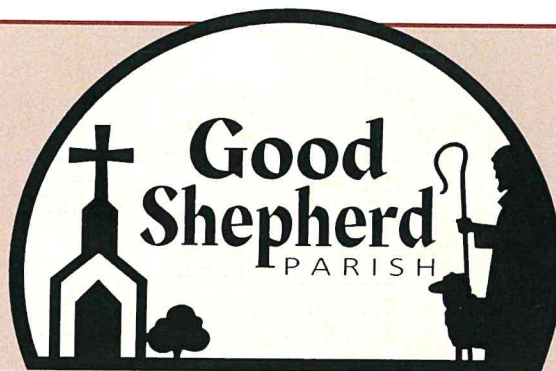


St. Ignatius
1826 Cumber Rd.
Ubly, MI 48475

St. John
4476 N. Washington St.
Ubly, MI 48475



St. Joseph
4940 Ubly Rd.
Argyle, MI 48410

St. Columbkille
3031 McAlpin Rd.
Ubly, MI 48475

MASS SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m. St. John

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. St. Columbkille

FRIDAY

9:00 a.m. St. John
Adoration following Mass
(on 1st Friday of the month until 4:00 p.m.
with 3:45 p.m. Chaplet)

SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. St. John

SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. St. Joseph
10:30 a.m. St. Columbkille

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAY

9:30 a.m. St. John

THURSDAY

After 7:00 p.m. Mass St. Columbkille

FRIDAY

After 9:00 a.m. Mass St. John

SATURDAY

3:30 p.m. (Ask Fr. at door) St. John

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – THURSDAY: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

(CLOSED FRIDAY)

OFFICE PHONE: 989-658-8824

RECTORY PHONE: 989-658-8145

ST. JOHN CHURCH OPEN DURING OFFICE HOURS

FATHER NATE HARBURG, Pastor

Tuesday – Thursday: 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
nharburg@diosag.org

JUDY BOOMS, Secretary

jbooms@goodshepherd.diosag.org

DAWN STEWART, Coordinator of

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry
dstewart@goodshepherd.diosag.org

KATE WINKEL, Bookkeeper

kwinkel@goodshepherd.diosag.org



FEBRUARY

**Month of the
Holy Family**

MARCH

**Month of
St. Joseph**

⇒ *Holy Father's February Intention:*

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

⇒ *Holy Father's March Intention:*

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

NEW PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd Parish will be a community where every member is on fire with the Truth. We will be guided by the Holy Spirit and will be a force for God's mission. We will be strengthened through our worship, participation in the Sacraments, lifelong faith formation, study of the Word, and fellowship with one another, our neighbors, and beyond. We will show our love by being the hands and feet of Christ and sharing our joy with our community, our diocese, and our world.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Tues. at 12:00 p.m.
bulletin@goodshepherd.diosag.org

WEBSITE: goodshepherdubly.com

FACEBOOK: fb.me/goodshepherdubly

FLOCKNOTE UPDATES:

Text BESTSHEPHERD to 84576

MAILING ADDRESS:

4470 N. Washington St., Ubly, MI 48475

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

1935 Hamilton St., Ubly, MI 48475

March 30, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Lent



First Friday All-Day Adoration: after 9am
 Mass till 4pm, 3:45pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

Mass Readings for the Week

Mar 31 Mon: Lenten Weekday

Is 65: 17-21 / Ps 30: 2 and 4. 5-6. 11-12a and 13b / Jn 4: 43-54. Optional for any day this week: Mi 7: 7-9 / Ps 27: 1. 7-8a. 8b-9abc. 13-14 / Jn 9: 1-41

Apr 1 Tue: Lenten Weekday

Ez 47: 1-9. 12 / Ps 46: 2-3. 5-6. 8-9 / Jn 5: 1-16

Apr 2 Wed: Lenten Weekday / Francis of Paola, h

Is 49: 8-15 / Ps 145: 8-9. 13cd-14. 17-18 / Jn 5: 17-30

Apr 3 Thu: Lenten Weekday

Ex 32: 7-14 / Ps 106: 19-20. 21-22. 23 / Jn 5: 31-47

Apr 4 Fri: Lenten Weekday / Isidore of Seville, bp, dr. Day of abstinence from meat (age 14 and up).

Wis 2: 1a. 12-22 / Ps 34: 17-18. 19-20. 21 and 23 / Jn 7: 1-2. 10. 25-30

Apr 5 Sat: Lenten Weekday / Vincent Ferrer, p, r, ms

Jer 11: 18-20 / Ps 7: 2-3. 9bc-10. 11-12 / Jn 7: 40-53

Apr 6 SUN: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT. Third

Scrutiny of the Elect.

Scrutiny: Ez 37: 12-14 / Ps 130: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8 / Rom 8: 8-11 / Jn 11: 1-45. Otherwise: Is 43: 16-21 / Ps 126: 1-2. 2-3. 4-5. 6 (3) / Phil 3: 8-14 / Jn 8: 1-11

Parish Cemetery Sextons

St. John: Bob Brahmer 989-550-8766

St. Columbkille: Jerry Sweeney 989-550-9664

St. Joseph/St. Ignatius: Rod Walsh 989-996-0512

NOTE: Finance Council, with consultation from diocese, decided to raise the rate for cemetery plots; new rate effective April 1, 2025

Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

Let Us Give Thanks!

Envelope Offerings	\$4,256.00
Flocknote Online Giving	\$ 453.30
Loose Offerings	\$ 401.00
Total Offerings	\$5,110.30
Envelopes Used:	120
Envelope Holders:	249
Amount needed each week	\$5,980.77
Weekly Budget shortfall or overage	-\$870.47
Building Fund Donations (Current Project: St. John Window Repair): \$10,298.15 towards goal of \$36,060	

Christ's Mission Appeal-

As of 3/21/25

We have raised \$38,632.00 towards our goal of \$61,716.00. Thank you for your stewardship in the past, and this year! At the end of the appeal, what we have not raised will be taken from parish savings.

Mass Intentions: March 29 & 30

Saturday at St. John: +Roy & (living) Margaret Shaft

Sunday at St. Joseph: All Parishioners

Sunday at St. Columbkille: +Alice Talaski

Mass Intentions: April 5 & 6

Saturday at St. John: +John Beaudin

Sunday at St. Joseph: +Theresa Glaza

Sunday at St. Columbkille: All Parishioners

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Offertory Counters:

March 31: Ann Ypma, Charlotte Baker, Bonita Guza

April 7: Luci Kubacki, Lori Uhl, Debbie Osentoski

April 14: Diana Briolat, Ann Ypma, Glorie McCarty

4:00pm Mass: Saturday, Apr. 5th - St. John

Lector: Mike O'Parka

EMHC: Diane Smalley, Tess Sullivan, Rose Maikrzek

Altar Server: Paloma Fabian

Sacristan: Rose Maikrzek

Ushers: Dennis Smalley, Whitey Pawloski, Virg Briolat

North Entrance Greeter: Shirley Guza (and you?)

8:30am Mass: Sunday, Apr. 6th - St. Joseph

Lector: Lynn Talaski

EMHC: Paul Deo, Joann Roy

Altar Server: Paul Guza

Greeter: Lisa Briolat

Sacristan: Steve/Lisa Briolat

Ushers: Steve Briolat, Kerry Grifka

10:30am Mass: Sunday Apr. 6th - St. Columbkille

Lector : Clare Roth

EMHC: Beth & Joseph Van Erp, Jeremy Roth, Karen Pichla, Dana Irion

Altar Servers: Paige Sweeney, Ajay Langley

Greeters: Briolat Family

Gift Bearers: Clare, Maria, Caleb, & Rita Roth

Ushers: Terry Sweeney, Brayden Sweeney, Nathan Peruski

"Lifelong Faith Formation"

(See Parish Vision Statement on cover)

Child Faith Formation (PreK-6):

St. John Ubly: Wednesdays 3:15-5pm

St. Columbkille: Wednesdays 6-7:30pm

Child OCIA: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 3:30pm at St. Columbkille

Family Night: April 9th dinner at 5:30pm, program at 6:15pm- *format revised for this year!*

Faith Formation Adoration: *All invited!* 3rd Wednesday of month at St. John- 4:30pm, St. Columbkille- 7pm

Youth Group (7-12 grade): We will meet 1st and 3rd Sundays at 3-5:30 at Parish Center- *check with Dawn for schedule changes*

Youth Mass: April 27th 10:30am Mass at St. Columbkille

Adult Faith Formation Offerings:

Adoration: All day Adoration until 4pm first Friday of every month; Holy Hour every Friday after 9am Mass

Scripture Study: (Meets in Fall & Spring) Mondays 6:30-8pm at St. Columbkille

Prayer Group: 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month in the parish center chapel at 5pm

Adult OCIA: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 pm at St. Columbkille

Parish Lenten Communal Penance

Will be Tuesday, April 8th at 6:30pm at St. John Church in Ubly with a prayer service and individual confessions with multiple priests available.

Lenten Communal Penance Services in the Area

St. Hubert- Sacred Heart, Bad Axe- April 9th at 5pm
Annunciation of the Lord- St. Mary, Kinde April 2th at 7pm,
St. Michael, Port Austin-April 10th at 7pm.

Scripture Study

We will be starting our Scripture Study on March 10th and ending April 28th. All are welcome to attend. We will be studying Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, The Letters of St. Paul to the Philippians, Colossians and Philemon. We will meet on Monday's at 6:30-8 pm. at St Columbkille. If you have any questions please call Valerie Fischer 989-553-3088, Lori Osantoski 989-375-4281, or Karen Heleski 989-315-1267.

Charismatic Prayer Group

Next meeting: Thursday, Apr. 3rd, Parish Center chapel at 5pm. Call Bonnie Guza for details at 810-358-8444.

Halls for Rent

St Joseph hall in Argyle, St Ignatius hall in Freiburg, and Good Shepherd parish center in Ubly are available for rent, including their kitchens. Please call the office for parishioner and non-parishioner rates.

Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry: Position Opening

We are looking to fill the Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry position for Good Shepherd Parish. If interested in this part-time position, please call the office.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Seeking Vocations Team Leader: Bishop Gruss has asked each parish to begin a Vocations Team to implement activities and prayer to build a culture of vocations in the parish and in family homes. Fr. Nate has a book chock full of ideas; contact him to see it. Please pray about it!

St. Joseph Altar Society Euchre Parties

will be held at the St. Joseph hall in Argyle on the following dates: *April 27*
Play begins promptly at 1 PM. Cost: \$10 per person
Prizes are awarded and a "Share the Wealth" drawing is held. A hot meal and beverages are included.
Come and have some fun!

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 6, 2025 serving 8am-12pm. TVO Hall 2153 Bingham Street Ubly. Adults \$10.00, Children (6-12) \$5.00, 5 & under-Free. Takeouts available- call Steve (989) 315-1226. Proceeds to support Area Veterans.

Implementation Team Update

(The entire parish is now the Implementation Team, since we need everyone to implement these plans)

What goals are you drawn to help achieve? Please ask the Lord about it. Please pray that we reach our goals, because they are very important!

Parish Priority: "Sunday Experience": Opportunities

Goal #4: Every parishioner will invite at least one person to Mass annually by December 2025.

Plan #4: "Project 99" – Bringing Lost Sheep Home

We are laying the foundation to welcome back those who have drifted away. "Project 99" is an easy way to invite back loved ones to encounter Jesus present in our parishioners and in the Eucharist!

Parishioners are invited to sign up lost sheep, pray for them, and ultimately extend a heartfelt invitation to return. Think of those you'd love to see beside you at Mass again. There are three ways to enroll the "lost sheep":



1-Scan the barcode to add those we miss in our parish
OR

2-Email the name of the person you would like to invite back, your name, and your email address to GoodShepherdParish-Ubly@outlook.com OR

Ubly@outlook.com OR

3- call the office with the information.

All information is **kept confidential**. You will receive weekly updates and prayers as we join forces to bring back lost sheep.

Cemetery clean-up at St. Joseph/St. Ignatius Cemetery

will take place during the month of April.

Please remove all grave blankets and winter decorations by April 1st. All items remaining on the graves during April will be discarded as part of the clean-up process.

Cemetery clean-up- at St. John & St. Columbkille Cemeteries

Spring clean-up and removal of winter grave blankets will begin April 1st. Please do not put new flowers on graves until after May 1st.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us each week during lent as we reflect on the Passion of Christ.

We will be praying the Stations of the Cross at St. John Church on Thursdays at 7pm.

on the following dates: April 3, 10.

We will be praying the Stations of the Cross at St. Columbkille Church on Wednesday at 7:30pm.

on the following dates: April 2, 9.

Mats for the Homeless Workshop

You're invited to join us! We turn plastic bags into mats for the homeless every Tuesday at the parish center starting at 9am. Come see what it's all about and a good time to beat the winter doldrums.

Idle Hands? We have an elderly couple that cuts strips for us their home. You could help out by typing/looping the strips into the plarn balls (plastic yarn) for the crocheters. They work so fast we can't keep up! Once you see how to do it (which only takes minutes to learn) you can do this at your home while watching tv. Contact Lori Osentoski for instructions (989) 375-4281

Knights of Columbus

Ubly/Sheridan Council #12850

All meetings are at 7:00pm at the Parish Center on the Second Wednesday of the month. We are always looking for New Members – call Dave Keller at 989-670-3107. Our **food pantry** is available for anyone in need, located in Ubly at the parish center. This is confidential and anonymous – Call Jeff Maurer at 989-553-4224.

Dave Keller - Grand Knight

Daughters of Isabella Circle #608

Is having a euchre card party on the following dates:
Sunday, April 6, 2025, Sunday, May 4, 2025

They're held at the Senior Center 150 Nugent Road
Bad Axe starting 1:00pm.

Good Shepherd Christian Mothers & Women

April 8, 2025 meeting time is changed to 5:30 so we do not conflict with the Communal Penance Service scheduled for 6:30.

PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FOR THE APRIL 8TH MEETING TO 5:30!!

Good Shepherd Christian Mothers offering College Textbook Award

Applications are available to all parish high school graduating seniors. Forms are available at the main entrance of each parish, by calling the parish office 989-658-8824

or jbooms@goodshepherd.diosag.org Deadline to return application is April 23, 2025. Recipients will be announced at Graduation Mass.

The Detroit Province Council of Catholic Women

All Catholic women are invited to join the Council of Catholic Women for a statewide convention, with the theme of *Rejoicing in Glorious Hope*, to be held on Friday afternoon and Saturday, April 25-26, 2025, in Grand Rapids at the Sheraton Airport Hotel.

The following speakers will be presenting for faith enrichment: Barbara Heil (missionary, teacher, evangelist, convert), Sean Breeden (Ave Maria Radio/St. Joan of Arc), and Christy Buck (mental health expert). Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak, Bishop of Grand Rapids, will be a speaker plus will be presiding at the Eucharistic Liturgy along with Most Reverend Edward Lohse, Bishop of Lansing. A banquet and entertainment by the Magic Carpet Theatre group will provide some "sister time." Barb Listing, Michigan Right to Life, will receive the Achievement Award.

Details are on the website: www.dpccw-mi.com. For information, please call Rita Maher at 989-635-7072 asap before the deadline! Make it a Girls Night Out!

Catholic Community Foundation

The Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan is looking for committee members! Since 2006, the Catholic Community Foundation has been financially supporting the spiritual, educational, and social needs of our Catholic community. Serving on a committee is your chance to use your talents and give back to your community. We are seeking representation from all five vicariates of the Diocese of Saginaw, particularly for our Grants and Marketing

committees. If interested, please contact the Executive Director, Kristin Smith, at 989.303.9201.

Young Adult Retreat

At this retreat, you will have the opportunity to jumpstart your prayer life, learn and practice how to hear God's voice more clearly and start a daily prayer habit, dive deeper into workshops on devotions, praying with scripture, and contemplative prayer, and encounter Jesus through Mass, Adoration, worship, and silence. Join dozens of other young adults at this retreat on Saturday, April 12, from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, at the Center for Ministry, 5802 Weiss St, Saginaw. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch and beverages. To register, go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/4-12-25>

The deadline to register is April 10. For questions, contact Taylor Piotrkowski at

tpiotrkowski@diosag.org.

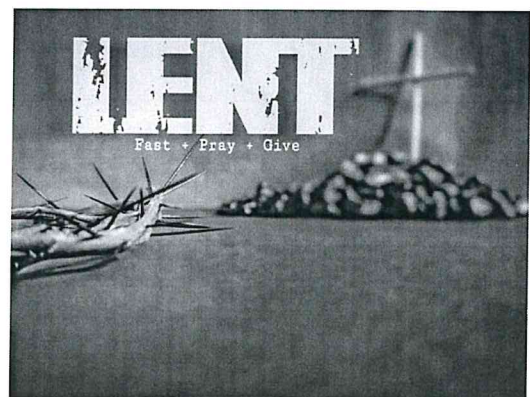
Jubilee Men's Conference

April 5, 2025 from 8am-3pm at Holy Spirit Catholic Church 1035 N. River Road Saginaw. To purchase tickets visit: www.eventbrite.com. Online only price:\$30. Pricing ends on March 25, 2025. Lunch included-Admission at door: \$35.

Walk-up registration starts at 7:30am priests, deacons and under 21 are free. Questions? Call 989 318-3150.

Respect Life Quote of the Week

"With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth" (The Gospel of Life 95).



"Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure"

(Pope St. John Paul II)

Dear Disciple, Happy Lent!

I invite you to attend the stations of the cross this Lent at our parish! It is beautiful and moving. If you've never been, please do yourself a favor and go. Let Jesus love you there. What a gift to have stations offered at both our St. John and our St. Columbkille campuses.

Also, if you'd like to attend the Chrism Mass Tuesday morning of Holy Week, please let me know, each parish is permitted to register up to 8 parishioners. It is such a beautiful Mass with the Bishop with priests and disciples from all over our diocese! The priests renew their ordination promises, and the bishop blesses the holy oils to be used throughout the diocese.

Some Holy Humor

A pig and a chicken were walking through a poor section of the city. The chicken said to the pig, "Look at all those hungry people. Let's give them ham and eggs for breakfast."

The pig said, "Wait a minute. For you, it's a donation. For me, it's a sacrifice!"

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week: William Lackowski, Financial Advisor, Ameriprise Financial (back of bulletin)

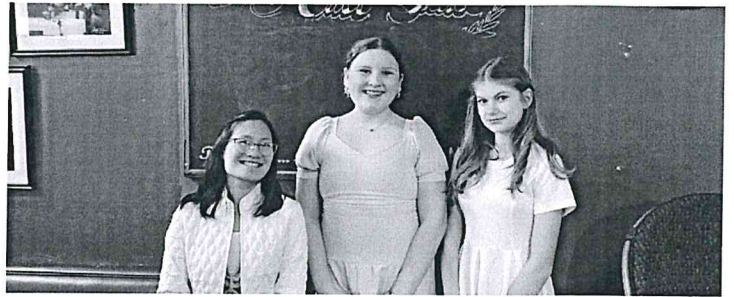
Thank you to all bulletin sponsors funding the printing of our bulletins by purchase of bulletin ads! *Whenever you call/visit one of the bulletin sponsors, please tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin!*

Please Be Mindful of Your Example

I say this with love: please be mindful of your example at Mass. For example, please avoid chewing gum at Mass or read the bulletin during Mass. Some of our parishioners are distracted by these things during Mass. Thank you.

Also, I encourage everyone to pick up the hymnal (or share with your neighbor) during the songs and to sing, and if not sing, at least read the lyrics, even if you don't sing. This is a way of praying

and connecting with God. It gives a good example to others (especially young people) and it builds unity. Thank you for your example!



Pray for Lea, Taylor, and Aubree preparing to encounter Jesus for the first time in the Easter Sacraments.

Consider attending the Easter Vigil, especially if you have never been to one! It's beautiful...

Testimony of Jesus' Healing from a friend:

The miracle is that I had a backache and I was told to go to the doctor. It was kidney stones so I went got an MRI and cat scan, and sure enough it was in doing that they found a tumor on my pancreas! Without the kidney stones, I would have ended up having stage 4 cancer! That was God protecting me. I had the Whipple surgery 12 years ago. God and the Whipple surgery saved my life. The surgery was 7 hours long. I did not wake up for 10 days and was in the hospital 33 days. I am a walking Miracle.

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE: Mary our Mother gives us hope! Jesus said from the cross, Behold your mother, and the 4th commandment is, "honor (and love) your father and mother"! Jesus leads us to Mary! Jesus knows we all need a perfect heavenly mother throughout our lives, not just when we're young. He gave her to us to mother us, to pray for us, to show us her kindness (she is so kind!), to show us her empathy; she feels our sorrows with us, just like any mother feels her child's pain!

STORIES WANTED

How will you use the little Jesus and little Mary figurines to evangelize? Here's an example: a young parishioner's parent ordered a bunch of figurines for her child as he wanted to share them with his classmates at public school! Thank you Jesus in advance for what you'll do through these simple gifts! If you need another set, go to the office. Spread the joy of Jesus and Mary!

This poem I wrote is related to our Sunday Readings during Lent. If you have any feedback, let me know!

Don't Let Your Buts Get in Your Way

(This is a loose paraphrase with "artistic license" of the account of Exodus 3-4, in a spirit of reverence to the holy Word of God and to God's holy prophet St. Moses)

The LORD appeared to Moses in an unburnt bush,
aflame
He'd heard the Hebrews moaning
From Pharaoh's whips of shame
So God told Moses to go back and free His people dear
Yet Moses' heart was cramped with doubt and fear

"BUT who am I to go to Pharaoh? Who am I to plead?
BUT could I save your people?
I'm a nobody, indeed!"
His BUT's got in his way, but couldn't counter God's rebuttals
Away from God's command, he couldn't scuttle

The LORD said, *"I'll be with you; very soon this sign you'll see:
One day upon this mountain
You'll serve and worship me"*
Yet Moses wasn't ready to say yes to God's request
He moved from BUT's to IF's in his distress

"So IF I were to go to all the Israelites and say
'Your God has sent me to you!'
And then they ask Your name
What shall I say?" The LORD relayed, *"Say, I AM WHO I AM (1)
Your forebears' God, beginning with Abraham"*

"BUT what if they do not believe or listen to my words
But say, 'The LORD did not appear!
That's crazy and absurd!'"
The LORD replied, *"What's in your hand?"* and
Moses said, "A staff"
God ordered, *"Throw it down on My behalf"*

He tossed it down; it changed into a snake (perhaps an asp)
God said, *"Now grasp it by the tail"*

It turned back into a staff!
Next God instructed Moses, *"Put your hand inside your cloak"*
He did, then pulled it out; 'twas white as snow!

"Now put your hand back in your cloak", God said,
and he obeyed
When he pulled it out again
It was back to normal shade!
Despite these signs, he let another BUT soon block his way
With patient love, God listened to him pray

"BUT LORD, I'm slow of speech!" A good excuse?
Nope, t'was a dud
*"Who gives strength to speak at all?
You'll change water into blood!
For I'll be with you, and I'll tell you what to say"*, God said
But Moses cried, "Send someone else instead!"

The LORD chose Moses' brother, Aaron, as his voice and speaker
Then He sent them on their quest
Egypt's "gods" proved all the weaker
God freed those slaves, and still today frees slaves from cruel misers
Like IF's and BUT's and other paralyzers

The next time some BUT blocks you as you follow God each day
Like, "BUT I'm just not good enough"
Or, "BUT I can't, no way!"
Recall the words of Paul, *"I can do ALL through Christ Who strengthens me"* (2)
And then get off your BUT's...
...and on your knees!

St. Moses, pray for us!
**Main source of inspiration besides book of Exodus:
<https://stephenblandino.com/2015/12/ditching-the-five-excuses-that-paralyze-progress.html>
(1) "I AM WHO I AM" is often translated as "LORD"
(2) Philippians 4:13*

-Love, Fr. Nate



18 THOUGHT-PROVOKING SUFFERING & JOY QUOTES

Invite a friend or family member to do an *18-Day Suffering & Joy* discussion – or use the quotes as journaling prompts. On each day, read one quote. Talk about it. Think about it. Write about it. Pray about it.

What if illness – the stripping away of our health, our dreams, our understanding of who we are and what our future holds – is really a gift – God offering Himself to us unencumbered by all the noise, all the things that clutter our hearts and so easily fill our days? What if that quiet, stripped-away space is where hope is found? Where God reaches in, whispering love to our weary souls until it becomes as familiar as the beating of our own hearts? (Cindee Snider Re)

Suffering dances mysteriously with joy. (Laurie Davis)

Joy, like all fruit of the Spirit, grows in the fertile soil of suffering. (Rachel Bouious)

If we only knew the precious treasure hidden in infirmities, we would receive them with the same joy with which we receive the greatest benefits, and we would bear them without ever complaining or showing signs of weariness. (St. Vincent De Paul)

If we don't look away as we experience pain but look into it, accept it, and embrace it with gratitude — not the actual pain, *but the One who endures it with us*, we experience the profound peace of Jesus — joy in the midst of our suffering. (Pamela Piquette)

The cup of sorrow, as inconceivable as it seems, is also the cup of joy. (Henri Nouwen)

In the hands of a loving God, sorrow and suffering become the doorways into the greatest and most indestructible joys. (David Powlison)

We do not choose suffering simply because we are told to, but because the One who tells us to describes it as the path to everlasting joy. (John Piper)

Visit chronic-joy.org for more resources.



Chronic Joy

Scripture indicates that life in the age of the Spirit will have the hardest suffering and the greatest joy – and both can be experienced at the same time ... This means that even when we are in pain, we can go in search of joy with the expectation that it will, indeed, find and surprise us. (Ed Welch)

We cannot savor joy until we've first drunk deep the cup of suffering. (Cindee Snider Re)

Everywhere a greater joy is preceded by a greater suffering. (Augustine of Hippo)

When suffering is accepted with love it is no longer suffering, but it is changed into joy. (Thérèse of Lisieux)

There are rare and wonderful species of joy that flourish only in the rainy atmosphere of suffering. (John Piper)

... joy is an all-season response to life. Even in the dark times, sorrow enlarges the capacity of the heart for joy. (Richard Mayhew)

Discovering more joy does not save us from the inevitability of hardship and heartbreak. In fact, we may cry more easily, but we will laugh more easily too. Perhaps we are just more alive. Yet as we discover more joy, we can face suffering in a way that ennobles rather than embitters. We have hardship without becoming hard. We have heartbreaks without being broken. (Archbishop Desmond Tutu)

But don't be surprised by pain. Be surprised by joy, be surprised by the little flower that shows its beauty in the midst of a barren desert, and be surprised by the immense healing power that keeps bursting forth like springs of fresh water from the depth of our pain. (Henri Nouwen)

Now joy is compared to desire, as rest to movement ... and rest is full when there is no more movement. Hence joy is full, when there remains nothing to be desired. (Thomas Aquinas)

My dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful test you are suffering, as though something unusual were happening to you. Rather be glad that you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may be full of joy when his glory is revealed. (1 Peter 4:12-13 GNT)

chronic-joy.org/suffering-joy



Chronic Joy



HIGH SCHOOL ORATORY CONTEST 2025

Local Cash Prizes of \$300, \$200, \$100

Students in grades 9-12 are to research, write and present an original 5-7 minute pro-life speech on the issue of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or embryonic stem cell research (including human cloning). Speeches must be typed in full and submitted with the contestant's application by April 10th. The local contest is April 12th at 2:00pm at the Bad Axe Free Methodist Church. Please contact Debra Ramento at 918-902-7881 for rules and an application.

First place will advance to the state contest. The state contest will be held April 26th at St. Thomas Aquinas church in East Lansing with cash prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200.

SWISS MOTOR SALES



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