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 Rosary at 7:00 p.m.
 Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Grand Knight: Tom O'Connor



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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

May 5, 2024
 Sixth Sunday of Easter

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. (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.

Visiting our Lord?

During this past week, we have heard repeated stories of many violent earthquakes and tornados hitting the United States and beyond. Oklahoma, Nebraska, California, Texas, Alaska, and yes, even Hawaii, along with surrounding states, have been hit. Repeatedly. When, not if, will the next one strike? In our state? Nearby? As we live through these, we call to mind another time...

Fr. Etlin, O.S.B. wrote, "During the reign of the Roman Emperor Justinian in the year 527 A.D., the city of Antioch was repeatedly shaken by violent earthquakes. People found no other means of safety than that of inscribing on their doors the words which were revealed to a faithful servant of God: *Christus nobiscum; state!* 'Christ is with us; stand firm.' All the houses whose doors bore this inscription are said to have been preserved from the ruin which threatened them, while the others were shattered and crushed.

It is similar with those souls who love and serve God. In the midst of a Godless world, there is but one means of preservation from eternal ruin, one means of perseverance in the great tribulation of life---faithful adherence to the Most Blessed Sacrament, to the God-man concealed beneath the form of bread and wine. The words, 'Jesus Christ is with me; stand firm,' should be engraved in the heart of every Christian. Protected by this shield, the servants of God will remain firm in the Faith, even though all about them totter and fall.

Our devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament must be true and tender. It must show itself by our participating at Holy Mass---not only on Sundays, but also on weekdays as far as our duties of state allow. Above all, our love for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist must manifest itself by a frequent reception of Holy Communion, by visits to the 'Prisoner in the Tabernacle', and by a penetrating faith in this Mystery of Love.

In a word, our life must be a life in Christ, rooted in the Holy Eucharist. With St. Ignatius we must be able to say, 'To withdraw from creatures and repose with Jesus in the Tabernacle is my delight. There I can hide myself and seek rest. There I find a life which I cannot describe, a joy which I cannot make others comprehend, a peace such as is found only under the hospitable roof of our best Friend.'

'Jesus in the Tabernacle protects me against all my enemies: against the evil spirits, the world, my own wicked passions and evil inclinations. He is my support in weakness, my comfort in suffering, my weapon in combat, my refreshment in heat, food for my hungry soul, my stimulus when I am exhausted. He is my heaven on earth. Jesus in the Tabernacle is my riches in poverty, my defense in calumny, my crown in misfortune. Jesus in the Tabernacle is my God and my All!'

Jesus willingly awaits your visit, day after day, here in our church. Will you take some time out of your week to come and visit with Him?

May God bless you!

Fr. Tom

*He is Risen!
Alleluia!*



The Week Ahead...

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1-4/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Saturday, May 4

4:00 p.m. Greg Miller (Mike & Joan Boog)

Sunday, May 5

8:00 a.m. Jerry & Maribeth Fritz—61st Wedding Anniversary
 11:30 a.m. Michelle Walsh (Susan Meyers)
 1:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass
 3:00 p.m. Marian Concert (CH)

Monday, May 6—Easter Weekday

Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Jn 15:26—16:4

11:00 a.m. Confessions
 12:10 p.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish

Tuesday, May 7—Easter Weekday

Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-3, 7-8/Jn 16:5-11

7:30 a.m. Communion Service

Wednesday, May 8—Easter Weekday

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/Jn 16:12-15

12:10 p.m. Sr. Donna
 6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour (BC)

Thursday, May 9—Easter Weekday

Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 16:16-20

8:00 a.m. Diane Carlson

**Friday, May 10—St. John of Avila, Priest & Doctor;
St. Damien de Veuster, Priest**

Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-7/Jn 16:20-23

7:30 a.m. Sr. Phyllis

Saturday, May 11—Easter Weekday

Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10/Jn 16:23-28

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

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mk 16:15-20

Saturday, May 11

4:00 p.m. Fr. John Ardis—34th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination

Sunday, May 12

8:00 a.m. Ed Mileski (K of C Council 944)
 11:30 a.m. Bertha Meier
 1:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass

GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS—WEEK OF MAY 5

GENERAL CLEANING:

Maria Cardenas, Teresa Nuñez, Carolina Velasco

VACUUMING:

Shannon Andrews, Debra Sochor

Sunday, May 5

9-10:30 a.m. Food & Fellowship (AH)
 9:15 a.m. RCIA (PO)
 3:00 p.m. Marian Concert & social (CH & AH)
 4:30-6 p.m. Discovering Christ (AH)

Monday, May 6

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

Tuesday, May 7

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

Wednesday, May 8

11 a.m.-noon Parish Staff Meeting (PO)
 5:30-7p.m. Health Support Session (PO)
 6:30-8 p.m. TOPS (VR)
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (AH)

Thursday, May 9

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

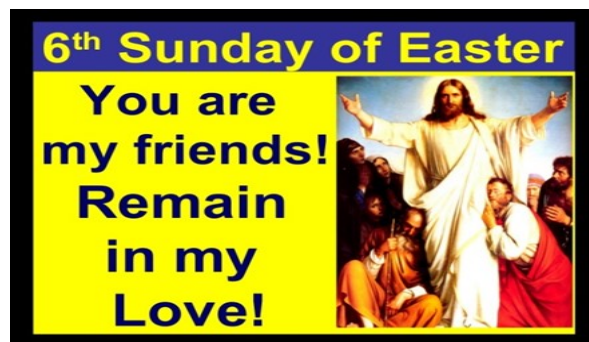
Friday, May 10

3:30-4:30 p.m. Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea (VR)
 Pick up flower orders from SSPP parking lot

Saturday, May 11

Sunday, May 12—Mother's Day

9-10:30 a.m. Mother's Day Breakfast (AH)
 9:15 a.m. RCIA (PO)



OUR PARISH OFFERING - April 27 & 28, 2024

Regular Offertory Collection	\$7,719.01
Electronic Giving	4,850.00
Total	\$12,569.01
-5% Tithe	-628.45
Net Total	\$11,940.56

Budgeted Weekly: \$9,519.23
Surplus for the Week: \$3,049.78

School Support Fund: \$100.00
 Cemetery: \$50.00
 Flowers: \$10.00
 Campaign for Human Development: \$10.00

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.



Sing of Mary

A tribute to our Blessed Virgin Mother through music and prayer

Sunday, May 5, 2024
SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church
3:00 p.m.

Light refreshments to follow

A free will offering will be accepted

May 11 & 12, The Ascension of the Lord

4:00 p.m. Lector: Pat Rinker
 Altar Servers: Autumn/Kendall/Kyle Cusack
 EMs: Garry & Mary Lou Mulick, Mary Perrien
 Greeters: Volunteers

11:30 a.m. Lector: Kevin Kenney
 Altar Servers: Kennedy & Madison Hyland
 EMs: Shannon Andrews, Monica Mabe, Barb Mulnix
 Greeters: Theresa Scholtens

8:00 a.m. Lector: Steve O'Mara
 Altar Servers: Alexis & Kendra Heinlein
 EMs: Julie Bennett, Kevin Heinlein, Laurie Tjalsma
 Greeters: Denise Peabody

Please pray for:

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

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		



Knights' Corner

This Tuesday, May 7th, is our monthly meeting. One of the items on our agenda is to choose a Slate of Officers for the coming year. In order to function as a council, we need men who are willing to take on various officer roles, and we are very grateful to those who say "Yes." This is just one of the ways that little choices we make help to make the world go round! Join us in the Veritas Room at 7:00 p.m. for the Rosary, followed by the business meeting at 7:30.

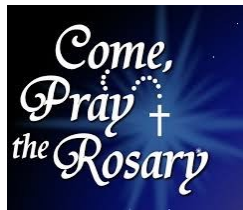
Youth Group Night

Our last Youth Group Night of the current school year will be on Sunday, May 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Cornerstone Room. It will be a special night for our seniors as we wish them the best as they graduate from high school. As always, students in grades 8 through 12 are welcome. Bring a friend!

--Kevin Heinlein

May is the Month of Mary

We celebrate Mary as the mother of Christ — of Life that overflows and saturates and renews the whole world — and we celebrate Mary as our own Blessed Mother — the mother of every single one of us who envelops us in her dynamic love and fervent protection. In May, we let ourselves become overcome with admiration for our Mother so that we might begin to imitate her. We imitate her so that we might love God more fully, more recklessly, more courageously. We strive to be passionate lovers of God so we might attain excellence in our love for each other. We strive for excellence in love because this world needs it ... and desperately. Our month of Marian devotion is our school of love and justice. We need only sit at our Mother's feet and learn.



We invite you to join us as we pray the Rosary together, beginning 30 minutes before the start of the 4 p.m., 8 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. weekend Masses in May. **Volunteers are needed to lead the Rosary.** If you would like to volunteer, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the back of church or call Yolanda Preston at 616-560-3945.

A Flower Shower for Mary at Masses on Mother's Day Weekend

On Mother's Day we honor all mothers, including the Blessed Virgin Mary. You are invited to bring an offering of flowers to Mass in honor of our Blessed Mother on the weekend of May 11 & 12. Before Mass begins, you may present the flowers at Mary's altar. If you'd like and are able, bring extra flowers to share! Let us shower all mothers with love and thanksgiving on their special day.

Panther Prayer Corner

Please pray for our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. May God shower them with His blessings so they may continue to be a blessing to their students and all whose lives they touch.



We have reached 84 pledges for \$32,796.75 towards our \$73,553 assessment. While the work of the diocese happens mostly behind the scenes, it is critical throughout the 11 counties that are served. Many Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy are done every day with our support. To all who have responded so far — thank you!

Monday Night Study Group 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Living Room

What Does It Mean to be Chosen? An Interactive Bible Study

We have begun our new Scripture study adventure with "The Chosen" TV series. Our weekly study parallels each episode and connects participants to the Bible in an engaging way. All are welcome to join in! To reserve your study materials (\$12) contact Toni at the parish office.

What does it mean to be chosen by Jesus? We are loved because He's love. We are saved, because He's merciful. We belong to the family of God because Jesus invites us.



The Saints Peter and Paul Parish family would like to recognize and celebrate our 2024 high school graduates on Sunday, May 19, at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. All 12th grade students registered with our parish have been mailed a special invitation. Included in this invitation is a request for a photo of the graduate that we can include in our special graduation section of the bulletin on that weekend. Please send photos, along with your RSVP form, to the parish office by Thursday, May 16th. We would also like to include our college graduates' information and photos. If you know of someone from our community who has or will be graduating from college this spring (or last fall), please contact Toni McKay at the parish office as soon as possible.

Faith Formation

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

May 4—1st Communion Retreat for 2nd group
11 a.m.—12 noon in the Veritas Room

June 1—1st Communion for 2nd group
at 4 p.m. Mass

We had a fun last class of the year on April 28, playing games and Bible Trivia. Regular classes will start up again in mid-September. For information about registering or becoming a classroom helper, please contact Vanessa: vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or call the parish office at 616-527-3610.

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 2 sessions will be on May 4 and May 18.

Health Support Group (formerly known as Cancer 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, 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 first session under the new name will be on Wednesday, May 8th, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Parish Office living room. All are welcome to attend.

For more information about any of these Ministry of Consolation opportunities, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or call the parish office at 616-527-3610.

SS. Peter & Paul Annual Garage Sale

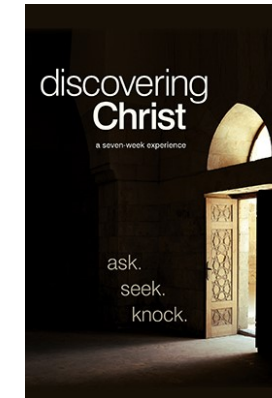
Friday & Saturday, July 26 & 27

Consider donating your gently used items!



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

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



Our final training for **DISCOVERING CHRIST** volunteers is this Sunday, May 5, at 4:30 p.m. in Apostles Hall. It's not too late for you to "come and see"! Please join us as we explore the various opportunities available as small group facilitator, small group helper, greeter, hospitality/dinner crew intercessory prayer, evangelization/marketing, registration, and technology support. We hope to see you there!

DISCOVERING CHRIST program sessions will begin in the fall on Sunday, September 22, 2024, and will continue every Sunday through November 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Apostles Hall. The October 27 session will be in the form of a retreat, scheduled from 2 to 6 p.m. at St. Edward Parish, Lake Odessa.

Unlocking the Miracle of Pentecost in Your Life

-a workshop to discover how to live in the Divine Flow of God's amazing grace

Workshop Leader:

Brian Plachta, JD, MPC, author, counselor, & spiritual mentor

Location:

St. Mary's Parish, 404 N. Division St., Carson City

Date & Time:

Sunday, May 19, Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Register by:

Calling 989-584-6044 by May 15

PSIC Baby Bottle Drive

You are invited to participate in the Baby Bottle Drive sponsored by Pregnancy Services of Ionia County (PSIC). In the words of Matthew Haskins, Executive Director of PSIC:

"Our Baby Bottle Drive is a simple yet powerful way to engage your congregation in supporting women and families in need. **Here's how it works:**

Bottle Distribution: We will deliver empty baby bottles to your church on **Mother's Day**.

Collection: Congregation members take a bottle home and fill it with coins (or bills and checks) over the course of the drive.

Bottle Pickup: We will arrange to pick up the filled bottles from your church on **Father's Day**.

The funds collected will directly support the essential services we provide at PSIC to women and families, helping to meet their immediate needs and introduce them to the transformative love of Christ."