



“Look up and see the fields
ripe for the harvest...”

(John 4:35)

FALL 2011

PASTORAL PASSAGES:

*“All good gifts around us,
are sent from Heaven above
Then thank the Lord,
thank the Lord for all His love...”*

The lyrics from the 1971 musical, *Godspell*, echo the Psalms and provide a fitting anthem as we begin the autumn season. It is a season for feasting on the beauty of nature, taking stock and counting blessings, and for turning to God with prayers of gratitude and praise. Autumn gives me the opportunity to give thanks to God for all of you and for your generous support of St. Joseph Parish.

The enclosed FINANCIAL REPORT testifies to the stewardship of our treasure. It details the ways that we continue to return to God a portion of the “good gifts” that we have received and support the many ministries of our church and school. In a special way, I want to commend our Finance Council for their guidance in financial matters and our School and Parish Staff members for their careful stewardship of the resources that they administer on our behalf.

Changing Lives Together Stewardship Initiative

As you know by now, our parish is joining the *Changing Lives Together* initiative this fall. Archbishop Vigneron is requesting that every parish of the Archdiocese participate. For our St. Joseph community, *Changing Lives Together* is a wonderful opportunity for us to strengthen our parish by bringing

us closer to one another in a common initiative that will deepen our fellowship and faith. Together, we will focus anew on stewardship of the gifts that God has given to us. The *Changing Lives Together* initiative will not only help us in meeting our debt obligation for the past expansion of our church and school buildings, but also enable us to “pay forward” to the other parishes of the Archdiocese that now need our help. I join Archbishop Vigneron in his prayerful belief that one of the greatest blessings of this initiative is the opportunity to come together as a parish and as an Archdiocesan community in Christ. Be sure to read the FAQ’s regarding this initiative which are included in this mailing. To learn more about *Changing Lives Together*, please visit www.aodclt.org.

The New Roman Missal

This fall we are anticipating the introduction of the NEW ROMAN MISSAL on the First Sunday of Advent. The Missal is the Church’s official prayer book for the Mass. Some of the English translations of the responses and prayers of the Mass are changing to reflect the Latin original more closely. For example, when the priests says, “The Lord be with you” the response will be, “And with your spirit.” These changes will be awkward at first, but in the end, I hope they will draw us more deeply into the mystery of our faith that we celebrate at every Mass.

St. Joseph Shrine

Last year, the parish commissioned local artist, Tony Bellomo,

to carve statues in oak for the church – one of St. Joseph with Jesus and the other of the Blessed Mother. Mr. Bellomo is the same artist who fashioned our pulpit to match the original oak altar and was a natural choice to produce sculptures for our historic and beautiful church. We will soon accept delivery of the statues and will inaugurate a devotional area to St. Joseph in the niche on the north side of the choir. It is my hope that the artist’s work will inspire, challenge and give us new insight into the Holy Family and especially, St. Joseph our patron and namesake.

– Fr. Michael Verschaeve

MINISTRY SIGN-UP:

On September 17/18 everyone will have an opportunity to “Sign up for Ministry.” Whether you are already involved in ministry at the parish or are new to ministry and would like to offer your time and talent, there are several ways for you to get involved: We need choir members to lift our prayer in song, lectors to proclaim God’s word and St. Vincent de Paul members to serve the poor. There are ministries for men, women, young adults and teens.

Please consider which ministry you are called to, complete the enclosed Ministry Sign-up Form and bring it to church the weekend of 9/18.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Fall is upon us and once again we ask ourselves where the summer went and why it was so brief... there is no time for our musicians to look back as we are busy planning and preparing for various activities of the season. Big on our minds this year are the **revised translations of the Mass** which will be implemented across the United States on the first Sunday of Advent.

Here at St. Joe's we will ease our way by gradually introducing new Mass parts beginning this October. Our singers will be assisting and helping us through this period of transition. You will read more about the upcoming changes in the Sunday bulletins this fall.

It is not too early to put our **Christmas Concert** date on your calendars - **Sunday, Dec. 11 at 6pm.** Encouraged by the enthusiastic response of those who - in spite of the snow blizzard - attended our

Christmas Concert last December, we are presenting the same program again, the winning cantata, **"Only Love."** With over a hundred performers, singers, actors, narrators and instrumentalists; with sound and light effects, St. Joe's will turn into a magical place that night! I hope you will choose to be a part of this wonderful production by being a member of the audience or by singing in the chorus. You can find more details about this event on the music page of our website at www.stjosephlakeorion.org.

And speaking of the music page, I encourage you to visit it often. In upcoming weeks you will find a wealth of information pertaining to various music activities. You may enjoy browsing through it, even if you are not a member of our Music Team. And while doing so you may be drawn to become one.

Happy Fall,
Leszek Bartkiewicz



SCHOOL:



For 59 years, St. Joseph Elementary and Middle School has responded to the call for Catholic education in the Lake Orion and Oxford area. St. Joseph School is a faith-filled community; the spirit of prayer permeates our school day. We teach students to welcome every challenge with the strength, faith and confidence that is gained through prayer.

As a Catholic school, we also teach our children about the **value of stewardship:** offering time, talent, and treasure. Each of our students believes that learning with the heart is just as important as learning with the head. Our students share their time, talent and treasure in a wide variety of outreach activities to prove that religion is not confined to a class period, but is part of their lives as Christians. We support local food collections, pack Christmas shoeboxes for children around the world, visit the homeless

in the Cass Corridor as part of our PB&J ministry for middle school, visit nursing homes, support the missions in Haiti and China and much more. We believe that when you are part of faith-in-action as a child, it becomes part of your life for the future.

We are small enough to be a true family, yet large enough to encompass all that you dream for your child! We teach their minds, touch their hearts, and shape their spirits to become the leaders of the future. Please call the 248.693.6215 or visit www.stjosephlakeorion.org for further information on how your family can join our school community where children are learning, growing, believing, and succeeding!

We are grateful to our parish community for their spiritual and financial support.

Sister Theresa Darga, OSF
Principal

CHRISTIAN SERVICE:

Holy Rollers
Join St. Joe's travel group for fun this fall...



German Oktoberfest:
Saturday, Sept. 24

Join Fr. Darrell Roman at St. Joseph's Church in Detroit - live music, German beer, strudel and more! Cost: \$20 for bus transportation. Food/beverages extra.

Shop Shiphshewana:
Tuesday, Sept. 13

Join us in Shiphshewana, Indiana for shopping, Amish chicken dinner and more. Cost: \$63-includes round trip transportation and dinner.

More trips are in the planning stage. Contact Marilyn Scolari at 249-693-8550 for info or ideas for other trips. Everyone is welcome!

Soup-er Senior Bingo

Parish seniors, mark your calendars for Sunday, Nov. 13 and join us for an afternoon of Bingo and dinner, courtesy of St. Joe's very own Soup and Bread-makers. Bingo begins at 2pm with dinner immediately following. You won't want to miss it, so grab your friends and your Bingo dappers and join us! RSVP to the parish office by November 10.



EXTREME HOME MAKEOVER:
St. Joe's Edition



Are you a handy-man or woman? Do you like to paint, organize, and renovate? Do you like to have fun? If you answered yes to any of these questions, mark your calendar for Saturday Oct. 29. For the 3rd year in a row we will be doing our own version of the show Extreme Home Makeover. It's an all day affair, beginning before the sun comes up! Last year we gave 4 families new surroundings...fresh paint, stained decks, clean kitchens, new bedrooms and more. Watch for more details in the Voice or call Colleen in the Christian Service Office.

SVDP Clothing Drive:

Help us fill the truck! Our annual clothing drive is scheduled for Sunday October 2. Just drop your clothes off at the gym doors that day before mass and we will do the rest! Families looking for projects to do together? Call us! We need your help. All hands are welcome. Call the parish office and ask for Lisa.

Adopt-A-Family:

Please prayerfully consider helping another family this Christmas season. Call Colleen in Christian Service at 248.693.0440 for more details.



FAITH FORMATION:

We are called to give of ourselves! The gift of our time, talent, and treasure is critical as we continue to build up God's Kingdom. We are very fortunate to have such a beautiful place to gather, worship, and praise our Lord here at St. Joseph. Not only do we have a unique and beautiful space throughout our campus we have the beauty of our people's hands working together which has made St. Joseph parish truly holy.

If you are looking for a place to minister or share your faith with others, our Faith Formation department would like to invite and encourage you give us a call. We have a wonderful group of catechists who partner with us in echoing the word of God to our people and surrounding community.

In our children's religious education program we have a curriculum and supply completed lesson plans. If your passion is working with teens or adults in faith formation we will help you find a spot. Speaking of adult ministry, we would like to welcome Sherry Brandon who is our new Adult Faith Formation Coordinator.

Of course we give our time and talent but as we know, our church can't keep its doors open without monetary support. We are not a church that requires all members to give a certain amount – any size gift surely helps. But imagine if all of us gave even a few dollars each week. If you haven't been able to give monetarily to our church please don't let that prevent you from coming and being involved. We all give in different ways, and each and every kind of gift is truly appreciated!

In Christ's name we serve,
Kim Myers

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DATES TO REMEMBER

- Registration for classes has been ongoing from April – September 9th. It will resume after classes begin. Go to our website to register now!
- Confirmation Retreat weekend is September 10 and 11
- Classes for 1st–5th grades begin September 26
- Classes for 6th–8th grades begin October 18

WORSHIP:

MASS OF ANOINTING
Saturday, Oct. 15 at 11am
Luncheon to follow

This sacrament is for all who suffer from illness or disability, for the elderly, and for those preparing for serious surgery and hospitalization.

WORLD YOUTH/ROCK MASS
Saturday, Oct. 15 at 4:30pm

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS
Tuesday, Nov. 1
Holy Day of Obligation
Masses: 9am, 12 noon & 7pm

ALL SOULS DAY
Wednesday, Nov. 2
Masses: 9am & 7pm

At the evening Mass we will remember in a special way those who have died this past year and were buried through the ministry of our parish. A reception will follow in Marian Hall.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE:



In the Footsteps of Jesus

As Fr. Mike makes his pilgrimage to the Holy Land this winter, we are inviting all parishioners to join him through study and prayer. Travel with us *in the footsteps of Jesus*, and start your journey this fall by attending one of these exciting events. . .

Bravehearts Event: "Jesus: The Ultimate Male Role Model"
Saturday, Oct. 1
7:30–10:30 am, Myrick Hall

All men are welcome to join the Bravehearts for engaging guest speaker, Steve Ray.

Parish Event: "The Footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land"
Saturday, Oct. 1
After 4:30pm Mass

Steve Ray is an intrepid trav-

eler, expert on the Holy Land, popular Catholic apologist, documentary producer and best-selling author. One of the most fascinating Catholic speakers around, he has been appropriately dubbed "Jerusalem Jones" by the National Catholic Register. Come and be inspired by this man whose enthusiasm for the Catholic Faith is infectious.

Women's Evening of Reflection: In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare
Thursday, Oct. 13
6:30pm, Marian Hall

Sr. Theresa Darga will share her pilgrimage in the footsteps of her patrons St. Francis and St. Clare. Come and enjoy her picturesque slides and deep insights about these two very significant figures of our Catholic faith.

RCIA:

Another exciting year is upon us here at St. Joes. There are many things to be involved in, both to offer your service as well as deepen your own spiritual growth. As participants move through the RCIA process, we encourage them to find some type of ministry to be involved in. We talk about how important it is to be a good steward and an intentional disciple of Jesus Christ. This is important for all baptized Christians.

I hope each one of you has an opportunity to participate in one of the many offerings we have for the Adults of our parish. Have you tried a scripture study class on Monday? How about the Alpha course this fall on Wednesday evenings or Thursday mornings? (Watch for dates for Catholicism 2011!) Per-

haps you'd like to attend a Bravehearts gathering, or a special women's event. Are you skilled at small group facilitating, or would you like training? Many of our groups could use small group leaders and we offer training. Have you gone through the Spiritual Gifts discernment process? I encourage everyone to try something new this year!

If you or someone you know would like more information on the Catholic faith, please call me at 248-693-0440 ext. 242. We will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 7th in Marian Hall. This fall we will join the Alpha group for dinner at 6:30pm before we begin our meeting at 7pm. This is available to everyone for a free will offering. Come and join us!

Peace,
Debbie Bloomgren

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

715 N. Lapeer Rd.
Lake Orion, MI 48362

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Lake Orion, MI
Permit No. 4

www.stjosephlakeorion.org



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH: 83 YEARS OF SERVICE

2011 FALL CALENDAR

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 9/7 Alpha Kick-off Dinner
6:30pm, Marian | 10/1- Changing Lives
10/9 Together Packet Distribution | 11/1 All Saints Day
9am Mass |
| 9/11 Parish Picnic
4-6:30pm, Front lawn | 10/13 Women's Evening of Reflection
<i>"In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare"</i>
6:30pm, Marian | 11/2 All Souls Day
9am & 7pm Masses |
| 9/17- Ministry Sign-up
9/18 Weekend At all weekend Masses | 10/15 Mass of Anointing
<i>Luncheon to follow</i>
11am, Church | 11/12 Bravehearts Event
Bishop Michael Byrnes
8:30am, Myrick Hall |
| 10/1 Bravehearts Guest Speaker Steve Ray:
<i>"Jesus: The Ultimate Male Role Model"</i>
7:30-10:30am, Myrick | World Youth Rock Mass
4:30pm, Church | 11/19- Changing Lives
11/20 Together Celebration Weekend |
| Parish-wide Guest Speaker Steve Ray:
<i>"Footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land"</i>
5:30-8:30pm, Myrick | 10/29- Changing Lives
10/30 Together Commitment Weekend | 12/1 Advent by Candlelight
5:30pm Gym, Marian Hall and Church |
| | | 12/11 St. Joseph Church Christmas Concert
6pm, Church |

PARISH PICNIC:

It's time once again for our end of summer party... the St. Joseph Church Parish Picnic! We'll meet out on the front lawn for an All-American Celebration that will include live music, face painting, rock climbing, food and of course, a St. Joe's-style variety show! Don't miss out on all the fun! Join us rain or shine:

Sunday, September 11
4:00 to 6:30 p.m.



COMING THIS FALL:

Little Rock Scripture Study

"The Book of Revelation"

Start Date: September 12
Times: 10:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m.
Book Fee: \$15/person
Sign up by: September 2

Is the Book of Revelation a book about the end times or is it something more? Many have viewed this last book of the Bible as a kind of "flight plan for leaving earth," a road-map of the end times. And yet what do Scripture scholars tell us about this type of "apocalyptic" literature? What was the primary message for the early Christian community of that time? What is its message for us as Christians of the 21st-century?

The Book of Revelation uses highly symbolic and "coded" language that had special meaning for the early Chris-

tians in their time of crisis. Numbers, colors, vivid images of beasts and earthquakes and plagues and cosmic upheaval, all carry a wealth of meaning to be unpacked and understood. Amid all kinds of evil and frightening events, the writer of Revelation is repeatedly told by the angels and by Christ: "Do not fear." The book calls believers to hope as it closes with a vision of heavenly worship where His servants "look upon his face" and where "night will be no more." Who of us does not long for that day?

Intrigued? Come and find yourself strengthened and encouraged in your faith as we prayerfully study the Book of Revelation together! Book fee is \$15/person (couples may share a book if desired), payable at the first session. To participate in the study, please register by calling the Parish Office by Sept. 2nd.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

Are you ready to take the next step in your spiritual journey? Is there a nudging, that just won't go away? Worried about not having enough time to do more in ministry? The answer might lie in the spiritual gifts discernment process.

This 4-week discernment process is about doing more *with God*. By discerning your spiritual gifts you will be able to 'notice' the people and situations God is bringing to you—to create order, bring mercy, offer encourage-

ment. The process will help you name and claim your gifts so that you can live with greater purpose and intention. As you will discover, it is not really about *doing*, so much as it is about *being*... an instrument of vision, wisdom and compassion. Bring a few friends and find out for yourselves. There is no charge for this program so plan to join us in Meeting Room #2 on Thursdays, September 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th from 7-9. Please RSVP to the parish office at 248-693-0440 or e-mail mmartin@stjosephlakeorion.org for more information.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Confirmation Masses

Confirmation will be celebrated on **Sunday, Oct. 16th** at two Masses 12:30pm

and 3:00pm with Bishop Arturo Cepada as our celebrant. Confirmation rehearsal is Thursday, Oct. 13th at 6pm in the church.

ALPHA COURSE:

What is the Alpha course?

- A chance to explore the big questions in life: What is the meaning of life? Why am I here? It sounds too good – is it really true? How can I be sure? Was Jesus real? Why is there suffering if God is all good?

- A chance to ask any question and explore any facet of Christianity.

Who is Alpha for?

- Anyone with serious questions about Christianity, anyone fallen away from the Church for whatever reason, anyone whose faith needs a shot in the arm.

Join us for a free and informal Alpha kick-off dinner on **Wednesday, Sept. 7** at 6:30pm in Marian Hall. Invite your friends, neighbors or family members. Engaging talks and discussion after dinner will offer everyone a chance to ask any question as they explore the claims of Christianity against the backdrop of their life and our culture. There is no obligation... just come and see.

The course will run 10 weeks with a Wednesday evening session at 6:30pm and a Thursday morning session at 10am. Register by phone: 248.693.0440 or via email: alpha@stjosephlakeorion.org.

ROMAN MISSAL:

As you know, some of the words we use at Mass will change this Advent. There are many reasons which led to these new texts: the Latin missal, which contains the prayers used during Mass, was updated in 2002 to include new prayers and celebrations of newly canonized saints. The new Latin needed to be translated into the languages of the people, including English. The new Missal reflects a truer translation of the original Latin.

As we have become familiar with the prayers said during Mass over the last fifty years, it may take some time to become accustomed to the new wording of prayers for Mass, so we will take time over the next several weeks to become

familiar with the prayers that will change and reflect on the rich meaning and beauty of our liturgical prayer. Beginning September 18th, look for a variety of informational helps offered in the Voice, through handouts and on our web site. Preparing ourselves for the coming changes gives us the opportunity to renew our appreciation for the true gift of Christ's sacramental presence and our commitment to live as Christ's Body in the world. May our attentive participation lead us to deeper love for God and all his people.

Sue Audette
 Worship Coordinator

Advent by Candlelight

Thursday, Dec. 1st, 2011
 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

All women of the parish are invited to attend an inspira-

tional evening of spirit and song. Women may attend alone, with a family member or host a table of 8 for friends and neighbors. Signup will be in Marian Hall this October.

Ministry Sign-up



Ministry Renewal & Sign Up Form

SEPTEMBER 2011

St. Joseph Church • Lake Orion, MI

Please update your information, complete the form and place in one of the baskets in the gathering space (after Mass, Sept. 17/18).

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Registered since : _____

E-mail Address: _____

I'm currently involved in and will renew my commitment to the following ministry(ies):

Please use the following questions to discern how God might be calling you to serve our parish and community this year.

What is my occupation, vocation or profession?

What are some of my hobbies? What activities do I really like to do that gives me joy?

What skills, talents or abilities do my friends and family members tell me I have?

What are some specific programs I can help with this year?

Time



I can share my gift of Time:

Spiritual Growth:

Scripture Study (September and February)

Alpha (September)

Catholicism 201

Women's Reflection: *In the Footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare* (October)

Small Group Facilitator for: RCIA Alpha Catholicism 201

St. Vincent de Paul member (on call to make home visits)

Knights of Columbus Member

Purls of Wisdom Knitting Ministry (once a week)

Helping with Senior Bingo (3 hours in October)

Big Chill Extreme Home Makeover (last Saturday of Oct.)

Giving Garden fall clean up (4 hours)

OVER ⇨

Talent

I can share my gift of Talent:

- Cooking a dish for funeral lunches
(pasta/ hot veggies/ salad/ dessert)
- Baking for senior coffee hour (once a month)
- Bread baker (once a month)

St. Joseph School Volunteer

- Teacher Helper
- Technology Committee
- Lunch/Playground Supervision

Faith Formation Volunteer

- Catechist (2 hrs. per week)
- Office Help (2 hrs. per week)
- Sunday School Catechist
- Children's Liturgy of the Word (once a month)
- J-Walkers High School Ministry
- FLOW Junior High Ministry
- FLOW Junior High Leaders (1-2 activities / month)

Worship Volunteer:

- Church Camera Ministry (All Masses, especially 7:30am & 12:30pm)
- Ushers (12:30pm Mass)
- Extraordinary Ministers of Communion (Serve at Mass you attend)
- EM Captains (Experienced EM with harmonious team skills)
- Adoration Chapel (One hour each week)
- Married Sponsor Couples (To work with the engaged)
- Baptism Assistants
- Singing or playing instrument with the Music Ministry program
 - Minstrels of Praise (12:30 Mass)
 - Adult Choir
 - Teen Choir
 - Children's Choir
 - Resurrection Choir (as needed for funerals)



Other

I have other gifts to share
