



St. Joseph Catholic Church
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stjosephewamo.org

September-December 2024

Fall, Advent & Christmas Events

The Role of Parents in Educating Their Children

Article from Ascension Press ¹



Parents teach their children all sorts of things, but how primal is their role as educators? How do parents and educators work together? When it comes to faith and morality, the education of children is essential work. Jeff Cavins discusses the pivotal role parents hold. He encourages them to take their role seriously and do all they can at the service of their children's education.

Snippet from the Show

The way we live and speak is the best testimony to our faith that we can offer our children.



Shownotes

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 2223 "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children."

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 2226 "Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God."

National Directory for Catechesis

"Parents are the most influential agents of catechesis for their children. They have a unique responsibility for the education of their children; they are the first educators or catechists. They catechize primarily by the witness of their Christian lives and by their love for the faith."

Familiaris Consortio

Hence, parents must be acknowledged as the first and foremost educators of their children. Their role as educators is so decisive that scarcely anything can compensate for their failure in it.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET...

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO PLAN YOUR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

- Start with prayer!
- Read through the descriptions of the events being offered.
- Take a look at the calendar and circle or highlight the events and opportunities with which you plan to participate.
- The calendars are conveniently located as the center page of this booklet so you can remove them and place them on your fridge or personal calendar.
- Make notes in your personal calendar so you don't miss out!
- Reach out to the Parish Office with any questions.
- All events listed are subject to change. Please visit the Parish website or read the bulletin for up to date information.

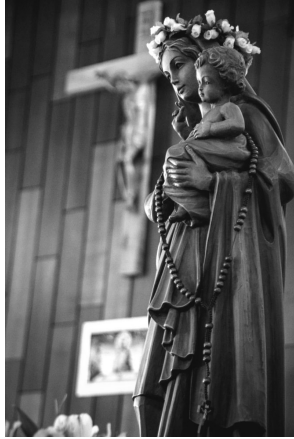
Lord who is hope, who is bread
and water, who is help and healing,
who is freedom, and who is love.
Transform me anew, and so keep
me close to you, as you transform
the world. Amen.



PRAYER

MONTHLY ROSARY

The first Sunday of each month at 11:30am, St. Joseph Parish prays a rosary with the intention of Infinite Dignity. Infinite Dignity refers to recognizing that every person possesses dignity from conception to natural death beyond all circumstances. For everything exists, is willed, and is loved by God. This is the only way we can attempt to love how God loves. Join us in praying for the Infinite Dignity of all human persons.



ENDED BEGINNINGS PRAYER SERVICE

Thursday, October 17, 6:30 pm

Many of those who have lost a child, including a child *in utero*, want to remember the child rightly, honor his/her life, and give thanks to God for the life He gave. For some, this means offering an intentional time together with God and offering support to one another.

Please join us for a Prayer Service to honor the lives of those who were taken home at such a young age; whether through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, or infant death after birth or any child lost under the age of 2 (the Holy Innocents).

PRAYER TEAMS AFTER MASS

The St. Joseph Prayer team is committed to helping their brothers and sisters in Christ embrace the power of prayer in their lives. Whether you are praying for yourself or a loved one; struggling with something or want to offer thanksgiving; our prayer teams desire to pray with you. Join us in prayer following Masses on September 21-22 & December 21-22.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will pray the Stations of the Cross on the second Friday of each month at 6:00pm. Dates for this quarter are Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, and Dec 13.

The reason for praying the Stations of the Cross is to enter into the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself for us – to experience his means of transforming suffering through love. We do this "through him, with him, and in him," step by step, learning how this plan of love can be carried out by us today.



RESTORE EVENT

October 30, 7:00 pm

RESTORE is a St. Joseph Prayer Team sponsored event.

***Restore my joy in your salvation; sustain
in me a willing spirit ~Psalm 51:14***

Please join us in church for a RESTORE evening. This RESTORE event will include adoration, confession, praise and worship music, and the St. Joseph's Prayer Team will be available for those seeking prayers. Gather with us for a faith filled evening to encounter Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER

NOVENA SUGGESTIONS

Novenas help us to open ourselves to God in order to increase our faith and grow in the love of God and neighbor. They aid in inner healing, obtaining special graces, being transformed and growing in virtue and holiness. They bring us peace and joy, regardless of the answer we've received to our petition.⁷

September

Holy Cross Novena– Sept 5-14
Our Lady of Sorrows– Sept 6-15
St. Vincent de Paul– Sept 18-27
Mary Undoer of Knots– Sept 19-28
St. Therese of Lisieux– Sept 22-Oct 1
Guardian Angel– Sept 23-Oct 2

October

Blessed Carlo Acutis– Oct 3-12
St. Teresa of Avila– Oct 6-15
St. John Paul II– Oct 13-22
St. Jude– Oct 19-28
All Saints– Oct 23-Nov 1

November

Christ the King– Nov 11-20
Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro– Nov 14-23
Miraculous Medal– Nov 19-28
Grace– Nov 25-Dec 3
Immaculate Conception– Nov 29-Dec 8

December

Our Lady of Guadalupe– Dec 3-12
Christmas– Dec 16-25
St. Stephen– Dec 17-26
Holy Family– Dec 24-Jan 2
Holy Name of Jesus– Dec 25-Jan 3
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton– Dec 26-Jan 4

Novenas are available at praymorenovenas.com
If you do not have access to printing the novena, please contact the Parish Office for assistance.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Please join us for the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord!

Christmas Eve:

5:00 pm– Vigil Mass
8:00 pm– Vigil Mass

Christmas Day:

9:00 am



PRAYER VIGIL FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM A TERMINAL ILLNESS

September 19, 7:00 pm

Are you, or someone you love, suffering from a terminal illness? Do you know someone who passed away from one? This prayer vigil is centered around honoring those suffering and the lives of those lost to terminal illness. Guests who join in this event will be given the opportunity to be prayed with.

Father God, in the name of Jesus, I thank You that You are a healer of all diseases and terminal illnesses. I thank You that by Your blood, victory is gained over every fiery dart of the enemy. I repent of any sins and ask that unforgiveness, bitterness, and resentment be cleansed from my heart. Amen.

PRAYER

PRAYER VIGIL FOR THE ELECTION SEASON

October 3, 7:00 pm

Election seasons are wrought with uncertainty. People are on opposite sides of issues and these opinions are often accompanied by strong emotions. During your time of discerning which candidates and issues you support, it is best to start it in prayer. We ask you to join us on October 7 at 7:00pm in the church for a prayer vigil for a well-formed conscience. Join us in prayer as we ask God to use this election as a means of healing our country and supporting the infinite dignity of life. Guests will also receive information concerning how the Catholic Church can support the election and in which ways it cannot.



COVER ARTICLE CONTINUED

The Predominant Themes on Parents and Educators

1. Primacy of parental role in education.

Parents “original, primary and inalienable right” to educate their children ranks as the most central theme in regard to parents and education, evident in 28 out of 33 documents (e.g., Pontifical Council for the Family, 1983, §5; see also John Paul II, 1981; Leo XIII, 1885, 1890/1941; United States Conference of Catholic Bishops \[USCCB], 1972).

2. Parents as witnesses in the world.

Nineteen of the examined Church documents (e.g., John Paul II, 1979; Pius XI, 1929/1930; Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, 2004) mentioned the instructive power of parents in witnessing their Catholic faith to their families.

3. Continuing Parental Catechesis

A total of 11 Church documents underscored the need for outreach to parents and ongoing parental catechesis (e.g., USCCB, 1972, 1983, 2000). The USCCB (1999) succinctly stated, “An adult community whose faith is well-formed and lively will more effectively pass that faith on to the next generation” (§40). The call for ongoing parental catechesis is, therefore, a logical consequence of and complement to the primacy of parental role in education and parents as witnesses in the world.

4. Parent-School-Church Collaboration

Nineteen of the reviewed documents noted the theme of collaboration between parents, Catholic schools, and the wider Church (e.g., Congregation for Catholic Education, 1977, 1982). Merely sending one’s children to a Catholic school does not fulfill this “grave obligation” of education (Pius XI, 1929/1930, para. 34). As much as possible, parents should collaborate with the local Church community to secure the promise of Catholic education for their children and for future students. Similarly, the Church community—both on the universal and local level—must support Catholic

schools and parents.

5. Parental Involvement

Sixteen of the documents note the importance of parental involvement with teachers, administrators, and school activities as part of the marital duty to serve as the primary educational stakeholders in child education (e.g., Congregation for Catholic Education, 1977, 1988; USCCB, 1990). Active parent participation in school functions, increased dialogue between parents and teachers, and the establishment and bolstering of parent organizations unite parents with the mission of Catholic schools. _The Code of Canon Law_ (Caparros et al., 1993) clarifies that this cooperation and collaboration are more than just highly desirable. They are canonical requirements. Canon 796 states, “it is incumbent upon parents to cooperate closely with the school teachers to whom they entrust their children to be educated.”

Moreover, “teachers are to collaborate closely with parents who are to be willingly heard” (canon 796). Thus, teachers and administrators should work in unison with parents in collaborative decision-making processes in order to strengthen Catholic education.

6. School Choice

The final theme, evident in 15 documents (e.g., John Paul II, 1981, 1994; USCCB, 2005), can be traced to the earliest Church document on education, where Pope Leo XIII (1885) highlighted the right of parents to choose Catholic schooling for their offspring.

“God in his deepest mystery is not a solitude, but a family, since he has in himself fatherhood, sonship, and the essence of the family, which is love.” (JPII 1979, *A Pilgrimage of Faith*, p. 86).

PRAYER

PRAISE & WORSHIP CONFESSIONS & ADORATION

November 24 & April 13, 6-7:15 pm

All parishioners and families are invited to join us for our Faith Formation Praise & Worship nights. These evenings include Praise & Worship music, adoration, prayer teams, confession and more. We hope you will join us in praising our God and adoring our Lord, Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Join our Knights of Columbus to pray for vocations on the third Thursday on every month. You are invited to pray on your own, or join us in communion, to pray for the strengthening of vocations and the openness of mind and heart to all those which God is encouraging discernment.

Watch the bulletin for specific dates and times.

Pray for
VOCATIONS

FAITH GROWTH

ST. JOSEPH CONSECRATION FOR FAMILIES

All families are invited to join us for a St. Joseph Consecration for Families. This 33 day program includes daily reading and discussion as a family. The readings take less than 10 minutes each night. Two family nights are being provided which accompany the program. These family nights are open to anyone, even if they do not participate in the consecration. The consecration will take place at the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 29, the Feast of the Holy Family. Visit the Parish website to learn more and sign up to participate.

SUPERHERO NIGHT

November 26, 6:30 pm

Do you believe in Superheroes? As a Catholic, you should. Although Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, and all of the amazing comic book heroes are not the type we are talking about. Our Catholic faith is rich with stories of Saints who have some superhero qualities. Some have the ability to bi-locate, some can fly, and some can see the future. You are encouraged to join us for this family event to learn more about the superheroes of our faith.

This event coincides with the first night of the St. Joseph Consecration for Children and Families. Families will receive their book and packet at this event.

KING OF THE JUNGLE NIGHT

December 10, following 6:30 pm Mass

Who can forget the iconic scenes in the movie "The Lion King"? Join us for an evening of Lions, Tigers, Elephants, and more. This King of the Jungle Themed evening will entertain your family and help you to learn more about the true King.

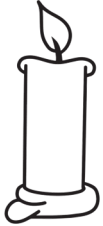


This event coincides with the St. Joseph Consecration for Children and Families book study program.

FAITH GROWTH

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

November 30, 5:30 pm



What is it?

Advent by Candlelight is an evening to help women focus on Christ during the busy holiday season. A potluck style dinner and a presentation to help us embrace the importance of Advent. Prizes will be awarded throughout the evening as well.



What's for Dinner

Each table guest brings a dish to pass for dinner and dessert for your table. Coffee and lemonade are provided by the Parish. The table hostess will help coordinate dinner with the guests at her table.



How does it work?

Parishioners are invited to host a table and invite 5-7 of their friends to join her for the evening. The hostess will be responsible for decorating their table following the theme of the evening. Decorations include a centerpiece and tableware. Tableware can be anything from your great-grandmother's china to paper plates.



Schedule for the Evening

3:00p Doors open for table set up
4:30p Mass
5:30p Gather & get settled
5:45p Opening Prayer & candle lighting
6:00p Dinner & Social time
6:45p Presentation
7:15p Dessert & Discussion
7:45p St. Joseph Choir
8:00p Closing Prayer

If you want to attend, but do not want to host a table, please complete an individual registration form and the Parish Office will connect you with a hostess.



Read the bulletin or visit the Parish website for more information. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

TMIY™ THAT MAN IS YOU!™

Join the men of our parish on Tuesday morning starting at 6:00am in the Parish Activity Center. Beginning Tuesday, September 10 and will run for 13 consecutive weeks. Contact Mike Thelen for more information.

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Men's Ministry Opportunity titled "That Man Is You" for men 18 years and older. The program is faith

based that addresses the pressures and temptations men face in today's society, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. We meet in the Parish Activity Center weekly from 6 am until 7 am on Tuesday mornings.



FAITH GROWTH

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY TALK

October 7, 7:00 pm

Join us on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary to learn more about this feast and to pray together to our Blessed Mother.

Originally was called "Our Lady of Victory" for several centuries before being known as "Our Lady of the Rosary". Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory of the 16th century battle of Lepanto; which secured Europe against a Turkish invasion.

VOCATIONS EVENT

November 6, 6:30 pm

Are you following your calling? This event is intended to honor the many vocations of our Catholic faithful. Priesthood is the vocation most commonly thought of, however there are many other vocations for one to discern. Come and learn what options you have to follow your true calling from God. Visitors from various vocations will be joining us and sharing their experience living out their vocation.

SCHOOL

SCHOOL ADVENT PROGRAM

December 12, 10:30 am & 6:30 pm

Please join us in the gym for this event and experience the story of how Mary and Joseph prepared for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

SCHOOL BIKE-A-THON

September 6 at 2:00 pm

You are welcome to join us in cheering on our riders in front of the school as they endure countless laps to compete for 1st place.

FELLOWSHIP

ALTAR SOCIETY ADVENT PARTY

December 2, 5:30 pm



Altar Society members are invited to join together for a time to relax and enjoy each others company before the hectic holiday season arrives. Advent is a special time to hope in prayerful anticipation of the coming of our Lord and Savior. Dinner starts at 6:30 pm.

COFFEE & DONUTS

The Altar Society welcomes all parishioners to join together as a community while we share coffee and donuts after both Masses, October 6 & November 3.



*"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."
(Matthew 18:20)*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 11:30a Rosary	2- LABOR DAY 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	3 6:00a Adoration	4 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	5 6:15a Mass	6 12a First Friday Adoration 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 2:00p Bike-a-thon	7 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
8 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass	9 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	10 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY	11 9:00a Library Committee Meeting	12 7:30p KC Meeting	13 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 6:00p Stations of the Cross	14 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
15 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 6:00p Faith Formation Cook Off/Kick Off	16 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	17 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass 7:30p Pastoral Council Meeting	18 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions 6:30p FF Parent Mtg 6:30p School Board	19 6:15a Mass 7:00p Prayer Vigil for Terminal Illnesses	20 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	21 8:00a Day in a Box 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass Prayer Teams after Masses Chicken & Biscuits
22 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass Prayer Teams after Masses Chicken & Biscuits	23 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	24 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY	25	26	27 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	28 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
29 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass MS & HS Faith Formation Starts	30 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass					

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass Elementary Faith Formation Starts	2 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	3 6:15a Mass 7:00p Prayer Vigil for the Election Season	4 12a First Friday Adoration 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	5 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
6 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 11:30a Rosary Coffee & Donuts after Masses	7 Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 6:00p Altar Society Mtg 7:00p Faith Talk	8 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY	9 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	10 6:15a Mass 6:30p Finance Council Meeting 7:30p KC Meeting	11 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 6:00p Stations of the Cross	12 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
13 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass	14 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	15 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass	16 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	17 6:15a Mass 6:30p Ended Beginnings Prayer Service	18 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 1:00p All Parish Mtg	19 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
20 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 5:30p All Parish Mtg	21 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	22 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass	23 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	24 6:15a Mass	25 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	26 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
27 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass KC Breakfast after Masses	28 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	29 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 6:30p Mass	30 8:00a Mass 7:00p RESTORE	31 6:15a Mass	October October 31 is a Vigil for a Holy Day of Obligation	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>November</h1> <p>November 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation</p>						
3 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 11:30a Rosary Coffee & Donuts after Masses	4 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	5 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass	6 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions 6:30p Vocation Event	7 6:15a Mass	8 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 6:00p Stations of the Cross	9 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
10 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 5:30p Feather Bingo	11 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	12 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass	13 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions 9:00a Library Committee Meeting	14 6:15a Mass 6:30p Finance Council Meeting 7:30p KC Meeting	15 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	16 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
17 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass	18 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	19 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY	20	21	22	23 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass
24 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 6:00p Praise & Worship	25 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	26 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 6:30p Family Night	27	28– THANKSGIVING 9:00a Mass	29	30 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass 5:30p Advent by Candlelight

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass 11:30a Rosary	2 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 5:30 Altar Society Advent Party	3 6:00a Adoration 6:00a TMIY 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass	4 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	5 6:15a Mass	6 12a First Friday Adoration 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	7 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass	
8 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass	9 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 6:30p Mass	10 6:00a Adoration 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass 7:15p Family Night	11 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	12 6:15a Mass 10:30a School Advent 7:30p KC Meeting 6:30p School Advent	13 6:15a Mass 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass 6:00p Stations of the Cross	14 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass	
15 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass	16 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	17 6:00a Adoration 5:00p Confessions 6:30p Mass	18 8:00a Mass 9:00a Confessions	19 6:15a Mass 6:30p Finance Council Meeting	20 6:00a Confessions 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	21 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass Prayer Teams after Mass	
22 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass Prayer Teams after Mass	23 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00p Mass 8:00p Mass No Adoration	25 CHRISTMAS 9:00a Mass	26	27 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	28 3:30p Confessions 4:30p Mass	
29 8:00a Mass 10:00a Mass	30 11:30a Rosary 12:00p Mass	31 6:30p Mass Holy Day Vigil No Adoration	1 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD 12:00p Mass	December 24/25 and January 1 are Holy Days of Obligation December 8th falls on Sunday so The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is not considered a Holy Day of Obligation.			December

FAITH FORMATION

PARENT MEETINGS

Faith Formation Parent Meeting
Kindergarten through High School
August 27, 7:15 pm

Sacramental Preparation Meeting
First Sacraments (2nd grade) &
Confirmation (8th grade)
August 29, 6:30 pm

Back up date for both faith formation & sacramental
preparation meetings: **September 18, 6:00 pm**

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST EUCHARIST

St. Joseph Parish prepares our students for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the 2nd Grade. Our preparation program includes 2 retreats (parents + child). Classroom lessons will be on Tuesday mornings during faith formation class. If your child is unable to attend Faith Formation on Tuesday mornings, please contact the Parish Office to discuss additional options.

Sacramental Retreats

First Reconciliation
January 15, 5:30-7 pm

First Eucharist
April 23, 5:30-7 pm

Sacramental Celebrations

First Reconciliation
January 22, 6:00 pm

First Eucharist
April 27, 1:00 pm

CONFIRMATION

St. Joseph Parish prepares our students for Confirmation in the 8th Grade. Our preparation program includes 3 retreats (child + sponsor) and classroom lessons during the school day for St. Joseph students and on Sunday morning during Middle School Faith Formation for faith formation students.

The date of Confirmation Mass is selected by the Diocese of Grand Rapids. We have not received this date yet.

Please contact our Parish Office if you have any questions about Confirmation preparations.

STUDENT FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation is the responsibility of all parents. St. Joseph Parish wants to support you and partner with you on the faith development of your children. Our Elementary curriculum is based on the Word of Life series by Augustine Institute. This program brings together faith and reason and demonstrates how the truths of the faith speak to the human heart. Middle School will focus on the role of the Holy Spirit and Confirmation. High School topics will vary throughout the year.

Visit the Parish website or contact the Parish Office for more information about registering for Faith Formation this year.

Elementary Faith Formation (K-5)

Tuesday Mornings, 8:00-9:00 am
Classes start October 1

Middle School Faith Formation (6-8)

Sunday afternoons, 11:15 am-12:15 pm
Classes start September 29

High School Faith Formation (9-12)

Classes start September 29

This year's program will offer classes on Sunday night, Monday night, and Wednesday night. Students will be able to choose which class date they want to attend by session. More information is available on the Parish website.



"When you call me
and come and
pray to me, I will
listen to you."

JEREMIAH 29:12
womans day

SERVICE AND JUSTICE

CHURCH ART & ENVIRONMENT

At St. Joseph Church we embrace the beauty of the liturgical calendar through the beautiful decorations which embrace each season.

Through the decorations in the church we are able to proclaim the wonder of God in a very visible and tangible way. The mysteries of Christ can be more concretely understood through symbols and imagery than through mere words either spoken or written on a page.

Many hands make for light work. It takes several people to make the sanctuary and nave look beautiful. Please consider joining our team this upcoming season. From ironing to lifting/carrying to helping arrange, your talents are needed.

Please contact the Dcn. Wade Yott to learn more about how you can help support the environment of our worship space.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

St. Joseph Good Samaritan Ministry partnered with Feeding America of West Michigan to minister to our community as well as our surrounding communities by providing food, laundry soap, cleaning products along with hygiene and toiletry items to all of those in need. We host mobile food pantries once per month at Twin Rivers Elementary School, Muir and American Legion, Hubbardston.

Our ministry seeks volunteers to help distribute food at each of the food pantry evenings. Please visit the parish website to register to help today.

There is a box in the back of church for donations of laundry soap and fabric softener to help support our program.

stjosephewamo.org/good-samaritan-ministry/

ALL PARISH MEETING

Friday, October 18, 1:00 pm or
Sunday, October 20, 5:30 pm

All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend one of the upcoming All Parish Meetings. Each meeting will have the same presentation so attendance is only encouraged for one of the dates listed. At this meeting Fr. Darrel will be sharing the State of the Parish and announcing some exciting things for the future of St. Joseph.

Fr. Darrel, along with the staff and parish leadership teams, invite you to come and hear about the current state and future of St. Joseph Parish! Both meetings will be held in the Activity Center/Gym.

DAY IN A BOX

Have you ever wondered what it feels like to be homeless? Do you have a desire to help those who cannot afford basic human necessities? Join us for a Christian Service event like no other you've experienced. Participants will live in a cardboard box for 24 hours. During the day time we will participate in speaker events, service projects, and more to share the true depth of need. Beginning Saturday, September 21, 8:00am ending Sunday, September 22 after the 8:00am Mass.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

All students are welcomed and encouraged to participate in our children's choir. The children's choir will lead us in song at 10:00 am Mass on September 29, October 27 & November 24.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS & OPINIONS

Do you have an idea for an event for the parish to consider hosting? Do you wish we had a certain kind of event that would appeal to you more? Please share your ideas and thoughts with the Parish Office. We would love to know your opinion. Email us at parishoffice@stjosephewamo.org.

FUNDRAISING



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, October 27, 2024 following both Masses.

Join us for pancakes, sausage, eggs, ham, and potatoes!



The Pewamo Knights of Columbus will be holding a Sausage and Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 27 from 8:30 am to noon at St. Joseph's Activity Center in Pewamo. The proceeds will be used to fund Coats for Kids and other various local charities. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children ages 6-12, and free for children five & under. We hope to see you there!



SCHOOL PTO CHILI COOK-OFF

November 2, 5:30 pm

St. Joseph School PTO Chili Cook-Off is back! If you are interested in entering your Chili or donating a dessert, please contact Haley Weber at 517-896-5451 or pto@stjosephpewamo.org. There will be a cash reward for the best Chili in town! Cost for this event will be donation only. Please gather your friends and family to support our PTO!



ALTAR SOCIETY FEATHER BINGO

November 10, 5:30 pm

This is an Altar Society event held every year on the second Sunday of November. It starts at 6:30 pm with doors opening at 5:30 pm. Popcorn, cookies & donuts as well as water and pop are provided for a small donation.

Entry is \$3.00 plus \$.25 per bingo card. With the entry fee and bingo cards purchased, you will be eligible to win a turkey per bingo game. Four special bingos are held where participants purchase a paper bingo card (three cards in one) for \$.50. Each special bingo winnings is worth half of the money collected for that bingo game with the other half to the Altar Society for expenses.



ALTAR SOCIETY

CHICKEN & BISCUITS DINNER

September 21-22

The Altar Society uses the funds raised to continue to support our parish by purchasing the hosts, wine, linens, vestments, altar server garments, and flowers in the church. The funds are also used to purchase other items needed in and around our parish, so thank you for your continued support.

FUNDRAISING

FAITH FORMATION COOK OFF-KICK OFF DINNER

September 15, 6:00 pm

Join us for this first time event at St. Joseph. Fr. Darrel Kempf will go head-to-head in a cooking challenge against Nickie Wentworth. With the assistance of other faith formation volunteers and catechists our chef teams will plan, prepare, cook and serve a meal for our guests to vote on the winning team.

Watch the bulletin for information on purchasing tickets to this dinner to support our Faith Formation program.



PARISH LEADERSHIP

This list of parish leadership councils is accurate as of the date of this publication. Leadership changes may happen due to personal choice and length of terms of service. Any questions should be directed to the Parish Office.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Directive:

The Pastoral Council is a consultative board that studies, reflects and advises the pastor as determined by the pastor. The Pastoral Council also assists and oversees our parish ministries.

Contact the Council:

pastoralcouncil@stjosephewamo.org

Current Membership:

President– Krista Cook
Secretary–Lisa Schneider
Rick Stump
Jeff Thelen
Lee Thelen

FINANCE COUNCIL

Directive:

The Finance Council oversees the overall finances and facilities of the parish. The parish finances are reviewed monthly. This council reviews income and expenses and help establish the annual budget.

Contact the Council:

financecouncil@stjosephewamo.org

Current Membership:

President– Ben Kramer
Secretary– Michael Kramer
Susan Craft
Craig Heckman
Jeremy Piggott
Lisa Smith
Kim Thelen

PARISH LEADERSHIP

SCHOOL BOARD

Directive:

The School Board is a board of limited jurisdiction for the school. They are responsible for monitoring the overall health of the school. This board reviews policies and procedures, safety, Catholicity, marketing and more.

Contact the School Board:

rweber@stjosephpewamo.org

Current Membership:

President– Kellie Antes
 Vice President—Aaron Schneider
 Secretary– Ericka Piggott
 Alyssa Frechen
 Nick Frechen
 Erin Kowatch
 Michelle Schafer
 Ron Simon
 Rick Stump

MINISTRIES

Ministry	Contact Name	Preferred Contact Method
Altar Society	Barb Wesley	616-481-1799
Knights of Columbus	Dave Antes	989-292-1542, antesdk@gmail.com
That Man is YOU!	Mike Thelen	989-593-2200
Good Samaritan Ministry	Wanda Zenk	goodsamaritan@stjosephpewamo.org
Prayer Teams	Stephanie Hengesbach	prayerteams@stjosephpewamo.org
School PTO	Haley Weber	pto@stjosephpewamo.org
Communion to the Homebound	Therese Simon	517-927-7248 (call or text)
Adoration (Tues & First Friday)	Diane Thelen	989-593-3215
Prayer Network	Carol Simon	989-640-4584
School Mom’s Hot Lunch	Emily Simon	517-285-6239
Parish Choir (Children’s Choir)	Catherine Weber	c.weber@stjosephpewamo.org
Liturgical Ministries Altar Server, EMHC, Lector, Money Counter, Sacristan, Usher	Parish Office	parishoffice@stjosephpewamo.org

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

PARISH LEADERSHIP

COMMITTEES

Ministry	Committee Members	Contact Method
Century Club 2025	Craig & Haley Heckman Ned & Morgan Mowatt David & Danielle Pohl Damian & Malynda Smith Parker & Carly Surbrook Devon & Kendra Williams	CenturyClub@stjosephewamo.org
Festival 2025	Todd & Brie Henning Jeremy & Ericka Piggott	Festival@stjosephewamo.org
Cemetery Committee:	Brian Werner Sue Klein Beth Mowatt Ben Kramer Dcn. Wade Yott Rick Davarn	Facilities@stjosephewamo.org
Library Committee	Bruce Frechen Kelly Kowatch Carol Grosse Mike Thelen David Antes	K.Kowatch@stjosephewamo.org
Art & Environment Committee	Autumn Spitzley Dcn. Wade Yott Tarra Yott Stephanie Schneider Alyssa Frechen	ArtEnv@stjosephewamo.org



PARISH LEADERSHIP

COMMITTEES

Ministry	Committee Members	Contact Method
Building Project	<p>Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Nickie Wentworth -Todd Henning -Cathy Stoddard -Lisa Smith -Megan Schneider <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fr. Darrel Kempf -Marilyn Schneider -Ben Kramer <p>Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brian Werner -Jim Schmitz -Bill Kramer 	ParishOffice@stjosephpewamo.org

RECOMMENDED READING FROM THE PARISH LIBRARY

Advent:

Waiting For Christmas
 Advent & Christmas
 Adore
 Advent of the Heart
 Advent & Christmas Wisdom
 Oriens

Christmas:

Celebrating A Merry Catholic Christmas
 The Wise Men Who Found Christmas
 The Spider Who Saved Christmas
 How The Grinch Stole Christmas
 Christmas Mice
 Christmas Mouse
 Christmas Miracle Pets
 Legend of the Christmas Stocking
 Rocking Horse Christmas
 Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey

My Own Little Christmas Story
 My First Prayers For Christmas
 Crazy Christmas Angel
 A Ghost Tale For Christmas Time
 Dragon's Merry Christmas
 The Pine Tree Parable
 Little Star
 Miracle of St. Nicholas
 Joy To The World
 Great Joy
 Candle In the Window
 Candlemaker's Gift
 Baby Jesus, Prince of Peace
 No Room At the Inn

Learn more at the Parish Library
 or contact Kelly Kowatch
k.kowatch@stjosephpewamo.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

CENTURY CLUB DINNER

The Century Club Dinner is an annual fundraiser to support St. Joseph's School. This event is a wonderful opportunity to gather as a Parish family, enjoy dinner, and support our School by participating in the program, which includes a silent auction, live auction, and music/dancing. The event is always held on the last Saturday in January. To learn more, purchase tickets, or donate to this event, please contact the Century Club Team listed below.

**Save the date for
Saturday, January 25**

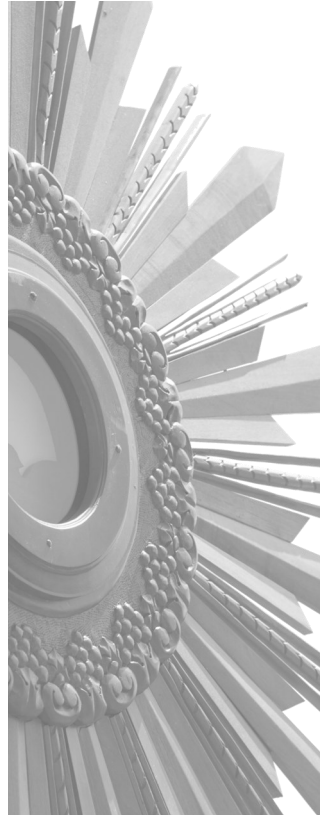
Come support St. Joseph School and have a great time!

Century Club Dinner Committee

Damian & Malynda Smith
Parker & Carly Surbrook
Devon & Kendra Williams
David & Danielle Pohl
Craig & Haley Heckman
Ned & Morgan Mowatt

Email us at CenturyClub@stjosephpewamo.org

PRIEST, PROPHET, KING



Priest, Prophet, King is a day long retreat centered around the Eucharist hosted by and at St. Joseph Parish.

This year's theme is "Adoratio". Come learn how to adore our Lord in your everyday life. Learn new ways to honor our Savior in the Exposed Blessed Sacrament.

**Save the date for
Sunday, January 12.**

More information coming soon. Watch for it in the bulletin, Facebook page, and parish-wide email.

EVENT BOOKLET DEADLINE

If you, or your ministry, is planning on hosting any events, activities, meetings, or learning opportunities between January 1 and April 30 please let the Parish Office know as soon as possible.

The deadline for your event to be included in the Spring, Lent, Easter 2025 event booklet is November 15. When submitting, please include a brief description for your event, contact information, and date/time.

Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.



St. Joseph Catholic Church
126 East St.
P.O. Box 37
Pewamo, MI 48873
989-593-3440
stjosephpewamo.org
parishoffice@stjosephpewamo.org

CITATIONS

- (1) Page 1 <https://media.ascensionpress.com/podcast/the-role-of-parents-in-educating-their-children/>
- (2) Page 1: Image <https://classicalliberalarts.com/catholic-family-life/duties-of-catholic-parents/>
- (3) Page 1: Image <https://www.oursundayvisitor.com/experts-concerned-after-only-35-of-catholic-parents-say-it-is-very-important-that-their-children-share-their-religious-beliefs/>
- (4) Page 2: Image <https://bitesizebiblestudy.blogspot.com/2017/02/let-gods-word-transform-you-from-inside.html>
- (5) Page 5: Vote Graphic <https://www.thiel.edu/calendar/event/prayer-before-an-election-11-06-22>
- (6) Faith formation <https://www.augustineinstitute.org/program-and-resources/word-of-life>
- (7) Page 6: Image <https://www.catholic.org/socials/story.php?id=68871>
- (8) Page 13: Image <https://shorturl.at/j9sMV>