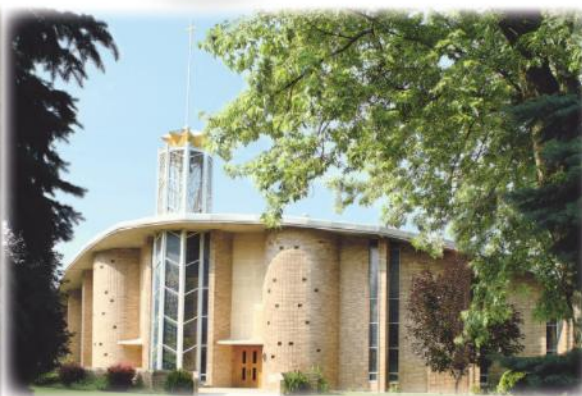


Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary CHURCH

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

Luke 6:31



Parish Mission Statement

To enrich and inspire the spiritual growth of our parish community through the Word, worship and service to all God's people.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Weekdays - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 8:00 a.m.
Religious Education Classes are Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to noon
Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Friday of the Month after morning Mass.
Benediction at 1:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena
Every Tuesday morning after 8:00 a.m. Mass
Rosary - Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor
Fr. Joseph Xavier, MSFS (ext. 222) frjosephx@bloomingdalecom.net
Deacon Duane Poage dnduane@gmail.com
In Case of Emergency only call (cell) (269) 352-4740

PARISH OFFICE (269) 657-4459 Fax (269) 657-4260

500 E. Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079

HOURS: Monday & Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Lunch 12 to 1:00 p.m.

WEBSITE: www.stmarypawpaw.com

E-MAIL: stmarypawpaw@bloomingdalecom.net

PARISH STAFF

Lisa Gardner, Finance Manager (ext. 224) lgardner52@aol.com
Denise Hicks, Secretary/Bulletin (ext. 221)

ST. MARY SCHOOL (269) 657-3750 Fax (269) 657-4260

508 E. Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
Website: www.saintmarypawpaw.org

Director of Music

Connie Hitchcock (269) 624-6441

Director of Religious Education

Jackie Marshall (ext. 223) (269) 657-4459

E-Mail: drestmarypawpaw@bloomingdalecom.net

Homebound Ministry

Angie Douglas (269) 668-6215

Chairperson for Parish Finance Council

Richard Goy (269) 624-7173

E-Mail: rgoy@att.net

Chairperson for Pastoral Council

Phil Hover (269) 615-6137

Grand Knight for Knights of Columbus

William Zolp (269) 657-2208

Faithful Navigator for Knights of Columbus

Rick Garcia (269) 657-1133

Cemetery Sexton

Ashley Conner (269) 808-3202

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptism

Fourth Sunday of the month. Call parish office to make arrangements.

Matrimony

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.
Call the office for an appointment with Fr. Joseph.

Penance

Saturday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. or by request

Anointing of the Sick

Please inform us of parishioners who are seriously ill at home or in the hospital, in case of emergency or accident, call Fr. Joseph.

Holy Orders and Consecrated Religious Life

Everyone has a vocation. If God is calling you to the priesthood or religious life, contact Fr. Joseph for assistance.

Reflections—Walking the Path into Holiness from *Gaudete et Exsultate*

In the spring of 2018, Pope Francis authored a document entitled *Rejoice and Be Glad* about the call and pursuit of personal holiness. Below and in subsequent bulletins, you will find an edited document that breaks it into small pieces, and offers a question for reflection and conversation.

53—How can we know if something comes from the Holy Spirit or if it stems from the spirit of the world or the spirit of the devil? The only way is through discernment, which calls for something more than intelligence or common sense. It is a gift which we must implore. If we ask with confidence that the Holy Spirit grant us this gift, and then seek to develop it through prayer, reflection, reading and good counsel, then surely we will grow in this spiritual endowment. The gift of discernment has become all the more necessary today, since contemporary life offers immense possibilities for action and distraction, and the world presents all of them as valid and good. This is all the more important when some novelty presents itself in our lives. Then we have to decide whether it is new wine brought by God or an illusion created by the spirit of this world or the spirit of the devil. At other times, the opposite can happen, when the forces of evil induce us not to change, to leave things as they are, to opt for a rigid resistance to change. Yet that would be to block the working of the Spirit. We are free, with the freedom of Christ. Still, he asks us to examine what is within us – our desires, anxieties, fears and questions – and what takes place all around us – "the signs of the times" – and thus to recognize the paths that lead to complete freedom. ." (para. 166-168 in *Gaudete et Exsultate*)

What are situations in your life which require discernment?

54—Discernment is necessary not only at extraordinary times, when we need to resolve grave problems and make crucial decisions. It is a means of spiritual combat for helping us to follow the Lord more faithfully. We need it at all times, to help us recognize God's timetable, lest we fail to heed the promptings of his grace and disregard his invitation to grow. Often discernment is exercised in small and apparently irrelevant things, since greatness of spirit is manifested in simple everyday realities. It involves striving untrammelled for all that is great, better and more beautiful, while at the same time being concerned for the little things, for each day's responsibilities and commitments. For this reason, I ask all Christians not to omit, in dialogue with the Lord, a sincere daily "examination of conscience." Discernment also enables us to recognize the concrete means that the Lord provides in his mysterious and loving plan, to make us move beyond mere good intentions." (para. 169 in *Gaudete et Exsultate*)

How might your holiness grow if you were to review each day and recognize how God has been present, and when you missed God?

St. Mary's Parish is sponsoring **Caring Network's Parish Playpen** during the month of **February!** Please consider bringing items and placing them in the playpen in the Narthex. Questions: call Jennifer Dobbins (Parishioner) at 215-237-6271 .

Sunday 8:00 a.m.	February 24—7th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Pro Populo</i>
11:00 a.m.	†Mike Thomas req. John & Rose Wanamaker
12Noon	Baptisms

Monday 8:00 a.m.	February 25 †Tod Pfister req. Martha (Sitar) & Stan Black
6:30 p.m.	Bible Study

Tuesday 8:00 a.m.	February 26 †Dorothy Hande req. Ruzick family
10:30 a.m.	Mass at White Oaks, Lawton

Wednesday 8:00 a.m.	February 27 †John Menzor req. wife Lonna
9:00 a.m.	†Mike Jones req. LaCantina family

Thursday 7:00 p.m.	February 28 Rosary
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First Friday 8:00 a.m.	March 1—World Day of Prayer †Ted & Ann Dietz req. Martha (Sitar) & Stan Black
8:30 a.m.	Adoration
7:30 p.m.	Gaudium Christi West

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	March 2—Vigil: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Pro Populo</i>
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Sunday 8:00 a.m.	March 3—8th Sunday in Ordinary Time †Don Van Meter req. Mrs. Joseph Budner
11:00 a.m.	†Robert Bonarski req. cousin Elaine

READERS & EMHC—MARCH 2/3

4:30 P.M. READER R. Grzebyk	8:00 A.M. READER N. Westling	11:00 A.M. READER Student
EMHC N. Garcia R. Garcia S. Hill	EMHC P. Arbanas J. Podkol S. Starbuck	EMHC T. Thomas M. Middlebrooks E. Huver

ALTAR SERVERS—MARCH 2/3

D. Kasson K. Kasson C. Carpp	A. Goscenski C. Sipka A. Gibbs	J. McCaw B. McCaw A. Pantoja
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THE SPONSOR OF THE WEEK is **Canney's Water Conditioning, Inc.** To view the full advertisement, see the back page of our bulletin. Please patronize all of our sponsors because they make the bulletin possible.

Parish Support—February 17, 2019

Envelopes (160)	\$4,691
Loose	\$ 409
Online Giving (11)	\$ 500
Total	\$5,600
Weekly Target	\$7,700
Amount over (under) Target	(\$2,100)
Envelopes issued	342
Registered households	700
Collection Year-to-Date	\$248,326
Budgeted Year-to-Date	\$261,800
Amount over (under) Year-to-Date	(\$13,474)

Prayer Requests

4th Week of February—Nando, Dennis & Grace, Marie Stanek Wyszynski, Gina Borrello, Alie Stevens, Bert Renauld, Fr. Michael Howell, Kathy Pritchard, Barb Wloch, Janet Hamay, Ernest & Jean Markovich, Judy Lawson, Lauren Markel, Fr. David Otto, Todd Sikkema, William Rios, Virginia Stimac, Mary Nash, David Koppers, Jeanne Greveling, Tammy Hawes, Ellie D., Nicole Middaugh, Chris Nash, Florence Hunt, Theron Mosey
Pray for those residing at Bronson Commons and White Oaks. Please call the office if you are in special need of prayer help.

Fish Fry begins Friday, March 1 through April 12. NO FISH FRY ON GOOD FRIDAY. Sponsored by the K of C Council #3798. Fried Cod, Shrimp, Bakes & Beer Battered White dinners, and pizza meal for the kids. Desserts extra. Serving from 5 to 7PM. Take-outs available. Call 657-2324. **Prices have changed due to costs.**

The March Public Rosary on Saturday the 2nd will be prayed at The Lawton Dream Park, Lawton, Michigan at 11:30 am. Please join us.

Readings for the Week of February 24, 2019

Sunday	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38
Monday	Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday	Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday	Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175; Mk 9:38-40
Thursday	Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mk 9:41-50
Friday	Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12
Saturday	Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18; Mk 10:13-16
Sunday	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

If anyone has reason to suspect physical, sexual or emotional abuse of any person of any age, please contact Protective Services (855-444-3911) or the police, as appropriate.

- If abuse by anyone connected to the Church is suspected, please also contact the Diocesan Sexual Abuse Report line at (877)802-0115.
- Every effort will be made to return the call within an hour.
- For any other questions pertaining to protecting our children, please contact the Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator at (269)903-0171, mhentz@diokzoo.org
- If the suspected abuse is by a bishop, please contact Protective Services or the police, as well as Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Christophe Pierre at (202) 333-7121 and Archbishop Allen Vigneron at (313) 237-5800.

Please join with us this upcoming Lent for St. Mary's Annual Lenten Soup & Salad Suppers.



Every Wednesday during Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 6th after the evening Mass and then at 6:00pm on the following Wednesdays. We come together to grow in faith and fellowship. Bring a Soup, Salad or Your Favorite Dish to Share. Coffee and Refreshments Provided.

Diocesan priests live independently during their retirement, and they use their pension for basic needs, such as food, housing and transportation. As is the case with pension plans in today's world, our priests' retirement program is not fully funded. Next weekend's special collection will help to bridge the gap. Please give generously to ensure adequate retirement and health coverage will be available for our priests in retirement.

"WHEN I WAS NAKED, YOU CLOTHED ME." THANK YOU to all of the members of St. Mary's Parish who contributed socks, gloves, hats and other items for people in need. You donated hundreds of pairs of socks, gloves, hats, scarves and other warm clothing! We used gallon Ziploc baggies to create gift packages containing socks, other items and snacks. We've made several trips to distribute these packages near the Amtrak station in Kalamazoo. The station is across the street from the Gospel Mission, a homeless shelter that feeds hundreds of people each day. The people who are in need walk along the streets all day in this bad weather. They were very happy to get the warm, dry items you gave them. We were blessed to see lots of smiles from our recipients. Again, THANK YOU! Jan Kaeding OFS and all the members of Divine Providence Secular Franciscan Fraternity

A Special Thank You - Many supported the Bake Sale by donating delicious baked goods and others supported by their donations. This fund raiser was a success to help fund a retreat for the confirmation candidates. We are very grateful.

The next baptism class will be held on **April 10th at 7:00PM** in the school. **Baptisms will be on April 28th** after the 11:00AM Mass. Please call the office to register.

Diocesan Annual Lenten Retreat 2019 - March 16-17 at Indian Lake Nazarene Camp, Vicksburg. The retreat begins at 9:00 am on March 16th and concludes at 11:30 am on March 17th. There are two options available when you register – an overnight stay or for those who commute. Deadline is March 8th. To register, please visit <https://IMDisciple.com/retreats> or Tim at tmcnamara@diokzoo.org.

Knightly News—The Knights of Columbus World Famous Fish Dinners will start on Friday, March 1st from 5 to 7PM. This is one week earlier than normal, thus allowing the Knights to not have to work on Good Friday and to be able to attend Good Friday mass with you. Copies of times, dates and menu are posted at the church entries and posted in the area weekly newspapers. PGK Blaine Douglas

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