

SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

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

# March 17, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

<u>School Principal:</u> 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. (bilingual)

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.

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.

**God loves you!** He loves you so very, very much. So often we forget that. We get so busy with daily activities that we totally forget about God. This in turn means we forget about Him. No prayer time. No conversation. No seeking His help. Yet God is the one who became a man for our sake. He is the One who became all things for us and remains close to us. He cries out to us saying, "See, I am with you all the days of your life." He is our shepherd, the high priest, the way and the door. He is all things for us at all times.

As we rapidly approach the feast day of Easter, we need to remember that He died, willingly, for us. "Christ has been sacrificed as our Passover." It was Christ who prayed for us saying, "You are my joy!" He came to be with us with joy. We need to be with Him in joy. True joy means we need to cast out wickedness. To achieve this we must strive to live a life of goodness and in union with God. This is what the saints have done. In the Old Testament, David rose several times at night to pray to God. Moses, filled with joy, sang His praises for the defeat of Pharaoh and those oppressing the Hebrew people. Others, like Samuel and Elijah, had their hearts filled always with gladness as they performed their duties of worship. It filled their lives. This has continued in the New Testament and up to today.

St. Patrick, whose feast day is this weekend, gave up his homeland and came to the Irish people to preach the Gospel and endure the taunts of unbelievers. He put up with countless persecutions, even bondage and loss of freedom, for the sake of others. St. Patrick said, "If I am worthy, I am ready to give up my life, without hesitation and most willingly, for Jesus. I want to spend myself in that country, even in death." St. Patrick said he was deeply in debt to almighty God for all the graces he was given, and he desired to share them with others. Even those who didn't want to hear him. Other saints, in various ways, continued to proclaim Jesus and the Father and the Holy Spirit in everything they were doing. Seven days a week.

What of the graces we have been given? We are so richly blessed. We have His Words in Sacred Scripture, His sacraments in the Church, and His blessings in our lives. Let us ask Him to help us to bear witness to Him in all our thoughts and actions.

May God bless you. Especially today.

Fr. Tom

# SAINTS PETER AND PAUL





#### Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-15/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 Saturday, March 16

4:00 p.m. Roman Stoj (Margaret Stoj)

#### Sunday, March 17

- 8:00 a.m. Deceased of William & Katherine Spitzley family 11:30 a.m. Mort Slowinski
- 1:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass

### Monday, March 18—St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:1-11 11:00 a.m. Confessions

12:10 p.m. Vernon Brown

Tuesday, March 19—St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin 2 Sm 7:4-5, 12-14, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/ Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24

7:30 a.m. Communion Service

#### Wednesday, March 20—Lenten Weekday

- Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/(Ps) Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42 11:00 a.m. Confessions 12:10 p.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish
- 2-7p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)

#### Thursday, March 21—Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59 8:00 a.m. Dennis Finkler

#### Friday, March 22—Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42

- 7:30 a.m. Intention of Fr. Fred Brucker-his birthday
- 2:00 p.m. School Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (in English)
- 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (in Spanish)

## Saturday, March 23—St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Ez 37:21-28/(Ps) Jer 31:10-13/Jn 11:45-56 8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary 3:00 p.m. Confessions

### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-15:47 Saturday, March 23

## 4:00 p.m. Jane Gazella

Sunday, March 24

- 8:00 a.m. Aloyse & Theresa Dietrich
- 11:30 a.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish
- 1:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass
- 3-5 p.m. Confessions

# GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS-WEEK OF MARCH 17

**GENERAL CLEANING:** Chris & Pilya Christensen, Joe Thelen VACUUMING: Chris & Pilya Christensen, Joe Thelen

# MARCH 17, 2024

**AH = Apostles Hall**  $\overline{CR}$  = Cornerstone Room  $\overline{SC}$  = School  $\overline{BC}$  = Basement Chapel

Sunday, March 17 9-10:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m.

Food & Fellowship (AH) RCIA (PO) Faith Formation PreK-High School KC Pie Sale pick-up (parish garage)

Lenten Video Series-Fearless (PO)

CH = Church

 $\overline{PO}$  = Parish Office

**VR** = Veritas Room

Monday, March 18 6:30 p.m.

10:15 a.m.

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

200

Week 🖤

Ahead.

The

Tuesday, March 19 6:30 p.m.

Pastoral Council Meeting (PO)

### Wednesday, March 20

1:00 p.m. 5-6:30 p.m. 6:30-8 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

3:45 p.m.

Lenten Luncheon (PO) Hispanic Faith Formation (AH,VR,CR) T.O.P.S. Session (VR) Choir Rehearsal (AH)

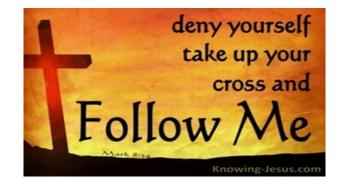
Thursday, March 21 Life Fit (VR)

#### Friday, March 22

#### Saturday, March 23

#### Sunday, March 24—Palm Sunday

9-10:30 a.m. Food & Fellowship (AH) 9:15 a.m. Into the Breach (VR) RCIA (PO) 9:15 a.m. Faith Formation PreK-HS 10:15 a.m. Car pool to Shine Rally (SSPP lot) 11:30 a.m.



#### OUR PARISH OFFERING - March 9 & 10, 2024

Regular Offertory Collection	\$8,894.26
Electronic Giving	<u>3,215.00</u>
Total	\$12,109.26
-5% Tithe	<u>-605.46</u>
Net Total	\$11,503.80

Budgeted Weekly: \$9,519.23 Surplus for the Week: \$2,590.03

School Support Fund: \$1,280.00 School Annual Appeal: \$20.00 Flowers: \$100.00 Catholic Relief Services: \$3,887.00

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.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation—Confessions

-Monday & Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12 noon March 18 & 20, 25 & 27 -Saturdays, 3-3:45 p.m. March 16 & 23 -Sundays, 3-5 p.m. March 24

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on the Fridays of Lent (March 15 & 22).

> -English at 6:00 p.m., Spanish at 7:00 p.m. -School children at 2:00 p.m.

Lenten luncheons will be held in the parish office living room following the Wednesday 12:10 p.m. Mass on March 20.

Eucharistic Adoration will be offered in the basement Chapel of the parish office building from 2 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20.

#### March 23 & 24, Palm Sunday

4:00 p.m.	Lectors: Kara Griffith, Mary Lou Mulick Altar Servers: Adah & William Drown EMs: Phill & Sue Wizorek, Cecilia Luke Greeters: Volunteers
8:00 a.m.	Lectors: Denise Peabody, Jamie Meyer Altar Servers: Paul & Sam Meyer EMs: Kevin Heinlein, Veronica Meyer, Laurie Tjalsma Greeters: Dave O'Mara

Martha Misak

Todd Cooper

Beth Buffey

Jennifer Durden

Tom McClintock

Michelle Richard-Mix

Margaret O'Mallev

Chuck Tarpey

Renee Wagner

Sue Huver

Dave Erbes

Sheila Jobbitt

Jennifer Lewis

Jamison Crynes

Mary O'Connor

Terri Nurenberg

Kym Coryell

Carol Ardis

Jessica Fritz

Larry McKaig

Cole LeBarre

Pam Garragon-Goss

# Please pray for:

Pamela Pontius Anita Hozeski Scott Karen Miller Pat Brockman Pat McKinstry Russinda Rohde Landon Battle Marsha Packer Fr. Mark Mitchell Brittany Denker Jack & Sue LaPeer Elizabeth Voet Linda Jasman Marv Kogelmann Tamera Pierce Angie Cedillo Bruce Hoeksema Jo Wirtz Witney Fockler Becky Wagner Phill Wizorek Amanda Eveleth

Travis Eveleth Charles Timm Kathv Kranz Larry Lafler Arlene Stanton Pat MacLachlan Jim & Barb Mulr Ken and Sherry N Rueger Eveleth Nathan Lower Debbie Flinn Finnly Hunt Isaac Fletcher Jerry & Maribeth Tom White Pamela Coggan Joe Drysdale Nichole Munsell Jace Peterson Georgia Sibert

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

### Easter Triduum Schedule 2024

#### Holy Thursday, March 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m. (bilingual)

Silent Adoration follows until 11 p.m.

#### Good Friday, March 29

- 11:30 a.m. Stations of the Cross (English) 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy (English)
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy (bilingual)

#### Holy Saturday, March 30

(No Rosary, Confessions, or 4:00 p.m. Mass) 8:45 p.m. The Easter Vigil (bilingual)

#### Easter Sunday, March 31

8:00 a.m.	Mass <i>(English)</i>
11:30 a.m.	Mass <i>(English)</i>
1:00 p.m.	Mass <i>(bilingual)</i>

11:30 a.m.

Lector: Monica Mabe, Shannon Andrews Altar Servers: Shyla Johnson, Lillian Mabe EMs: Barb Mulnix, Theresa Scholtens, Volunteer Greeters: Pamela Pontius

Lenten Reminder: Catholics 14 years of age or older are expected to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Catholics ages 18 through 59 are expected to fast (eat no more than one full meal) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

	SS. Peter & Pau Permanent Deacon Secretary Office Manager Pastoral Services Music Director Faith Formation	I Parish Staff Zenon Cardenas Cecilia Luke Adam Rewa Toni McKay Whitney Crooks Vanessa Booth	(616) 527-3610 616-527-8942 ext. 10 ext. 11 ext. 13 616-527-3610 ext. 21	
nix North	Maintenance Cemetery Sexton	Rod Bergeron Aaren Perry	616-527-3610 616-527-3610	
	SS. Peter and Paul School (616) 527-356			
h Fritz	www.ssppcatholic.c Principal Secretaries	om Jenny Leik Joann Johnson & Amie Heinlein	ext. 18 ext. 23	
	SS. Peter & Pau Shannon Andrews	l Parish - Pastor Deb Campbell	al Council Deb Trierweiler	
l	SS. Peter & Pau Chris Christensen Tom O'Connor	-		
	SS. Peter & Paul School - Board of Education			
add or he con- ayer list	Tracey Bergeron Cara Brownell Lauren Christensen Nik Discher		Rachel Wilson	



#### Knights' Corner

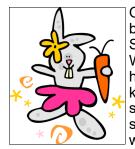
Thank you to everyone who bought or helped make pies! Please be sure to pick up your order this weekend after Mass in the parish office garage. If you missed out, we may have a few pies left.

Call the parish office to check.

Please note that there will be no Into the Breach meeting this Sunday due to the distribution of pies during our meeting time. We will gather again next Sunday, March 24th, to discuss "Suffering".

#### **Breaking Open the Lenten Gospels**

Catholic.Bible and the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) have a fine resource for praying with the Sunday Gospels (Lectio Divina). If you are interested in breaking open these wonderful readings during the Season of Lent, we host a gathering each Friday morning at 10:00 in the parish office. Join us!



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the parish grounds on Saturday, March 30th, at 10 a.m. We can use some items if you have them to donate: Easter baskets, plastic eggs, gently used stuffed animals (large and medium sized preferably), and individually wrapped candies (small enough to

fit inside an egg). Donations may be brought to the parish office. Thank you!

We will be preparing the baskets on Wednesday, March 27, at 9:00 a.m. in the parish office, and can use many helping hands!

Transform your marriage and your faith this Lent at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience. Retreat weekends are scheduled for April 12-14 at St. Francis Retreat Center-DeWitt: and June 11-13 at Maryville in Holly. Apply at wwme.org or call Chris and Darla Vinton at 517-667-0433.

Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s): Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, MI (10 miles north of Lansing), on April 5-7, 2024. Take a chance and get involved ... you won't regret it! Cost is \$215 for meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com,

e-mail reflect.michigan@gmail.com. or call (586) 770-1772 for details.

#### **Panther Prayer Corner**

Please pray for our 8th grade students, who will be taking a field trip to the Ionia County Career Center. May they listen for and hear the calling of God as they begin to discern their future careers.



With the Catholic Services Appeal (CSA), the Diocese of Grand Rapids asks us to support the many good works done by the Church throughout western Michigan. Our parish assessment for this year is \$73,553. We sent in our second batch this week, bringing our total to 38 pledges for \$10,396.75. Thank you to all those who have responded already! If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail last week, blank cards are available on the table in the back of church. Pledges can also be made online at grdiocese.org, and you can view the short video about CSA there.

#### Stewardship of Time, Talent, & Treasure

is the active expression of our gratitude for the gifts God has given us. You are invited to complete a Stewardship Commitment Pledge Form (found at the main church entrances), and return it to the parish. You may drop your form into the baskets at the entrances to the church, in the collection, or mail it back to us. Thank you!

—SS. Peter & Paul Parish Evangelization Team

The annual Saints Peter & Paul Auction is coming up soon! The Luau themed event will be held on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Ionia Armory. Tickets are available in the school and parish offices and from auction committee members. The \$30 tickets include entry to the event, dinner, and draft beer. Mark your calendar for this awesome event!

#### **Divine Mercy Brunch for Young Adults**

Young Adults in the diocese (ages 21-33) are invited to The Divine Mercy Brunch at St. Alphonsus Parish Center on April 7 from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The event will include a coffee and mimosa social, a catered brunch, and a guided reflection/small group discussion on the beauty of divine mercy in daily life.

- -Tickets are \$15 until March 25, & \$20 after that. Last day to register is April 3.
- -More info. on the event can be found on the ticket and/or parish website.
- -Tickets: stalphonsuschurch.ticketspice.com/divinemercy
- -Questions? Text or call Mary at 616-315-0470.

#### Faith Formation

Do you have a child or family member who needs to catch up on their sacraments? Please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com, or call the parish office at 616-527-3610.

All Faith Formation classes are held in the school on Sundays from 10:15-11:15 a.m.

March 16—Reconciliation Retreat 10 a.m. (VR)

March 17—Classes PreK-High School

March 24—Classes PreK-High School March 24—Shine Youth Rally—Carpooling from SSPP parking lot at 11:30 a.m.

March 31-April 7—Spring Break. No classes.

April 14—Classes PreK-High School

April 21-Classes PreK-High School

April 28—Last classes of the school year!

#### 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 support group series. Each session offers a topic of discussion, as well as time to reflect. listen, and share if one chooses. Sessions are held in the parish office living room on Saturdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Our next series will begin on April 20.

#### **Cancer Support Sessions**

All those touched by cancer in any way are invited to join our new discussion series on love, grace, and gratitude. Our next Cancer Support Session is on Wednesday, April 10, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the parish office living room.

Email Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com for more information about any of these Ministry of Consolation opportunities, or if you are interested in private sessions.

We invite you to help with our **Children's Liturgy** of the Word (CLOW) program during the 4 p.m. and 11:30 a.m. weekend Masses. No experience needed: we will train you! Please email Barb Montgomery at lkydog67@yahoo.com, or Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com for more information.

#### Aquinas College Open House

Aquinas College invites all high school students and their families to our Open House on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to noon. Discover everything Aquinas has to offer. Explore our academic programs & student life opportunities, connect with our faculty, staff & students, and tour our wooded campus. Register here: aguinas.edu/openhouse

# MARCH 17. 2024

#### Giving Alms Donation Drive for Zion Community Food Pantry

We are collecting toilet paper, facial tissue, feminine hygiene products, body wash, hand soap, deodorant, shampoo, diapers, diaper wipes, and any other non-food items you find useful. Please place your items in the container at the back of church-now through Easter Sunday.

#### Our Monday Night Study Group invites you to attend Fearless: a 7-week Lenten Video Series with Chris Stefanick

#### Monday, March 18, 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Living Room Lesson 4—Death, Where Is Your Sting? with Sarah Kirchner

Time and again, the people of God are called to 'be courageous' and 'be not afraid.' Yet, we live in a time where fear seems to guide our very existence. Don't miss this exciting series with a special guest each week as we seek to follow Jesus into the wilderness this Lent.

If you'd like to participate in any week of this series, all you need to do is COME! See you Monday!

#### There are sign-up sheets on the tables in the back of church. Please add your name if you can help with any of these!

-Bring food for the Wednesday Lenten Lunch on March 20 or the Lenten Soup Supper on Monday, March 25.

-Participate in Eucharistic Adoration between 2 & 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20.

# Lenten Soup Supper and Video Presentation

#### "The Fourth Cup and the New Passover" Dr. Brant Pitre, Biblical Scholar & Professor

Monday of Holy Week, March 25 in Apostles Hall (SSPP School cafeteria) Gather: 6:15 ~ Dinner: 6:30 ~ Video Presentation: 7:15 p.m.

This video presentation was offered 10 years ago in our parish, and the comments and feedback received at the conclusion of the video were that of awe, amazement, and wonder as to how this material was missed in their many years of learning about and celebrating the Eucharist.

If you would like to donate soup, bread, or a salad for our dinner, please indicate on the sign-up sheet near the entrance to church. Please join us for this special time of community and faith sharing.