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Edward Jones

PASTOR: Fr. Ryan Ford: 906-399-0553

DEACON: Dcn. Steve Schaffer: 906-485-1607

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

1889 Prairie Avenue Ishpeming, MI 49849

DOM OF SE 40

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Alizabeth Prekker

fr.ryanford@gmail.com

ishpemingfaithformation@gmail.com

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Susie Sundberg, Choir Director Lucas Wickstrom, Organist

Ordinary Time October 24, 2021

Thirtieth Sunday in

PARISH OFFICE: 906-485-4200 Monday, Wed. & Friday 8:00 A.M. - Noon Tues. & Thurs. Noon - 4:00 P.M. stjoeparish@outlook.com WEBSITE: www.ishpemingcatholic.com

SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER: Kevin Flohe

LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS

Betty Bosio

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact Fr. Ryan: 906-399-0553

CONFESSION

Saturday 7:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M Sunday 12:00 P.M. - 12:30 P.M. Monday 5:00 P.M. - 5:25 P.M.; 6:00 P.M. - 6:15 P.M. Wednesday 5:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M. Anytime by calling Fr. Ryan

PREGNANCY CENTER Care Clinic, Marquette 906-228-CARE

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Sr. Margey: 906-376-8475

HOMEBOUND, NURSING HOME VISITATION

Angela Johnson: 906-236-9171 ishpeminghomebound@gmail.com

CONFESSION, ADORATION, & MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 23

6:00 P.M. – Mass – Mark Stampee by Mom, Greg & Jeff 7:00 P.M. – Confessions

Sunday, October 24

11:00 A.M. – Mass – Joan Poissant by Ralph & Debbie Gardner

12:00 P.M. – Confessions

7:00 P.M. – Mass – The People of the Parishes

Monday, October 25

5:00 P.M. – Adoration & Confession

5:30 P.M. – Mass – Joan Sarff by Mary Ann St. Andre

6:00 P.M. - Confession

Tuesday, October 26 (At St. John's)

7:00 A.M. – Eucharistic Adoration

8:00 A.M. - Confession

8:30 A.M. – Mass – Matthew Amel by Joe & Judy Valente

Wednesday, October 27

5:00 P.M. – Eucharistic Adoration & Confession 5:30 P.M. – Mass – Bubba Croley by The Betts Family

Thursday, October 28 (At St. John's)

8:30 A.M. – Mass – Donna Rife by Rodney & Sue Scott 9:00 A.M. – Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, October 30

6:00 P.M. – Mass – Susan Perry by The Trewhalla Family 7:00 P.M. – Confessions

Sunday, October 31

11:00 A.M. – Mass – Ellen Helgren by Dee St. Andre, Jan Spencer, Faye St. Andre & Betty St. Andre

12:00 P.M. - Confessions

7:00 P.M. – Mass – The People of the Parishes

The sanctuary candle this month is lit in memory of the Hebert & Heikkila Families.

For more information, to submit a prayer request, or watch Mass live from St. Joseph Parish, please go to www.ishpemingcatholic.com/live

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Kelli Jenkin, Faye St. Andre, Joe Petrany, Jill (Junak)
Dompierre, Branden Quayle, John Paveglio, Dale
Pelland, Brandon Fernea, Morris Carlson, Jr., Rich
Bartanen, Paul Kish, Louis Bonetti, Arthur Jasmund, Dan
Landmark, Fran Horn, Bruce Sanders, Bruce Jenkin,
Rosemary Pruett, Wesley Compton, John Lusardi,
Norbert Beauchamp, Pat Bray, Melissa Weymier, Sr.
Bernadette LaPorte, Rita Lusardi, Nick Nolde, Alvar and
Marina Heikkila, Anne Connors, Linda Dehner
Gransinger, Phillip DeChambeau, Sherri Peters, Edelyn
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LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, October 30 - 6:00 P.M.

Ushers: Altar Servers: Lector: Ed Korpi EMHCs: Sherri Bertani

Sunday, October 31 - 11:00 A.M.

Ushers: Altar Servers: Lector: Ann Loman EMHCs: Becky Ostola

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: ROM 8:12-17/PS 68/LK 13:10-17
Tuesday: ROM 8:18-25/PS 126/LK 13:18-21
Wednesday: ROM 8:26-30/PS 13/LK 13:22-30
Thursday: EPH 2:19-22/PS 19/LK 6:12-16
Friday: ROM 9:1-5/PS 147/LK 14:1-6
Saturday: ROM 11:1-2A, 11-12, 25-29/PS 94/

LK 14:1, 7-11

Sunday: DT 6:2-6/PS 18/HEB 7:23-28/MK 12:28B-34

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 27 – Grief Support Group, 7:00 PM November 1 – Prayer Shawl Meeting, 6:00 PM

LADIES GUILD HOLIDAY TEA

The Ladies Guild Holiday Tea will take place on Wednesday, November 17th at 6:30 PM. Proceeds will go to support the Care Clinic with needed donations. Please consider hosting a table! For more information or to register, please contact Peggy Niemi at 248-410-8504.

PRAYER LINE

The Prayer Line of St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist Parishes would like to offer their support in prayer for all those in need. If you have a prayer request, please feel free to contact Judy at (906) 485-5887. When you share your prayer request, you are welcome to be as general or specific as you would like. Also, if you are interested in being a part of this ministry and lifting up our parishioners in prayer, please contact Judy with this request as well.

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings! This weekend we celebrate the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings speak of Jesus' power to

open the blindness of our eyes to see with faith the glory of God and His works. We certainly need Jesus to open our eyes these days, when so much of our focus can be on bad things, difficulties, and distressing situations. Come, Lord Jesus, help us to see your glory! Jesus is always near us, wanting to help us see His presence shining through every weakness and problem. Let's ask Him today to open our eyes to His presence in this Eucharist, shining through the humble appearance of bread and wine. If we learn to see Him in this Sacrament, we can learn to see Him in all the distressing disguises around us.

Deacon Steve Schaffer will be preaching the homily at this weekend's Masses. I will be travelling back and forth between here and Fortune Lake Camp in Crystal Falls helping at the Youth Encounter Christ retreat. I'm grateful to Deacon Steve for his ongoing ministry and service!

Congratulations to the St. Joseph Ladies' Guild for putting on another successful Fall Bazaar this Saturday. They use the profits to support many charitable works and other ministries in our parish and town.

K-12 Faith Formation continues this Sunday before the 11:00am Mass. Students can meet their catechists in their classrooms. We're looking for volunteer catechist subs who can fill-in when one of our catechists cannot make it for Sunday morning class. Subs would fill in here and there, and lesson plans would already be planned for them. If interested and willing to help, contact Ali at 486-6212 x.4.

Our Parish-wide Fall Scripture Study continues with St. Paul's Letter to the Romans Chapters 9-11. We want everyone to participate at one of three levels: 1) Read the chapters of Romans (go to esv.org/Romans to read online); 2) Use the study guide in today's bulletin to reflect on what you read; 3) Participate in the online discussion on Zoom next Saturday, October 23rd from 8:30am-9:15am. To receive the study guide in your email inbox and a link for the Saturday Zoom discussion, sign up at ishpemingcatholic.com/scripture. Join in!

Next Sunday is Halloween, which is a Catholic feast of preparation for All Saint's Day on November 1st. 'Halloween' is a contraction of 'All Hallows Eve,' the vigil of All Saint's Day. The three days of Halloween, All Saint's Day, and All Soul's Day remind us of our duty always to remember the dead: the Saints in heaven, and the holy souls in Purgatory on their way to heaven. It's a celebration of our ongoing communion with those who've gone before us: those who are praying for us (the Saints), and those for whom we offer our prayers (the holy souls in Purgatory). Let's celebrate not by fixating on evil things like devils, zombies, witches, or vampires, but rather on holy things like learning about our patron saints, giving treats to our neighbors, doing works of charity, and coming to Mass to worship and pray to God in union with all those who've gone before us in Christ!

Mass for **All Saint's Day** on *Monday, November* 1st will be moved back to 6:00pm here at St. Joseph parish, in the hope that more people can come after work and school. Mass for **All Soul's Day** on *Tuesday, November* 2nd will be 8:30am at St. John's and 5:30pm at St. Joe's. Those Masses will be offered for all the faithful departed.

The following day, *Wednesday, November 3rd* is the first Wednesday of the month. We'll have **St. Joseph prayer devotions** after the 5:30pm Mass at St. Joseph parish, then a potluck dinner in the hall, followed by **Eucharistic adoration with praise and worship music** from 7:00pm-8:00pm. Come enjoy time together and with Jesus!

Our weekly men's group meets every Thursday morning from 6:30am-7:30am at St. John's convent 1st floor. We're going through the *Conquer Series: The Battle Plan for Purity* to help every man use the weapons of God to be a better husband, a better father, and better man of integrity. To sign up, visit ishpemingcatholic.com/men or just come Thursday morning!

The annual **Wise Men's Retreat** led by *Fr. Ben Hasse* will take place *December* 3^{rd} - 5^{th} at Fortune Lak Camp near Crystal Falls. It's a great facility with lots of room, so we hope to have a big group! Men of all ages are invited to attend for a weekend of fellowship, good food, talks, prayer, and an awesome sauna they have there. Cost is \$150. Registration is open at *mtucatholic.org/wisemensretreat*.

We are chartering a bus from Ishpeming to Washington D.C. for the March for Life this January 19-23, 2022. The pilgrimage includes bus, hotel lodging, four meals, Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, the rally on the national mall and prayerful walk to the steps of the Supreme Court, sight-seeing on Friday evening and Saturday, and Mass and brunch at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit on the way back. Cost is \$375 for quad occupancy. Register by November 15th at ishpemingcatholic.com/march.

Our local **Care Clinic** family resource center located in St. John's convent is now open five days a week, M-F every afternoon. The Care Clinic offers mentoring, parenting classes, and support for mothers and fathers with children of all ages. We have a fantastic staff of mentors eager to help, and a closet full of diapers, wipes, and clothes. Spread the word that appointments can be made by calling 228-CARE or by dropping by during open hours.

Thank you to those who have already pledged to the annual **U.P. Catholic Services Appeal** (UPCSA) which supports the ministries, offices, and charitable works of the Diocese of Marquette. Our parish goal is \$32,621. Please prayerfully consider joining me to support this year's appeal by returning the pledge card in the mail or collection basket ~ thank you!

Blessings on all who celebrate their **birthdays** this week: Dan Junak, Anna Hytinen, Jeff Blewett, Mary Butorac, Mary Turino, Natalie Heinzelman, and Wayne Charbonneau. May God bless you abundantly!

Finally, I will be going to visit my sister, brother-in-law, and 10-month old nephew in Fairfax, Virginia next weekend. My parents will be there as well. I will leave Thursday afternoon and return Monday morning. They won't be able to come here very long at Christmas so I'm taking the opportunity to visit them. Father Robb Jurkovich will be here to celebrate the Masses with you.

Peace, Father Ryan

Parish-Wide Fall Scripture Study St. Paul's Letter to the Romans

Week 5: October 24th - 30th

Main Reading: Romans 9-11 Online at esv.org/Romans

Supplemental reading: Genesis 50:20; Deuteronomy 30:6; 30:11-14; Isaiah 2:2-3; Jeremiah 18:1-11

A. Context

In this section Paul discusses the mystery of the rejection of God and the gift of His mercy. He agonizes that many of his Jewish brethren have rejected Jesus as the Messiah (9:2-3), and he summons the Gentiles to remain humble at their incorporation into the family of God (11:13-24). He notes in Romans 9:6-13 that the biological family (Abraham's physical descendants) is distinct from God's spiritual family (those who actually live by faith).

God's sovereignty and human freedom. God has ordained us to a heavenly end beyond our own power. We need God's help to get there: God has to *elevate* our nature. He does not take away our freedom or dictate ahead of time where we will end up: "God predestines no one to go to hell" (*CCC* 1037). When the Bible speaks about God hardening someone's heart and Paul speaks about "vessels of wrath" (Romans 9:17-24), it's always the case of people placing themselves at odds with God and His purposes. God confirms the state in which we have already placed ourselves – for or against Him. As an analogy, the sun does the same thing to wax and clay, but the different dispositions causes one to melt and one to harden. God's truth and love confront us and bring to light the state in which we have placed ourselves. The potter analogy (9:20-21) points to human freedom to turn toward or away from God. We are free to accept or reject God, but God's providence takes everything into account so nothing can thwart His ultimate plans. Yet we remain true participants and protagonists in our own stories.

God preserves a remnant. Paul appeals to Elijah, who felt all alone, lamenting that seemingly all Israel had abandoned the Lord (1 Kings 19). God informs Elijah that he is not alone, that others have also remained faithful. Paul concludes the same: there is still a remnant, chosen by grace (Romans 11:5). During every age of God's people, times have always seemed bleak. But the Church is not merely a human institution. Jesus will always cleanse and nourish the Church, so we must do our part while trusting Him. We need not despair.

New Covenant family of Jews and Gentiles. With the Jewish rejection of Jesus, salvation has come to the Gentiles, with the hope of making the Jews "jealous" (11:11). As an analogy, losing Catholics to Protestant communities should make us "jealous" and motivate us to imitate the good habits of our Protestant brothers and sisters. Sometimes when Catholics drop the ball, others fill the void, and it's not surprising when Catholics are attracted to vitality being practiced elsewhere. Paul cautions Gentiles not to boast. They are not Israel's 'replacement': "God has been severe toward those who have fallen, but kind to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you will be cut off" (11:21-22). The prophets frequently express hope that one day all twelve tribes of Israel will be reunited and also include the surrounding nations (Jeremiah 31:18-33; Isaiah 2:2-3; Psalm 72). Paul's reference to "all Israel" (11:26) refers to the reunion of the twelve tribes and the inclusion of the nations. God's plan for salvation includes both Jews and Gentiles in a restored Davidic kingdom under Christ. This is the "great mystery" of Christ (Ephesians 3:3-6), the newfound union of Jews and Gentiles in one body, the "Catholic" family of God.

B. Study questions

- 1. How does God's promise to Abraham to bless all the nations shed light on Romans 11:25-26? Was it always God's intention to gather the nations, even when he called Israel in a singular way?
- 2. Read Isaiah 2:2-3. "Zion" refers to Jerusalem, the capital of David's kingdom. How does this passage relate to Romans 11:25-26 with regard to the fulfillment of David's kingdom in Jesus?
- 3. Does the New Covenant in Jesus abolish the other covenants God made (with Abraham and David)? Or is the New Covenant rooted in the old covenants? Explain.

- 4. Read Jeremiah 18:1-11. How does the "potter" analogy shed light on Paul's use of it in Romans 9:19-21?
- 5. Read Deuteronomy 30:6 and 30:11-14. What does Paul see in these passages that points to a New Covenant reality (Romans 10:6-10)?
- 6. How does Paul make use of Elijah's story (1 Kings 19:9-18)? Have you ever felt like seemingly everyone has abandoned God? What lesson is here for us today?
- 7. Reflect on this text about faith coming from hearing (Romans 10:14-17): Our faith is born from others. We do not communicate natural life to ourselves, and neither can we communicate supernatural life to ourselves not one baptizes himself. We need others to help us come to faith and mature in faith. There is always a 'we' before there is an 'I.' Mother Church gives birth to her children in baptism and nourishes us as we mature with her teaching and sacramental life.
- 8. Read Genesis 50:20. Given that God does not eliminate our freedom, can we still be confident that God's plan will ultimately be fulfilled? Can God weave our sins into the tapestry of His plans (recognizing He doesn't cause sin)? How might God make use of our past sins?

C. Application

<u>Reflect</u> – Read Romans 11:33. How can we appreciate with wonder and awe all that God has done and fall in love with Him more deeply? Read 1 Corinthians 2:9. Do you think about the grandeur of heaven often enough?

<u>Commit</u> – Spend time in prayer this week reflecting on the grandeur of God, who from eternity has created you to be here right now. Use the classic movement of prayer – adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, and supplication. Consider God's transcendent majesty and how amazing He truly is.

<u>Pray</u> – Pray this prayer of St. Mother Teresa: "Dear Jesus, help me spread your fragrance everywhere I go. Flood my soul with your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that my life may only be a radiance of yours."

D. Online Discussion on Zoom: Saturday, October 30th 8:30am-9:15am led by Father Ryan. Go to *ishpemingcatholic.com/scripture* and click on the link for the Zoom discussion to enter at 8:30am, or enter your email to get the link in your inbox.