



When Life Is on Empty

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, “Pain is weakness leaving the body.” Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one’s child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life’s joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul’s assertion that Jesus came and “emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross,” then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God’s spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full. ●

Reflect

***What emptying am I experiencing?
Can I accept it as becoming more like Jesus?***



[Christ Jesus] emptied himself...
becoming obedient to death,
even death on a cross.

PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8

"Do not forget the works of the Lord!" Psalm 78

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 13th: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop/Doctor
4:00pm Mass: Pro Populo (For the People)

Sunday, September 14th: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
9:00am Mass: †Mandy Lercel by the Ponchart family

Tuesday, September 16th: St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian
8:00am Mass †John & Joan Latowski by Mary Lou David

Wednesday, September 17th: St. Robert Bellamine, Bishop
12:00pm Mass †Jim Sullivan by Dcn. Mark & Nancy Redwine
12:30pm Holy Hour of Adoration

Thursday, September 18th: Weekday
8:00am Mass Deceased members of the Mumich family
by Barb Mumich

6:00pm Holy Hour of Adoration
Friday, September 19th: St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
8:00am Mass †Mary & Michael Debrincat
by the Debrincat family

8:30am Holy Hour of Adoration

Saturday, September 20th: St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon priest
4:00pm Mass: †Howard & Beverly Stanek by Lisa Ernst

Sunday, September 21st: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00am Mass: Pro Populo (For the People)

St. Joseph & St. John of Praga

Parish Directory

207 Nicholls Street — P.O. Box 379

East Jordan, MI 49727

Office: (231) 536-2934

Email: parishoffice@stjosepheastjordan.org

Website: www.stjosepheastjordan.org

Pastor: Fr. Matthew Furguele (231)536-2934

Email: mfurguele@dioceseofgaylord.org

Deacon: Mark Redwine (734)788-3760

Music Director: Allison Derengowski (231) 881-3360

Parish Secretary: Mary Plude (231)536-2934

Email: mplude@stjosepheastjordan.org

Administrative Assistant: Annie Joy (231)536-2934

Email: ajoy@stjosepheastjordan.org

Catechetical Leader: Mary Plude (231)838-5383

Communication/Media: Annie Joy (231)350-8728

Maintenance: Russ Rybicki (440) 653-3568

Pastoral Council: Kim Helland-Carr (505) 290-2207

Finance Council: Irene Ferguson (619)890-9952

Cemetery Sexton: Al Joseph (231)838-9855

St. Anne Guild: Vicki Saenz (231)-222-2400

Sunshine Lady: Ann Werner (231)499-1182

**Confession 30 minutes before all Masses or
by appointment**



**Please call the office if
you or someone you
know should be
included on this list**

Nancy Amunsen
 Matt Barnadyn
 Braylan Blackwell
 Ray Borowiak
 Connie Bricker-Shaler
 Lee & Barbara Carlisimo
 Pat Castaneda
 Pat Chapman
 Bonnie Courter
 Roger & Nancy Danforth
 Kendra Davis
 John Ennest
 Myron Ennest
 Issac Gardner
 Padrick & Eileen Gardner
 Douglas Hagedon
 Gail Hagedon
 Marian Hanson
 Samantha Harris
 Joyce Hoult
 Elaine Hurst
 Donna Ignatowski
 Joseph Ignatowski
 Lydia Kaiser
 Carol Kerr
 Janet (Mumich) Krussell
 Bobby Kupovits
 Ellie Maza

Betty McKinnon
 Barb Mumich
 Lilly Nowka
 Tony Nessel
 Mary O'Connor
 Deb Olson
 Jeremy Palmrose
 Steve Paterka
 Gretchen Peck
 Keith Peters
 Bart Petrich
 Abigail Ponchart
 Lori Ponchart
 Daniel Powers
 John Powers
 Tom & Ruth Repichowski
 Gary Roberts
 Tom Robison
 Ed Scarborough
 Susan Shay
 Michael Sheridan
 Josh Spears
 Robbie Startzel
 Phyllis (Jeanie) Sumner
 Boden Vrondran
 Virginia Wabamimkee
 Grandvue Staff/ Residents
 All Souls in Purgatory

Michigan Catholic Women's Conference Registration open!

When: Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025

Time: 9am - 5pm

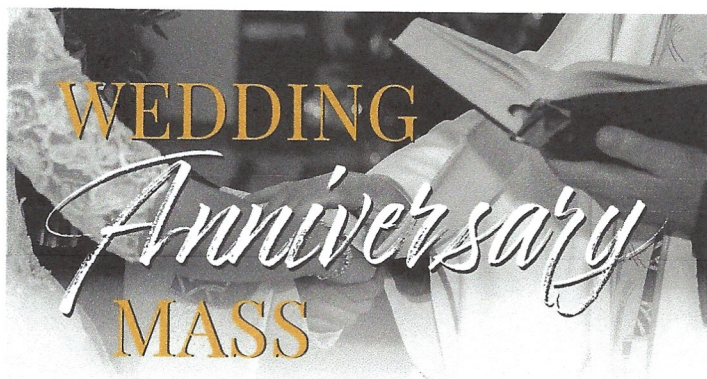
Where: Lansing Center- Lansing, MI

Women from across Michigan are invited to come together to focus on their faith and experience the fellowship of sisterhood in Christ Jesus. Throughout the day, women will be encouraged and inspired to ignite their spirits and grow their faith by hearing from Catholic speakers, engaging in praise and worship music, and celebrating holy Mass with our bishops.

Learn more and register today at:

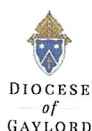
<https://michigancwc.org/>





Where: St. Mary Cathedral, Gaylord
When: Saturday, October 4, 2025 | 11 am

dioceseofgaylord.org/marriage



CELEBRATING MILESTONE
ANNIVERSARIES OF 10, 25, 50, 55, 60+ YEARS IN 2025



**Feeding the
Community**

**Food Pantry Collection
September 20th & 21st**

Collection envelopes
and a basket are in the
gathering space. Along
with a list of items
needed. Monetary
donations can be placed
in the collection at Mass.
Thank you to all who
are generous

Mass Intentions

The 2026 Mass Intention Book is open to schedule
Masses. Weekends and weekdays are open. We still
have a few weekday Masses left for 2025.
To schedule, stop by, call the parish office
or drop information in the collection basket

Middle East-Gaza Relief Fund

Bishop Walsh asked us to join in a collection to be taken
up for our brothers and sisters in the Middle East and
especially for the Gaza region to provide relief supplies
of food and personal items from the United States.
We donated \$2,409.00 to help aid in that effort.
Thank you for supporting the mission of our bishop!

St. John Nepomucene Mass

Will be on Saturday, October 4th.
Time will be at 6:00pm.
Fr. Matthew will be presiding.
After Mass will be a reception in the
parish hall. All are welcome.



Faith Formation

Classes for our students will be on September 14th & 28th
from 10:00am to 11:00am. We will begin upstairs in the
parish hall with an opening project and refreshments.
All school grades are welcome and those in preschool.
Adult Formation continues with the Tuesday study on the
Creeds at 4:00pm. OCIA is open for new inquiries: Those
in need of baptism and those who wish to enter into the
Catholic faith through confirmation.
Contact Mary or Annie for questions.

Singles Late 50s & Above:

**Looking for a deeper relationship with God
and a renewed sense of purpose for your
journey through life's transitions? Connect
with others and recharge your spiritual
batteries on a RENEW retreat! The next
weekend is on Oct 31-Nov 2, 2025 at the
St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI
(10 miles north of Lansing).**

**Cost is \$240 for meals and a single
room. For more info, go to
www.RenewRetreats.org, e-mail renewre-treat.mi@gmail.com, or call (517) 323-7012.**



CARE & SHARE FOOD PANTRY
September collection items for
St. Joseph is
Fresh Produce: Potatoes
Individual Packaged Snack Items
for Kid's lunches

Ministry Schedule for September 20th and 21st

September 20th: Saturday at 4:00pm

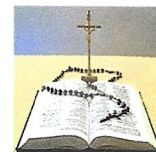
Lector: Dee Skrocki

Ushers: Bill Scott and Sue Shively

September 21st: Sunday at 9:00am

Lector: Dan Nachazel

Ushers: Mary Murray and Barb Zynewicz



*Thank
You*

WEEKLY OFFERING

September 6th and 7th

Envelopes.....	\$3,192.00
Loose.....	\$642.00
Maintenance.....	\$150.00
Candles.....	\$50.00
OFFERING TOTAL.....	\$4,034.00

Fr. Matthew's 50th Birthday Party
September 20th and 21st
after the weekend Masses

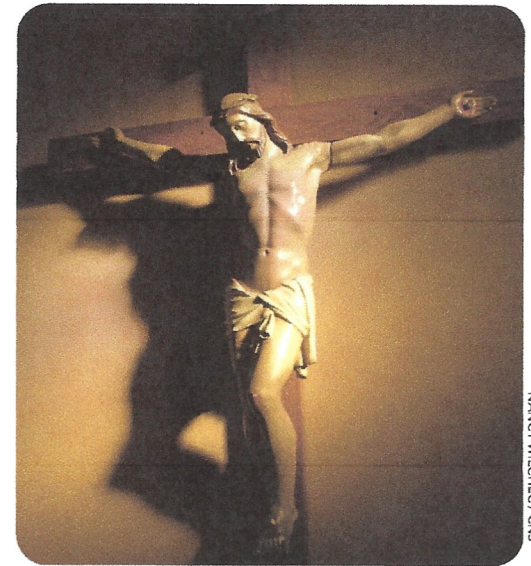
Come and celebrate in our parish hall.
Saturday Night: Hot Potato bar and sides
Sunday Morning: Hot Breakfast bar



Dear Padre,

A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?

Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life “as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus’ death was payment for our sins doesn’t mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. “It is love ‘to the end’ (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ’s sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus’ death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice “that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices,” when “the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself,” and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father “in reparation for our disobedience” (CCC 614). Christ “bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ’s death has meaning in eternal life’s triumph over sin. ●



NANCY WIECHEC / CNS

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 15	September 16	September 17	September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21
<i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<i>Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i>	<i>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
1 Tm 2:1–8 Jn 19:25–27 or Lk 2:33–35	1 Tm 3:1–13 Lk 7:11–17	1 Tm 3:14–16 Lk 7:31–35	1 Tm 4:12–16 Lk 7:36–50	1 Tm 6:2c–12 Lk 8:1–3	1 Tm 6:13–16 Lk 8:4–15	Am 8:4–7 1 Tm 2:1–8 Lk 16:1–13 or 16:10–13



STANISLAW TOKARSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I chose to take the name Leo XIV...mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical Rerum Novarum addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our own day, the Church offers...the treasury of [its] social teaching in response to...new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor.

**ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS,
ROME, MAY 10, 2025**