



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC PARISH

DEXTER, MICHIGAN



Chips & Sawdust

December 2024 / January 2025

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	Director for Faith Formation—Youth
Marinell High	Director of Faith Formation—Adults
Katie Webber	Director of Faith Formation—Children
Liz Neil	Cemetery

Grounds and Maintenance Team

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

Bob Deacon
Tim Kuzma
Clay Cramer
Kelly Kubicki
Gary Hunter
Gwen Evich
Ann Smart
Ed Harden
Paul Ledwidge
Jim Davis
Ted Bucy
Brian Haeussler

Commission Liaison

Chair
Vice Chair
Finance
Spiritual Life & Worship
Parish Life
New Parishioner Contact
Caritas/Secretary
Properties
Children & Youth Faith Formation
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
Cindy Hunter
Katie Webber
Don Dalgleish
Marinell High

Activity

Bulletin and *Chips* Editor
Growing in God
Building the
Brotherhood of Christ
St. Francis Retreat Center
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
Music Ministry
Discovering Catholicism (RCIA)
Scouting (Troop 456)

Chair

Laura McKenzie
Marinell High

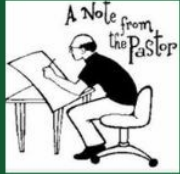
Marinell High

Joe Prochaska
Ann Smart
Don Dalgleish
Kurt Assenmacher
Tom O'Brien
Rodger & Linda Cook
Don Dalgleish
Paul Tavana
Marilyn Dehring
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 that 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.



Fr. Brendan's Billboard



Advent Reconciliation

Our Advent Reconciliation Schedule

Saturdays during Advent – 3:30 – 4:30pm Country Church

Communal Reconciliation Services

Monday, December 16 – St. Andrew, Saline – 7pm

Tuesday, December 17 – St. Joseph, Dexter – 7pm

Wednesday, December 18 – St. Mary, Chelsea – 7pm

Thursday, December 19 – St. Mary, Manchester – 7pm

Individual Reconciliation

Wednesday, December 18 – Village Church 7-8pm

Friday, December 20 – Village Church 12-1pm

Saturday, December 21 – Village Church 10 – 11am

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This year the Holy Day falls on Monday, December 9. Pope Francis has encouraged the world to attend Mass this day. However, because it falls on Monday, Bishop Boyea has dispensed from the obligation for this year only. We will have Mass at St. Joseph at 8:15am so all are welcome to honor the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Time to Prepare

The month of December is when we watch the days get shorter, we have less light. We also watch and prepare for the birth of Jesus. He comes as the light of the world. He comes to turn away the darkness of sin and selfishness. He comes to fill us with the light of love. Advent is our time of anticipation and preparation for the coming of Jesus, our Prince of Peace, the light of our lives.

Christmas

The celebration of the birth of Jesus will be held on Tuesday, December 24 with Mass times at 4:30pm, 7:30pm and 11pm. Mass on Christmas Day will be at 10am. Music will begin a half hour before each Mass.

Office Hours Christmas Week

The office will only be open on December 23 and closed December 24, 25, 26 and 27. This will allow staff to do some pre-move packing of personal office things.

New Year New Festival

As we begin the month of January, we also begin our Festival planning and discussions. With our new building, we can begin to plan for a new Flea Market and a new Friday Night event using our new hall. Please consider how you can help make our Festival and Flea Market a grand success.

Time to Move

This year it is also a special time for us as we prepare to move to our new office, hall, and classrooms. A time of anticipation and excitement as we look forward to a new beginning in our new space. At this writing, we are looking to make our transition in late January.

Blessing of the New Building

We have planned March 15 at 10am (closest day to March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph) for our blessing and open house. Mark your calendar.

*Shalom,
Fr. Brendan J. Walsh*

Advent Schedule

Giving Tree Gifts
due Sunday, December 1

Ladies Advent Tea
Tuesday, December 3 @ 7pm - Country Church

Christmas Cookie Market & Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, December 7, 9am-2pm, Parish Center

Light Parade & Cookies & Cocoa
Saturday, December 14 @ 4:30pm, Parish Center

Anointing of the Sick
December 7 & 8 after each Mass

Advent Reconciliation

Communal Reconciliation

Monday, December 16, 7pm — St. Andrew, Saline
Tuesday, December 17, 7pm — St. Joseph, Dexter
Wednesday, December 18, 7pm — St. Mary, Chelsea
Thursday, December 19, 7pm — St. Mary, Manchester

Individual Reconciliation

Each Saturday during Advent 3:30 — 4:30m — Country Church
Wednesday, December 18, 7-8pm, Village Church
Friday, December 20, 12-1pm, Village Church
Saturday, December 21, 10-11am, Village Church



Christmas Liturgies

Christmas Eve - December 24
(music a half hour before each Mass)
4:30pm — Mass — Country Church
7:30pm — Mass — Country Church
11pm — Mass — Country Church

Christmas Day - December 25
10am — Mass — Country Church

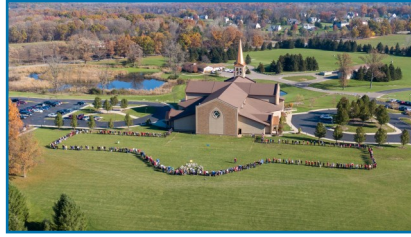
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
December 31 @ 7pm - Country Church
January 1 @ 9am Country Church

Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on
Tuesday, December 24 - Wednesday, January 1.



Pastoral Council Notes



As we approach the beginning of Advent, we are reminded that this is a time to prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the Second coming in anticipation for Christmas. The four weeks preceding Christmas prepare us for the **HOPE** of Christ's coming and God's promises of redemption, to embrace the **PEACE** that Christ brings and seek peace within ourselves and within our relationships, the **JOY** in the anticipation of Jesus's arrival and to remember God's **LOVE** for humanity and reflect that love to others.

Wishing to all a joyous Christmas season.

Clay Cramer, Pastoral Council



Our Focus charity for the December Caritas collection is **Catholic Charities of Washtenaw County (formerly Catholic Social Services)**. They are located on Packard Street in Ann Arbor. Their mission statement : **To share the love and presence of Christ in our community through acts of compassion and mercy in a manner that respects the inherent dignity of every person.**

Over 65 years ago, Catholic Charities of Washtenaw County was established to change the lives of some of the most vulnerable persons in the surrounding communities and neighborhoods. At the start, the organization focused on the needs of pregnant women and families, including the provisions of food. Decades later, these foundational services remain active, alongside several additional programs, all sharing the vision of creating better everyday life for the people we serve.

These programs provide counseling, family and children's services, and senior services. Counseling includes Behavioral Health services, Family Centered services, Domestic Violence Intervention services, Marriage Preparation, Offender Success, Pregnancy Counseling, and Substance Abuse treatment. Family & Children includes Adoption services, Families First, Parenting Support, Food Pantry, Foster care, Nurturing Families, and Washtenaw and Child Advocacy Center. Senior services include Adult Day program, Grandparents as Parents, Neighborhood Senior services, Resource advocacy, Senior Volunteer opportunities and Volunteer caregiver respite opportunities.

The common theme is **SERVICES**. In 1 Peter 10-11 : As generous distributors of God's manifold grace, put your gifts at the service of one another, each in the measure he has received. The one who speaks is to deliver God's message. The one who serves is to do it with the strength provided by God.

The work of **CCW** is the work of the Catholic Church, which unequivocally denounces racism, discrimination, injustice, and violence in all forms. Inherent in their mission is defending and caring for the oppressed, marginalized, and forgotten within our community, promoting the dignity and value of every individual, and respecting our shared humanity.

If you know any organization that the Caritas committee might consider, please send your suggestions to the parish office with your contact information. **Thank you** for your generous support of this December's Caritas Focus Charity.



Ladies Advent Tea

Advent Reflections and Music

With Steve Hinz & Michele Nymark

Tuesday, December 3 7-9PM Country Church

It is open to all of the community so please feel free to invite your friends who are not members of our parish. It isn't hard to be a hostess and it is a lovely way to give a little Advent gift and lift to your friends. We provide the tea, table cover and centerpiece. You provide the place settings and prepare desserts and snacks for your table. That is all! We can make it even easier for you by providing quality paper and plastic products for your table for a **small fee**. We will send you all the information you need to host a table.

Women are welcome to sign up and be placed at a table with a hostess who will take care of you for the evening.

Whether you host a table or come to join others you can sign up on the board in the Gathering Space or at Sign Up Genius link using the QR code, call the parish office at 734-426-8483 or email Marinell High at marinell_high@stjos.com



Hometown Holidays Concert - December 8

It's time to continue a favorite holiday tradition! St. Joseph Catholic Church in Dexter will join forces with musicians from Chelsea to present two concerts this December. We're expanding the highly successful, multigenerational collaboration to now include the two cities of Chelsea and Dexter for a Hometown Holidays Concert.

Chelsea has come together to produce this concert experience for decades, and it has been a favorite of the community. By expanding to Dexter, we broaden the opportunity for new people to experience the delight of the concert and we will be able to better handle the larger audience demands.

St. Joseph choir members and their friends will join the choir and chamber orchestra from Chelsea High School, the Chelsea Chamber Players, and the Chelsea First United Methodist sanctuary choir to perform two concerts, one in each city. The energy and the camaraderie of coming together in rehearsals has already been uplifting.

These 80-minute long concerts are free and are designed with families in mind. First, a chamber music piece performed by the orchestra followed by a work for a large choir accompanied by the orchestra. We'll finish the concert by leading a community sing of two favorite carols. A free-will offering will help support this collaboration for future years.

Program:

Serenade - Charles Reinecke

Sunrise Mass - Ola Gjeilo

2 pm - St. Joseph Church, Dexter
6805 Mast Road, Dexter

7 pm - Chelsea First United Methodist Church
128 Park Street, Chelsea



Christmas Cookie Market

Saturday, December 7 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

St. Joseph Parish Center

3430 Dover (at the corner of 3rd & Dover)

Sponsored by St. Joseph Parish Life Commission

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

We need your delicious family favorites to make our Christmas Cookie Market a great success! Please join us in providing a little Christmas Cheer to the Dexter Community by baking 4 dozen cookies and donating them to our event.

Email us at healrevel@gmail.com or go to our website www.stjos.com and clicking on the link provided to register your donation.



Cookies will be sold by the pound and presented to you in a festive, holiday container suitable for gift giving right out of our doors!

The Girl Scouts will be holding their Holiday Bazaar at the St. Joseph Parish Center in conjunction with our Cookie Market.

light parade
 &
 Cookies & Cocoa
 Saturday, December 14
 meet at the Parish Center at
 4:30pm to organize and prep
 the float, participate in the
 parade and return for treats



Advent Prayers

- God, be with me today. Help my heart be open to the ways Jesus is at work in my life. Amen.
- Give me peace today, O Lord. Help me to live this day in eternal hope knowing Jesus will come again.
- Heavenly Father, Give me the strength to have the same trust in You that Mary had, as she awaited the birth of Jesus.
- I pray for humility today, Father. Our Savior entered this world in a manger with animals.
 When I feel too proud, let me remember the Holy Family and Jesus's humble birth.



GOD Squad

GOD SQUAD 2024-2025 SCHEDULE

~~FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 BLAST CORN MAZE 6-8PM~~

~~SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 FROM 2-3:30PM IN THE LOFT~~

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 FROM 2-3:30PM IN THE LOFT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 AIRBORNE TRAMPOLINE, TIME TBA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 FROM 2-3:30 IN THE YOUTH ROOM

SUNDAY, MARCH 9 FROM 2-3:30PM IN THE YOUTH ROOM

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 FROM 2-3:30PM IN THE YOUTH ROOM

FRIDAY, MAY 16 FROM 5:45-8:30PM BOWLING

**ST. JOSEPH PARISH
 MIDDLE SCHOOL
 YOUTH GROUP**

GRADES 6-8



Confirmation Schedule 2024-2025

If you are in High School and you missed the Candidate and Parent(s) meeting in September and you would like to be confirmed next year please contact Don at don_dalgleish@stjos.com and we will set up a time to get together to get started.

Confirmation 2024-2025 Schedule for December—January

Sunday 10:30am-12:00pm in the Basement of the Disciple House
Candidate and Sponsor/Mentor meetings are at 1:30pm in the Parish Center

- * December 1 No Class (Thanksgiving Weekend)
- * December 8 Confirmation Class (Chapter 7, The Eucharist)
- * December 15 Bake and decorate Christmas Cookies service project (Parish Center 6-8pm)
- * December 22 No Class
- * December 24 Luminary set at 5:00pm and pick up after Midnight Mass is over.
- * December 29 No Class
- * January 12 Confirmation class (Chapter 8, The Holy Spirit)
- * January 19 Confirmation Candidate and sponsor/mentor meeting (The Mass part 2)
- * January 26 Confirmation Class (Chapter 9, The Church)

Confirmation 2024-2025 Schedule for December—January

Wednesday 4:45-6:15pm in the Basement of the Disciple House
Candidate and Sponsor/Mentor meetings are at 1:30pm in the Disciple House

- * December 4 Confirmation Class (Chapter 6. Relationships)
- * December 11 Confirmation Class (Chapter 7, The Eucharist)
- * December 15 Bake and decorate Christmas Cookies service project (Parish Center 6-8pm)
- * December 18 No Class
- * December 24 Luminary service project to set out at 5:00pm and pick up after Midnight Mass is over.
- * December 25 No Class
- * January 1 No Class
- * January 8 No Class
- * January 15 Confirmation class (Chapter 8, The Holy Spirit)
- * January 19 Confirmation class with sponsor/mentor (The Mass part 2)
- * January 22 No Class
- * January 29 Confirmation Class (Chapter 9, The Church)



2024 Confirmation Class

Confirmed by
Bishop Earl Boyea
At St. Mary,
Chelsea
October 24, 2024



We hope that you sense that we are committed to being a warm and welcoming community in our music ministry program. As we continue to grow together at our parish in our musical responses, I see and hear you as you find the true joy of the Gospel message through the music we sing together. Engage that joy with us! Our ensembles need you, and now that we are in the winter months, maybe you can carve out a bit of time to join us.

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, January 16 at 7 pm in the Gathering Space
- * **Bell Choir** - serves at 11 am Masses
- * we need 3 more ringers to fill in our ranks
- * join us on Monday nights
- * **Youth Choir**
- * for Children in Grades 2 and higher
- * rehearsal - Sundays at 12:30 pm in the music room

Save the Date:

Concert - Celebrating the love of Jesus Christ

A joint event with St. Mary Chelsea

Sunday, February 9

2 pm

Country Church

It's not how much we give but
how much love we put into giving

MOTHER TERESA



St. Joseph Respect Life Commission

An important element of valuing life is lifting and supporting women and families who have experienced a pregnancy or infant loss. In the United States, one in four women have experienced miscarriage, and one in 160 pregnancies ends in stillbirth. Sadly, one in four people who attend Mass have experienced the loss of a child, and statistics show that 70% of marriages that face the loss of a child end in divorce. However, only 5% of people will receive the appropriate support for the grief they are challenged with.

However, thanks be to God, there is hope and help! First and foremost, as a parish family, we can wrap our love around families experiencing a loss. This can mean listening, praying, making meals, or helping with a family's other young children. A woman experiencing miscarriage or infant loss can reach out to our parish office, where she will be connected to someone who can come alongside, as well as comprehensive resources to provide additional help. Also, the office has information regarding funeral/interment options, to allow for a dignified burial.

Following are two great resources that offer support for women and families experiencing pregnancy or infant loss:

Red Bird Ministries www.REDBIRD.love

Diocese of Lansing Marriage, Stillbirth, & Infant Loss Ministry www.dioceseoflansing.org/miscarriage

The Commission will hold meetings on the third Monday of each month, 7:00 pm, in the Parish Center. Please direct any inquiries about the Respect Life Commission to:

Keith Gallagher at 313 530-3599 or

Michelle Wright at 517 375-2634

They found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger

LUKE 2:16



Giving Garden Finale 2024

The 2024 Saint Joseph Giving Garden was a wonderful growing success this year. The beautiful weather this spring, summer, and fall allowed the Giving Garden to grow an abundance of produce, all of which was donated to the Faith in Action food pantry to help our neighbors in need.

A big Thank you to all those who donated to the Bottle and Can Drive. The money raised helped to purchase seeds, plants, irrigation pieces, and other items used to maintain and grow over 1500 pounds of food. Produce such as garlic, onions, tomatoes, kale, summer squash, various peppers, green beans, rhubarb, and others were grown and donated totaling approximately \$5000.

A big Thank You goes to Linda and Roger Cook who led volunteers in growing, cultivating, harvesting, packaging, and delivering fresh produce. The Giving Garden has now been put to bed for the winter. There will be an early Spring 2025 meeting to plan for next summer's garden. Please watch for meeting announcements. Thank you for your support of the St. Joseph Giving Garden.



Save the Date!

Saturday, February 1 | 6:30pm | St. Joseph Parish
Sponsored by the St. Mary & St. Joseph
Partnership Council

Troop 456 Activities



During the month of October, Troop 456 was camping out at the Brighton Rec Area Group Site for 2 nights. The activities during the day include hiking, outdoor cooking (dutch ovens), and building camp gadgets. On Sunday morning, they drove to the Howell Nature Center to do their ROPES course. The ROPES course is a multi-level High Ropes Course! With 14 different obstacles spread across 2 levels, this course has something for everyone, whether that means starting on the lower 15 foot level or jumping straight to the challenging 25 foot top level!

Trout Unlimited conducted their annual survey of fish species in Mill Creek. Troop 456 assisted with moving the electroshock barge, netting fish, measuring fish and returning fish to the stream. The boys helped on the section of the stream between the town park and the Forest Lawn Cemetery. Scouts that participated earned conservation-based service project time towards advancement awards.

If you are interested in joining the troop as a Scout or Adult Volunteer please contact Ron Carpinella (Charter Organization Representative) at 734 426 5734 Or Pete Potsos (Scoutmaster) at 734 355 8729. The link for the troop website is dextertroop456.org



Columbus Ladies Auxiliary



Columbus Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Rummage Sale on January 31-February 2, 2025, benefiting St. Louis Center, Chelsea and Sparrow's Place, Dexter.

Please start saving all your unneeded treasures for donation except: Furniture, computers, TVs, childcare seats, large exercise equipment, and Christmas trees.

Look for more information in the weekly bulletin beginning in January! We thank you in advance for your donations!!! Questions and be directed to: pdrImr@gmail.com

Volunteer!

There are so many ways you can help serve our parish community and our local community. Here are a few ideas for individuals and families:

- *Funeral lunch help (teens welcome during school breaks or Saturdays)
- *Serving the Face of Jesus (provide meals, rides, yard work, etc. for those recovering, elderly, homebound)
- *Charitable Activities and Social Justice Ministries events often require deliveries to be made to agencies which are family friendly service opportunities.
- *Mass ministers: lectors, hospitality, servers, Eucharistic ministers
- *Flea Market & Festival

Contact the parish office to sign up for volunteer areas.

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.

Nicholas & Lauren Broggi
Elaina, Roderick and Dean

John & Susan Windel

Mike and Carly Grisdela

Joseph and Lisa Simon

Reid & Loren Butcher
Caroline, Brooks, Emilia and Henry

Agustin & Angela Yado
Vincent and Adrianna

Mark & Patricia Walsworth

Alex & Charlotte Thomas
Chloe

Daniel & Theresa Weimer

David & Rina Malcolm

Morgen Baird
Brody

Baptized into the Family of God

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

Murphy Lynn Robenalt
Daughter of Franklin & Makayla (Patrick) Robenalt

Edmund Moses Connolly
Son of Brian & Nicolle (Gusz) Connolly

Violet Reed McKillen
Daughter of Erin Reed

Lainey Marie Bondar
Daughter of Patrick & Chelsea (Krejci) Bondar

Persephone Rose Barbee
Daughter of Alexis Bednarz

Michael Shayne Barbee
Son of Alexis Bednarz

Michael Anthony Benson
Son of Geoffrey & Xyrel (Nahil) Benson

Theodore Glenn Krawczyk
Son of Mathew & Sarah (Parks) Krawczyk

Stella Casimira Marquette
Daughter of Scott & Lauren (Drouillard) Marquette

Marriages

In our love new hope is found. In love we choose to live.

Robert James Deacon & Leslie Kay Shannon

Paul Andrew Bishop & Lynor Nipay Acompanado

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.*

David Dana Bergstrom

Dr. Emily Marie Jutkiewicz

Gabriel Bonilla

*Will you let me be your servant, let me
be as Christ to you: Pray that I may
have the grace to let me be your
servant, too.*



Dear St. Joseph Parish . . .

Your continued generosity speaks clearly of God's presence. Thank you for your recent gifts for the General Fund at St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center. We could not do this mission on Flint's north end without you and your generous spirit. **Thank you!**

Just to update you a bit, we have purchased a second building less than two miles from the Center! We are so, so grateful. We are now in the process of raising funds to renovate the building so that our three Social Enterprise Businesses: Sewing, Lawncare/Snow Maintenance and Pallets will have a new home. There is a great deal of excitement around this opportunity! We will have a celebration around the grand opening!

Thank you!

Thank you for your generosity. Know that you are in our prayer daily! May you experience **God's wonderful deeds** in a special way today.

With a grateful heart,

Sr. Carol Weber

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

November 2024

Your generosity through your donation of \$1,000 to St. Louis Center changes lives. You are helping give the residents who live at the Center the security of knowing that someone will always be here to care for them. We are so grateful for your continued support of St. Louis Center.

With deepest appreciation,

Fr. Franklin Arockiadoss, SdC

St. Louis Center, CEO

October 2024

On behalf of Dexter Family Services I would like to thank you for your very generous donation of \$1,851 to Dexter Family Services as part of your September Caritas collection. Your donation will go towards keeping our shelves stocked at the Dexter Food Pantry as we continue to help many Dexter families every month. We also use the money to buy dairy products such as milk, cheese, butter, etc each week for the pantry.

Sincerely,

Sue Yager

Treasurer, Dexter Family Services

October 2024

On behalf of Michigan Foster Care Closet, I thank you for your generous donation of \$2,292. The Michigan Foster Care Closet provides quality items for daily living to and for any children in foster care. We serve children of all ages from newborns to youth in transition, who are aging out of the foster care system. All items are always free of charge to everyone. We are a 100% volunteer run organization, and we rely on community funding. Donations such as yours make our efforts successful, and we are grateful for your contribution.

Best Wishes,

Karen Field

Michigan Foster Care Closet, Board President

October 2024

Thank you for your gifts of \$2,393 in July and \$2,340 in September 2024.

Rising costs of essentials often make it difficult for them to cover basic needs, let alone afford gifts or festive meals. Your generosity as one of our primary congregational partners ensures we can provide not only food and resources throughout the year but also the extra care that makes the holidays brighter.

In Appreciation,

Sarah Shugart

FIA, Executive Director

November 2024

The entire Family Life Services team would like to sincerely thank you for your generous support and contributions to the work we are doing here at FLS. Your generosity has had a tremendous impact on our day to day work and the lives of the women and babies we are blessed to serve.

May God Bless you!

Valerie Lewis

Family Life Services

November 2024

Thank you for your recent gifts of \$1,571 and \$1,100. Please know how grateful we are for your generosity. Your gift allows us to fund the food pantry.

May God Continue to bless you,

Sunnie Johnson-Lain

President and CEO, Catholic Charities



September 24, 2024

Dear Friends of St. Joseph Parish,

I would again like to thank all of you for the extremely warm reception we received during your August 17 and 18 Mission Appeal weekend. It was a thrill and an honor for me to be able to share the story of the Lingap Children's Foundation, located in Toledo City, Cebu, Philippines with you!

I am VERY excited to inform you that I have just received a check from the Diocese of Lansing of **more than \$17,000** representing the proceeds from that weekend. This is an absolutely incredible gift that will go a VERY, VERY long way towards improving the lives of a lot of really great kids. Please keep in mind that since the Board of Directors and I pay all administrative fees, 100% of this money will go directly to the benefit of the children.

You may recall that since we opened our doors in 2006, over 788 children have received some level of residential support from us and thus far, we have celebrated with 42 vocational or college graduates. These are children who previously had no hope for a future of any kind but today, thanks to people like all of you, they have a chance for a brighter life. Your support is huge – absolutely huge and there is simply no way in the world that I can ever thank you enough.

Sincerely,

John Drake





ST. JOSEPH PARISH
3430 Dover
Dexter, MI 48130

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DEXTER, MI
PERMIT NO. 85

We want to thank our bulletin printing company,
Diocesan Publications, Inc., for printing this newsletter for us.

To show your thankfulness, please patronize the businesses that
 advertise on our bulletin and let them know you appreciate their support.

Interested in advertising? **Call 1-800-783-1623**



In This Issue of Chips & Sawdust

- ◇ **Fr. Brendan J. Walsh's Billboard...page 3**
- ◇ **Advent & Christmas Schedule...page 4**
- ◇ **Pastoral Council Message & Caritas
Communication...page 5**
- ◇ **Parish News & Events...pages 6 - 8**
- ◇ **Youth Updates...page 9**
- ◇ **Musical Notes...page 10**
- ◇ **Parish & Community News....pages 11-12**
- ◇ **We welcome our new parishioners , we
rejoice with our newly married and
baptized and we remember our faithful
departedpage 13**
- ◇ **Thank you Notes....pages 14 & 15**

