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Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month in the Veritas Room  
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 Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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# SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

434 High Street, Ionia, MI 48846  
 Phone: 616-527-3610

Website: [www.saintspeterandpaulionia.org](http://www.saintspeterandpaulionia.org)  
 Email: [parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com)

**June 30, 2024**  
**Thirteenth Sunday**  
**in Ordinary Time**

Pastor: **Fr. Tom Brown**  
 616-527-3610, ext. 12  
 616-755-1742 (evening)

School Principal: **Mrs. Jenny Leik**  
 616-527-3561, ext. 18  
 Email: [jleik@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:jleik@ssppcatholic.com)

Parish Office Hours  
 Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Weekend Mass Schedule  
 Saturday: 4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday: 8 & 11:30 a.m., and 1 p.m. (bilingual)

Weekday Mass Schedule  
 English: Mon & Wed, Mass at 12:10 p.m.  
 Tues, Communion Service at 7:30 a.m.  
 Thurs, Mass at 7:30 a.m. (summer)  
 Fri, Mass at 7:30 a.m.

Reconciliation Schedule  
 English: Saturday 3:00-3:45 p.m.  
 Monday 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

For questions regarding Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, or any other sacrament, please call the parish office: 616-527-3610.

Prayer Chain  
 If you have a prayer request for immediate need, please call 616-522-0279, or 616-527-0438.

In the book *Seventeen Steps to Heaven*, the author Leo Trese writes, "The director of a proposed super colossal movie was engaged in the task of choosing an actress for the leading part in the picture. He sat at his desk with dozens of photographs spread out before him that had been supplied by various agents who were seeking a part for a client. Eventually the director put his finger on one photograph and said to his secretary, 'There is exactly the one I want. Phone this woman and get her in here.' It is a big jump to get from Hollywood to Heaven, from a movie director to God. Yet we have here an example, however inadequate, for the reason for your existence. Back in the limitless reaches of eternity, God made his plans for the universe and did the casting for all the parts that must be filled, down to the end of time. In his divine mind, He looked over all the pictures of all the souls, limitless in number, whom he could create. When He came to the image of you, He stopped and said, 'This is a person who moves Me to love. This is a person I want with Me for all eternity. This is the person, too, whom I need for a special part in my plan.'"

Human images are always inadequate in describing God and His actions, but this story is still fundamentally true. God made you. He chose you out of all the countless millions of other souls he could have created and did not. His thoughts of you moved God. Moved Him to love you, to desire you. Loved you so much, He did not want to be without you. And even though there are billions of others He loves equally and did create, for you, there was a special part in his plan for creation. A role for you that, while others could do it, none could do it quite as well as you. And so God chose you. This is your vocation in life both here and for eternity.

All this speaks to just how special you really are. You are called by God to fill a special part in this world and the next. You are not just one of a hundred billion souls created by God in an absent-minded moment of creativity. You are important to God and He has an intense, personal interest in you. He has poured out countless blessings on you. Our vocation imposes on us the obligation to justify God's love for us, his hopes for us. We meet that obligation when day by day we try to do his will to the best of our ability. In all of our decisions and choices, we should ask ourselves, "What does God want?" instead of "What do I want?" This doesn't mean our will and God's will are always going to be different. God loves us totally. Frequently, He will help us know his desires for us by the gifts and talents he has given to us. We come to know his will for us in part by his will making it attractive to us. He lets us think that the course of action He wants is the one we have gladly chosen for ourselves. Yet conflicts will arise, and when they do, we must be willing to surrender our desires to God. This unswerving attachment to God's will is key. We rarely know what special job God has chosen for us...that job which no one else can do as well as we. It may be a particular person He will be able to reach only through us. It may be some chain of events only you can initiate or some evil only you can avert. In most cases we will not know until we are safely home in heaven what the particular task that only we could do was. So it is of great importance that we strive every day, in all things, no matter how large or small they may be, to do God's will.

And remember this. God never gives up on you. Never. As long as you are breathing, He is still there for you. He even died for us instead of replacing us when we fail to listen. For when we fail to follow Jesus. God is our loving Father who is constantly giving us another chance. He is the God of Second Chances. And third, and fourth, and fifth, and...  
 God bless you! *Fr. Tom*

*We are one body in Christ!*



**The Week Ahead...**

**AH** = Apostles Hall      **CH** = Church  
**CR** = Cornerstone Room      **PO** = Parish Office  
**SC** = School      **VR** = Veritas Room  
**BC** = Basement Chapel

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/ Mk 5:21-43*

**Saturday, June 29**

4:00 p.m. (bilingual Mass) People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish

**Sunday, June 30**

8:00 a.m. Intention of Fr. Tom Brown (Parishioners)  
 11:30 a.m. Charles & Dorothy Fox (Mary Ann Monroe)  
 1:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass

**Monday, July 1—St. Junipero Serra, Priest**

*Am 2:6-10, 13-16/Ps 50:16-23/Mt 8:18-22*  
 11:00 a.m. Confessions  
 12:10 p.m. Intention of Jessica Fritz (Gerald & Maribeth Fritz)

**Tuesday, July 2—Weekday**

*Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4-8/Mt 8:23-27*  
 7:30 a.m. Communion Service  
 11:00 a.m. Funeral Mass—Kenneth Peabody & Bruce Hoeksema

**Wednesday, July 3—St. Thomas, Apostle**

*Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1-2/Jn 20:24-29*  
 12:10 p.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish  
 6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour (BC)

**Thursday, July 4—Independence Day**

*Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 9:1-8*  
 \*\*\*Note time\*\*\* 8:00 a.m. Dolores LaCombe (Hemenway family)

**Friday, July 5—St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth of Portugal**

*Am 8:4-6, 9-12/Ps 119:2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131/Mt 9:9-13*  
 7:30 a.m. Living & deceased of Patrick & Carol Lewis family

**Saturday, July 6—St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr**

*Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9-14/Mt 9:14-17*  
 8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary  
 3:00 p.m. Confessions

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-4/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6*

**Saturday, July 6**

4:00 p.m. Gerry Burrows (Hemenway family)

**Sunday, July 7**

8:00 a.m. Dennis Spitzley (Katie Nurenberg Good)  
 11:30 a.m. Peter & Edith Brown  
 1:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass

**Sunday, June 30—Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Monday, July 1**

6:30 p.m. Monday Night Group (PO)

**Tuesday, July 2**

7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting (VR)

**Wednesday, July 3**

6:30-8 p.m. TOPS (VR)

**Thursday, July 4—Independence Day**

8:00 a.m. Mass in church (note the time)

**Friday, July 5**

**Saturday, July 6**

10:30 a.m. Baptism Prep. Session (PO)

**Sunday, July 7—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**OUR PARISH OFFERING - June 22 & 23, 2024**

Regular Offertory Collection	\$8,799.70
Electronic Giving	1,705.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,504.70</b>
-5% Tithe	-525.24
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$9,979.46</b>

Budgeted Weekly: \$9,519.23  
**Surplus for the Week: \$985.47**

School Support Fund: \$30.00  
 Cemetery: \$50.00

*Please note that the offertory collection is only part of the income needed to operate the parish. Other funds come from school tuition, fundraising, Mass stipends, educational trust fund interest, sale of votive candles, etc.*



**Prayer for Unity**

*My adorable Jesus,  
 May our feet journey together  
 May our hands gather in unity  
 May our hearts beat in unison  
 May our souls be in harmony  
 May our thoughts be as one  
 May our ears listen to the silence together  
 May our glances profoundly penetrate each other  
 May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the eternal Father.  
 Amen.*

Thank you to all who attended the 12:10 p.m. Mass with Anointing of the Sick on June 19<sup>th</sup>, and to Fr. Tom, the members of the SS. Peter & Paul Ministry of Consolation, and others who assisted with the Mass or luncheon. During his homily, Fr. Tom led us in a "Prayer for Unity". Here is a copy of that prayer:

**July 6 & 7, Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 p.m. Lector: Cecilia Luke  
 Altar Servers: Kaylynn & Kenna Wizorek  
 EMs: Mary Perrien, Phill & Sue Wizorek  
 Greeters: Pat Brockman

11:30 a.m. Lector: Kevin Kenney  
 Altar Servers: Lillian Mabe  
 EMs: Shannon Andrews, Vanessa Booth, Barb Mulnix  
 Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

8:00 a.m. Lector: Jamie Meyer  
 Altar Servers: Robert Hendrick-Brown, Nicole Trierweiler  
 EMs: Kevin Heinlein, Cheryl & John Hildebrandt  
 Greeters: Judy Hamblin

**Please pray for:**

Ed Blyth	Marv Kogelmann	Terri Nurenberg
Nancy Betz	Tamera Pierce	Jessica Fritz
Jim & Sue Huver	Angie Cedillo	Cole LeBarre
Margaret O'Malley	Jo Wirtz	Travis Eveleth
Doug Zeeck	Witney Fockler	Charles Timm
Randy Tripp	Becky Wagner	Kathy Kranz
Mike Peckins	Phill Wizorek	Larry Lafler
Glen Alvord	Amanda Eveleth	Arlene Stanton
Julie McClintock	Martha Misak	Pat MacLachlan
Heather Rensi	Todd Cooper	Jim & Barb Mulnix
Cherie Flinn	Jennifer Durden	Ken and Sherry North
Pamela Pontius	Beth Buffey	Rueger Eveleth
Anita Hozeski Scott	Tom McClintock	Nathan Lower
Karen Miller	Chuck Tarpey	Debbie Flinn
Pat Brockman	Renee Wagner	Finnly Hunt
Pat McKinstry	Michelle Richard-Mix	Jerry & Maribeth Fritz
Russinda Rohde	Sheila Jobbitt	Tom White
Landon Battle	Jennifer Lewis	Pamela Coggan
Marsha Packer	Jamison Crynes	Joe Drysdale
Jack & Sue LaPeer	Mary O'Connor	Nichole Munsell
Elizabeth Voet	Pam Garragon-Goss	Jace Peterson
Linda Jasman	Kym Coryell	Georgia Sibert

*We continue to pray for all who need healing. If you would like to add or remove a name, please call the parish office. Be sure you have the consent of the person or a family member. Names will remain on the prayer list for three months. Requests may be renewed.*

**SS. Peter & Paul Parish Staff (616) 527-3610**

Permanent Deacon	Zenon Cardenas	616-527-8942
Secretary	Cecilia Luke	ext. 10
Office Manager	Adam Rewa	ext. 11
Pastoral Services	Toni McKay	ext. 13
Music Director	Whitney Crooks	616-527-3610
Faith Formation	Vanessa Booth	ext. 21
Maintenance	Rod Bergeron	616-527-3610
Cemetery Sexton	Aaren Perry	616-527-3610

**SS. Peter and Paul School (616) 527-3561**

[www.ssppcatholic.com](http://www.ssppcatholic.com)

Principal	Jenny Leik	ext. 18
Secretaries	Joann Johnson & Amie Heinlein	ext. 23

**SS. Peter & Paul Parish - Pastoral Council**

Shannon Andrews	Deb Campbell	Deb Trierweiler
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**SS. Peter & Paul Parish - Finance Council**

Chris Christensen	Kip Geldhof	Denise Peabody
Tom O'Connor	Dave O'Mara	Vanessa Booth

**SS. Peter & Paul School - Board of Education**

Tracey Bergeron	Kevin Heinlein	Ryan Walter
Cara Brownell	Anna Johnson	Rachel Wilson
Lauren Christensen	Deb Trierweiler	Allen Wizorek
Nik Discher		

**GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS—WEEK OF JUNE 30**

**GENERAL CLEANING:**

**Beth Alberda, Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan**

**VACUUMING:**

**Beth Alberda, Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan**



**Knights' Corner**

We appreciate all our brother Knights who have volunteered to help with our parish picnic. It takes many hands to make an event like this come together!

Our normal monthly business meeting is this Tuesday, July 2nd. Join us at 7:00 p.m. for the Rosary and stay for the meeting at 7:30!



Three more CSA pledges have come in, bringing us to \$45,482 on the way to our \$73,553 goal. We certainly appreciate those who are responding to the bishop's follow up letter. If you haven't returned your pledge card yet, please do it today!

**Time is running out!  
Silent Auction ends June 29th!**

Dann Werner has repurposed some of our old kneelers into end tables and quilt racks and has donated them to be used in a silent auction for the parish. They are in the back of church. If you would like to bid on an item, simply add your name and the amount of your bid to the sheet. Bidding will close on our parish feast day, Saturday, June 29th, following the 4:00 p.m. Mass.

**Work Is Set to Commence**

In a couple weeks, work will begin on our parking lot. The old, broken concrete will be removed and new will be poured. This should make for a much nicer, and safer, surface to drive and walk on. C&L Trucking will remove the old concrete beginning Monday, July 8; Platte Brothers will handle the pouring of the new concrete. The concrete itself has been donated by HSV Redi-Mix. The work will be done in two stages so that some parking will be available throughout the project. Thank you for your patience!

**Nourish for Caregivers support group**

Virtually everyone, at some point in their life, will care for someone in their family. The Catholic Church has a rich tradition of supporting families during times of transition and change.

St. Robert of Newminster Parish in Ada is offering a new, faith-based support group, *Nourish for Caregivers*, which will meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. *Nourish* helps caregivers discover the joys and blessings of caring for another by providing practical, emotional, and spiritual support, all with a Christ-centered view. For more information, visit [strobertychurch.org/ministries/nourish/](http://strobertychurch.org/ministries/nourish/).



**COME ONE, COME ALL!  
FEAST DAY OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL PICNIC  
Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church  
Saturday, June 29, following the 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Join us for a bilingual Mass in church, and then head out to the parish grounds for some summer-time food, fellowship, and fun!

**FOOD:** Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, and ice-cream, provided by our Knights of Columbus; pot-luck dishes to pass provided by parishioners

**Fun:** BINGO! and our first ever RELAY OF THE SAINTS (FOR ALL AGES!). Sign up in church to enter the relay, or text Toni at 616-902-1773.

**FELLOWSHIP:** Sharing a meal, our laughter, our lives, and our faith with one another

All of this as we remember and celebrate our patron saints, PETER & PAUL

We look forward to sharing this day with you and your families!



**SS. Peter & Paul  
Annual Garage Sale  
Friday and Saturday,  
July 26-27, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

We invite you to donate your gently used and no-longer-needed treasures to our sale. You may drop them off at the parish garage, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., but please call (616-527-3610) and let us know you are coming. All proceeds from the sale will benefit our parish ministries. Thank you for your generosity!

**Would you like to join the Garage Sale Team?** Any time you can give is appreciated! Contact Toni McKay at the parish office if you can help.

**Sacraments**

Is there a Sacrament that you meant to prepare your child to receive but were unable to? (First Reconciliation/Confession, First Eucharist/Communion, Confirmation?) We would love to talk with you and work with your family to help with the preparation. Please call Vanessa at 616-527-3610, or email her at [vbooth@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com).

**The Ministry of Consolation is now offering:**

**Grief Support Series**

Have you suffered the loss of a loved one or experienced a loss in your professional or personal life? We invite you to attend this grief support series. Each session offers a topic of discussion, as well as time to reflect, listen, and share if one chooses. We are here to walk the journey with you. Sessions are held biweekly on Saturdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the parish office living room. We wrapped up our last series on June 15, and we hope to begin the next series in September. Please contact Vanessa at [vbooth@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com) if you are in need of support before then.

**Health Support Group (formerly known as Cancer Support)**

Are you or a family member struggling with cancer or another serious health issue? No matter where you are in your health journey, we are here for you. Our support group, formerly known as the Cancer Support Group, is now reaching out to invite anyone who is facing a serious health challenge. Team members of the Ministry of Consolation will be offering Health Support gatherings on a monthly basis. Our next session will be on Saturday, July 13, at 10:00 a.m. at Biggby Coffee in Ionia. All are welcome!

For more information about any of these Ministry of Consolation opportunities, or if you are interested in private sessions, please contact Vanessa Booth at [vbooth@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com)

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences**

September 6-8 in Holly  
August 2-4 or October 4-6 in Petoskey

Add a little spring to your marriage on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience! Grow your faith and your marriage! Apply today at [www.me.org](http://www.me.org) or call Chris & Darla Vinton at 517-667-0433.



*Come rest awhile  
in the Lord's presence.*

*Wednesdays 6-7 p.m.  
in the Basement Chapel*

**Summer Programs at FLPC**

This summer, bring your **children** to the Franciscan Life Process Center, Lowell campus, 11650 Downes St. NE for:

**Pioneer Days**, June 24-27 or August 5-8  
**Genres & Jammin'**, July 8-10 or August 5-8  
**Summer Art Experiences for Grades 3-8**, July 29-31

**Adults** are invited to **Singing Through the Eras**, July 8-10 or August 5-7, which focuses on music through the decades of the 1900s.

Go to [www.lifeprocesscenter.org](http://www.lifeprocesscenter.org) to learn more.

**Donations Needed**

The diocesan Prison and Jail Ministry will again host and sponsor the Michigan Department of Corrections Offenders Success Annual Reentry Summit for Kent County.

This summit offers individuals on parole and probation the opportunity to meet with more than 20 support service providers and includes a free raffle. In the past, more than 100 individuals have attended this event.

Please help make it a success again this year by a donation of the following raffle items:

**shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion,  
bath towels, hand towels, and/or wash cloths**

**You may place your donations in the bin at the back of our church from now through Sunday, July 7. Deb Trierweiler will deliver them to Cathedral Square Center in time for the Summit.**

**Foster Parents Needed!**

Catholic Charities West Michigan is in desperate need of caring individuals to open their home to a foster child and show children the love they deserve. For more information, please contact Alix Wanlass at [awanlass@ccwestmi.org](mailto:awanlass@ccwestmi.org).

**Taking off for vacation?** Don't take a vacation from Sunday Mass (or Sunday giving)!

Visit [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) to find the schedule for Catholic Church services in the area you will be visiting. You may want to call the church to verify that the schedule is accurate.

Consider electronic giving, a real time-saver for you and a real budget-saver for the parish. An amount you specify can be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account and sent to the parish each week, or once or twice a month. Call or stop by the parish office to get started.