

**Pastoral Director:** Nancy Woodcock

**Sacramental Minister:** Jan. 13 & 14: Fr. Len Sudlik

**Confession:** SM: Saturday – 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

SJB: Sunday – 8:00 - 8:45 a.m.

**Please keep those who are serving our country in your prayers!** Tech. Sgt. Candace L. Thomas, Army Special Forces Blaine Woodman, Spencer Harwood, David Black, Sgt. Hunter Williams, & SSG Curtis Jason; SGT Spencer Malek

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday—Thursday:** 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Friday:** by appointment

**If you have any questions**, need to plan a funeral, prepare for Baptism or Marriage, or an Annulment, etc., please contact Nancy at:

**Parish office:** 989-584-6044 (with answering machine)

Nancy's home: (989-762-5320); Cell: (989-287-0089)

Church e-mail: smsjchurch@cmsinter.net

**Nancy's email:** [nwoodcock@cmsinter.net](mailto:nwoodcock@cmsinter.net)

Website: <http://stmarystjohn.net/>

**Appointments are available evenings & weekends.**

**The parish office address is:** 404 N. Division St., Carson City, MI 48811. **Feel free to contact us.**

**Weekly Programs & Bulletin:** 1-616-200-6070

**FACEBOOK:** St. Mary/St. John the Baptist Parishes

**The deadline for bulletin information is noon on Monday.**

**T-Coil is available in both churches.**

**AED Units are located in both Parish Halls & Churches.**

**Pictorial Directories are available for \$10.00 each.**

**Keepsake Ornaments are available throughout the year at the Parish Office - \$10.00 each!**

**SATURDAY- Jan. 13, 2024 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**SM – 4:00 p.m. – Fr. William Reitz (12<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)** by Pat Burns & Family

**SUNDAY- Jan. 14, 2024 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**SJB – 9:00 a.m. – Dan Ward** by Bill & Carla Dailey; **John & Barb Sougstad** by Dan & Carol Schrauben; **Bill Schafer** by Brett & Katrina Moe & Family; **Steve Fletcher** by Mary Fletcher; **Mary O'Berry (43<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.) & Ireta Herald (27<sup>th</sup> Anniv.) & Deceased Family Members** by Anita Heppard & Family

**SUNDAY – Jan. 14, 2024 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**SM – 11:00 a.m. – Kathryn Tucker** by Family; **Fr. Mel Fox** by St. Mary Parish

**SATURDAY – Jan. 20, 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**SM – 4:00 p.m. – Madeline Meinke** by Dan & Lynn Schneider

**SUNDAY – Jan. 21, 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**SJB – 9:00 a.m. – Earl Heppard** by Mr. & Mrs. Russ Cunningham; **Terry Burns** by Steve Schrauben & Judy Sheaffer; **Doug Campbell** by Chuck & Connie Malek; **Steve Fletcher** by Dolores Schmitt; **Rose McMillan** by Family

**SUNDAY-Jan. 21, 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**SM – 11:00 a.m. – Mary Jane Esch** by Fred Esch; **Gene McKenna** by Nancy Fenn & Family

**TUESDAY – NO NOON PRAYER until Lent**

**FRIDAY–NO NOON PRAYER until Lent**

**Money Counters for January:** Donna Schafer & Cindy Howard

**Sacramental Minister:** Jan. 20 & 21: Fr. Len Sudlik

**Fr. Larry King is suffering from blood clots. Let's Shower him with Cards at:** 1428 Beaver Creek Dr. NE  
Belmont, MI 49306

**SM – 4:00 P.M. Jan. 20, 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lector:** Sharon Schafer

**Greeter:** Gail Kennedy

**Ushers:** Team 23

**Min.of Euch..** Margaret Lauer, Lori Richardson, Volunteer

**Altar Server:** Volunteers

**Musicians:** Mike & Choir

**SJB – 9:00 Jan. 21, 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lector:** Lisa Wandell

**Ushers:** Team 15

**Altar Servers:** Volunteers

**Musician:** Brian & Group

**Min. of Euch:** Marvin & Diane Schafer

**SM – 11:00 Jan. 21, 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lector:** Tabitha Keiffer

**Greeter:** Jerry & Linda Tasker

**Ushers:** Team 23

**Min. of Euch.** Roberta Jensen, Dan Schneider, Volunteer

**Altar Servers** Claire & Ryne Bahm

**Musicians:** Brian & Group

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS!!!**

**They can be mailed to:**

**404 N. Division St.**

**Carson City, MI 48811**

**For either parish or use the Online information to give electronically.**

**PRAY DAILY FOR PEACE!**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Gordon Gladden, Deb O'Neil, John Myers, Fr. Tony Vainavicz, Joan Bozung, Marley Ward, Jack Fahey, Tony Shepard, Bonnie Cross, Sandy Meyers, Bill Gage, Jacob Vance, Phyllis Gage, Donna Schumacher, Linda Tasker (Bruce's wife), Jill Hodges, Daniel O'Connell, Sue Faver, Erin Cavanaugh, Tanner Schrauben, LaVern Jacobs, Donna Patton, Teri Chesebro, Anakin Moody, Kaci Wyer, Alice McCrackin, Kevin Knapp, Bob Pouget, Tom Gallagher, Genevieve McGuire, Kyran Breimayer, Neil Speckin, Janice McKenna-Reynolds, Dennis Trudell, Sr., Sierra Rose Cordova, Leigh Ann Harwood, Jack Kapral, Wiggins, Sam Burns, Flora Horwath, Mike Riley, Judy Miller, Harry Sanborn, Michelle Van Arman, Velma Tabor, Lottie Conner & Family Members; Mary Pouget, Gary Coon, Denny Vander, Debbie Osborne, Ann Darland, Dean Schafer, Mason Burns, Sr. Julie Mae Groulx, Carmen Richardson, John Shively, Rosemary (O'Connell) Davarn, Jim Schultz, Taylor Smith, Agnes McKenna, Jen Schafer, Melanie Starr, Peg Walters, Fred Peiffer, Juanita Dockham, Phil Fletcher, Sue Findlay, Leo McMillan; Geraldine Snow; Joanne Schafer Watson, Blaine Michael Melton, Chris Bozung, Cathy Hodges, Beverly Pouget, Kathy Fockler, Rick Davarn, Gary DeVito, Aiden Thurston, Dan Woodcock, Judy Sheaffer, Deb Rockey, Shane Clark, Carol Silakes, Alice Keilholtz, Sherry Hopkins, Douglas Werner Helen Tait, Pete VanBeelen, Christine (Evans) Runyan, Frank Rademacher & Fr. Larry King.

**.If you are better & would like to have your name taken OFF the Prayer List – please call the Office – 989-584-6044**

**St. John the Baptist Chairpersons for January 2024:**

Sharon Schafer (989-637-4294); Nan Miller (989-981-6801; Bernadette Fletcher (989) 855-2371; Vicki Dailey (989 981-6881)

**St. Mary Chairpersons for January 2024:** Margaret Lauer (989) 330-4097; Cheryl Miller (989) 584-3778

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

COMING EVENTS			
SM	Jan. 10	<b>Knights of Columbus Meeting</b>	7:15
SM	Jan. 13	<b>Mass</b>	4:00
SJB	Jan. 14	<b>Mass</b>	9:00
SM	Jan. 14	<b>Mass-Live-Streamed</b>	11:00
SM	Jan. 14	<b>Altar Server Training</b>	Noon
SM	Jan. 14	<b>K-12 Religious Education</b>	Noon -3:00
SM	Jan. 15	<b>Joint Pastoral Council Meeting</b>	6:00
SM	Jan. 16	<b>Euchre Group</b>	12:30
SJB	Jan. 22	<b>SJB Finance Council Meeting</b>	10:30
SM	Jan. 23	<b>SM Finance Council Meeting</b>	4:00
SM	Feb. 4	<b>K-12 Religious Education</b>	Noon -3:00
SM	Feb. 11	<b>K-12 Religious Education</b>	Noon =3:00

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> FROM NOON-3:00 PM. AT ST. MARY HALL. ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME to participate!! If you have NOT registered your students yet, PLEASE bring your students to class at Noon and register them. Lunch is served in the Parish Hall before classes begin. Come and have lunch with your child. Everyone is welcome!**

**Bishop Walkowiak invites all who are able, to return to Mass.** He also knows that some of you cannot attend Mass in person because of health reasons or other excusing factors. "If you find yourself in this situation, the dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass has been extended until further notice." This dispensation is granted to ensure anyone who needs to stay home can do so in good conscience. **Needed:** Volunteers to learn how to do the Live-Stream at 11:00 a.m. Mass at SM. **Interested?** Please see Brian, the guitarist, or call the office. **LIVE-STREAMING FROM ST. MARY can be found at:**

[www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com), click on the search icon and look for St Mary-St John the Baptist (do not use any punctuation); the video should be running just before 11:00 a.m. Mass will be available on the St. Mary/St. John the Baptist Facebook page within 30 minutes after the Mass.

**Please call the Parish Office** if you are interested in having your baby or child baptized. Baptisms can be held during Mass. **Please keep the family and friends of Joanne Wood (sister of Arlene Bohen and Delores (Keiffer) Spitzley) in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen**

**January 14, 2024**

St. John the Baptist Parish January 7, 2024	
Adult Envelopes: (30)	\$1,895.00
Loose:	29.70
Solemnity of Mary: (3)	45.00
Christian Service Tithe:	19.45
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,989.15</b>

St. Mary Parish January 6 & 7, 2024	
Adult Envelopes: (36)	\$1,740.00
Sunday Loose:	235.00
2023 envelopes: (2)	120.00
Solemnity of Mary: (3):	80.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 2,175.00</b>

**Please remember to write a separate check for Mass Intentions, Parish Envelope donations, donations to collections for Missions, etc. as they all go into different accounts. Thank you for your willingness and cooperation.**

### **First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10. 19**

The Lord calls Samuel for the first time, but Samuel does not know him. Eli recognizes what is happening and tells Samuel how to answer:

**Speak, for your servant is listening.**

### **Gospel: Mark 2: 18-22**

In the Gospel, John the Baptist directs two of his disciples toward Jesus, who invites them to stay with him. Andrew, one of the two, seeks his brother Simon and brings him to Jesus.

***Students who would like to be Altar Servers in either parish are expected to attend a Training on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at Noon at St. Mary Parish – just before lunch and Religion Classes meet. This Training will be one of several offered. If your student is interested, please call the parish office to register him/her. We are in need of Servers at all Masses. Students must be in grades 3-12 to volunteer. Interested??? Please call 989-584-6044.***

**PRAY FOR ALL WHO SEEK  
RECONCILIATION WITH FAMILY  
MEMBERS!**

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Interested in being a Knight or need a ramp for your home? Contact Grand Knight Perry McCrackin at 989-506-8044. Want clear concise news from a Catholic perspective? Watch EWTN – 370 Direct TV; -Dish or Family Life Radio 99.7FM**

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### NOTES FROM NANCY:

Today we celebrate the **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**. The First Reading and the Gospel are "call narratives." Samuel is called but does not understand until Eli explains what it is - "Speak, for your servant is listening." John the Baptist identifies Jesus to the two Apostles and they "hear" the call and immediately join Jesus. **How do we identify OUR call? We must listen and "hear" how we are to serve others in our Faith Communities. How are we doing thinking of what we are grateful for? I am grateful for my sister who takes wonderful care of me. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Faith Communities thus serving God. Take time to reflect...**



**Thank you** for the beautiful cards and generous remembrances for Christmas. I am very grateful to be remembered.  
Peace, Fr. Lou

**The family of Staney Cusack** is very thankful to Fr. Tom Page for the wonderful Funeral Mass; for Mike Kelley and the Choir for the beautiful music; for all who gave donations to Hospice or who had Mass Intentions for Stanley, and to the Funeral Dinner Committee for the delicious luncheon. We are very grateful to everyone.

**Thanks, Sharon Cusack and Family**

**The Carson City American Legion will serve an All You Can Eat Breakfast on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-11:30 a.m.** Cost is \$12 – Adults; \$10 – Senior Citizens 65 & over; \$10 – Children 6 & over; Children 5 and under are free. **All are welcome!**

**The Hubbardston American Legion will serve an All You Can Eat Breakfast on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:30-11:30 a.m.** Cost is: \$12 – Adults; \$10 – Senior Citizens 65 & over; \$10 – Children 6 & over; Children 5 & under – Free. **All are welcome!**

**January 14, 2024**

**Thanks to:**

- The "elves" who took down the Christmas decorations in both parishes – your willingness to help makes the task easier.
- The "elves" in both parishes who took down the outside manger scenes – what a great idea to avoid the snow!

### ONLINE DIRECTIONS ARE:

**Go to:** [stmarystjohn.net](http://stmarystjohn.net)

**Click:** on the Online Giving Tab

**Select:** the Parish you wish to donate to. Each parish has their own OnLine Giving Page.

**Click** on Sign in, **Enter** your e-mail (your e-mail will be your User ID). **Click below on** "Don't have an account? Create One" **Enter** your Login Information and remember your password.

**Now you will be able to login & submit your giving information. You can set up recurring donations - weekly or monthly. You can also give one time gifts as well.**

### OUR DIOCESE & BEYOND...

**Prayer for Vocations:** God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that you inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. **Send workers into Your great harvest** so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and your people are strengthened by the sacraments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Seminarian of the Week: Isaac A. Schneider**  
**The Annual Mass for Life will be held on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Andrew.** Those attending the Mass are asked to bring a donation for the baby pantries in Grand Rapids and Muskegon run by Catholic Charities of West MI.

**Catholics are encouraged to pray for an end to abortion during the Nine Days for Life Novena beginning Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.** Find the daily intentions in English and Spanish at [usccb.org/resources/9-days-life-novena](http://usccb.org/resources/9-days-life-novena).

**St. Joseph Parish in Pewamo is holding a Retreat Day on Saturday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. There is no cost.**

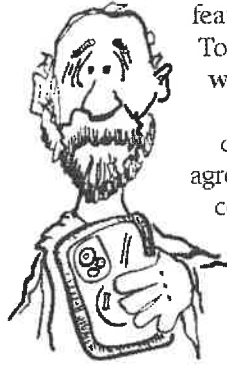
**Registration is required. "Priest, Prophet, and King" will include guided reflection, Adoration, Rosary, and Mass. Register at: [stjosephpewamo.org](http://stjosephpewamo.org)**

## If the saints had social media, what would they post?

Is there a "holy" way to use social media? Consider these suggestions from the saints:

**To friend or unfriend?** St. Teresa of Ávila cautioned that parents "be very careful whom they allow to mix with their children when young." Although socially outgoing and fun-loving, she didn't try to be liked by everyone, but sought the close friendships with those who encouraged her in holiness.

**"Kind comments, only."** St. Philip Neri advised someone who gossiped to pluck a chicken and scatter the feathers in the wind. Those far-flung



feathers were like rumors – impossible to take back. Today, he would warn us to be careful what we post; who knows how many will see it.

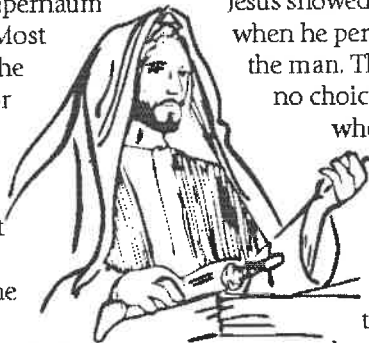
**Disagree, but charitably:** St. Thomas Aquinas debated often and won admiration, if not agreement, from his adversaries for his respectful conduct. "We must love [those who agree and disagree]...for they help us in the finding of [the truth]." For those in online debates, he would advise all to respond with charity and humility while still seeking the Truth.

### Scripture LESSON

### Mark 1:21-28, Jesus is no ordinary teacher

In this Gospel reading, we read that Jesus entered the synagogue at Capernaum with His apostles to teach. Most teachers would draw from the writings of other scholars for authority, and would begin, "Thus says the Lord..." but Jesus said, "I tell you..." As God, He already knew what the Scriptures meant without leaning on someone else's teaching.

Jesus taught as one who had the authority of God and that astonished His listeners. Even the unclean spirits who were torturing a man at the synagogue recognized Jesus as "the Holy One of Israel." Clearly, this was



no ordinary teacher!

Jesus showed His authority again when he performed an exorcism on the man. The unclean spirits had no choice but to obey Him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance.

**What can a parent do?** Jesus shows us that God's power and love are greater than any evil. Teach children that they can talk to Jesus about anything that happens, good or bad. At the same time, stress that Jesus is God and deserves to be worshipped and obeyed.

### Feasts & Celebrations

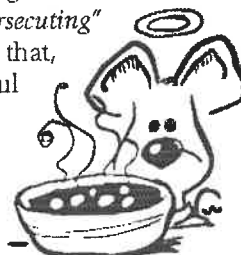
**January 3 – Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus.** "...At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). Today, a deep bow of the head at the Name is an accepted form of respect.

**January 7 – Epiphany of Our Lord.** Epiphany is Greek for "manifestation." When they honored the infant Jesus, the three wise men bore witness to the fulfillment of God's promise of a savior.

**January 21 – St. Agnes (304).** St.

Agnes consecrated herself to God. Reportedly she was betrayed for being a Christian by a suitor whom she refused to marry. She maintained her faith and was executed as a result.

**January 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul.** Formally called "Saul" he persecuted the Christians until Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus, saying, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5). After that, Saul became Paul and traveled around the known world, preaching the Faith.



### Parent TALK

Our busyness was crowding out family time. Between homework, practices, and playdates, we hardly ever had family dinner or attended Mass together. One Sunday when my daughter expected to skip Mass for a soccer tournament, I realized we needed a reboot.

That Saturday night we gathered around the table. I lit a candle and announced that Family Day had begun. I said that God wants us to keep Sunday holy, so Family Day starts at sundown on Saturday and goes through Sunday.

Now Sunday morning begins with church music while we dress for Mass. There are muffins or coffee cake made the night before so we can enjoy them and still observe the Communion fast. Then we attend Mass together and have a meal afterwards.

Then, whatever we do during the day, we do together. After dinner we blow out the "Sunday Candle" and feel ready to face the week.

**Our Mission**  
To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>  
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)