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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
 Email: parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com

January 26, 2025
Third 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

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. en español

Weekday Mass Schedule
 English: Mon & Wed, Mass at 12:10 p.m.
 Tues, No Mass or Service
 Thurs, Mass at 8:00 a.m. (school year)
 Fri, No Mass or Service

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.



January 26, 2025
 Dear supporters of Catholic school education,

We have much to be grateful for as we approach Catholic Schools Week, January 26 - February 1. The Catholic educational institutions in our diocese are on mission, together with the Church, to bring young people into a daily encounter with our Lord and to prepare them to seek and fulfill God's plan for their lives. This personal relationship with the Lord is key to living out our baptismal call to love God and neighbor, and to become ambassadors for Christ.

We can see the fruit of these efforts here already. In a recent standardized test, the Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education, 97.5% of 8th grade Catholic school students in the diocese say they have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and 86% of them share their faith with others. I am grateful for this impact upon our students.

Catholic schools are good news for our children, good news for the Church, and good news for our world. They must be celebrated and supported in our times. You are integral in this endeavor. Thank you for the ways you have supported our 31 Catholic schools, Aquinas College, and Harmel Academy of the Trades through prayer, financial support, and advocacy. You make the transformative power of an education that nurtures the whole person—body, mind, and soul—possible.

Whether through word of mouth, personal stories, or community outreach, your involvement is essential in our efforts to retain thriving Catholic schools. If you are considering Catholic education for your own family, I invite you to explore the many options available to you by visiting CatholicSchools4U.org or calling our Office of Catholic Schools at (616) 246-0590.

I invite you to pray for and spread the mission of Catholic schools within your community during this upcoming week and throughout the year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ David J. Walkowiak

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
 Bishop of Grand Rapids

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8-10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Saturday, January 25

4:00 p.m. Don Gardner (Mike & Joan Boog)

Sunday, January 26

8:00 a.m. SS. Peter & Paul School community
(Catholic Schools Week Mass)

11:30 a.m. Eugene Dietrich
 1:00 p.m. Misa en español

Monday, January 27—St. Angela Merici, Virgin

Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1-6/Mk 3:22-30

11:00 a.m. Confessions
 12:10 p.m. Vernon Brown

Tuesday, January 28—St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor

Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 10-11/Mk 3:31-35

No Mass or Service

Wednesday, January 29—Weekday

Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1-4/Mk 4:1-20

12:10 p.m. Melvin Finkler
 6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour (BC)

Thursday, January 30—Weekday

Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-6/Mk 4:21-25

8:00 a.m. SS. Peter & Paul School community
(Catholic Schools Week Mass)

Friday, January 31—St. John Bosco, Priest

Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

No Mass or Service

Saturday, February 1—Weekday

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/(Ps) Lk 1:69-75/Mk 4:35-41

8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary
 3:00 p.m. Confessions

The Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7-10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40

Saturday, February 1

4:00 p.m. Pat Brockman (Tom & Julie Bennett)

Sunday, February 2

8:00 a.m. Aloyse & Theresa Dietrich
 11:30 a.m. Bertha Meier
 1:00 p.m. Misa en español

Sunday, January 26—Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. OCIA (PO)
 9-10:30 a.m. CSW Breakfast (AH)
 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Classes K-8
 6:00 p.m. Following Christ (AH)
 6-8 p.m. Youth Group Night (CR)

Monday, January 27

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

Tuesday, January 28

10:00 a.m. CSW Mass w/Bishop (live/live stream)

Wednesday, January 29

6-7:30 p.m. TOPS (VR)
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thursday, January 30

3:45 p.m. Life Fit (VR)

Friday, January 31

Saturday, February 1

9:30 a.m. Marriage Validation prep. session (PO)

Sunday, February 2—The Presentation of the Lord

8:00 a.m. OCIA (PO)
 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Classes K-8
 6:00 p.m. Following Christ (AH)



OUR PARISH OFFERING: January 18 & 19, 2025

Regular Offertory Collection	\$10,911.48
Electronic Giving	1,680.00
Total	\$12,591.48
-5% Tithe	-629.57
Net Total	\$11,961.91

Budgeted Weekly: \$9,807.69
Surplus for the Week: \$2,783.79

School Support: \$160.00
 School Annual Appeal: \$181.11

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.

GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS—WEEK OF JAN. 26

GENERAL CLEANING:
 Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan

VACUUMING:
 Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan



Catholic Schools
 United in Faith and Community

Sunday, January 26: Celebrate Your Parish

Families attend Mass at SS. Peter & Paul at 8 a.m.
 CSW Breakfast hosted by the FSC from 9-10:30 a.m.
 Suggested donation is \$5 per person.

Monday, January 27: Celebrate Community

Cards will be made and delivered to local churches that work to spread the Gospel in our community.

Catholic Schools throughout the nation will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week 2025 from January 26-February 1. These are some of the ways that our Saints Peter & Paul School students will be celebrating the week.

Tuesday, January 28: Celebrate Students

Students watch live-stream of Mass from the Cathedral at 10 a.m. 7th & 8th Graders attend the Mass in person. Grade level game competition & prizes. Sundae bar. Students receive new Catholic Schools Week t-shirts.

Wednesday, January 29: Celebrate the Nation

Students wear red, white, and blue.
 Service project: World Rosary Project

Thursday, January 30: Celebrate Vocations

Students attend 8 a.m. CSW Mass at SS. Peter & Paul. Students make cards for Fr. Tom and Deacon Cardenas.

Friday, January 31: Celebrate Faculty, Staff, & Volunteers

Students bring in thank-you notes or small tokens of appreciation for their teacher or a staff member.

February 1 & 2, The Presentation of the Lord

4:00 p.m. Lector: Cecilia Luke
 Altar Servers: Autumn/Kendall/Kyle Cusack
 EMs: Mary Perrien, Phill & Sue Wizorek
 Greeters: Mary Lou Mulick

8:00 a.m. Lector: Walt Downes
 Altar Servers: Claire/Gabe/Anna Cusack
 EMs: Kevin Heinlein, Cheryl & John Hildebrandt
 Greeters: Judy Hamblin

11:30 a.m. Lector: Monica Mabe
 Altar Servers: Evan & Jacquelynn Bailey
 EMs: Shannon Andrews, Barb Mulnix, Theresa Scholtens
 Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

Please pray for:

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Jim Zook | Heather Rensi | Mary O'Connor |
| Roy Shaw | Cherie Flinn | Kym Coryell |
| Martha Brooks | Pamela Pontius | Terri Nurenberg |
| Denise Ward | Anita Hozeski Scott | Jessica Fritz |
| Shirley Weber | Karen Miller | Travis Eveleth |
| Brenda Sheaffer | Pat McKinstry | Charles Timm |
| Judy Dick | Russinda Rohde | Larry Lafler |
| Cindy Hardy | Landon Battle | Arlene Stanton |
| Diana Kujala | Marsha Packer | Pat MacLachlan |
| Mark Dawson | Jack & Sue LaPeer | Jim & Barb Mulnix |
| Tony Burns | Tamera Pierce | Ken and Sherry North |
| Lesley Williams | Angie Cedillo | Nathan Lower |
| Lois Walker | Jo Wirtz | Finnly Hunt |
| Gert Bennett | Witney Fockler | Jerry & Maribeth Fritz |
| Steve Barber | Becky Wagner | Tom White |
| Ed Blyth | Amanda Eveleth | Pamela Coggan |
| Nancy Betz | Martha Misak | Joe Drysdale |
| Jim & Sue Huver | Jennifer Durden | Nichole Munsell |
| Doug Zeeck | Beth Buffey | Jace Peterson |
| Randy Tripp | Renee Wagner | Georgia Sibert |
| Mike Peckins | Michelle Richard-Mix | |
| Glen Alvord | Jennifer Lewis | |

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

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

SS. Peter & Paul Parish - Pastoral Council

Shannon Andrews Deb Campbell

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

Cara Brownell	Nik Discher	Rachel Wilson
Andrew Bucholtz	Kevin Heinlein	Allen Wizorek
Lauren Christensen	Anna Johnson	



Knights' Corner

This Tuesday, January 28th, is the Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas. He is well known as a theologian and his work has influenced the Church in many ways in the 800+ years since his death. In addition to his powerful intellect, he was known during his lifetime for his patience and kindness. He was often moved to tears while celebrating the Mass, and he was never known to lose his temper or speak sarcastically about another person. What an example for us today!

Build community one bowl at a time.

"Soup's On for All!" fundraiser

Monday, January 27, 6:30 p.m. at The B.O.B.

In 2023, God's Kitchen and food pantry served more than 70,000 meals in response to the need for nutritious, filling meals in West Michigan. And the need only continues to grow.

On January 27, 2025, Catholic Charities West Michigan hosts its annual "Soup's On For All!" fundraiser supporting the God's Kitchen and food pantry programs to make these meals possible. Every dollar raised helps provide meals to those in need and encourages food security within West Michigan neighborhoods.

Tickets for Soup's On For All! 2025 are now available! Visit soupsonforall.org for more information.



tacklehunger.org

Join us as we raise money, food donations, and awareness of hunger in and beyond our community. On February 8 & 9, representatives from SS. Peter & Paul Parish and School will be collecting donations before and after our weekend Masses which will be donated to the Ionia Food Pantry. For information on how you can be involved, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com. Thank you for your donations of time, talent and treasure.

Married Couples Weekend: February 7-9

"The Couple that Prays Together"

St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt

Join us for a weekend away from the busyness of daily life to reconnect with your spouse. The weekend includes a vow renewal ceremony and blessing of wedding rings, Mass, inspiring presentations, time to unwind, and fun cocktail receptions. Cost is \$325 per couple. For more information or to register, visit www.stfrancis.ws/mcw or call the St. Francis office at 517-669-8321.

Panther Prayer Corner

Please pray for all Catholic School students around the nation as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Pray that our own school continues to form future leaders, productive citizens, and active faith-filled men and women.

End of Year Statements

Would you like a copy of your parish contribution statement for 2024? Please call the parish office (616-527-3610) and we will mail it to you.

Youth Group Night

Our first Youth Group Night of 2025 is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Cornerstone Room. Students in Grades 8-12 are welcome—and encouraged to bring a friend.

—Kevin Heinlein

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A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus was "praised by all" except at home in Nazareth where the "eyes of all were intently on him." Acceptance can be hard to find at home due to unreal expectations. Jesus challenges us to "proclaim liberty" to anyone "oppressed" or "captive" by our expectations.

Touched by Mercy

Those affected by suicide are invited to **Touched by Mercy** on March 1 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Franciscan Life Process Center, Lowell Campus, 11650 Downes St. NE. Join us for this day of reflection led by Sister Colleen Ann Nagle FSE, MA, LPC. Lunch is included. Cost is \$65. Register at <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/TBM2025>. Scholarships are available.



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

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



Faith Formation

Classes are held on Sunday mornings in the school from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. It's never too late to register!

- Jan. 26 Faith Formation Classes K-8
- Feb. 2 Faith Formation Classes K-8
- Feb. 8 & 9 Souper-Bowl of Caring
(Donations for our local food pantry collected before & after all Masses)
- Feb. 9 Faith Formation Classes K-8
- Feb. 16 No Faith Formation Classes
(Midwinter Break)

For more information about Faith Formation, please contact Vanessa Booth at 616-527-3610 or vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

Saint Exchange

Students in the Faith Formation program will be participating in a saint exchange leading up to Valentine's Day. We are asking for any donations such as saint cards, medals, etc., that you may have to help them with this exchange. Please drop off donations at the parish office or contact Vanessa Booth. Thank you in advance for helping us teach our students more about the lives of the saints.

Grief Support Group

Have you suffered the loss of a loved one or experienced a loss in your professional or personal life? We invite you to join our next grief support group series, which begins on February 22 and meets in the parish office living room from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Each of the sessions offers a topic of discussion, as well as time to reflect, listen, and share if one chooses. We want you to know that are not alone and we are here to walk the journey with you. For more information, please contact Vanessa at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or 616-527-3610.

Health Support Group

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 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 the third Saturday of each month. Our next group will be on Saturday, February 15, at Biggby Coffee beginning at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Vanessa at 616-527-3610, or vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

Anchor – Middle School Youth Event

Saturday, March 15, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School
Cost: \$40 per person
(Optional additional costs: \$10 lunch & \$10 T-shirt)
Register by February 21 at AnchorMichigan.com

Join hundreds of 6th-8th grade youth from Michigan to powerfully encounter Jesus. National speakers such as Catholic influencer Emily Wilson, Brian Greenfield, music by Encounter Worship, and Bishops from across Michigan will lead the day. There will be plenty of fun, alongside opportunities for Mass, confession, praise and worship, and prayer. Families, youth and school groups are encouraged to sign up today!

2025 Kepha Men's Conference

Registration is now open for the 2025 Conference! Sign up for this powerful event. This year's speakers are Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC; Trent Horn; and Fr. Jeger Fickel, pastor of St. Mary-St. Paul Parish in Big Rapids.

Be renewed in your faith and empowered to be the man God is calling you to be.

- Date: Saturday, March 8
- Location: Our Lady of Consolation,
Rockford, MI
- Time: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Confessions: Available before the
Conference: 6:45-7:45 a.m.

Registration & more information:
buildingalegacy.org

- Cost: \$40 for men ages 23 & up
- \$25 for students ages 13-22
- \$23 for family (minimum 4 tickets)
- Max. capacity: 750—1st come, 1st served

2025 Kepha Women's Night

*"Empowered by TRUTH
to Make a Difference in the World"*

Friday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish,
1935 Plymouth Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Cost: \$10 (buildingalegacy.org)

Join Trent Horn, (Catholic Answers host, author, & podcaster), for an evening of music, prayer, and sisterhood.

Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s):

Register today for a life-changing **REFLECT weekend retreat** at the St. Francis Retreat Center, in DeWitt on February 21-23. Cost is \$230 for meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.michigan@gmail.com, or call (586) 770-1772 for details.