



Blessed is the one
**who takes no
offense at me**

Dichoso aquel
**que no se sienta
defraudado por mí**

Mass Schedule and Intentions
Horario de Misas e Intenciones

Saturday, December 13, de diciembre , Sábado

4:30 p.m. For All The People Of Our Parish / Por Todos Los Feligrese De La Parroquia

Sunday, December 14, de diciembre, Domingo

8:30 a.m. † Bill & † Sally Barnes

10:30 a.m. Geary North Blessed Birthday

1:00 p.m. † Kevin Toledo Felicitas Smith

Monday, December 15, de diciembre , Lunes

8:30 a.m. † Norman Miller Req Family

Tuesday, December 16, de diciembre, Martes

6:00 p.m. † Virginia Lee Simmons Req Simmons Family

Wednesday, December 17, de diciembre Miércoles

8:30 a.m. † Carmen Frybarger Req Family

Thursday, December 18, de diciembre, Jueves

No Mass

Friday, December 19, de diciembre ,Viernes

8:30 a.m. Gloria Avilez Blessed Birthday

Saturday, December 20, de diciembre , Sábado

4:30 p.m. † Mary McGinnis Req Pat McGinnis

Sunday, December 21, de diciembre, Domingo

8:30 a.m. For All The People Of Our Parish / Por Todos Los Feligrese De La Parroquia

10:30 a.m. † For The Deceased Family Members of The Kistka & Mapes Family. Req Janice Kistka

1:00 p.m. † Arnulfo Álvarez Jiménez Req Family

St. Joseph Church

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday In Advent

Tercer Domingo de Adviento

From the Desk of Fr. Leo ●

The Gospel of this third Sunday of Advent speaks to us about John the Baptist who, while in prison, sends his disciples to ask Jesus: "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" (Mt 11:4). Indeed, John, hearing of Jesus' works, is seized with doubt as to whether He is really the Messiah or not. In fact, he imagined a stern Messiah who would come and do justice with power by chastising sinners. Now, on the contrary, Jesus has words and gestures of compassion towards all; at the center of His action is the mercy that forgives, whereby "the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them" (v. 6). It does us good, however, to look more closely at this crisis of John the Baptist, as it can tell us something important too.

The text emphasizes that John is in prison, and this, as well as being a physical place, makes us think of the inner situation he is experiencing in prison where there is darkness, there is no possibility of seeing clearly and seeing beyond it. In effect, the Baptist is no longer able to recognize Jesus as the awaited Messiah. He is assailed by doubt, and he sends the disciples to check: "Go and see if he is the Messiah or not". It surprises us that this should happen to John, the one who had baptized Jesus in the Jordan and had indicated him to his disciples as the Lamb of God (cf. Jn 1:29). But this means that even the greatest believer goes through the tunnel of doubt. And this is not a bad thing; on the contrary, sometimes it is essential for spiritual growth: it helps us understand that God is always greater than we imagine Him to be. His works are surprising compared to our calculations;

His actions are different, always, they exceed our needs and expectations; and therefore, we must never stop seeking Him and converting to His true face. A great theologian used to say that God "needs to be rediscovered in stages... sometimes believing that we are losing Him". This is what the Baptist does: in doubt, he still seeks Him, questions Him, "argues" with Him and finally rediscovers Him. John, defined by Jesus as the greatest among those born of women (cf. Mt 11:11), teaches us, in short, not to close God within our own mindsets. This is always the danger, the temptation: to make ourselves a God to our measure, a God to use. And God is something else.

Brothers and sisters, we too at times find ourselves in his situation, in an inner jail, unable to recognize the newness of the Lord, whom we perhaps hold captive in the presumption that we already know everything about Him. One never knows everything about God, never! Perhaps we have in mind a powerful God who does what He wants, instead of the God of humble meekness, the God of mercy and love, who always intervenes respecting our freedom and our choices. Perhaps we even find ourselves saying to Him: "Are you really you, so humble, the God who is coming to save us?". And something similar can happen to us too: we have our ideas, our prejudices and we attach rigid labels to others, especially those we feel are different to us.

May Our Lady take us by the hand, like a mother, may she take us by the hand in these days of preparation for Christmas.

Fr. Leo



Del Escritorio de Pd. Leo ●

El Evangelio de este tercer domingo de Adviento nos habla de Juan el Bautista, quien, estando en prisión, envía a sus discípulos a preguntarle a Jesús: "¿Eres tú el que ha de venir o debemos esperar a otro?" (Mt 11,4). De hecho, Juan, al enterarse de las obras de Jesús, duda si Él es realmente el Mesías. De hecho, imaginaba a un Mesías severo que vendría y haría justicia con poder castigando a los pecadores. Ahora, por el contrario, Jesús tiene palabras y gestos de compasión hacia todos; en el centro de su acción está la misericordia que perdona, por la cual "los ciegos ven, los cojos andan, los leprosos quedan limpios, los sordos oyen, los muertos resucitan y a los pobres se les anuncia la Buena Nueva" (v. 6). Sin embargo, nos conviene observar más de cerca esta crisis de Juan el Bautista, ya que también puede revelarnos algo importante.

El texto enfatiza que Juan está en prisión, y esto, además de ser un lugar físico, nos hace pensar en la situación interior que vive en la prisión, donde reina la oscuridad, sin posibilidad de ver con claridad ni de ver más allá. En efecto, el Bautista ya no puede reconocer a Jesús como el Mesías esperado. Le asalta la duda y envía a sus discípulos a comprobarlo: «Vayan a ver si es el Mesías». Nos sorprende que esto le ocurra a Juan, quien bautizó a Jesús en el Jordán y lo presentó a sus discípulos como el Cordero de Dios (cf. Jn 1,29). Pero esto significa que incluso el más grande creyente atraviesa el túnel de la duda. Y esto no es malo; al contrario, a veces es esencial para el crecimiento espiritual: nos ayuda a comprender que Dios siempre es más grande de lo que imaginamos. Sus obras son sorprendentes comparadas con nuestras previsiones; sus acciones son diferentes; siempre superan nuestras necesidades y expectativas; y por eso, nunca debemos dejar de buscarlo y convertirnos a su verdadero rostro. Un gran teólogo decía que Dios «hay que redescubrirlo poco a poco... a veces creyendo perderlo». Así hace el Bautista: en la duda, lo busca, lo interroga, discute con él y finalmente lo redescubre. Juan, definido por Jesús como el más grande entre los nacidos de mujer (cf. Mt 11,11), nos enseña, en resumen, a no encerrar a Dios en nuestra propia mentalidad. Este es siempre el peligro, la tentación: hacernos un Dios a nuestra medida. Y Dios es algo más.

Hermanos y hermanas, también nosotros nos encontramos a veces en su situación, en una cárcel interior, incapaces de reconocer la novedad del Señor, a quien quizás mantenemos cautivo en la presunción de que ya lo sabemos todo sobre él. ¡Nunca se sabe todo sobre Dios, nunca! Quizás tenemos en mente un Dios poderoso que hace lo que quiere, en lugar del Dios de la humilde mansedumbre, el Dios de la misericordia y el amor, que siempre interviene respetando nuestra libertad y nuestras decisiones. Quizás incluso nos encontremos diciéndole: "¿Eres realmente tú, tan humilde, el Dios que viene a salvarnos?". Y algo similar nos puede pasar a nosotros también: tenemos nuestras ideas, nuestros prejuicios y etiquetamos rígidamente a los demás, especialmente a quienes consideramos diferentes.

Que Nuestra Señora nos tome de la mano, como una Madre, que nos tome de la mano en estos días de preparación para la Navidad.

Padre. Leo

Las Posadas

What are posadas?

Las Posadas is a meaningful Christmas tradition in Spain and many Latin American countries. The term literally translates to “the inns,” but it figuratively refers to the shelter that Mary and Joseph sought on their way to Bethlehem. During the nine evenings preceding Christmas Eve, groups of family and friends will gather to reenact Mary and Joseph’s journey.

Traditionally, two people will dress as Mary and Joseph, and each night a house will be designated as the “inn” that will allow them inside. As they walk the streets, the groups sing villancicos (Christmas carols) with some members playing instruments as they go. When they arrive at the “inn” the group enters and prays around a Nativity scene. A celebratory feast, akin to Christmas dinner, usually follows.

Posadas De San Jose

We invite you to our posadas starting on December 15th, in our gym starting at 7:00 pm

They run until December 23rd, if you would like to help please contact ;

Sister Yuliana or Laura Duran

When; December 15th -December 23rd at 6:30 pm

Cuando; diciembre 15-diciembre 23 a las 6:30 pm

Where; Bennett Bldg.

Donde; El Gimnasio

This is a family oriented event.

Advent is a Time of Giving / Adviento es Tiempo de Dar

December 20/21

4th Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph Food Pantry needs:

Food cake mixes and frostings, muffin mixes, cookie mixes, jello, pudding and cooking oil.

Diciembre 20/21

4th Domingo de Adviento Necesidades de la despnsa de alimentos de San Jose:

Alimentos: mezclas para pasteles y glaseados, mezclas para muffins, mezclas para galletas, gelatina, pudín y aceite de cocina.

Deadline for December 28th, bulletin will be December 15th.

Deadline for January 4th bulletin will be December 19th.

Side Altar Vigil Candle Intentions

Blessed Virgin Mary: For Intentions Of † Virginia Lee Simmons
St. Joseph: For Intentions Of

If you would like to have a candle lit for your prayer intention, please let the office know your name, which altar you request, and your prayer intention. The candle will remain lit for 7 days. Suggested donation \$5.

Intenciones de Velas de Vigilia en el Altar Lateral

Santísima Virgen María: Intenciones De † Virginia Lee Simmons
San José: Para Intenciones De

Si desea tener una vela encendida para su intención de oración, informe a la oficina su nombre, qué altar solicita y su intención de oración. La vela permanecerá encendida durante 7 días. Donación sugerida \$5.



Scripture Readings
Lecturas Diarias

For the Week of December 14, 2025
Para la Semana de Diciembre 14 2025

Sunday • Domingo

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10;
Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Monday • Lunes

Num 24: 2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab; 6 & 7bc,
8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday • Martes

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 & 23;
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday • Miércoles

Gen 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8,17;
Mt 1:1-17

Thursday • Jueves

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

Friday • Viernes

Jdg 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25

Saturday • Sábado

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6;
Lk 1:26-38

Sunday • Domingo

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rm 1:1-7;
Mt 1:18-24

Prayers List Oremos Por

- Luis Torres
- Harold Cronk
- Angela Cronk
- George Daleiden
- Bernadette Lawson
- Jon Rocha
- Martin Ledger
- Julia Avelar
- Jacob Matthew Bosnes
- Fr. Antony Rajesh
- Maria Del Refugio Diaz Medina
- Leobardo Diaz Sr
- Alena McQueen

Activities in Our Parish

Actividades en Nuestra Parroquia

Sunday, December 14 • Domingo 14 de diciembre

- 8:00pm—11:00am Donuts
- 11:40am—12:40pm Religious Ed / Catecismo
- 2:30pm—3:30pm Clases Pre-Bautismales

Monday, December 15 • Lunes 15 de diciembre

- 3:00pm—4:00pm Praying the Rosary / Rosario ENG
- 7:00pm—8:00pm Novena La virgen de Guadalupe
- 8:00pm—9:00pm Convivo después de la Novena

Tuesday, December 16 • Martes 16 de diciembre

- 4:00pm—6:00pm Adoration / Adoración
- 7:00pm—8:00pm Novena La virgen de Guadalupe
- 8:00pm—9:00pm Convivo después de la Novena

Wednesday, December 17 • Miércoles 17 diciembre

- 6:00pm—8:30pm Religious Ed / Catecismo
- 7:00pm—8:00pm Novena La Virgen de Guadalupe
- 8:00pm—9:00pm Convivo después de la Novena

Thursday, December 18 • Jueves 18 de diciembre

- 6:30pm—8:00pm Choir Practice
- 7:00pm—8:00pm Novena La Virgen de Guadalupe
- 8:00pm—9:00pm Convivo después de la Novena

Friday, December 19 • Viernes 19 de diciembre

- 5:00am—8:00am Mañanitas & Rosario & Desayuno
- 5:00pm—7:00pm Apariciones De La Virgen De Guadalupe
- 7:00pm—8:00pm Misa/ Mass
- 8:00pm—9:00pm Convivo y Danza

Saturday, December 20 • Sábado 20 de diciembre

- 7:30am—9:00am Catholic Men / Hombres Católicos
- 11:00am—12:00pm Religious Ed / Catecismo

Sunday, December 21 • Domingo 21 de diciembre

- 8:00pm—11:00am Donuts
- 11:40am—12:40pm Religious Ed / Catecismo
- 2:30pm—3:30pm Clases Pre-Bautismales

Happy Birthday!!! • ¡Feliz Cumpleaños!

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Maria Ayala Linares | Stephen Kirklin | Mateo Herrera |
| Cindel Casarrubias | Kevin Morales | Luis Morales |
| Linzly Castillo | Jordan Olmos | Rigoberto Vargas |
| Gonzalo Garretton | Saldana | Montoya |
| Larizta Linares | Julio Pineda | Mikayla Eshleman |
| Geary North | Joseph Byrne | Demetrio Herrera |
| Liliana Obregon | Antonio Cabrera | Esther Linares |
| Cynthia Wahome | Rebecca Seifried | Paul Okuniewski |
| Leticia Medina | Peyton Beck | Xiomara Ortiz - |
| Rodriguez | Araceli Casarrubias | Ponce |
| Luanne Reisterer | Nava | Justin Shafer |
| Russell Richards | Josefina Crispin | Dalira Valadez |
| Samuel Lepech | Marcell Jones | Karen Williams |
| Edwin Ramos | Abril Garcia | |
| Jared VanderBor | Rebecca Grimes | |

Lector and Server Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Server</i>	<i>Lector</i>
Dec. 13, 4:30pm	Darlene Smith	Analia Avila
Dec. 14, 8:30am	Katie Jones	Tracy Buck
Dec. 14, 10:30am	Dagoberto Castro Jr	Janice Kistka
Dec. 14, 1:00pm		Lina Hach & Graciela Lopez
Dec. 21, 4:30pm	Anne Fish	George Daleiden
Dec. 22, 8:30am	Tony/ Jayden Thomas	Sharon Anderson Western
Dec. 22, 10:30am	Stephanie Thompson	MT Courtade
Dec. 22, 1:00pm	**	Emiliano Castillo & Emma Rodríguez



MEN- LIVE A CURSILLO WEEKEND

What a great way to enhance your Lenten journey by living a Cursillo Weekend. This 3 day "short course" in Christianity, with Daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and presentations by Clergy and Laity is perfect to energize your spirituality. Please join us!

Men's Cursillo Weekend

February 26-March 1, 2026 – Men's #81 Cursillo weekend, Amigo Center Sturgis.

Informational flyers and forms are available on our website.

<https://kalamazoocursillo.com/forms>

Questions? For more information contact Amy Hackman, Pre Cursillo Coordinator, 269-625-1512, ahackman85@yahoo.com

Deacon Andy Boyd, Rector, 260-350-8597, dcnandyboyd@gmail.com

Our Gifts for God

Week ending in.....12/07/2025

Sunday collection8,152.29

Online Collection2,661.87

Total Offertory Received 10,814.16

Offertory needed weekly.....\$9,740.39

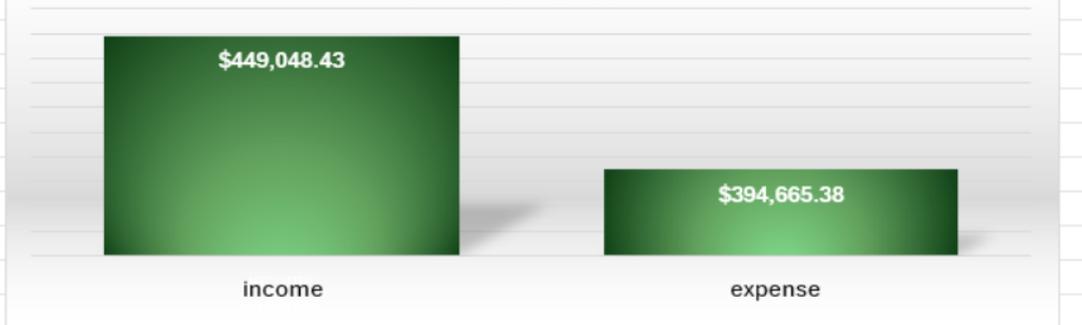
Overage.....1,073.77

Online Giving

- If you are interested in setting up an account for online giving, visit our website and select online giving from the drop down menu on top of the page.
- Here is our QR code for our online giving link.



Year-to-Date Income vs Year-to-Date Expense 07 December 2025



Please remember these totals reflect ALL sources of operating income not simply what you donate each week, as well as ALL operating expenses.

Keep it up, St. Joseph Parish!



**A HUGE THANK YOU TO:
BAZAAR COMMITTEE:**

Diane Stanke
Therese Krajewski
Kathy Brown
Barb Ogrin
Deb Caswell
Garry Lee McCormick
Graciela Valdez
Sara Miller
Luann Leverette
Francie Mills
Ellie Clark
Pat Byrne

Lynn North
Judy Smith

Also...A special thank you to the St. Joseph Parish Office Staff and Custodial Staff for their assistance in so many ways!

BAZAAR VOLUNTEERS:

Kathy Irwin
Gayle Herman
Dorothy Withers
Tootie Horn
Kathi Rice
Gloria Barton Beery
Char Schultz
Melissa Emmons
Lori Brady
Vicki Kreamalmeyer
Tanya VanderBor
Erin Holmes
Mary Kay Albee
Nick McCarty
Joe Stanke
John Brown
Jeff Smith
Geary North
Roy Valdez
Pete VanderPloeg
Dan Barrett
Jon Holmes
Eleazar Salas (Junior)
Ricardo Valdez
Kyle Elmsblad

Chuck Caswell

Also...A special thank you to John Brown for volunteering to draw the 85 winners of the Bazaar Raffle.

IN ADDITION TO BUSINESSES, MANY PARISHIONERS (AND PARISHIONERS FROM OTHER PARISHES AS WELL AS FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, COWORKERS, ALSO DONATED TO THE BAZAAR IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- Themed Raffle Baskets Handmade Crafts
- Homemade Goodies New Items/Valuables for Treasure Trove
- Cash Donations Empty Baskets for the Raffle
- Items for White Elephant Sale Books Plants

- Airborne Adventure Park
- Bert's Bakery
- Bimbo's Pizza
- Blue Dolphin Restaurant
- Butler's Breakfast & Lunch
- Celebration Cinema Theater
- Cherri's Chocol'art Choccola Tea
- Commensoli's Italian Bistro & Bar
- Confections with Convictions
- Continental Lanes Creekside
- Wellness Center-Massage
- Culver's (South Westnedge)
- Don's Card Hut
- Fiesta Burrito
- Hackett Catholic H.S. & CSGK
- Hardings Market (Corklane) Harding's Market (Parchment)
- J. Ashley Salon
- Julianna's Restaurant
- Kalamazoo Civic Theatre
- Kalamazoo Kettle Corn (formerly Heilmans)
- Kazoopy's Pizza & Grinders
- K-Wings Hockey
- Kzoo Tire Company
- LBRI Consultant-Rebecca Brancheau
- La Hispanica International Market
- Main Street Pub (Gull Road Location)
- Martini's Pizza Metro Connect
- Midtown Fresh Market
- Monelli's Italian Grill & Sports
- NEDS Pizza, Grinders & BBQ
- Oasis Hot Tubs
- Papa's Italian Sausage
- Poor Richard's Café
- Schultz's Sweets
- Shakespeare's Pub
- Tavern 32 (Richland)
- Teresa's Kitchen
- VanderSalm's Flowershop
- Quality Meat
- Water Street Coffee Joint
- WMU Theatre Department

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS BENEFACTORS WHOSE DONATIONS MADE OUR BAZAAR SUCH A SUCCESS (Please show appreciation by frequenting these businesses).



Mission Statement •

Rooted in God's Love, St. Joseph Parish takes as its mission to be a welcoming faith community that lives and shares the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Prayer, Faith Formation, Evangelization, Fellowship and Service.

Misión •

Misión Arraigada en el amor de Dios, la parroquia de St. Joseph es una comunidad que "da la bienvenida en la fe"; que vive y comparte el Evangelio de Jesucristo a través de la oración , la formación en la fe, la evangelización, la fraternidad y el servicio voluntario.



St. Joseph Catholic Church

936 Lake Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Phone: (269) 343-6256
email: office.stjoekal@gmail.com
www.stjosephkalamazoo.org

Office Hours

Mon.-Tues.-Fri.-9:00-4:00pm
Wed. 9:00-7:00pm
Thurs. 9:00-12:00pm

St. Joseph Staff

Pastor

Fr. Leo Cartagena Franco
269-343-6256
FatherLeo@stjosephkzoo.org

Deacon

Deacon John Ryder, 269-270-5885
john.ryder.215@gmail.com

Deacon

Deacon Timothy Kistka
517-617-6513
dcn.timkistka@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate & Coordinator of Hispanic Ministry

Sr. Yuliana Rua
269-343-6256 269-539-8829 Cell
hermana.stjoekal@gmail.com

Bookkeeper

Melanie Saliwanchik, 269-343-6256
bookkeeper@stjosephkzoo.org

Parish Secretary

Lupita Lopez, 269-343-6256
Lupita.stjoekal@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry

Luza Mastache, 269-343-6256
religiouseducation.stjoekal@gmail.com

Volunteer Music Coordinator

Geary North, 269-343-6256
geary.stjoekal@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor

Lupita Lopez, 269-343-6256
bulletin.stjoekal@gmail.com

Bulletin deadline is 9:00am Monday.

Safe Environment Coordinator

Francie Mills, 269-998-6669
Safeenvironment@stjosephkzoo.org

OCIA & English Baptism Classes

Deacon John Ryder, 269-270-5885

St. Vincent de Paul Society

269-343-6256, ext 192

Funerals / Funerales

Parish office, 269-343-6256

Weddings / Bodas

Parish office, 269-343-6256

Parish Council Chairperson

Lynn North, 269-808-4112
Lynn.stjoekal@gmail.com

Finance Council Chairperson

Carl Deering, 269-353-0664

Liturgy Commission Chairperson

Randy Dennis, 269-312-7165

Lectors Lectores

Janice Kistka , 517-617-6516
jnicekist58@gmail.com
Alejandra Rojo
269 873-1235

Altar Servers

Deacon Tim Kistka, 517-617-6513
Yvonne Garcia 269 447-8020

Ushers

Francie Mills, 269-998-6669
Luis Rangel & Estela Jiménez
269-599-7167

Ministry to the Homebound

Deacon Tim Kistka, 517-617-6513

Knights of Columbus

Dan Barrett, 269-720-7302

Mass Schedule and Sacraments

Mass Times

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
8:30 a.m. (English)
Tuesday
6:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday
4:00 p.m.– 6:00 p.m.

Confessions

Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00-8:25 a.m.
Or by appointment

Baptism

Call the Parish Office at 269-343-6256

Marriage

Arrangements must be made a minimum of 6 months in advance.
Please call the office, 269-343-6256

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the office at (269) 3436256
or contact Fr. Leo.

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

Knight of Columbus

To view their full advertisement, see the back page of the bulletin. And please, remember to patronize

Knights Of Columbus

and all of our sponsors. They make our bulletin possible.

To REPORT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

The Diocese of Kalamazoo has and will continue to cooperate with the Michigan Attorney General's investigations and encourages anyone with information related to misconduct to call the reporting number set up by the Michigan Attorney General's office at: (844) 324-3374.

PARA DENUNCIAR MALA CONDUCTA SEXUAL

La Diócesis de Kalamazoo ha cooperado y seguirá cooperando con las investigaciones del Procurador General de Michigan y alienta a cualquier persona que tenga información relacionada con mala conducta a llamar al número de denuncia establecido por la oficina del Procurador General de Michigan al: (844) 324-3374.