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SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

434 High Street, Ionia, MI 48846 P: 616-527-3610 F: 616-527-3697 Website: www.saintspeterandpaulionia.org Email: parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com

> September 5, 2021 Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor: Fr. Tom Brown 616-527-3610, ext. 12

616-755-1742 (evening)

Associate Pastor: Fr. Oscar Londoño, mxy

616-527-3610, ext. 14 616-755-2279 (cellular)

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. in Spanish

Weekday Mass Schedule

English: Mon & Wed, Mass at 12:10 p.m. Tues, Communion Service at 7:30 a.m. Thurs, Mass at 8:00 a.m. (school year) Fri, Mass at 7:30 a.m.

Spanish: Wed, Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Reconciliation Schedule

English: Saturday 3:00-3:45 p.m. Spanish: Wednesday 6:00-6:45 p.m.

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

Praver Chain

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

Heavenly Joy

We have heard a great deal about sin. What I really wonder is, how much have we thought about heaven? Do we not rather think of joy than sadness? For those that have. most have thought about things here as happening up there. We think of an enjoyable visit, a sports game, a trip to Disneyland, or some other fun times. Mostly, people think of doing things with other people. None of these events even begin to come close. When we close our eyes to this world and open them to the next, we see God Himself. The fantastic excitement of that moment is something no one can even begin to describe. Even a saint in heaven would be speechless trying to come up with any words to describe it. St. Paul has given us a few words, from a vision, to describe a foretaste of heaven. All he could say was "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, what God has prepared for those who love Him."

Still we can and do try to get a glimpse of what the joy of heaven may be like. If we have been fortunate enough to have experienced joy here, we begin with that as an example. Even though it is inadequate, we look back to that moment of exquisite happiness whenever and wherever it was. Think of some major joy here on earth, like our wedding or the placing of a new born baby in your arms or some other event. Whatever that event was, we try to multiply it by a hundred million, and we still fall far short in our imagination of the joy of being in the presence of God. Even our greatest leaps of imagination fall far short. God is infinitely lovable. This means he will be infinitely irresistible. The very sight of him will siphon love out of us as the heart of a tornado sucks water up out of a lake over which it passes. Up from our very roots, up from our toes, love will rush out of us to God. And that will not be enough. We must also be certain that our love will be returned. There will be no doubt of that when God catches us up into His

God is love. He is infinite love. He made us because of his love for us. When the barrier of earthly life is removed, God will swamp us with his love. It will rock us and all but tear us apart. Right now, even the most prideful among us would not claim to be the most lovable person in all creation. Secretly, we all recognize that we have some pretty unlovable spots. In heaven, that will all change. Cleansed of all sin and in the original beauty of the soul with which God endowed us, we shall find that we are incredibly lovable. God will prove it to us as his love for us envelops us and carries us to incredible heights of ecstasy.

One final item: This happiness must never end. Have you never exclaimed. "Oh. I wish that this could go on forever! I wish it didn't have to end!" That will be heaven. It is eternal. It has no end.

Let the thought of heaven inspire you. Let the thought of God fill your mind and soul.

God bless you!

Fr. Tom

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

One Lord. One Faith. One Baptism



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 35:4-7/Ps 146:7-10/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, September 4

4:00 p.m. Fred Kuhtz (Paul & Jean Barker)

Sunday, September 5

8:00 a.m. Living & deceased of Patrick & Carol Lewis family

11:30 a.m. Robert Terpstra (Christine Terpstra)

1:00 p.m. Misa en español

Monday, September 6—Labor Day

Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7. 9/Lk 6:6-11

8:00 a.m. Intention of all workers (Note time.)

Tuesday, September 7—Weekday

Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11/Lk 6:12-19

7:30 a.m. Communion Service

Wednesday, September 8—Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mi 5:1-4/Ps 13:6/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

12:10 p.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish

6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour

7:00 p.m. Misa en español

Thursday, September 9—St. Peter Claver, Priest

Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1-6/Lk 6:27-38

8:00 a.m. James Brown

Friday, September 10—Weekday

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11

7:30 a.m. Tom Gearhart (John & Toni McKay)

Saturday, September 11—Weekday

1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1-7/Lk 6:43-49

8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Hispanic Altar Server Training (CH)

3:00 p.m. Confessions

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 50:4-9/Ps 116:1-6, 8-9/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

Saturday, September 11

4:00 p.m. Bernard & Bertha Ardis (family)

Sunday, September 12

8:00 a.m. Linda Schanski (Bill & Kate Bushong)

11:30 a.m. Barbara Gibson

1:00 p.m. Misa en español

GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS-WEEK OF SEPT. 5

GENERAL CLEANING:

Maria Cardenas, Teresa Nuñez, Carolina Velasco

VACUUMING:

Shannon Andrews, Debra Sochor



AH = Apostles' Hall

 \overline{CR} = Cornerstone Room \overline{SC} = School **BC** = Basement Chapel

CH = Church \overline{PO} = Parish Office VR = Veritas Room $\overline{UP} = Upper Room$

Sunday, September 5

No RCIA.

No Confirmation class.

Monday, September 6—Labor Day

No School.

Parish Office closed.

Tuesday, September 7

School Picture Day

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

Wednesday, September 8

5:15-6:45 p.m. Hispanic Sacramental Prep (VR)

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (AH)

Thursday, September 9

9:30 a.m. Raffle Ticket Preparation (PO)

4 & 5:30 p.m. Life Fit (VR)

Friday, September 10

Saturday, September 11

8 a.m.—3 p.m. Garage Sale Clearance

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Hisp. Altar Server training (CH,AH)

Sunday, September 12

RCIA Inquiry Session (PO) 9:15 a.m. 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Classes (SC) 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Parent Mtg. (AH)



OUR PARISH OFFERING - August 28 & 29, 2021

Regular Offertory Collection \$6,819.69 Electronic Giving 4.600.00

\$11,419.69 Total

-5% Tithe <u>-570.98</u> \$10,848.71 Net Total

Budgeted Weekly: \$9.038.46 Surplus for the Week: \$2,381.23

July 1, 2021-August 29, 2021 Fiscal YTD Offertory Collection

Year-to-Date: \$76,988.18

Budgeted Year-to-Date: \$81,346.14 Deficit Year-to-Date: \$4.357.96

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please pray for:

Abigail Ramirez Craig Collen Joe Rosse Nathan Lower Natalie Mazurek Mike McSpedon Denny Lesky Bill Robinson Sheree Gilbert Jerry Blundy Debbie Flinn Lorie Langwith Ralph Westbrook Tom Lonier Yvonne Elvert Audra Searfoss Feliciano Paredes Dorr Bissell Jane Gazella Finnly Hunt Pete & Annie Ludwick Richard Rinker

Al Slowinski Tom O'Connor Bruce Hoeksema Tom White Rick McQueen Christopher Van Buren Clark Reeder June Faulkner Sue Thompson Mike Nelson Peter Gallagher Rachel Cross Jim Mulnix Vickie Lykins Theresa Sullivan Joe Drysdale Mike O'Connor Carol Gallagher Ali Laninga Alvina Badillo Della Arbour Alice Samani-Zozo Jace Peterson Pat McKinstry Isaac Fletcher Georgia Sibert Clara Butler Irene Kneale John McKay Jerry & Maribeth Fritz Larry Lafler Susan Montgomery Ken Peabody

Toni Montgomery Pamela Coggan Phil & Carol Fox Ed & Glenna Miller Annette Krycinski Barbara Bennett Nichole Munsell

Tim Perry

Toni McKay Whitney Crooks Music Director Maintenance Cemetery Sexton Rod Bergeron Aaren Perry SS. Peter and Paul School (616) 527-3561 www.ssppcatholic.com Jenny Leik Principal ext. 18 Diane Grummet Secretaries & Joann Johnson ext. 23 ext. 20 ext. 28 Pre-School Barb Voet Daycare Audra Searfoss SS. Peter & Paul Parish - Pastoral Council Tim Martin Deb Trierweiler Tim Wall Deb Campbell Rick Esparza SS. Peter & Paul Parish - Finance Council John Klein Chris Christensen Jane Hemenway Matt Johnson Mike Keast Dave O'Mara SS. Peter & Paul School - Board of Education Tracey Bergeron Vanessa Booth Kevin Heinlein Brian Siemen

SS. Peter & Paul Parish Staff

Zenon Cardenas Cecilia Luke

Adam Rewa

Melissa Wall

Permanent Deacon

Secretary Office Manager

Nick Cusack

Pastoral Services

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527-8942 ext. 10

ext. 11

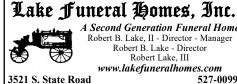
We continue to pray for all who need healing. If you would like to add or remove a name, please call the parish office. Be sure you have the consent of the person or a family member. Names will remain on the prayer list for three months. Requests may be renewed.

Tom Brockman

Lector Schedule for September 4—17, 2021					
Saturday, Sept. 4 Sunday, Sept. 5 Sunday, Sept. 5	4:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Mary Lou Mulick Denise Peabody Dan Lower	Saturday, Sept. 11 Sunday, Sept. 12 Sunday, Sept. 12	4:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Kara Griffith Walt Downes Nancy Wilson
Monday, Sept. 6	Labor Day 8a.m.	Cecilia Luke	Monday, Sept. 13	12:10 p.m.	Adam Rewa
Tuesday, Sept. 7	7:30 a.m. C.S.	Cecilia Luke	Tuesday, Sept. 14	7:30 a.m. C.S.	Cecilia Luke
Wednesday, Sept. 8	12:10 p.m.	Adam Rewa	Wednesday, Sept. 15	12:10 p.m.	Adam Rewa
Thursday, Sept. 9	8:00 a.m.	School lector	Thursday, Sept. 16	8:00 a.m.	School lector
Friday, Sept. 10	7:30 a.m.	Denise Peabody	Friday, Sept. 17	7:30 a.m.	Rick Esparza

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K OF C

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: Adam Rewa

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Knights' Corner

Just a quick reminder that this Tuesday is our normal business meeting. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Veritas Room for the Rosary, followed by the business meeting at 7:30. This meet-

ing will also include the installation of our officers. Brother Knights, even if you haven't been to a meeting for awhile, please make an extra effort to come to this one and support those who have taken on an officer role.

Looking a little further ahead, we plan to welcome new men into the Knights of Columbus in October with a degree ceremony. Have you thought about joining the Knights? Now is a great time to take this step! Please call me for an application form.

Adam Rewa, Grand Knight (527-3610)

First Annual Michigan Catholic Women's Conference

Saturday, October 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lansing Center

Hear from speakers including Kelly Wahlquist, Sheri Wohlfert, and Fr. Joe Krupp. Early bird registration of \$50 per person available through Sept. 7. Visit https://michigancwc.org/ for additional details and registration.

Register for Diocesan Assembly 2021: Grow

Parishioners from throughout the diocese are invited to "Diocesan Assembly 2021: Grow" on Saturday, September 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Cathedral Square Center, 360 Division Ave. S. The event will be offered in person and online via livestream. Diocesan Assembly 2021 will teach us how to grow and mature as disciples by reflecting on practical aspects of growth in holiness. Registration to attend via livestream is free. Cost of the in-person event is \$15 (includes lunch). Register at: grdiocese.org/diocesan-assembly.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—Eucharistic Holy Hours with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction are offered almost every Wednesday of the year from 6 to 7 p.m. Come rest awhile in the Lord's presence!

Rosary on Saturday mornings—A small group of people gathers in church on Saturday mornings at 8:30 a.m. to pray the Scriptural Rosary. We begin and end with a hymn and are usually finished by 9 a.m. Come pray with us!

Ionia Area CROP Hunger Walk 2021

What are you doing on Sunday October 3? Would you like a way to visit with friends, make new friends, enjoy the outdoors, get exercise, AND help change the world? Come walk with us in the CROP Hunger Walk to raise funds to fight hunger in our community and around the world. We'll start and end at SS. Peter & Paul Church, as our parish group walks together. We'll meet at 1:00 p.m., collect our money, and begin our walk shortly after 1:30 p.m. Contact Pat Rinker for more information and to get your Walker envelope, 517-898-5676.

Make checks payable to CWS/CROP.

Cancer Support Group

Team members of the Ministry of Consolation are offering Cancer Support gatherings every other Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Office living room. Our next gathering will be on Sept.15. All are welcome. Please help us spread the word. For more information, please contact Vanessa Booth at: vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

Grief Support Group Sessions

The Ministry of Consolation would like to invite anyone who has suffered the death of a loved one, a loss in their personal life, or is simply struggling from the effects that COVID-19 has had on their life to join them at bi-weekly Grief Support Group Sessions. Each of the sessions offers a topic of discussion, as well as time to reflect, listen, and share if one chooses. If you are interested in learning more about the Ministry of Consolation and its benefits to you or a loved one, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com. Group Grief Sessions will begin in mid-September. Please watch the bulletin for more details.

The Explore Priesthood Group is a discernment opportunity sponsored by the diocesan Office of Priestly Vocations. Each month, young men (ages 16 – 35) are invited to gather and discern God's will for their lives. Times for prayer and reflection are held monthly at St. Stephen Parish in East Grand Rapids beginning at 12:30 p.m.

This year's discernment opportunities are offered on the following Sundays: Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9 (2022), Feb. 13, March 13, Apr. 24, and May 15.

Feel free to show up or call to let us know you are coming at 616-288-0910. Questions, email Pattie Reynolds (preynolds@grdiocese.org)

SEPTEMBER 5. 2021

RCIA Inquiry Sessions

Sundays, September 12, 19, 26 at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Office Living Room

No matter where you are in your journey of faith, there is a place for you here with us. Don't be afraid to take that first step. Come, see for yourself what we are all about! Contact Toni McKay at the parish office for more information.

Retrouvaille Marriage Healing Weekend September 17-19, 2021

Have you thought about separation or divorce? Find hope and rediscover healing and love with the help of Retrouvaille (pronounced re-tro-vi with a long i). This program offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship.

For more information, to register, or to sponsor a couple, call 616-635-1046, email <u>retrograndrapids@gmail.com</u>, or visit retrouvaille.org.

Choir Practice

Has anyone ever told you that you have a nice voice? Do you like to sing? Does music help you grow in your faith? Do you like to have a good time giving praise to God through music? If you answered "yes" to any or all of these questions, you belong at choir practice! We officially start our fall rehearsals on September 8 in Apostles Hall at 7:00 p.m. Did I mention the choir loft has padded chairs?

--Whitney



Our school volleyball team has begun practice and is looking forward to a successful year! Pictured left to right in the back row are Coach Kristi Wizorek, Avelin McGuire, Audrey Wall, and Kaylynn Wizorek; middle row left to right are Jaclyn Rewa, Lilli Eastman, and Kylie Vance; kneeling left to right are Adelyn White and Isabella Gallagher. The team would like your prayerful support, your physical support at the games, and could use some financial support to help purchase new league-approved uniforms.

Faith Formation Classes for Grades K-8 begin next Sunday, September 12, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Have you registered your child for Faith

Formation? Registration forms can be found on the table at the entrance to church, or on our parish website: www.saintspeterandpaulionia.org

Parent Orientation Meeting Sunday, September 12, 10:15 a.m.

(during children's class time). Students are to report directly to their classrooms, while adults will gather in Apostles Hall. Every family will need to be represented at the orientation session by at least one parent or adult representative.

Monday Night Scripture/Faith Study

September 13 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Office Living Room

To express interest or for more information, contact Toni at the parish office.



to all who participated in any way in our parish **End-of-Summer Shindig**, held last Saturday, August 28, at the Zenon

& Maria Cardenas home! This event was a WON-DERFUL time of reconnecting with our parish family. The hot weather was extreme, but it didn't keep us from enjoying good company, good food, and a good time! Special thanks to the Cardenas family—Zenon, Maria, Roger, and Veronica—for hosting this event for our parish. The amount of time and energy spent in preparation, coupled with the attention to detail in providing a warm, welcoming, and fun space, was over-the-top GRAND! Thanks also to those who volunteered to help plan and coordinate the event: Zenon Cardenas, Pat Reinhardt, Richard Esparza, and Deb Trierweiler, along with staff members Adam Rewa and Toni McKay. We look forward to the next time our parish family can gather to grow in relationship with one another and with God!

SSPP GARAGE SALE CLEARANCE!

Saturday, September 11th, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Lots of treasures still available! If you missed our sale in July, you have another opportunity! Come and shop at reduced prices. Bring your family and friends, and help spread the word!