

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Dexter, MI

CHIPS & SAWDUST



APRIL / MAY 2021



The Joy of the Resurrection

For over a year we have learned to live differently. The health pandemic has made us step back, stop, think, and look, and begin to live differently. When we think about Jesus' life it was a mission to call us to step back, stop and look, and a call to live differently. He came to teach us how to give and forgive, how to love and serve, how to work for justice and peace, and how to have attitudes of compassion and acceptance. It was a call to change. The pandemic has been a call to change. It has been a challenge, to step back and to create space. It has given us opportunities to stop and look at how we are living and what is essential. We have learned to live differently with social distancing and masks, online shopping, and home delivery. At Easter we embrace the joy of the resurrection, our new life with Jesus Christ. His resurrection is our light, our hope, our healing, and our peace. We give thanks for this new direction brought to us by Jesus - a direction of kindness and compassion, love and acceptance, a direction of new life.

A Call to Comeback

Our Bishop Earl Boyea has announced the end of the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Effective on Pentecost Sunday, May 23 all Catholics are encouraged to return to weekly Mass attendance. Certainly if you have health concerns you are not obligated to put your health at risk and can continue to participate in Mass online.

Festival

It is our hope to hold an abbreviated parish Festival weekend of activities on August 27 and 28. We will have movie night on Friday. A car show and crafters in the open air on Saturday along with kids entertainment and an evening concert for adults. On Sunday a chicken dinner with socially spaced tables and chairs, entertainment, and the parish raffle. Mark your calendars for a fun weekend of parish activities. It will be an invitation to come home.

Shalom,
Fr. Brendan J. Walsh



PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

We are just completing our 40 day Lenten journey and will be celebrating the resurrection of the Lord, such a great gift to us. Hopefully our spiritual life grew deeper and our relationships to the Lord became more personal during this journey.

The Church gives us so many ways to nourish our faith and spiritual life: when we participate in the Mass, receive the sacraments, hear and study His word, receiving the most Holy Eucharist, becoming a servant, giving to the charities, and volunteering where needed. These all help us grow strong spiritually. As Christ gave us new life through his resurrection, I think of spring as a resurrection of nature - the beauty of God's creation.

Our parish properties and grounds require much nourishment and many hands to keep the beauty of God's gift to us looking good and taken care of. I have been volunteering and working on many areas of the grounds since the first plantings at the new church. I work on the village grotto garden and the grounds clean ups. It has brought me many blessing, I have met many wonderful people and great friendships have evolved.

The parish has scheduled grounds cleanup days for members to come and experience the nourishment of community by participating in one or more of the planned clean ups. Please pray about coming out to help at one or more of the grounds cleanup days - He wants you to volunteer and share the gifts He has given you. If we have many volunteers it should take less than two hours.

Grounds Cleanup Dates

Village Church Grounds - April 17 at 8am (rain date May 8)
Country Church Grounds - April 24 at 8am (rain date May 15)
Cemetery Grounds - May 22 at 8am (rain date May 29)

If you are interested or would like more information about participating on the Properties Commission, to meet quarterly to discuss repairs and work that needs to be done at either campus, please contact me at 734-320-6201. This commission is open to all men and women of the parish that like to work with their hands.

I thank the Lord for all those who have given up their time and shared their gifts over the years and I can't wait to get started again this spring. I thank the Lord for His that He has given me. Be still and hear the Lords call.

Barb Doster

Pastoral Council Nominations

The Pastoral Council is a consultative leadership body representing the entire parish. Working together with our pastor, Fr. Brendan Walsh, this Council provides critical guidance, support and vision for the pastoral activity of the parish and aids in the establishment of policies and procedures. It is important that we have a Council that is representative of the make-up of our Parish. All parishioners, long-timers, short-timers and new parishioners are welcomed as nominees.

We are asking all parishioners to seriously reflect upon serving on our Parish Pastoral Council. This year four members will be selected to serve for three years, one member to serve one year, and two alternates will be chosen to serve on the Council if needed. The selection process for Council candidates begins the weekend of April 24/25 when nomination ballots will be distributed at each Mass. Parishioners will be asked to submit nominations – either themselves or someone else.

Nominees will be contacted and asked to attend an evening of discernment on Thursday, May 13, we will observe social spacing guidelines and masks will be required. Council members will share the roles and duties of the Council. Those parishioners who accept the nomination will be included in a “selection by lot” to be held at the 5pm Mass during the Vigil Mass of Pentecost on Saturday, May 22.

This is a very important group that provides counsel and guidance on the critical decisions here at St. Joseph Parish. Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide and enlighten you in this very important commitment to the spiritual and pragmatic needs of St. Joseph Parish.

Caritas Committee - Nominations for Membership

It is time to appeal to you, members of the St. Joseph Parish family, to identify candidates to serve on the Caritas Committee. The candidate could be you or someone else whom you believe would be a good steward and sensitive to the needs of those around them.

The Caritas Committee is composed of nine people as well as representatives from the Pastoral and Finance Councils and a staff liaison. Members of this committee research and recommend possible recipients, and present the Caritas Sunday appeals on their behalf. The Committee monitors the collection results and reports the amounts distributed via bulletin and *Chips and Sawdust* articles.

On the weekend of May 1/2, we are seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the Committee. Serving on Caritas is a great way to get to know people in the parish and to become more informed about the needs and services in our community. Please consider nominating yourself or someone whom you feel would be a good candidate.

All nominees will be invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday, May 12, for an evening of discernment to learn more about serving on the Committee. Three new committee members will be chosen by lot to serve 3-year terms, and two individuals will be selected to serve one-year terms as alternates. at the 5pm Mass on Pentecost eve, Saturday, May 22.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this worthwhile ministry.

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| <p align="center">St. Joseph Parish</p> <p align="center">Pastoral Council</p> <p align="center">I would like to nominate:</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>Nomination for: Self: _____ Other: _____</p> <p>Candidates must be at least 18 years old, confirmed, and a registered member of the Parish.</p> | <p align="center">St. Joseph Parish</p> <p align="center">Caritas Committee</p> <p align="center">I would like to nominate:</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>Nomination for: Self: _____ Other: _____</p> <p>Candidates must be at least 18 years old, confirmed, and a registered member of the Parish.</p> |
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Easter: Getting the Big Picture

The music ministry exists to help all who worship at St. Joseph grow as disciples of Christ, especially through music.

How do you celebrate Easter? For most of us, church is only part of the celebration. Children enjoy baskets of treats; many people gather with family or friends to share a festive meal.

In a typical year, I'd invite you to come to Easter Sunday Mass and the liturgies of the Triduum (the Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil). To help keep people safely spaced, this year we've had to take reservations for the Easter Sunday Masses. If you've not yet registered, check at stjos.com and see if spaces are still available. We'd be glad to see you in person if you can make it, and to have you pray along with our recorded Mass if you can't (you'll find a link to this at stjos.com, too).

The liturgies leading up to Easter have historically been more lightly attended, so no reservations are needed for these. If you've never been to these liturgies, this is a great year to do so. Come to the evening Mass on Holy Thursday, recalling Jesus's Last Supper with his closest friends. Come back on Good Friday for the Dexter ecumenical service (which we're hosting this year), or for the evening Liturgy of the Lord's Passion—witness Jesus's death on the cross, his self-sacrifice for our sake. And especially, come back for the Easter Vigil on Saturday night, to hear the history of our salvation for creation to the empty tomb, and to rejoice as thirteen people join the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. The Vigil is easily the longest Mass of the year, clocking in at over two hours, and also the richest. Bring your children (in pajamas, if it seems wise!). The Vigil is about telling the story of our salvation, just as we have told stories around campfires (and before that, regular fires) for centuries. Every year there are little ones at the Vigil, and they can engage with it just as deeply as the adults.

Not yet getting out to Mass? On Holy Thursday, wash the feet of a family member at home, following Christ's example of loving service. On Good Friday, spend some time in prayer before a cross or crucifix, remembering Christ's example of self-emptying love. On the night before Easter, light a candle, remembering that Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can extinguish.

I promise you that if you participate in any or all of these preparatory days, whether at St. Joseph or at home, your experience of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday will mean even more to you. It will nurture your faith throughout the year to come.

Steve Kasperick - Postellon

The Rite of Election, Christ the King Church in Ann Arbor, for those in the RCIA process who will be baptized, confirmed and receive Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

The Call to Continuing Conversion for those who are already baptized and will be making a Profession of Faith, be confirmed and receive Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.



High School Youth Group (Mustard Seed)


Below are the scheduled Mustard Seed Youth Group meetings for April and May. We will meet in the Parish Center from 6-8pm. If we are unable to meet because of the Covid-19 restrictions then we will meet virtually from 6-7:30pm.

- ◆ April 4— NO youth group meeting (Easter)
- ◆ April 11 — leadership at 4:30 before youth group
- ◆ April 17—Spring Retreat (no meeting on April 18)
- ◆ April 25—youth group meeting
- ◆ May 2—youth group meeting
- ◆ May 9 —NO youth group meeting (Mother's Day)
- ◆ May 16—youth group meeting
- ◆ May 23—youth group meeting
- ◆ May 30—No youth group meeting (Memorial Day)

Confirmation News

- ◆ April 4—No class (Easter)
- ◆ April 11—Confirmation class with sponsor/mentor (The Mass, part 5) last session
- ◆ April 17—Confirmation Retreat
- ◆ May 22—Cemetery clean up from 8am to noon

Check email, Google Classroom and weekly bulletin for upcoming service hours.

 CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES! Our traditional **Graduation Mass** will be held **Sunday, May 16** at the **11:00am** Liturgy, followed by a reception at the Pavilion for the **2021 Graduates** and their immediate families. Seniors will sit with their family in the pew of your choice. If you have not yet done so, please **RSVP** by returning the RSVP card you received in the mail to the parish office or in the collection basket by **Sunday, May 9, 2021** or by calling the office at 426-2674 by **May 10**. If you did not receive an invitation in the mail and you are graduating from high school this year, please call Don or Darlene at 426-2674.

We ask for the Junior Class (youth and parents) to help in preparing the reception at the Pavilion. Please call 426-2674 by **May 10** or sign up on the sign up genius that was emailed to you; assuring you of your own special Mass and reception next year!



St. Joseph Parish and Caritas Committee Catholic Build '21



Every other year, the Catholic parishes in Washtenaw County (St. Joseph Dexter, St. Mary Chelsea, St. Francis of Assisi Ann Arbor and St. Thomas the Apostle Ann Arbor) help support the refurbishment of a Habitat for Humanity home for a deserving family. This project not only offers us an opportunity to share our treasure but our time and talent as well. Yes, we are invited to actually help refurbish this home.

Habitat for Humanity homes ARE NOT "FREE." Applicants must have the ability to pay a nominal down payment and take offered courses in home ownership, budget management and home repair. Each adult must also volunteer at least 250 hours helping on one of the Habitat for Humanity homes (theirs or someone else's). They are granted a low interest mortgage which they repay. That money can then be used to help finance someone else's home. The homes are updated with energy savings and safety as top priorities.

St. Joseph Parish will support this 2021 project in several ways. First, this will be the focus charity for the May 2021 Caritas collection, taken the weekend of May 29/30. Parishioners may also contribute additional funds through the parish, or where possible, building materials, paint, etc. Second, we have reserved Saturday, May 22 as HABITAT CATHOLIC BUILD '21 ST. JOSEPH VOLUNTEER DAY. Other dates will also be available. You don't have to be a builder to help. Jobs range from cleaning up brush and lawn work to helping frame a garage, work on walls or paint. Safety and COVID guidelines will be in place. Third, for those in our parish who are skilled builders or trades experts, arrangements can be made for you to contact the construction manager to find out when they need the specific expertise you can offer.

So, mark your calendars for May 22. Plan to be as generous as you can for the May Caritas collection. Have fulfilling fun – ask a friend to join you, put on a hard hat and a mask, and help a deserving family. Watch the parish newsletters and bulletins for more information about that family. Volunteers can get more information or register to help at <http://www.h4h.org/catholicbuild>. If you can't make the 22nd, other Fridays and Saturdays in May and June are available. For more information, call Leah Borst at Habitat (734-882-2004) or Caritas member Keith Gallagher at 313-530-3599.



Growing in God!

We can't wait to spend some time with the women of our parish once again! In order to do that we have postponed our day until April 17. We have also shortened the day to a 12:30 – 4:30 pm time frame. We will be meeting in the Country Church with all the safety precautions necessary to keep everyone safe. Mark your calendar! Go to our website, www.stjos.com and click on the News & Events button to register.



It is Coming together!

We all hope that the 2021 St Joseph Festival will be an opportunity to reunite in community fun after the challenges we have endured during the past year. For the past few months, the Festival leadership team has been determining how to safely host our Festival this year.

Festival dates will be August 27, 28, and 29. On Friday night, rather than a concert, we will be enjoying an Outdoor Family Movie Night... so bring your blankets and portable chairs!

Saturday starting at noon the Classic Car Show will be on display, an expanded Arts and Craft Village will be open for browsing, and the K of C Soccer Challenge and Free Throw Contest will be conducted. Concurrently "Magic Joe the Magician" and "Wild Safari" will present family entertainment on stage under the Big Tent. At 5:00 pm we will pray our first Holy Mass outdoors. Saturday evening entertainment will feature "Three Men and a Tenor".

Sunday, beginning at noon, the Knights of Columbus will offer up everyone's favorite K of C Chicken Dinner and the Arts and Craft Village will be open. Entertainment will be provided by our own "From Grace". The Festival will wrap up at 3:00 pm with the Large Raffle Awards Presentation. As always there will be food and refreshments under the Pavilion. It is going to be a great parish party!

Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundation of Catholicism

Wednesdays 7-8:30 pm or
Thursdays 9-10:30 am

Have you ever been unable to explain the "why" of Catholic beliefs? Have you stumbled when trying to describe the Scriptural roots of our Catholic faith? If you answered "yes," then *Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism* may be the study just for you.

Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism, led by Sonja Corbitt, is an apologetic approach to sharing the Catholic Faith using the Old Testament Tabernacle as a blueprint for God's plan. In this faith-sharing Scripture study, you will gain an understanding of some of the most questioned Catholic teachings. *Fulfilled* will reignite your love of Scripture and help you share and defend the Catholic Faith with the Word of God.

Part Two (April 7-8 to May 19-20) focuses on the elements found in the inner sanctuary of the Tabernacle and how they connect to the Magisterium, the Eucharist, incense, Mary, and more.

Cost: Part II only - \$25—contact the parish office.

Troop 456 News

The Troop has been holding "zoom" meetings and adhering to BSA COVID protocols at all activities. We participated in three service projects December through February. Mr. Demerath, Assistant Scoutmaster, led the Christmas decoration setup and take down activity at the Church and Mr. Potsos, the Scoutmaster, led the Troop in the third service project which was devoted to picking up trash along Mill Creek. The major outing during February was a long weekend campout at Tahquamenon State Park. Shown here are the participants at one of the Park observation points. We celebrated the advancement of two more members to the rank of Eagle Scout. This constitutes the 19th and 20th member of Troop 456 to reach this rank. Long term plans are being made for a significant summer outing to Glacier National Park in Montana. If you are interested in joining the troop as a Scout or Adult volunteer contact Herb Reich (Charter Org. Representative) 734 369 4916 or Pete Potsos (Scoutmaster) 734 355 8729. Information about the troop and upcoming events can be found at the troop website **url: dextertroop456.org**





This year marks a special milestone in the life of Knights of Columbus Dexter council 2959. We are celebrating our 75th anniversary. The council was founded on March 17, 1946. To celebrate, the supreme council has issued a 75th anniversary plaque. On May 30, the date of our next corporate com-

munion Mass at 9 am, there will be a special ceremony. The State Deputy, Walter J Winkle Jr., will be on hand to present the plaque to our council. This is a very special and unique event, as usually other state officers perform these tasks, but the top man in the state himself wanted to do this honor. We at council 2959 thank all the parishioners and families throughout all the 75 years for your support of our council. I am sure all of my predecessors before me would agree that without your support our work would not have been possible. **Vivat Jesus!**

Andy Toma, Grand Knight

Giving Garden



A huge thanks to the efforts of many volunteers who helped the Giving Garden have a most remarkable 2020 season despite the COVID 19 pandemic. We harvested and donated nearly 1,000 pounds of produce to Faith in Action and to the Northfield Township Community and Senior Center. This

garden is a dynamic example of our parish commitment to respond to the needs of others.

"When I was hungry you fed me" Mt 25:35

We welcome you to join us in this ministry. Our spring meeting is planned for Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00. Please contact Bob Gansen gansenr@gmail.com by April 18 for an invitation to this virtual meeting.

Plant Sale Canceled for 2021

Due to the pandemic and for the safety of our volunteers and those participating, we have decided to cancel the spring plant sale. We continue to pray for an increase in vaccinations and a decrease in the spread of the virus.

In Loving Memory

*May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Patrick Thomas Flaherty

George Hellner

Rose Mary Ann Baron Vecchio

Sheila Grace Clegg

Richard David Woods

Richard Lee Gibson

Robert Hlavacek

Sharon Sears

Welcome to Our New Parishioners

All are welcome in this place.

Sally Honton Telfer

*Mark & Mary Ellis
Noah*

B. Thomas & Paula O'Brien

Baptized into the Family of God

*You are God's work of art,
created in Jesus the Christ.*

Adelaide Claire Urban

Daughter of Michael & Katherine (Roxbury) Urban

Dear St. Joseph Parish...

January 13, 2021

We are grateful for your recent gift of \$1,456. Thank you! Your support helps us to provide the comprehensive and meaningful service that makes a real difference in the lives of those in need. Your generosity means so much – especially to the people we serve!

Sincerely,
Peg Bravo, RN, BSN, Ma
President & CEO, Catholic Social Services

January 29, 2021

Thank you for the donation of \$5,049 from December 2020. This is an amazing gift to our organization.

We have pivoted in great and small ways in order to continue to assist our clients with essential needs during the covid-19 pandemic. We currently take shopping appointments, do health checks at building entry points, provide free masks and sanitizer, and arrange curbside pickup or home delivery when needed. Staff have provided consistent and critical services to people who continued to call or visit our building from day one of this global pandemic.

Sheri Montoyo
Director, Faith in Action



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www.stjos.com (website)
info@stjos.com (email)
St. Joseph Catholic Parish, Dexter Michigan
(facebook)

WEEKEND LITURGIES
COUNTRY CHURCH
6805 Mast Rd. Dexter, MI
 Saturday: 5:00pm; Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am
WEEKDAYS in Village Church
3430 Dover St. , Dexter, MI
 Liturgy: Monday through Friday at 8:15am
 Communion Service: First Monday of the month
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
 Saturday: 4:00–4:30pm or by appointment



Holy Thursday—April 1
 Mass at 7PM—Country Church

Good Friday—April 2
 Ecumenical Service at 12:15PM—Country Church
 Catholic Service at 7PM—Country Church

Easter Vigil—April 3
 Mass at 8PM(3 hours) —Country Church

Easter Sunday—April 4
 Masses at 8AM, 10AM , 12PM—Country Church
Call the Parish Office for Easter Mass Reservations