



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

511 South Monroe Street, Monroe, Michigan 48161 • 734-241-8910

Office Hours: Monday 9am-4pm (Closed for Lunch 12-1pm);

Tuesday 9am-3pm; Thursday 9am-3pm

Closed Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

www.stjohnmonroe.com

Third Sunday of Advent • December 13, 2020

A Note from Father David

It is my hope that as we move through this season of Advent this year, that we may all have the opportunity and take the time to reflect and pray on what is most important to us. When so much is taken away, we can be motivated to “get back to the basics” our faith, our daily needs, and our deepest longings for meaning and hope. All active registered parishioners have received a mailing from me about Advent, Christmas, and a few parish and archdiocesan updates. Please stay connected to your faith community as best you can. Check out the parish website for the latest opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation, spiritual enrichment, quiet prayer time in church, and the Christmas weekend mass schedule.

I know that signing up for Christmas masses is not what we are used to. I appreciate your flexibility and patience as we try to warmly accommodate and welcome our worshippers with limited church capacity. If you cannot physically join us at this time, please take time with the daily mass Scripture readings—they are so full of hope and anticipation of what our awesome God can do for us and through us. Come, Lord Jesus!

Parish 2021 Raffle

Raffle tickets have been sent. Please help us, as this is our only major fundraiser at this time to augment our parish revenue. Many people give tickets as Christmas gifts. There is a chance to win every week. If you did not get tickets, or would like more, you can come to the parish office during open hours. Thanks so much!

Catholic Services Appeal

At this writing in early December, we are past the half way point of our target of \$50,727.00. If you haven't yet responded with at least a pledge which can be paid in the coming months, please do so when you can. It will be a stress to the parish's budget to have to make up any shortfall in our target by next spring.

Advent Charity

Thank you to everyone who made a sacrificial offering for the annual retired religious collection this weekend. Your offering may still be brought to church next weekend or to the parish office.

Gifts for the giving tree are due on Saturday, December 19, and may be brought to church or the parish office.

May have already given their Christmas offertory, and I thank you. To be exempt from the archdiocesan assessment, we must receive your Christmas offering by Sunday, January 3, 2021.

This Week

Join us for some prayer time in church at St. Mary on Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 pm or here on Thursday from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. The priests will be available for individual confessions or spiritual conversation in church at St. Mary after their Tuesday 6:00 pm mass and Thursday 12:15 pm mass. We will be available here on Tuesday after the 8:15 am mass and Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 pm.

2020 Christmas Mass Schedule for Downtown Monroe

I want to give you a heads up that we are having a different approach to the Christmas Masses this year. Since we have limited capacities in our churches, and since Christmas is so close to a weekend, we will be asking people to consider **the whole four day weekend**, from Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, through Sunday, December 27 as one celebration of Christmas. The archbishop is asking everyone who is able to physically to come to Mass to **plan on coming once that weekend (Thur-Fri-Sat-Sun) for your Christmas Mass**. This way we can better accommodate everyone. The Masses will all have the same Christmas "feel", with no special features like involvement of the children or choir musical pieces (since we cannot have choirs at this time). **Please sign up on Sign Up Genius for the Christmas Mass you would like to attend at <https://tinyurl.com/vyk8l6xw>**. If the Mass you prefer is already full, please choose another Mass to attend.

For our regular parishioners, I would ask that you consider coming to Mass on Saturday afternoon or Sunday for Christmas to help us better accommodate our visitors and those that we cannot communicate with as easily. Thank you for your understanding as we strive to be welcoming evangelizing in this year that is not like any other that we have known.

Thursday, December 24

4:00 pm	St. John the Baptist
4:00 pm	St. Michael the Archangel
4:00 pm	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
6:00 pm	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
6:30 pm	St. John the Baptist
7:00 pm	St. Michael the Archangel
8:00 pm	<i>Spanish Mass at St. Mary's</i>
10:00 pm	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
Midnight	St. Michael the Archangel
Midnight	St. John the Baptist

Friday, December 25

9:00 am	St. Michael the Archangel
10:00 am	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
11:00 am	St. John the Baptist

Saturday, December 26

4:30 pm	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
5:00 pm	St. Michael the Archangel
5:30 pm	St. John the Baptist

Sunday, December 27

7:30 am	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
8:00 am	St. Michael the Archangel
9:00 am	St. John the Baptist
10:00 am	St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
10:30 am	St. Michael the Archangel
11:30 am	St. John the Baptist
2:00 pm	<i>Spanish Mass at St. Mary's</i>

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(RCIA) Rite of Initiation for Adults:
Anyone interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith, or in becoming a member of our Catholic Community, is invited to contact the parish office at parishoffice@stjohnmonroe.com.

Sacrament of Baptism:
Call the parish office to make for baptism dates at least one month in advance.

Sacrament of Marriage:
By arrangement with the pastor at least six months prior to planned date.

St. John Parish Council

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Eric Kuehnlein	Pam Mushung
Ray Hartman	Angela Venier

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Steve Goodman	Matt Zwack



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Kyle Kubik,
Executive Principal

Karol Applin,
St. John Campus Assistant Principal

Melody Setzler,
St. Michael Campus Assistant Principal

Amber Scudder,
St. Mary Campus Assistant Principal

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday 8:15am - St. Michael Church
Tuesday 8:15am - St. John Church
 6:00pm - St. Mary Church
 Wednesday 8:15am - St. Mary Church
Thursday 8:15am - St. John Church
 12:15pm - St. Mary Church
 Friday 8:15am - St. Michael Church
 1st Saturday 8:30am - St. Mary Church

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:30pm - St. Mary Church
 5:00pm - St. Michael Church
5:30pm - St. John Church
 Sunday 7:30am - St. Mary Church
 8:00am - St. Michael Church
9:00am - St. John Church
 10:00am - St. Mary Church
 10:30am - St. Michael Church
11:30am - St. John Church
 Spanish 2:00pm - St. Mary Church



In the First Reading for Mass this weekend we hear from one of the greatest prophets, Isaiah. Isaiah speaks in the person of Christ our Lord. Christ comes rejoicing into the world, because He is full of justice and righteousness. Isaiah's beautiful prophecy of glad tidings to the poor, healing for the broken-hearted, and liberty to captives is the likely promise of restoration of homeland and freedom to an exiled and defeated ancient people.

Isaiah is a very long book. It is typically broken down into three parts: first, second and third Isaiah. Third Isaiah's task was to encourage the flagging spirits of the returned exiles. Just as God has delivered the people from captivity, he tells them, so God would now help them to rebuild. Isaiah uses special marital imagery to describe the relationship between God and Israel. God had a special love for the Jewish people. The marital imagery Isaiah uses, is a reminder for us that we have to remember God's special love for us in the good times and bad. In Baptism we have been joined to Christ in a union closer than marriage.

During these days, where we continue to journey in this time of uncertainty, we should be encouraged for the faith in Jesus that sustains in good times and bad, in sickness and health. *"You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have."* - Corrie ten Boom

Be blessed and be a blessing,
 Deacon Zaid

**Saturday, December 12**

D 5:30pm † Joseph A. Costello, Sr. by Mr. & Mrs. Jason Beck
 † Allen Bressler by Sandy & Terry Banek
 † Lisa Steffy by Michael Burger

Sunday, December 13

D 9am People of the Parish
 D 11:30am † Chris Siterlet (birthday) by Mark Miller
 † Joseph A. Costello, Sr. by Dr. Hunt
 † Barbara Greashaber by Tim Greashaber
 † William & Verna Burkardt by Laura Leicht
 † Deceased Members of the Frank & Lucy Lazette Family by Darlene Diekman
 † Charlene Pittman by Daniel Sordini

Tuesday, December 15

K 8:15am † Joseph A. Costello, Sr. by Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Iott

Thursday, December 17

D 8:15am † Monthly Memorials

Saturday, December 19

G 5:30pm People of the Parish

Sunday, December 20

9am † Diane Mack by Family
 † Jim Kitchen by Sue Stadler
 † Joseph A. Costello, Sr. by Mr. & Mrs. Jason Beck
 † Julian & David LaRoy by Wife & Mother
 11:30am † Marvel Felder by Pat & Pete Streasick
 † John Burroughs by Amelia Cooley
 † Lisa Steffy by Michael & Lynda McCarty

D - Fr. David Burgard ~ G - Fr. Giancarlo Ghezzi ~ K - Fr. Kishore Battu ~ A - Fr. Allen Zobler

**For the Weekend of December 19/20**

5:30 pm
 Rebecca Brooks

9:00 am
 John Morris

11:30 am
 Joe & Bridgett Boggs

Christmas Flower Memorial

There are Flower Memorial envelopes in your envelope packets and at the back of church on the side chests. As always, a list of Flower Memorial names will be listed in the bulletin and on line after Christmas. Please consider this offering as we were unable to take up an offering for the Easter Season.



THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Third Sunday of Advent, December 13

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24;
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 17

Saint John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor / Church
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 18

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 19

Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday, December 10

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Friday, December 11

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Saturday, December 12

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6a 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 13

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

FOOD PANTRY

We need our Parish Faith Community to help us. We will be collecting the following grocery items in the coming months. We also gladly accept monetary donations made out to: St. John Food Pantry

December: Canned Progress Soup or Campbell's Chunky Soup

January: Cereal

February: Ramen Noodles

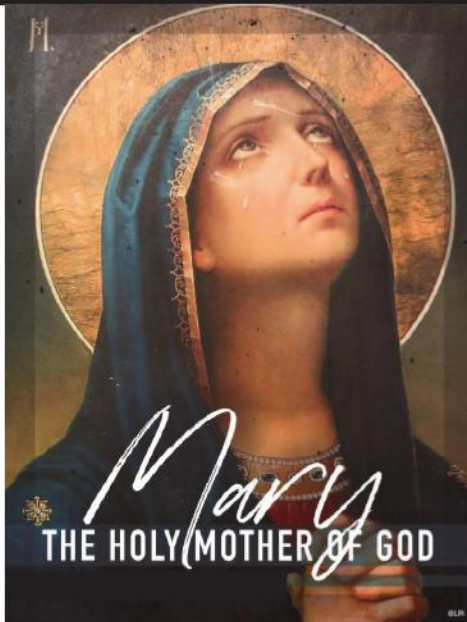
We also accept non-perishable food at any time. Please be sure items are not out of date. There are baskets for food drop-off in the church vestibule or bring items to the Parish Office.

For further information about Christian Service or the Food Pantry, contact Lillian Williamson at lillianwilliamson@att.net or call 734-770-7046.

RAFFLE
WINNERS

Congratulations to the following members who were winners in the weekly raffle during the office closure and during our reduced office hours. You should expect your check soon.

November 16	Tisha Held
November 23	Chris Harris
November 30	Frank Calandra
December 7	due to publishing deadline, this will be announced next week



Thursday December 31

St. Mary - 4:30pm

St. Michael - 7pm

Friday, January 1

St. John - 10am

St. Michael - 8:15am

Michael Dean Roberts

February 6, 1969
November 25, 2020



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Roberts who entered into eternal life. Please keep his family in your prayers.

May his soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Valerie Ann Kiley

April 28, 1971
November 29, 2020



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Valerie Kiley who entered into eternal life. Please keep her family in your prayers.

May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St. John's Prayers

St. John's Prayer List exists for the purpose of remembering in our prayers all our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, or spiritually, especially:

Jim Adams	Kathleen Krevsky
Thomas Barron	Tom Lindsey
Pamela Barron	Lisa Lliteras
Angelo Benvenuto	Beth Lovett
Ben Budzios	Jerry Messerschmidt
Betty Budzios	Herbert Meyer
Jack Burns	Cathy Miller
Fr. David Carrucci	Sierra Miller
Denise Darin-Clark	Frank Nagy
Tom Clark	Pat Orr
Terrie Crutchfield	Zandra Perry
Dan DePuydt	Zayden Perry
Darlene Diekman	Guadalupe Rios
Barb Du Call	Robert Rogers
Nancy Earls	David Rousseau
Annie Germani	Lillian Sasfy
David Graves	John Skeens
Sandra Harter	Mary Slavik
Emily Haynes	Fr. Jim Smalarz
Kate Herr-Maletich	Daniel Sordini
Zenda Howell	Maxwell Stotz
Evelyn Ibershoff	Ben Tallerico
Sis Iocoangeli	Steve Toth
Valerie Kiley	Jim Weeks

We are hopeful that many on the list have received help and healing through the prayers that have been lifted up by our parishioners. If you are still in need of prayers and would like to remain on, or be added to our prayer list, contact the parish office. **Names on the list will remain for a duration of six weeks.**

We can only publish the names of people who have consented to be added to the list. Please check with the individual before contacting us to protect their privacy.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Almighty and eternal God, Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Brandon Anderson, Vandenberg AFB, CA
Pvt Derek Barron, Army/ Fort Benning, GA
Cpl Michael J. Carrabino, Jr., USMC/USA
2d Lt Alexander L. Compean, USAF/USA
Cpt Andrew J. Compean, USA/Colorado
BU3 Nate Cook, Virginia Beach, VA
CMCR Kyle Cook, Port Hueneme, CA
Cpt Jonathan A. Diekman, Deployed
Chief MSgt Mark Fisher, USA
SrA Stacy Krzyston, USAF/USA
SSgt Andrea L. Lake, USAF/USA
PFC Darrion LaRoy, Fort Leonard Wood, MO
LCpl Mitchell Layhew, USMC/Yuma, AZ
MSgt Christopher Lindsey, USAF/USA
PFC Anthony Marquette, USCG/USA
AB Dakota Mills, USAF/USA
Sgt Tyler Morrison, USA
EM1 Tad Murphy, USCG/Coos Bay, OR
A1C Dalton J. Neff, USAF
SSgt Natalie A. Neff, USAF/USA
SSgt Eric D. Paul, USAF
BMC E-7 Chad Pietszak, USCG/Guam
PFC Donald Puruleski, USA/South Korea
AB Jeffrey Stead, USAF/USA
MSgt Nicole Stibbe, USAF/San Antonio, TX
Pvt Dawson Wohlgamuth, Fort Benning, GA

Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools

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Congratulations to our Fall Raffle Winners!

1st Prize (\$5,000)

Rob Bow

2nd Prize (\$1,000)

Joe Malnar

3rd Prize (\$500)

Cathy Miller

Dear Parishioners of St. John,
St. Mary & St. Michael,

We sincerely thank you for your support of the 2020 Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools' Fall Raffle.

The money raised directly impacts our ability to provide a high quality, Catholic education to our students.

This year certainly looks different! Our students must wear face coverings and practice social distancing and we have had to move to a virtual learning model for a time. Though we are presented with these challenges, we never lose sight of our mission and vision. Your support of our Fall Raffle helps us in continuing a legacy that stretches back 174 years to the founding of Catholic Education by the IHM Sisters in Monroe.

The funds raised support our annual budget, offsetting the cost of tuition for our families. This budget includes teacher and staff salaries & benefits, new technology & curriculum resources, and the experiences that make MCES unique and memorable for our students.

We thank you for your support of MCES now and in the future.

God Bless,
Kyle Kubik
MCES Executive Principal

Mark Your Calendars:
The MCES Auction is
scheduled for March 20th!

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 2020



SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTION

The parish clergy and staff will offer Sunday Scripture reflections on our parish website, www.stjohnmonroe.com. They will also offer daily reflections on the "O antiphons" from December 17 through 23.

PRAYER

Come to church for quiet prayer time. Holy hours with exposition of the Eucharist. Mondays at St. Mary: , December 14, and 21 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Thursdays at St. John the Baptist: December 17 from 9:00 to 10:00 am.



CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

The Giving Tree is set up in church. Please take a tag or two and purchase the named items for people in our local community. Return wrapped gifts, or the monetary value of the gift, with their tag visible, by Monday, December 21. The St. John food pantry is in need of monetary support and non-perishable food items. Your offerings may be brought to the church vestibule or the parish office.



Monroe Knights of Columbus Council #1266 Knights For Life



The Monroe Council would like announce AND thank everyone who helped to make the 2020 "Coats for Kids" drive a huge success! Battling through this pandemic year our Brother Knights rolled up their sleeves and worked persistently determined to continue this much needed program for the needy children of Monroe. When all donations were totaled we can actually announce that we will be purchasing more coats than last season!

The Monroe Council joined in this K of C national program in 2009. Each year as more Knights have join in with the drive the donations have increased and the total number of coats purchased has steadily multiplied. In our first year 15 cases were purchased. Now in our 11th year we will be providing 26 cases of coats. That means 312 children will have safe winter coats this year!

Money raised to purchase these coats came from members donations, local businesses, and a Dance Class that was utilized as a fund raiser.

All money raised in this program stays in Monroe County! 100% of the money raised go to purchase new coats. The coats will be distributed out to the public November 21st.



The Knights Of Columbus is the worlds largest Catholic Fraternal Service Organization, Charity is our foremost Principle. To learn more about us, go to <http://www.kofcmonroe1266.com>



Lay Leanings... By Deacon Mike Stewart

An Advent Prayer – The Blue Van

Lord, when I hear that engine roaring down the street, I feel conflicted.

On one hand, I pray that the familiar blue van would, just once, pass by our house without stopping. Please, Lord ... just once.

But on the other hand, Lord, that blue van has become a symbol of this busy season of giving, and especially in this year of pandemic, it represents a little sign of normalcy.

That blue van challenges me, Lord, to step back from the need to find the perfect gift, and instead focus on why I'm giving in the first place, and who I'm giving to.

Lord, that blue van also challenges me to see that, behind it all, is the gentle hand of you, the Giver of all gifts, without whom I would have nothing. And I pray, Lord, for the vision never to lose sight of your goodness.

Lord, I find myself praying for the delivery person behind the wheel of that blue van, working hard to earn a living for their family, as I do for mine. And I ask you to keep them safe and healthy as they do so.

Lord, through the symbol of that blue van, I find myself praying for a heart that can be satisfied with what you've already given me, without the need for filling up our house with things we don't need.

Help me to recognize that much of what we consume are 'wants,' when there are many right here in our community who have serious needs that go unmet every day.

And finally, Lord, that familiar blue van challenges me to avoid the tendency to be so pre-occupied with Christmas, that I look right past Advent.

Lord, grant that in this sacred season of preparation and of quiet waiting, that you will be born anew into those aspects of my life that I've failed, up to now, to surrender to you.

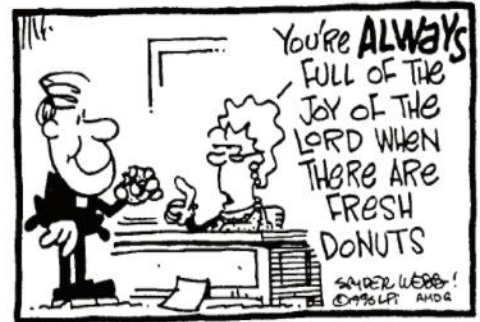
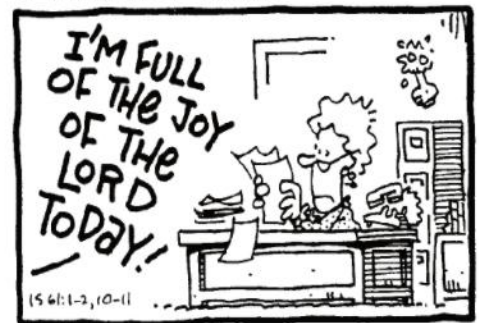
Bless that blue van, Lord ... even though it stopped at house again today. Amen.

The LORD protects the simple; I was helpless, but he saved me. Psalm 116:6

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3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Needed Greeters/Cleaners
Lectors, Greeters, EME, Parish
Council members anyone
that can help greet and
clean after all Masses.
Please contact Lillian Williamson
at 734-770-7046 or
lillianwilliamson@att.net**

Saint John the Baptist Monthly Memorial

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Bacarella & Venier Families
Beck & Wehner Families
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Fred R. Brossia Family
Patricia Blakey Burroughs
Christy Bates Carducci
Christy & Mary Carducci Family
Joseph J. Carrabino
Teresa (Carrabino) Hansen
Dominic Cicero, Jr.
Chester & Mildred Clark
Ann Clark
Theodore Colucci Family
Saverio & Mary Costello Family
Mary Jane Darrow
Rev. Albert Robert "Bob" DeSloover
Robert A. Dobberstein
Pat & Vera Drummonds Family
Robert J. Duffey Family

Kenneth & Wilma Dusseau Family
DuVall, Morrin & Cousino Families
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Rosemarie Hess-Schindler
Anna Hess
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Gus & Helen Janssens Family
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