

**Mass Schedule and Intentions**  
**Horario de Misas e Intenciones**

**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 González Sr Req Family

**Monday, December 22, de diciembre, Lunes**

8:30 a.m. Nicholas Saliwanchik Req Melanie

4:00 p.m. Penance Service

**Tuesday, December 23, de diciembre, Martes**

6:00 p.m. † Alfredo Morales Req Familia Gomez

**Wednesday, December 24, de diciembre, Miércoles**

4:00 p.m. Family Mass—Pope Leo's Intentions

6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass / Misa Navidena Pope Leos Intention

9:30 p.m. Midnight Mass / Misa De Media Noche Pope Leos Intention

**Thursday, December 25, de diciembre, Jueves**

10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass Pope Leos Intention

**Friday, December 26, de diciembre, Viernes**

8:30 a.m. † Candy Anderson Req Melanie Saliwanchik

**Saturday, December 27, de diciembre, Sábado**

4:30 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. J.T McGuire & Son Christopher Lawson

**Sunday, December 28, de diciembre, Domingo**

8:30 a.m. † Emily Czubajewski Req Dave & Donna Barry

10:30 a.m. † For All The People Of Our Parish / Por Todos Los Feligrese De La Parroquia

1:00 p.m. † Elena Núñez Ayala & Julia Galicia Req Familia

**St. Joseph Church**

**December 21, 2025**

**Fourth Sunday In Advent**

**Cuarto Domingo de Adviento**

## From the Desk of Fr. Leo ●

Let us focus our attention on the figure of Saint Joseph, who knows how to walk in darkness, how to hear the voice of God, how to move forward in silence. Saint Matthew (1:18-24): Jesus will be born of Mary, the wife of Joseph, son of David.



Let us imagine Joseph's emotions when the signs of motherhood began to appear in Mary upon their return from Elizabeth's house: the text speaks of the man's doubts, his pain, his suffering, while everyone around him began to murmur. He didn't understand, but he knew that Mary was a woman of God, and so he decided to leave her in silence, not publicly accusing her, until the Lord intervened, through an angel in a dream, who explained to him that the child conceived in her came from the Holy Spirit. And so he believed and obeyed. Joseph struggled within; And in that struggle, the voice of God: "Get up"—that "get up," so often heard at the beginning of a mission in the Bible: "Get up!"—take Mary, take her home. Take charge of the situation: embrace this situation, and go forward." Joseph didn't go to his friends for comfort, nor did he go to a psychiatrist to have his dream interpreted... no: he believed. And he went forward. He took charge of the situation: of fatherhood and of mystery.

Regarding fatherhood, this is already hinted at in the genealogy of Jesus, where it is explained that he was thought to be Joseph's son. He took on a fatherhood that wasn't his own: it came from the Father. And he carried out fatherhood with all that it entailed: not only supporting Mary and the child, but also raising the child, teaching him his trade, guiding him to manhood. "Take charge of the fatherhood that isn't yours, it's God's." And all this without saying a word. Joseph, the man of silence, of silent obedience.

Joseph, the man who "embraces" the mystery of leading the people back to God, the mystery of re-creation which, as the Liturgy says, is more wondrous than Creation. Joseph takes on this mystery and helps: with his silence, with his work, until the moment God calls him to himself. Of this man who took on fatherhood and this mystery, it is said that he was the shadow of the Father: the shadow of God the Father. And if Jesus, the man, learned to say "Papa," "Father," to his Father whom he knew as God, he learned it from life, from the example of Joseph: the man who protects, the man who nurtures growth, the man who carries on all fatherhood and all mystery, but who takes nothing for himself.

May our prayer and devotion to Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary empower us to embrace what happens to us each day.

Fr. Leo

## Del Escritorio de Pd. Leo ●

Fijemos nuestra mirada en la figura de San José, que conoce cómo caminar en la oscuridad, cómo se escucha la voz de Dios, cómo se va adelante en silencio. San Mateo (1,18-24): *Jesús nacerá de María, esposa de José, hijo de David.*

Imaginemos las emociones de José, cuando en María empezaron a ser visibles las señales de la maternidad, al regresar de la casa de Isabel: se habla de las dudas del hombre, de su dolor, de su sufrimiento, mientras todos alrededor empezaban a murmurar. Él no lo entendía, pero sabía que María era una mujer de Dios, y por eso decide dejarla en silencio, no acusando públicamente, hasta que intervino el Señor, con un ángel en sueños, que le explicó que el niño engendrado en Ella venía del Espíritu Santo. Y así creyó y obedeció. José luchaba por dentro; y en esa lucha, la voz de Dios: "*Levántate –ese 'levántate', tantas veces, al inicio de una misión, en la Biblia: '¡Levántate!'*—, toma a María, llévala a tu casa. Hazte cargo de la situación: *asume esta situación, y ve adelante*". José no fue a sus amigos a consolarse, ni fue al psiquiatra para que interpretase el sueño... no: creyó. Y fue adelante. Se hizo cargo de la situación: de la paternidad y del misterio.

De la paternidad, esto se intuye ya en la genealogía de Jesús, donde se explica que se pensaba que era hijo de José. Él se hizo cargo de una paternidad que no era suya: venía del Padre. Y llevó adelante la paternidad con lo que eso significa: no solo sostener a María y al niño, sino también hacer crecer al niño, enseñarle el oficio, llevarlo a la madurez de hombre. "*Hazte cargo de la paternidad que no es tuya, es de Dios*". Y eso, sin decir una palabra. José, el hombre del silencio, de la obediencia silenciosa.

José, el hombre que "recoge" el misterio de reconducir al pueblo hacia Dios, el misterio de la recreación que, como dice la Liturgia, es más maravillosa que la Creación. José se hace cargo de ese misterio y ayuda: con su silencio, con su trabajo hasta el momento en que Dios lo llama a sí. De este hombre que se ha hecho cargo de la paternidad y del misterio, se dice que era la sombra del Padre: la sombra de Dios Padre. Y si Jesús hombre aprendió a decir "papá", "padre", a su Padre que conocía como Dios, lo aprendió de la vida, del ejemplo de José: el hombre que protege, el hombre que hace crecer, el hombre que lleva adelante toda paternidad y todo misterio, pero que no toma nada para sí.

Que nuestra oración y devoción a José y María Santísima nos empoderen para asumir lo que nos sucede cada día.

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**

4to 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.

### Deanery's Penace Service

Please join us, for penance services here at St Joseph on December 22nd at 4pm.

### Servicio de Penitencia del Decanato

Acompáñenos al servicio de penitencia aquí en San José el 22 de diciembre a las 4pm



**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**COFFEE & DONUTS  
 WILL RETURN  
 JANUARY 11, 2026**

Side Altar Vigil Candle Intentions

**Blessed Virgin Mary: For Intentions Of *George Daleiden***

**St. Joseph: For Intentions Of *George Daleiden***

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 *George Daleiden***

**San José: Para Intenciones De *George Daleiden***

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 21, 2025**  
**Para la Semana de Diciembre 21 2025**

**Sunday • Domingo**

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

**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

**Activities in Our Parish**  
**Actividades en Nuestra Parroquia**

**Sunday, December 21 • Domingo 21 de diciembre**

11:40am—12:40pm Religious Ed / Catecismo  
2:30pm—3:30pm Clases Pre-Bautismales  
6:30pm—8:00pm Posadas

**Monday, December 22 • Lunes 22 de diciembre**

4:00pm—5:00pm Penance Service  
3:00pm—4:00pm Praying the Rosary / Rosario ENG  
6:30pm—8:00pm Posadas

**Tuesday, December 23 • Martes 23 de diciembre**

4:00pm—6:00pm Adoration / Adoración  
6:30pm—8:00pm Posadas

**Wednesday, December 24 • Miércoles 24 de diciembre**

**\*\* Office Is Closed— Christmas Eve**

**Thursday, December 25 • Jueves 25 de diciembre**

**\*\*Office Is Closed— Christmas Day**

**Friday, December 26 • Viernes 26 de diciembre**

**\*\* Office Is Closed**

**Saturday, December 27 • Sábado 27 de diciembre**

7:30am—9:00am Catholic Men / Hombres Católicos

**Sunday, December 28 • Domingo 28 de diciembre**

**\*\* Religious Ed Winter Break**

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

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

**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

**Happy Birthday!!! • ¡Feliz Cumpleaños!**

|                  |                   |                 |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mikayla Eshleman | Duane Vernia      | Mendez          |
| Demetrio         | Maria Alvarez     | Peter           |
| Herrera          | Bravata           | Vanderploeg     |
| Esther Linares   | Hilario De La Paz | Juana Monroy    |
| Paul Okuniewski  | Aline Mejia       | John Petersen   |
| Xiomara Ortiz -  | Florence Martens  | Juan Rodriguez- |
| Ponce            | Eder Cruz         | Medina          |
| Justin Shafer    | Ramirez           |                 |
| Dalira Valadez   | Alejandro         |                 |
| Karen Williams   | Salazar           |                 |
| Jillian Bell     | Robert McCarthy   |                 |
| Elvira Garcia    | Juanita Montoya   |                 |
| Juan Vargas      | Leslie Ramirez    |                 |
| Asencio          | Yenifer Raya-     |                 |

# Lector and Server Schedule

| Date             | Server              | Lector                             |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dec. 20, 4:30pm  | Anne Fish           | George Daleiden                    |
| Dec. 21, 8:30am  | Tony/ Jayden Thomas | Sharon Anderson Western            |
| Dec. 21, 10:30am | Stephanie Thompson  | MT Courtade                        |
| Dec. 21, 1:00pm  | **                  | Emiliano Castillo & Emma Rodríguez |
| Dec. 27, 4:30pm  | James Johnson       | Toni Gross                         |
| Dec. 28, 8:30am  | Katie Jones         | Dave & Donna Barry                 |
| Dec. 28, 10:30am | Dagoberto Castro Jr | Mickey Sykes                       |
| Dec. 28, 1:00pm  |                     | Elizabeth Reyna & Viridiana Rojo   |

## CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS 2025:

Since many of us no longer itemize our charitable donations for tax purposes, St. Joseph Parish will no longer routinely mail all parishioners a statement of their Sunday giving. ***If you would like to receive a tax statement however, please contact us and will happily mail you a complete statement by 01 February 2026.*** In order to be deductible for the tax year 2025, all donations must be received by St. Joseph or be post marked no later than 31 December 2025.

## Our Gifts for God

Week ending in.....12/14/2025

Sunday collection .....

Online Collection .....

Total Offertory Received

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

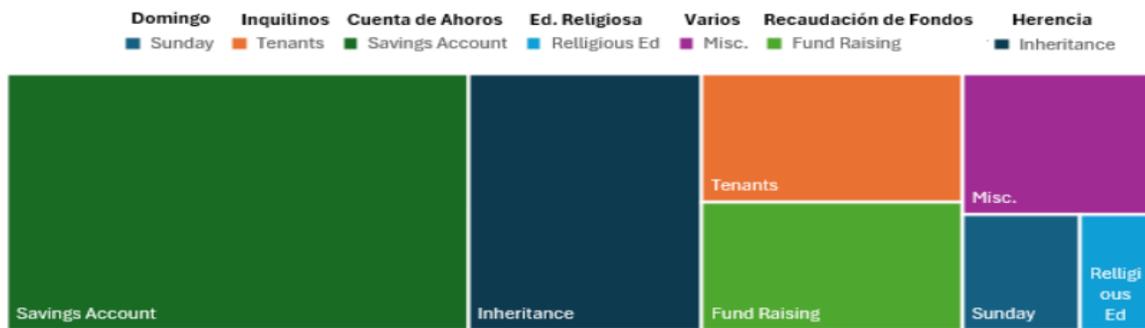
Overage.....

### 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.



## Income Year-to-Date ingresos del año hasta la fecha



## Expenses Year-to-Date gastos del año hasta la fecha



## 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            Lynn North  
Pat Byrne            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            Chuck Caswell  
Geary North  
Roy Valdez  
Pete VanderPloeg  
Dan Barrett  
Jon Holmes  
Eleazar Salas (Junior)  
Ricardo Valdez  
Kyle Elmsblad

**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](mailto:office.stjoekal@gmail.com)  
[www.stjosephkalamazoo.org](http://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](mailto:FatherLeo@stjosephkzoo.org)

### Deacon

Deacon John Ryder, 269-270-5885  
[john.ryder.215@gmail.com](mailto:john.ryder.215@gmail.com)

### Deacon

Deacon Timothy Kistka  
517-617-6513  
[dcn.timkistka@gmail.com](mailto:dcn.timkistka@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Associate & Coordinator of Hispanic Ministry

Sr. Yuliana Rua  
269-343-6256 269-539-8829 Cell  
[hermana.stjoekal@gmail.com](mailto:hermana.stjoekal@gmail.com)

### Bookkeeper

Melanie Saliwanchik, 269-343-6256  
[bookkeeper@stjosephkzoo.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stjosephkzoo.org)

### Parish Secretary

Lupita Lopez, 269-343-6256  
[Lupita.stjoekal@gmail.com](mailto:Lupita.stjoekal@gmail.com)

### Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry

Luza Mastache, 269-343-6256  
[religiouseducation.stjoekal@gmail.com](mailto:religiouseducation.stjoekal@gmail.com)

### Volunteer Music Coordinator

Geary North, 269-343-6256  
[geary.stjoekal@gmail.com](mailto:geary.stjoekal@gmail.com)

### Bulletin Editor

Lupita Lopez, 269-343-6256  
[bulletin.stjoekal@gmail.com](mailto:bulletin.stjoekal@gmail.com)

**Bulletin deadline is 9:00am Monday.**

### Safe Environment Coordinator

Francie Mills, 269-998-6669  
[Safeenvironment@stjosephkzoo.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

*Adams-Redmond Funeral Homes*

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

*Adams-Redmond Funeral Homes*

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.