



St. Francis Xavier Parish

2618 Seneca Street, Saint Joseph, MO 64507

Directed by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood Since 1890

Mission:

*To encounter Jesus Christ and bring Him
to all through Vibrant Liturgy, Lifelong Christian Formation and Social Outreach*



SATURDAY—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 — DECEMBER 26, 2021



Picture Courtesy of MyCatholicLife.org

The
HOLY FAMILY
of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saint Francis Xavier Mass Schedule

SATURDAY: (SUNDAY VIGIL MASS) 4:00pm

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

—9:30 a.m. Mass is streamed online at: SFX1891
(You Tube)

—3rd Sunday each month 6:00 p.m. Mass is in
Vietnamese

WEEKDAYS: 7:00 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.

SATURDAY: 8:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS: 11:00a.m. & 3:00p.m. (or by appointment)

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S., Parochial Administrator

Fr. Lac Pham, C.P.P.S., Parochial Vicar

Fr. Bill Walter, C.P.P.S.

Parish AdministratorJohn Lutz

Administrative Assistant, Bulletin Editor,

Parish Center Manager Ruth White

Secretary/Receptionist.....Jerri Ann Daly

Music Director Paul Hart

R.C.I.A. CoordinatorJune Stancliff

S.F.X. School PrincipalDarin Pollard

School of Religion Coordinator Nyla Bitunjac

Pastoral Council: Rachael Bergeron, Sherrel Coats, Pat Dillon,
Cayetana Maristela, Adam Miljavac, Roberta Seevers, Beth
Sterns, Brian Ziesel

Diocesan Victim's Advocate Kathleen Chastain
816-392-0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org

Ombudsman Joseph Crayon (816) 812-2500

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE: 816-232-8449 (Fax) 816-364-5174

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

8:00am-4:00pm, Monday—Friday. Closed on holidays.

SCHOOL: 816-232-4911

HOUSE OF BREAD: 816-671-9473

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: 816-364-3449

BULLETIN: bulletin@sfxstjoe.com

WEBSITE: www.sfxstjoe.com

EMAIL: parishoffice@sfxstjoe.com



Saint Francis Xavier

Parish has been under the spiritual leadership of the Society of the Precious Blood since its beginning in 1890. As a Catholic community, we stand ready to serve all those who are in need. We value in a special way the handing on of faith and tradition through our Parish School, Religious Education and Christian Formation. We welcome everyone. New members are encouraged to call and register at the Rectory.



BAPTISM

Parental preparation classes offered throughout the year.

MATRIMONY

Preparation for engaged couples. Nine months notification before marriage date.

R.C.I.A.

Meets weekly from September through Pentecost. Inquiries are welcome year-round.

COUNSELING

Available to individuals and families. Make appointments through the Parish Office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Due to the coronavirus pandemic a priest will respond on a case by case basis.

HOSPITAL VISITS

If you have a family member or friend in the hospital who would like to be visited by a parish priest, please call the Rectory. Due to privacy laws, the hospital cannot tell the priests who is in the hospital.

In the commercialized world Christmas ends abruptly on December 25th, immediately luring people into the next opportunity of consumerism, which centers around the New Year's Day festivities. In the Church calendar the Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and is celebrated for three weeks after December 25th, ending on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Hopefully we can continue the celebration of Christmas, inviting Jesus to remain with and in us throughout the following year. The Advent season, which we just ended, prepares us for the coming of the anointed one.

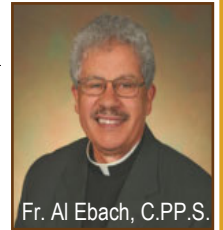
There are a number of feasts the Church celebrates during the season of Christmas: Holy Family, Mary, the mother of the God, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord. This Sunday, which this year happens to be the day after Christmas, is the feast of the Holy Family. This feast celebrates Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a family unit. This story, which most of us are familiar with, is about Jesus being left behind in the temple in Jerusalem. In this gospel passage of Luke in Cycle C of the Church year, we read about Jesus "sitting in the midst of teachers, listening to them and asking them questions." The gospel continues: "all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and answers." It does not sound like Mary and Joseph were too impressed because they had been worried about him for three days. After a while they probably settled down, and we read that Mary "his mother kept all these things in her heart."

Chronologically this story does not make any sense because we just celebrated the birth of Jesus yesterday and in today's gospel reading he is already twelve years old. It is important to remind ourselves that scripture does not present the life of Jesus in chronological order. The purpose of scripture is to connect our lives with the life of Jesus.

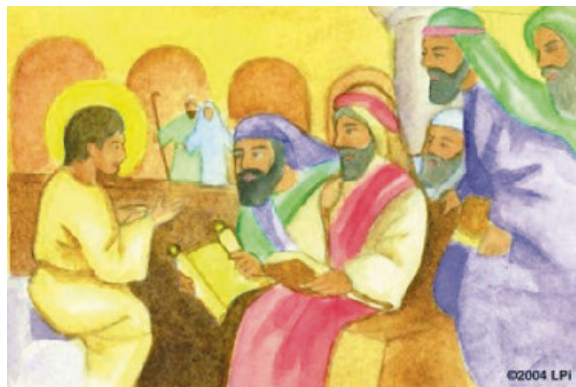
Back to the passage about Jesus in the temple. How does this passage connect us to grow in our life of faith? At the end of this gospel passage of Luke, chapter 2:52, we see written: "and Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man." This sentence gives credence to the fact that Jesus truly is both God and human. Jesus, born to us, grew in wisdom and age as many human beings do. This gospel passage also shares about Jesus' family life with Joseph and Mary, his parents. He lived his life as any family experienced during the time of Jesus. He was born to us, one like us.

The feast of the Holy Family should not only help us recognize Jesus in his humanness and his divinity, but his life also exemplifies the holiness we need to pursue personally and as a family. If we claim to follow the way of Christ then we need to be holy as he is holy. To become holy, personally or as a family unit, we too must grow in wisdom (knowing and living Jesus) and age (participating in the glory of God).

Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S.



Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S.



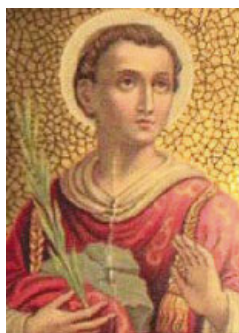
Vocation Prayer

Lord God, you call us to seek our fulfillment, our true and holy selves, in and through you. Give us the grace to pray by learning to praise you in the good and bad times. It is in them we learn to hear and obey you prompting as Jesus, Mary and Joseph did. Teach us to keep all things in our hearts while pondering your merciful will, as we continue our pilgrim journey to you.

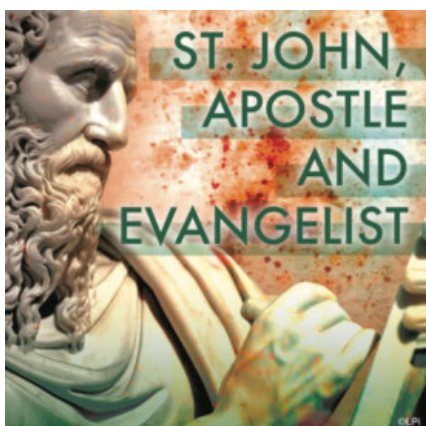
Dear Jesus, send us young priests on fire with love for your mother Mary; she will become our Mother who intercedes to deepen our love for you. Amen.



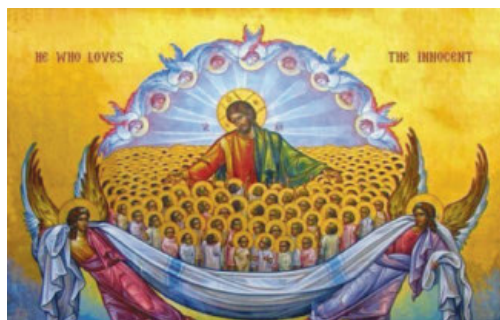
December 25



ST. STEPHEN
December 26



December 27



FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS
December 28

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. (Matthew 2:16)

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, December 27

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

7:00am June Rock and Family (Living)
8:15am Mary C. Wright

TUESDAY, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

7:00am Diane Davis
8:15am Robert Grable

WEDNESDAY, December 29

Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

7:00am Deceased Members of the Whetsell and Harrell Families
8:15am Remedios Maristela

THURSDAY, December 30

7:00am William and Josephine Whetsell
8:15am Mildred Juhl

FRIDAY, December 31

*Saint Sylvester I, Pope
New Year's Eve*

7:00am Clarence Hager
8:15am Rose "Rosie" Haertling

SATURDAY, January 1, 2022

*Mary The Holy Mother of God
World Day of Peace
New Year's Day*

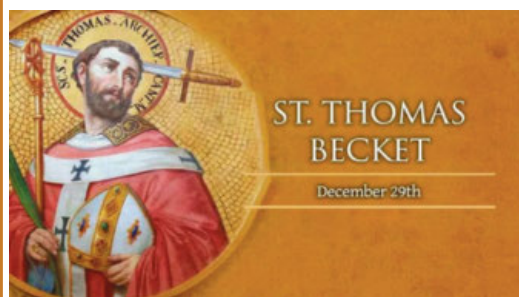
9:00am Charlie Malita
4:00pm For the Parish

SUNDAY, January 2, 2022

*The Epiphany of the Lord
Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops and Doctors of the Church*

7:30am Kathryn Punzo
9:30am Living and Deceased Members of the Altar Society
11:30am Maureen White

"Remember the sufferings of Christ, the storms that were weathered... the crown that came from those sufferings which gave

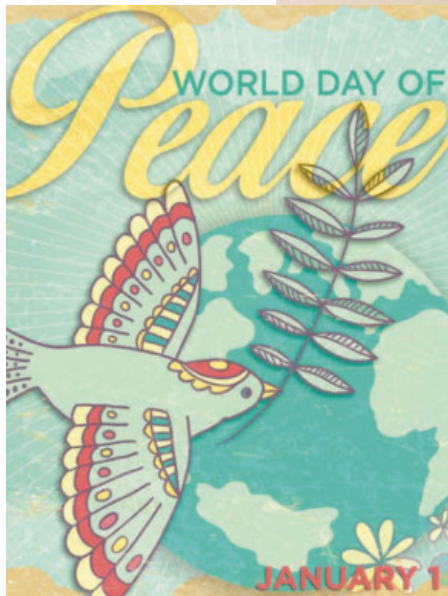


new radiance to the faith... All saints give testimony to the truth that without real effort, no one ever wins the crown."

**ST. SYLVESTER I,
POPE**
33rd Supreme Pontiff
Reigned 314-355 AD
December 31



New Year's Day



WORD OF GOD

Bible Readings for the Week

Sunday — December 26, 2021

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Ps. 128:1-5 / Colossians 3:12-21 / Luke 2:41-52
or
I Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 / Ps. 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 / I John 3:1-2, 21-24
Luke 2:41-52

Monday

I John 1:1-4 / Ps. 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 / John 20:1-8

Tuesday

I John 1:1-5—2:2 / Ps. 124:2-5, 7b-8 / Matthew 2:13-18

Wednesday

I John 2:3-11 / Ps. 96:1-3, 5-6 / Luke 2:22-35

Thursday

I John 2:12-17 / Ps. 96:7-10 / Luke 2:36-40

Friday

I John 12:18-21 / Ps. 96:1-2, 11-13 / John 1:1-18

Saturday

Numbers 6:22-27 / Ps. 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21

Sunday — January 2, 2022

Isaiah 60:1-6 / Ps. 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 /
Matthew 2:1-12



**COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF
DECEMBER 11 & 12, 2021**

Weekend Mass Envelopes: 6,873.00

Weekend Mass Plate: 439.63

Weekend Kids' Collection: —

Utility Collection: —

TOTAL WEEKEND COLLECTION: 7,312.63

Total Parish Income from all sources

for the week of December 5th: \$25,045.21

(Contributions, Operational & Education (tuition) Income)



St. Francis Xavier School — *The Difference is Inside!*



- Guided by Christ, we strive to become the best we can be.
- Formed with Family, we carry on the traditions and legacy of SFX Parish.
- Engaged through Innovation our students bring about a better future.
- Children are Empowered to achieve beyond expectations.
- Called to Lead, our students serve our community, nation and world.



November Students of the Month..



Congratulations to the Middle School LeBlond Eagle Basketball athletes for being awarded the Knights of Columbus Student(s) of the Month award for November.

The virtue of the month was *HUMILITY* and these student athletes had a great, humble, spirit of good sportsmanship, passing and encouragement for one another....along with a very successful season.

Third grade sang carols at Country Squire to spread the December Virtue of the Month,

JOY



This Week at Saint Francis

Sunday, December 26

No Events Scheduled

Monday, December 27

No Events Scheduled

Tuesday, December 28

8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

Wednesday, December 29

No Events Scheduled

Thursday, December 30

8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

Friday, December 31 New Year's Eve

No Events Scheduled

Saturday, January 1, 2022 New Year's Day

House of Bread **Closed**

Sunday, January 2, 2022

No Events Scheduled

**RECTORY OFFICE / HOUSE OF BREAD
HOLIDAY CLOSURES**

Rectory Office will be closed:

Monday, December 27, 2021

Monday, January 3, 2022

House of Bread will be closed:

Saturday, December 25, 2021

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

Confirmation Class

PRAYER FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent. Look kindly on our candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the good work that You have begun in them. Teach them to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what they do not understand. Deepen their faith in the Gospel and help them to pass it on by their example. We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



NAMES OF CONFIRMATION STUDENTS—LEFT to RIGHT

1ST (TOP) ROW: Gracie Grom, Gavin Greub, Steven Malotte, Christopher Miljavac, Keeleigh O'Callaghan.

2ND ROW: Brensley Fox, Avery Pasley, William Trapp, Lane Hovey, Jorja Lageschulte, Makayla Lockard.

3RD ROW: Jackson Crews, Deagan Pasley, Sophie Kozol, Marquel Mayfield, Murphy King.

4TH ROW: Vincent Nguyen, Porter Stone, Mia Scheidler, Ben Lageschulte, Jada Hovey.

5TH ROW: Claire Heater, Dylan Marmaud, Lea Pinkleman, Grant Arens, Jackson Olinger.



Geraldine M. Lawhon

June 1, 1926—December 7, 2021



Christopher D. Clark

September 14, 1964—December 13, 2021



Available at all the doors

Your bulletin editor is





St. Francis Parishioners,
 Thank you so much for the generous donations to Birthright. We received a total of \$400⁰⁰ from cash and gift cards. This will enable us to purchase the baby supplies we need. We appreciate the ongoing support. Blessings to you all!
 Nancy Swymeler-Director

MEN OF FAITH

The Men of Faith group will not be meeting Sat., Jan. 1, 2022. They will start again on Sat., Jan. 8, 2022 until Easter. They are currently studying the Creed with Bishop Barron. *Really great learning!* All men are invited. Come for breakfast and a short video at 6:30 Saturday mornings in the Parish Center.



All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and the Christ Child intimidating—who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful—perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs you're your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling her on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact: Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816.392.0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

For the Weekend of January 8 and 9, 2022 — Submissions due by: **Sunday, January 2, 2022**

For the Weekend of January 15 and 16, 2022 — Submissions due by: **Sunday, January 9, 2022**

MIDCITIES
INCORPORATED
TRANSPORT SERVICES
816-238-8000 www.midcitiesinc.com

816-294-0129
Weinmann Lawncare
Bill & Coleene Weinmann

Please Remember
St. Francis Xavier
in your will and
estate planning.

**VAN VICKLE
MONUMENTS, INC.**
1717 Frederick Avenue
St. Joseph, Missouri 64501
toll free 1-877-232-5882 • phone 816-232-5882
fax 816-232-0977 • e-mail vanvickle@aol.com

Blessings
of St. Joseph
Catholic Books, Gifts, & Church Supplies
300-D S. Belt Highway - 816-676-BLESS

ARMAN J. PARTAMIAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
816-635-0868 partamianlaw@gmail.com
ESTATE PLANNING | WILLS & TRUSTS | PERSONAL INJURY

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Cathy A. Echterling, CRS
REALTOR®
Cell 816 262-0686
cachterling@bhsstein.com
A member of the franchise system of BBH affiliates, LLC.

**AVAILABLE FOR
A LIMITED TIME!**
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!
Contact **James Bradley**
to place an ad today!
jbradley@4LPi.com or
(800) 950-9952 x2655

816.232.9750 • 201 N Belt Hwy • St. Joseph, MO
OPEN 24 HOURS
SHOP HY-VEE AT THE CORNER OF BELT & FARAON

**MURPHY
WATSON
BURR**
EYE CENTER
Scott A Murphy, M.D.
R. Alan Watson, M.D.
William E Burr, M.D.
Matthew E. Honson, O.D.
Jaimie Pfeifer, O.D.
Angela M. Honson, O.D.
Drew Garwood, O.D.

5202 Faraon St.
St. Joseph, MO 64506
(816) 233-2020 or (800) 722-8177
610 Lana Drive
Cameron, MO 64429
(816) 632-3501

Heitman Family, Parishioners
Home Owned & Operated | Full Service Supermarket
3225 N. Belt • St. Joseph, MO
7014 King Hill Ave • St. Joseph, MO

ST. JOSEPH
FAMILY DENTAL
Dr. Kaitlyn H. Walters & Dr. Tim Prawl
3904 Beck Rd #110
St. Joseph, MO 64506
(816) 233-2672

KRISTIN WILDS
Real Estate Agent
816-689-8555
Office 816-386-4127
kristin@bluebridgerealty.com

LET US HELP PROTECT
YOUR DREAMS.
Don Tolly, Agent
Tolly & Associates Inc
2606 N Belt Hwy, Saint Joseph, MO 64506
Bus: (816) 232-8400 or dtolly@amtam.com

SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
• Burglary • Flood Detection
• Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 1-855-225-4251

**PHOENIX
UROLOGY**
OF ST. JOSEPH, INC.
Dr. Bradley Moore, M.D.
Parishioner
816.232.8877

**AMERICAN FAMILY
INSURANCE**
24-HOUR CLAIMS REPORTING & CUSTOMER SERVICE
1-800-MYAMFAM (692-6326) | HOME | AUTO | LIFE | BUSINESS | FARM & RANCH AMFAM.COM

HABIGER WEST

Heaton-Bowman-Smith
& Sidenfaden Chapel
Funeral Home • Crematory • Pre-Arrangement Counseling
3609 Frederick Boulevard • St. Joseph, MO
816-232-3355 | Since 1842 | "Caring in All We Do" | HeatonBowmanSmith.com

Dr. Craig Mattox
ST. JOSEPH CHIROPRACTIC
• Auto & Work Injuries
• Family Care
805 N 36th St., Ste. C
(816) 279-0700
www.stjosephchiropractic.com

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass
Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!
www.ParishesOnline.com

Debbie Mahoney
Equal Housing Lender
1807 N. Woodbine, Suite C
St. Joseph, MO 64506
Office: 816-396-5313
Fax: 888-536-6414
debbie.mahoney@fairway.com
www.dmahoneyhomecare.com

Barbosa's
Fine Mexican Foods
• All Homemade Food • Fabulous Atmosphere
• Famous Margaritas • Carry-out • Gift Certificates
906 Sylvania • 233-4970
(Open Mon. - Sat.)
(Closed Sunday)

ReeceNichols SCOTT HUDSON
IDE CAPITAL REALTY, LLC SALES MANAGER
3827 Beck Road | St. Joseph, MO 64506
Office: 816.233.5200 Ext. 4422 | Cell: 816.262.4092
scotthudson.reecenichols.com

Colton G. Saunders, AAMS®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor, Parishioner
2610 N Belt Hwy
St. Joseph, MO 64506
816.232.1205
colton.saunders@edwardjones.com

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

GWA
Gertsema Wealth Advisors
We empower clients to make life's decisions on their terms!
We believe clients should understand everything that is happening with their money;
it's not just about the investments - it's about the advice!
Book your complimentary consultation at: calendly.com/gertsemawealth
816.259.5060 | gertsema.net
1213 N. Belt Highway, Suite E | St. Joseph, MO 64506
Investment advisory services offered through CWM, LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor.

Compliments of
G. O. Thompson
PAINTING CONTRACTOR
ESTABLISHED 1896

IHP INDUSTRIAL INC.
• Mechanical Contractors •
(816) 364-1581

**Are you turning 65
and overwhelmed?**
Contact Todd to help you navigate
and ease your mind on the many
benefits of Medicare.

616-273-0123
We represent multiple carriers to find you the best plan to fit your needs