

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 31

# Connections

Serving the East Lansing  
Catholic Community

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish**

955 Alton Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517-351-7215  
[elcatholics.org](http://elcatholics.org)

**St. Thomas Parish School**

915 Alton Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
School Phone: 517-332-0813

**St. John Church &  
Student Center**

327 MAC Avenue  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517-337-9778  
[stjohnmsu.org](http://stjohnmsu.org)

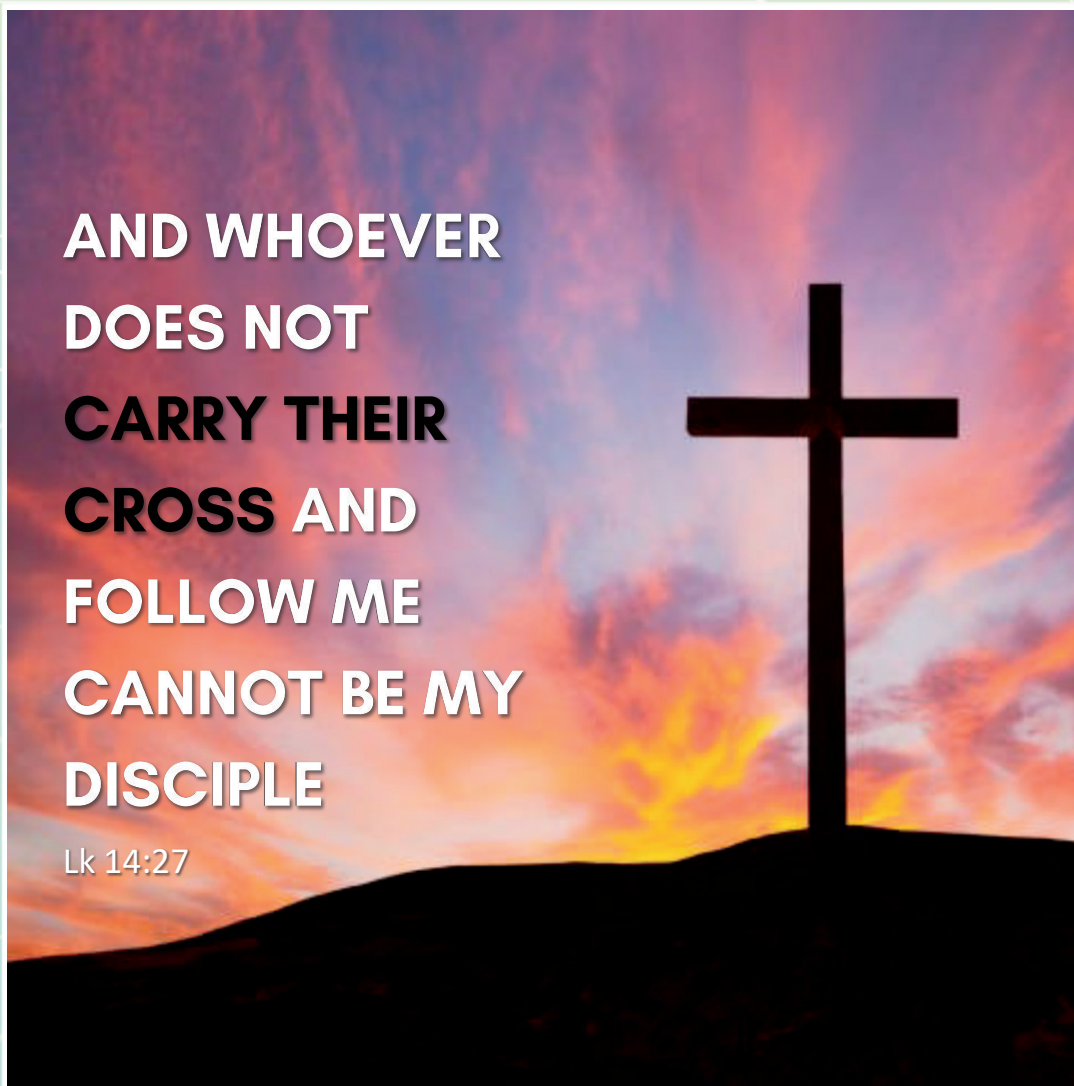
**GIVING  
MADE SIMPLE**



[elcatholics.org/giving](http://elcatholics.org/giving)

**AND WHOEVER  
DOES NOT  
CARRY THEIR  
CROSS AND  
FOLLOW ME  
CANNOT BE MY  
DISCIPLE**

Lk 14:27



**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS**

**Weekend Mass Times**

Saturday 4:30pm  
Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am

**Weekday Mass Times**

Mon, Wed & Friday 6:30am  
Tue, Thurs 8:15am  
Sat 9:00am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sat 3:00-4:00pm

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

**Weekend Mass Times**

Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am  
Noon & 7:00pm

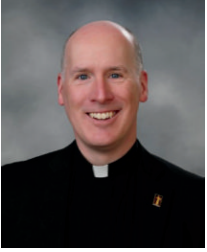
**Weekday Mass Times**

Mon & Wed 5:30pm  
Tues & Thurs 8:45pm  
Fri 12:15pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Mon & Wed 4:00pm-5:00pm  
Tues & Thurs 7:30pm-8:30pm  
Fri 11:00am-12:00pm

# WELCOME



*My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God.*

**True Sight:** Our readings speak of the virtue of Humility, the ability to see things as they really are and not as we wish them to be. The perfect example of humility is Jesus. Although he is divine, he shows his power through perfect love, obedience, and self-sacrifice. As we all need to surrender the disordered fears and desires that feed our pride and vanity, may I recommend the **Litany of Humility** as a useful prayer. You will find this litany in older prayer books and certainly on-line. This litany teaches us to surrender to God all that falsely inflates our egos. It is a difficult prayer to pray, but I highly recommend it.

**Have a blessed Labor Day!** Mass will be offered at St. Thomas at 9am on Sept. 1. Safe travels to all who are heading out of town for the coming weekend! If you need to find a parish for Sunday Mass, check out [MassTimes.org](http://MassTimes.org) for liturgy schedules by city, state or zip code.

**College Campus Ministry is off and running!** If you are an undergraduate student at MSU or LCC, please email Anna ([annas@elcatholics.org](mailto:annas@elcatholics.org)), and she will get you connected. This Friday is **Freshman Ignite** for new students, and this coming weekend is **Spartan Sunday** at St. John Church & Student Center, a time to invite our students to get involved in the various activities and ministries of the parish. For Graduate Students and Young Professionals (up to age 35), **GSYP** meets on Wednesday evenings at St. John after the 5:30pm Mass. Please email Fr. Riley ([friley@elcatholics.org](mailto:friley@elcatholics.org)) to connect with GSYP.

**Friday Eucharistic Adoration** (7:00am – 3:30pm) will begin at St. Thomas on Sept. 5.

On **First Saturday, Sept. 6**, Fr. Gordon will give a presentation on **The Enduring Legacy of Padre Pio** ahead of his feast date (Sept. 23). Come to Fr. Mac Hall after the 9am Saturday Mass at St. Thomas on Sept. 6. Refreshments will be served.

May we follow Jesus in being meek and humble of heart!

*Fr. Gordon*

## In Observance of Labor Day

The Parish Offices will be

**CLOSED**

on **Monday, Sept. 1**

in observance of the holiday.

Mass will be offered at 9:00am **ONLY** at  
**St. Thomas Aquinas on Monday.**



## CALLING ALL PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS!!!

Volunteers are important to school success. It is also important that we keep our children safe by requiring certain things before someone can volunteer. All new volunteers are required to take the course, Protecting God's Children, fill out a background check authorization, and sign the Diocesan Code of Conduct.

Duties are wiping down tables, opening lunch items for students, and monitoring noise. Hours are from 11:10am to 12:45pm. If you are interested in being a lunch volunteer or go on field trips, please go to [stthomasaquinasparishschool.org/volunteering-at-sta](http://stthomasaquinasparishschool.org/volunteering-at-sta) to learn more and get started!

## GO UP

### TO THE ALTAR OF GOD

A Retreat for Advanced Altar Servers

**Middle School and Up**

Currently Serving or Who Like to Learn to Serve

**SATURDAY, September 6**

10:00am to 1:00pm | St. Thomas Aquinas

Please **RSVP by Tuesday, Sep 2**  
[ppaddock@elcatholics.org](mailto:ppaddock@elcatholics.org)





## FIRST SATURDAY PRESENTATION

Following the  
9am Mass  
Fr. Mac Hall,  
St. Thomas

## September 6: The Enduring Legacy of Padre Pio

Fr. Gordon will be presenting

He has resources available at [elcatholics.org/first-Saturday](http://elcatholics.org/first-Saturday). All are Invited. Refreshments will be served.



## Sacred Heart Masses

at St. Thomas Aquinas

Last Friday of the Month

Sept 26 | Oct 31 | Nov 28

### 6:00pm Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

- Pray the traditional Sacred Heart Holy Hour prayers during the hour
- Confession will be available in the Reconciliation chapel

### 7:00pm Mass in Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

### 7:45pm Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross and Prayers for Healing (after Mass)

### 8:00pm Conclusion

## A HUGE THANK YOU

Thank you to all of those who donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Back To School clothing drive. It was a great success and benefitted many children.

You may leave clean, gently used clothing on the Donation Wall in the gathering space at St. John any time. Men's clothing is especially needed. Thank you for remembering those in need!



St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## ORGAN SERIES

First Wednesday of Each Month

7:00pm

Creation and Stewardship

Sept. 3

Mission and Rosary

Oct. 1

All Saints, End Times, Hope

Nov. 5

**Presented by: Dr. Hae Won Jang,**

Associate Director of Music and Organist for  
St. Thomas Aquinas and  
St. John Church & Student Center



## Volunteer Opportunity

Tuesday  
Sept. 23

The Quilt ladies are looking for help **with Prayer Blanket Tying on Tuesday at 1:00pm** in the Baraga room, downstairs at St. Thomas. You don't need any tools or experience! If you have questions, please contact St. Thomas at, 517.351.7215

## Widows & Widowers Lunch



**Please reserve your spot** at the table on Tuesday, **Sept 9!** Call the St. Thomas parish office and let them know how many people will be joining us at 12:30pm at Coral Gables in East Lansing. All Widows and Widowers welcome. Come enjoy a great lunch and even better company!





St. John Student Center - Home of the

**Catholic Spartans**



Anna Stankewitz - [annas@elcatholics.org](mailto:annas@elcatholics.org)  
Director of Campus Ministry

Joshua Janda - [jjanda@elcatholics.org](mailto:jjanda@elcatholics.org)  
Campus Minister

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH & STUDENT CENTER

# IGNITE

## NEW STUDENT RETREAT

**Friday, September 5**  
5:00-11:00pm

ALL NEW STUDENTS, INCLUDING  
LCC AND TRANSFER STUDENTS  
ARE INVITED!

**Enjoy:**

Meeting people in your dorm  
Free food  
Powerful student stories  
Games and prizes



SCAN TO REGISTER FOR FREE

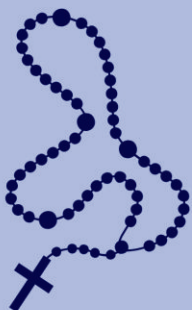
CONTACT JOSH  
[JJANDA@ELCATHOLICS.ORG](mailto:JJANDA@ELCATHOLICS.ORG)  
WITH ANY QUESTIONS



# Labor Day

ROSARY WALK

**Monday, September 1**



Meet by the Spartan statue  
at 3:00pm, then pray with  
other Catholic Spartans while  
walking to the MSU Dairy  
Store for ice cream!

# CATHOLIC SPARTAN SUNDAY

**GET INVOLVED AT ST. JOHN**

Learn about everything St. John Student Center  
has to offer and how you can get involved.

Visit every ministry table to be entered in a raffle  
for free merch and gift cards!

**FRESHMEN RECEIVE WELCOME KITS**

**SEPTEMBER 7**



## Deacon Discernment Group Begins September 21



Men of the parish...Have you ever thought that God may be calling you to the vocation of being a Permanent Deacon? Do you want to hear real-life examples of the vocation of Permanent Deacon?

Join Dcn. Jim & Karen Kasprzak and Dcn. Dave & Ann Zygmuntowicz who will be leading a Deacon Discernment Group that will meet from 2:00 – 3:00 pm on five Sunday afternoon dates—September 21, October 19, and November 9 in 2025, and January 25 and February 22 in 2026. They will share from their own experiences of how God called them to the vocation of Permanent Deacon. They will provide advice on discerning God's call to this vocation, along with integrating the vocation of Marriage with the vocation of Permanent Deacon, describing the ministry of the Permanent Deacon, and explaining the formation process for the vocation of Permanent Deacon. Wives of married men are encouraged to join in this process.

We will meet in the Cozy Room located in the Old Rectory at St. Thomas Aquinas, 955 Alton Rd. East Lansing. Light refreshments will be offered.

If you are interested in participating in the Deacon Discernment Group, please contact either Fr. Gordon Reigle ([frgordone@elcatholics.org](mailto:frgordone@elcatholics.org)), Dcn. Dave Zygmuntowicz ([dcndavez@elcatholics.org](mailto:dcndavez@elcatholics.org)) or Dcn. Jim Kasprzak ([dcnjim@elcatholics.org](mailto:dcnjim@elcatholics.org)).



Register Your Student Online Today  
**Pre-school Through 8th Grade**  
Online Class for Grades 3-7 only

**CLASS TIMES**  
**Sunday** 10:05 – 10:55am or  
**Monday** 4:30 – 5:30pm

Grade 8 has to attend in person classes due to Confirmation requirements. **Grade 8 does not need to pay** for these classes. They will start out with classes on Sunday mornings and then switch to Sunday evenings to study with Fr. Riley. **Grade 2 will need to pay the extra sacrament** fee of \$25.00 due to many items that will be provided for their studies of Eucharist and Reconciliation. **Classes start October 5th.**

Just because your child has received First Communion and First Reconciliation doesn't mean their faith forming has stopped until it's time for Confirmation. Online registration, [elcatholics.org/religious-education-program](https://elcatholics.org/religious-education-program). If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Lewis, [dlewis@elcatholics.org](mailto:dlewis@elcatholics.org).

## Attention Parents:

**If you have children who need to be baptized, please do so before they turn 7 years old.**

Those 7 or older, are capable of knowing right and wrong and therefore need to have a rudimentary grasp of the Catholic Faith before receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. [These classes are often known as OCIC \(Order of Christian Initiation for Children\) Classes or Becoming Catholic.](#) In the process, the child will also be studying for First Holy Communion, First Confession, and possibly Confirmation at the same time. It is very difficult to have to let parents and children know that because they are 7 or older they cannot receive First Reconciliation or First Communion with their classmates.

Contact Debbie Lewis at 517.351.7215 Ext 206 or email [dlewis@elcatholics.org](mailto:dlewis@elcatholics.org) with questions.

# VOLUNTEERS AND CATECHISTS NEEDED



## SHARE YOUR FAITH AND INSPIRE THE YOUTH!



Please contact  
Debbie Lewis,  
[dlewis@elcatholics.org](mailto:dlewis@elcatholics.org)





**Now** is a **Great Time** to Consider Joining the Music Ministry at St. John Church & Student Center or at St. Thomas Church. We have all kinds of opportunities and we are especially in need of student cantors for our campus ministry Masses. If you have experience singing at your previous parish or school, please let us know! We need you to help grow the music ministry and to enrich our morning or evening liturgies with your talents. Voices and Instruments are welcome. To get involved at St. John, please contact Connor Ralph at [cralph@elcatholics.org](mailto:cralph@elcatholics.org) or by calling 517-351-7215, ext. 110.

To get involved at St. Thomas Church, please contact Teresa DuSell at: [tdusell@elcatholics.org](mailto:tdusell@elcatholics.org) or by calling 517-351-7215, ext 109.

As St. Augustine said, "who sings well prays twice..." Please join us in making a joyful noise to The Lord!








### **This week we are featuring a testimonial from Maureen.**

The first time I heard the choir sing at SJSC, it felt like listening to angels. I felt God's love anew at a time when I was questioning His presence. That moment inspired me to join the music ministry, hoping that I could help to show God's love through music, just as I had heard.



Even though I couldn't read a single note, Connor was very encouraging. Everyone was so kind, stopping to say hello, patiently going over music so that I could learn the tune...I could go on! I have very fond memories of my time in the music ministry and am grateful to have been a part of such a loving community. Thank you all for being the home I so deeply needed.

# MEDICARE


 CLINIC
  DOCTOR
  HEALTH CARE
  INSURANCE
  COSTS
  MEDICINE
  EMERGENCY

Join Michelle Sanchagrin for a frank discussion about Medicare.

**Monday, September 8**  
**6:00pm | St. Thomas | Baraga Room**

This will be interactive so bring your questions and your interested friends and neighbors.

ALL ARE WELCOME. THERE IS NO CHARGE.



## **Well-Read Mom is starting its TENTH year at STA and always open to women joining in!**


The vision of Well-Read Mom is to read more, read well, and to deepen the awareness of meaning hidden in each woman's daily life, elevate the cultural conversation, and revitalize reading literature from books. We read good books from a Catholic perspective and meet the third Thursday of each month. There is nothing to read ahead for the kickoff, which is a great way to check out the group and see if it is right for you. Please join us **Thursday, September 18** at 7:00pm in the Baraga Room.

For more information about the vision of the group visit [wellreadmom.com](http://wellreadmom.com). For more information about the group at St Thomas, or to connect with other local groups, contact Cathy Treadwell at 989.598.7058 or [cathytreadwell@hotmail.com](mailto:cathytreadwell@hotmail.com)

## **Senior Masses Return September 17!**

Join us the **third Wednesday** of the month from September through May for our Senior Mass and Ministry at STA. The Rosary begins at 9:30am and Mass begins at 10:00am and is followed by fellowship, snacks and fun in Fr. Mac Hall.

**Fr. Peter** will preside and share about his time in Rome!





## St. John Food Cupboard Needs

Though only open 2 weekends in August we served over 400 neighbors this month. With your help, we will continue to provide fresh protein, produce, bread and other items weekly for over 50 families. This week we are in need of cereal, jelly, and elbow macaroni.

Thank you for your generosity!



## HOLY FAMILY FIRST SATURDAY MEMORIALS AND INTENTIONS

This is a great opportunity to have your loved ones and special intentions remembered in prayer at the First Saturday, 4:30pm Mass, each month throughout the entire year. Your intentions will also be listed on the back of the bulletin every week. An offering/donation is requested.

A yearly offering/donation of \$75.00 is asked for each intention to be remembered at the Monthly Mass. This offering goes to help support our parish community.

You have two options. (1) Listed as one individual name: "Mary Jones," or (2) You may list family groupings: "The Jones Family." Multiple names may be listed, but each one requires an additional \$75.00 offering.

Masses begin in October of this year. The "intention year" will be from October to October. To continue having your intentions remembered beyond 12 months, you'll need to renew your offering next year.

Complete the form below and return it to the parish office with your offering of \$75.00 by September 26, 2025.

Feel free to call Denise Zakerski at 517-332-0813 or email [dzakerski@elcatholics.org](mailto:dzakerski@elcatholics.org) if you have questions.

### New Or Renewal Application For The First Saturday Memorials and Intentions

#### Memorial Listing

Name

Additional Name

#### Contact Information

Your Name

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone

- Please Include an Offering of \$75.00 Per Listing
- Please Print Clearly
- Please Complete This Form and Return It to the Office With Your Total Offerings.
- For Additional Copies of This Form, Please Contact the Office.

## Liturgical Ministry Formation



### Lector Training

St. John	Monday	Sept. 9	6:30-7:30pm
St. John	Friday	Sept. 12	1:00-2:00pm
St. Thomas	Saturday	Sept. 13	10:00-11:30am
St. John	Friday	Sept. 19	1:00-2:00pm

### Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion

St. John	Friday	Sept. 12	2:00-3:00pm
St. John	Tuesday	Sept. 16	6:30-7:30pm
St. John	Friday	Sept. 19	2:00-3:00pm
St. Thomas	Saturday	Sept. 13	1:00-2:30pm

### Sacristan / Mass Coordinators

Training will be conducted on an individual basis.

If you would like to learn more about these ministries or sign up for training, please contact Patrick at [ppaddock@elcatholics.org](mailto:ppaddock@elcatholics.org) / 517-337-9778

## Young Adults Sept 3 | Social Pins and Pints

Activities begin with evening prayer at 6:15pm at St. John followed by event or activity.

Update your contact info by scanning the QR Code.

We have a big group of parish young adults aged 22-35 who meet most Wednesdays for social time, prayer and some presentations.

For more info please email [frirley@elcatholics.org](mailto:frirley@elcatholics.org).





**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC –**  
**Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman**

### What Did You Expect?

Moms have a lot of jobs, and it's usually the case that none of them pay very well. My work as a chef? Zero compensation, and my clientele are very rarely pleased with my efforts. My role as a teacher, a maid, a chauffeur, a therapist — same deal. Ironically, these jobs consume so much of my time that I am constricted in my work as a writer — the only sphere where I do actually garner any earnings.

It is so easy to grumble about all of this, and I do it all the time. Because despite the fact that I know better, I expect repayment for my good deeds. Deep in my soul, I expect it.

That's a huge problem.

In my defense, I don't think this is a very uncommon thing. I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. We want our day to go smoothly. We expect these things as a matter of course; we feel entitled to them, and we become grumpy when we are denied them. *I worked so hard. I gave so much. What was it all even for?*

But what if we expected absolutely nothing? When you hold a banquet, Jesus said, invite those who cannot return the favor. Give not just without the expectation of repayment, but without the possibility of it.

Think about that for a minute. What does that even *look* like — no possibility of payment?

I know what that looks like in my own life. It's giving more to the literal poor, yes, but it's also giving more — and more happily, more lovingly — when I cook and clean and drive and write and console. It's not lamenting that no one appreciates me — it's actually hoping no one does.

It's learning to love the lowest place at the table. Because in the lowest place, we are closest to God.



### Imago Divina, Explained!

Imago divina (Latin for "divine image") is an extension of the ancient practice of lectio divina ("divine reading"). Imago divina is, in a sense, praying with one's eyes, or using the medium of artwork to assist in lifting the mind to God.

Believers have always connected with the divine through visual representations of faith. This can be seen in the frescoes that adorn the walls of the catacombs, in the glory of Rococo architecture, and in the stained glass windows of a simple country church. "Art is capable of making visible our need to go beyond what we see and it reveals our thirst for infinite beauty, for God," said Pope Benedict in 2011.

In practicing imago divina, just like with lectio divina, the faithful "read" (or view), reflect, respond and rest with the image, inviting the Holy Spirit to move them accordingly.

### Readings for Sunday, Sept 7 Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Wis 9:18** And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight.

**Ps 90** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Phlm 1:15** Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, that you might have him back forever.

**Lk 14:27** Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.





## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



## DRAW

Draw God walking into heaven with his arm around you.



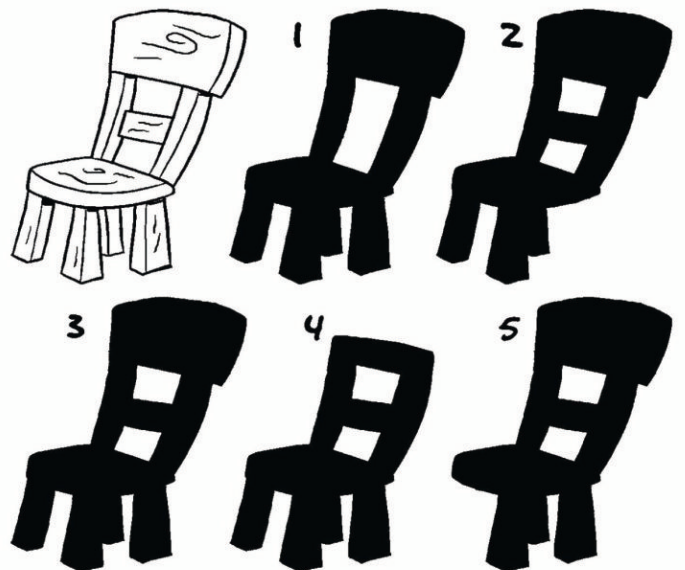
## GOSPEL

Most of the guests at a wedding party are crowding around the bride and groom. When the bride sees you sitting outside, she says, "Come inside and drink some punch." God will have a big feast at the end of the world. When he sees you standing outside the gates of heaven, he will put his arm around you and say, "Come right on in, my child. I've been waiting for you."



## PUZZLE

Find the right shadow.



answer is number three

## Women's Retreat : A Virtuous Woman- Growing in Virtue Through God's Grace St. Francis Retreat Center 703 E Main St, DeWitt Sept. 12-14

From Aquinas and Bonaventure through today, the principles of a virtuous life remain essential and unchanged. Video presenters include Dr. Andrew Abela and Bishop Earl Boyea. Special guest presenters will join us at the retreat.

Along with thought provoking and enlightening presentations, our retreats include 2 Masses, the opportunity for Reconciliation and Adoration, plus time for individual prayer and fellowship.

The suggested donation for a weekend is \$215 (or \$135 for a one night option) and includes lodging, meals and materials. This retreat will be at the Bethany House building, where guest rooms are private with a private bathroom. Rooms all have their own individually controlled heat and a/c unit. The Retreat Center provides towels and bedding.



For these retreats, we will be using the iBrievary app for Morning and Evening Prayers. This retreat has multiple dates to choose from! Visit [stfrancis.ws/retreats](http://stfrancis.ws/retreats) to discover other retreats and learn more.



## St. Therese Fall Craft Show Saturday, September 27 9:00am-3:00pm



Crafters needed. To register call 517.487.3749 or email [secretary@sttherese.org](mailto:secretary@sttherese.org). Deadline to register is Sept 1.

## Faculty/Community Book Discussion

In September, our group will resume meeting on the first and third Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00pm in the St. John's Church Library. On Sept. 3 and 17, we will discuss "Terrorized: A Memoir of Trauma, Healing, and Coming Home" (Mission Point Press, 2024), by Father Fred Phelan, a former missionary to Peru and a former pastor of Cristo Rey Church in Lansing. All are welcome.

## Living Rosary

The Michigan Knights of Columbus invite everyone young and old to the 15th Annual Living Rosary at the Michigan State Capitol on **Saturday, September 13 from 2:00-3:00pm**. The Keynote Speaker will be John Bursch, Legal Counsel for The Alliance Defending Freedom and the Michigan Knights of Columbus. Visit [mikofclivingrosary.org/](http://mikofclivingrosary.org/) for more information.



## Journeying Through Grief A simple, Powerful Way to Care for People Who are Grieving

Journeying through Grief is a 6-week loving, caring, and supportive program for individuals who are grieving the loss of a loved one. We will be using a four-booklet series as a base for our small group sessions. Author Kenneth C. Haug writes in a warm, caring style, with short, easy-to-read chapters. He walks alongside the reader through the grief journey, sharing helpful insights about grief, biblical truths, and stories that provide comfort and reassurance.

Wednesdays from 6:30pm-8:00pm beginning **September 24 through October 29**. Sessions are held at St. Jude, 801 N Bridge St, Dewitt. There is a \$10 optional donation. Register by calling Trink Fetzner 989.620.4474.



## GriefShare®

## Announcing a New Grief Share Group

St. Martha parish in Okemos is hosting the GriefShare support group for Widows and Widowers starting **Monday, Sept. 23 through Dec. 16**, from 6:30-8:30pm in the Blessed Solanus Casey Conference Room 1100 W Grand River Ave., Okemos.

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact [mbs1952@aol.com](mailto:mbs1952@aol.com).







## 2025 Diocesan Marriage Weekend Milestone Anniversaries

**A celebration of marriage**  
**Saturday, September 27 | 4:30pm**

September 27, 2025 at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish.  
Mass with Bishop Boyea will begin at 4:30 pm and will  
be followed by a reception in the school gym with lite  
refreshments available. Couples are encouraged to  
arrive early so they can be seated in a  
reserved section for Mass.

Please RSVP at [tinyurl.com/anniversary-mass-rsvp](https://tinyurl.com/anniversary-mass-rsvp)  
or by calling Emma Rose Fisher  
at 517.342.2465.



## OUR SACRIFICIAL GIVING

**Offertory 8/10/25**

Budget Amount:	\$40,000.00
Actual Amount:	\$27,803.07
Matthew 25:	\$1882.00
Ishi Odamitten Week One	



Your donations are important and  
Your generosity is appreciated!

**Now is the time to look at your  
giving.** Maybe you would like to set  
up a recurring gift? Jennifer Thelen,  
Database Administrator, would be

happy to help you! Please contact her at  
[jennthelen@elcatholics.org](mailto:jennthelen@elcatholics.org) or 517-351-7215.

## How to Pray

Begins Sept. 21  
[Hallow.com/parish](https://Hallow.com/parish)

Then put in St Thomas and  
St John Student Center



**Hallow**

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish &  
St. John Student Center

**Starting September 21st**

Join our Prayer Challenge  
on our Hallow Parish Page!

## This Week's Advertiser Spotlight

# A BOOD

LAW FIRM 1956  
Andrew Abood 246 E Saginaw  
517-332-5900 East Lansing

**Matthew 25 | Sept 7 and 14**

**O Tienou Ti Diero Baafiri,  
Burkino Faso, West Africa**

Bridges to Healing International's mission is to  
support unaccompanied and orphaned children  
facing unmet health challenges. They believe that  
every child deserves to live with dignity, have  
access to essential medical care, and receive  
dedicated support to ease the suffering caused  
by illness and disease. Their work creates a vital  
BRIDGE between institutional care settings and  
local medical resources, ensuring comprehensive  
physical and mental healthcare. They have  
delivered care to over 7,000 vulnerable youth  
residing in shelters across three countries.

**40 Days for Life  
Lansing Fall  
Campaign  
Sept. 24 – Nov. 2**

**St. Thomas & St. John  
Prayer Vigil Days**

**TUESDAYS: 7:00AM-7:00PM**



Sign up at [40daysforlife.com/lansing](https://40daysforlife.com/lansing)  
or Contact Chris Veneklase at 517-528-8502

## Universal Prayers | Let Us Pray

For God's Holy Church, may the Holy Spirit fortify each of us in our mission to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation in Christ.

For all nations, may God who offers salvation to all through his Son lead all hearts to seek his truth and mercy.

For those traveling the long road of grief, may they know Christ's presence, and rest in the confidence that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

For all of us gathered here this day, may we receive the grace to respond to the invitation from Christ to come and follow him.

For our brothers and sisters who are ill or infirm, may Jesus be a source of hope, healing and light especially Nancy Passanante, Thomas Bertsch, Elizabeth Tichvon, and those listed in our book of prayer.

For the faithful departed, may they receive the fullness of God's mercy in his kingdom, especially Johanna Aquilina, Ursula Roediger, Orlando Balcarce, Dr. Peter Luea, Jose Guzman, Jeffrey Wendt, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, let us pray to the Lord.



### No Matter How Much You're Hurting, No Marriage is Beyond Hope

Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based marriage program designed to help couples heal, and renew their relationship.

In marriage, communication is more than just talking. At some point, did you or your spouse stop sharing things that were important? The distance between a husband and wife can sometimes feel like it is so wide it cannot be repaired... but it CAN!



Save your marriage and your family! There is always HOPE! It's worth it. The next Retrouvaille Marriage Saving Weekend will be **Sept 12-14 in Holland MI.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, September 1**

**Offices Closed**

**Tuesday, September 2**

6:00pm Priesthood Discernment Grp (SJSC)

7:30pm Confessions & Adoration (SJSC)

**Wednesday, September 3**

4:00pm Confessions & Adoration (SJSC)

5:30pm Faculty/Community Book Discussion (SJSC)

6:15pm GSYF (Both Sites)

7:00pm STA SVdP Mtg (STA)

7:00pm SJSC Choir Rehearsal (SJSC)

**Thursday, September 4**

6:00pm Music/Choir Rehearsal (STA)

7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 293 (STA)

7:30pm Confessions & Adoration (SJSC)

**Friday, September 5**

7:00am-3:30pm Adoration (STA)

3:30pm Benediction (STA)

7:30pm Confessions & Adoration (SJSC)

**Saturday, September 6**

8:00am Food Cupboard (SJSC)

8:00am First Saturday Mass & Presentation (STA)

10:00am Advanced Altar Server Retreat (STA)

3:00pm Confessions (STA)

**Sunday, September 7**

3:30pm African Mass (STA)

5:00pm Confirmation Class (STA)

### Church of the Resurrection 90th Ox Roast Festival October 10-11

The Festival celebrates 90 years of serving the community and still going strong!

For more details as the dates near, go to [corlansing.org](http://corlansing.org).

### Save the Date

The 40th Annual  
Lansing Catholic  
Lawyers Guild Red  
Mass and Dinner

Reception is **Tuesday, October 7.** Mass will be at 6:00pm at St. Mary Cathedral, 219 North Seymour Ave., Lansing with dinner to follow in the Cathedral parish hall.





## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, September 1

9:00am (St. Thomas)

For Those Working or Seeking Employment

### Tuesday, September 2

8:15am (St. Thomas)

†Mary L. Olson req. by Mary Lee & Helen Caruso

8:45pm (St. John)

*Int. of Campus Ministry*

### Wednesday, September 3

6:30am (St. Thomas)

†Patrick Wiltse req. by Bob & Mary VanPoppelen

5:30pm (St. John)

Int. of Matt Peck req. by The Scheetz Family

### Thursday, September 4

8:15am (St. Thomas)

†Cynthia Green req. by Jp & Katherine Hilker

8:45pm (St. John)

*Int. of Campus Ministry*

### Friday, September 5

6:30am (St. Thomas)

†Bob Schneider req. by The Friday Breakfast Grp

12:15pm (St. John)

†Fr. David Rosenberg

### Saturday, September 6

9:00am (St. Thomas)

†James Steidle on the First Anniversary of Death

4:30pm (St. Thomas)

*Holy Family First Saturday Memorial & Mass Intentions*

### Sunday, September 7

8:00am (St. John)

*People of the Parish*

9:00am (St. Thomas)

†Elaine McKinley req. by The Derengoski Family

10:00am (St. John)

†Jeffrey Walser req. by Jason & Allison Vismara

11:00am (St. Thomas)

†Colette Frederick req. by The Frederick Family

12:00pm (St. John)

†Evie & Mary Kay Gordon  
req. by Dennis & Jeanne Meyer

7:00pm (St. John)

*Int. of John & Brittany Schwend req. by Mercedes Luis*

## STAFF MEMBERS

### Fr. Gordon Reigle, Pastor

frgordon@elcatholics.org

### Fr. Corey Bilodeau, Parochial Vicar

frcorey@elcatholics.org

### Fr. Riley O'Shea, Parochial Vicar

friley@elcatholics.org

### Dcn. Jim Kasprzak

dcnjim@elcatholics.org

### Dcn. Dave Zygmuntowicz

dcndavez@elcatholics.org

### Jen Brown, Adult Faith Formation & Becoming Catholic

jbrown@elcatholics.org

### Judy Crabtree, Finance

jcrabtree@elcatholics.org

### Teresa DuSell, Music Ministry

tdusell@elcatholics.org

### Diane Grondin, St. Thomas Aquinas Principal

dgrondin@elcatholics.org

### Joshua Janda, Campus Ministry

jjanda@elcatholic.org

### Debbie Lewis, Religious Education

dlewis@elcatholics.org

### Mariann Niznak, St. Thomas Administrative Assistant & Baptisms

mniznak@elcatholics.org

### Patrick Paddock, Liturgy and Weddings

ppaddock@elcatholics.org

### Sara Pettit, Operations & Advancement

spettit@elcatholics.org

### Connor Ralph, Music Ministry

cralph@elcatholics.org

### Anna Stankewitz, Campus Ministry

annas@elcatholics.org

### Jennifer Thelen, Database Administrator

jennthelen@elcatholics.org

### Denise Zakerski, St. Thomas Aquinas

School Secretary dzakerski@elcatholics.org



**Traveling for Memorial Day?**

**Never miss a Mass! Visit [masstimes.org](https://www.masstimes.org).**

## HOLY FAMILY FIRST SATURDAY MEMORIAL AND INTENTIONS

Aben & Arsenault Families  
Clarence & Beatrice Ainslie Family  
Albrecht Family  
John & Jean Anton Family  
Harley Aylor  
Matthew & Helen Bach Family  
Dr. Robert F. Banks  
Behen Family  
Benjamin Family  
Berners & Schmit Families  
Bonk Family  
Lisa Burlingame Family  
Jason Bryans  
Bryans Family  
Buhl & Howley Families  
Bussoletti Family  
Carey Family  
Richard Carrigan Family  
George Caruso Family  
James J. Casper, Sr. and Family  
Lawrence Chadzynski  
Chai & Chi Families  
Cichy Family

Come Holy Spirit Faith Group  
Cousineau Family  
Marjorie & Warren Crossman  
Cunningham Family  
James & Margaret Dwan Family  
Bennett & Louise Deal Family  
Robert & Dorothy Derengoski Family  
William Derengoski  
Desjardins Family  
Dillon Family  
Chester & Mitzi Dominick Family  
Conrad L. Donakowski  
Duda Family  
Fogarty Family  
Gallagher/Goodwin Families  
Ruth & Gus Ganakas Family  
Gillis Family  
Guno Family  
Neil & Jean Harte Family  
Heberlein Family

Conrad Henke  
Heidemann Family  
Don & Mary Hillman Family  
Mike & Madelyne Holoweiko Family  
John Ingraham Sr.  
Kathleen Ingraham  
Pamela Ingraham  
Dr. Ronald Jakubiak  
Enrique Javier Family  
Gloria Johnson  
Will Johnson  
Kaser Family  
Bruce & Ann Keilen Family  
Kennedy - Ipson Family  
Kinney Family  
Kishler & O'Connor Families  
Kline Family  
Knudson Family  
Norman Kreager  
Kuchta Family  
Carol Kuchta  
Paul & Emelda Kuchta  
Sp. Int. of Sandra Kuchta  
Kupec & Pojeta Families

Sandra LaRocca  
Levande Family  
Betsy & Rick Lewandowski Family  
Irene Linthorst  
Enrique Lopez Jr. Family  
Fr. Mac & All Priests that served at STA/SJSC  
Martin Family  
Mathein Family  
Sandra Maxim  
Douglas Murdoch  
Stephanie Murdoch Family  
Michael Niemela Family  
Orleans Family  
John & June Osmer Family  
Passage Family  
Passanante Family  
William Patrick Family  
Kenneth & Gretchen Peters Family  
Peterson Family  
Edward Petro  
George Petro  
Rose "Rusty" Petro

Jerome (Jerry) Phillips  
Sp. Int. of Phyllis Phillips  
R.P. Ramsey Family  
David Rector Family  
Richard Reid Family  
Robert C. Robke, Sr.  
Sarkisian Family  
Alfreda Schmidt  
James Seong  
Shellhorn Family  
Sherman Family  
V. Joanna Shim Family  
Sillers Family  
Stuart Family  
Subhi/Bassa Family  
Ted Sondag Family  
Tremblay Family  
Joseph M. Vargas  
Frances Weidokal  
Richard Weidokal  
Bill Zustiak Family  
Matthew Zustiak Family  
Zygmuntowicz & VanTiem Families

**Beat the winter blues with a Winter Staycation!**  
*Enjoy the comforts and convenience of home!*  
Why stay at home this winter when you can stay with the Best of the Best in Senior Living!

**Winner 2024**  
Best Retirement/55+ Community

**Furnished and Unfurnished Apartments Available**  
**Call 517-337-0066 to schedule a tour!**  
Independence Village of East Lansing 2530 Marfitt Road East Lansing, MI 48823

**★ Craig J. Stiles, MBA**  
Financial Advisor • Managing Director  
**Stiles, Miller, & Clark Group**  
A financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC Parishioner of St. Mary  
2651 Coolidge Rd, Suite 103 • East Lansing, MI 48823  
T: 517.483.4893 • TF: 800.528.1355 • F: 517-482-7752  
craig.stiles@ampf.com • ameripriseadvisors.com/craig.stiles

**★ Estes-Leadley**  
FUNERAL HOME  
MID-MICHIGAN'S FINEST  
LANSING 482-1651 Steven T. Morgan • Jeremy S. Gough HOLT/DELHI 694-2631 Managers/Owners

**★ OADE, STROUD & KLEIMAN, P.C.**  
Attorneys providing quality legal services throughout Michigan.  
517-351-3550  
www.osklaw.com

**★ FROOK**  
PLUMBING & MECHANICAL INC.  
517-267-1010

**★ CAPITAL CITY**  
VISION CENTER  
COLLEEN PHILLIPS, Doctor of Optometry ~ Parishioner ~  
1865 W. Grand River • Okemos, MI 48864  
517.349.2393 • FAX 517.349.3751 • capitalcityvisioncenter.com

**★ DAVIS COLLISION CENTER**  
Complete Collision Service  
Mike McKenna - Owner  
7150 E. Saginaw (M-78) Between Marsh & Newton Rd. 339-1967

**★ FAST EDDIE'S**  
CAR WASH OIL CHANGE  
\$2.00 OFF ANY PREMIUM WASH PACKAGE  
Excludes Regular Wash  
WITH THIS COUPON  
\$7.00 OFF  
ANY COMPLETE FULL SERVICE OIL CHANGE AT FAST EDDIE'S  
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER • Expires 12/31/25  
VALID AT ALL LOCATIONS CC-EL

**catholicmatch®**  
Michigan  
CatholicMatch.com/goMI

**★ McDonald's**  
Always looking for exceptional individuals to join our team  
APPLY  
www.mcdonalds.com/careers  
Brandon & Kelly VanPoppelen Owners  
Marsh Rd. St. Johns, Lansing

**1** Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.  
Simply go to **www.DM.CHURCH/1029** ...or scan   
✂ DISCOVERMASS

 **Welcome to Our Catholic Spartans!**





Diocesan is proud to be printing  
*East Lansing Catholic Community's*  
*Sunday Bulletin*



**You are invited to help support our Parish!**  
**For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-783-1623**

**ELLIS CLEANING CO.**  
SERVING Commercial  
Accounts EXCLUSIVELY

Bonded & Insured  
Top Quality Management  
Cleaning Specialists

CONTRACT CLEANING  
CARPET & WINDOW CLEANING  
HARD FLOOR REFINISHING

**485-8985**  
515 N LARCH ST.

IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF

Richard  
Gutknecht

**MYERS**  
PLUMBING & HEATING

16825 Industrial Pkwy • myersmechanical.com • 517-886-2255

JOHN H. BRACCIO, Ph.D.  
JOHN A. BRACCIO, Ph.D.  
Fully Licensed Psychologists  
LD/ADHD/Marital Assessments & Counseling  
www.drjohnb.com • Parishioner  
(517) 332-0153 • East Lansing



**ANTHONY M. SPAGNUOLO, DDS, MSD**  
Parishioner  
Periodontics and Dental Implants  
407 W Ionia St. • Lansing • 371-4767

**AVE**  
AVE MARIA PRESS

**20% OFF**  
Your Entire Order!

with code **PARISH23**  
at [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com).

Exclusions apply.  
Expires 1.31.24.

SCAN HERE  
TO SHOP

**MAKE OUR HOUSE YOUR HOME**  
Get **\$5,000 OFF** rent your first year!

Call American House Meridian  
to Schedule a Visit Today!  
**(517) 836-1746**

**American House**  
SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITIES

**B L L H**  
**BUHL, LITTLE,  
LYNWOOD & HARRIS, PLC**  
Estate Planning & Elder Law

271 Woodland Pass • Suite 115 Parishioners of  
East Lansing, MI 48823 St. Thomas  
& St. John

**(517) 853-6900** [www.BLLHlaw.com](http://www.BLLHlaw.com)

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
Join our  
Golden Crew!

WE OFFER:

- Flexible schedules
- Tuition Assistance
- Management Training

**SAPUTO**

APPLY NOW!

IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF

Avery  
Murphy

**ADVERTISE HERE**

Promote your Business AND support your Parish.

Andrew Beadling ~ 616-446-6892  
[abeadling@diocesan.com](mailto:abeadling@diocesan.com)

**Seguin & Sprague**

We're Your Neighbors & Local Experts  
You Can Trust Us With Our 60+ Years of Combined  
Experience in the Real Estate Industry!

**RE/MAX**  
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS  
1735 ABBEY RD. EAST LANSING, MI 48825

**517.420.1272** **517.204.5219**  
[Jennifer.Seguina@Remax.net](mailto:Jennifer.Seguina@Remax.net) [MichaelJSprague@usa.net](mailto:MichaelJSprague@usa.net)



Parishioner  
**John E. McCloskey, Jr., AIF®**  
Senior Vice President/Investments  
(517) 333-3576 | [www.jmccloskeyinvestments.com](http://www.jmccloskeyinvestments.com)

Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated

**Mini Deal**

Buy 6 bagels & 1/2 lb. Cream  
Cheese for only \$8.99

Valid at participating locations 432

**\$1.00 off**

Any Gourmet or Specialty  
Deli Sandwich

Valid at participating locations 432

**Only \$4.49**

Bagel, Cream Cheese  
and 16oz. Coffee

Valid at participating locations 432

2 E. LAKE LANSING RD E. 517-432-9000  
LANSING, MI 48823

**NICHOLS  
LAW FIRM**

PERSONAL INJURY & CRIMINAL DEFENSE

**Consider  
Remembering  
Your Parish in  
Your Will**

For further information,  
please call the parish office.

**ESTATE PLANNING  
PROBATE  
REAL ESTATE  
BUSINESS LAW**

Mention this ad  
and receive  
a discount

**Gallagher  
LAW FIRM, PLC**  
**PAT GALLAGHER**  
**(517) 853-1515**  
[bpg@thegallagherlawfirm.com](mailto:bpg@thegallagherlawfirm.com)  
6025 N Hagadorn Rd • East Lansing MI 48823

**Parish Discount**

Take an Additional \$250 Off your Exterior Home Improvement Project!

**\$250 OFF**

Minimum \$2,500 Purchase. Restrictions may apply. See store for details.

Windows  
Doors  
Decks  
Siding  
Roofing

**C&L WARD**

Gratefully Serving Our  
Community Since 1972!

**888-604-8766**  
[www.GoCLWard.com](http://www.GoCLWard.com)

**C&L WARD**  
Windows • Doors • Decks  
Roofing • Siding



Scan to Receive Your Discount

**WIREWORKS**  
ELECTRICAL SERVICES  
**517-333-9473 (WIRE)**  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL  
TOM MULLANEY, MASTER ELECTRICIAN 24 Hr. SERVICE  
WWW.WIREWORKSINC.COM • SCHEDULING@WIREWORKSINC.COM

WE NOW SERVICE, MAINTAIN, AND INSTALL GENERAC GENERATORS

**Pelvic and Beyond**  
Specialized Physical Therapy

**Sarah McKaig, Physical Therapist**  
Board Certified Pelvic Rehabilitation Specialist

Mobile Physical Therapy Practice  
517-618-9388 • www.pelvicandbeyond.com  
drsarah@pelvicandbeyond.com

**Centered Care**  
Nursing Centered • Rehab Centered  
Patient Centered

WE PUT THE HEART IN MICHIGAN NURSING

CONTACT US TODAY!  
**517.394.1234**  
CCMIHC.COM

WE SPECIALIZE IN BRAIN INJURY, SPINAL CORD INJURY & SKILLED PRIVATE DUTY

OPEN MON-FRI 8A-5P

15945 WOOD ROAD • LANSING, MI 48906

**GALLAGHER, FLINTOFF & KLEIN, PLC**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

www.gfkepa.com • (517) 507-0750

Parishioners • New Clients Welcome

**Shaheen Automotive Group**

**Shaheen Cadillac**  
**Shaheen Chevrolet**  
**Team One Chevrolet • Buick • GMC**  
Dan Shaheen - Parishioner

**Shaheen Cadillac**  
**Shaheen Chevrolet**  
**Team One Chevrolet • Buick • GMC**  
Dan Shaheen - Parishioner

★ **Brace yourself for a beautiful smile!**

**Burkhardt • Pecora • Bloomberg**  
orthodontics

**bportosmiles.com**

**Allstate**  
You're in good hands.

**Joseph Dunn Agency**  
Parishioner  
East Lansing 333-8500

josephdunn@allstate.com  
www.allstateagencies.com/josephdunn  
Auto, Home, Life, Retirement

★ **RUN. WALK. LIVE.**

**playmakers**

2299 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos  
517.349.3803 | www.playmakers.com

★ **A Slice of Chicago, right here in East Lansing!!!**

**Pizza House**  
Pizzeria • Bar & Grill  
Since 1986

4790 S. Hagadorn • 517-336-0033 • pizzahouse.com

★ **GIGUERE Homes**

**Jim Giguere**  
Parishioner

40+ Years as a Custom Home Builder, Developer & Real Estate Broker

517-204-0818 • jgiguere@giguerehomes.com • giguerehomes.com

*We Build Beautiful Homes with Personal Detail*

★ **ABOOD**  
LAW FIRM 1956

Andrew Abood 246 E Saginaw  
517-332-5900 East Lansing

★ **sidebar** | DINE & TAP

**NOW OPEN**

**EWTN.COM/RADIO**

**EWTN** Global Catholic Radio  
TUNE IN

**ThankYouForYourPriesthood.com**  
**#ThankYouForYourPriesthood**

★ **MALONEY CARPET ONE**  
The **ONE** store for your perfect floor  
1201 E. Saginaw St.  
**482-1455**  
www.maloneycarpetonelansing.com

★ **David A. Barone, ABR, e-PRO, GRI**  
Associate Broker  
Parishioner & Choir Member  
*Opening Doors To Your Dreams*  
Mobile: (517) 719-5727  
E-mail: David@DavidBarone.com  
Web: www.DavidBarone.com

**RE/MAX**  
Real Estate Professionals

★ **IRISH OAK TOURS**  
www.irishoaktours.com

Delivering Package and Customized Tours to Ireland  
Exploring our Roots and Expanding Our Hearts  
Nigel and Jessica O'Connor, St. Mary parishioners  
irishoaktours@gmail.com

★ **LISA RAMONT**  
Associate Broker  
Parishioner  
lisa@lisaramont.com  
517-819-9265 (cell)

**RE/MAX COLLECTION**

\$500 donation to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish on each closed transaction

**THE LISAS**  
REALTORS & ASSOCIATE BROKERS  
LISA RAMONT  
SERVING YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

★ **ORAL SURGERY ASSOCIATES OF LANSING**

Okemos Office: 349-8383 • Lansing Office: 323-1000 • East Lansing Office: 220-4344

Jeffrey E. Persico, D.M.D. • John S. Faber, D.D.S.  
Ezio F. Novelli, D.D.S., M.D. • Igor Makovey, D.D.S., M.D., F.A.C.S.  
Andrew M. Baker, D.D.S., M.D. • Justine Moe, M.D., D.D.S., F.A.C.S.

**WISDOM TEETH • CORRECTIVE JAW SURGERY • DENTAL IMPLANTS**

★ **LAUX CONSTRUCTION**

517-694-0117  
info@lauxconstruction.com  
www.lauxconstruction.com  
1018 Hogsback Rd, Mason, MI 48854

★ **COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR**

★ **Burcham Hills**  
A Life Plan Community

See why you'll love living here!

BurchamHills.com | 517-224-4629  
Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care | Skilled Nursing | Rehab

★ **Piano Lessons** with **Joan Wierzbak**

Combining Suzuki Method with Traditional Methods  
Four Years to Adults • in Okemos & East Lansing  
Young Children in Group Lessons  
Parishioner & Choir Member wierzabaj@comcast.net