

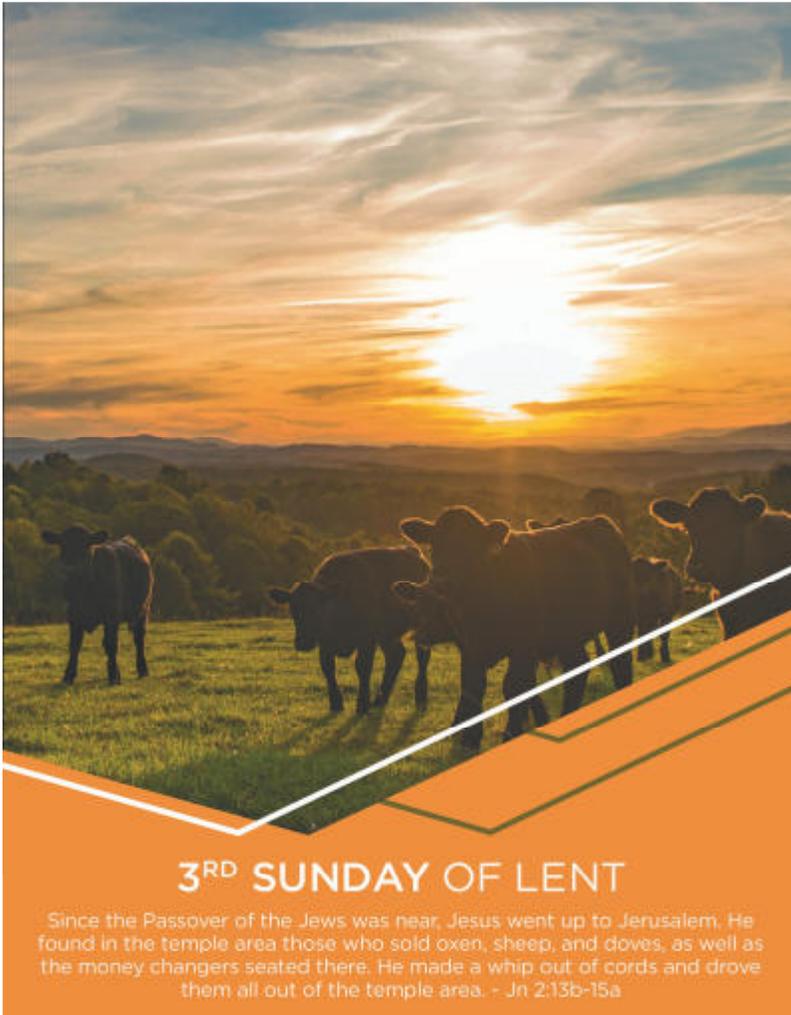
MARCH 7, 2021

3rd Sunday of Lent



St. John Vianney

Catholic Church



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a people called together by God and empowered by the Spirit to continue the mission of Jesus on earth. We are a community of faith, hope and love, who strengthen and encourage one another and share a common mission of building the Kingdom of God.



Vision Statement

Committed to growing in faith together, guided by the Holy Spirit, we will be the hands of Jesus, continuing His work in our parish, community and the world.

6400 McCarty Road | Saginaw, MI 48603 | 989-790-5086

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sat: 5:00 pm

Private confessions 4:00 pm-4:30 pm

Sun: 10:00 am

Wed: 12:00 pm

STAFF:

Director of Parish Life

Sr. Janet Pewoski, CSJ

Sacramental Minister

Fr. Richard Jozwiak & Fr. Bert Gohm

Music/Choir Director

Roberta Conley

Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Michelle Gombar

CONNECT:

Online: www.sjvsaginaw.org

Facebook: St John Vianney

Email: stjvianney64@aol.com

Fax: (989) 790-1681

Rectory: (989) 792-6582

Sister's Corner

Holy Week Liturgies

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED –Deadline to RSVP is March 23

Palm Sunday Mar. 27 at 5:00 p.m. or Sun. Mar. 28 10:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday April 1 at 7:30 p.m. No potluck.

Good Friday April 2 at 1:00 p.m.

April 2 at 6:30 p.m. Virtual Stations of Cross (Online only)

Easter Vigil April 3 at 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday April 4 at 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. *Note Mass time change!*

RSVP by calling the office at 989-790-5086, or sign up over the weekend. When attending in person maintain safe social distancing and wear a mask. Live stream of the Holy Week Masses will be available more information coming.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

3rd Week of Lent: Today, we hear the Ten Commandments, “The Law.” I think the world would be a better place if everyone had to reflect on these. The first three tell us how to respect and honor God. The remaining seven tell us how to treat our neighbor. Think what a kinder, nicer, better world we would have if everyone followed these commandments. The second reading calls us to reflect on wisdom and foolishness. The Gospel is the event that most Biblical scholars believe sealed the fate of Jesus as his overturning the tables of the Temple was the final straw for the religious leaders at the time.

Set Your Clocks Forward an hour Saturday night so that Sunday Morning, March 14th you get to church on time! “Spring forward” sounds so good to hear. Let’s hope winter is behind us!

Special March Feasts: March 17 – St. Patrick’s Day and March 19 – St. Joseph’s Day!

Pope Francis declared this the year of St. Joseph on Dec. 8, 2020 – Dec. 8, 2021. Joseph is a model of faith, obedience, and trust. He protected Mary and Jesus. He served as foster father to Jesus. March 19th is his feast as Husband of Mary. May 1st is his feast as Joseph, the Worker. Watch the diocesan website for some special presentations or prayers to St. Joseph.

Lenten Opportunities for Private Confession: Confession is available Saturdays from 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Mar. 13, Mar. 20, and Mar. 27. On Sat., Mar. 20 after the 5 p.m. Mass till all are heard and on Wed. Mar. 24 after the Noon Mass.

Diocesan Surveys: Have you taken the Disciple Maker Index Survey? It only takes 10 – 15 minutes and all information is confidential and anonymous. The results are sent as a summary report to help the parishes and Diocese plan for the future. Please participate. The link is available on our parish website, Facebook, mobile app and now the Diocesan website has a link listing all the various parishes. Be sure you are on the St. John Vianney link.

Finances: I am grateful for your generosity in helping us over this past year. **Christ’s Mission Appeal (formerly CSA):** If you have not yet made a contribution to this, please help us reach our target goal of \$60,754.50. We still need \$10,302.60. **Parish**

Building Fund Loan: If you can help us reduce this debt of \$377,309.61 by making a donation or using the envelopes for maintenance or capital campaign, it is very much appreciated. **Fall Parish Rummage Sale:** While you do your Spring cleaning, save some good items for our parish rummage sale which we hope to have in mid-late October covid guidelines permitting. This was a lot of fun for the volunteers and a very successful fundraiser for us when we did it a couple years ago. Working together builds community. Watch for details and a call for volunteers.

Getting Back To Normal: As we begin to anticipate getting back to normal as much as possible, we need to get some of our committees, commissions, and council back to planning. Most of us have been operating virtually and fortunately conducting business successfully given the circumstances. Normally, we recruit committee and commission members or nominate folks for various positions. These include: Parish Council, Finance, Stewardship, Christian Service, Adult Faith Formation, Evangelization, Social Committee, Music, Worship, Arts and Environment, Liturgical Minister Training for Lectors, Ex. Ministers of Holy Communion, and Funeral Luncheons. We cannot get back to total normal until the guidelines say it is safe to do so, but we do need to anticipate and plan for some return to normal in the future. For now, normal still means masks, hand sanitizing, and social distancing. We need to continue to practice these safety guidelines especially as the two new strains are so contagious, but we also need to look to the future. We want to plan some sort of **Welcome Back Celebration** and have it ready to put into action once it is safe to do so. The Parish Council and I will be looking for volunteers to help with various aspects of this event.

Weekly Readings

Old Testament:

Exodus 20: 1-17

A covenant is a solemn agreement between two parties in which each promises something. The book of Exodus recounts how the Jews escaped from slavery in Egypt and made a covenant with God on Mount Sinai. The heart of that covenant is this: God promises to accept the Israelites as his people. On their part, they must promise to keep God's commandments.

New Testament:

1 Corinthians 1: 22-25

Paul wrote to his Corinthian converts about the difficulty in preaching about a crucified savior. To Jewish people who looked for a powerful Messiah performing spectacular signs, it seemed unacceptable that the Messiah would suffer and die. To Gentiles, it seemed entirely absurd that someone who died such a humiliating death could be the savior of the world.

Gospel:

John 2: 13-25

In this account of the cleansing of the Temple by Jesus, the author is not precisely clear what offended Jesus. It was proposed that there was cheating against the poor, that Jesus was rejecting commercial activity in a sacred area, or that Jesus opposed a carnival-like atmosphere in the Temple. What is clear is that Jesus feels justified in his actions and raises the ire of the Jewish leaders against him.

Faith Formation

Our Children’s Classes continue on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Classes meet: Mar.

First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at the 10 a.m. Mass.
Families are asked to let Sister know how many seats need to be reserved for each family.

Preparing to Complete Reception of Sacraments: Emily Fortier, a high school student from Heritage, has been diligently preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist during this coming Easter Season. Keep her and her family in your prayers.

If you are in need of Preparation for Baptism, Marriage or desire an Annulment, please call the office at 989-790-5086 to set up an appointment with Sister Janet. Please make an appointment at least six months, preferably a year in advance to prepare for marriage. Do not rent a hall until you have met to discuss requirements and know that the Church is available for the date you desire.

Stewardship Message

Parents Just Don’t Understand

Anybody remember the old rap song by the Fresh Prince, aka Will Smith, “Parents Just Don’t Understand?” As we grow up, it is sometimes a struggle for us to imagine that our parents understand us. It can seem impossible that Mom and Dad remember the stress of exam week or peer pressure. We never saw them as children; we never saw their disappointed faces when they weren’t invited to a party, or their dashed hopes at a bad test grade. We never saw them homesick their first week of college or nervous to ask their crush to Homecoming.

We’re often the same way about God. We gripe about what He asks of us. “He doesn’t understand sin — he’s all-good,” we think. “He doesn’t understand temptation — He is perfect.”

In Scripture, God can be very much a father, telling us what we can and cannot do. And yet, in His divine genius, He is sometimes simply a man at a well, asking for a drink.

For me, it turns out I didn’t need to tell my parents anything about what I was going through as a kid — they knew already. What I needed was for them to tell me what to do, and how to do it.

Similarly, we don’t need to tell God about human nature. We need God to tell us about His nature. He’s good enough to ask us for a drink, to enter into our humanity. But we have to remember, for our own sakes, to have the humility to ask Him for something, too — the water that will quench our eternal thirst.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Readings

Week of March 8 - March 13, 2021

- Mon:** 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
- Tue:** Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
- Wed:** Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
- Thur:** Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Lk 11:14-23
- Fri:** Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14, 17/Mk 12:28-34
- Sat:** Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14

On the Lighter Side



Parish Information

Disciple Maker Index Survey

The Parishes of the Diocese of Saginaw are actively participating in a survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute! We need your help! **Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online.** The survey can be accessed on our website, Facebook, mobile app and at <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/dcpy9d78y9> from **February 17 thru March 22, 2021** All responses are confidential. Don't have a computer/internet come take the survey at church in class room 1 during normal business hours. A paper copy can be requested thru the Parish Office at 989-790-5086.

Christian Outreach Committee

Thank you so much for generous donations for the 1% Veterans's Food Pantry. For the months of March and April, we will be collecting for the Christian based Life Clinic Resource Center (replacement for Abortion Alternative). These are items they can use: diapers size preemie to 6, baby wipes, formula, baby shampoo and baby bath, new or gently used: blankets, onesies, sleepers, sleep sacks, outfits, socks, shoes, baby toys and books and a boppy pillow. Thank you so much for spreading the Good News through your generous gifts on helping those in need in our community.

CROP Walk update: WOW! St. John Vianney ranked 16th out of 5,000 teams across the NATION for highest money raiser. What an amazing thoughtful, kind and generous community we have here at SJV! We've been in the top 100 money raisers in the past when we raised near or over \$7000, but this year's 13,000+ pushed our parish total way up to 16th. Thank you so very much for caring and helping those that might have otherwise gone hungry.

Diocesan Information

'The world needs husbands who love their wives as Joseph loved Mary,' said Bishop Gruss in week two of his Lenten Journey with St. Joseph Most Chaste.

In the Gospels, we find that Joseph never speaks a word. There are no recorded words. He's always there, though, as a silent presence. We read about him – that he was a righteous man, unwilling to expose Mary to shame. In the Divine Praises used at the end of Benediction, St. Joseph is referred to as 'Her most chaste spouse.' What does this really mean? Her most chaste spouse?

Chastity is a misunderstood virtue; today's society tells us that chastity is suppressing our "natural sexual urges". We live in a highly sexualized world today. Everywhere we look, sexual images abound. The lack of modesty in dress often times leaves little to the imagination. Many television programs are filled with conversations which carry sexual innuendos or overtones. It seems that we can't get away from it. But yet, all of us, married or single, are called to live this virtue of chastity as difficult as it might be in our world today. All of Christ's faithful are called to lead a chaste life in keeping with their particular state of life modeling Christ himself. At the moment of our Baptism, because we receive Christ, we receive this gift. However, we must learn the proper understanding of the virtue of chastity and then pray for the grace to live it to our fullest potential.

Chastity can be seen as a school by which we learn to give of the gift of our self. In other words, we must master our self in order to give the gift of our self to God and others. Chastity leads a person who practices it to become a witness to the fidelity and loving kindness of God. Chaste love requires that a person wills the good of another without possessing the other as one's own. St. Joseph was entrusted with the Child Jesus and His Blessed Mother. He was chaste in body but also in his heart. Joseph loved freely, and in doing so, this created the interior peaceful order in the Holy Family. By the grace of God, Joseph had a united heart. He was deeply devoted to Mary in fidelity and love, just as he was to God. Because of his deep love for God, he was then able to live a chaste love in his relationship with Mary and Jesus. Lust is the predominant vice at work in the hearts of people today. There is no question regarding the impact of the sexual permissiveness of our culture. We are all aware of the impact that pornography has on an individual and on their family. Human sexuality is the greatest of the temptations of the Evil One. We need the help of St. Joseph Most Chaste to overcome these temptations.

Living the virtue of chastity elevates one's love and attraction to a deep respect for the dignity of the other. Chastity allows a person to see purely (to see God in another) and with piety (to reverence the divine image in the other). This is what Joseph was able to do and this is what parents must teach their children. In order to do so, parents must live a chaste life themselves. The virtue of chastity is reflected in the other virtues of honesty, faith, trustfulness, charity, peace, worshiping and seeking God. It is reflected in the way we dress, in conversations we have, the television shows and movies we watch, etc. These virtues must be lived in the parents before parents can influence their children. If parents don't teach the importance of chastity, the culture will teach them something far different. Teach them that this is not mom and dad's law, but God's law, and God wants us to do what is best for ourselves. Parents, you may not think about this, but your whole life teaches many things to your children, and words aren't always required. Your role in guiding your children in this virtue is critical.

The season of Lent is time of conversion and repentance. If you struggle with living the virtue of chastity in any way, thoughts, words or actions, whether you are married or single, St. Joseph, our spiritual father, wants to teach you the way to true chastity – how to live it and how to teach it. We often see St. Joseph depicted with a lily, as a sign of purity. His life shows us that the full gift of self toward another does not necessarily have to involve sexual relations. It is possible to love without possessing another person.

Men, in particular, need to imitate the chaste heart of Joseph. The world needs these types of husbands who love their wives as Joseph loved Mary. If men reverence their wives as holy temples, families will be renewed and the attacks against the dignity of the human person and family will be overcome. St. Joseph will fight for us if only we call upon him for assistance. St. Joseph, Most Chaste, pray for us. Bishop Robert Gruss

Stuffed Cabbage To-Go-Go! March 20th & 21st Bay City: St. George Byzantine Catholic Church (204 North Van Buren) is now taking orders for their delicious stuffed cabbage which will also freeze well. A jammed packed 2 lb. container is \$13. Pick-up is Saturday, March 20th; 4 - 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 21st; 12:30 - 2-p.m. To order Please email: stgeorgebyz@gmail.com or call Anne 989-662-7169. Even though extra stuffed cabbage will be available, it's best to order.

Financial Stewardship Update

Parish Support:

February 27/28, 2021

Collection..... \$ 4,573.50

ACH \$ 501.00

Online \$ 115.00



Online giving is different from ACH and is now available through the website www.sjvsaginaw.org.



Gospel Reflection

3rd Sunday of Lent

Many prefer a “create as you go” approach to life where laws and protocols primarily exist to secure and protect liberties rather than dictate and outline proper and right behavior. There are no real benchmarks for acceptable ethical and moral behavior, with a “you can’t tell me what to do” attitude prevailing. Parents are even limited in what they can request of their children, and dealing with threatening behaviors, especially from adults, are a challenge as well. Acceptable and expected conduct seems to amount to safeguarding each other’s space rather than increasing awareness of necessary relationships that require a more refined and higher response.

We have lost our axis to the world of “anything goes” and no longer see the Ten Commandments as practical and wise guideposts to effective living. We live on “relativism island” where only a possible suggestion to “love and do not harm” may be the only standard able to be preached. While Jesus most certainly emphasized love above anything else, it was never about warm fuzzy feelings or halfhearted humanitarian efforts. The love of which Jesus spoke establishes an intimate connection with God, neighbor, self, and creation. Because this love, who is God Himself, is at the foundational core of our lives, it demands actions and attitudes that serve to build up, increase, and free up those relationships. Love requires proper conduct. Preserving and enhancing these love centered relationships is at the heart of the Ten Commandments (and the Beatitudes) and the reason for Jesus’ display of anger in the temple.

The Ten Commandments can save the world from turmoil and conflict by instilling basic moral and relational principles within us. They also hold a healthy sense of sin in balance and always remind us of our relationship with God and the freedom God offers. Our faith preserves these jewels of truth that we often look beyond, dismiss altogether, or seek to remove from public view. Human beings can be so arrogant at times. Our Lenten journey, especially when embarked upon with sincerity and resolve, can restore all of our essential relationships. When we get absorbed in life’s preoccupations and demands, things can quickly get distorted and we can find ourselves way off track. In short, we find ourselves in sin. Humanity is losing a sense of both grace and sin. We need both to understand what is real and true. Until we do, the oppressive systems and ideologies that hurt so many will never change. We will never change. We are grateful for those courageous souls who willingly embrace the conversion and hard work Lent demands and stand against antiquated systems and ideologies. They give us hope that all is not lost.

Music Ministry



LENT—WEEK 3
St. John Vianney
Music for Mass



Gathering: *Christ In Me Arise*

By: Trevor Thomson

Psalm: 19: *Lord, You Have the Words*

Gifts: *Instrumental*

Mass Setting: *Mass of St. Mary Magdalene*

By: Sarah Hart

Communion: *I Am the Bread of Life*

By: Suzanne Toolan

Sending Forth: *On Eagles’ Wings*

By: Fr. Michael Joncas

You can find all these links on our Music Ministry Facebook Page

Prayer Request

Requests call: Sue Rapin 799-7588

Cancer:

Daniel, Randy, Beryl, Robert, Yvonne, Alan, Terry, Marsha, Melissa, Theresa, Steve, Charlie, Janine, Annette, Nicole, Marta, Richard, David, Karen, Sr. Elaine, Gary, Tony, Sue, Omar, Linda, Kim, Danny, Manny, Brenda, Eileen, Tammy, Marlene, Dick, Bill, Gerry, Brian, Sherry, Erin, Toni, Jason, Dottie, Sharon, Jennifer, Dave, Jean, Pat, Cindy, Beth, Meredith, Donna, Dennis, Kent, Art, Ann, George, Joe, Bobbi, Mel, Gary, Ben, Vicky, Bob, Herrick, Lori, Judy, Evelyn, Jack, Angelica, Jerry, Diane, Connie, Don, Lowell, Lisa, Jim, Ted, Lucy, Amber, Jennifer, Steve

Health:

Mary Jane, Marcella, Marcile, Jacob, Jean, Maddison, Joanne, Carson, Carol, Cecelia, Wayne, Claudette, Brian, Dave, Andy, Paul, Tiffany, Kelly, Remi, Marty, Holly, Janis, Nancy, Marcia, Dee, Amber, Kirsten, Laura, Mike, Luke, Brian, Lynn, Ron, Steven, Joan, Cyndi, John, Ann, Jennifer, Jeremy, Jan, Rebecca, Dennis, Elijah, Charlotte, Julie, Michelle, Stan, Mary, Marilyn, Kevin, Dorothy, Linda, Doris, Betty, Tim, Lennon, Jim, Steve, Ken, Tammy, Diane, John, Bill, Sandra, Mina, Mason, Heather, Richard

Surgery/Help/Military:

S: Doreitha

H: Alison, Norm, Family of Wayne, Chad, Kathy, Bethany, Lynn, David, Alex

M: Nicholas, Robert Zamora **Army** - Suzanne Nielsen, Chad Bailey **Navy** - Nathan LaClair, Paul Lewis, Josh Geese **Air Force** - Tom Czerwinski

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