

ST. MARY, CAUSE OF OUR JOY

8200 N. WAYNE ROAD, WESTLAND, MI | 734-425-4421 | WWW.STMARYCOOJ.ORG

December 31, 2023

Notes from Fr. Sean Bonner....

In Today's Gospel

The birth of Jesus was an extraordinary event in the history of the world, but it came about in very ordinary circumstances. After his birth, Joseph and Mary followed the law. In today's gospel, we see them coming to the temple to offer the sacrifice that the Mosaic law required.

In this ordinary event, Simeon recognizes that Jesus is the Messiah. God is present to us in the ordinary events of our life. Simeon recognized Jesus because he was looking for him. Let us also look for Jesus to one another and in the ordinary events of our lives.

Merry Christmas

Our celebration of Christmas continues. Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Jesus entered his creation through the holy family with Joseph and Mary. In doing this, Jesus consecrated the family. Joseph and Mary were willing to sacrifice for one another and their family. In this, we see love, a love that comes from God. On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us consecrate our families to God through our love for one another.

Happy New Year

As we look forward to the year to come, we should reflect on the year that has passed. What were the joys and sorrows of the last year? During the last year, what did I do well, and what could I have done better?

The Christian life is a journey. There are many obstacles along the path to salvation. Jesus tells us to "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few." (Mt 7:13-14)

As we reflect on the last year, we can see the road we have followed, the wide path leading to destruction, or the narrow path leading to life, and the obstacles that tried to turn us from the path of life to the path of destruction. With those obstacles in mind, let us look forward and resolve to avoid those obstacles as we continue our journey to salvation in the coming year.



THE CHILD GREW AND BECAME STRONG, FILLED WITH WISDOM; AND THE FAVOR OF GOD WAS UPON HIM.

—LK 2:40

THE HOLY FAMILY

We Need Your Help!

As many of you know, St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy parish lost a large amount of volunteers after COVID. We are in **great need** for parishioners to step up and become active participants.

Next weekend of January 6-7, not only will we be showcasing the different Nativity sets in our social hall, but we will also have coffee and goodies for you and smiling representatives from the parish organizations willing to explain the different volunteer opportunities. Remember, new volunteers bring new ideas to the table.

Please come to the social hall after mass and see what we are all about!

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Jan. 01 12 Noon For Our Parishioners
New Years Day

Thurs. Jan. 04 9:00am +Marge Tavedian Req. by Theresa O'Bey

Sat. Jan. 06 5:30pm +Don Niemiec Req. by Fran & Family

Sun Jan. 07 9:00am +Helen Tasiemski Req. by Family

11:00am +Emma Scaramella Req. by Family

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, January 01

New Year Day
Mass 12:00pm Noon

Wednesday, January 03

St. Vincent de Paul 6:30pm

Thursday, January 04

Mass 9:00am

Saturday, January 06

Mass 5:30pm
Nativity Display
Commitment Weekend

Sunday, January 07

Mass 9:00am
Mass 11:00am
Nativity Displays
Commitment Sunday

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Nancy Abramson
Helen Adams
Sean Armstrong
Pat Bader
Kelly Beaudry
Fr. Jerry Bechard
Joan Bischoff
Al Boglarsky
Jerry Borycz
Don Brune
Angela Bunio
Dan Burke
Hope Carew
Ricky Canini
Jannisse Chesney
Evan Costello
Christina Cowell
Bodyn Crince
Barbara Deck
Ed & Catherine Duff
Larry Edick
Faith Falzon
Ashley Aaron Farkas
Janet & Al Fleis
Liam Francis
Nan Fry
Mike Fusco

Betty Gable
Alisa Gardner
Judy Gardner
Julia Gardner
Sonia Gee
Emily Gnacke
William Gnacke, Jr.
Patricia Godvin
Ora Gomez
Viola Janus
Jacqueline Hamrick
Susan Hancock
Eileen Harris
Lauren Hahn
Becca Hoffman
Christine Humphrey
John Kaminsky
Chris Karpinski
Rose Keena
Susan Kelly
Gloria Keniz
Marion Kiras
Joan Klein
Bob & Dolly Kluba
John Kolar
John Krokosky
Patricia Lickman

Julianne Lister
Lillian & Sienna Lombardi
Ken Macko
Rob Martin
Dennis & Kathy McCann
John Meconi
Joanne Meister
Irene Melady
Ann Merchant
Andrew Merchant
Tony Micallef
Selena Montez
Debbie Moore
Ashley Murphy
Liam Murphy
Teresa M. Pardo
Keith Pares
Eddie Brian Parker
Patrick Patton
Geraldyn Pawlaczyk
Luke Pawlaczyk
Jared Perez
Faye Pierson
Damian Pietszak
Deb Pietszak
Sandy Popek
Annette Puczkowski

Wayne Pringle
Kim Quinn
Shelly Rizzo
Debbie Robarge
Bill Rodriguez
Ann Sanregret
Jean Schmuck
Tom Shafer
Jack Shea
Kathy Sielaff
John Socia
Anthony T.
Natalie Tanana
Frank Tierney
George & Jackie Tindall
Lillian Theisen
Donald Thurston
Roberta Troher
Vasati Tupuani
Karen Welch
Bill Wendling
Cathy West
Tamara Wright
Walter Wrone
Nicole Zapinski
Sandra Zannis

If there are any names that can be removed from our Prayer List, please let us know by calling 734-425-4421.

OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

Capt. Tim Duff, U.S. Army; CPT Joey Saunders, U.S. Marines;
Marine Sgt. Leven Smith; U.S. Marines; PVT Marcus Rodriguez, U.S. Army; William Albright, U. S. Air Force

Parish Mission Statement

The Parish of St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, inspired by Mary's "Yes" and led by the Holy Spirit, strives to be a faith-filled community, joyfully welcoming all to witness and to celebrate the Gospel.

Queen's Quotes from Religious Formation

Happy New Year Greetings and Salutations,

Today we honor Mary, The Holy Mother of God. Mary was the first Christian, the first to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. She had an intimate insight of the incarnation as God took on human form inside her body. As Jesus' mother, she loved him in such a unique way as only a mother can. As miraculous and other surprising things happened around her son, she reflected on these moments in her heart.

Mary models for all of us how to be a Christian as everything she does points to her son. She truly lived her life loving him and guiding others to him. How much of our own lives are truly focused on Jesus? What do you most admire about Mary? Talk to Mary this week in your prayer time.

New Year giggles...

What do you call a play or musical in the North Pole? Snow business.

Why was the snowman rummaging through the bag of carrots? He was picking his nose! Ahhahahahaha!

Blessings,
Sabrina Queen

NOTES FROM PAUL

If you are reading this, you survived Christmas! Congratulations, and Happy New Year! This weekend we celebrate both the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. If you didn't realize this before, family is important to our Church. No matter who you have in your secular family, YOU are a part of OUR family. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ, and daughters and sons of the Lord.

My prayer for this New Year is that each one of you feels more and more like you are part of this family. I hope each of you can find something valuable within the church, and if not, maybe consider working on something new. I am sure there are others that need what you have together.

God bless each of you,
Paul Zbytowski,
Pastoral Associate, Evangelization and Christian Service Coordinator

PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, Lord of the Harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood from our archdiocese and families.

Jesus, Eternal High Priest, give us men willing to sacrifice and serve. Make their hearts after your own Sacred Heart.

Holy Spirit, Everlasting Love between Father and Son, strengthen, inspire, and set men on fire with divine charity. Grant them the courage to say yes to their vocation.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Mother of priests, comfort and protect your sons as they discern their call. With Saint Joseph, may they know your love and companionship as they deepen their relationship with Jesus.

*Immaculate Heart of Mary,
pray for us. St. Anne, pray for us.
St. John Vianney, patron saint of priests, pray for us.*

Forever Young Seniors...

Welcome to 2024 and
Blessings for a Happy New Year!

My dear father always ate fish on New Year's Eve because they represent prosperity and they swim forward, symbolizing progress. I pray all of you have a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, January 8th, 2024 at 10:00am** in the Small Hall. We will be playing some Happy New Year games, so bring your "thinking caps". Lunch will be provided by Chef Ann Pape.

Bianco bus trips:

Thurs, Feb 8th, 2024 Firekeepers Casino

\$48 due by Jan 18th

Wed, March 13th, 2024 Solanus

Casey Pilgrimage

\$79 due by Feb 21st

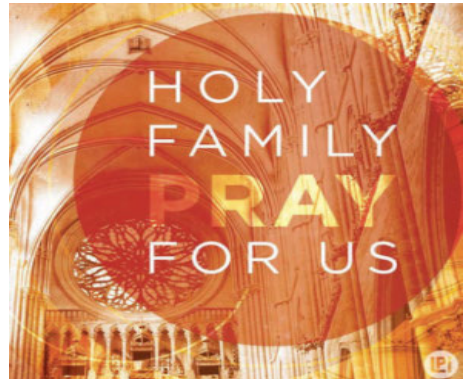
Sun, April 28, 2024 Meadowbrook

Theatre "Route 66"

\$127 due by March 25th

Note: the bus trips are open to everyone. See flyers in the Gathering Space for more info.

Maryann Sligay --
734-525-3737



HOLY NAME FRATERNITY

Thank you to the 346 parishioners, friends and neighbors who joined us for breakfast on 12/17.

Next breakfast will be January 21. Same time; same station. Mark your 2024 calendar now. Happy New Year to all!



Consider participating in the CSA

If you have not donated or pledged to this year's CSA, please do so as soon as possible. We are very close to meeting our goal. If you have donated/pledged to this year's CSA, you may want to consider adding to your donation or increasing your pledge. The CSA targets the averages of the total of our Sunday and Christmas collections. Any amount that is donated that exceeds our goal is paid back to the parish assessment free and is not factored into the calculation of the CSA target for 2024.

You may mail your completed pledge card in the pre-addressed envelope that was provided you, make your gift to our parish campaign online at givesca.org or mail your donation to the parish office. Thank you!



**MAKE CHECKS
PAYABLE TO:
ARCHDIOCESE OF
DETROIT - CSA**

Option 1: My Pledged Gift Amount

*(Please enclose a check for
the initial payment amount)*

___\$300.00 ___\$200.00 ___\$100.00

Other: \$ _____

Initial Pledge Payment: \$ _____ balance: \$ _____

Send my statements: ___Monthly ___Quarterly

Option 2: My One-Time Gift

*(Please enclose a check
for the full amount)*

___\$300.00

___\$200.00

___\$100.00

Other: _____

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The entire Staff at St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy wish all of you a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

FLOCKNOTE

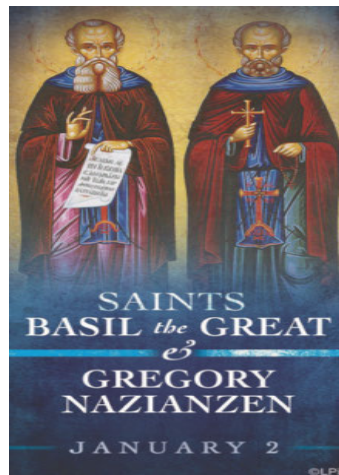
Are you new to the parish? Do you ever feel like you are missing out on "up to the minute" news? Have you missed the news of a funeral that happened during the week but wished you had known sooner? Or a weather related closing for our parish? You can sign up for Flocknote by going to: <https://app.flocknote.com/StMaryCauseofOurJoy> or text "COOJ" to 84576

CARDS AND NOTES TO FR. SHAFIQUE.....

Cards and notes may be sent to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese of Detroit will accept cards and letters and forward them to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese will NOT open any letters or cards. They will bundle them and send them directly to Fr. Shafique. Please send cards/letters to:

Fr. Shafique
% Clergy & Consecrated Life
office
12 State St.
Detroit, Michigan 48226

St. Gregory | January 2



The story of St. Gregory of Nazianzen (325-390) is a great example of how ordinary people can do extraordinary things! Baptized at the age of 30, St. Gregory eagerly accepted his friend St. Basil the Great's request to join him in a newly founded monastery. But soon after, St. Gregory's father, a bishop at the time, needed help in his diocese. According to the story, St. Gregory was ordained a priest almost forcefully, and only reluctantly accepted the responsibility asked of him.

He managed to avoid a split that threatened when his father made compromises with believers of the of the Arian heresy. At 41, St. Gregory was chosen Suffragan Bishop of Caesarea, and soon after came into conflict with the Emperor Valens, who supported the Arians. In addition, his friendship with Basil, his archbishop, became strained.

After with the death of Valens, St. Gregory was called to rebuild the faith in Constantinople, which had been under Arian teachers for more than three decades. He dreaded being drawn into a vortex of corruption and brutality, but he managed to stay at a friend's home, which soon became the only orthodox church in the city. In such surroundings, he began giving the great sermons on the Trinity for which he is famous today. In time, Gregory did rebuild the faith in the city, but at the cost of great suffering, slander, insults and even personal violence.

St. Gregory Nazianzem shares his feast day with St. Basil the Great. ©LPi

**What
will
you
do
this
year?**

Thank You!!

Thank you to all who answered the call for food! You have all made a difference for children in the Wayne-Westland Schools during their Christmas break.

150 boxes have been donated. Also, thanks are given for the many gift cards that have been donated. Our parish is truly blessed with wonderful parishioners!



Nativity Sets for a Display Walk Wanted Next weekend - January 6th & 7th

A vulnerable and innocent baby in the midst of an animal stable is a captivating image. When the baby in the middle of the scene is considered by millions and millions of people to be the very embodiment of God, this image becomes more telling. Christmas time in the Christians life should be a time to remember, receive and proclaim what God has done through a little baby named Jesus.

This year St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy would like to continue this tradition of the displays of different crèche or nativity scenes in our social hall. We have a diverse membership here at St. Mary's and would like to view any and all, especially if you have one from foreign countries.

We want to see as many as we can, including more whimsical ones that children can relate to. We would like to highlight the cultural diversity of each crèche on display, while honoring and celebrating the common theme that runs throughout—the birth of Jesus.

We will have the display on the weekend of January 6th & 7th. If you would like to participate or have questions, please call the Parish Office at 734-425-4421 to reserve a space in our social hall. You may drop off your nativity displays on Saturday, January 6th before mass beginning at 4:30pm.



Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.

Let us pray...

*God of heaven and earth,
you came to us and took our
earthly flesh through the gift of
Mary's yes. She is our Mother in
faith, as she is your earthly
mother.*

*We are thankful beyond our
ability to thank you for the gift of
her Son as our brother and
savior. Through her self-giving,
we have been reconciled to you.*

*Bless us as we begin this New
Year and endow us with the
desire and ability to create a
world of peace.*

*We ask all this, through the
intercession of Mary to you, one
God, Father, Son, and Holy
Spirit. Amen.*



ROSARY

Please join us when we say the Rosary on Wednesday evenings at 7pm and on Thursday mornings at 8:30am. We also say the rosary before Mass on Saturdays.



St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

8200 N. Wayne Road,
Westland, Michigan 48185
Phone: **734-425-4421**
Email: office@stmarycooj.org
Fax: 734-425-0650

Website: www.stmarycooj.org

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy



Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 9am-4pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 9am-2pm
Friday: Closed

Please call the office
to make other arrangements

Mass Schedule

MON	12:00 pm
THURS	9:00am
SAT	5:30pm
SUN	9:00 am 11:00 am

Confession

Saturdays: 6:30pm

Baptisms

Please call our Parish Office during regular business hours. Parish membership and preparation class required.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made by registered parishioner at least six months in advance to allow sufficient time for instructions and preparation.

Anointing of Sick and Ministry to Homebound

Our pastor is available to visit upon request.

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
For those interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. Please call the office.

Hearing Devices are available. Please see our music director in the choir area.

Bulletin Articles due by 4pm on Friday (9 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

DIRECTORY

MODERATOR

Fr. Sean Bonner, Priest in Solidum
pastor@stmarycooj.org Ext. 213
Fr. Larry, Priest in Solidum

FAITH FORMATION (pre-K to year 8)
Sabrina Queen Ext. 217
Squeen333@gmail.com

MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Aidan C. Rickel
music@stmarycooj.org Ext. 218

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE/ CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Paul Zbytowski
paul@stmarycooj.org Ext. 221

YOUTH MINISTRY

Carol Nelius Ext. 215
youthministry@stmarycooj.org

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Peggy Fox Ext. 210
peggy@stmarycooj.org

PARISH ACCOUNTANT

Maria Riviera Ext. 214
bookkeeper@stmarycooj.org

MAINTENANCE

Sangeeta Safid Ext. 220
maintenance@stmarycooj.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jeff Burden Grand Knight
GK15204@mikofc.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

svdp@stmarycooj.org Ext. 219

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY MINISTRY

Gina Solon 734-865-0999

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Arthur Regner

-Chairperson/Worship Rep.

Julie Callahan

-Vice-Chairperson/Stewardship Rep.

Barbara Burke

-Secretary/Evangelization

Deborah Franczak -Member at Large

Michael Gluth -Member at Large

Gina Solon -Member at Large

William "Steve" Noonan

-Member at Large

Tess Porcalla - Member at Large

Larry Janowski -Member at Large

Bethany Garfinkel

-Christian Service Rep.

Cheri Filipiak

-Education Committee Rep.

Richard Asher -Alternate

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS: PPC@stmarycooj.org

Report Sexual Abuse for any child or adult: Call AOD victim assistance 1-866-343-8055 or Call the Michigan Department of Human Services at: 855-444-3911 any time.

NANKIN FAMILY OF PARISHES MASS TIMES

St. Thomas the Apostle, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City, 48135

Tuesday	9:00am
Wednesday	12:00 Noon
Friday	9:00am
Saturday	4:00 pm in Church (and live-streamed)
Sunday	9:00 am and 11:00 am in Church

St. Mary in Wayne, 34530 W Michigan, Wayne 48184

Monday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am (English)
Saturday	4:00pm (English)
Sunday	8:30am (English), 11:30am (English) 2:00pm (Spanish)

St. Richard, 35851 Cherry Hill, Westland, 48186

Tuesday	9:00am
Sunday	10:00am

To know more about our Family please check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NankinFamilyofParishes>.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Ram's Horn Restaurant

7020 N. Wayne Rd
Westland, MI
734-641-0510

FRANK JASTRABEK'S TREE SERVICE

TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL,
FIREWOOD, STUMP GRINDING
Insured, Senior Discounts
30 Yrs. Exp. • I.S.A. Certified Arborist
Free Estimate 734-266-4015
www.frankstree.com

This Space
is Available

MIKE'S PLUMBING

Complete Plumbing
Sewer & Drain Cleaning
MASTER PLUMBER
Michael J. Wood
734-421-4633

WIETECHAS MONUMENT CO.

22602 W. Warren • 313-278-0380
25685 W. 10 Mile Rd • 248-356-7625
www.monuments1947.com

NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed
to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com

ROB'S HEATING & COOLING LLC

We service all makes and models
Furnaces • AC • Humidifiers
Boilers • Water Heaters
734-728-5717

LET US PLACE
YOUR AD HERE.

JOYVIEW MEAT MARKET

— 23822 Joy Rd. —
Homemade Fresh Kielbasa • Fresh Meat
Fresh Lunchmeat • Fresh Pierogies
Old Fashioned Bakery
(313) 534-1585

SHORT STAFFED?

Place an ad here to find new
local talent for your business.



CALL 800-477-4574

DON'S PLUMBING

734-525-3874
Expert Plumbing Sewer
& Drain Cleaning
LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER
Donald J. Wood

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Local business ads
sponsor the printing of
our bulletin.

4lpi.com/adcreator

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Judee Nelson

jnelson@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6319

SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!

THIS SPACE IS
AVAILABLE

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

They allow us to print
this bulletin. Thank you!

LUNCH & LEARN
YOU'RE INVITED TO SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Please join Jeff Bell, from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, for a thoughtful discussion about the many benefits of early funeral planning. Lunch will be served.

Buddy's
15075 Beck Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170

Please RSVP to (734) 453-3333 or scan the QR code to register as seating is limited.

SCAN to RSVP

Friday January 19th at 11:30am

Schrader-Howell
FUNERALS • CREMATIONS • LIFE CELEBRATIONS
280 S Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170 • (734) 453-3333

JOHN WOOD PLUMBING
734-425-0370
Fast Professional Service
Expert Sewer & Drain Cleaning
Lic. Master Plumber
Reasonable Rates
www.johnwoodplumbingllc.com



SENIOR DISCOUNT
PLUMBING
734-855-6336

John N. **Santeiu & Son, Inc.**
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

1139 N. Inkster Road
Garden City, Michigan 48135
(734) 427-3400
www.Santeiufuneralhome.com

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit lpicommunities.com

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER EDITION

Scan to contact us!

catholicmatch[®] Michigan

CatholicMatch.com/MI

health markets

Overwhelmed by Medicare options? I can help make it simple

David A Giove | (734) 516-3383
Licensed Insurance Agent | dgiove@HealthMarkets.com

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency, Inc. is licensed as an insurance agency in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Not all agents are licensed to sell all products. Service and product availability varies by state. Sales agents may be compensated based on enrollment. No obligation to enroll.

Neely-Turowski FUNERAL HOME

— Family Owned and Operated Since 1919 —
TurowskiFuneralHome.com

OVER 100 YEARS

734.525.9020
30200 Five Mile Rd, Livonia
Director Todd N. Turowski

734.453.3008
45100 Warren Rd, Canton
Director Leonard A. Turowski, Jr.

SHORT STAFFED?

Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.

CALL 800-477-4574

NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com

FREE AD DESIGN
with purchase of this space

CALL 800-477-4574

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO

4lpi.com/adcreator

WE'RE HIRING!
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com or www.4lpi.com/careers

Westhaven Manor RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

P: 734-729-3690
E: westhavenleasing@tamcmail.com
www.westhavenmanor.com
34601 Elmwood Ave., Westland, MI 48185

PLYMOUTH

46401 Ann Arbor Road W., Plymouth, MI 48170
734-459-2250
James B. Vermeulen
Stephen Sajewski
Matt Kedzior

VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI FUNERAL HOMES

CREMATION SERVICES

www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

WESTLAND

980 N. Newburgh Road, Westland, MI 48185
734-326-1300
Gary E. Deak,
Stanley Sajewski
Chris Stevens