

Receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit

David Avelino

Owen Banyon

**Trey Joseph
DeJong**

Jimmy Fernandez

Edwin Gael

Dianna Mendoza

Helen Molter

Juan Ramirez

Ryan Sargent

Avalynn Sarno

Alejandro Torrez

WISDOM - The ability to see things as they truly are in an open-minded manner

UNDERSTANDING - A heart that accepts, cares, listens, understands, forgives

KNOWLEDGE - The ability to comprehend the truths of the universe

RIGHT JUDGEMENT - The ability to make good and wise decisions

COURAGE - The strength to do what is right in spite of challenges

REVERENCE - A deep respect for God, for others and for all creation

**WONDER & AWE
in GOD's PRESENCE** - A sense of the greatness and majesty of God coupled with a deep realization of His nearness

Go Forth and Serve the Lord



Anointing of the Sick a Sacrament of Healing

Do you have a family member who is transitioning to Hospice or is homebound and in need of Anointing or Confession? Please contact the Parish Office at 269-925-2425.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Gary Allison	Anita Hicks
Gabriel Andersen	Philip Hild
Anna Anderson	David Hines
Path Appleton	Michelle Horton
Rae Bacolor	Barbara Hosbein
Andrew Bain	Martha Hudson
Pam Blakeman	Fr. Bill Jacobs
Lee Boardman	Nancy Johns
Ron Bush	Lynne Jones
Sharon Calahan	Thomas Jones
James Carpentier	David Liddle
Cole Childress	Philippe Lloren
Jake Costanza	Cindy MacDonald
Grace deBest	Betsy Marchi
April Dornseif	Robert Martin
Christian Dornseif	Janine McDonough
Sally Eberhard	Mic McDonough
Sarah Fairthorne	Jackie Miller
Sandy Fenderbosch	Ted Mills
Carol Frosolone	Jeff Mitchell
Rose Fuller	Dorthea Myrick
Gabe Galligan	Larry Olson
Steve Gaunder	Sam Pantelleria
Bob Griggs	Anna Post
Donna Griggs	Mary Ann Puchinsky
Mike Hall	Kim Puleo

Mario Reich
Jolene Richards
Kristy Schmitt
Michael Sears
Ann Shembarger
Martha Shuler
Deanna Signor
Dave Simaz
Arlene Sisson
Don Smith Jr.
Mary Smith
Joseph Stainer
Ruth Still
Nancy Summerfelt
The Tezich Family
James Thomas, Jr.
Shirley Thomas
Dorothy Van Ryswyk
Terry Wallis
Connie Weaver
Brian Wilder
Julie Wilder
Ruth Ann York
Mary Zielke
Lottie Zmyslo
Special Intentions

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, April 25, 5:00 pm Mass

Lector.....Gil Michelini
EMHC.....Laura Bradley & Gina O'Brien
Ushers.....Mike Bradley & Jim Visin

Sunday, April 26, 9:00 am Mass

Lector.....Lia Hartline
EMHC.....Debra Dibble & Dan Frosolone
Ushers.....Pete Frosolone, Mike Damico,
.....Sara Hassle & Tim Hamilton

Sunday, April 26, 11:00 am Mass

Lector.....Rajesh William
EMHC.....Terry Wallis & Sandi Puplis
Ushers.....Paul Maloney, Jeff Chorny,
.....Richard Johnson, & Tom Schueneman

Sunday, April 26, 12:30 pm Mass

Lector.....Sandra, Karina y, Cesar

Saturday, May 2, 5:00 pm Mass

Lector.....Marcia Grover
EMHC.....Linda Zienty & Gina O'Brien
Ushers.....Joe Campbell & Jim Visin

Sunday, May 3, 9:00 am Mass

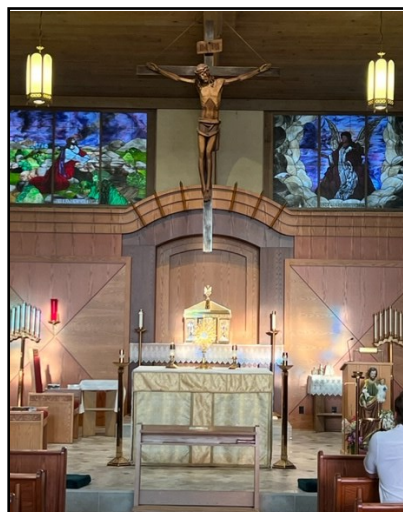
Lector.....Youth Mass
EMHC.....John Heil & Janet Nahikian
Ushers.....Pete Frosolone, Mike Damico,
.....Sara Hassle & Tim Hamilton

Sunday, May 3, 11:00 am Mass

Lector.....Gil Michelini
EMHC.....Lynne Reuter & Shurlie Rochefort
Ushers.....Paul Maloney, Jeff Chorny,
.....Richard Johnson, & Tom Schueneman

Sunday, April 3, 12:30 pm Mass

Lector.....Nora, Valeria y Yessica



Adoration

Mondays St. Bernard's
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Fridays St. John's
8:00 am - 12:00 noon

First Friday of the month

St. Bernard Church (enter door #8)
8:00 pm—12:00 midnight

Our goal is to have two people for each hour. Is God asking you to come and be with Him? To sign up, please call 269-925-2425.

Rest in Christ's Peace

Please pray for **Clayton Benson, Richard Bohanek, Connie Gain, Carl Kremers, and Theda Kosar**, that they may enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray also for their families and friends that they find peace in the promises of Christ.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 25
5:00 pm Deceased Members of the
Knights of Columbus SB

Sunday, April 26
9:00 am Ed & Darla Nickel Anniversary,
by the Nickel Family SJ
11:00 am †Debby Pope (birthday),
by Tammy O'Brien SB
12:30 pm (Español) †Charlene Cicovsky,
by the Pinkowski's SB

Saturday, May 2
5:00 pm †Nancy Gorman
by Linda Zienty SB

Sunday, May 3
9:00 am The Reuter & Shumard
Families,
by Ron & Lynne Reuter SJ
11:00 am Jesse Bailey & Mary Frey
(birthday),
by the Nickel Family SB
12:30 pm (Español) †Charlene Cicovsky,
by the Pinkowski's SB

† Indicates Deceased • * Indicates Death Anniversary

Scripture Readings

For the Week of April 26, 2026

Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter - W Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10
Monday	Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter - W Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter - W Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church - W Acts 12:24-13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday	Thursday of the Fourth Week of Easter - W Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21, 22, 25 and 27; Jn 13:16-20
Friday	Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter - W Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday	Memorial of Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - W Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14

Father Away

Father John Peter will be away **April 22 - May 6**.
There will be a priests for weekend Confession
and Masses. There will not be Weekday Masses
or confession.

There will still be our schedule Adoration.
Mondays - 9:00 am - Benediction at 4:15 pm
Fridays - 9:00 am - Benediction at 12:00 noon

Our 55+ Brunch Bunch will meet on June 3rd

Collaborative Daily Mass Times

St. Joseph, St. Joe
8:00 am, Monday Downtown
8:00 am Thursday - Saturday Downtown

St. Joseph, Watervliet
9:00 am Monday - Wednesday & Saturday
5:15 pm Friday

A Lot of Nerve

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Peter, the apostle who had denied knowing Jesus before he died, now comes out and accuses the crowd of killing Jesus. Considering that he was outnumbered three thousand to one, it took a lot of nerve. So the Spirit gave him the courage to face that crowd. He asked them to repent, but not just profess a rejection of sin. What we call repentance, in Peter's time meant a change of heart away from sin and toward a new way of acting or believing. We too can make a change of heart. We can turn away from selfishness and begin to love as Jesus did. We can relinquish anger and begin to forgive. We can put aside fear and boldly proclaim our faith.

Peter also shows us another gift of the Spirit—the ability to suffer for doing good. That also takes a lot of nerve. It's hard enough to suffer for our sins. Yet that is just what Jesus did for us. Following the example of Jesus on the cross, we accept the suffering that comes to us. It may be ridicule for expressing our faith, the pain of losing someone we love, or the eventual pain of dying ourselves. We accept pain because we love the Lord and so love others enough to bear the pain of helping them. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to help us repent from selfishness to live a new life of love for God and our neighbor.

Tom Schmidt



Our High School Youth Group meets on **Tuesdays, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm** in the Rose Center Youth Room. Dinner will be provided.



Come join us at St. Bernard Catholic Church on **May 23rd at 6:00 pm** for a time of fellowship, snacks, and prayer as the Church prepares for the Solemnity of Pentecost. In years past, the Church has gathered on the eve of Pentecost to pray for a new and fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us and the world, come join us as we ask for these important graces.



Each year we take a group of teens from our area come together to visit Little Portion Hermitage Monastery for a week-long retreat with the monks. The retreat will blend an experience of monastic life, times of reflection, and short adventures to the surrounding area. This year we will be staying at Little Portion from **July 25 - August 1**. We hope that you consider joining us this year for this memorable retreat. It is \$175 per student. To register or if you would like more information, please email Chad at 4ChurchesYM@gmail.com.

Be sure to check out below what one of our past retreatants had to say about this trip.

The monastery is one of the most beautiful places I've ever been to. Every step I took I felt peace, joy, and love as if Jesus Himself was really there with me. I can say with confidence Jesus is there!



Connor



Pray For Our Military Soldiers

CPT Camila Avello, daughter of Miguel & Brooke Avello, Sister of Sebastian Avello

SGT Gabriel Brunner, son of Jon & Lynn Brunner

STAFF SGT Jared Haberlin, grandson-in-law of Dale & Patricia Quattrin

Captain Noah M. Hanau, son of Brett & Cathy Taylor, grandson of Dale & Patricia Quattrin

FN Ashton Hoffman, Navy, grandson of Randy & Mary Lechenet

Captain Rory McRae, Air Force, Grandson of Maureen McRae

SGT Gus Pinkowski, son of Bob & Peg Pinkowski

SP4 Jesse Schueneman, Army, son of Tom & Martha Schueneman

HM2 Tim Schwartz, USN; nephew of Peter & Raejene Shaffer

AFC Kaden Stock, grandson of Byron & Nancy Stock

PFC Samantha Quattrin, great niece of Dale & Patricia Quattrin & Erin Fitzsimmons





2026 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

BRINGING PEOPLE TO JESUS

Planting Seeds of Hope



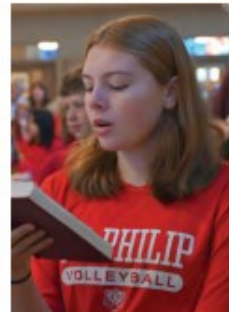
Ordination to the Priesthood



Rite of Election



ASL Interpretation
Ministry to Persons with Disabilities



Catholic School Mass



Bread of Life Volunteers



First Blessings after Priestly
Ordination

How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me? ~Psalm 116:12

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings during this blessed Easter season! It was just a few weeks ago when we had the joy to welcome nearly 230 candidates and catechumens into full communion with the Church during the Easter Vigil. This is just one of the many visible signs of God at work in our diocese, illustrating this year's *Bishop's Annual Appeal* theme: *Bringing People to Jesus, Planting Seeds of Hope*.

I have witnessed a real and hopeful momentum in our shared mission of bringing people to Jesus. This is evident in the growing number of young adults exploring the Catholic faith; the increased participation of the faithful in the life of our parishes; and the growing number of young people discerning a religious vocation.

The ministries, services and resources supported by our annual appeal have a shared goal: to bring people closer to Jesus. Behind every ministry are persons whose lives are touched by Christ through the Church's care. One example is seen in how our Vocations Office ministry is responding to increased interest in discerning a priestly vocation. More seminarians will mean higher seminary costs, but this is a joyful investment in our future. The priests formed today will shepherd our parishes, celebrate the sacraments for us, and guide our families for decades to come.

Participation in the *Bishop's Annual Appeal* takes many forms. Financial gifts are essential and deeply appreciated, but we should not underestimate the power of prayer as well. I invite you as part of our diocesan family to participate in whatever way you are able. Ask the Holy Spirit to bless our shared mission. Now is the time to support the momentum we see all around us and strengthen the Body of Christ throughout the nine counties of our diocese. Together, we can ensure that the Church continues to be vibrant, missionary, and faithful to Her call.

Please know of my prayers of gratitude for you and for those whom you hold dear.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+ Edward M. Lohse

The Most Reverend Edward M. Lohse, JCD
Bishop of Kalamazoo



Our Week at a Glance Un Vistazo ala Semana

Sunday, April 26 • Domingo, 26 Abril

- 10:00 am Baby Shower for Baby Jesus
Baby Shower para el Niño Jesús, St. Bernard Social Hall
- 11:00 am Sacramental Preparation (Spanish)
Preparación Sacramental, St. Bernard Parish Center

Monday, April 27 • Lunes, 27 Abril

- 9:00 am Adoration, Adoración, St. Bernard Church
- 4:15 pm Benediction, Bendición, St. Bernard Church
- 6:30 pm Millions of Monicas, St. Bernard Church,
Enter door number 8

Tuesday, April 28 • Martes, 28 Abril

- 6:00 pm Legion of Mary, St. Bernard's Classroom
- 6:00 pm Maria Musica de Dios Choir Rehearsal (Spanish),
St. Bernard Church
- 6:00 pm Youth Group, Grupo de Jóvenes
The Rose Center
301 Wayne Street, St. Joseph

Wednesday, April 29 • Miercoles, 29 Abril

- 6:30 pm St. John Choir Rehearsal, St. John Church

Thursday, April 30 • Jueves, 30 Abril

- 4:00 pm Catholic Bible School, St. Bernard Social Hall
- 6:30 pm St. Cecilia Music Rehearsal, St. Bernard Church
- 7:00 pm Legion de Maria (Spanish), St. Bernard Classroom

Friday, May 1 • Viernes, 1 Mayo

- 9:00 am Adoration, Adoración, St. John Church
- 12:00 noon Benediction, , Bendición, St. John Church
- 6:30 pm Spanish Children's Choir Rehearsal, St. Bernard Church
- 8:00 pm First Friday Adoration,
Adoración del primer Viernes,
St. Bernard Church, enter at door number 8

Saturday, May 2 • Sabado, 2 May

- 8:30 am Quilt Ministry,
Ministerio de Edredones, St. Bernard Classroom
- 9:00 am Calvary Cemetery Clean-up
Limpieza del Cementerio Calvary
- 3:30 pm Confession, Confesión, St. Bernard Church



Save the Date and Grab Your Rake!

Cemetery Clean-up, Saturday, May 2nd

Join us on **Saturday, May 2nd** at Calvary Cemetery at 9:00 am for our annual cemetery Spring clean-up.

Rain Date: May 16th

A BABY IS COMING!

Celebrate

THE UPCOMING FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER AND THE MONTH OF MARY

with a Baby Shower

Saturday, April 25th after the 5pm Mass
Sunday April 26th from 10am-1pm
at St Bernards, Benton Harbor

Cake, Punch, and Games!

Bring an unwrapped Gift for Baby Jesus or Mary

- ★ Diapers
- ★ Baby Clothing
- ★ Maternity Clothing

Essential item gifts will be donated to Local Pregnancy Centers

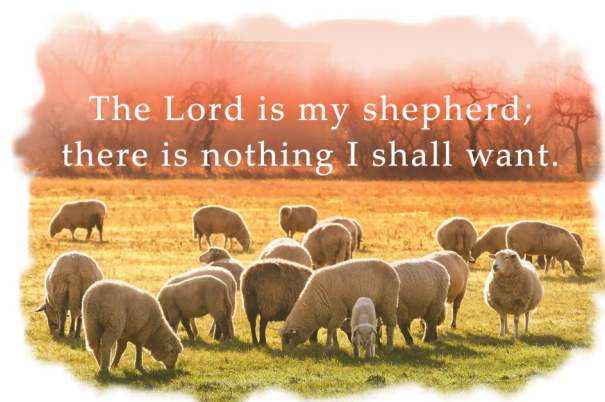
Sponsored by:



High School Graduation Mass

Sunday, May 17, at 9:00 am Mass

On **Sunday, May 17, at the 9:00 am** Mass at St. John's Church, we will honor the graduates from our Parish Family. **Families with Junior students plan the reception for the Senior Class of 2026.** To RSVP or for more information on volunteering please contact the parish office 269-925-2425.



Knights of Columbus

Interested in becoming a Knight? Contact **Grand Knight Joe Peters** for more information 269-338-3640, GK1120@mikofc.org. No time commitment is too small. Insurance-only members are welcome.

Upcoming Events

April 25 • 5:00 pm

Corporate Communion, St. Bernard Church

May 12 • 6:00 pm

K of C Officers Meeting, Knights Room

6:30 pm K of C Rosary,

St. Bernard Church

7:00 pm K of C Monthly

Meeting, Knight's Room

8:00 pm Council Dinner, SS.

John & Bernard Parish Center



Our Stewardship

April 19, 2026

Collections..... \$8,107.00

Online..... \$2,549.39

Weekly Budget..... \$10,846.15

YTD Budget \$455,538.46

YTD Collection \$449,017.63

Shortfall..... \$6,520.83

BAA 2026

Goal\$102,570.00

It's Easy To Give Online

ssjohnandbernard.org

For more information contact the Parish Office.



Parish Directory

St. John Church

600 Columbus Ave.

Benton Harbor, MI 49022

St. Bernard Church

555 E. Delaware Ave.

Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Parish Office Information

580 Columbus Ave.

Benton Harbor, MI 49022

www.ssjohnandbernard.org

Office (269) 925-2425

Fax (269) 925-4678

Tuesday - Friday

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

(Closed for lunch

12:30 - 1:30 pm)

Spanish Hours

Tuesdays 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Parish Staff

Administrator • Father John

Peter Ambrose

ssjbpastor@gmail.com

Deacon • Deacon Ed Nickel

ssjbdeaconed@gmail.com

Spanish Ministry • Sister Natalia

msdehna@gmail.com

Business Manager

Parish Secretary •

Wendy Maychszak

ssjbsecretary@gmail.com

Parish

Bookkeeper • Tammy O'Brien

ssjbbookkeeper@gmail.com

Director of Religious

Education • Seth Collins

ssjbformation@gmail.com

Youth Ministry • Chad Roden

4churchesym@gmail.com

(269) 983-1575

Parish Pastoral

Council • Gil Michelini

gilmichelini@gmail.com

Building Attendant

and Caretaker • Chris Visin

ssjbattendant@gmail.com

Sacramental Emergency Only

Call (269) 985-7331 and follow the instructions carefully. Please leave a message on the emergency line only, if no one answers, as it is always monitored.

Catholic Community Center

Catholic Charities of Southwest

Michigan

(269) 926-6424

Readiness Center • Martha

Thieneman

(269) 926-4084

Our Lady of the Lake

Catholic Schools

Middle/High School

915 Pleasant Street

St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 983-2511

Anna Reed, Principal

areed@ollakers.org

Elementary School

3165 Washington Avenue

St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 429-0227

Sherri Kirschner, Principal

skirschner@ollakers.org

Business Office

220 Church Street

St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 983-5529