miles) to a large field on August 5<sup>th</sup> where Pope Francis leads all the participants in a prayer vigil. Everyone spends the night in that field where the Pope presides at Mass the next morning. Please keep us all in your prayers as this time can be such an incredible opportunity for grace. *Father Eric*

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

**ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...**

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. **For information please contact Barb Spitzley at 989.587.4201.**





## Weekend Ministry Schedule

### August 5th • The Transfiguration of the Lord

#### 4:30 PM Mass

Rosary	Dave Wohlfert
Readers	Sheri Wohlfert, Glenn Simon
EMC	Janice Spitzley, Dave & Sheri Wohlfert
Servers	Brandon Buskalic, Elijah Thelen
Ushers	Larry Hanses, Darron Birchmeier, Tory Schneider, Ryan Schneider

### August 6th • The Transfiguration of the Lord

#### 8:00 AM Mass

Rosary	Joe Bengel
Readers	Mitchell Feldpausch, Russ Snitgen
EMC	Eunice Arens, Helen Hengesbach, Wanda Martin
Servers	Gavin Keilen, William Lyons
Ushers	Ted Platte, Stan Kolp, <b>2 Volunteers</b>

#### 10:00 AM Mass

Rosary	Jerry Nurenberg
Readers	Laurie Sillman, Tim J. Thelen
EMC	Jerry Nurenberg, Deb Prince, Joe Fedewa
Servers	Andrew Rehmann, Benjamin Rehmann
Ushers	David Thelen, Don English, Joe Heckman, <b>1 Volunteer</b>

#### 6:00 PM Mass

Rosary	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
Readers	Kary Schneider
EMC	Kary Schneider
Servers	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Ushers	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>

**\*\*We still need Rosary leaders, Altar Servers and Ushers for the 6:00 PM Mass. Please contact the parish office to volunteer!**

## Cemetery Contributions

If you would like to contribute to St. Mary's Cemetery Fund by check, please make sure to write a separate check for this contribution. If you have any questions please contact the parish office. Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

## Weekly Contribution Totals

### July 23, 2023

**Total Amount Received.....\$23,607.00**

Weekend Collection .....	\$15,119.00
Number of Envelopes .....	89
EFT & MARS.....	\$2,503.00
Transactions .....	48
We Share .....	\$5,985.00
Transactions .....	79

**Weekly Amount Needed..... \$25,000**

### Special Parish & Diocesan Donations:

Peter's Pence.....	\$25.00
Help Spread the Faith.....	\$5.00
Building Maintenance Fund .....	\$30.00
Sister Myra Scholar. Fund .....	\$45.00

## Baptism Preparations



**Pick up your Baptism Packet  
at the Parish Office.  
Do not delay as some of these  
forms are time sensitive!**

**Next Baptism Class:  
September 19  
@ 7:00 PM in the school library.  
Call the parish office to register  
989-587-4201**

## Lost Sheep Holy Hour: Every Tuesday 7-8 PM

Come and join us as we pray for all those who have fallen away from their faith, that they may return to the Church with a renewed understanding of the love and mercy of God.

*"Know that the greatest service that man can offer to God is to help convert souls." St. Rose of Lima*



Planning is underway for this year's St. Mary Parish Family Fest! Mark your calendars for September 22nd & 23rd. If you have ideas for Family Fest, would like to share feedback, or want to be involved, please

contact [familyfest@stmarychurch.net](mailto:familyfest@stmarychurch.net). Also check our FB page for updates - <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryfamilyfest>

~ 2023 Family Fest Committee

#### PLEASE NOTE:

The Craft Show will **not** be taking place at this year's St. Mary Parish Family Fest. A new date has not been set for the next craft show at this time. Information will be shared when it becomes available.

## To the Moon and Back Ministry May Meeting

To the Moon and Back Ministry will be holding the next pregnancy and infant loss support group meeting this **Wednesday, August 2nd at 7:00 PM**. The meeting will be held in the parish office basement. The meeting room entrance door is located in the back of the parish office.

To the Moon and Back Ministry offers compassionate, Christ-centered support in both group and individual settings for anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death, infertility, failed adoption, or being childless not by choice. This ministry hopes to reach those grieving from a loss that is often not seen, recognized, or even known to others. We encourage couples to honor their dreams for children including children gone but never forgotten. Compassion begets compassion, and our goal is to ensure nobody feels alone in their grief for a loss so common yet so unspoken. The meetings are open to anyone from our community and the surrounding areas. Any questions or concerns may be directed to Trina Anderson or Dawn Cook at [MoonAndBackMinistry@gmail.com](mailto:MoonAndBackMinistry@gmail.com). Also, please email us if you are interested in reaching out to us via Zoom or phone call, and we can schedule a time to talk. Visit the ministry's Facebook page at:

[www.facebook.com/ToTheMoonAndBackMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/ToTheMoonAndBackMinistry).

We hold quarterly group meetings. The following are the remaining meeting dates for 2023: **August 2nd and November 1st**. Individual meetings can be scheduled upon request.

## Mass Scheduling Guidelines:

- \* Please call the parish office (989)587-4201 or stop in during business hours. **We do not schedule Masses through email or voicemail.**
- \* We can schedule one year out from the date we are contacted. We do not go beyond a year so if someone passes away they have that date for their 1 year anniversary. At this time we are only able to schedule 1 Mass per intention a year.
- \* **Those scheduling wedding anniversaries, 50, 55, 60, 65 years or more are encouraged to schedule their Mass as far ahead as possible and will not be held to the 1 year restriction.**



## Scripture Readings For the Week of July 30th

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</b> Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Mt 13:31-35
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 13:36-43
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Memorials of Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop, and Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest</b> Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9; Mt 13:44-46
<b>Thursday</b>	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a & 8a, 11; Mt 13:47-53
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest</b> Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome</b> Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord</b> Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

## Summer TAB Dates:

**August 7th, August 21st**

Orders can be placed in the collection basket or in the drop box at the parish office. Orders will be processed on **Monday at 9:00 AM** and can be picked up at the parish office on **Friday of that week by 3:00 PM**.

# Prayer Corner

This week we pray for the people who are on the list for our prayer network, those listed in our bulletin and those included in The Book of Intentions located near Our Lady of Westphalia.

If you would like your name or a loved one's name added to our bulletin for prayer please call the parish office at 989.587.4201



Brooke Badgero	Mary Hengesbach	Rachel Mauren	Ofelia Ramereiz	Gerry Smith
Gladys Bengel	Mark Hengesbach	Hunter Meyers	Jim Ricci	Mary Smith
Joe Bengel	Fr. Dennis Howard	Viola Meyers	Sharon Rock	Sandy C. Smith
Bill Bengel	Kevin Howard	Don Miller	Richard Ryals	Leroy Spitzley
Jillian Chapman	Michelle Huhn	Sharon Miller	Jess Sanchez	Ruth Spitzley
Helen Cook	Leone Hufnagel	Justin Norton	Adeline Schafer	Christian Teachworth
Bob Droste	Lisa Koenigsnecht	Rose Nurenberg	Aurelius Schafer	Dave Thelen
Marilyn Fandel	Rose Kolp	Tom Nurenberg	Stanley Schafer	Jason Thelen
Sister Joanne Fedewa	John Kowatch	Brad O'Dell	Steve Schmitz	Luke G. Thelen
Mabel Feldpausch	Jude Kramer	Gemma Paintner	Hilda Schmitz	Philip Thelen
Marie Feldpausch	Kendall Kramer	MaKenzie Patrick	Nancy Schueller	Suzanne Thelen
Sue Fox	Barb Kurkowski	Bev Platte	Nick Schrauben	Tom Thelen
Rachelle Gladding	Mary Lou Lehman	Mark Platte	Jeffrey Sillman	Dane Van Ells
Mary Theresa Gross	Dan Martin	Laura Pline	John Sillman	Sarah Weber
Lisa Grove	Ed Martin	Josie Pohl	Rosalie Simon	Tony Wirth
Pam Haan	Luke Martin	Mary Pohl	Jeanne Sleight	David Witgen
Ray Hart	Quincey Martin	Darin Pung	Brody Smith	
Colleen Heiden	Bill Mattila	Frank Rademacher	Carolee Smith	

## Healing Prayer Ministry

The healing prayer team will be available after the 10:00 AM Mass on the following dates: **August 13**, September 10, October 8, November 12, & December 10. If you would like to make an appointment, please call Vicki Noeker at 587-4211

## Prayer Network members will pray for your intentions:

If you or a loved one are in need of prayer please call the prayer network: 587-4132 • 587-6624 • 517-285-3783 or email [btrierweiler@gmail.com](mailto:btrierweiler@gmail.com)

## Surviving Divorce Sessions

St. Mary's Parish is pleased to announce that we will be offering **Surviving Divorce** sessions which bring hope and healing to anyone who has experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Surviving Divorce will help you work through the emotional upheaval of separation and divorce, gain wisdom and comfort from experts and others who share your experiences. The program will help you to navigate new concerns like custody, court hearings, and finances.

This program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help you to discover a deeper understanding of God's love for you, find answers to your questions, restore your hope, and begin authentic healing.

**Surviving Divorce will be held every Monday starting September 11th to December 11th, from 7 to 8:30 PM in the Parish Library, St. Mary, Westphalia** (No meeting on November 20<sup>nd</sup> for Thanksgiving). The **program fee is \$20** to cover the cost of the Personal Guide.

To register please go to <https://goo.gl/forms/klTjVnkMxEv0mtAl3> or contact St. Mary's Parish at **989-587-4211 by September 8th**.

## Christian Mothers & Women's Guild

Did you know that when a member of the Christian Mother's & Women's Guild passes away, one of the things we do for the deceased and their family is sit together and say the CMWG Prayer for a Deceased Christian Mother at the funeral? We would love to see the number of members attending funeral Masses grow! We sit together on the St. Joseph side, in the main aisle, just a few rows in front of the confessional. The prayers start 15 minutes before the funeral Mass. We look forward to seeing more members, good representation of our organization and the extra prayers! Please prayerfully consider joining us!

## Thank You

Thank you to all that remembered me with cards and birthday wishes. *Dorothy Jandernoa*

It's hard to believe 35 years have passed since Westphalia became my new home. The welcome I felt when I came to live here was heart felt and still is heart felt. I have seen this community circle the wagon more times than I can count when someone, or a family, is experiencing difficult times. The love of God and Community once again was shown this past week. I want to thank all those who so generously gave in the way of prayers and words of comfort, cards of comfort, food and supplies, gift cards, gift certificates and money for Ryan, Dawn and Raymond during the loss of their son and brother. I would also like to give a special thank you to St. Mary's Parish, Ox's, Ms. Schafer's and Pirate's Pub for accepting contributions on behalf of the family. You the Community did this!! Thank you!!  
*Julie Miller*

### THANK YOU RED CROSS BLOOD DONORS!

The July blood drive was successful thanks to our wonderful donors. The Red Cross collected 45 pints of life saving blood. **Mark your calendars for the next blood drive to be held from 11:30 AM - 5:15 PM, September 11th, at St. Mary Parish Hall.**  
*Christian Mothers and Women's Guild and Knights of Columbus*

## Eucharistic Ministers Needed for Hospital Ministry

Lansing Catholic Hospital Ministry is looking for Eucharistic Ministers to distribute Communion to Catholic patients at **Sparrow Hospital and McLaren Greater Lansing**. We were away from the hospitals during the pandemic and are in a slow process of returning to the hospitals and rebuilding our ministry. A general orientation for new volunteers is provided by each hospital before a more specific training for hospital ministry is provided. Eucharistic ministers usually volunteer one day each month but may choose to volunteer more than one day a month or even one day at each hospital. This is usually a commitment of 2-3 hours but may vary slightly as the number of Catholic patients fluctuates from day to day. If you are interested in hospital ministry, please feel free to contact me: Cassian Hardie at (517) 364-2902 or [cassian.hardie@sparrow.org](mailto:cassian.hardie@sparrow.org)



### Summer Scripture Days: August 22nd-24th

Spend three summer days exploring the life and letters of St. Peter with our featured speakers, Bishop Earl Boyea & CBS Instructor Katrina Iamarino! Any adult over the age of 18 that is interested in deepening their understanding of St. Peter is welcome to attend.

The cost for single occupancy is \$225, double occupancy is \$175 and commuting is \$130. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://www.stfrancis.ws/ssd>.

## Men's Discernment Retreat

**St. Francis Retreat Center | August 7th-9th | For men ages 16+**

This retreat is a chance for men to learn more about the discernment process, meet men who are already in formation, ask questions about the life and ministry of a priest and provides an opportunity to experience the camaraderie of their discerners. Register at [www.stfrancis.ws/discernment](http://www.stfrancis.ws/discernment): Suggested donation \$200.

## Job Opportunity

St. Jude Catholic Community is hiring! They are looking for a Maintenance Worker, Part-Time Youth Minister and Early Childhood Coordinator.  
Visit: [stjudedewitt.com/job-openings](http://stjudedewitt.com/job-openings) or call **517-648-8335** for more information.

## St. Mary's Catholic Church

201 N. Westphalia St.  
Westphalia, MI 48894  
Tel: 989.587.4201  
[office@stmarychurch.net](mailto:office@stmarychurch.net)  
[www.stmarychurch.net](http://www.stmarychurch.net)

### Mailing Address:

PO Box 267  
Westphalia, MI 48894

### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM—4:00 PM  
Friday: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM  
Closed for lunch: 12:30-1:00 PM

### Rev. Fr. Eric Weber, Pastor

[father@stmarychurch.net](mailto:father@stmarychurch.net)

Father Peter Lawrence,  
Associate Pastor (RCIA)

[pjlawrence@stmarychurch.net](mailto:pjlawrence@stmarychurch.net)

### Parish Office Staff

Julie Trierweiler, Business Manager  
[jltrierweiler@stmarychurch.net](mailto:jltrierweiler@stmarychurch.net)

Beth Markel, Office Manager  
[bamarkel@stmarychurch.net](mailto:bamarkel@stmarychurch.net)

Vicki Noeker, Discipleship Coordinator  
[vsnoeker@stmarychurch.net](mailto:vsnoeker@stmarychurch.net)

Brian Flynn, Music Director  
[bdflynn@stmarychurch.net](mailto:bdflynn@stmarychurch.net)

Austin Fox, Director of Religious Ed. &  
Youth Minister  
[afox@stmarychurch.net](mailto:afox@stmarychurch.net)

Barb Spitzley, Secretary, Baptism, RCIA  
[bspitzley@stmarychurch.net](mailto:bspitzley@stmarychurch.net)

### St. Mary School Office

Tel: 989.587.3702

Helen Hengesbach, Principal  
[principal@stmaryschool.us](mailto:principal@stmaryschool.us)

Holly Feldpausch  
[hjfeldpausch@stmaryschool.us](mailto:hjfeldpausch@stmaryschool.us)

Sue Thelen  
[smthelen@stmaryschool.us](mailto:smthelen@stmaryschool.us)

Amy Cook  
[ascook@stmaryschool.us](mailto:ascook@stmaryschool.us)

### Bulletin article information:

Please send your bulletin article as an attachment to:

[office@stmarychurch.net](mailto:office@stmarychurch.net)  
by Monday morning - 9:00 AM.



It shouldn't be surprising that THE most important thing for our relationship with God is to talk to Him. That's why I'm alone today to talk about Prayer, why we need it and how to do it to best love the Lord.

So much evil in the Church today is a direct result of a failure to pray. Fortunately, the Church has provided us with so many ways to connect with God. The most important and powerful are the Sacraments, but just being willing to sit with the Lord is a crucial part of our spiritual lives.

In this week's episode, I'll teach you some of the different ways to pray, why they're all important and how to build a prayer life. Check it out!

**To sign up for Formed.org:**

1. go to: <https://stmarychurch.formed.org>
2. click on get a parish subscription
3. search for St. Mary Westphalia
4. type in your name and email address and then submit; you should be able to access the website at that point or they may send you a link in your email.



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