

# ST. JOSEPH

# **CATHOLIC PARISH**

DEXTER, MICHIGAN



Chips & Sawdust

October / November 2025

**Commission** 

ST. JOSEPH PARISH 6805 Mast Road Dexter, Michigan 48130

734-426-8483 (Voice) 734-426-6451 (Fax)

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 Faith Formation Secretary Darlene Cresson Lisa Dobis Finance Director of Music & Liturgy Steve Hinz Don Dalgleish Director for Faith Formation—Youth Director of Faith Formation—Adults Marinell High Katie Webber Director of Faith Formation—Children Liz Neil Cemetery

#### **Grounds and Maintenance Team**

Tanya Clark

Erich McElroy Village Campus Maintenance
Chris Hollis Country Campus Maintenance
Gary Fradette Cemetery Grounds
Anthony Fradette Cemetery Grounds

#### 2025-2026 PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

**Commission Liaison** Member Tim Kuzma Chair Paul Ledwidge Vice Chair lared Thornton Finance Spiritual Life & Worship Ted Bucy Bob Deacon Parish Life/Secretary John Lasecki New Parishioner Contact Terry Grabinski Caritas Dave Widmann **Properties** Kelly Kubicki Children & Youth Faith Formation Kyle Wieman Festival Brian Haeussler Adult Faith Formation

Charitable Activities & Social Justice

#### **COMMISSIONS and ACTIVITIES**

Chair

Finance Lisa Dobis Worship Fr. Brendan Walsh Charitable Activities Randy Desrochers & Social Justice Parish Life Marinell High Caritas Sue Hungerford Katie Webber Education— Children Youth Don Dalgleish Marinell High Adult Faith Formation

Chair **Activity** Bulletin and Chips Editor Laura McKenzie Growing in God Marinell High Building the Brotherhood of Christ Marinell High St. Francis Retreat Center loe Prochaska Men's Retreat Ann Smart Women's Retreat Faith Formation (Pre-K—6) Katie Webber Faith Formation (7-8) Don Dalgleish **Festival** Kurt Assenmacher **Festival** Tom O'Brien Giving Garden Rodger & Linda Cook God Squad (Gr. 7-8) Don Dalgleish Knights of Columbus Paul Tavana Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Marilyn Dehring Music Ministry Stevé Hinz Discovering Catholicism (OCIA) Marinell High

#### **Our Mission**

Matthew Demerath

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.

Country Campus: 6805 Mast Rd, Dexter, MI 48130

Weekend Liturgies and Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays. Parish Office, Social Hall, Faith Formation

Village Campus: 3430 Dover St, Dexter, MI 48130

Village Church, Grotto

Scouting (Troop 456)

# Fr. Brendan's Billboard



#### Dear St. Joseph Parishioners,

#### With Joy and Gratitude

I write this annual state of the parish letter with joy and gratitude. The parishioners of St. Joseph have worked, sacrificed, invested, and contributed to the unifying of our worship and parish ministries and programs on one campus. We now minister, pray, teach, and grow in faith on one campus. This unity has been prayed for, sacrificed for, and invested in over the last 25 years. We have taken these great steps together, and we are united in praise and thanksgiving.

#### A Generous Year

In this financial report, you will see that last year our parish's income over budget was significant and our parish's expenses were significantly over budget. The extra expenses are listed at the bottom of page two of this report. The two primary expenses were I) gutter repair on the village church, taken from savings, and 2) brownout repairs, which insurance covered, will be credited as income on the fiscal year report for 2025-2026. Last year's weekly collection averaged just under \$450.00 per week over goal. The weekly generosity of St. Joseph parishioners, plus the support of Kitchen Shower and Landscape Shower gifts, helped us have all the funds needed for our construction project.

#### **New Sunday Goal**

The generous giving of parishioners allowed us to be courageous in raising our weekly Sunday goal \$1,400 over our actual average. This year's weekly goal is \$26,800.00. If we all just give a few extra dollars each week, we will be in a good financial position. It is the Finance Council's firm belief that we will realize some savings from being on one campus with reduced electricity, gas, and maintenance costs. However, it will take a year to have a full financial picture.

#### Saints and Scholars

We are now in the midst of the Diocese of Lansing Catholic Education Saints and Scholars Campaign. The goal of this campaign is to support Catholic School Education and parish programs.

- I. Raise funds to retain teachers.
- 2. Increase tuition assistance.
- 3. Strengthen special education.
- 4. Help our St. Joseph Parish needs.

Your support of this campaign is essential. Our goal for this campaign is \$1.44 million. It breaks down in these ways:

- On Mission (35%) \$504,000
- Affordable (30%) \$432,000
- Accessible (15%)- \$216,000
- St. Joseph Parish Needs (20%)- \$288,000

#### **Our Next Steps**

In union with the Saints and Scholars Campaign, we are allowed to hold an additional parish campaign. For our parish, we can work to raise an additional \$1.15 million, which we will use for these projects:

- **First**, to remove the old school, convent, and rectory on the village campus and then relandscape the property for a prayer garden and additional parking.
- **Second**, we will remodel the parish Disciple House into a rectory.
- Third, we will save for the parish parking lot repaving.

For us to do these projects, we will need to raise funds, seek approvals, design a landscape, and hire experts to do the work. As it took time, planning, and fundraising for our church and the addition, it will take time to bring these projects to completion. Your prayerful support in advance will be most appreciated. (continued on the next page)

# Fr. Brendan's Billboard



(continued)

#### **All Saints Day**

All Saints Day is normally a Holy Day of Obligation. This year it falls on the weekend, so it is not a day of obligation.

#### **All Souls**

On November 2, a Sunday this year, we will pray for and remember our faithful departed at all of our weekend Masses. We will hold our parish All Souls Mass to remember our deceased loved on Wednesday, November 5, at 7 p.m. Families of those buried from our parish in the last year will be invited to a Mass on Remembrance. If you would like your loved one remembered at our All Souls Mass on November 5, please call Darlene Cresson at the parish office or email her at <a href="mailto:darlene\_cresson@sjos.com">darlene\_cresson@sjos.com</a>.

#### **Knights of Columbus**

The Knights of Columbus Council # 2959 will remember their deceased members on November 13 at 7 p.m. in the Country Church.

#### **Thanksgiving Day**

We will celebrate Mass on Thanksgiving Day in our Country Church at 9 a.m. Come to Mass and give thanks for the blessings of this past year. The Parish Office will be closed November 27 & 28.

As the seasons change and the days grow shorter and cooler, let us remember the blessings of the sunshine of summer. May we remember that as the days are darker, Jesus Christ is our light, our warmth, and our guide.

Shalom.

Fr. Brendan J. Walsh



#### **Campaign Prayer**

Lord, everything we have is a gift from you.

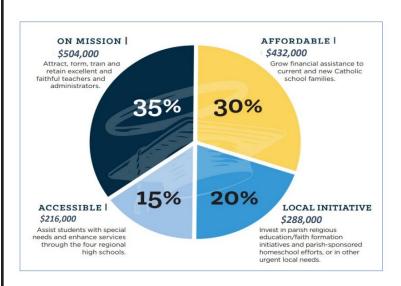
You call us to receive your gifts with thanks, to develop these gifts fully, and to share them generously.

Through the Stewards for *Saints and Scholars* Campaign help every young person in the Diocese of Lansing see your truth, beauty, and goodness; help families to raise their children in the Faith; and help parishes make a truly Catholic education available to all.

May the work of this campaign bear abundant fruit in the Saints and Scholars you are raising up for the future.

We ask these blessings through Christ our Lord. Amen

### ST. JOSEPH PARISH GOAL -- \$1.44 MILLION



#### ST. JOSEPH PARISH State of the Parish July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

INCOME			
Source of Income	2024-2025 BUDGET	2024-2025 ACTUAL	2025-2026 BUDGET
Donations	2,000.00	3,696.00	3,000.00
Silent Auction		33,045.43	-
DSA Over Goal Revenue Share	17,000.00	24,569.00	20,000.00
Holy Days	11,000.00	13,532.08	11,000.00
Christmas	70,000.00	105,696.25	85,000.00
Sunday Collections (including Year End Special)	1,300,000.00	1,322,481.11	1,393,600.00
Weekly Goal/Actual Average/next FY goal		\$25,442.25	\$26,800.00
Miscellaneous	13,000.00	18,315.83	18,400.00
Facility Rental	5,000.00	5,610.00	3,000.00
Mass Stipends	3,650.00	7,490.00	3,650.00
Tuition K - 8	11,500.00	11,586.82	11,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,433,150.00	1,546,022.52	1,549,150.00
	4,,	-,,-	-,,
	EXPENSE		
Salaries & Fringes	2024-2025 BUDGET	2024-2025 ACTUAL	2025-2026 BUDGET
Salaries	591,439.66	574,116.41	624,255.45
Fringe Benefits & Payroll Taxes	268,273.25	257,003.13	288,574.65
Staff Development & Travel	5,500.00	860.89	7,900.00
Total Salaries & Fringes	865,212.91	831,980.43	920,730.10
Administration			
Sunday Envelopes	5,000.00	5,572.09	5,600.00
Sacramental Assistance	5,000.00	4,439.19	4,400.00
Copy Machine	11,000.00	14,201.52	13,000.00
Computer Systems Support	3,000.00	8,849.95	4,500.00
Diocesan Assessment Priest Retirement Assessment	55,000.00 10,500.00	53,299.92 10,120.32	53,300.00 10,200.00
Catholic Schools Assessment	69,500.00	67,468.62	81,000.00
Catholic School Tuition Support to Parishioners	6,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Miscellaneous	18,500.00	25,894.91	22,000.00
Postage & Shipping	9,500.00	8,930.14	9,000.00
Office Supplies	7,000.00	7,788.12	6,300.00
Internet/Telephone (Village Office/Rectory)	4,100.00	3,961.54	900.00
Total Administration Expenses	204,100.00	217,526.32	217,200.00
Worship			
Music Expenses	16,750.00	12,917.24	19,250.00
Liturgy & Environment	16,002.00	18,444.76	17,052.00
Total Worship Expenses	32,752.00	31,362.00	36,302.00
Children/Youth/Adult Faith Formation			
RCIA	5,280.00	4,870.69	5,600.00
Adult Education	10,425.00	7,086.41	10,650.00
Adult Retreats (Building the Brotherhood of Christ; Growing in God)	2,100.00	2,163.63	2,600.00
Parish Mission	5,000.00	2,908.87	5,000.00
Evangelization (FAITH magazine)	8,300.00	7,003.82	7,300.00
Religious Education P-6	13,500.00	12,402.42	14,050.00
Religious Education 7-8	2,300.00	3,585.37	3,200.00
Youth Ministry	7,600.00	3,723.91	5,850.00
Total Faith Formation Expenses	54,505.00	43,745.12	54,250.00

#### ST. JOSEPH PARISH State of the Parish July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Christian Service	2024-2025 BUDGET	2024-2025 ACTUAL	2025-2026 BUDGET
Christian Service	50.00	0.00	50.00
Services for Parishioners	50.00	0.00	50.00
Total Christian Service Expenses	100.00	-	100.00
Parish Life			
Hospitality, Coffee & Donuts, Pizza & Pop	_	7,446.79	_
Parish Life Events	6,200.00	(218.04)	5,400.00
Sunday Nursery Attendant	1,500.00	(210.04)	5,400.00
Total Parish Life Expenses	4,900.00	7,228.75	5,400.00
Plant Operation & Maintenance	,,,,,,,,,	.,===	5,100.00
VILLAGE CAMPUS			
Snow Removal	20,000.00	20,711.50	20,000.00
*Repairs & Maintenance	12,000.00	94,980.03	1,000.00
Supplies	7,000.00	5,064.20	2,500.00
Natural Gas	22,000.00	22,916.94	10,000.00
Electricity	9,000.00	8,757.74	5,000.00
Water, Sewage, Trash Removal	4,500.00	5,416.89	3,500.00
COUNTRY CAMPUS	on posterior and an artist and a second and a		
Snow Removal	28,000.00	34,566.50	38,000.00
*Repairs & Maintenance	36,000.00	167,091.02	42,750.00
Supplies	13,000.00	16,539.96	12,000.00
Natural Gas	15,900.00	23,475.80	23,500.00
Electricity	28,800.00	34,198.58	31,900.00
Trash Removal	4,500.00	4,655.65	5,000.00
Telephone + Internet	7,100.00	7,333.44	9,700.00
GENERAL PARISH	<u>e</u>	,	15
Contracted Services	8,000.00	10,210.58	9,000.00
Capital Expenditures		=	122
Insurance	56,400.00	58,249.44	62,000.00
Vehicle	1,000.00	451.69	1,000.00
Total Plant Expenses	273,200.00	514,619.96	276,850.00
	nt Repair and Mai	ntenance Expenses	
Village Campus		Country Ca	m p u s
Light Replacements	3,883.29	Power Outage Repairs (insurace paid	105,294.99
Church Gutter/Shingle Repairs	88,235.00	claim in FY26) Boiler Heat Exchanger	22,806.16
Water Heater Rectory	2,150.00	Replace 7 HHWS controllers	22,850.00
	94,268.29	Drain at Festival barn	3,600.00
·	,	Irrigation pump repair	2,900.00
		Trane fan coil unit	2,103.53
		dilo idii con dilic	159,554.68
			200,00 1100
TOTAL PARISH INCOME	1,433,150.00	1,546,022.52	1,549,150.00
TOTAL PROGRAM & OPERATING EXPENSES	1,434,769.91	1,646,462.58	1,510,832.10
Total Revenue over Expenses	(1,619.91)	(100,440.06)	38,317.90

#### ST. JOSEPH PARISH State of the Parish July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

STAIRWAY TO THE FUTURE		CARITAS COLLECTIONS	
FUNDRAISING INCOME, as of August 28, 2025		STANDARD RECIPIENTS	AMOUNT
	AMOUNT	Cath Charities Food Pantry	2,087.00
Together in Faith & Fellowship	672,454.34	Dexter Family Services	5,146.00
Interest Income	74,535.30	St Joseph Christian Svc	2,057.00
Memorial Fund Donations	6,035.00	St Luke NEW Life Ctr-Flint	2,058.00
TOTAL FUNDRAISING INCOME	753,024.64	Catholic Habitat House	2,058.00
		FEATURED RECIPIENTS	
Together in Faith & Fellowship (pledges still owed)	993,052.24	Hope Clinic	2,221.00
		Catholic Charities of Wash	1,678.00
	19	Catholic Habitat House	11,300.00
		House N2 Home	2,276.00
PHASE II CONSTRUCTION	OBS A M	Caritas Total	30,881.00
Construction Budget - 8,949,904.17	<b>可以</b>		
Construction Paid to Date - 8,798,810.73	<b>经过度</b>	SPECIAL COLLE	CTIONS
Construction Balance - 151,093.44		SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
		Catholic Charities (Bi-Month)	11,731.00
	THE STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE P	Faith in Action (Bi-Month)	13,938.00
	OFRICIA	Help Spread the Faith	1,061.00
TOTAL PARISH SAVINGS		Catholic Social Teaching	834.00
General Parish Savings	319,542.58	Catholic Relief Svcs	2,842.00
Phase II Savings	255,900.40	Other Diocesan Collections	5,599.00
	575,442.98	Mission Co-Op Appeal	17,038.50
		TOTAL	53,043.50

PARISH STATISTICS	FY2022-2023	FY2023-2024	FY2024-2025
Total Registered Households:	1168	1182	1220
Total Children in Households:	681	737	701
Total Individuals Registered:	3312	3352	3434

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ENROLLMENT	FY2022-2023	FY2023-2024	FY2024-2025
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (pre + K)	29	30	29
1st - 8th Grade	135	111	117
Mustard Seed + Confirmation	24	25	29
Adult Volunteers in Religious Ed	24	36	33

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS FY2025				
Baptisms	41	Funerals	27	
Confirmations (St Mary, St Joseph & Easter)	45	Weddings	8	
First Communions	38			

#### **Pastoral Council Notes**



Dear Parish Family,

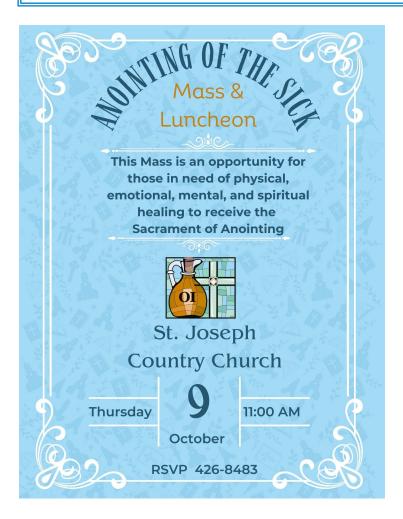
As we head into the fall season, the Pastoral Council has been hard at work planning and discerning the best ways to serve our parish community. With new programs, events, and outreach efforts on the horizon, we are excited about the opportunities to grow together in faith and deepen our sense of community. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we strive to be a vibrant and welcoming parish for all.

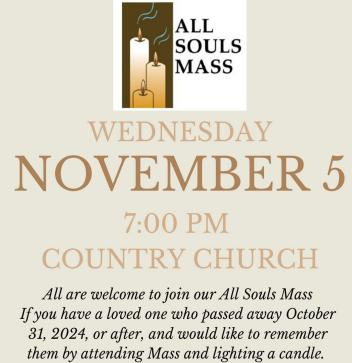
We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have already generously supported the Saints and Scholars Campaign for Catholic education. Your commitment reflects the heart of our parish mission—to grow in faith and form future generations grounded in truth, service, and the love of Christ. This campaign is an investment not only in our schools but in the future of the Church itself. Catholic education forms students in both academic excellence and spiritual integrity, equipping them to be faithful disciples and leaders in the world. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to participate, we ask you to prayerfully consider making a contribution of any amount. Every gift makes a difference and is deeply appreciated. Whether large or small, your generosity helps shape the future of our Church.

We also invite you to mark your calendars for two exciting upcoming parish events! Join us for our BBQ & Bourbon evening on October II—a fun time for food and fellowship—and don't miss our elegant "Putting on the Ritz" Silent Auction on November 8- an evening sure to inspire faith and glamour. These gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to get involved, meet other parishioners, and share in an evening of fun, fellowship, and Catholic community. We hope to see many of you there—bring a friend, share your talents, and celebrate all that makes our parish so special.

Together, may we continue to build a vibrant parish rooted in faith, hope, and love. In Christ,

Tanya Clark, Pastoral Council Member





Please submit a photo to the parish office for our wall of remembrance by October 27

RSVP - Darlene Cresson, darlene\_cresson@stjos.con

#### **INTERIOR CHURCH CLEANING BEE DATES**

#### **Country Church**

Saturday, November I 9am to noon

#### Village Church

Saturday, November 15 9am to noon



Use the QR codes to sign up

#### **CHURCH GROUNDS CLEANING DATES**

#### **Country Church**

Saturday, October 25 8am to noon

#### Village Church

Saturday , November 8 8am to noon



#### LITURGICAL MINISTER TRAINING DATES

#### **Hospitality & Lector Ministers**

Monday, October 6 at 7pm

or

Wednesday, October 22 at 7pm

#### **EME**

Thursday, October 9 at 7pm

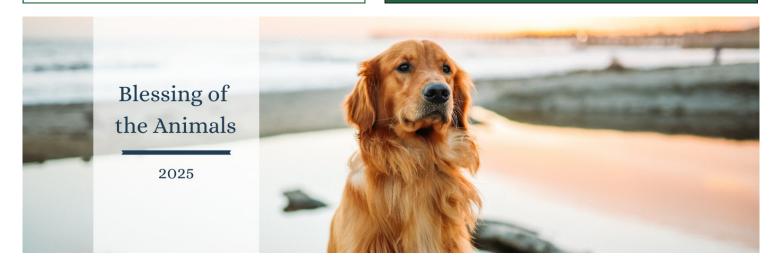
Tuesday October 21 at 7pm



#### Altar Server

Saturday October 18 AND Saturday October 25 9 - 10:30 am OR 10:30 - noon

All training is at the Country Church



Our annual blessing of pets will be held at 9:00am on **Saturday, October 4**. We will meet on the steps of the Village Church. Bring all of your pets—big or small—to have them blessed!



# Parish Life Presents BBQ & Bourbon RESCHEDULED TO - OCTOBER 11, 2025

Join us in the Parish Social hall for an evening of BBQ & Bourbon tasting. Enjoy BBQ your way with a variety of sauces provided along with coleslaw, cornbread, and dessert. We will be tasting several different bourbons chosen especially for our event by our resident bourbon experts!

Tickets can be purchased after Mass on September 27/28 and November 4/5 or at the Parish Office or online—www.sjos.com.

Individual tickets are \$35.00 each or a table of eight for \$245.

Please contact Marinell High at the parish office, 734-426-8483 or email <a href="marinell\_high@stjos.com">marinell\_high@stjos.com</a> with any questions.



This year, we invite you to the Silent Auction...

Roaring 20's...Puttin' on the Ritz on November 8, in our ST. JOSEPH PARISH SOCIAL HALL.

The dress for the evening is Special Event, so get out your flapper dress, top hat, and tails (or Sunday Suit) and join us for a speakeasy evening!

The evening will start with hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and bidding on silent auction items. While we all enjoy dinner with wine, we will also enjoy good conversation and the music of Steve Hinz. Following dinner, we will continue to bid on silent auction items and finish out the evening with dessert at our tables and a live auction.

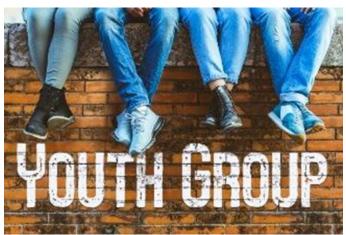
It takes two things to make this Auction and Dinner a success:

- Parishioners who attend and/or donate:
  - Buy your tickets, donate a basket, a service, a standalone item or become a sponsor
  - Tickets are on sale! You can get yours in the Gathering Space after all Masses, in the parish office or online at www.stjos.com.
  - See more detailed information about donations at www.stjos.com
- Workers who put it all together
  - If you are willing to help with the Auction in a small or big way, please call Marinell High at the Parish Office 734-426-8483.

When these three elements come together, we are able to make important contributions to our parish!







Would you like to be part of something where you can simply be yourself? A place you can hang out with your friends, share great stories, and make new friends? A place you can have fun, play some games, and laugh. A place you can learn about your faith, feel safe to ask meaningful questions, and talk about and share the things that are happening in your life.

Then joining a small high school youth group may be for you. You can either join now using the QR code or come to one of our scheduled small group youth meetings. If you have any questions, please contact Don Dalgleish at don dalgleish@stjos.com or at 734-426-2674.



You will teach them to fly, but they will not fly your flight. You will teach them to dream, but they will not dream your dream. You will teach them to live, but they will not live your life. Nevertheless, in every flight, in every life, in every dream, the print of the way you taught will always remain.

MOTHER TERESA



#### **GOD SQUAD 2025-2026**

ST. JOSEPH PARISH MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH Friday, October 3 Blast Corn Maze 6-8:30pm **GROUP** Sunday November 9 Teen Room and Gym 2-3:30pm **GRADES 6-8** Sunday, December 14 Teen Room 2-3:30pm Friday, January 23 Airborne Trampoline. Time TBA

Sunday, February 8 Teen Room and Gym 2-3:30pm Sunday, March 8 Teen Room and Gym 2-3:30pm Sunday, April 19 Teen Room and Gym 2-3:30pm Friday, May 15 Bowling at Revel and Roll 5:45-8:30pm



6-8PM IN THE TEEN ROOM AND GYM AT THE

2025

OCTOBER 12 OCTOBER 26 NOVEMBER 23 ECEMBER 14 DECORATING CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR HOMEBOUND/SHUT-INS CEMBER 28 NO YOUTH GROUP (WINTER BREAK)



#### 2025 Schedule

October 5 Open Gym Night October 19 Open Gym Night Open Gym Night November 2 November 18 Open Gym Night

November 30 No gym—Thanksgiving Weekend

December 7 Open Gym Night December 21 Open Gym Night





#### Ladies Advent Tea – It is time to mark your calendar!

Invite your friends and spend a delightful evening of conversation and reflection centered around Advent. You can host a table OR come as a guest on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, in the Social Hall.

The Ladies Advent Tea 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**. If you would like to host a table, we will send you all the information you need to get started.

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 Signup Genius QR code, call the parish office at 734-426-8483 or email Marinell High at <a href="marinell\_high@stjos.com">marinell\_high@stjos.com</a>



#### **Environmental Stewardship**

2025 has been a Jubilee year for the Church, and Pope Francis called the faithful to focus on *hope*. We are called to be signs of hope to all people. This is especially true as we serve the elderly, the ill, the lonely, and the frightened - those who may question their value and dignity.

Pope Leo XIV encourages us, "How important it is that each and every baptized person feel himself or herself called by God to be a sign of hope in the world today." What a beautiful way to show our love for life!

As we enter the final months of this year and the holidays will soon approach, there will be many opportunities for us to be signs of hope to others. Meals can be made and shared with those who hunger, gifts can be collected and delivered to the vulnerable, and time can be spent with the elderly who are lonely. Open your heart to how God wants you to share hope and love with others, and you'll be amazed at the opportunities that present themselves.



#### **Giving Garden**

The Giving Garden continues to have an excellent growing season. Volunteers are growing amazing, nutritious vegetables that go to Faith in Action on behalf of the parish to feed our neighbors in need. As of the end of August, over a thousand pounds of potatoes, greens, tomatoes, herbs, summer squash, green beans, various pepper varieties, cucumbers, and other vegetables have gone to FIA. This August, the Giving Garden also donated over forty pounds of peaches given by one of the gardeners from their home peach tree. There is still much more food to come. Winter squash and pumpkins will be coming in from home gardens to donate as the garden winds down for the season. Watch for the grand total for the 2025 growing season in a future Chips and Sawdust. It is a blessing to be able to feed our neighbors in need, to have volunteers, and a beautiful garden in which to produce so much nutritious food.

Thank you to all those who helped to feed the hungry. God is good!



#### **Troop 456 Activities**



This Camporee was designed to introduce Scouts and Scouters to the fascinating and sometimes misunderstood field of atomic energy. The event was hosted by the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, located in Ottawa County, Ohio. The staff is made up of dedicated employees, many of whom are active Scouters themselves. There was full day of activities with Scouts completing the requirements for their **Nuclear Science merit badge.** 

To earn the Boy Scouts of America's Nuclear Science merit badge, the scouts had to learn and explain the basics of nuclear science, including the definition of radiation and its hazards, how to use a Geiger counter, and the role of nuclear energy in society

Key requirements to earning the merit badge include building a Geiger counter, exploring different types of radiation by placing materials between a source and detector, visiting a facility using X-rays, and researching the contributions of significant scientists in the field. The scouts also learned about nuclear reactor components and demonstrated an understanding of the principle of ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) when working with radiation.



The high Adventure outing for this period was at Picture Rocks National lakeshore. Pictured Rocks Lakeshore is black bear country —where all personal and "smell-able" items (food, toothpaste, sunscreen, etc) should fit into a odor-sealing bag of the 1qt size. We used bear bags and bear lockers located at a minimum height of 12 feet and 10 feet as a minimum distance from any hanging post or tree to store these personal items along with group food at night. The main goal of the outing was to do some rugged hiking. The hiking took place over 4 days covering about 22 miles. And by the way there were no black bears encountered.

If you are interested in being a scout or an adult leader please contact Pete Potsos (scoutmaster) 734-355-8729 or Ron Carpinella (Charter Organization Rep.) 734-476-3151

## Christmas Cookie Market

Saturday, December 6 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm St. Joseph Parish Social Hall 6805 Mast Rd., Dexter, MI

### 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.

Please use our website, <a href="https://www.stjos.com">www.stjos.com</a>, and click the link provided

OR use this QR code to register your donation.



Cookies should be delivered to the Parish Social Hall on Friday,

December 5 from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm. There is no need to display

or wrap your cookies in any way. We will do that for you!

Use the back parking lot and come in the double doors to the Parish Hall.



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 Social Hall with our Cookie Market.

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.

Patricia Ryan

AJ & Molly Haduch Mikaela and Olivia

John & Amy Michalek Jacob and Julia

Alexander & Jennifer McKay Gabriel, Matthew and Victoria

Jessamyn Carter

Anthony & Elizabeth Sensoli

Elaine Woods

Dave Grob & Patricia Anderson

Robert Mosey & Thu Nguyen Mosey Lucy and Linus

Sam Dobrowolski

Edwin and Theresa Weber

Frederic and Jeanne Matthews

### 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.

Robert Onstott

Benjamin Christopher Daugherty

Esther Adeline Pernicano

Edmund Richard

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

Kevin William Walsh & Camillia Aurora Cascardo

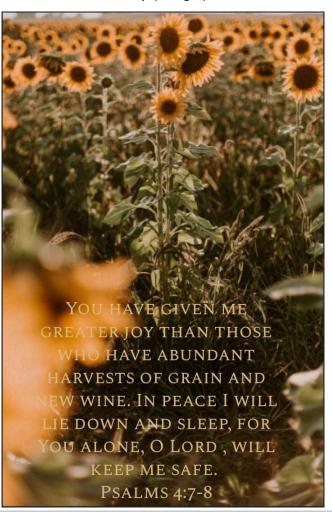
Michael Alan Machnick & Christine Danielle Donahue

#### Baptized into the Family of God You are God's work of art, created in Jesus the Christ.

Bennett Logan Julvezan
Son of Logan & Marisa (Hust) Julvezan

Boden James Glahn Son of Matthew & Jessica (Guoin) Glahn

> James Kiamil Simon Luke & Abby (Coogan) Simon





## ST. JOSEPH PARISH 6805 Mast Rd. Dexter, MI 48130

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