



May-August 2026

St. Joseph Catholic Church
126 East St. Pewamo, MI 48873
989-593-3440
stjosephpewamo.org



2026 Summer Events

Morality of AI depends on human choices, Vatican says in new document

**An article from United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Written by Cindy Wooden**

Popes and Vatican officials, working with tech experts, have been studying the development of artificial intelligence for four decades; a new document looks at the promises and threats they see in the rapidly developing technology.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- "Technological progress is part of God's plan for creation," the Vatican said, but people must take responsibility for using technologies like artificial intelligence to help humanity and not harm individuals or groups.

"Like any tool, AI is an extension of human power, and while its future capabilities are unpredictable, humanity's past actions provide clear warnings," said the document signed by Cardinals Víctor Manuel Fernández, prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, and José Tolentino de Mendonça, prefect of the Dicastery for Culture and Education.

The document, approved by Pope Francis Jan. 14 and released by the Vatican Jan. 28 2026 -- the day after International Holocaust Remembrance Day -- said "the atrocities committed throughout history are enough to raise deep concerns about the potential abuses of AI."

Titled, "Antiqua et Nova (ancient and new): Note on the Relationship Between Artificial Intelligence and Human Intelligence," the document focused particularly on the moral use of technology and on the impact artificial intelligence already is having or could have on interpersonal relationships, education, work, art, health care, law, warfare and international relations.

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PRAYER TEAMS AFTER MASS

Have you visited our Prayer Team yet? If not, you are missing out on something amazing. Prayer is one of the greatest gifts that we have. Asking for God's intervention for whatever is happening in our lives. Do you need physical healing, even if it's that pesky cough you can't seem to shake? Are you experiencing emotional pain? Do you want to know what God wants for you? Do you need more strength, love, patience? Our Prayer Teams are available to pray with and for you for everything you need prayers for. Consider taking a leap of faith and meeting with our Prayer Teams on June 13-14 after all Masses.

DISCERNING PRIESTHOOD

"There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist" (cf. *Gift and Mystery. On the Fiftieth Anniversary of My Priestly Ordination*, New York, 1996, pp.77-78).

Contact Fr. Darrel to learn more about discerning your calling to the priesthood, Diaconate, or Lay Person Ministries.

JOIN THE CHURCH

If you are reading this event booklet and have not officially joined St. Joseph Parish, or possibly even the Catholic Faith, this is your sign that the time is now. You are already engaged and desire to know more about your faith! Contact the Parish Office to learn more about becoming a member of St. Joseph and/or a member of the Catholic Church.

parishoffice@stjosephpewamo.org
989-593-3440

SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND 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@stjosephpewamo.org

PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

O God, hear our prayer and let our cry come to You. Bless the Diocese of Grand Rapids with many vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. Give your sons and daughters the confidence to accept Your call, and the love to follow always in the footsteps of Your beloved Son with courage and dedication to Your will. Amen.

DAY OF HEALING

What are you waiting for today: a husband, a baby, maybe it's healing - in your body, your marriage, your family. Maybe it's the breakthrough you've been praying for so long you have almost stopped believing it will come. The waiting is exhausting, isn't it? We live in a world of same-day delivery and instant streaming. We want immediate answers, results now. But God? He operates on a different timeline entirely. Some days that is the hardest part of faith. Friend, can I gently remind you, God's delays are not God's denials. He is not punishing you, or forgetting you. He is not scrolling past your prayers like junk mail. His silence is not His absence.

Here is what I've learned in my own waiting seasons: God is doing more in the waiting than we can see. He is preparing us, refining us, growing roots deep enough to hold the weight of what's coming. Have you considered that He is waiting? Is He prompting you to make a difficult step, calling you to inner healing?

There will be a Day of Healing on Sunday May 3rd
Prayerfully consider if this is what God has been waiting on for you.

For more information contact the Parish Office or Diane Pline at 989-640-1387.



MAY CROWNING

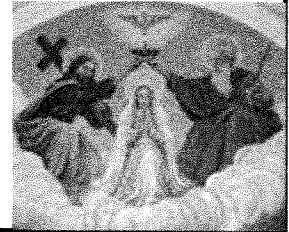
This year's May Crowning will be held on the First Friday, May 1st. Join us in crowning Mary, Queen of Heaven & Earth and Mother of God.

11:30 - Rosary

12:00 - Mass

Crowning will follow Mass with the students of St. Joseph School on the feast of her earthly spouse St. Joseph the Worker.

St. John Damascene wrote: 'When she became mother of the Creator, she truly became queen of every creature.' Likewise, it can be said that the heavenly voice of the Archangel Gabriel was the first to proclaim Mary's royal office.'



FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

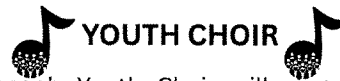
First Friday Adoration is focused on honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus and offering reparation for our sins. Jesus instructed St. Margaret Mary Alacoque to promote devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in reparation for our sins and to show our love for Jesus. "In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour."

ROSARY FOR THE INFINITE DIGNITY OF LIFE

St. Joseph offers a Rosary for the infinite dignity of life the first Sunday of every month at 11:30 am. Please join us in praying for life at all stages, from womb to tomb.

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD TRUCK

Let's Celebrate Our 75+ Food truck milestone. It's only \$75 to sponsor a Family for the year. Its as easy as labeling an envelope and dropping it in the collection basket. Make checks payable to St. Joseph.



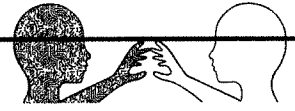
The St. Joseph Youth Choir will sing at Mass on Sunday, May 10, 10:00am honoring our Mothers on Mother's Day. All youth, 2nd grade through high school, are invited to join us in praising our Lord during the Holy Mass in thanksgiving for the blessing of our mothers. Please contact Catherine Weber (c.weber@stjosephewamo.org) for more information.

PARISH BONFIRE

Your Invited to join us on Sunday, June 28 at 6:30 pm for a special evening of fellowship and prayer. The event will include hotdogs, s'mores, the proper disposal of blessed items, and a campus blessing. If you are unable to attend, you may still bring your blessed items for disposal by placing them in the tote located at the back of the church or bring them to the Parish Office. To help us plan for food, an RSVP is strongly encouraged. Please sign up in the back of the church beginning June 1.

PARISH FESTIVAL

Save the date: This summer's Parish Festival weekend is June 6th-7th. Family and community fun for everyone! More information coming soon. Watch the bulletin for details.



AI technology is used not only in apps like ChatGPT and search engines, but in advertising, self-driving cars, autonomous weapons systems, security and surveillance systems, factory robotics and data analysis, including in health care.

The popes and Vatican institutions, particularly the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, have been monitoring and raising concerns about the development and use of artificial intelligence for more than 40 years.

"Like any product of human creativity, AI can be directed toward positive or negative ends," the Vatican document said. "When used in ways that respect human dignity and promote the well-being of individuals and communities, it can contribute positively to the human vocation."

"Yet, as in all areas where humans are called to make decisions, the shadow of evil also looms here," the dicasteries said. "Where human freedom allows for the possibility of choosing what is wrong, the moral evaluation of this technology will need to take into account how it is directed and used."

Human beings, not machines, make moral decisions, the document said. So, "it is important that ultimate responsibility for decisions made using AI rests with the human decision-makers and that there is accountability for the use of AI at each stage of the decision-making process."

The Vatican document insisted that while artificial intelligence can quickly perform some very complex tasks or access vast amounts of information, it is not truly intelligent, at least not in the same way human beings are.

"A proper understanding of human intelligence," it said, "cannot be reduced to the mere acquisition of facts or the ability to perform specific tasks. Instead, it involves the person's openness to the ultimate questions of life and reflects an orientation toward the true and the good."

Human intelligence also involves listening to others, empathizing with them, forming relationships and making moral judgments -- actions which even the most sophisticated AI programs cannot do, it said.

"Between a machine and a human, only the human can be sufficiently self-aware to the point of listening and following the voice of conscience, discerning with prudence, and seeking the good that is possible in every situation," the document said.

The Vatican dicasteries issued several warnings or cautions in the document, calling on individual users, developers and even governments to exercise control over how AI is used and to commit "to ensuring that AI always supports and promotes the supreme value of the dignity of every human being and the fullness of the human vocation."

First, they said, "misrepresenting AI as a person should always be avoided; doing so for fraudulent purposes is a grave ethical violation that could erode social trust. Similarly, using AI to deceive in other contexts -- such as in education or in human relationships, including the sphere of sexuality -- is also to be considered immoral and requires careful oversight to prevent harm, maintain transparency, and ensure the dignity of all people."

The dicasteries warned that "AI could be used to perpetuate marginalization and discrimination, create new forms of poverty, widen the 'digital divide,' and worsen existing social inequalities."

While AI promises to boost productivity in the workplace "by taking over mundane tasks," the document said, "it frequently forces workers to adapt to the speed and demands of machines rather than machines being designed to support those who work."

Parents, teachers and students also need to be careful with their reliance on AI, it said, and they need to know its limits.

"The extensive use of AI in education could lead to the students' increased reliance on technology, eroding their ability to perform some skills independently and worsening their dependence on screens," it said. And while AI may provide information, the document said, it does not actually educate, which requires thinking, reasoning and discerning.

Users must also be aware of AI's "serious risk of generating manipulated content and false information, which can easily mislead people due to its resemblance to the truth. Such misinformation might occur unintentionally, as in the case of AI 'hallucination,' where a generative AI system yields results that appear real but are not" because it is programmed to respond to every request for information, regardless of whether it has access to it.

Of course, the document said, AI's falsehood also "can be intentional: individuals or organizations intentionally generate and spread false content with the aim to deceive or cause harm, such as 'deepfake' images, videos and audio -- referring to a false depiction of a person, edited or generated by an AI algorithm."

Military applications of AI technology are particularly worrisome, the document said, because of "the ease with which autonomous weapons make war more viable," AI's potential for removing "human oversight" from weapons deployment and the possibility that autonomous weapons will become the object of a new "destabilizing arms race, with catastrophic consequences for human rights."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	MAY				1 Feast of St. Joseph the Worker 12 am 1st Friday Adoration 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass Crowning of Mary following Mass	2 3:30 pm Confession 4:30 pm Mass
3 8 am Mass 9:15 am Healing Day 10 am Mass 11:30 am Rosary for the Infinite Dignity of Life	4 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	5 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	6 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confession	7 6:15 am Mass	8 6 am Confession 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass 6 pm Stations of the Cross	9 3:30 pm Confession 4:30 pm Mass
10 Mothers Day 8 am Mass 10 am Mass - Youth Choir honoring our Mothers	11 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass 5:30 pm Mother Daughter Banquet	12 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass 7:15 pm Pastoral Council Meeting	13 Grandparents Day 9 am Library Committee Meeting 10 am Mass ** Special time	14 6:15 am Mass 7:30 pm KC Meeting (rosary @7:10pm)	15 6 am Confessions 2 pm Color Run 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	16 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
17 The Ascension of the Lord 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	18 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	19 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	20 6:30 pm Finance Council Meeting 6:30 pm 8th Grade Graduation Mass	21 6:15 am Mass 6 pm Holy Hour for Vocations @ St Joseph 7 pm Cursillo School of Leaders	22 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	23 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
24 Pentecost Sunday 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	25 Memorial Day 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass (St. Joseph/Mt. Calvary Cemetary)	26 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	27 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions	28 6:15 am Mass	29 6 am Confessions 11:30 Rosary 12 pm Mass	30 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
31 8 am Mass 10 am Mass						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	2 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	3 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions	4 6:15 am Mass	5 12 am 1st Friday Adoration 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	6 Parish Festival 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass 7 pm Parish Festival - Movie Night
7 Corpus Christi Parish Festival 8 am Mass 10 am Mass 11:30 Rosary for the Infinite Dignity of Life Corpus Christi Procession Festival Parade	8 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	9 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	10 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions	11 6:15 am Mass 7:30 KC Meeting (Rosary @7:10)	12 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass 6 pm Stations of the Cross	13 Prayer team will be available after Mass 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
14 Prayer team will be available after both Masses. 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	15 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	16 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	17 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions 6:30 pm Finance Council Meeting	18 6:15 am Mass 6 pm Holy Hour for Vocations @ St. Mary CC. 7 pm Cursillo School of Leaders	19 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	20 10 am Ordination to the Priesthood at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew. Bishop Walkowiak will ordain Deacons Charles Leidel, Logan McGahan, and Hunter Ostapowicz. 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
21 Fathers Day 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	22 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	23 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	24 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions	25 6:15 am Mass	26 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	27 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
28 8 am Mass 10 am Mass 12:30 pm Pilgrimage Meeting 6:30 pm Bonfire	29 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	30 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass			JUNE	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	JULY		1 8 am Mass 8:45 Confessions	2 6:15 am Mass	3 12 am 1st Friday Adoration 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	4 Independence Day 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
5 8 am Mass 10 am Mass 11:30 Rosary for the Infinite Dignity of Life	6 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	7 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	8 8 am Mass 8:45 Confessions	9 6:15 am Mass 7 pm KC Installation of Officers 7:30 KC Meeting (Rosary @ 7:10pm)	10 6 am Confessions 11:30 Rosary 12 pm Mass 6 pm Stations of the Cross	11 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
12 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	13 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	14 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	15 8 am Mass 8:45 Confessions 6:30 pm Finance Council Meeting	16 6:15 am Mass 6 pm Holy Hour for Vocations @ St. Joseph 7 pm Cursillo School of Leaders	17 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	18 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass First Fruits Farm Stand opens.
19 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	20 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	21 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass 7:15 pm Pastoral Council Meeting	22 8 am Mass 8:45 Confessions	23 6:15 am Mass	24 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	25 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
26 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	27 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	28 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	29 8 am Mass 8:45 Confessions 8 am - 5 pm Good Samaritan Yard Sale Donation Drop off	30 6:15 am Mass 8 am - 5 pm Good Samaritan Yard Sale	31 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass 8 am - 5 pm Good Samaritan Yard Sale	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		AUGUST				1 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
2 8 am Mass 10 am Mass 11:30 am Rosary for the Infinite Dignity of Life	3 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	4 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	5 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions	6 6:15 am Mass	7 12 am 1st Friday Adoration 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	8 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
9 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	10 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass (Sept-Dec) Event Booklet Deadline	11 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	12 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions	13 6:15 am Mass 7:30 pm KC Meeting (Rosary @ 7:10)	14 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass 6 pm Stations of the Cross Parish Camping Trip	15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass Parish Camping Trip
16 8 am Mass 10 am Mass Parish Camping Trip	17 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	18 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	19 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions 6:00 pm Restore event	20 6:15 am Mass 6 pm Holy Hour For Vocations 7 pm Cursillo School of Leaders	21 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	22 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
23 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	24 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	25 6 am Adoration 5 pm Confession 6:30 pm Mass	26 8 am Mass 8:45 am Confessions 6:30 pm Finance Council Meeting	27 6:15 am Mass	28 6 am Confessions 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass	29 3:30 pm Confessions 4:30 pm Mass
30 8 am Mass 10 am Mass	31 11:30 am Rosary 12 pm Mass					

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.

May

Our Lady of Fatima: May 4-13
St. Dymphna-Mental Illness: May 6-15
St. Isidore the Farmer: May 6-15
Mary, Help of Christians: May 15-24
Corpus Christi: May 21-30
Immaculate Heart of Mary: May 29-June 6
Sacred Heart of Jesus: May 29-June 6

June

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: June 18-27
Sts. Peter & Paul: June 20-29
Precious Blood: June 22-29
Maria Goretti: June 24- July 6

July

St. Kateri Tekakwitha: July 5-14
Our Lady of St. Carmel: July 7-16
St. Mary Magdalene: July 13-20
St. Joachim & Anne: July 17-26
St. Ignatius of Loyola: July 22-31

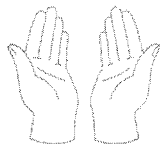
August

St. Philomena: August 2-11
St. Maximilian Kolbe: August 5-14
Mary Undoer of Knots: August 6-15
St. Augustine: August 19-28
Mother Teresa of Calcutta: August 27-September 5

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



CONSIDER CATHOLIC EDUCATION

St. Joseph Catholic School is an accomplished institution, rich in its Catholic heritage and well-defined in its academic programs. The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines the importance of Catholic Education and the responsibilities that go along with it. Contact St. Joseph School today to learn more about how we can partner with you for your child's education. Phone: 989-593-3400 email: rweber@stjosephewamo.org

Facts about our school

- Accredited by the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools
- Grades Young 5 through Eighth Grade
- Affordable tuition, with tuition assistance for anyone in need
- Small class sizes and family and community involvement make St. Joseph a leader in academic excellence
- Growing Athletics, including basketball and volleyball teams
- Community service opportunities

Students have opportunities to live their faith

- Mass twice a week
- Preparation for First Holy Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation
- Weekly Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, Morning Prayer and Pledge, Stations of the Cross, and other all-school prayer opportunities
- Clergy regularly visits classrooms to interact with students
- Students pray the Angelus Daily



PARISH CAMPING TRIP

Our annual parish camping trip at Leisure Lake Family Campground in Sumner, MI is August 14-16, 2026. All parish families are welcome to call the Campground at 989-875-4689 and make a reservation and request to be near the Pewamo group. If you have any further questions please contact Brent or Emily Simon at 517-285-6239.

GOOD SAMARITAN

What is Good Samaritan Ministry? You are!

Good Samaritan Ministries is a food distribution ministry, and a ministry of St. Joseph Parish. Good Samaritan Ministry began in 2023 with the goal of feeding the food insecure in our communities. This mission led us to hosting our first Feeding America Food Truck on February 20, 2023 at the American Legion Hall in Hubbardston. We have held two distributions per month since our inception, the first Tuesday of each month at Twin Rivers Elementary in Muir and the third Tuesday of each month at the American Legion Hall in Hubbardston. We serve on average 100 households per distribution including many children, seniors and veterans.

The food from Feeding America West Michigan is not free, though we do pay pennies on the dollar. Each truck carries on average 4500 pounds of food at a cost of \$1600.00 per month paid by Good Samaritan. This averages \$15,000.00 per year! Please join with Good Samaritan in continuing our ministry by making a donation. Your monetary donation can be dropped in the collection basket. Please write GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY on the envelope and include your weekly envelope number. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you and God Bless!

YARD SALE

Please donate your new or gently used items which will be sold to benefit Good Samaritan Ministries...or come and shop for some new to you treasures, at St. Joseph activity center.

Drop off: Wednesday July 29 8am-5pm

Sale: Thursday July 30 8am-5pm
Friday July 31 8am-2pm

All proceeds will enable Good Samaritan to continue funding the \$1600.00 per month food distributions feeding our neighbors.



CORPUS CHRISTI EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION



One of the key liturgical facets of Corpus Christi is its procession. Of course, processions have great biblical, liturgical and popular pietistic importance. In the Old Testament, think of the processions with the Ark of the Covenant, or the innumerable accounts of festal pilgrimage processions to Jerusalem – praising God with music and dance – of which the Psalms speak. Or in the New Testament, think of the procession of Christ through those first Palm Sunday crowds who shouted His praises. Processions of the faithful empower Christians to give public witness to their faith, give glory to God, and symbolize our earthly pilgrimage to the heavenly Jerusalem.

Eucharistic processions began shortly after the institution of the solemnity of Corpus Christi. This practice was encouraged by the Council of Trent to reiterate the Church's belief in the real presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Our Procession will take place June 7, 2026

More information to follow.

SUMMER LIBRARY

The summer library was so successful last year that we have decided to offer it again this coming summer. Any child or adult who is interested in checking out our amazing selection should join us!

Tuesdays & Thursdays June 9th through August 20th
from 9am-12pm

Beginning at 10am
· Tuesdays includes Story Time
· Thursday includes Games



RESTORE 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 on August 19, 6:00pm. This RESTORE event will include adoration, confession, praise and worship music, and the St. Joseph Prayer Team will be available for those seeking prayers. Gather with us for a faith filled evening to encounter Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET

The St. Joseph Parish Altar Society Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. (Please note the time change). Dinner and table service will be provided. You may bring your mothers/daughters from other parishes. We will be accepting donations for new baby items or cash donations for Pregnancy Services of Ionia. Please sign up on the sheets in the back of church or you can text or call Barb Wesley at 616-481-1799 or Therese Simon at 517-927-7248. Please either sign up by Tuesday, May 5, 2026. Thank you.

COLOR RUN

The students of St. Joseph School will be enduring a one-mile run on May 15 at 2:00 pm. With a rain date of May 19. During the race the students will encounter splash zones that will douse them in colored chalk. The community is invited to cheer on the runners and enjoy a good laugh in the colorful mess that ensues.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

We invite you to celebrate and honor our beloved grandparents with a special day on May 13 that will be filled with love, joy, and community. The event will begin with Mass at 10:00 am, followed by a delicious lunch and lively entertainment shortly after. Come be a part of this meaningful celebration as we express our gratitude and appreciation for the wisdom and love our grandparents bring into our lives.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

We need priests and religious volunteers to help sustain and grow our Church. The Knights of Columbus have organized a Holy Hour for Vocations every third Thursday of the month. Please join us in praying for more men and women to follow their vocational calling to serve Our Lord. This is a conjoined effort with St. Mary Carson City, St. John the Baptist Hubbardston, and St. Joseph Pewamo. You will be lead in prayer by one of our knights prior to entering silent adoration.

8th GRADE GRADUATION

8th Grade Graduation Mass will take place on May 20. Our celebration will begin with Mass at 6:30pm followed by the graduation ceremony. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with our graduates and their families!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The second Friday of every month (at 6:00 pm) St. Joseph Parish offers the Stations of the Cross. This prayer helps us to enter more deeply into the Passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Come walk in the footsteps of the Lord.



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation which falls annually on August 15. This year it falls on a Saturday which allows observance on Sunday the 16th during your weekend Mass. Saturday Mass will remain at 4:30.

MEMORIAL DAY MASS AND ROSARY

Join us on Monday, May 25 to pray the rosary and celebrate Mass at St. Joseph/Mt. Calvary Cemetery in honor of all our fallen soldiers. Rosary will begin at 11:30 am. Mass begins at 12:00 pm.

FIRST FRUITS FARM STAND

The First Fruits Farm Stand will be back again this harvest season. Whether you have a field or a garden we encourage you to bring some of your harvest to share with the community. Parishioners are invited to bring fresh, home-grown produce to the tables outside of church every Sunday and are invited to take of the gifts brought by others. Open July 18-September 13.



Citations

(1) <https://www.usccb.org/news/2025/morality-ai-depends-human-choices-vatican-says-new-document>

Images:

- <https://pembrokediocese.com/article/what-is-evangelization/>
- <https://www.dowr.org/offices/missionary-discipleship/parish-evangelization.html>
- <https://www.dolr.org/article/marys-crown-promise-our-crown>
- <https://mastershandcollection.com/blog/summer-is-near-matthew-2432/>

Heavenly Father,

Pour forth your Holy Spirit to inspire me with these words from Holy Scripture. Stir in my soul the desire to renew my faith and deepen my relationship with your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ so that I might truly believe in and live the Good News.

Open my heart to hear the Gospel and grant me the confidence to proclaim the Good News to others. Pour out your Spirit, so that I might be strengthened to go forth and witness to the Gospel in my everyday life through my words and actions.

In moments of hesitation, remind me:

- If not me, then who will proclaim the Gospel?
- If not now, then when will the Gospel be proclaimed?
- If not the truth of the Gospel, then what shall I proclaim?

God, our Father, I pray that through the Holy Spirit I might hear the call of the New Evangelization to deepen my faith, grow in confidence to proclaim the Gospel and boldly witness to the saving grace of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



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Below, you'll find the Lord's Prayer in first century Aramaic translated by Rev. William Fulco, SJ
<https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-our-father-in-aramaic/>

Abun di bashmayya nethqadash shmak.
 Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name.

Tethey malkuthak.

Thy / Your kingdom come.

Newe tzevyanak aykan di bashmayya af ba'ara.

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Lakhman di sunkanan yamana hav lan yoma dheyn.

Give us (this day) our daily bread.

Wa-shbuk lan khavine aykana, d'af hanan shbuklan l'khayvine.

And forgive us our trespasses/debts, as we forgive our trespassors/debtors.

Ulo ellan lanisyana l'heyn atzeyl lan min beesha.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us /protect us from the evil one.

Amin.

Amen.



PILGRIMAGE OF PRAYER

As a reminder: While Nickie is in Rome representing CHARIS in audience with Pope Leo XIV and in England she will have the opportunity to celebrate and pray at several holy sites. While doing so she would like to include us and our intentions.

Instructions: Write any and all intentions you would like prayed for on a single sheet of paper and seal it in an envelope. It will not be opened. Write your name on the outside of the envelope. Place the envelope in the basket at the back of Church no later than the 6:30pm Mass on Tuesday, May 12 in order to make it in time for the trip.

Join in prayer: Nickie has asked we pray 2 novena with her.

From May 16 through 24: a novena for evangelization.

From May 25 through June 2: A novena to the Holy Spirit with the intention of CHARIS and Pope Leo XIV.

Copies of both novenas are in the back of Church.

Presentation: Sunday, June 28th at 12:30pm the CHARIS mission and a recap of the trip.