OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Friday—9:00 until Noon
E-mail address: stjoeparishofc@bright.net

NORMAL MASS TIMES
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am and 9:30 am
Monday:
Tuesday: 7:00 pm
Wednesday: 7:00 pm
Thursday: 7:00 pm
Friday: 7:55 am

CONFESSIONS
Tuesdays 6:30 pm
Saturdays 4:30 pm
Anytime by request

BAPTISMS
Baptisms will be celebrated anytime agreeable with Fr. Charles or Deacon Larry. For BAPTISM INSTRUCTION date and time check the bulletin. Please call the parish office to register.

MARRIAGE
Make arrangements at least six months ahead of time by calling the parish office. Do not set wedding date prior to contacting the parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)
RCIA classes run from September to May. These classes are for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or who wish to join the Church. Call the parish office to register.

FAITH ENRICHMENT
Religious Education Classes for the elementary students from August through May. Classes for the Junior High and High School students run September through March. Adult Enrichment: Bible Study, Spiritual development, missions and retreats. Check the bulletin for details.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND ELDERLY
Visitation and Eucharist will be provided by a Eucharistic Minister. A priest will be available if needed. Notify the parish office about people in the hospital or shut-ins. If you are, or will be hospitalized because of a surgery or serious illness, contact the pastor to receive the Sacrament of Healing.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS
If you are new to our St. Joseph Parish Family, please call or visit the parish office to register.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE
**LITURGICAL MINISTERS** - October 10 & 11:

**SERVERS:**
- 5:00 pm Madison Tumlinson
- 7:30 am Bryce Gasser
- 9:30 am Garrett Hark

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**
- 5:00 pm Shelly Knippen, Sue Knippen, Kathy Luersman
- 7:30 am **Volunteers Needed**
- 9:30 am Matt Dube, Don & Christy Good

**LECTORS:**
- 5:00 pm Agnes Krietemeyer
- 7:30 am **Volunteer Needed**
- 9:30 am Phil Wurst

**USHERS:**
- 5:00 pm Jerry Vetter, Roget Trentman
- 7:30 am **Volunteers Needed**
- 9:30 am Bryan & Shelley Hoersten

**Please pray for the sick:** Cherie Luersman

**September 27, 2020:**

Collections are severely down. If you do not come to Mass due to Covid, you can mail in your offertory or drop it off at the FJ Bank, Fort Jennings location.

**REMEMBERING ALL THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US MARKED WITH THE SIGN OF FAITH:**

The crosses on the wall in the narthex list the names of our parishioners who have died since last All Souls’ Day. The crosses will remain on the wall until our annual Mass for All Souls at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 1st. The crosses will be given to the family at that Mass. Our deceased loved ones are still part of our Communion of Saints and they remain in our prayers as we do in theirs. Their live has not ended, it has changes.

**Support Our Retired Priests!** Envelopes at the exits of church for the Perpetuate the Gift appeal. Your gift assists our retired diocesan priests. After a priest retires, typically in his 70’s, he is responsible for all his personal expenses: medical, housing, car, clothing and food. **All funds contributed between September 19 and December 31; reduces the amount the parish has to pay.** Send donations to Perpetuate the Gift, PO Box 954, Toledo, OH 43697 or place in the collection or online by selecting the Give tab at www.toledodiocese.org.

**WE DID IT!!!** 144 St. Joseph Parish Families donated $14,390.50 to the Annual Catholic Appeal. 102.79% of our $14,000 parish goal! A huge THANK YOU to all who donated toward to support these important ministries.

**THANK YOU** for your overwhelming response to our plea for items for the Food Pantry. We already used some of the items to serve one family this week!! May God bless you for your generosity.
Available for ALL St. Joseph parishioners to use and watch. The Toledo Diocese has purchased this program for 2 years, as a way to help families stay connected to and nourish their faith. This is a Netflix type format, with Catholic content and teachings. To sign up you can use your computer, iPad/phone. Go to FORMED.ORG Click “sign up”. Click “I belong to Parish or Organization”. Create an new account. Search our parish by typing in our zip code 45844 - click “St Joseph OH 45844”. Click “next” then type in your name and email address and click “sign up”. It is that easy and from there you watch, learn and listen to whatever you like. There is so much on here from kids shows, movies, pod cast and much more. If you have any questions you can reach out to Rhonda Liebrecht.

BETHLEHEM WOOD CARVING is visiting our parish this weekend, Oct 3 &4. Please, stop by after Mass to see the amazing items made by the faithful in the Holy Land. Due to Covid-19, the catholic Christians of the holy land are struggling to make a living as the wood carving is their only source of income. Pilgrims are banned from visiting & pandemic measures have everything shut down, these people are self-afraid and lost. Your purchase supports the catholic Christian of the holy land.

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. 6:30 p.m. Rosary - 7:00 p.m. Mass Join all the faithful of the Diocese of Toledo in celebration of the feast of the patroness of the Diocese of Toledo - Our Lady of the Rosary! Pray the novena in preparation of the feast day beginning on September 29. Sign up at toledoprays.org. On October 7, Watch live (go to toledoprays.org) or join us in person at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral (2535 Collingwood Blvd, Toledo, OH).

Ft Jennings American Legion Election Day Dinner. Nov. 3rd from 4-6 pm. Drive Thru Carry-out only. $9, includes: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Applesauce & Dessert. Call the Legion 419-286-2100 to reserve your meals, by Wednesday October 28th. If no one answers, let your name & meal count on the answering machine. Limited number of meals available at the door.

Because the opposition to abortion is an essential aspect of the Catholic faith, Catholics cannot support politicians who advocate for abortion or ‘abortion rights.’ While this does not mean Catholics should only care about the abortion issue, it does mean Catholics cannot excuse or dismiss this grave error in judgment concerning politicians political positioning on this issue.
MISSCARRIAGE AND INFANT LOSS MEMORIAL
MASS on Sunday, Oct. 18 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Michael Catholic Church, Kalida. All are welcome at this special Mass, whether your loss was recent or years ago. If you have questions about the Mass or St. Catherine’s Embrace (a new outreach ministry in Putnam County to support families who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss), call or text Mary Beth Weisenburger at (419)980-8065, Ruth Gerding at (567)204-1275 or Jill Streicher at (419)796-0637. Check our Website: stjosephfortjennings.org for new Ministry Schedules.

DELPHOS ST. JOHN’S 108th FALL FESTIVAL
October 17 & 18, 2020
Dinner tickets are now on sale for the Delphos St. John’s 108th Fall Festival on October 17 and 18. Home-cooked chicken and beef dinners with all the trimmings are $10.00 for adults and $7.50 for children (5th grade and younger). All tickets will be pre-sold. Carry-out only dinners will be available from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday. Enter the high school east parking lot by the St Vincent de Paul building. You will not need to get out of your car, the meals will be delivered to you. We will have volunteers there to direct traffic. We will have money raffle tickets and instant bingo tickets available for purchase while you are waiting in line. Get your chance to win part of the $6,000.00 drawing to be held Sunday, October 25 live at 7:00 p.m. on the Parish website. The event is open to the public! You will be helping to support the mission at St. John’s School. Dinner tickets, and raffle tickets may be purchased at the Ministry Center, high school and elementary school offices. Or mail your check to St John’s Festival, 201 N Pierce St, Delphos, OH 45833. Specify if you want adult or student tickets and if you want Saturday or Sunday tickets. We will mail you your dinner tickets. We look forward to serving you on October 17 and 18.

40 Days for Life began Wednesday, September 23rd. Spiritually adopt an unborn child & pray this for 9 months:

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
I love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby
that I have spiritually adopted
who is in danger of abortion.

~ Venerable Fulton J. Sheen

Single Catholic Women Invited to ‘Zoom and See’ Weekend. Ages 19-35. The Adrian Dominican Sisters invite you to their virtual Zoom and See Weekend, October 23-24, 2020, to join other women discerning whether you are called to religious life. The weekend begins at 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 23, 2020, and concludes at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, 2020. It will include time for prayer, silence, faith-sharing, and fun, as well as conversations about Dominican life and the life of a Sister. Register at https://tinyurl.com/ADSDiscern. For information, contact Sister Tarianne DeYonker, tdeyonker@adriandominicans.org or call or text her at 517-920-1395.

Nine Catholic Women Invited to ‘Zoom and See’ Weekend. Ages 19-35. The Adrian Dominican Sisters invite you to their virtual Zoom and See Weekend, October 23-24, 2020, to join other women discerning whether you are called to religious life. The weekend begins at 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 23, 2020, and concludes at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, 2020. It will include time for prayer, silence, faith-sharing, and fun, as well as conversations about Dominican life and the life of a Sister. Register at https://tinyurl.com/ADSDiscern. For information, contact Sister Tarianne DeYonker, tdeyonker@adriandominicans.org or call or text her at 517-920-1395.

September 27, 2020
Holy Disciples
for the Month of September 2020
Pray
• Still your body and mind. Take a deep breath and transition into a time for prayer. Try to leave your daily to-do list and anxieties behind.
• Acknowledge Jesus. Affirm your belief that He is present under the appearance of bread. Make a thoughtful recitation of the Creed.
• Speak to Jesus heart to heart. Tell Jesus what is happening in your life - your hopes, joys, and worries - in the same way you would talk to a spouse or your closest friend.
• Listen. Let God speak to you.
Read the daily readings or the Gospel for the day Visit bible.usccb.org to read the daily readings online.
Reflect - How can I become a better disciple?
In addition to learning from the example of the Saints and holy people in our lives, there are so many ways for us to grow in our love for God. The simplest and most fundamental way is to continually lift our minds and hearts to the Lord in prayer. God has also gifted us with the sacraments of the Church, which help us to grow ever closer to Him. In particular, a frequent reception of the Most Holy Eucharist and the sacrament of penance is one of the best things that we can do in this life to strengthen us on our journey toward God. We are also so blessed to be able to know the Word of God through Sacred Scripture, and a frequent reading of the Bible can help us to hear God’s voice in our lives. Let us never take God’s gifts for granted as we strive to love Him more and more each day.

Did you know you can give donations to our parish through the Diocesan website? At toledodiocese.org/help-your-parish-now you can make a donation to our parish using your credit or debit card! Parish receives100% of your donation amount! After you select the donation amount, designate Fort Jennings, St. Joseph from the drop-down menu.
CONSCIENCE AND THE CATHOLIC VOTER – 5TH OF 8

“In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation.”
- Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, 13

Since participation in political life is a moral obligation, Catholics need to form their conscience with the mind and heart of the Church on issues of consequence. This outline is the fifth of eight, which will examine important moral and political issues. This fifth outline will provide an overview of the issue of immigration.

Immigration

The first principle of Catholic Social Teaching is the dignity of the human person. From the moment of conception, each person is made in the image and likeness of God. This principle teaches us then that every immigrant, documented or undocumented, is made in God’s image and deserves our love and respect as a child of God.

As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has written:

The Church supports the human rights of all people and offers them pastoral care, education, and social services, no matter what the circumstances of entry into this country, and it works for the respect of the human dignity of all especially those who find themselves in desperate circumstances. (Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity. A Statement of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, 2000)

Thus our starting point in discussing the immigration issue is one of mutual respect and the recognition of the dignity of our fellow man, especially the immigrant among us. One who has traveled to Latin American countries in particular can understand some of the desperate circumstances which drive migrants to our border seeking a better life.

Of course, the Church recognizes that a sovereign nation has a right and a responsibility to protect its own borders. As Pope Francis has stated:

Can borders be controlled? Yes, each country has a right to control its borders, who enters and who leaves, and countries that are in danger—of terrorism or the like—have more right to control them more . . . (Pope Francis, Interview with the Spanish newspaper El Pais on January 22, 2017)

The sovereignty of nations is consistent thought in Catholic Social Teaching as is further explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 2241:

Political authorities, for the sake of the common good for which they are responsible, may make the exercise of the right to immigrate subject to various juridical conditions, especially with regard to the immigrants’ duties toward their country of adoption. Immigrants are obliged to respect with gratitude the material and spiritual heritage of the country that receives them, to obey its laws, and to assist in carrying civic burdens.

In summation, Catholics approaching the immigration issue must maintain a balance between caring for the dignity of every human person, be they documented or undocumented in our nation, while appreciating the necessity of each nation state to regulate its borders for the common good. Given the prosperity in the United States of America, it is also important for our nation to strive to seek to help, as best as we are able, those seeking a better life:

The more prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent they are able, to welcome the foreigner in search of the security and the means of livelihood which he cannot find in his country of origin. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2241)

Peter Range, Director, Office for Life and Justice, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Toledo, prange@toledodiocese.org.