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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

March 2, 2025
Eighth 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.

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Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month in the Veritas Room
 Rosary at 7:00 p.m.
 Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Grand Knight: Tom O'Connor

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 **DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS**
 Office of the Bishop

Lent 2025

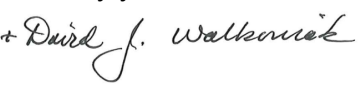
Dear Friends in Christ,

For 50 years, the CRS Rice Bowl program has been helping our brothers and sisters struggling with hunger. The program began with humble roots in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where Catholics organized ecumenical efforts to help families facing famine in Africa. Today, millions of people still face life-threatening levels of hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition, and the small cardboard box remains a sign of hope for them.

"During the Holy Year, we are called to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind" (*Spes non confundit*, 10). This is the time for us to recommit to our global family. There is no one solution to breaking the cycle of hunger, but we can do our part through CRS Rice Bowl by answering Jesus' invitation to share the bread for life with our sisters and brothers during Lent—so all may live with dignity.

In addition to helping our brothers and sisters around the world, 25% of donations to CRS Rice Bowl each year stay in West Michigan to support hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Last year, your donations supported pantries including the Bread of Life Food Pantry and Grandmother's Cupboard Baby Pantry at St. Ann - St. Ignatius Parish in Baldwin, and the Mary's Heart Food Pantry at St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception in Muskegon. It also provided assistance for those in need through the new St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Patrick Parish in Portland. Thank you for your generosity in supporting these local efforts!

"If we really wish to prepare a path to peace in our world, let us commit ourselves to remedying the remote causes of injustice, settling unjust and unpayable debts, and feeding the hungry" (*Spes non confundit*, 16). Please join me in giving alms to the CRS Rice Bowl program this year. Your support can change lives. To learn more, visit crsricebowl.org.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

 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

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-16/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

Saturday, March 1

4:00 p.m. Aloyse & Theresa Dietrich

Sunday, March 2

8:00 a.m. Dennis Finkler
 11:30 a.m. Peter & Edith Brown
 1:00 p.m. Misa en español (Fr. Eugene presides)

Monday, March 3—St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7/Mk 10:17-27

11:00 a.m. Confessions
 12:10 p.m. Intention of Amy Hartman

Tuesday, March 4—St. Casimir

Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23/Mk 10:28-31

No Mass or Service

Wednesday, March 5—Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-6, 12-14, 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

8:00 a.m. (in English) People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish
 12:10 p.m. (in English) People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish
 5:30 p.m. (in English) People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish
 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish) People of Ss. Peter & Paul Parish
 No Eucharistic Holy Hour today

Thursday, March 6—Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 9:22-25

8:00 a.m. Intention of Becky Blaszak

Friday, March 7—SS. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs

Is 58:1-9/Ps 51:3-6, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

No Mass or Service

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in English
 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Spanish

Saturday, March 8—St. John of God, Religious

Is 58:9-14/Ps 86:1-6/Lk 5:27-32

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

First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-15/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

Saturday, March 8

4:00 p.m. Alice Carusello (Christine Bewell)

Sunday, March 9

8:00 a.m. Sister Phyllis
 11:30 a.m. Eugene Dietrich
 1:00 p.m. Misa en español
 3-5 p.m. Confessions

GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS—WEEK OF MARCH 2

GENERAL CLEANING:

Pat Duffy, Gwen O'Mara, Janis Neustifter

VACUUMING:

Shannon Andrews, Debra Sochor

Sunday, March 2—Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. OCIA (PO)
 10:30 a.m. OCIA Inquiry Session (PO)
 10:15-11:15 a.m. Faith Formation Classes for all grades
 10:30-11 a.m. 1st Communion Parent /Student Mtg.
 6:00 p.m. Following Christ (AH)

Monday, March 3

6:30 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study (PO)

Tuesday, March 4

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

Wednesday, March 5—Ash Wednesday

6-7:30 p.m. TOPS (VR)

Thursday, March 6

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

Friday, March 7

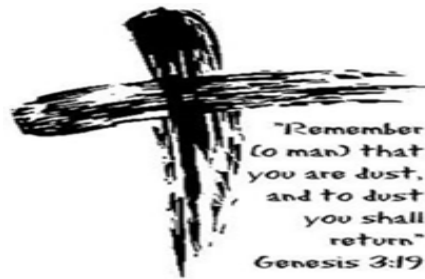
5-7 p.m. No School (Diocesan Inservice)
 Fish Dinners (AH)

Saturday, March 8

9-11 a.m. Grief Support Session (PO)

Sunday, March 9—First Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. OCIA (PO)
 10:15-11:15 a.m. Faith Formation for all grades (SC)
 Time TBD OCIA Inquiry Session (PO)
 6:00 p.m. Following Christ (AH) (final session)
 6-8 p.m. Youth Group Night (CR)



OUR PARISH OFFERING: February 22 & 23, 2025

Regular Offertory Collection	\$8,567.06
Electronic Giving	1,390.00
Total	\$9,957.06
-5% Tithe	-497.85
Net Total	\$9,459.21

Budgeted Weekly: \$9,807.69
Surplus for the Week: \$149.37

School Support Fund: \$40.00
 Flowers: \$140.00

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.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Masses on Ash Wednesday, March 5, will be at 8:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., & 5:30 p.m. in English. 7:00 p.m. in Spanish

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on the Fridays of Lent (March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4 & 11) English at 6:00 p.m. Spanish at 7:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration will be offered in the church from 6 to 7 p.m. on these Wednesdays of Lent: March 12, 19, 26; April 2 & 9

Lenten Soup & Bread Luncheons will be held in the parish office living room following the Wednesday 12:10 p.m. Masses on March 12 & 19, April 2 & 9. Call Toni McKay at 616-527-3610 if you can donate soup or bread.

The Knights of Columbus are offering Fish Dinners in Apostles Hall on the first four Fridays of Lent (March 7, 14, 21, & 28), 5-7 p.m.

Menu: Fried fish, baked potatoes, macaroni & cheese, vegetables, french fries, coleslaw, rolls, and dessert

Take-outs available

\$12-Adults, \$10-Ages 60+, \$6-Children 6-12.

Maximum price: \$35 for families

with minor children

March 8 & 9, First Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Lector: Kara Griffith
 Altar Servers: Jaclyn Rewa
 EMs: Cecilia Luke, Phill & Sue Wizorek
 Greeters: Mary Lou Mulick

8:00 a.m. Lector: Veronica Meyer
 Altar Servers: Paul & Sam Meyer
 EMs: Julie Bennett, Kevin Heinlein, Laurie Tjalsma
 Greeters: Dave O'Mara

11:30 a.m. Lector: Monica Mabe
 Altar Servers: Shyla Johnson, Charlotte Mabe
 EMs: Shannon Andrews, Barb Mulnix, Theresa Scholtens
 Greeters: Volunteers

Please pray for:

Connie Waterman	Heather Rensi	Mary O'Connor
Dorr Bissell	Cherie Flinn	Kym Coryell
Colson Skilling	Pamela Pontius	Terri Nurenberg
Jim Zook	Anita Hozeski Scott	Jessica Fritz
Roy Shaw	Karen Miller	Travis Eveleth
Martha Brooks	Pat McKinstry	Charles Timm
Denise Ward	Russinda Rohde	Larry Lafler
Shirley Weber	Landon Battle	Arlene Stanton
Judy Dick	Marsha Packer	Pat MacLachlan
Cindy Hardy	Jack & Sue LaPeer	Jim & Barb Mulnix
Diana Kujala	Tamera Pierce	Ken and Sherry North
Mark Dawson	Angie Cedillo	Nathan Lower
Tony Burns	Jo Wirtz	Finnly Hunt
Lesley Williams	Witney Fockler	Jerry & Maribeth Fritz
Lois Walker	Becky Wagner	Tom White
Gert Bennett	Amanda Eveleth	Pamela Coggan
Ed Blyth	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	Matt Lang	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, March 4th, is not only Mardi Gras, but it is our regular business meeting, too! Please join us in the Veritas Room at 7:00 for the Rosary, and 7:30 for the meeting. With Lent beginning this week, the first of our fish dinners is on Friday, and pie making is just a few weeks off. We have a lot to talk about!

Youth Group Night

Our next Youth Group Night is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, 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

Knights of Columbus Pie Sale

Saturday, March 15, 2:00 to 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday, March 16, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



Parish Office garage
 Apple, Cherry & Blueberry pies
 \$12 each or 3 for \$30

Order your pies after Mass in the back of church or by calling the parish office—(616) 527-3610. All proceeds support the charitable work of K of C Council 944. Thank you!

Lenten Confession Schedule

Monday, 11 a.m.-12 noon: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
 April 7, 14

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-12 noon: March 19, 26
 April 2, 9, 16

Thursday, April 3, 5-8 p.m.: *The Light Is On for You*
 (Confessions available here, and at many other parishes in the Diocese as well.)

Saturdays, 3:00-3:45 p.m.: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 April 5, 12

Sundays, 3:00-5:00 p.m.: March 9, 23
 April 6



No Eucharistic Adoration on Ash Wednesday, March 5.
Adoration resumes on March 12, 6-7 p.m., in church.

Panther Prayer Corner

Please pray for the continued healing and comfort of Pope Francis, and for his caregivers.

**Ionia Area CRS Rice Bowl Fundraiser
 El Mariachi Mexican Grill, Ionia**

Bring your appetite, your family, and your friends, and spread the word! On **Tuesday, March 11**, from **11 a.m. through 7 p.m.**, 10% of all food and beverage revenue at El Mariachi Mexican Grill will be donated to the CRS Rice Bowl. These funds will help support the efforts of Catholic Relief Services to feed the hungry throughout the world. We are very grateful to the Velasco family for their generosity and willingness to host this event! Let's fill the restaurant for lunch and dinner, and raise funds and awareness as we answer the call to feed the hungry in the local and global community.

**NO GREATER LOVE
 A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion**

Monday Night Bible Study—Lenten Video Series
 Five Monday sessions beginning March 3
 6:30 p.m., Parish Office living room

Filmed in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's love for us. Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary as Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of his suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you.

To reserve your study materials, (\$28 for Textbook & Study Guide), contact Toni at the Parish Office.

Becoming Catholic: An Invitation to Come & See
 No matter where you are in your journey of faith, there is a place for you here with us. Come see for yourself what we're all about. Inquiry sessions begin on Sunday, March 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the parish office living room. Contact Toni McKay at the parish office for more information and to register.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Today Jesus tells us: "Why do you see the speck in someone else's eye but miss the log in your own eye?" It's always easier to try to change someone else than face the things in ourselves which need change. What a waste of time, for we can't change anyone but ourselves.



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. Join us today!

- March 2 Faith Formation Classes for all grades
- March 2 1st Communion Parent Meeting
 10:30-11 a.m. in the school
- March 9 Faith Formation Classes for all grades
 —Stations of the Cross in the church
- March 14 Fish Fry 5-7 p.m. (Servers of all ages needed in Apostles Hall)
- March 16 Faith Formation Classes for all grades
- March 23 Faith Formation Classes for all grades
- March 30 Faith Formation Classes for all grades

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

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 Grief Support Group series, which meets every other Saturday in the parish office living room from 9 to 11 a.m. Our next session is Saturday, March 8. 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 Booth 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, March 15, at 10 a.m. at Bigby Coffee. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or 616-527-3610.

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.

2025 Kepha Men's Conference

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)
 Maximum capacity: 750

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 and prayer.

2025 Catholic Women's Convention

Michigan Catholic women are invited to a statewide triennial convention, *Rejoicing in Glorious Hope*, on April 25-26 at the Sheraton Airport Hotel in Grand Rapids.

The speakers are Barbara Heil (missionary, teacher, & evangelist); Sean Breedon (Ave Maria Radio); and Christy Buck (mental health expert).

A presentation on the parables is provided by The Magic Carpet Theatre Group. Bishop Walkowiak will preside at Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Grand Rapids.

The registration deadline is March 31. More information is available at grdccw.org, or contact Janet Regan at janetregan0209@gmail.com or (616) 915-5930

This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your faith, connect with other Catholic women from across the State, and share in the liturgy with "sisters" that are also Rejoicing in Glorious Hope!