

Joy Advent

A note from Deacon Bill

December 10 2022, is the anniversary of my ordination to the diaconate. Reflecting back, it has been years of grateful blessings, too many to mention in a short relay.

By virtue of our Baptism each one of us is called to holiness by service to one another and thereby gain eternal life. This is the main reason for being grateful. It does not mean that when one is called to ordained life that one is holier or better than others.

Besides my marriage to the greatest girl of all, my wife Carolina, the Lord's calling to the diaconate has been one of the greatest calls of them all. Why God called me to this special service in the diaconate, I will never know.

Our marriage has been blessed with four children. The first one was Margie. At first, I had reason to be resentful when I learned that she had a genetic defect called William's Syndrome, by which she needed special assistance and the need for special education. Over the years, as she grew up, I had a conversion by which God changed my resentfulness to thankfulness. For one, her special needs were the cause for my wife Carolina to study and get her degree in special education. Then I also discerned that God was calling me to the permanent diaconate.

Because of this, I met many good people who dedicated their lives in service to others, people such as the pastors I served. Father John Young and Father Robert Flickinger in particular come to my mind. People in the parishes I served are reasons for gratefulness, giving me a deeper understanding of what life means.

I served at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Allegan for eleven years until 2005, when Bishop Murray assigned me to St. Basil Parish in South Haven. The distance from my home to South Haven limited my ministerial activities at St. Basil Parish, and I treasure the people there.

At this point in my life I am 93 years old, officially retired from active ministry and physically no longer able to perform liturgical functions at the altar. God has blessed me in many other ways and for all that I will be forever grateful.

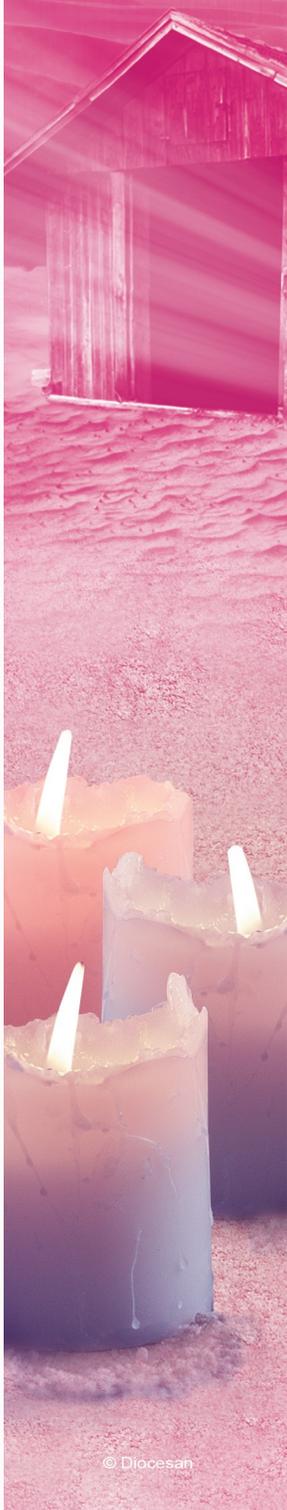
Deacon Bill

We are incredibly blessed at St. Basil Church to have Deacon Bill VanDril among us, celebrating fifty years of serving as a deacon December 10.

Congratulations and blessings on you and your family!

The Lord bless you and keep you;

*the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.*



An attentive listening to the lyrics of the carols and holiday music on the air reminds us of one sure and certain thing: JOY is ours. To REJOICE is a great spiritual plan not only for “the most wonderful time of the year” but for every day.

It is what we celebrated this past Thursday in the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Patroness of our country. We honored her, who continues teaching us how to rejoice, trusting totally on God’s Plan. “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” That was her answer to the angel, and from then after her life was filled with God. It is what she offered to all of us: God’s life. As we say “Yes” to God’s will, we will be instruments of Peace, witness of Justice, proclaimers of Good News, messengers of Joy.

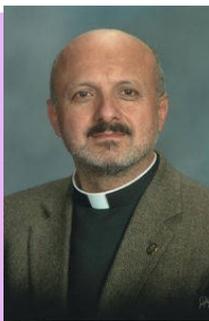
Monday as we celebrate another Marian Solemnity, Our Lady of Guadalupe, our liturgical calendar in December offers us another opportunity to continue enjoying the company of such a mother who invites us always to be aware of God’s actions in our lives and, yes, like her to “proclaim the greatness of the Lord, and rejoice in God our Savior.”

The third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, echoes the Joy of the season and prepares us for the celebration of the birth of Our Savior. Let’s prepare our lives, participating this coming Tuesday in the Penance Service, where there will be opportunities for those who want to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

And blessed in wonderful ways, let us keep alive the Joy of the Season “staying awake”, “being prepared”, “repenting”, rejoicing.

“Waiting in Joyful Hope”, in Christ’s Love,

Fr. Fabio



Escuchar con atención las letras de los villancicos y la música que inunda nuestros días, en este tiempo, no recuerdan una gran verdad, estamos hechos para la Alegría. Vivir alegres cada día es el Plan espiritual más fructífero no sólo para este tiempo de Adviento y Navidad, sino para todos los días de nuestra vida. El mes de Diciembre y el tiempo de Adviento, nos ofrecen varias celebraciones de la Santísima Virgen que nos recuerdan precisamente eso, como ella, somos llamados a vivir en la Alegría, al hacer la Voluntad de Dios. Y al acoger la Voluntad de Dios y hacerla suya, su vida se llenó de Dios. Es lo que Ella nos ofrece. Lo celebramos este pasado jueves al conmemorar la Inmaculada Concepción, Patrona de Los Estados Unidos. Y mañana, al celebrar la Solemnidad de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, seguimos disfrutando de la compañía de una Madre que nos ofrece su ternura y protección. Al decir Sí a la voluntad de Dios, seremos instrumentos de Paz, testigos de Justicia, anunciadores de Buena Nueva, mensajeros de Alegría.

El tercer domingo de Adviento, conocido también como Domingo de Gaudete, hace eco a la alegría de la temporada y nos prepara para la celebración del nacimiento de Nuestro Salvador. Preparemos nuestras vidas, participando en Celebración Penitencial el próximo martes. Habrá oportunidad para quienes quieran celebrar el Sacramento de la Reconciliación.

Y bendecidos con tantas gracias que recibimos a diario, mantengamos viva la alegría de estas fiestas “estando atentos” preparándonos del mejor modo, cambiando actitudes y corazones”, llenos de regocijo.

“Esperando con gozosa esperanza”, les deseo una muy feliz semana,

P. Fabio

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24	4:00 p.m.
	6:00 p.m.
	8:00 p.m. (in Spanish)
	10:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 25	10:00 a.m.
	12:30 p.m. (in Spanish)
Saturday, December 31	5:00 p.m.
	7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)
Sunday, January 1	9:00 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.



Please pray for...

Nancy Whitten, former parishioner, that she may now enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray also for her family and friends, that they find peace in the promises of Christ.

Bereavement Support Group

Thursday, December 15 11:00 a.m.

Hosted by Hope Reformed Church, 1365 Monroe Blvd., South Haven

This is an open-ended, one-hour meeting, conducted the third Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m., open to the community for those suffering from loss. For additional information contact Pastor Craig Massey, 637-8439.

Spiritual Adoption

The Spiritual Adoption display is set up in the South Lobby. Participants in the Spiritual Adoption program will pray for nine months for a specific yet unknown child who is in danger of being aborted.

Pancake Breakfast

This Sunday!

Sponsored by St. Basil Knights of Columbus

In the church basement





Readings for the week of December 11

Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
Monday	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Zec 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday	Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Zep 3:1-2,9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday	Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2 & 4, 5-6, 11-12a & 13b; Lk 7:24-30
Friday	Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36
Saturday	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

We Care I.N.C. Project Christmas Hope

All gifts need to be returned by December 18 at the latest so they may be distributed the week before Christmas.

Flower/Decoration Fund

If you would like to help offset the cost of flowers and altar decorations for Christmas and Easter, please use the white envelopes in the pews, and mark the box "flower fund." There is a line on the envelope to make a contribution in memory of someone; please write legibly. These names will be listed in the Christmas and Easter bulletins. Your contribution will greatly boost our flower/decoration budget.

Second Collection This Weekend

Retirement Fund for Religious

Thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in ministries such as Catholic schools, parishes, and hospitals, often for little or no pay. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Please give generously. Envelopes are on the bulletin shelves for your convenience.

Religious Education

Sunday, December 11	Confirmation Prep 1st 12:30 p.m. 2nd year 2:30 p.m.
Monday, December 12	First Communion Prep Year 1 6:15 p.m.
Sunday, December 18	Family of Faith Formation 12:30 p.m. Potluck Bring your favorite dish to pass. All are welcome!
Monday, December 19	First Communion Prep Year 2 6:15 p.m.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 10

- 5:00 p.m. † Bill Verdonk
- 7:00 p.m. People of the parish (en Español)

Sunday, December 11

- 9:00 a.m. Intentions of the VanDril family
- 11:00 a.m. † Christine Joyner, 1st anniversary Dec. 13

Monday, December 12 No Mass

Tuesday, December 13

- 9:00 a.m. † Chuck Hutson

Wednesday, December 14

- 9:00 a.m. † Mary Jo Thomas

Thursday, December 15

- 9:00 a.m. † Morgan Darrah Eggert

Friday, December 16

- 9:00 a.m. People of the parish

Saturday, December 17

- 5:00 p.m. † Deceased members of the Watson family
- 7:00 p.m. People of the parish (en Español)

Sunday, December 18

- 9:00 a.m. † Harry Sarno
- 11:00 a.m. † Frank Knytych

Penance Service

Tuesday, December 13

6:30 p.m.

Four priests will be available.



Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. Upper Level

All men of the parish are welcome. Please join us! Next Saturday, December 17, is our final session until after the holidays. Contact Deacon John, jlohrstorfer@yahoo.com.

St. Basil Catholic School

Saint Basil School has some great news to share! This fall we had the opportunity to apply for an Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools II (EANS) grant. The portion allotted to us was \$261,000. This money had to be used for very specific COVID related items or conditions. So we created a wish list of items including some really great technology applications, STEM/science lab materials, math manipulatives, classroom and science lab furniture, and many other items to enhance learning. I am pleased to announce that the state has approved our application and we will be able to purchase the items on our list! This is very exciting for us and an opportunity that only comes probably once in a lifetime, if that. The funds have not yet been released, but I will keep you posted as to our progress.

Our boys basketball teams have started practices and games, and much like volleyball, there's been a bit of a learning curve! They are a hard working bunch and I know with practice they'll improve, but what's important is that they're having a great time. I know our students would love to have Saint Basil folks at the games cheering them on! See the schedule below.

The middle school Goatageddon robotics team (Saint Basil and SHPS) has been preparing for their upcoming competition in Coloma. Much

like the basketball team, we've had our challenges with our "Purple Capri" (a.k.a. Purple Stubborn Goat). Much of it has boiled down to some programming nuances that we just were not aware of, but thanks to some help from a few members of the SHPS Ramageddon team, we have finally worked out the bugs and our robot is moving full throttle ahead (okay, maybe not full throttle, but it IS moving). This year's challenge involves moving and picking up cones to place on poles attached to the playing field. The more cones we move or attach to junctions, the more points we get. For Saint Basil, this has all been a very new experience, and I know our students are anxious to go to the competition and see how this all works.



Our two Lego League teams have also been working hard at building and programming Lego robots that must move around a playing field and perform certain tasks. A winter storm kept us from competing on Nov. 19 but the teams plan to continue working on their robots and get to a competition this spring.

Thank you for all of your prayers and support; we greatly appreciate it!
Camille DeLano, Principal

St. Basil Bears Basketball Schedule

All are welcome to come support our teams!

December 12 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran, St. Joseph
December 19 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran, St. Joseph

Can You Help?

Food Pantry Drop-off

Please take non-perishable food items to First Congregational Church, 651 Phoenix Street. They are open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00 a.m. till noon.

Coat Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

There are many families in need of gently used outerwear. Please place your contributions in the container in the South Lobby.

Blessings in a Backpack

The Women's Service Guild is asking for volunteers to help pack bags of food to go home with local students for weekend meals. If you are available to help, our packing dates are December 22, February 23, March 23, and April 27 at 10:30 at North Shore Elementary School. Please arrive no earlier than 10:20. We usually finish packing and restocking in about an hour.

Cold Winters Need Warm Hearts!

The Diocesan Home Heating Assistance Program provides emergency heating assistance to anyone in the nine counties of the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Donations can be made directly anytime at www.ccdok.org/donate or use the special envelope in your packet. Your contribution is both needed and appreciated. God bless you!

Sox Collection

These cold wintery days call for extra warm sox. As we consider this season of giving, could you toss an extra pair of sox into your cart and donate it to our cause? Sox are often the most needed yet least donated items to homeless shelters. Think new, practical, and warm!

Movie Night

Sunday, December 18 5:00 p.m. Upper Level

Join us as we begin season 3, episode 1 of The Chosen: Homecoming.

St. Basil Church Replica

These beautiful 6" color wooden replicas of our church celebrating our 2023 centennial are available for purchase, \$25. Come see us during our business hours and pick up this one-of-a-kind remembrance. This would make a nice Christmas gift!





Our Stewardship

December 4

Envelope Offering (67)	\$ 5,265.00
Electronic Contributions	\$ 2,000.00
Loose Offering	\$ 1,149.00
Total Collection	\$ 8,414.00

Mission Statement

Called by Baptism, nourished by the Eucharist, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to live the Good News of Christ through Worship, Evangelization, Service, Spiritual Formation, and Stewardship.

Lord, come and save us!

This week's bulletin sponsor

Jaqua Realtors

The advertisements that appear in this bulletin completely defray all publishing costs which the church would otherwise incur. Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin and thank them for their kind generosity.

St. Basil Catholic Church Directory
 513 Monroe Blvd.
 South Haven, MI 49090
 Parish Office.....269-637-2404
 Fax269-637-8374
 School Office269-637-3529
 www.SaintBasilCatholicChurch.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,
 Thursday 9:00 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.
 Wednesday 10:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.
 Friday 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Parish Staff

PastorFr. Fabio Garzon
 Senior Parochial Vicar.. Fr. Richard Altine
 269-692-5142
 Deacon Deacon John Lohrstorfer
 Deacon Deacon Bill VanDril
 Church Manager Andrea Aleman
Music & Liturgy
 CoordinatorCecilia Wondergem
 Facilities Manager Charlie Hamlin
 School Principal..... Camille DeLano
DRE/Youth Faith Formation
 ConfirmationMargie Little
 Coordinator of RCIAGeraldyn Monacelli
 Parish Pastoral Associate For Hispanic
 Ministry Sister Maria Eugenia Gomez

Confessions

Saturday3:30 p.m.

Mass Schedule

Saturday..... 5:00 p.m.,
 7:00 p.m. (en Español)
 Sunday.....9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and
 Friday 9:00 a.m.
 No Mass on Monday

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday6:00—9:00 p.m.
 Friday after morning Mass,
 with Benediction at 2:30

Mass In Our Collaborative

St. Peter, Douglas, MI

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
 8:30 a.m.

San Felipe, Fennville, MI

Thursday 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday 12:30 p.m.

- ▶ So that we all may be fully present at Mass, please silence your cell phones.
- ▶ We recommend that everyone wear a mask for the safety and protection of all.
- ▶ We ask that you be considerate of others if you are coughing or sick. Please refrain from the handshake of peace. This is thoughtful consideration for the rest of the parish community. Remember, if you are sick or experiencing symptoms of sickness you are not obliged to attend Mass.