

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Chips & Sawdust

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2024



From Vision
To
Construction



ST. JOSEPH PARISH
 3430 Dover Street
 Dexter, Michigan 48130

734-426-8483 (Voice) 734-426-6451 (Fax)
 734-426-2674 (Religious Education)

www.stjos.com (website)

info@stjos.com (email)

St. Joseph Catholic Parish, Dexter Michigan (facebook)

WEEKEND LITURGIES

Saturday: 5:00pm; Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am

WEEKDAYS in Village Church

Liturgy: Monday through Friday at 8:15am
 Communion Service: First Monday of the month at 8:15am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00–4:30pm or by appointment

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Brendan Walsh	Pastor
Romolo Leone	Senior Deacon
Randy Desrochers	Deacon
Larry Deford	Deacon
John Goff	Deacon
Laura McKenzie	Administrative Assistant
Gail Assenmacher	Capital Campaign/Office Assistant
Darlene Cresson	Faith Formation Secretary
Lisa Dobis	Finance
Steve Hinz	Director of Music & Liturgy
Don Dalgleish	Co-Director for Faith Formation
Marinell High	Co-Director of Faith Formation
Tyler Hochrein	Youth Minister
Laurie Miller	Sunday & Tuesday Faith Formation Coordinator
Jim Burns	Wednesday Faith Formation Coordinator
Jeanette Westermann	Sacramental Prep Coordinator
April Clark	Catechesis for the Good Shepherd
Liz Neil	Cemetery
Erich McElroy	Village Campus Maintenance
Chris Hollis	Country Campus Maintenance
Gary Fradette	Cemetery Grounds
Anthony Fradette	Cemetery Grounds

2023-2023 PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fr. Brendan Walsh	Pastor
Randy Desrochers	Deacon
Larry Deford	Deacon
Laura McKenzie	Staff Liaison

Member

Gary Hunter
 Renye Meah
 Clay Cramer
 Kelly Kubicki
 Terry McCreight
 Haley Baur
 Ann Smart
 Gwen Evich
 Tim Kuzma
 Jim Davis
 Bob Deacon
 Dan Roycroft

Commission Liaison

Chair
 Vice Chair & Youth Formation
 Finance
 Youth Faith Formation
 Parish Life
 New Parishioner Contact
 Spiritual Life & Worship
 Properties
 Caritas
 Festival
 Adult Faith Formation
 Charitable Activities & Social Justice

COMMISSIONS and ACTIVITIES

Commission

Finance
 Worship
 Charitable Activities
 & Social Justice
 Parish Life
 Caritas
 Education— Children & Youth
 Adult Faith Formation

Chair

Lisa Dobis
 Fr. Brendan Walsh
 Randy Desrochers
 Marinell High
 Sally Telfer & Brian Barna
 Don Dalgleish
 Marinell High

Activity

Bulletin and *Chips* Editor
 Growing in God
 Building the
 Brotherhood of Christ
 DeWitt Retreat
 Men's Retreat
 Women's Retreat
 Faith Formation (Pre-K7-8)
 Festival
 Festival
 Giving Garden
 God Squad (Gr. 7-8)
 Knights of Columbus
 Columbus Ladies Auxiliary
 Life Teen Youth Group (Gr.9-12)
 Music Ministry
 RCIA
 Scouting (Troop 456)

Chair

Laura McKenzie
 Marinell High
 Marinell High
 Joe Prochaska
 Ann Smart
 Don Dalgleish
 Kurt Assenmacher
 Ken Sample
 Rodger & Linda Cook
 Tyler Hochrein
 Bert Wagner
 Marilyn Dehring
 Tyler Hochrein
 Steve Hinz
 Marinell High
 Matthew Demerath

Our Mission

As members of the family of God, we of St. Joseph Parish, Dexter, in the Diocese of Lansing, believe we are called to be people of faith and prayer, to celebrate the sacraments, and to live the Word. We commit ourselves to being warm and welcoming, responding to each other's needs and to the needs of the community by sharing our gifts and talents.

Weekend Liturgies and Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays are at the Country Church, 6805 Mast Road, (corner of N. Territorial and Mast), in Dexter. The Disciple House is also at this location.
 The Village Church, Parish Center, Parish Office, Mary's Room Joseph's Room and Church Basement are located on the Village Campus at 3430 Dover, in Dexter.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



I Love You with Ashes

This year Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day. We give up chocolate and put ashes on our forehead to witness we are Catholic Christians and remind ourselves to repent, to turn from sin, to witness the Gospel message of love. So give your sweethearts your gift of love in chocolate a day early or a day late. Receive your ashes and wear them with pride because we are grateful for the love of Jesus.

Lenten Mission

Come Receive the Living God: A Mission on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

Our Lenten Mission in partnership with St. Mary will be with Fr. Matthew Bonk. Fr. Matt will be at St. Joseph Parish to preach at our Masses on the weekend of February 17 & 18. Our Mission will be held at 7pm on February 25, 26 and 27 at St. Mary in Chelsea. Please mark your calendars.

Lenten Activities

In this Chips and Sawdust you will find our list of Lenten activities here at St. Joseph. These include our Lenten Food Collection for Catholic Social Services, Friday Night Stations of the Cross, communal and individual Reconciliation times, St. Joseph Feast Day Mass on March 19 at 7pm, the Easter Egg Hunt, and Blessing of Easter Food.

The Love of Easter

This year Holy Week is the last week of March. A time to remember Jesus' love for us. He gives his life on the cross out of love to forgive our sins. He dies and rises to win for us the peace of Heaven.

DSA

Lent is when we are once again asked to support the good Catholic works of our Diocese of Lansing. This year's theme is "The Offering of the Just Enriches the Altar". This theme reminds us that our gifts and offerings of sacrifice help enrich the work of our faith which is guided and strengthened by the Eucharist which we receive from our altar at Mass.

We will begin this annual support drive the weekend of March 2/3. Last year our goal was \$110,661 and we received gifts and pledges of \$148,563. This year our parish goal is \$121,176. We have faithfully reached our goal in the past; I am confident we can do our part again.

May our Lenten journey be a time of growth in faith, love, and sacrifice.

Shalom,
Fr. Brendan J. Walsh

PASTORAL COUNCIL NOTES

The Pastoral Council has been busy working on a strategic plan for the parish, per the 'Healthy Parishes' initiative within the Diocese of Lansing. In early January, leadership from parishes in the dioceses met to discuss three major priorities for our parish, and to identify two time-bounded goals for each priority. More details on these priorities & goals, and the plans for each will be provided in the near future.

February and March is a special time for the Catholic Church, starting with Lent and culminating with Easter, where we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord. Ash Wednesday is the start of the 40-day season of Lent. The 40-day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. The readings on Ash Wednesday emphasize **returning to the Lord with your whole heart through prayer, almsgiving, and fasting**. We are children of God, and I suggest that you make an effort to renew your faith during Lent.

For the first time since 1945, Ash Wednesday occurs on St. Valentine's day. Please remember that you can't spell valentines without 'lent', so do your best to incorporate prayer, fasting and charity when doing something special with your sweetheart for Valentine's Day, and throughout the Lenten season.

The Lenten season culminates with Holy Week in the last days in March, starting with Palm Sunday and concluding on Easter Sunday. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Use the Lenten season to recognize God's grace at work in your life, and how it positively impacts your relationship with Him, with your loved ones, and with others in our community.

God Bless you and your family, *Bob Deacon, Pastoral Council*



Reconciliation will be available at 3:30pm on all Saturdays during Lent

Ash Wednesday, February 14	Mass and distribution of Ashes 8:15am Village Church and 7:00pm Country Church Service with Ashes at 12:15pm in the Village Church
Friday, February 16	Stations of the Cross, Country Church, 7:00pm
February 17	Building the Brotherhood of Christ, Men's Day of Renewal, Parish Center, 9:00am
February 17/18	Lenten Collection - Paper Products
Friday, February 23	Stations of the Cross, Country Church, 7:00pm
February 24/25	Lenten Collection - Personal Care Products

Come Receive The Living God: A Mission on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

February 25	Mission with Fr. Matthew Bonk at St. Mary, Chelsea, 7:00pm
February 26	Mission with Fr. Matthew Bonk at St. Mary, Chelsea, 7:00pm
February 27	Mission with Fr. Matthew Bonk at St. Mary, Chelsea, 7:00pm

Friday, March 1	Stations of the Cross, Country Church, 7:00pm
March 2/3	Lenten Collection - Dry Goods
Monday, March 4	Communal Reconciliation Service, St. Andrew, Saline, 7:00pm
Tuesday, March 5	Communal Reconciliation Service, St. Joseph Country Church, 7:00pm
Wednesday, March 6	Communal Reconciliation Service, St. Mary, Chelsea, 7:00pm
Thursday, March 7	Communal Reconciliation Service, St. Mary, Manchester, 7:00pm
Friday, March 8	Stations of the Cross, Country Church, 7:00pm
Saturday, March 9	Growing in God, Ladies Day of Renewal, Parish Center, 8:00am
March 9/10	Lenten Collection - Canned Goods
Friday, March 15	Stations of the Cross, Country Church, 7:00pm
March 16/17	Lenten Collection—Cleaning Products Anointing of the Sick after all Masses
Tuesday, March 19	Feast of St. Joseph, Village Church, 8:15am, Country Church, 7:00pm
Friday, March 22	Stations of the Cross, Country Church, 7:00pm
Saturday, March 23	Individual Reconciliation, Village Church, 10-11am
March 23/24	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Country Church, 5:00pm, 9:00am & 11:00am
Tuesday, March 26	Individual Reconciliation, Village Church, 12noon—1:00pm
Wednesday, March 27	Individual Reconciliation, Village Church, 7:00-8:00pm

HOLY WEEK

Thursday, March 28	Mass of the Lord's Supper, Country Church, 7:00pm Prayer in the Garden of Repose, Country Church, 8:30pm-11:00pm
Friday, March 29	Dexter Ecumenical Good Friday Service, 12:15pm, St. Joseph, Country Church Catholic Prayer of the Lord's Passion, Country Church, 7:00pm
Saturday, March 30	Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Family Event Committee & the Dexter Knight of Columbus 12:30pm Country Church Campus, Festival Grounds Blessing of Easter Food Baskets, Country Church, 1:00pm Easter Vigil, Country Church, 8:00pm
Sunday, March 31	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Country Church, 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you...and the King will say to them in reply, “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:37,40.



Thank you for your generous support of our December Caritas collection. We are blessed to support Delonis Center, helping the organization provide shelter, food, and transportation to homeless persons.

Our next Caritas weekend will be March 16/17. St Joseph Parish has pledged \$5,000 in support of Huron River Methodist's April "Feed My Starving Children" meal preparation drive. "Feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit" is the mission of Feed My Starving Children. FMSC is a Christian non-profit organization which coordinates the packing of nutritious "MannaPack" meals and distribution to malnourished children in more than 70 countries around the world. More than 90% of total donations are spent directly on meal production.

In addition to financial support, St Joseph Parish volunteers will be able to sign up closer to the date to help package individual meals. This event will take place on April 6.

On behalf of the Caritas Committee, thank you in advance for sharing the fruits of your labor to feed God's children.

The Bible and the Sacraments

Based on Scott Hahn's book

"Swear to God: The Power and Promise of the Sacraments"

Video Presentation by Matthew Leonard



What makes a sacrament a sacrament? How are sacraments different from other Catholic rituals or sacramentals? Why do Catholics recognize seven sacraments while most Protestant denominations generally recognize only two? What effects do the sacraments have on Catholic believers and how do they lead us to eternal salvation?

As we embark on the third year of the Eucharistic Revival of the Church, join us in exploring the biblical foundations of the Eucharist and all seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. Join us in this 11-Week study where we will spend three weeks on the Eucharist who is Christ Himself; and a week each on the other six sacraments, which are the works of Jesus Christ which point to Him in our Church today. Also, learn how Old Testament rituals and events foreshadowed the sacraments of the New Testament.

STUDY SESSIONS

Wednesday 7-8:30 pm February 21 to May 8 or Thursday 9-10:30 am February 22 to May 9

St. Joseph Parish Center | Corner of Dover & 3rd Street

Study Book + Streaming Video Access \$25

Supplemental Book (Optional) "Swear to God" \$25

Thursday morning daycare provided.

Open to all ages 18 and over

Questions? Call/text/email:

Denise Muir 517-861-6390 dsmuir@chartermi.net

Maggie Hansma 313-815-6450 maggaloots@aol.com



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

COME IN FAITH. LEAVE WITH HOPE.

God hears our prayers for the renewal of our Church. He will answer them through a life-changing transformation of our own hearts. The 10th National Eucharistic Congress is an invitation to experience profound personal revival so we can be sent out to share Christ's love with a world that so desperately needs it. Speakers and presenters include: Bishop Robert Barron, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Matt Maher, Dr. Ed Sri, Chris Stefanick, and so many more. For more information use the QR code. **Indianapolis, IN—July 17-21, 2024.**



Ed Sri, Chris Stefanick, and so many more. For more information use the QR code. **Indianapolis, IN—July 17-21, 2024.**

Healing in Our Families and Our Communities

A series of talks aimed at helping each of us deal with healing in relationships with hurts that have been done to us or we have done to others. These talks will be based on the book *Harm, Healing and Human Dignity* which is a Catholic Encounter with Restorative Justice. Lent is the perfect time for us to look at painful issues in our lives and begin the healing for ourselves and others. These talks will be held on Sunday afternoons from 3:00—5:00 pm on February 18, March 3 and March 10 at the Parish Center.

The cost to attend these three sessions is \$20.00 which includes the books and presenter fee.

You can register in the Gathering Space after all Masses on February 3/4 and 10/11, in the parish office or online at www.stjos.com. Please contact Marinell High at 734-426-8384 for more information or questions you may have.

**Justice without love is not justice.
Love without justice is not Love.**

St. Teresa of Calcutta



Please Pray for those on the Journey to becoming Catholic

We have four Catechumens who will be baptized, confirmed, and receive Jesus in the Eucharist and one candidate who will make a Profession of Faith, be confirmed and receive Jesus in the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil on March 30, 2024. Our Catechumens are Clay McKenzie, Mark Schoof, Dominique Lee and Jonathon Whitaker. Our candidate is Madeleine Barker. Please pray for them by name and walk their journey with them.

Growing In God – March 9



Ladies! Take a day out of your life and come receive the SPA treatment for your spiritual health! We will feed you wonderful food for your body and your soul, tell you stories that will nourish your relationship with

God and being you together with other wonderful women who will support and encourage you on your journey to Grow in God! The day is held at the Parish Center and Village Church. We begin with a light breakfast at 8:00 am and end with a delicious dinner and leave by 8:30 pm. During the day you will have the opportunity for Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. For more information, please contact Rose Sherry at rose@rosendon.com or Marilyn Hansen at marilyn.hansen@sme-usa.com. Watch for the women in the Gathering Space to register, call the Parish Office at 734-426-8483 or go online at www.stjos.com.

There is no cost to attend this retreat so call a friend and spend the day getting to know God just a little bit better!

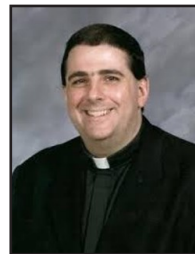


St. Joseph/St. Mary Parish Mission

The Partnership Council for our two parishes is hosting our Lenten Mission this year with Fr. Matthew Bonk.

COME RECEIVE the LIVING GOD
A Mission on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

Fr. Bonk has a background as a Redemptorist priest and is now serving in the Diocese of Lansing with the three parishes that make up the Catholic Community of Flint. As a Redemptorist he served in foreign countries, has presented over fifty parish missions, served as a pastor of a parish, and worked at the Vatican for one year.



Lenten Mission

St. Mary Parish in Chelsea
February 25, 26, & 27
7:00 – 9:00 pm

In addition to the presentations Reconciliation will be offered one night and Mass will be offered on the closing night of the Mission.

Refreshments and conversation time will be held each night at the conclusion of the presentation.

MUSIC MINISTRY

AT ST. JOSEPH

Come and sing and ring with us! We need you in one of our music ensembles!

Rejoice Anew! - regularly serves at 5 pm Masses

St. Joseph Choir - regularly serves at 11 am Masses
The Choirs will host an Open House
Thursday, February 29 at 7 pm in the Gathering Space

Bell Choir - occasionally serves at 11 am Masses
we need 3 more ringers to fill in our ranks
join us on Mondays, starting March 4 at 7 pm in the Church

Youth Choir - our newest ensemble will start up again in February and serve during Lent and Easter for Children in Grades 2 - 6
First rehearsal - Sunday, February 25 in the music room

Save the Date:

Praise Concert**Celebrating Jesus the Resurrection and Life**

A joint event with St. Mary Chelsea

Sunday, April 21 @ 2 pm

Country Church



EASTER Egg Hunt

The Family Event Committee & Dexter Knights of Columbus will host this event again this year! If you are interested in helping, please contact
Marinell High
734-426-8483 | marinell_high@stjos.com

 **Saturday, March 30**  **Festival Grounds**
AT 12:30PM 6805 Mast Road

● ● ● ● ● **REGISTRATION COMING SOON** ● ● ● ● ●
www.stjos.com | Bulletin | Weekly Email



LIFE TEEN

Leading Teens Closer to Christ

Happy New Year!

Throughout this year, in Life Teen, we have been learning about identity and relationship with Jesus Christ. We started by learning how to hear the voice of God and why it's necessary to know so that you can have a dialog with the Holy Trinity. Once we covered hearing the voice of God, we started to dig into the beginning, how God created the world, and man. This led to a discussion about how we are set apart from all creation, being made in the image and likeness of God, and how we have certain gifts to love and serve God. By being made in the image and likeness of God we were able to grasp that we magnificently show the beauty of God no one else can replicate.

Once we started to learn about our identity as beloved sons and daughters in Christ, it was time to learn about what makes us Catholic and why we believe what we believe, regarding the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, Mary, and the sacrament of reconciliation. It's vital to know that Jesus is present in the Eucharist, and we have done this by praying with Jesus in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament of the altar. By spending time with Jesus, you begin to know Jesus; just as you spend time with a friend, you learn more about them and desire to be with them. The same is true with Jesus. We venerate Mary because she is the mother of Jesus, making her the saint seated highest in Heaven and we do not to worship but honor her.

Each week, we have a topic that teaches us about the gospel and how it's made practical for us to work on in our lives. So that when we are in difficult situations, we can look to the Trinity and the Blessed Mother for guidance. Some upcoming topics include The Power of Words, The Universal Call to Holiness, Revelation, and Diving into Scripture. If you desire to help your high schooler develop a relationship with Christ and learn about the faith, this is a great opportunity. We have games, a talk, adoration, and the most enjoyable thing, FOOD.

In Christ,
Tyler Hochrein

Confirmation 2024 Schedule

Sunday 10:30am-12:00pm in the Basement of the Disciple House

- February 4 Confirmation Class (Chapter 10, Confirmation)
- February 11 Confirmation Candidate and sponsor/mentor meeting (The Mass part 3)
- February 18 No Class
- February 25 Confirmation Class (Chapter 11, Made for Mission)
- March 3 Confirmation Class (Chapter 12, Holiness is Possible)
- March 17 Confirmation Candidate and sponsor/mentor meeting (The Mass part 4) (Letter to the Bishop and Confirmation name paper are due)
- March 24 No Class (Spring Break)
- March 31 No Class Easter Sunday

Wednesday 6:15-7:45pm in the Basement of the Disciple House

- February 7 Confirmation Class (Chapter 10, Confirmation)
- February 11 Confirmation Class with sponsor/mentor (The Mass part 3)
- February 14 No Class
- February 21 No Class
- February 28 Confirmation Class (Chapter 11, Made for Mission)
- March 6 Confirmation Class (Chapter 12, Holiness is Possible)
- March 13 No Class:
- March 17 Confirmation Class with sponsor/mentor (The Mass part 4) (Letter to the Bishop and Confirmation name paper are due)
- March 27 No Class (Spring Break)



Candidate and Sponsor/Mentor meetings are at 1:30pm in the Parish Center

God Squad (6-8 grade Youth Group) Schedule and Activities 2023/2024

Sunday February 25

Parish Center, 3430 Dover St, from 2-3:30pm for activities and games - we will meet in the Loft.



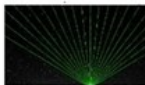
Friday March 15

Parish Center, 3430 Dover St, from 6-8pm for activities and games - we will meet in the Loft.



Sunday April 21

Parish Center, 3430 Dover St, from 2-3:30pm for activities and games - we will meet in the Loft.



Sunday May 17

Parish Center, 3430 Dover St, from 6-8pm for activities and games - we will meet in the Loft.



Our high school youth decorating Christmas cookies for shut-ins from the parish.

Christmas greeting packages: Cookies made with love by our high school youth & Christmas greeting cards and gifts from the children in Faith Formation.



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tyler Hochrein 734.426.2674 | tyler_hochrein@stjos.com

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD!



Otto Scholarship Award

We are pleased to announce the 2024 Josephine C. Otto Memorial Scholarship. This annual scholarship has been established to assist a St. Joseph Parish member with his or her college education. Mrs. Carol Otto Buatti established the fund through the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation in tribute to her late mother, Josephine C. Otto, a devoted member of St. Joseph Parish for 55 years.



The scholarship will be awarded to an active St. Joseph Parish member, age 17-30, who is or will be enrolled full-time at an accredited community college or a four-year college or university for the 2024-2025 academic year. The scholarship is to be used for tuition and/or books, and will range from \$1,000-\$3,000. Note that prior applicants and prior winners may reapply for this scholarship.

The scholarship is administered through the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (AAACF) and will use an **online application** only. To apply, go to AAACF's website www.aaacf.org, click on **Scholarships**, then follow the instructions on **How to Apply** using the online application. If you have any questions about the application, please contact Maryellen Ferro, AAACF Program Officer, at mferro@aaacf.org or 734-663-0401.

The **application deadline is 3pm Tuesday, February 20, 2024.**

For more information, please take a brochure from the gathering space kiosk, or go to www.stjos.com/resources/scholarship.

Saint Joseph Giving Garden is preparing for a new season of growing!

Tuesday, April 9th, 7pm

Parish Center, Village Campus



The Saint Joseph Giving Garden is preparing for a new gardening season of growing and sharing. The Giving Garden, located on the grounds of the country church, grows produce every summer to supply *Faith in Action* and our neighbors in need with good, healthy vegetables. This year will be an even better growing season with new raised beds! This means far less weeding and less watering. Your time commitment will be far less too but with better results. Gardening is a wonderful opportunity to get some easy exercise and be in the fresh air a few hours a week.

If you feel called to lend a hand in this planning, growing, and harvesting, there will be a planning meeting on **Tuesday, April 9, at 7 pm at the Parish Center, Village Campus.** Please don't worry if you have little or no gardening experience. We will happily teach you everything you need to know to produce healthy vegetable for our neighbors. You can then use that knowledge to grow your own garden at home. It's a win-win-win!

Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me food"

FESTIVAL 2024



The Festival leadership team met in early January to begin planning the 2024 St Joseph's Festival. At the meeting, the Festival chairpersons confirmed the **Flea Market sales dates of June 20 - 22** and the need to move the **Festival dates one week earlier, to July 14 - 16th**, so as to eliminate any conflict for those wanting to attend the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, Indiana this year.

The team also discussed the Festival events. We plan the return of: Mass under the Big Tent, Games and Entertainment for children and teens, Sporting challenges, the Classic Car Show, the Craft show, and the most popular Big Tent entertainers as well as the K of C Chicken Dinner and Large Raffle. Just maybe, there will be a new addition or two!

Did you know it takes over 40 parishioners to fill the various chairperson roles needed to ensure our annual festival success? A few spots on the team are currently available, specifically in Signage/Advertisement and Grounds/Properties teams, and the team would welcome any new help. If you are interested, or if you have a suggestion of an event we should add to our Festival, please contact either of this year's co-chairmen Ken Sample (734-369-8044) or Kurt Assemacher (314-598-2679).

Remember - *Fellowship being a primary goal of our Festival*, everyone, friends and family, those near and far are invited to come join the party. Inviting others is a great way to continue to demonstrate that we are a warm and welcoming faith filled community. The construction in progress on the new parish center, classrooms and offices will also show how we are growing!

SCOUT BSA TROOP 456 ACTIVITIES



During this period the Troop attended a STEM Merit Badge event at the University of Michigan. The University of Michigan Merit Badge Day is an event run by the UM Tau Beta Pi (engineering honor society). Scouts explore the world of engineering and are able to earn four(4) merit badges: Digital Technology, Programming, Electronics, and Engineering. Scouts learned about programming and engineering in a fun environment through multiple activities. The service project for this period was assisting in the decoration of the church in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Troop 456 joined the Scouts of T3456G for a Scuba Discovery Class. The class was conducted by a team of instructors from Divers Incorporated of Ann Arbor. The SCUBA Discovery Class was conducted in the pool of the Dexter Wellness Center. The class informs students about the options of open water experiences and possible certification if they are interested down the road. Preparations are being made to participate in the Klondike Derby. During the Derby, the Scouts will spend the day between activity stations that require them to use their skills and knowledge as they meet various outdoor challenges. If there is snow, there will be a Klondike Sled race using sleds that have been built by the scouts. The race is between sleds with a single rider and pulled / pushed by the remaining troop members.



Preparations are being made to participate in the Klondike Derby. During the Derby, the Scouts will spend the day between activity stations that require them to use their skills and knowledge as they meet various outdoor challenges. If there is snow, there will be a Klondike Sled race using sleds that have been built by the scouts. The race is between sleds with a single rider and pulled / pushed by the remaining troop members.



If you are interested in joining the troop as a Scout or Adult Volunteer please contact Ron Carpinella (Charter Organization Representative) 734 426 5734 or Pete Potsos (Scoutmaster) 734 355 8729. Information about the troop and upcoming events can be found at the troop website [url: dextertroop456.org](http://url:dextertroop456.org)

We are one body, one body in Christ, and we do not stand alone.

Welcome to Our New Parishioners

All are welcome in this place.

- Tara Guenther
Mason
- Timothy & Jean Taylor
- Alex & Mary Hall
- Eric & Amy Martin
- Rachel Edwards

Marriages

In our love new hope is found. In love we choose to live.
Giovanni Antonio D'Agostino & Ashley Rachel MacBrien

Baptized into the Family of God

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

Levi Joseph Schwartz
Son of Robert & Nicole (Marlow) Schwartz

Nathaniel Joseph Kempa
Son of Brian & Elyse (St. Pierre) Kempa

Lucille Grace Pisano
Daughter of David & Jessica (Boren) Pisano

Isabelle Grace Roelant
Daughter of Nathan & Lindsey (Kosbab) Roelant

Ivy Ann Welsh
Daughter of Austin & Rebecca (Stewart) Welsh

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.

- Floyd D. Campbell
- Bruce Covert
- Patricia Ann Koons
- James P McGuiness
- Brian Edward Goetz
- Lorraine Francis Bolam
- Dianne Ruth Schwab
- Joseph Veltri

Dear St. Joseph Parish...

December 2023

Thank you for your recent support of our new van at Delonis Center. We were grateful to receive a portion of your tithing from the Festival to help us with a new van here at Delonis Center. From our hearts to yours, thank you for helping us end homelessness one person at a time.

Warmest Regards

Lor Barbera, Delonis Center

January 2024

Please let me take this opportunity to thank you for your generous in-kind contribution of gift cards to support our clients during the holiday.

Sincerely,

Peg Bravo, RN, BSN, MA

President and CEO

Catholic Social Services, Washtenaw County

December 2023

Your gifts from the Giving Tree gift program help make Hope Clinic a different kind of healthcare clinic. Thank you! Our model of care offers spiritual care alongside medical, dental, behavioral health, and food and basic needs services. With gratitude,

Ross Weener

CEO, Hope Clinic

December 2023

Thank you so much for thinking of us with your donation from your parish Caritas Sunday. We will use your donation to purchase a food truck to help feed the families in north Flint. This truck is filled with fresh produce, fruit, vegetables, milk, juice, and meat. We try to order one truck per month to help us provide nutrients and protein to our families.

Sincerely,

Sr. Carol Weber

Executive Director of St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center

December 2023

On behalf of SafeHouse Center, I would like to thank you for the generous In-Kind donation of gift cards we received from your Giving Tree Program.

Sincerely,

Christine Watson

Executive Director, SafeHouse Center

December 2023

Thank you for donating to SOS's Sponsor a Family Program. Your donation of gift cards, housewares, dishes and silverware will bring so much joy and relief for families who are struggling this holiday season.

Sincerely,

Barabra Cecil, Development Director SOS Community Services

January 2023

Dexter Family Services would like to thank the parishioners of St. Joseph for \$3,685.68 from the Caritas collections from July and November. The money has helped purchase Meijer cards, fill five school back packs along with providing help to local families at Christmas. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Susan Walsh

Dexter Family Services

November 2023

Please let me take this opportunity to thank you for your generous in-kind contribution of cereal and groceries to support our food pantry.

Sincerely,

Peg Bravo RN, BSN, MA

President and CEO, Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County

November 2023

On behalf of the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000. Your gift provides the resources and services needed to give hope and stability to those experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County.

Sincerely,

Sarah Paspal-Jasinski

Director of Development, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County

December 2023

Thank you for your donation of toiletries, games, and books from your Giving Tree Program to St. Louis Center. Your generous donation plays an important part in helping create a place that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can call home each day of the year. Blessings to you and yours,

Fr. Satheesh Alphonse, SdC, CEO

Wendy Zielen, Development & Communication Director

St. Louis Center

December 2023

We received your generous donation of \$1,984 and \$1,164. Thank you so much! Our most sincere gratitude to for your constant support.

Warmest Regards,

Peg Bravo, RN, BSN, MA

President and CEO, Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County

November 2023

Thank you for the \$2,263 and \$1,000 gifts given in October. Your generosity is the bedrock of our programs, without which we would not be able to continue giving vital assistance to those needing a little help.

In appreciation,

Sarah Shugart, Executive Director, Faith in Action

December 2023

With a Grateful heart the CHILDREN thank you for your generous GIFT to them. Yes! Much needed WATER is running in many Schools and the work on the Operating Room is progressing rapidly!

All this is possible only through your kind and generous Hearts.

We remember you in our prayers but also especially at this time of year.

We are Thankful for YOU and you gift of \$14,932 for annual Mission collection.

Hope the next time I am in MI..I can come to Dexter personally to show you photos and Give you Our THANKS!

God Bless you all!

Naomi Corera

Children Waiting Everywhere, Uganda

Aloha St. Joseph Catholic Church,

We thank you for your generous support and prayers. You and your near and dear ones will be in our prayers. There is no doubt we have had to overcome these past couple of months. We have lost parishioners, family & friends, homes, businesses, jobs, and income. Your monetary donation of: \$8,600.00 helps us help our community.

Thank you in the name of our parish for keeping us in your prayers. We are humbled, grateful and blessed to receive such a generous donation from you and your family.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Kuriakose Nadooparambil, MF


Maria Lankakila Catholic Church



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Dexter, MI 48130

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PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD