



There is nothing I will not do for the soul who abandons herself to Me in a simple act of trust.

**Due to the Executive Order to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life:**

- The Church is closed, the Parish Office is closed, all events are canceled until April 13, this includes Adoration, Confessions and Stations.
- Masses will be celebrated privately by our parish priests and all Mass intentions will be honored.
- The 8:00 am Mass will be available on Facebook as will the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 pm.

**Mass Schedule****Saturday, March 28 – Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

5:00 pm † Dan Boone by Dale &amp; Susan Begley

**Sunday, March 29 – Fifth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 am † Josephine Elizondo by Elizondo &amp; Stark Family

10:00 am † Norma Naas by Gary &amp; Julie Zink

12:00 pm Joan Miller's 70th Birthday

2:00 pm For the People of St. Joseph & St. Jerome **Burmese**5:00 pm † Holy Souls in Purgatory **Spanish****Monday, March 30**

8:00 am † Dr. Harold Green by Family

**Tuesday, March 31**

8:00 am † Dan Boone by Nancy Brown

**Wednesday, April 1**

8:00 am † Florence Ankley by Fr. Chris Ankley

**Thursday, April 2**8:00 am Spiritual Renewal of the Church and Our Nation by  
Our Lady of Fatima Group

9:00 am † Peter Chiang by Angie Cheng

**First Friday, April 3**8:00 am † John Peter Abramowicz (4th Anniversary)  
by Linda Abramowicz**Saturday, April 4**

8:00 am † Lorraine E. Freed by St. Joseph Parish

**Saturday, April 5 – Vigil: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

5:00 pm † Jason Abramowicz by Linda Abramowicz

**Sunday, April 6 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

8:00 am † Opal Newman by Connie &amp; Dick Becker

10:00 am † Alicia Hernandez by Campos Family

12:00 pm † Coach Al Leibert by Family

5:00 pm For the People of St. Joseph & St. Jerome **Spanish****Readings for: Palm Sunday  
of the Lord's Passion**

Mt 21:1-11, Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Mt 26:14-27:66

While the parish office is closed, the bulletin will be done each week and can be found on the St. Joseph Parish App, our **Website** [stjosephbc.org](http://stjosephbc.org), and **Discover Mass** [discovermass.com](http://discovermass.com).

Staff members are working from home. If you call the office and leave a message, someone will return your call.



We pray for the day when we will be able to resume weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**During Holy Week all Masses will be celebrated privately by our priests.**

**Holy Week Schedule****April 5 Palm Sunday****April 7 Chrism Mass** St. Catherine in Portage**April 9 Holy Thursday****April 10 Good Friday: Liturgy of the Passion & Death of Our Lord****April 11 Easter Vigil****April 12 Easter Sunday**

**There will be no 8:00 am Masses on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday**



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*Lover of Poverty, Pray for Us*

### From Fr. Christopher Ankley

Dear Friends,

There once lived in a German village a very wealthy and leisurely couple. They were Catholic but rarely if ever stepped into a Church. They never made time to pray. They rarely received the sacraments, and hardly ever served their neighbors. They just weren't developing a friendship with Christ. They were more interested in their social life. After many years God blessed them with a child, whom they loved dearly, they even had him baptized. But, as we all live in a fallen world of free will, while he was very young, there was a terrible accident and the baby died. The couple was devastated. Their sorrow soon turned to anger and hopelessness, and so they came to speak with a priest.

"If God loves us," they asked "Why did he do this to us?" The priest answered, "God does indeed love you. But he didn't do this to you. He didn't cause the accident, but he did take your son to heaven. And his taking of your son to heaven can be seen as a sign of that love." They didn't like that answer. So the priest told them a story.

A good shepherd prepared a delicious feast for his sheep. The feast was made of the best alfalfa, hay, and oats, and most sheep would've drooled at the sight of it. But when the shepherd opened the sheep pen, his sheep wouldn't come in and eat it. He called and whistled and sang, but they just kept wandering farther and farther away. Finally the shepherd went out and picked up a little lamb, carried it into the pen, and set it down beside the food. When the other sheep saw the lamb eating hungrily, they all made their way into the pen to enjoy the feast.

"This is what Jesus has done for you," the priest said to the couple. Until now you've always refused to prepare yourself to come to the great feast he has prepared for you in heaven, no matter how many invitations he's sent you. You've been giving so much attention to earthly comforts that you've neglected the care of your souls. And now our Lord has brought your son to heaven. Did you consider that maybe God is using his death as a way of drawing you in? In this act of taking your child to heaven, whom you love so much, our Lord hopes you will find yourselves inspired to follow Him in the Christian way here on earth so that you can follow your son into Heaven. Our Lord is saying to you, **"Come to me, I am the resurrection, I am the life. Your son lives here with me in Heaven. If you believe in me, even if you die, you will live. Come to me."**

Now in our Gospel today Martha and Mary are a bit like this German couple. They are both stunned by the death of their brother Lazarus, probably a young man who died a rapid death. They're not only in grief but a bit angered that Jesus didn't come more quickly to prevent Lazarus from dying. Both Martha and Mary say to Jesus, **"Lord if you had been here our brother would not have died."**

So Jesus leads these sisters to authentic faith and hope by asking two questions. First he asks a question about **hope**, he says, "Do you believe that your brother will rise?" And Martha does answer in the affirmative saying,

"Yes, I believe that my brother Lazarus will rise from the dead on the last day." This response is typical for a pious Jew of that time period. They believed that there was some sort of survival after death and that there is some sort of judgment at the end of time. But this hope of life after death was kind of vague and impersonal, not much to grasp onto.

The second question that Jesus asks is about **faith**; the first question was about hope and the second about faith. He asks, "Do you believe that I am the Resurrection and the eternal life you are looking for? Do you believe that **in and through** me you will have life beyond death?" And Martha answers, "Yes." And making an act of faith she says to Jesus, "You are the Christ the Son of God, come into the world to save us from sin." Her hope for life after death is no longer a vague concept. Her hope for life after death now has a name, and this name is Jesus.

These two questions posed to Martha about hope and faith still confront us today. If Christ were to ask today the average American about life after death, the vast majority of Americans would still answer in the affirmative. Yes, there is something beyond death, and it has something to do with the moral choices we make in this life. But again this hope is vague; God is imagined to be a lenient Judge where everyone goes to Heaven. This answer gives no concept of living deep within the life of Jesus, a life given to us in baptism and maintained by prayer, Sunday Mass, good works, and all the sacraments. Christ also asks us the second question, "Do you believe that in Christ alone we find the resurrection from the dead and that in the risen Christ we see our own future communion with God?"

It's a yes to these questions, a yes to Jesus Christ that guides us to real Christian hope. It's the hope of freedom from the corruption of sin and death made possible through the gift of our Lord's passion and resurrection. It's the hope of that great feast in Heaven.

Now the risen Lazarus confirms the truth that Jesus can conquer death. But his rising from the dead prefigures and points us to the perfect conquering of death in Jesus. Lazarus points us to the glory of Christ raised forever. In Lazarus we see the beginning of Christian hope where all faithful disciples will one day share God's glory, a heavenly glory that is beyond the tomb and beyond our deepest earthly and momentary grief.

The Good Shepherd still beckons to us today, "Come to me," he says, "I weep too, I have entered into your pain, I have entered into your fear, I have entered into your loss, I am not far from you, I am very close, come to me and live."

Let us be great Saints,

Fr. Christopher J. Ankley

**Prayers for the Sick/Those in Need**

*Gerri Bateman, Chris Bradley, Chuck Brown, Peggy Crane, Bernadette Emmons, Bradley Gagnon, Sharon Harris, Sr. Cyrilla, Jerry Johnson, Carolyn Kewley, Pat Kukla, Nathan & Robert Lindstrom, Jakob Livingston, Victor Lupina, Agnes Marko, Scott Marko, Doug Marshall, Curtis Mason, Lori Ann McAdam, Katie Miller, Laurie Morris, Joan Mrak, Karen Partin, Cheryl Scales, Kathy Scott, Ron Seyka, Gerald Smith, Margaret Smith, Cristian Reyes Torres, Michael Wells, Elizabeth Wells, Sara Wixson, Dee Wygant, Christine Ybarra, Marion Zull*

**Prayers for Those Who have Died**

*Jerry Johnson*

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**Financial Information**

**There is no collection information at this time.**

We appreciate those who have mailed their contributions to the parish, dropped off envelopes through the mail slot at the parish office, or continue to give through Online Giving. We still have bills and salaries to pay and need continued donations.



You may give online using Online Giving through Our Sunday Visitor, our church envelope company.

The Online Giving Website for St. Joseph Church is [osvonlinegiving.com/3010](http://osvonlinegiving.com/3010). You need to create an account and link it to a bank account or credit card.

You can make a one time donation or set up regular weekly or monthly donations. All the special envelopes are also available to make a donation, even making a donation for a Mass.

Online Giving Technical support can be reach by calling 800-348-2886 Option 2. You can also reach support via email at [onlinegiving@osv.com](mailto:onlinegiving@osv.com).

**Special Envelopes**

- APR 9:** Holy Thursday
- APR 10:** Good Friday
- APR 12:** Easter Sunday
- MAY 17:** Catholic Relief Services
- MAY 24:** Ascension

**Are you looking** for a way to do something for your parish without leaving your home? We are in need of a volunteer to be responsible for the St. Joseph Parish Quarterly Newsletter. Being comfortable with Microsoft Publisher is helpful, but not required. Microsoft Publisher is much more flexible than Microsoft Word, and training is available if needed. People and organizations in the parish submit articles and pictures to the Newsletter Editor. who will put it all together for publication. If you are interested, please contact Ellen at [etiption@bcacs.org](mailto:etiption@bcacs.org) or 788-3611.

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 2017

*The Good News of St. Joseph* JULY

Hail Mary, full of grace

BY FRANK M. SHEETS



*"The whole trip made me proud to be a Catholic. We have the power to change the world. We have to do what God wants: to love one another."*

— Dr. Angela Adams



**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**.

**While St. Joseph Church is closed:**

We aren't getting Mass announcements and printed bulletins. Getting the St. Joseph Parish App lets you receive regular texts with information from St. Joseph Parish.

Also on the app you'll find:

- Facebook Live to see the 8 am Daily Mass, the 3 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Fr. Chris' message on Tuesdays.
- The Weekly Bulletin
- Daily Readings from the USCCB under readings
- All the common Catholic prayers including the new Coronavirus prayer
- Bishop Barron's Homilies
- And more!



To get the App,  
Text App to 88202.

**Stay Connected to St. Joseph Church**

**Like us on Facebook:** St. Joseph Catholic Church

**Use Online Giving:** [osvonlinegiving.com/3010](http://osvonlinegiving.com/3010)  
You can give a one time donation or set up regular weekly or monthly donations.

**Get the St. Joseph Parish App:** Text App to 88202  
Text messages will send out new information.  
You can access the bulletin and sign up for Online Giving.

**Visit our St. Joseph Website:** [stjosephbc.org](http://stjosephbc.org)  
There is current information on the home page. You can access the bulletin and sign up for Online Giving.

**Access Catholic content on FORMED:** See page 2 for details. Free to Battle Creek Parishes.

**Connecting with Mercy** Dear friends, Connecting with Mercy collections will be suspended until the regular church and Mass schedules resume. Until then, let's pray for all the victims of this virus, and those caring for them. Lord, hear our prayers.



**Tri-Parish Pro-Life Spiritual Adoption Program**

This program was to begin this past weekend at all the Masses in Battle Creek. It is a very simple program to pray a two sentence prayer everyday

for nine months to save an unborn baby who is in danger of abortion. All you have to do is:

- Think of a name for your spiritually adopted baby.
- Fill out a heart pledge card with your name and your baby's name.
- Say the short prayer each day from the Annunciation to Christmas (the same nine months that Jesus was growing in the womb of Mary).
- Give us your email so you can receive updates each month about your baby's progress.
- Donate a baby item at the end of the program in January 2021

Since we are not able to attend Mass, we are offering you the opportunity to sign up by email. If you would like to participate in this program, please email [chirzel@aol.com](mailto:chirzel@aol.com):  
**1. Your name (how you would like it to be printed on your heart pledge card)**  
**2. Your Baby's name**  
**3. Which parish you attend**

We will email you the prayer. A heart pledge card with your name will be added to our boards which will be displayed in the three churches when they reopen. We

all need more prayers in this time of crisis. Let us not forget to pray for the unborn, our most vulnerable. Your prayers can make a difference between whether a baby will be born...or aborted. Our prayers can also be a form of spiritual support for both of the parents. Please share the love of **LIFE** given to you by the Lord of all life and join in spiritually to adopt a baby. Thank you. God bless you!

**A gift of flowers and decorations for the Easter season**

You can remember family and friends by making a donation for flowers and decorations to St. Joseph Church. Your donation will be used to enhance our worship space by purchasing decorations and keeping flowers and plants fresh throughout the Easter Season. Please fill out this form and return by mail or drop in the mail slot at the parish office by April 05. Remembrances will be printed in a bulletin insert during the Easter Season.

*A gift of flowers and decorations for the Easter season*

Please  
print  
names  
legibly.

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Env. # \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use my gift for plants and decorations. Minimum suggested donation: \$15.00 Please submit by April 05.**



*2019-2020 Annual Fund Drive*

**The Annual Fund Drive is essential to ensuring the future growth of Catholic education in our community.**

*What does the Annual Fund Drive support?*

- A subsidy to the schools to lower the cost of the overall operating budget, making tuition more affordable
- Families' financial capabilities to attend the schools through tuition assistance
- Invests in technology to enrich the learning experiences for our staff and students
- Capital improvements and overall building security



Your tax-deductible gift to the BCACS Foundation ensures the prosperity of Catholic education and the success of our future leaders. Monthly, quarterly, or semi-annual, or annual gifts are accepted as well as gifts of stock, mutual funds, and IRA distributions.

**To make a gift to the BCACS Foundation, please contact Abby Lumbard at 269-963-4771.**

**50% TO GO**  
**The Annual Fund Drive has reached 50% of our goal of \$250,000 in unrestricted gifts. Help us get to 100%!**



## Parish Directory

**Pastor** ..... Reverend Fr. Christopher Ankley  
[frchris@bcacs.org](mailto:frchris@bcacs.org)  
**Parochial Vicars** ..... Fr. Pius Cung  
[frpius@bcacs.org](mailto:frpius@bcacs.org)  
 ..... Fr. Andrew Raczkowski  
[frandrew@bcacs.org](mailto:frandrew@bcacs.org)

**Deacons**..... David Krajewski, James Nelson

### Emergency Assistance

St. Vincent de Paul Society 969-5606

### Pastoral Care of the Sick

If you are homebound, contact Linda Kellogg 965-2074

### Sacrament of Baptism

Parishioners should call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

### Sacrament of Eucharist

#### Sacrament of Confirmation

Contact our Schools or our Director of Faith Formation.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Parishioners must contact one of the parish priests at least six months before setting a wedding date.

### Sacrament of Holy Orders

If you or someone you know has a vocation, contact a parish priest for assistance.

### Sacrament of Anointing the Sick

In case of an accident, surgery or other emergency, call 962-0165.

### Parish Staff

**Parish Office Manager** ..... Shirley Springer  
 ▪ [sspringer@bcacs.org](mailto:sspringer@bcacs.org) 962-0165

**Communications, Music** ..... Ellen Tipton  
 ▪ [etipton@bcacs.org](mailto:etipton@bcacs.org) 962-0165

**Faith Formation**..... Barbara Kincaid  
 ▪ [bkıncaid@bcacs.org](mailto:bkıncaid@bcacs.org) 965-4079

**Liturgy and Music**..... James Zalewski  
 ▪ [music@bcacs.org](mailto:music@bcacs.org) 962-2133

**Pastoral Ministry**..... Sr. Cyrilla Jegla, RSM  
 965-1990

**Youth Ministry** ..... Andrea Perry  
 ▪ [aperry@bcacs.org](mailto:aperry@bcacs.org) 788-7000

### Parish Ministries

**All Saints Superfest** ..... Ed Bauman  
 ▪ [edbauman@hotmail.com](mailto:edbauman@hotmail.com) 962-1328

**Boy Scouts Troop 325** ..... Bob Johnson  
 ▪ [scoutmaster325@gmail.com](mailto:scoutmaster325@gmail.com) 965-7365

**Catholic Men's Fellowship** ..... John Duyck  
 ▪ [jrdaddio@outlook.com](mailto:jrdaddio@outlook.com) 965-8954

**Connecting with Mercy** ..... Mary Sine  
 ▪ [sine74@msn.com](mailto:sine74@msn.com)

**Council of Catholic Women** ..... Colleen Vitale  
 ▪ [cvitale@mail.com](mailto:cvitale@mail.com) 989-723-1842

**Echo Apprentice** ..... Ruby Briones  
 ▪ [rbriones@bcacs.org](mailto:rbriones@bcacs.org) 962-0165

**Evangelization Commission** .. Suzanne Nielsen  
 & Nancy Haack

**Family Activity Night**..... Loretta Mahley  
 ▪ [Lmahley30@icloud.com](mailto:Lmahley30@icloud.com)

**Finance Council** ..... Ed Bauman  
 ▪ [edbauman@hotmail.com](mailto:edbauman@hotmail.com) 962-1328

**Formed Access Code** ..... **PTRKXD**

**Hispanic Community**.. Fr. Andrew Raczkowski  
 ▪ [frandrew@bcacs.org](mailto:frandrew@bcacs.org) 962-0165

**Jail Ministry** ..... Rita Wahmhoff  
 ▪ [ritawahmhoff@yahoo.com](mailto:ritawahmhoff@yahoo.com) 968-3067

**Knights of Columbus** ..... Andrew Kincaid  
 ▪ [kincaid.tribe@gmail.com](mailto:kincaid.tribe@gmail.com) 589-5888

**Lakeview Food Pantry**..... Janet Borders  
 ▪ [jdbdvm@comcast.net](mailto:jdbdvm@comcast.net) 965-2632

**Legion of Mary** ..... Linda Kellogg  
 ▪ [kellogg-dl@att.net](mailto:kellogg-dl@att.net) 965-2074

**Newcomers** ..... Phil & Mary Sue Avery  
 ▪ [marysue\\_a@yahoo.com](mailto:marysue_a@yahoo.com) 979-9105

**Perpetual Adoration St. Philip** ..... Betty  
 ▪ [bdillard7@gmail.com](mailto:bdillard7@gmail.com) 962-8255

**Prayerline**..... Linda Opack  
 962-7339

**Small Christian Communities**..... Judy Buch  
**(Scripture Study)** 425-9395

**Spanish Choir** ..... Teresa Bello  
 269-274-7409

**Spanish Prayer Group** Sarah & Francisco Sanchez  
 419-5786

**Spiritual Library**..... Rita Wahmhoff  
 ▪ [ritawahmhoff@yahoo.com](mailto:ritawahmhoff@yahoo.com) 968-3067

**Tri-Parish Pro-Life** ..... Pat Hirzel  
 ▪ [chirzel@aol.com](mailto:chirzel@aol.com) 968-4639