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Website: www.saintspeterandpaulionia.org
 Email: parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com

April 20, 2025
Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

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.
 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.

Dawn was approaching. It was a sad morning, filled with weeping. But then it changed. Radically, for He is alive! HE IS ALIVE! He has risen from the dead and He is alive!! Jesus, our Savior, our Lord, is ALIVE! Even his disciples still couldn't believe it. Peter and John left the empty tomb still wondering what had really happened. It wouldn't be until later, when Jesus appeared to them and took some food to eat, that they really believed He was alive. The disciples on the road to Emmaus also didn't believe it even as they walked and talked with him. It wasn't until later, as Jesus broke the bread with them, that they were filled with wonder and belief. They rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the rest.

Even today we have people who wonder if He is really alive. Yes, some of us believe. Others aren't sure that He is, and still others say, no way! But yes, He lives. Just as He promised. Life has overcome death. This changes everything. The Resurrection of our Lord changes everything. It is the key to understanding life. His life as well as our own life. It is the foundation of our faith. St. Paul preached that without this victory over death, our faith would be useless and vain. But it isn't. It gave Peter and the other disciples a new hope that brought them out of their hiding spots into the world, where they fearlessly proclaimed the new life in Jesus Christ. It changed the world. The same is true for us. Our future resurrection is secured upon the Resurrection of Jesus. We, who were dead because of sin, have received from God, full of mercy and the infinite compassion with which He loves, a rising from death to live with and in Jesus. Easter is the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection and our resurrection. It is the celebration of our thanksgiving and our joy.

Even though Jesus has returned to heaven to his Father, He has been seen by many people down through the ages. He appeared to Mary Magdalene and sent her to tell his disciples He was alive. He appeared to his mother. He appeared to his two disciples on the road to Emmaus. He appeared to Peter and the other ten disciples in the upper room and charged them with spreading the Good News of his life and teaching. They did this, for they saw the marks of the nails and lance. They saw him eat. They listened to his conversation. HE LIVES! He tells us that we have the opportunity to live with him forever.

He is risen. He has triumphed over death. He has overcome sorrow, anguish, and the powers of darkness. In him, we find everything. Outside of him, there is nothing.

May we never die because of our sins. May our resurrection be eternal. It will, if we live with and for him. Tell others. Tell everyone.

HE IS ALIVE!! AMEN! ALLELUIA!

Fr. Tom

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



The Week Ahead...

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

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Acts 10:34, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9 Saturday, April 19 9:00 p.m. The Easter Vigil (other readings)

Sunday, April 20 8:00 a.m. All who are ill or homebound 11:30 a.m. All who were baptized or confirmed this past year 1:00 p.m. Misa en español

Monday, April 21—Monday within the Octave of Easter Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/Mt 28:8-15 11:00 a.m. Confessions 12:10 p.m. Pamela Pontius (Tom & Julie Bennett)

Tuesday, April 22—Tuesday within the Octave of Easter Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/Jn 20:11-18 No Mass or Service

Wednesday, April 23—Wednesday within the Octave of Easter Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-4, 6-9/Lk 24:13-35 12:10 p.m. Bill Bushong (Bennett & Cope families) 6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour (CH)

Thursday, April 24—Thursday within the Octave of Easter Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5-9/Lk 24:35-48 8:00 a.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish

Friday, April 25—Friday within the Octave of Easter Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27/Jn 21:1-14 No Mass or Service

Saturday, April 26—Saturday within the Octave of Easter Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-21/Mk 16:9-15 8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary 1:00 p.m. Baptism of Chloe & Clyde Valera-Benavidez 3:00 p.m. Confessions

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/Rv 1:9-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31

Saturday, April 26 4:00 p.m. Katie Fox (Christine Bewell)

Sunday, April 27 8:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Thome (Mildred Brown) 11:30 a.m. Dilly K. Perpich (Philip Thelen) 1:00 p.m. Misa en español

GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS—WEEK OF APRIL 20

Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan VACUUMING: Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan

Sunday, April 20—Easter Sunday No OCIA or OCIA Inquiry No Faith Formation classes

Monday, April 21 No School—Easter Monday

Tuesday, April 22 Wednesday, April 23 6-7:30 p.m. TOPS (VR) 7:15 p.m. SSPP Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thursday, April 24 3:45 p.m. Life Fit (VR) 7:00 p.m. Rooted in Christ parish meeting (AH)

Friday, April 25 Saturday, April 26 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (parish grounds) 11:00 a.m. Marriage Prep. Session (PO)

Sunday, April 27—2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) 9:15 a.m. OCIA (PO) 10:15 a.m. OCIA Inquiry (PO) 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation—Last class 2:00 p.m. Hispanic 1st Communion Prep. (VR) 5-7 p.m. Sharing Christ (AH) 6-8 p.m. Youth Group Night (CR)



OUR PARISH OFFERING: April 12 & 13, 2025

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Regular Offertory Collection (\$5,494.88), Electronic Giving (3,785.00), Total (\$9,279.88), -5% Tithe (-463.99), Net Total (\$8,815.89)

Budgeted Weekly: \$9,807.69 Deficit for the Week: \$527.81

School Support Fund: \$405.78

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.

Easter Triduum Schedule at SS. Peter & Paul

Holy Thursday, April 17 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (bilingual) Silent Adoration follows until 11 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18 11:30 a.m. Stations of the Cross (English) 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy (English) 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy (Spanish)

Holy Saturday, April 19 (No Rosary, Confessions, or 4:00 p.m. Mass) 9:00 p.m. The Easter Vigil (bilingual)

Easter Sunday, April 20 8:00 a.m. Mass in English 11:30 a.m. Mass in English 1:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

April 17, Holy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Lectors: Sue Wizorek, Teresa Nuñez Altar Servers: Lillian Mabe, Juan Duran EMs: Garry & Mary Lou Mulick, Feliciano Paredes Greeters: Theresa Scholtens, Mona Martinez

April 18, Good Friday 12:00 p.m. Lector: Toni McKay Passion Reader: Pete Fox Altar Servers: Lillian Mabe EMs: 1 for Choir—Theresa Scholtens Greeters: Mary Lou Mulick

April 19, Holy Saturday, The Easter Vigil 9:00 p.m. Lectors: Pat Rinker, Jose Guevara, Shannon Andrews, Fernando Lluvias, Mary Lou Mulick Altar Servers: Lillian Mabe, Jaclyn Rewa, Gabby Lluvias

Please pray for:

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

Holy Week with Bishop Walkowiak at the Cathedral of St. Andrew

Palm Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m. Chrism Mass, April 15, 7 p.m. (by ticket only) Holy Thursday, April 17, 7 p.m. Good Friday, April 18, 3 p.m. Easter Vigil, April 19, 9:15 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 20, 10 a.m.

All liturgies except the Easter Vigil will be live streamed on the diocesan website and YouTube. Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday will also be televised on Fox 17.

EMs: Barb Mulnix, Sue Wizorek, Feliciano Paredes Greeters: Theresa Scholtens, Antonio Martinez

April 20, Easter Sunday 8:00 a.m. Lector: Jamie Meyer Altar Servers: Kaylynn/Kenna/Kinleigh Wizorek EMs: Kevin Heinlein, Veronica Meyer, Laurie Tjalsma Greeters: Deb Porter 11:30 a.m. Lector: Monica Mabe Altar Servers: Charlotte & Lillian Mabe EMs: Vanessa Booth & 2 volunteers Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

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

Happy Easter, everyone! I hope that you and your loved ones had a blessed Holy Week and that you will feel the wonder of God's love throughout this joyous Easter Season. This is the heart of our faith—without Jesus' death and resurrection, where would we be?

Also, don't forget that our Easter Egg Hunt will be held next Saturday, April 26th, at 10 a.m. on the parish grounds. Spread the word!

New Weekday Mass Schedules

Starting April 21, the day after Easter, weekday Mass schedules at SS. Peter & Paul and St. Edward's will be changed to the following:

**SS. Peter & Paul: Monday & Wednesday 12:10 pm
Thursday 8:00 am**

St. Edward's: Tuesday & Friday 9:00 am



If you have been saving money in a Rice Bowl this Lent, now is the time to turn it in! Please count your money and write a check for the amount to SS. Peter & Paul, with "Rice Bowl" on the memo line. You can place your check in the basket near Mary's Altar or return it to the parish office. The funds will be sent to Catholic Relief Services and used to feed people both locally and around the world. Thank you for supporting this important work!

**CSA 2025 – Strengthened In Christ,
Responding With Joy**

The Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) supports the many good works done by the Church in our diocese. Through the CSA, children are educated, kids in foster care find permanent homes, migrants are resettled, and countless other good works are performed. Your support makes this happen!

Our parish assessment for this year is \$78,253. We sent in our third batch of 18 pledges this week for \$8,720, bringing our total for the year to \$29,600. Thank you to all those who have responded already! If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, 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. While the idea of responding with joy to a request for money may seem unrealistic, giving generously to a good cause is a proven way of finding a sense of joy in our lives. Make your pledge today!

Panther Prayer Corner

Please pray that everyone may experience the joy and hope that the Easter season brings! May we gather in Jesus' light and be vessels of His love for others.

Youth Group Night

Our next Youth Group Night is scheduled for Sunday evening, April 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Cornerstone Room. Students in Grades 8-12 are welcome. Bring a friend! —Kevin Heinlein

Rooted in Christ Pastoral Plan

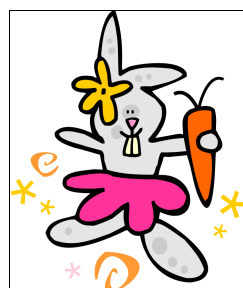
The Diocesan planning process, Rooted in Christ, is continuing to move forward and develop. Parishes are being asked to provide some feedback on the proposed plan as it now stands. Our parish will be holding a meeting on Thursday, April 24th, at 7:00 p.m. in Apostles Hall to do this, and all interested parishioners are welcome to attend. Our parish representatives, Ray Voet and Laurie Tjalsma, will share the details of the plan for our deanery and our parish. There will be time for small group discussions, and we will gather feedback to relay to the diocese. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

Ladies Social Hour Event

Welcome, SS. Peter & Paul Ladies, to our first social hour event on May 5th at 4:00 p.m. in the Veritas Room. We will be making macramé Rosaries. All necessary supplies will be provided, including beverages and finger foods. Come, bring a friend, and have some fun. For more information, please call Kip Geldhof at 517-983-8241.

**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 are on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. (except Easter Sunday) in the parish office living room. Contact Toni McKay at the parish office for more information and to register.



Our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on the parish grounds on Saturday, **April 26th**, at 10:00 a.m. (Note the new date.)



Faith Formation

Classes are held on Sunday mornings in the school from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. for Kindergarten through high school. It's never too late to register. Join us today! For more information about Faith Formation, please contact Vanessa Booth at 616-527-3610 or vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

- April 20 No Faith Formation Classes—Easter
- April 27 Faith Formation—Last Class!
- May 2 First Eucharist Retreat Day
7:40 a.m.—2:30 p.m. in the school
- May 3 First Communion at 4:00 p.m. Mass

Vacation Bible School—Dates to be announced.

For our First Eucharist Retreat Day on May 2, we need parent/grandparent/Godparent volunteers to help our day be successful! Please contact Vanessa Booth if you're able to help with our special day.

Grief Support Group

Have you suffered the loss of a loved one or experienced a loss in your professional or personal life? We would like to walk this journey with you. We are on a short pause, but we will begin a new support group series in late May. If you need to talk before the next group session, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of our team members. For more information, please contact Vanessa at 616-527-3610, or at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

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 reaching out to invite anyone who is facing a serious health challenge. Team members of the Ministry of Consolation are offering Health Support gatherings. Our next session is on Saturday, May 10, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the parish office living room. For more information, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or 616-527-3610.

SSPP Auction – Tickets now available!

The Saints Peter and Paul Auction will be held on Saturday, May 10, at the Ionia Armory. The theme is *Casino Royale*. Tickets are \$30 per person and include dinner and drinks. Tickets can be purchased at the school and parish offices, Wilson Heating and Cooling, or from any auction committee member. We'd love to see you there!

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is a beautiful prayer form that invokes God's mercy on ourselves and others. It is prayed using traditional rosary beads in the following manner:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the Our Father beads, say the following: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
3. On the 10 Hail Mary beads, say the following: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
(Repeat steps 2 & 3 for all five decades.)
4. Conclude with (three times): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy can be prayed anytime, but it is especially recommended during the Novena in preparation for the Feast of the Divine Mercy, which runs from Good Friday through the Feast of the Divine Mercy (April 18-25, 2025).

Jesus, I trust in you!

**Join us for a pilgrimage
to the Solanus Casey Center**

Searching for peace? On May 14, join Catholic Charities West Michigan as we embark on a pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. Inspired by the life and example of Blessed Solanus Casey, the center serves as a place of pilgrimage, healing, reconciliation, and peace, a perfect opportunity to draw closer to God in this Jubilee Year.

Participate in Mass, tour the center, and more. Tickets are \$70, which includes your bus ride to and from the center, along with lunch. For more information or to register, visit ccwestmi.org/jubilee-year. Questions? Please reach out to Sarah Stechschulte at sstechschulte@ccwestmi.org.

Thank you!

I wish to thank all of the parishioners who were at the 11:30 Mass on Palm Sunday who cared for Jim after he had fallen down in front of church. Your help was, and is, greatly appreciated. God bless you all!

—Barb Mulnix