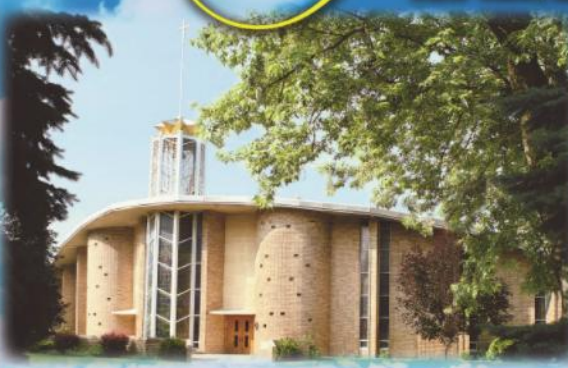


Ascension of the Lord

St. Mary CHURCH

CORNER OF BROWN & ST. JOSEPH
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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 through Friday.. 8:00 a.m.

Confessions

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

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Fr. Joseph Xavier, MSFS
(ext. 222)..... frjosephx@bloomingdalecom.net
In Case of Emergency..... (cell) (269) 352-4740

Deacon Duane Poage ...dcnduane@gmail.com

Parish Office

500 E. Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
Tel: (269) 657-4459 • Fax (269) 657-4260
www.stmarypawpaw.com
stmarypawpaw@bloomingdalecom.net

Hours

Monday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
(Closed for lunch)..... 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Religious Education Classes

Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 12:00p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Friday of the Month after morning Mass.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena

Every Tuesday morning after 8:00 a.m. Mass

Rosary

Thursdays 7:00 p.m.

Parish Staff

Finance Manager Lisa Gardner
(ext. 224)

Secretary/Bulletin Denise Hicks
(ext. 221)

Dir. of Music Connie Hitchcock
(269) 624-6441

Dir. of Religious Education Jackie Marshall
(ext. 223)
.....drestmarypawpaw@bloomingdalecom.net

St. Mary School

508 E. Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
Tel: (269) 657-3750 • Fax (269) 479-3564
www.saintmarypawpaw.org

Homebound Ministry Angie Douglas
(269) 668-6215

Chairperson for Parish Finance Council Richard Goy
(269) 624-7173.....rgoy@att.net

Chairperson for

Pastoral Council Steve Starbuck
(269) 657-4156

Grand Knight for

Knights of Columbus William Van Ooy
(269) 330-5126

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.

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.

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,

Little Bobby was spending the weekend with his grandmother after a particularly trying week in kindergarten. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful. His grandmother remarked, "**Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know that God painted this just for you?**" Bobby said, "**Yes, God did it and he did it left-handed.**" This confused his grandmother a bit, and she asked him, "What makes you say God did this with his left hand?" "Well," said Bobby, "we learned at Sunday School last week that **Jesus went up to heaven and is sitting on God's right hand!**"

The Gospels contain many parables of a master who sets out on a long journey and gives his servants charge of his estate until his return. In the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord all these parables become reality. Jesus departs to his heavenly Father and leaves his disciples in charge of the affairs of his kingdom till his return in glory. In all the Gospels we have the scene in which Jesus finally takes leave of his disciples. **These farewell scenes focus not on describing the event in detail, but on the last words that Jesus leaves with his disciples.** In fact, the very fact of a bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven is described only by Luke. It is Luke who wrote the Acts of the Apostles from which we got our first reading today. A later ending of Mark also includes the Ascension. There are important similarities and differences between Luke and Acts on the one hand, and Matthew and Mark on the other, regarding the details of this farewell scene.

The gospel writers apparently were not aiming at accuracy in historical details; but they were more concerned with transmitting a message. So, what is the message, the charge that Jesus gives his disciples as he takes physical leave of them? But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. **(Acts 1:8)** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. **(Matthew 28:19-20)**

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover. (Mark 16:15-18). These are the last words of Jesus as recorded. (a) Jesus gave his disciples a mission, a task to engage them till he returns in glory, and (b) he assured them of divine assistance in carrying out this mission.

The mission is to bear witness to the Good News of Jesus to the ends of the earth, to go into all nations of the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. **The message of Jesus** is meant to be good news in the ears of all humankind irrespective of race, language, color, nationality or culture. The spreading of the Good News to all nations is not a goal that can be attained by human might and right, but with divine assistance. That is why Jesus promises to empower his messengers from on high by his abiding presence and the Holy Spirit. The challenge of sharing the Good News with all humankind should, therefore, begin on our knees. We have to do all what we can by ourselves. God will do only what we cannot do. Have a nice week-end. Sincerely, Fr Joseph.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Arockia Mary, the oldest sister of Fr. Joseph, age 57, residing in India, married with two children, who died due to low blood pressure. Please keep Fr. Joseph and his family in your prayers.

Saturday

4:30 p.m.

May 15—Vigil: The Ascension of the Lord
Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn 16:23b-28
†Deceased members of the Venckus family
req. family

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

May 16—The Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23
or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13; Mk 16:15-20
†Irene Marigold req. family

11:00 a.m.

†Marian Bedell (1st Anniversary)

Monday

8:00 a.m.

May 17
Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab;
Jn 16:29-33
†John Mailloux
req. David & Jackie Marshall

Tuesday

8:00 a.m.

May 18—St. John I
Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
†Mary & Edward Erickson
req. family

Wednesday

8:00 a.m.

May 19
Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
†Joseph A. Schauer
req. Mr. & Mrs. Paul Schauer

Thursday

8:00 a.m.

May 20—St. Bernardine of Siena
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn 17:20-26
†Lisa Stack

7:00 p.m.

Rosary

Friday

8:00 a.m.

May 21—St Christopher Magallanes & Companions
Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab;
Jn 21:15-19

9:30 a.m.

†Arockia Mary, the sister of Fr. Joseph
†John Szewczyk

Saturday

4:30 p.m.

May 22—Vigil: Pentecost
Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or
Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
†John Menzor
req. Lonna & family

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

May 23—Pentecost
Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34;
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

11:00 a.m.

Pro Populo

Special Intentions of Stephen & Elizabeth Lutz
(40th Anniversary)

Baptisms—If you have a child you would like to receive the sacrament of baptism, please contact the parish office.

Parish Support—May 9, 2021

Envelopes (103)	\$7,516
Loose	\$ 179
Online Giving (23)	<u>\$1,900</u>
Total	\$9,595
Weekly Target	<u>\$7,300</u>
Amount over (under) Target	<u>\$2,295</u>

Collection Year-to-Date	\$293,517
Budgeted Year-to-Date	<u>\$315,000</u>
Amount over (under) Year-to-Date	<u>(\$21,483)</u>

Giving Made Easy—Don't have cash or a checkbook? With secure eGiving options, you can quickly and easily give using an ACH transfer from your bank account. • Give anytime, anywhere • Schedule and manage recurring donations • Make one-time donations to special appeals • Visit our website at www.stmarypawpaw.com.

Prayer Requests—Jetti O'Connell, Sanja, Jim Thomas, Alexander Buiwitt, MAC, Kay T., Special Intention, Don Kemp, Jerry, Braelyn Boyer, Herman Clauto, Anna Urquieta, Paula & Carl Leedy, Dorothy Dietz, for the homeless, peace in families & the world, David Marshall, Ryan, Chad, Theresa Andrie, Kathy Arndt, Kenny, Brian Gottschall, Paul Juriga, James A., Cade S., Mike Johnston, Willie, Betty, Janet Wartman, Jerry & Jane, Maria Pach, Mark Kovach, Ryan Yaran, Larry Carpenter, Shannon, Gayle Wiggins, Dale & Dorothy Kemp, Dr. Greg, Dennis & Grace, Marie Stanek Wyszynski, Janet Hamay, Todd Sikkema, William Rios, Mary Nash, David Koppers, Tammy Hawes, Ellie D., Nicole Middaugh, Chris Nash, Theron Mosey and residents of Bronson Commons and White Oaks. Call the parish office if you are in need of prayer help.

The 2021 boxed envelope sets are available in the parish office during regular business hours. Please call 269-657-4459 to make arrangements for pickup.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US! The 8-week series of talks has already started, but you are still invited to come. In the midst of the busyness of your life and all the distractions that pop up, Jesus Christ is longing to enter into a deeper relationship with you. His love for you is immense. Come listen to the good news of His love and mercy. We meet every Sunday and Wednesday from 7-8pm in the St. Mary's School Gym. Adults and teens are welcome!

For St. Mary Parish Families—The St. Mary School registration fee for the 2021-2022 school year is waived. Registration fee for Religious Education students for 2021-2022 is also waived.

No Catholic child will be denied the opportunity of a Catholic education at Saint Mary School due to financial need. Contact the pastor at 657-4459.

The Diocese of Kalamazoo has and will continue to cooperate with the Michigan Attorney General's investigation and encourages anyone with information related to misconduct to call the reporting number set-up by the Michigan Attorney General's office at: (844) 324-3374.

THE SPONSOR OF THE WEEK is Warner Supply Do-it Center. To view the full advertisement, see the back page of our bulletin. Please patronize all of our sponsors because they make the bulletin possible.

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2021

Parish Goal: \$60,302
Pledges: \$28,500
Needed: \$31,802
% of Goal: 47.3% # of Donors: 79



Graduation Recognition Mass – Sunday May 30th at 11:00 AM - For all who have graduated this year from High School, College and St. Mary School, Father Joseph would like to acknowledge your achievement at the 11:00AM Mass on May 30th.

All graduates please email the Church Office: stmarypawpaw@bloomingdalecom.net with your name, the school you graduated from and your future plans for announcement at Mass. Also please include a photo for a recognition board that will be placed at the main entrance of the Church. **Please have all information along with the photo into the office by May 25th**

This week, we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to assist six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support to struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

A Novena for Life
honoring the Feast of the Visitation
May 22–30 | Sign up: respectlife.org/visitation



Diocese of Kalamazoo Caregivers Connection: Are you a caregiver for someone with a disability? Do you sometimes feel alone or overwhelmed? You are invited to a virtual gathering on **Sunday, June 6 from 1:00 – 2:00p.m.** The focus is to build relationships, share faith and experiences, and create a supportive community. Go to <https://diokzoo.org/caregivers> or contact Lisa Irwin, Diocese of Kalamazoo 269-903-0177 or email at lirwin@diokzoo.org. Zoom link will be sent to those who register.

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As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, my God.
Psalm 42

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