



# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

9425 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
Parish Office 734 461-6555 Holy Family Center 734 256-1957

## Staff

Pastor: Rev. Pieter vanRooyen  
pastor@stjosephypsilanti.com

Deacon Gary Perrydore

dcngary@stjosephypsilanti.com

Deacon Stan Kukla

dcnstan@stjosephypsilanti.com  
Deacon Richard Giesige

Business Manager, Cemetery  
Manager: Nathan Everts  
neverts@stjosephypsilanti.com  
734-461-6555

Secretary: Kate Ramsay  
office@stjosephypsilanti.com

Bookkeeper: Pamela Armstrong  
pama@stjosephypsilanti.com

Formation Team Member:  
Margie Sauter  
margies@stjosephypsilanti.com

Director of Liturgical Music:  
Adam Pace  
adamp@stjosephypsilanti.com

## Office Contact Information:

Email:

office@stjosephypsilanti.com

Website:

www.stjosephypsilanti.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stjosephypsi

Phone:

734.461.6555

## December 26

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

#### Mass and Confessions

**Church open for Adoration:**

Wednesday 3:00 pm-7:30 pm Sunday 3:00 pm-4:45 pm

**Confession:** Sunday 3:00 pm-4:45 pm.

**Church open for prayer:** Monday-Friday 9am-12pm.

#### **Mass Times for the week of the Feast of the Holy Family:**

Sunday, December 26: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Wednesday, December 29: 9:30 am

**Friday, December 31:** 5:00 pm

**Saturday, January 1:** 10:00 am

#### Mass Intentions:

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

**9:00 AM:** For the intentions of our parish family

**11:00 AM:** For the repose of the soul of Rachel Kaledas req. by the Forbear Family

**5:00 PM:** For the repose of the soul of Robert Reifstahl req. by the C.C.W.

#### Wednesday, December 29

**9:30 AM:** For Dan Darnell req. by Carolyn and John Tomey

#### Friday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)

**5:00 PM:** For the repose of the soul of Anna Magda req. by George and Rose Magda

#### Saturday, January 1 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

**10:00 AM:** For David Sabo req. by the Zmijewski Family

**Our Ministries:**

**Religious Education and  
Young Adult Ministry**  
Anna Nowaczewski  
annan@stjosephysilanti.com  
734-904-7632

**Youth Ministry**  
Kate Ramsay  
youthmin@stjosephysilanti.com  
734-664-5824

**Council of Catholic Women**

**Knights of Columbus Council 8113**  
Grand Knight: Rodney Hopkins  
kofc@stjosephysilanti.com

**Trail Life Troop 1890**  
Christie Bonk  
christie.bonk@gmail.com

**Youth Group News!**

Youth group is all done for the fall semester! Please contact me or look in your email for information about the spring semester! I hope you have a fun and blessed Christmas. Thank you for your participation for the last few months!

-God Bless!  
Kate Ramsay, Youth Minister

**COURAGE AND ENCOURAGE**

A ministry helping men and women with same-sex attraction, and their families.  
For **Confidential** Catholic help call Courage: **517-342-2440** or email [courage@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:courage@dioceseoflansing.org)

**End of Year Charitable Donation!!!**

If you are over 70 1/2 and have an IRA, please consider us for a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

Amounts given are 100% excluded from taxable income!

For more details contact your IRA provider.

**Our Weekly Offering:**

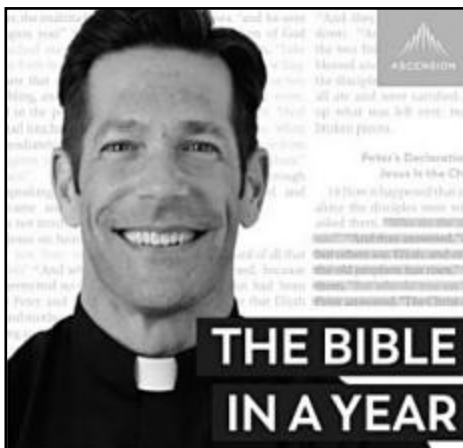
**December 12, 2021**

Budget: **\$5,096.00**  
Cash and Checks: **\$3,242.00**  
# of envelopes used: 40  
Online Giving: **\$1,125.00**  
TOTAL OFFERING: **\$4,367.00**

**December 19, 2021**

**Our weekly offering for December 19 will be available as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience!**

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## From Fr. Pieter

Greetings! Merry Christmas! On the Feast of the Holy Family we celebrate Christmas from the perspective of Christian Family—the Holy Family of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus shows us the way that God desires to sanctify Christian family life. Pope St. John Paul II said “*As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live*” (Homily of John Paul II, Perth Australia, 30 November 1986). If families suffer the Church suffers. Strengthening families should be a top priority for Catholics (even for those of us without children of our own—if you live alone, in what follows, think in terms of your community: friends, parents, siblings, and nieces and nephews—how can you help them live for Christ).

Faith-filled families shine the light of Christ into the world—they are a powerful, if not the most powerful method of evangelization. So what can we do to strengthen the life of faith in families? Firstly we can lead families to the sacraments. But our Catholic tradition also emphasizes something vital outside our parishes: the life of faith within the home, the *Domestic Church*. Parish programs help, but families must do the hard work. When St. Teresa of Calcutta won the Nobel Peace Prize she was asked, “Mother Teresa, what advice do you have for changing the world and promoting peace?” She answered “*Go home and love your family.*”

How can we nourish the life of faith in the *Domestic Church* at home? Try to bring a rhythm of prayer into the life of your home. To be sure, we can’t turn Domestic Church into a monastery, but we can sanctify our family life. Start with things that you see and smell (we learn through our senses; this is partly why we have incense and candles at Mass, and why we genuflect toward the Tabernacle—the movement of our bodies reminds us that the King of the Universe is present). In family life this can mean keeping images of Christ, the saints, a crucifix prominently visible, so that everywhere you turn reminds you of your faith.

Then try to pray together. Here are some ideas: You can begin the day with the short Morning Offering prayer (look it up on google). At the breakfast table some families read the daily Mass readings out loud if they aren’t going to daily Mass that day ([www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)). At noon, you can re-center your day by praying the Angelus. In particular, I urge you to pray the rosary [or even just one decade of the rosary] daily. Pope Pius XII wrote: *The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin...If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors.*

Family prayer doesn’t have to be perfect (children bickering or puppies barking may all be part of what makes each Domestic Church a little different from all the others). But like G.K. Chesterton wrote, “If a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing badly.” We just need to keep putting one foot in front of the other and walking toward Jesus. The life of the Domestic Church can be as challenging and unexpected as the unique combination of souls in each home, but God designed family so we could help each other to Heaven. He wants to use our families to change the world. Please pray for our Christian families and our parish family.

## **Catholic Movie Night** **“The Sound of Music”**

To celebrate Christmas, we will be watching a family film that needs no introduction *The Sound of Music*. The showing will be during Christmastide and we will start by having a potluck dinner. There will be potluck & signup sheets at both entrances to the Church. It should be a noisy affair with lots of children but that’s what the volume control is for! Lisa and I be hosting the film in **Maria Hall** TOMORROW! Please come at 5:00pm for Potluck and fellowship before the film. If you planning to come, please sign up at the entrances to the church and if you plan to bring a potluck dish, please note the entree you plan on bringing. Call or text Michael Sapienza at (947) 517-3164 for more details.

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