

Our Lady of Fatima

913 Napoleon Road
Michigan Center, Michigan 49254

Parish Website:
www.fatimaparish.net

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Amal Rayapillai, SdC, Pastor
amalorsdc@gmail.com

Parish Office 764-2088

Linda Weber, Administrative Assistant
linda@fatimaparish.net

Ann Kueffner, Business Manager
accounting@fatimaparish.net

Amy Parrish, Director of Faith Formation
amy@fatimaparish.net

Marie Skrobola, Communications
communications@fatimaparish.net

Kathy Gostola, Music Director
(contact through parish office)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:30 p.m. - Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass: Tue, Thurs & Fri 8:30 a.m., Wed 6:00 p.m.

Holy Days:..... Please see bulletin.

Confessions Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 4:00p.m.

Wednesday 5:00-5:45p.m.

Adoration Wed 5:00-6:00 p.m., Fri 9:00-10:00 a.m.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Welcome! All parishioners should be registered in the Parish. Registration is important for the better care of souls, for the administration of the Sacraments, for sick calls and for administration of the Parish. Registration packets can be found on the Welcome Table in the narthex.

All registered parishioners can receive Offertory Envelopes monthly by mail or give online. Only donations received in an offertory envelope or online will be recorded for tax purposes. The obligation to support the Parish rests on all parishioners.

Parishioners are urged to affiliate themselves with Parish activities and societies.

Those who change address or leave the Parish should notify the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Matrimony:

In an effort to strengthen married life, the Diocese of Lansing has adopted a policy for wedding preparation to begin at the time of engagement. Please contact the Parish Office as soon as you are engaged.

Baptism:

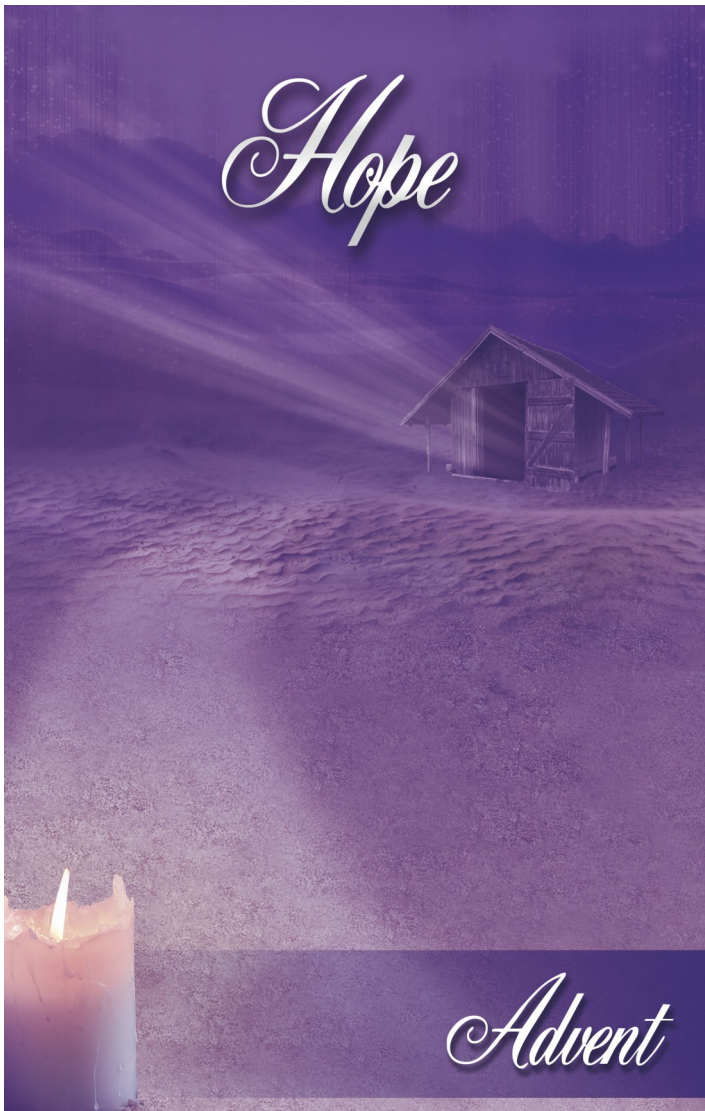
Parents are required to be practicing Catholics and registered members of the parish. Baptism Prep classes are also required.

Ministry To The Sick and Homebound:

If you or a member of your family are hospitalized, homebound or convalescing and wish to be seen by a priest or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, please contact the parish office.

Bulletin Deadline: Monday 12 Noon.

Download our app at myparishapp.com / Follow us on Facebook



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

“Called by the Spirit, Our Lady of Fatima is a loving, caring, sharing, Christian community of the followers of Jesus Christ, practicing discipleship and ministry according to the Good News.”

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning
in memory of
Dorothy Obuchowski
Offered by the Chris & Lee Butler**



FROM FR. AMAL

“Stay awake, for you do not know on which day your Lord will come.”

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year of waiting, expectation, and hope. The word *Advent* means “coming,” and in this sacred season, we prepare our hearts for three comings of Christ: His coming in history at Bethlehem, His coming in mystery through grace each day, and His coming in majesty at the end of time.

The Gospel for this Sunday may surprise us. Instead of a gentle story about Mary or the prophets, we are greeted with a call to vigilance: “Stay awake!” Jesus speaks about the suddenness of the Lord’s coming, comparing it to the days of Noah, when people were eating, drinking, and carrying on with life as usual, unaware of what was about to happen. The message is clear—disciples of Christ must live with hearts alert, ready to recognize and welcome God’s presence at any moment.

Advent is not a season of passive waiting but of *active readiness*. To “stay awake” means more than simply not falling asleep; it means living with awareness, faith, and purpose. It is easy to become numb or distracted by the routines and busyness of life—especially as the world around us rushes toward Christmas with noise and consumption. But Jesus invites us to slow down and pay attention: to notice God’s quiet movements in our lives, to turn our hearts toward His promise of renewal.

Saint Paul, in the second reading (Romans 13:11–14), urges us to “wake from sleep,” for salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. He calls us to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ,” clothing ourselves with light rather than darkness. Advent is therefore a time of conversion—a spiritual awakening. It invites us to examine our lives: What needs to be changed? Where do we need to grow in love, patience, or forgiveness? How can we make room for Christ to dwell more fully in us?

The prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, paints a beautiful vision of peace: nations streaming toward the mountain of the Lord, beating their swords into plowshares, and learning war no more. This is the world Christ came to build—a kingdom of justice, reconciliation, and harmony. Our waiting during Advent is not empty longing but hopeful participation in that vision. Each act of kindness, each prayer, each moment of forgiveness prepares the way for the Lord’s coming.

As we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, we begin this journey of hope. The flame reminds us that even in darkness, God’s light is near. We are called to be people of that light—awake, watchful, and ready to welcome Christ whenever and however He comes.

So, let us begin Advent with hearts open and expectant. The Lord is coming—into our world, into our lives, and into our hearts. Let us stay awake and be ready to receive Him with joy.

Fr. Amal sdc

Sharing Our Treasure—Weekly Offering

Sunday, November 23
NOT AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING

Need help getting set up with online giving?
Call the Parish Office and speak with Ann.

Online Giving
is simple and easy!

SIGN UP TODAY!
www.fatimaparish.net

MASS SCHEDULE / CHURCH CALENDAR**Saturday, November 29th**

3:00-4:00 pm Confessions

3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:30pm Reading of the Deceased K of C members names

4:00 pm Scriptural Rosary

4:30 pm + Deceased members of the K of C #6687

Sunday, November 30th

7:30 am Rosary

8:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:00 am Rosary

10:30 am + Julie Beers (The Kueffner Family)

Tuesday, December 2nd

8:30 am + Dale Fisher (Steve & Ingrid Procvic)

+ Deb Beaudry– 1st Ann. (family)

Wednesday, December 3rd

5:00-6:00 pm Adoration

6:00 pm + Pat & Robert Ziolkowski (Jim & Connie O’Connor)

Thursday, December 4th

8:30 am + Pat Tavalisky (John & Maggie Gilson)

Friday, December 5th

8:30 am + Millie & Bob Warner (family)

9am-10am Adoration

Saturday, December 6th

NO MORNING MASS

Advent Retreat 9am-Noon at Pious Union of St. Joseph

3:00-4:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Rosary

4:30 pm + Ginger Healy (Jim & Connie O’Connor)

Sunday, December 7th

7:30 am Rosary

8:00 am + Dan & Judy Weber (Pat & Linda Weber)

For the People of the Parish

10:00 am Rosary

10:30 am + Tom Stevens (Gods Gals)



The Rosary is prayed before each daily Mass (7:55am) for the intention of the deceased for whom the Mass is being offered that day.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Wednesday’s 5:00pm—6:00 pm

Friday’s 9:00am—10:00am

Come spend some time with Jesus.

PRAYERS NEEDED

Darren Blodgett	Geri King	Carol Schwarts
Nancy Buchin	Dave Laughlin	Jo Smith
Helen Buksar	Ava Lindsay	Ray & Maria Sowa
Rodney Cropsey	Jim Margul	Bill & Laura Stoewer
Lance Cunningham	Pat McGaskey	Carol Stygles
Ruth Daley	Wendy (Schweda)	Terry Stygles
Sandra Dandrow	Oakley	Pam Towler
Chet Eicher	Therri Oberdick	Tom Turner
Dcn. Gene	Frankie Parzych	Bill & Dolores Walsh
Hausmann	Anne Pelton	Bill & Nancy White
Jerry Havens	John Pienta	MaryAnn Wilson
Levitucus	Fr Bob Pienta	Annemarie Wilson
Hawthorne	Debbie Poole	Bob Wolfe
Naomi Hill	Harriet Robb	Rosa Wright
Margie Horsch	Dale Roberts	Chris Zemer
Howard Kaak	Joseph Siller	Don Zenisek

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION



1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
 December 7th ~ Class 9am to 10:15am
 December 21st ~ Class 9am to 10:15am

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FATIMA

30th Ladies Advent Tea at St. Rita 3-5pm
December
 2nd K of C Meeting 7pm
6th Advent Retreat @ Pious Union 9am-Noon
7th Children's Faith Formation Class 9-10:15am
 O.C.I.A. 9-10:15am school library
 Coffee Hour after 8am Mass
8th Holy Day of Obligation Masses 8:30am & 6:00pm
13th Christmas Caroling 1 pm
14th K of C Breakfast 9am
21st Children's Faith Formation Class 9-10:15am
 O.C.I.A. 9-10:15am school library
24th Christmas Eve Masses 4:30pm & Midnight
25th Christmas Day Mass 9:00am
31st Mass 6:00pm
January 1, 2026 New Years Day Mass 9:00am
 Holy Day of Obligation
4th O.C.I.A. 9-10:15am in school library
18th O.C.I.S. 9-10:15am in school library

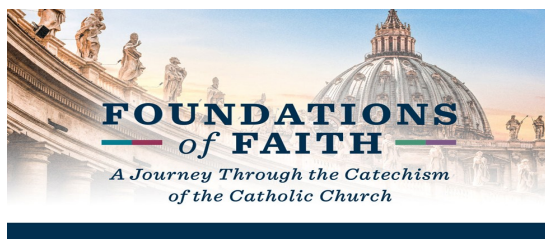


OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

&

ADULT FORMATION



SUNDAY ~ 9-10:15AM
 (see calendar on this page for dates)
 SCHOOL LIBRARY

If you are interested in joining the Church or if you would like to learn more about the Church—this class is for you.
 If you have any questions, please see Amy Parrish or email amy@fatimaparish.net or call the Parish Office 517-764-2088

PILGRIMS OF HOPE—SENIORS GROUP

Thursdays—9 am to 11 am
 in the **St. Clare Room** (next to the Food Pantry)
 (You may enter through the back pantry door or the parish office)
 You are welcome to stay as long as you want to meet with Fr. Amal and other seniors of the parish and together cultivate a deeper relationship with Jesus, play card games, do puzzles, start a book club or simply visit.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Diocese of Lansing Chancery is seeking a Director of Marriage and Family Life Ministry. To learn more about this important role and how to apply, please visit our website at <https://www.dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers>

2025 ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE SCHEDULE

FATIMA	THURS. 12/11	7PM
ST. MARY	SAT. 12/13	10AM
ST. RITA	MON. 12/15	7PM
QUEENS	WED. 12/17	7PM
ST JOHN @ ST. JOSEPH	THURS. 12/18	7PM



Not receiving our monthly newsletter via email? Go to our website and sign up or call the parish office!
 We also have copies on our Welcome Table in the narthex and on our website!



Follow us on **Facebook**
 Daily messages, prayers, and much more!
 Need help?
 Call the parish Office 764-2088

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



Need Assistance? Let us help! Call 764-4180
* * * *

NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

Applesauce, Chunky Soup, Non-Sugary Cereal, Canned Chicken
* * * *

New members are always needed and welcomed!
Our next meeting will be January 18, 2026 due to the holiday basket deliveries.

Please call the parish office 517-764-2088 if you would like more information or have questions!

* * * *

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Please purchase the food items from the non-perishable list below:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 cans chunky soup | 1 box pancake mix |
| 1 bag oyster crackers | 1 small bottle syrup |
| 1 large can Yams | 1 box corn bread mix |
| 1 box cherry jello | 1 bag mini marshmallows |
| 1 can of cream corn | 1 can corn |
| 1 can fruit cocktail | 1 box hot cocoa mix |
| 2 boxes of herb stuffing | 1 box Christmas cookies |

Please place the above items in a bag and return by Sunday, December 14th.

Please call Alicia at 517-745-0104 to volunteer to deliver the baskets on Sunday, December 21st after the 8:00 am Mass in the gym.

Thank you in advance for your generosity, support and prayers!

K of C NEWS



All men of the parish 18 years of age or older who are interested in becoming a Knight or information about the Knights should contact: Jim Daley 734-904-9525 or GK6687@MIKofC.org
* * * *

Mass for the deceased K of C members will be held next Saturday, November 29th —beginning with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm
Names of the deceased Knights will be read and a family member can light a candle in their memory.
All are welcome to join us!



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

How can you help?
Join us from 11/28-12/15 at the Toy Store in the Westwood Mall near J.C. Penny

PARISH LIFE APOSTOLATE

UPCOMING EVENTS....MARK YOU CALENDAR!

November 15 to December 14—**Giving Tree** is up! Take a tag, purchase the gift and return under the tree w/ tag!

December 13—**Christmas Caroling @ 1:00pm** All are invited to come and carol to the neighborhood!

February 14th—**Fabulous Fifties Dinner Dance**
There will be a costume contest! Tickets on sale starting January 10th. \$25/person



MOVED? NEW PHONE NUMBER? LET US KNOW!

We try to keep our census up to date but we need your help!

Please help us by letting us know if your address or phone number has changed. It's simple, call the parish office 517-764-2088 or email Linda @ linda@fatimaparish.net
Thank you!



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Patronal Feastday of the U.S.A.)

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH MASSES 8:30 am & 6:00 pm

JACKSON

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER 2025

#0790 Fr. Tom Helfrich #0549 Jeff & Tina Reese



You are invited to ~ **Veteran Coffee Hour**
Coffee, conversation, connection & comradery
December 6th, 2025
11:00am to 12:00pm

Queen of the Miraculous Medal Church—Vincetian Hall

Enter thru double doors from parking lot behind the church.
Questions? Call or text Jennifer Simmons @ 517-513-1004

CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF ST. GEORGE

Advent Choir Concert

Date: Thursday, December 4, 2025 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Location: St. Mary Star of the Sea Church

Please join us for an evening of Lessons and Carols, led by the Chesterton Academy of St. George Choir!

Summary of Our Lady of Fatima Parish Council Meeting-Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025

- Father Amal and Parish Council met and welcomed several guests to the meeting. Members in attendance included Jim O’Sullivan, Deb Dickinson, Gretchen Walter, Greg Loveland, Amy Parrish and Cathy Palte. Guests included Bill Roller, Jim Daley, Tom Zenisek, and Trent Aiuto.
- Jim O’Sullivan as new Chair of Parish Council, thanked Carol Stygles for her many years of faithful service.
- Parish Life Apostolate had a successful Trunk or Treat event, with roughly 150 community members attending. The giving tree is up in the Narthex, with 170 gift tags. The group looks forward to Christmas Caroling on December 13 @ 1pm and hosting a Valentine’s Dinner Dance which will be 1950’s/1960’s themed on February 14th.
- Religious education and OCIA classes started in September. There are 35 students and 3 OCIA candidates. All are welcome to attend OCIA classes.
- St. Vincent de Paul volunteers worked hard to prepare over 60 Thanksgiving baskets, which will be delivered to community members on November 23. Thank you to all who donated food.
- Safety & Security Council formed an Emergency Response Team (ERT). An initial training session was held, and a second training session will be held soon. There are enough ERT volunteers to have at least 2 members present at each Mass and parish event.
- The parish plans to implement a new protocol of locking church outer doors after the start of Mass in order to keep everyone safe inside. Once we have a plan in place, an announcement will be made during Mass.
- Parish survey responses were discussed. While responses were mostly positive, some feedback was given on various topics including: welcoming visitors and new parishioners; the sound system; Bible study groups; parish communications; children’s liturgy; and a young mother’s group. Fr. Amal will share with the parishioners the initiatives.
- Commitment weekend for the Stewardship for Saints and Scholars campaign is November 22-23
- October Count-2023 (372), 2024 (381), 2025 (401)
- OLF Corporation Meeting was held on 10/21
- Annual Report is in the mail
- Contact information in census needs updating

The next Parish Council meeting will be February 17, 2026 at 7:00 pm.
All are welcome to attend.

We’re excited to offer Formed—a gift from the parish so you can access high-quality, Catholic formation.

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Scan QR code or go to Formed.org/signup
Enter your parish zip code or parish name
Enter your name and email

FROM THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE