



*First Sunday of Lent*

*Be merciful,  
O Lord,  
for we  
have sinned.  
Responsorial Psalm*

*February 25/26, 2023*



**ST. MARTHA**  
**PARISH & SCHOOL**

**1100 WEST GRAND RIVER AVENUE OKEMOS, MI 48864**



## STAFF

**Father Mike Murray, Pastor**  
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## MINISTRY LEADERS

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Lauren VanSteel, Chair

**Finance Council**  
Ron Lenz, Chair

**Communication Committee**  
Chairs Judi Smelser and Dave Maluchnik  
[communication@st-martha.org](mailto:communication@st-martha.org)

**Education Commission**  
Chairs Anna Laird and Mark Farone  
[educationcommission@st-martha.org](mailto:educationcommission@st-martha.org)

**Evangelization Committee**  
Chairs Beth Buiocchi and Mary Jo Hirt

**Council of Catholic Women**  
President Christine Patton  
[stmarthaccw@gmail.com](mailto:stmarthaccw@gmail.com)

**Knights of Columbus**  
Grand Knight Dante Ianni

**Saint Vincent de Paul**  
President Al Kearney

**Environment Committee**  
Brigit Martell, Jean Morgan, Lori Rasche

**Prayer Quilt Ministry**  
Coordinator Mary Hall

**Service/Outreach Ministry**  
Coordinator Renee Salyers

**Upper Room Men's Prayer Group**  
Michael Siminski and Frank Fortier

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH?

Then you are invited to attend RCIA **at 6 pm every Tuesday in our Saint Kateri Room**. We are ready to inspire you with testimonies of how and why they entered the Church, to dive into the teachings of Scriptures with you and show you the Bible's relevance, and to explore with you the amazing gifts of our Catholic Sacraments and Traditions! With questions, email Deacon Carl at [dcncarl@st-martha.org](mailto:dcncarl@st-martha.org).

## CCW WOMEN'S DONATIONS:

**LOOK FOR THE LENTEN BABY CRIB** at the front of the Church (near the confessional room). There are tags attached listing items needed for **Shared Pregnancy** and **Hannah's House**. Be sure to return the tag with your donation. Please prayerfully consider how you can donate to these loving and caring ministries during this Lenten season.

## VISIT OUR PARISH LIBRARY

in our Saint Teresa Room to borrow books, CDs, and DVDs for all ages that will build your faith and inspire you! There is no cost, and you can come in anytime during our Weekday Business Hours!

## IF YOU HAVE BEEN ABUSED OR VICTIMIZED by anyone who

**represents the Catholic Church**, contact Cheryl Williams-Hecksel by calling 888-308-6255 or emailing [cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org) to make a formal complaint of abuse to the Diocese of Lansing, find support, and arrange for a personal meeting with the Bishop's office. You can also contact the confidential 24-hour Michigan Law Enforcement Hotline by calling 844-324-3374.

**VISIT FORMED.ORG for free Catholic faith resources:** From films to movies, cartoons, and meditations, you will find great ways to grow in your faith for all ages!

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS: We Pray For ...

### All Who Need Physical and Spiritual Healing, Especially:

Michelle Allen  
Peter Allen  
Larry Avery  
MaryAnn Baer  
Frank Baldwin  
Robert S. Berman  
Dr. Charles Bethke  
Michalyn Bethke  
Robbie Bethke  
Warren Blackburn  
Matthew Boersma  
Carol Buiocchi  
Chuck Buiocchi  
Christine Campbell  
Aurora L. Convery

Mike Cook  
Terry Dinning  
Brian M. Doak  
Gilbert Elias  
Emma Elias  
John Paul Erford  
Ruthanne Finn  
Jackie Fortier  
Chief Richard Freer  
Roberta Fugazzi  
Carol Giacin  
Jim Gregg  
Jim Hagan  
Raul Iznaga-Ponce  
Tom King  
Joan Krohn  
Norm Krohn  
Kristen Kubish  
Jackie LaViolette

Rae Leece  
Karah Ley  
John Llewellyn  
Paul Loconto  
Jean Lynch  
Ken Malkowski  
Patricia Marrack  
Joseph Martyka  
Maureen McKelvey  
Mike McNeely  
Ralph Niles  
Peter Noble  
Sister Marie Pauline  
Susan Peters  
Bob Pichey  
Lawrence Prijoles  
Judi Pressick  
Cecilia Roccas  
Jeffrey Rostek

Joyce Salsbury  
Renee Salyers  
Leanne Seguin  
David Showerman  
Kellie Soper  
John Stanowski  
Kim Stark  
Paul Stevens  
Wayne Thelen  
John Wood

### All Serving in Our Armed Forces

**And The Repose of the †Soul of:**  
†Arielle Anderson  
†Brian Fraser  
†Alexandria Verner

**We offer these prayers** in the name of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

### PLEASE NOTIFY US IF YOU ...

**Lost a loved one** so we can add your family and their soul to our Prayers.  
**Are on the Sick / Prayer List** and are now ready to be taken off.

**FEAST DAYS, READINGS, AND INTENTIONS - YEAR A, CYCLE I**

**Monday, February 27 - Lenten Weekday / Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church**

**Readings:** Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18 / Matthew 25:31-46

**8:30 am Mass** †Antoinette Lindich, *from S. and A. Readett*

**Tuesday, February 28 - Lenten Weekday**

**Readings:** Isaiah 55:10-11 / Matthew 6:7-15

**8:30 am Mass** †Chuck Willems

**Wednesday, March 01 - Lenten Weekday**

**Readings:** Jonah 3:1-10 / Luke 11:29-32

**6 pm Mass** †Tommy LaCrosse, *from our Choir*

**Thursday, March 02 - Lenten Weekday**

**Readings:** Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25

**8:30 am School Mass** †Rodney F. Sutfin, *from the Olson Family*

**Friday, March 03 - Lenten Wednesday / Saint Katherine Drexel, Virgin**

**Readings:** Ezra 18:21-28 / Matthew 5:20-26

**8:30 am Mass** †Bill Cleary, *from M. Plogman*

**Saturday, March 04 - Lenten Weekday; Saint Casimir (Day) / Second Sunday of Lent Vigil (Eve)**

**Daytime Readings:** Deuteronomy 26:16-19 / Matthew 5:43-48

**Vigil Readings:** Genesis 12:1-4a / 2 Timothy 1:8b-20 / Matthew 17:1-9

**5 pm Vigil Mass** †Cathy, †Greg, and †Tony Massa, *from J. Massa*

**Sunday, March 05 - First Sunday of Lent**

**Readings:** Genesis 12:1-4a / 2 Timothy 1:8b-20 / Matthew 17:1-9

**8 am Mass** †John Rogers, *from T. and V. Rogers*

**10 am Mass** All People of Saint Martha

**5 pm Mass** †Alexandra Meredith Duda, *from Dr. A. Duda and Family*

**SACRISTANS AND LECTORS**

**Saturday, March 04 - 5 pm**

S. M. Goldynia

L. J. Hessinger, J. Matuszak, L. Blatnik

A.S. A. Collom, D. Blatnik

**Sunday, March 05 - 8 am**

S. G. and J. Ianni

L. S. Zayko, M. Fletcher, S. Kostaroff

A.S. A. Gjidoda, O. Zayko

**Sunday, March 05 - 10 am**

S. J. and K. Ault

L. T. Muncie, D. Ianni, *Volunteer*

A.S. R. P-Arrendondo, D. Farone

**Sunday, March 05 - 5 pm**

S. E. and L. VanSteel

L. M. Werner, A. Readett, C. Wilkins

A.S. A. and A. Miller

**THIS WEEK'S SAINTS, FEASTS, HOLY DAYS, AND HOLIDAYS**

**TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG) AND [CATHOLICSAINTS.ORG](http://CATHOLICSAINTS.ORG)**

**Gregory Narekatsi (of Narek)** 945 (or 951) to 1003 (or 1011); **Canonized and Doctor of the Church** 04/12/2015

**Katharine Drexel** 11/26/1858 to 03/03/1955; **Canonized** 10/01/2000; **Patronage** philanthropy, racial justice

**Casimir** 10/03/1458 to 03/04/1484; **Canonized** 1521 or 1602

**ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS**

*from February 25/26 through March 25/26  
there are no altar flowers in observance of Lent*

**OTHER OFFERINGS**

**Monday, February 27**

**8 am to 3:30 pm SMS**

**9 am Reconciliation** *Fr. Mike*

**4:30 pm FF:**COTGS

**Tuesday, February 28**

**8 am to 3:30 pm SMS**

**9 am Reconciliation** *Fr. Mike*

**9:15 am Women's Bible Study**

**3:30 pm Girl's B-Ball Practice**

**7:30 pm Men's Pick-Up B-Ball**

**Wednesday, March 01**

**8 am to 3:30 pm SMS**

**3:30 pm Girls' B-Ball Practice**

**6 pm FF:**1-6

**6:30 pm Reconciliation**

**6:30 pm Adoration** *Fr. Mike*

**7:20 pm Benediction**

**Thursday, March 02**

**8 am to 3:30 pm SMS;** *Choir 8,7*

**9 am Reconciliation** *Fr. Mike*

**9 am Fish Fry Food Prep**

**9:15 am FOTS Mom's Group**

**5 pm Girl's Volleyball Practice**

**7 pm The Search**

**Friday, March 03**

**8 am to 3:30 pm SMS**

**9 am Reconciliation** *Fr. Mike*

**9 am First Friday Adoration**

**and First Friday Coffee, Treats**

**2:30 pm SMS Stations** *Fr. Mike*

**4 pm Fish Fry Prep**

**5 to 7 pm Fish Fry**

**5:15 pm Evening with Families**

**7 pm Stations** *Dcn. Carl*

**Saturday, March 04**

**7:30 am Upper Room Men**

**3:30 pm Reconciliation** *Fr. Mike*

**Sunday, March 05**

**after 8 am and 10 am Masses**

**Donuts**

**9 am FF:**1-6

**11 am StVdP Open Meeting**

**6 pm FF:**7-9; HSYG

**EUCHARIST TO CARE HOMES**

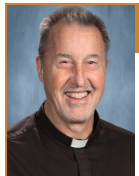
**Willows of Okemos** R. Salyers

**Brookdale, Medilodge** K. Mills

**ICMCF Dobie** T. Rapson, C. Webster

**FORMED.ORG: ACCESS FREE CATHOLIC FAITH RESOURCES**

**Sign up at [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) by searching for Saint Martha by zip (48864)**  
fill in your details, then click the link in the email reply to begin using [formed.org](http://formed.org)



## FROM FATHER MIKE'S DESK:

Here are three paragraphs that grabbed my attention at the beginning of a recent Catholic News Agency article --

*After Nigeria was recognized as having the highest Mass attendance in the world, the African nation's youngest cardinal shared some of the secrets behind his country's vibrant sacramental life.*

*A recent study found that 94% of Nigeria's 30 million Catholics say they attend Mass at least weekly or more, while only 17% of American Catholics attend Mass weekly.*

*Cardinal Peter Ebere Okpaleke, 59, who leads the southern Nigerian diocese of Ekwulobia, sees three key factors behind the active participation of Catholics in Nigeria.*

Wow. I suppose that, at the outset, one can note the 17% figure. Perhaps a useful question, in the American context, would be "What do you mean by 'Catholic'?" As we see with studies of Catholic voting behavior, the results can shift, depending on whether one considers everyone who was ever Baptized as Catholics, or the smaller set of self-described Catholics, or the still smaller set of Catholics who actually come to church and believe what the Church teaches.

Still, anyone with eyes can readily see that Mass attendance in this country is far below what it should be.

So what is Cardinal Okpaleke seeing when he looks at his faithful Nigerian parishioners? As noted in the article excerpt, he sees three principal explanations.

First, the Cardinal speaks of an awareness of God's presence. Across Nigerian society -- rich and poor, educated and uneducated -- there is a sense of God's presence in everyday life. He says, "There is a general awareness of the role of the divine in human life. It is this awareness that translates into Mass attendance for Catholics, who come to Mass to encounter Christ in the Eucharist." He suggests that we emphasize the role of the Church as a means of satisfying the "inner hunger" that we all have for the transcendent.

Second, the Cardinal notes the strong sense in the Nigerian Catholic community of the family being "the domestic church." His suggestion is that we "pay pastoral attention to the family as domestic church because that is where everyone's faith experience is formed."

And, third, the Cardinal speaks of a deep sense of community found in the local parishes. He says that Nigerian parishes provide "community and belongingness."

If we look at Saint Martha Parish and School in those lights, we might find the first item most challenging. While modern Americans certainly have a deep attachment to religion, too often it is a false religion of either neo-paganism or issue activism. Daily, we encounter people who are willing to believe anything except the Faith that their parents taught them. If we are to chip away at this current malady, it probably will be through the advice given by the Teacher after He healed the demoniac of Gerasenes -- *Go home to your family, and tell them all that God, in his mercy, has done for you.* Mark 5:19. Through our witness to the One who offers authentic peace, perhaps we change a heart or two.

Regarding the domestic church, we are trying. The covenant of Saint Martha School and the whole-family character of Faith Formation are both intended to support parents as they teach and nurture the Gospel in their children. As you look around your home, ask whether a visitor would notice that yours is a Catholic Christian home. The presence of sacramentals and sacred images, the frequency of verbal prayer, and the ease with which the Lord's blessings are discussed, are all good measures of whether a home is truly functioning as the domestic church. If you ever wonder about "domestic church," please talk to any of us on staff, and we'll happily share some ideas.

As to the parish as community, this is where our patron Saint Martha and her Bethany siblings can show us the way. Though we always reach a healing hand to our strange and fractured world, it is here at Saint Martha that we find so many opportunities for fellowship. Anyone who has helped with one of our ministries, or who has joined a study group, has found faithful men and women with whom bonds of friendship are easily formed. To this day, I am friends with the parents of other children who were in the same grade as mine in our shared Catholic school. For young couples looking to build quality friendships, there is no better place than here, in the Eucharistic presence of the Lord. The more active we are in our parish, the more we treasure our connections to the wonderful people who come here!

Our Nigerian brothers and sisters do seem to have a good thing going. Let's see what we can do to raise ourselves to their level!

Blessings!

frmike



## HERE AT SAINT MARTHA:

VISIT [ST-MARTHA.ORG](http://ST-MARTHA.ORG) FOR MORE ON OUR UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

### CONTRIBUTION SUMMARIES

**4-Week Average**  
\$19,818.50

**Online Giving**  
January \$49,282  
February TD \$36,704

**In-Person Giving**  
January 29 \$7,672  
Maintenance \$100  
February 05 \$10,653  
Maintenance \$0  
February 12 \$9,057  
Maintenance \$70  
February 19 \$11,270  
Maintenance \$230

### EASY GIVING ELECTRONICALLY

Visit  
[st-martha.org/howtogive](http://st-martha.org/howtogive)

or Scan this QR Code



with your phone camera  
and click on the internet  
link that pops up

**DO YOU NEED A  
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Discounts available  
for 62+ and  
ADA cardholders

Visit  
[ST-MARTHA.ORG](http://ST-MARTHA.ORG)

for a variety of ways  
to support us and for  
our full Calendar of  
events and services.

IN A LOVING, NURTURING, CHRIST-LIKE ENVIRONMENT,  
**SAINT MARTHA SCHOOL** GUIDES EACH STUDENT TO DEVELOP HIS OR HER UNIQUE  
ABILITY AND POTENTIAL THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY, AND SERVICE.

Andrea Patton, Principal [apatton@st-martha.org](mailto:apatton@st-martha.org)  
Cynthia Farnsworth, Secretary [cfarnsworth@st-martha.org](mailto:cfarnsworth@st-martha.org)  
Contact Us 517-349-3322 • Office Hours Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

### SAINT MARTHA CELEBRATES 100 DAYS OF LEARNING!



### FAITH FORMATION

Jackie Rosalez, Director [jrosalez@st-martha.org](mailto:jrosalez@st-martha.org)  
Claudia Fountain, Youth Ministries [cfountain@st-martha.org](mailto:cfountain@st-martha.org)

To register your children for class, visit [st-martha.org/registration](http://st-martha.org/registration)

**Preschool and Kindergarten Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm  
• **Upcoming Classes in our Atrium:** February 27; March 6, 13, (no class March 27)  
**Grades 1 to 6** Sundays from 9 to 9:50 am or Wednesdays from 6 to 7 pm  
• **Upcoming Sunday Classes:** February 26; March 5, 12 (Whole Family), 19, (no class March 26)  
• **Upcoming Wednesday Classes:** March 1, 8, 15 (Whole Family), 22, (no class March 29)  
**Grades 7 to 9+** Twice a month on Sundays from 6 to 8 pm  
• *Students must be in at least 8th grade to attend. This is a 2-year class.*  
• **Upcoming Classes:** March 5, 19  
**High School Youth Group** Sundays from 6 to 8 pm.  
• Contact Claudia with questions and visit our website for upcoming events!

### TO SCHEDULE THE FOLLOWING, VISIT THE PARISH OFFICE DURING WEEKDAY BUSINESS HOURS:

**MASS INTENTIONS** provide a more prayerful offering for souls, and "contribute to the good of the Church and ... support its ministers and works". (CCC 945 §2). There are Masses available to be scheduled for the living or †deceased from January through June of 2024, for \$10 per Mass.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** 2 arrangements are available per weekend with the exception of weekends during Lent (02/26 to 03/26). Dates are available throughout 2023 for \$80 per arrangement.



### INQUIRY TO THE FAITHFUL:

James Robert Collom is being considered for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Lansing on May 13, 2023.

If anyone is aware of a reason that he should not be ordained please contact Deacon Randy Desrochers, Director of Diaconal Formation for the Diocese of Lansing. He can be reached by mail at 228 North Walnut Street Lansing, MI 48933-1122, by calling 517-342-2571, or by emailing [rdesrochers@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:rdesrochers@dioceseoflansing.org).

7 TO 8:30 PM IN OUR BLESSED SOLANUS ROOM  
ON THURSDAYS NOW THROUGH MARCH 23

## THE SEARCH

FINDING THE MEANING OF LIFE

visit [st-martha.org/events/the-search-7/20230209](http://st-martha.org/events/the-search-7/20230209)  
to learn more

## FISH FRY-DAYS

5 to 7 pm on Fridays in Lent:

February 24

March 3, 20, 17, 24, 31

in Saint Elizabeth Hall

visit [st-martha.org/fishfry](http://st-martha.org/fishfry) for full menu and prices



scan this QR Code for ways  
you can volunteer to help



## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

**SPRING PRAYER CAMPAIGN 2023**

**NOW THROUGH APRIL 2**

FULL INFORMATION AND PRAYER VIGIL SIGN-UP AT  
[40DAYSFORLIFE.COM/LANSING](http://40DAYSFORLIFE.COM/LANSING)

*"BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN THE WOMB, I KNEW YOU AND BEFORE  
YOU WERE BORN, I CONSECRATED YOU." - JEREMIAH 1:5*

## Mother-Son Bowling Night

5:30 pm on Friday, March 10

City Limits Bowling, Mason

Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, and other special mom figures are invited to a fun evening of bowling that includes shoe rental, soda, pizza, and chips for just \$20 per mom and \$15 per son. Registration and payment is due by Monday, March 5 to the School Office. For full details and the registration link, visit [st-martha.org/events/m&sbowling](http://st-martha.org/events/m&sbowling).

## Consecrated Vocations Talk

Sunday, March 26

after the 10 am Mass

in our Blessed Solanus Conference Room

Middle and High School students:  
Join us for a talk on consecrated vocations  
with Father John Whitlock and Dawn Hausmann.

Light refreshments will follow.  
Families of these students are also welcome!



## ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THE PARABLE PROJECT!

in our Church at 2 pm on Sunday, March 12

This talented group of individuals uses drama, improv, and audience participation to bring alive the stories we know well from the Gospels! All ages are welcome and there is no cost to attend. Come with hearts open and be transformed by God's message to you this Lent!





# GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after the death of a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

We know it hurts, and we want to help.

*"Blessed are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted." - Matt 5:4*

**ST. MARTHA CHURCH, OKEMOS**

**TUESDAY EVENINGS - 6:30 TO 8:30 PM**

**MARCH 7 THROUGH MAY 23**

**IN OUR BLESSED SOLANUS CONFERENCE ROOM**

**QUESTIONS?**

**LORI RASCHE 517-449-3485, [LORIMR@AOL.COM](mailto:LORIMR@AOL.COM)**

**GRIEF SHARE**

Come be with Jesus!  
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP  
**ADORATION + PIZZA**  
6 to 8 pm  
Sunday, February 26  
Meet in the chapel

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5**  
**VICE -VS- VIRTUE**  
high school youth group  
**sports night**  
6 to 8 pm in our Blessed Chiara Gym

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP  
**MOVIE NIGHT**  
6 TO 8 PM ON SUNDAY, MARCH 12

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 18**  
10 AM TO 4 PM  
[REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG](http://REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG)  
USE SPONSOR CODE **STMARTHAOKEMOS**  
• GIVE BLOOD • SAVE LIVES •

## UPCOMING SAINT MARTHA BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

All articles must be sent by email, and received no later than Noon on the Monday 2 weeks prior to the weekend you are requesting. (If there is an upcoming holiday / holy day that requires different dates, they will be noted.)

<u>BULLETIN DATE</u>	<u>DUE BY NOON</u>	<u>BULLETIN DATE</u>	<u>DUE BY NOON</u>	<u>BULLETIN DATE</u>	<u>DUE BY NOON</u>
March 04/05	*past	March 25/26	March 13	April 15/16	March 27
March 11/12	February 27	April 01/02	March 13	April 22/23	April 10
March 18/19	March 06	April 08/09	March 13	April 29/30	April 17

## **THE DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA, 1690**

**from the Cenacle of Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy**

*"My daughter, give Me souls. Know that it is your mission to win souls for Me by prayer and sacrifice, and by encouraging them to trust in My mercy.*



### **PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DISCERNING VOCATIONS**

**Father,** You call each one of us by name and ask us to follow You. Bless Your Church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons, and Lay Ministers. Inspire us as we grow to know You and open our hearts to hear Your call. We ask this in Jesus name, Amen.



**Seminary Mason Abbott; Church of the Resurrection, Lansing**

Heavenly Father, send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. We pray for Your grace to encourage and support Mason as he endeavors to become a priest. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



**Sister Amaris Salata; Franciscan Sister of the Eucharist**

Heavenly Father, send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful women to become Brides of Christ and serve Your people. We pray for Your grace and love to be enough for Sister Amaris in her discernment of consecrated life. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

### **CATECHISM IN A YEAR**

**with Father Mike Schmitz**

Get to know the Catechism in 2023 using Father Mike Schmitz's great podcast, "The Catechism in a Year" that helps us to understand what it means to be Catholic and allow those truths to shape our daily lives! You can find this podcast at [ascensionpress.com/pages/civ-registration-parish](http://ascensionpress.com/pages/civ-registration-parish), on any podcast app, and on YouTube.

### **ONE-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO DETROIT FOR SOLANUS CASEY CENTER AND NATIONAL SHRINE**

**7 am to 6:30 pm on Thursday, March 9  
departing from Saint Jude, DeWitt**

Mass and confession will be held at the Center with guided tours and shopping at both. The cost is \$75 and includes lunch and transportation aboard a deluxe Dean coach (with restroom!). Visit [stfrancis.ws/pilgrimage](http://stfrancis.ws/pilgrimage) to register.

### **RESCUE AND RESPONSE RETREATS**

**For Men: Friday, March 10 through Sunday, March 12**

**For Women: Friday, March 17 through Sunday, March 19**

To believe and be transformed by the gospel, we must first understand that the gospel is not merely "good" news but explosive, life-changing news. You are invited to this special weekend based on Father John Riccardo's book *Rescued*. For full details and to register for a weekend, visit [stfrancis.ws](http://stfrancis.ws).

### **SAVE THE DATE: 25TH ANNUAL ROSE MASS**

**4:30 pm on Saturday, March 18**

**at Christ the King Cathedral, Ann Arbor**

This special event honors healthcare workers in particular. For full details and to RSVP, email [cmalansing@gmail.com](mailto:cmalansing@gmail.com).

### **WOMEN'S FIAT DISCERNMENT RETREAT**

**Friday, March 31 through Sunday, April 2**

**at Saint Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt**

This beautiful weekend is for women ages 18 to 35 who are seeking God's will for their life. Led by a team of consecrated sisters of various religious communities from Wichita, KS, the registration fee of \$40 includes Mass, Adoration, Confession, spiritual direction, lodging, and meals. To learn more and register, visit [fiatministries.org/retreat-lansing](http://fiatministries.org/retreat-lansing).

### **MARRIAGE AND THE BLENDED FAMILY RETREAT**

**Saturday, May 6 through Sunday, May 7 at Saint Francis**

**Retreat Center, DeWitt**

This retreat is required for all prospective remarriage couples seeking a Catholic marriage in our Diocese. Speak with your marriage prep coordinator, then visit [stfrancis.ws](http://stfrancis.ws) to register. Second marriage couples: come learn about the blessings and challenges that blended families encounter including things you may not have known about or discussed yet. Facilitators have all travelled this road so are uniquely equipped to help.



THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES EACH OF US GIFTS.



## St. Mary & St. Martha Parishes invite you to a Called & Gifted Workshop

God is calling you to a unique purpose in life, a work of love that only you can do.

Discern your charisms (spiritual gifts) and begin to discern God's call.

You received gifts in Baptism and Confirmation through which God intends His love to reach others. Come discover the charisms He has given you!

The Called & Gifted Workshop includes:

God's Call for Your Life - The Call of the Laity - The Role of the Holy Spirit -  
Spiritual Gifts Inventory - Discernment Process - Charisms in the Parish,  
Community & World

**Saturday, March 25 at St. Mary Parish in Williamston, 9:30am - 4pm**

**Registration deadline: March 20**

Learn more & register: [stmarywilliamston.org](http://stmarywilliamston.org)

### What participants are saying:

"It is awesome to me that you have actually found a format to give expression to the process of discerning gifts! Presentation was great!"



"For me, the idea that I stand in the place of Jesus in my life, in my encounters with my family, my friends, and my little daughter has been revolutionary. Until now, I've thought that I was not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals. Now it seems I am to put them on and walk as though they fit."



"The workshop clearly called out that all baptized people have been given the power, authority, and jurisdiction to stand in Jesus' place to reach people who would not otherwise be reached."

# Rodgers & Hammerstein's CINDERELLA

**7 PM MARCH 3, 10 & 11**  
**2 PM MATINEE MARCH 4**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.TICKETOR.COM/LCHSDRAMA](http://WWW.TICKETOR.COM/LCHSDRAMA)**

**RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA**  
MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS BOOK AND LYRICS BY OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II  
CINDERELLA IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS ON BEHALF  
OF THE RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN ORGANIZATION [WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM](http://WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM)



# ST. MARTHA PARISH & SCHOOL

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Walking together in Word and Sacrament, the Catholic Community of Saint Martha shares the redeeming love of Christ through acts of faith, hope, and charity.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday 8 am to 4 pm

## GENERAL PARISH INFORMATION

**Registrations and Information Updates** can be done online via the My Own Church link on our website, or in person at the Parish Office.

**Faith Formation** instills in your children a sense of awe and wonder and a knowledge and deep commitment to the love of God. We seek to teach as Jesus taught and to nurture the Faith that you, as parents, are instilling in your children as their primary educators. We have classes for Pre-K through 12th. To register, contact Jackie Rosalez.

**Intercessory Prayer** individuals remain on the list until the Parish Office is notified otherwise. Contact the Office to add/update.

**Military Individuals for Prayer** remain on the list until we are notified they are home. Contact the Parish Office to add/update.

**Bulletin Articles Must Be Emailed** to IvyLynn *by noon on the Monday 2 weeks prior* to the date you are requesting inclusion.

**Mass Announcements Must Be Emailed** to IvyLynn *by noon on the Wednesday of the week prior* to the date you are requesting.

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Baptisms** are celebrated during Mass the 2<sup>nd</sup> full weekend of the month and rotate through the 4 Mass times. Preparation classes are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays at 7 pm. Contact the Parish Office to register.

**Anointing of the Sick and Communion to Shut Ins** are available by contacting the Parish Office.

**Marriage Preparation** begins with the Priest prior to setting up a Wedding date and at least 6 months in advance of your ideal date. Contact the Parish Office to begin arrangements.

**The Adult Sacrament of Initiation (RCIA)** is for any older teen or adult who is considering becoming Catholic or who wants to learn more about our Faith. Contact Deacon Carl Boehlert for more information.

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

**Contact Us:** 517-349-3322

**Office Hours:** Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

**Full Day PreK to 8:** Monday through Friday, 8 am to 3:30 pm

**Half Day PreK:** Monday through Friday, 8 to 11:30 am



**SIGN UP FOR E-NEWS UPDATES AT**  
**[WWW.ST-MARTHA.ORG/STAY-IN-TOUCH](http://WWW.ST-MARTHA.ORG/STAY-IN-TOUCH)**

## MASS OPPORTUNITIES

**Saturday**

5 pm

**Sunday**

8 am, 10 am, 5 pm

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**

8:30 am

**Wednesday**

6 pm

**Saturday 9 am - at Saint Mary Church**  
157 High Street, Williamston

## RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITIES

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**  
after 8:30 am Mass until all are heard

**Wednesday**

6:45 to 7:15 pm

**Saturday**

3:30 to 4:30 pm

**Other times by appointment**

**Lent and Advent announced as scheduled**

## PRAYER/ADORATION OPPORTUNITIES

**Monday**

International Rosary after 8:30 am Mass

**Tuesday**

Holy Hour of Reparation after 8:30 am Mass

**Wednesday**

5:30 pm Rosary for the Unborn

5:45 pm Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

Adoration after 6:30 pm Mass

until 7:20 pm Benediction

**Thursday**

8 am Rosary for peace and those suffering from war

**Friday**

Rosary after 8:30 am Mass

First Friday monthly Adoration after 8:30 am Mass

until 3 pm Benediction