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Father Fierle Council #944 Meetings on the first Tuesday of each

month in the Veritas Room Rosary at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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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

October 5, 2025 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Canonical Administrator:

Fr. Eugene Batungbacal, C.Ss.R. 616-527-3610, ext. 12

Email: freugene@ssppcatholic.com

School Principal: Mrs. Jenny Leik 616-527-3561, ext. 18

Email: ileik@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: 10:00 a.m.; 12 noon in Spanish

Weekday Mass Schedule

Wednesday: 12:10 p.m.; 7 p.m. in Spanish

Thursday: 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation Schedule

Wednesday 11 a.m.-12 noon Saturday 3:00-3:45 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.



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

October 5, 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Fear, sadness, uncertainty—these are just a few of the many emotions that a woman with an unplanned pregnancy or someone recently diagnosed with a terminal illness may feel. In these moments, we as the Body of Christ are called to be beacons of hope to these individuals. Through our conversations, advocacy efforts, and acts of service, we bear witness to God's love and inspire hope for those whose hearts are burdened.

As we celebrate Respect Life Month, I want to share some of the ways the Church brings hope to those facing life's most difficult challenges:

- Catholic Charities West Michigan served more than 7,600 families last year through its St. Gianna's No Cost Baby Boutiques.
- More than 40 Catholic parishes across the diocese provide diapers, wipes, and other essential supplies through the Walking with Moms in Need initiative.
- The Church's Project Rachel Ministry offers support and Rachel's Vineyard Retreats to help women and men find healing after abortion.
- The Michigan Catholic Conference advocates for laws that protect the dignity of human life from conception to natural death and assists in organizing the State March for Life.

Christian hope is never meant just for us; it is a light we must share with others. I encourage you to volunteer at a St. Gianna's boutique or in your local parish, bring a meal or offer support to someone facing health challenges, or join me at the State March for Life on November 6 in Lansing. Through these acts, we proclaim the goodness, value, and dignity of every person, especially those whose lives society too often disregards.

During this Respect Life Month, let us reflect more deeply on the sacredness of every human life. Please visit the diocesan website (grdiocese.org) for resources to guide your prayer, study and action. May Christ transform our hearts to protect and cherish all who are most vulnerable. Saint Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us!

Sincerely yours in Christ

+ Daird I. Walkoniek

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak Bishop of Grand Rapids

****************** Vea la carta del Obispo en español en la contraportada interior del boletín.

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL



Together is where we belong!

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10 Saturday, October 4

4:00 p.m. Jack Wirtz (Jo Wirtz & family)

Sunday, October 5

10:00 a.m. Leon & Lorena Kuhtz (Tom & Carol O'Connor) 12:00 p.m. Misa en español (for the people of the parish)

Monday, October 6—St. Bruno, Priest: Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin

Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/(Ps) Jon 2:2-5, 8/Lk 10:25-37 No Mass

Tuesday, October 7—Our Lady of the Rosary

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1-4, 7-8/Lk 10:38-42 7:00 p.m. Pray Rosary in church with K of C

Wednesday, October 8-Weekday

Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4

11:00 a.m. Confessions

12:10 p.m. Patricia Kile (Adam & Jody Rewa)

6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour

7:00 p.m. Misa en español

Thursday, October 9—St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs: St. John Leonardi, Priest

Mal 3:13-20/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 11:5-13

8:00 a.m. Mike Nelson (Denise Peabody)

Friday, October 10—Weekday

JI 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9, 16/Lk 11:15-26 No Mass

Saturday, October 11—St. John XXIII, Pope

JI 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2. 5-6. 11-12/Lk 11:27-28

8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary

1:00 p.m. Baptisms of Erick Lizardi-Vargas & Khalil Corona

3:00 p.m. Confessions

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1-4/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

Saturday, October 11

4:00 p.m. Intention of Juan Mendez-Bernabe & family

Sunday, October 12

10:00 a.m. Bruce Hoeksema (Gary & Janice Ferguson)

12:00 p.m. Misa en español (for the people of the parish)

GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS-WEEK OF OCT. 5

GENERAL CLEANING:

Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan

VACUUMING:

Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan

OCTOBER 5, 2025



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

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

Sunday, October 5—27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30-9:30 a.m. OCIA (PO)

9:00-9:55 a.m. Faith Formation classes PreK-12 CROP Walk begins (Zion Church) 1:30 p.m. 5-7 p.m. Discovering Christ begins (AH)

Monday, October 6

Blessing of Pets (School grounds) 2:00 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study (VR) 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday. October 7—Our Lady of the Rosary

K of C Rosary (CH), Mtg. 7:30 (VR) 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 8

Ladies' Social Group (VR) 4-6 p.m. "Pumpkin Craft" —see article

7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (VR)

Thursday, October 9

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

5:30-8:30 p.m. ICA Board Meeting (AH)

Friday, October 10

Saturday, October 11

Sunday, October 12—28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30-9:30 a.m. OCIA (PO)

Faith Formation classes PreK-Gr.8 9-9:55 a.m.

4:30-6 p.m. Fall Confirmation

Candidate/Sponsor Session (VR)

Discovering Christ (AH) 5-7 p.m.

OUR PARISH OFFERING: September 27 & 28, 2025

Regular Offertory Collection \$7.981.88 Electronic Giving 4.620.00 \$12.601.88 Total -5% Tithe <u>-63</u>0.09 \$11,971.79 Net Total

Budgeted Weekly: \$10,096.15 Surplus for the Week: \$2,505.73 Budgeted YTD: \$141,346.10

School Support Fund: \$45.00 Cemetery: \$20.00 Propagation of Faith: \$65.00 Campaign for Human Development \$20.00 Retirement Fund for Religious: \$20.00 \$20.00 Food Baskets:

Surplus YTD: \$3,934.30

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.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Miedo, tristeza, incertidumbre - Estas son solo algunas de las muchas emociones que puede experimentar una mujer con un embarazo no planeado o una persona que ha recibido recientemente el diagnóstico de una enfermedad terminal. En esos momentos, nosotros, como Cuerpo de Cristo, estamos llamados a ser faros de esperanza. A través de nuestras conversaciones, esfuerzos de defensa y actos de servicio, damos testimonio del amor de Dios e inspiramos esperanza en quienes tienen el corazón agobiado.

Al celebrar el Mes del Respeto a la Vida, quiero compartir algunas de las formas en que la Iglesia lleva esperanza a quienes enfrentan los desafíos más difíciles de la vida:

- Catholic Charities West Michigan atendió a más de 7,600 familias el año pasado a través de sus boutiques de St. Gianna para bebés sin costo alguno.
- Más de 40 parroquias católicas de la diócesis proveen pañales, toallitas y otros suministros esenciales mediante la iniciativa Walking with Moms in Need (Caminando con madres necesitadas).
- El Ministerio del Proyecto Raquel ofrece acompañamiento y organiza retiros en Rachel's Vineyard para ayudar a mujeres y hombres a encontrar sanación después de un aborto.

• La Conferencia Católica de Michigan aboga por leyes que protejan la dignidad de la vida humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural y colabora en la organización de la Marcha Estatal

La esperanza cristiana nunca es solo para nosotros; es una luz que debemos compartir con los demás. Les animo a ofrecerse como voluntarios en la boutique de St. Gianna o en su parroquia local, a llevar comida o brindar apoyo a alguien que enfrenta problemas de salud, o únanse a mí a la Marcha Estatal por la Vida el 6 de noviembre en Lansing. Con cada uno de estos gestos proclamamos la bondad, el valor y la dignidad de toda persona, especialmente de aquellas cuyas vidas la sociedad suele descuidar con demasiada frecuencia.

Durante este Mes del Respeto a la Vida, detengámonos a reflexionar más profundamente sobre lo sagrado de cada vida humana. Visite el sitio web de la diócesis (grdiocese.org), donde encontrará recursos que le acompañarán en la oración, el estudio y la acción. Que Cristo transforme nuestros corazones para proteger y valorar a todos aquellos que son más vulnerables. San Maximiliano Kolbe, ruega por nosotros! + Daird J. Walkoniek

Lector: Bill Trueblood

Altar Servers: Charlotte & Lillian Mabe EMs: Julie Bennett, Monica Mabe, Phill & Sue Wizorek Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

10:00 a.m.. Lector: Shannon Andrews

Altar Servers: Shyla & Stephen Johnson EMs: Kevin Heinlein, Veronica Meyer, Cheryl & John Hildebrandt Greeters: Judy Hamblin

October 4 & 5, Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time October 11 & 12, Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lector: Sue Wizorek 4:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Charlotte & Lillian Mabe EMs: Julie Bennett, Cecilia Luke, Mary Perrien, Phill Wizorek, Greeters: Volunteers

10:00 a.m. Lector: Kevin Kenney

Altar Servers: Alexis/Hans/Kendra Heinlein EMs: Shannon Andrews, Barb Mulnix, Theresa Scholtens, Laurie Tjalsma

Greeters: Dave O'Mara

Please pray for:

| Linda Melcher | Diana Kujala | Beth Buffey |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Traccie Lower | Mark Dawson | Michelle Richard-Mix |
| Jack & Sue LaPeer | Tony Burns | Jennifer Lewis |
| Sharon Baer | Lois Walker | Mary O'Connor |
| Jackie Franz | Ed Blyth | Kym Coryell |
| Yolanda(Lewis)Hardison | Doug Zeeck | Terri Nurenberg |
| Kirsten Mork | Randy Tripp | Jessica Fritz |
| Sue & Joe Kleiss | Mike Peckins | Travis Eveleth |
| Kathy Kranz | Glen Alvord | Larry Lafler |
| Theresa Hess | Heather Rensi | Arlene Stanton |
| Mike & Carol Gallagher | Cherie Flinn | Pat MacLachlan |
| Mike Priest | Anita Hozeski Scott | Jim & Barb Mulnix |
| Lisa Pringle | Karen Miller | Ken and Sherry North |
| Lesley Williams | Russinda Rohde | Nathan Lower |
| Connie Waterman | Landon Battle | Finnly Hunt |
| Dorr Bissell | Marsha Packer | Jerry & Maribeth Fritz |
| Jim Zook | Angie Cedillo | Tom White |
| Martha Brooks | Jo Wirtz | Pamela Coggan |
| Denise Ward | Witney Fockler | Joe Drysdale |
| Shirley Weber | Amanda Eveleth | Nichole Munsell |
| Judy Dick | Martha Misak | Jace Peterson |
| Cindy Hardy | Jennifer Durden | 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 Cecilia Luke ext. 10 Secretary 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

SS. Peter and Paul School (616) 527-3561 www.ssppcatholic.com

616-527-3610

616-527-3610

Principal

Maintenance

Cemetery Sexton

Jenny Leik ext. 18 Secretaries Joann Johnson & Amie Heinlein ext. 23

SS. Peter & Paul Parish - Pastoral Council Shannon Andrews

Matt Lang

Aaren Perry

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

Allen Wizorek (Chair), Samantha Crawford (Vice-Chair) Cara Brownell (Secretary), Kara Dipzinski, Nik Discher, Diane Grummet, Kevin Heinlein, Sharon VanEtt, Rachel Wilson



Knights' Corner

The "Come Fly with the Knights" event last weekend was amazing! The weather was great and plans for an even better and larger event next year are being discussed.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church for Knights to sign up for the upcoming MI Drive (Tootsie Roll sale). The Drive will be held next weekend, October 11 and 12, so please help out where you can.

Before our meeting on Tuesday, we will be praying the rosary in church to honor Our Lady of the Rosary. This will begin at 7:00 p.m. All parishioners are welcome to attend and take part. Our regularly scheduled council meeting will be held afterward in the Veritas Room.

Brother Knights, please remember to check both email and text messages for council communications. We want to keep you informed and involved.

Also, please keep in mind that we will be helping with set up and clean up for the Harvest Dinner potluck on Sunday, October 19.

Vivat Jesus! Ron Speckin, Grand Knight 616-755-2175

My dear Saints Peter & Paul family,

Change is not always easy, but with a heart and mind oriented toward God, it's easier. I have been greatly blessed to be on staff here at SSPP for more than 28 years. After much prayerful discernment, I believe God is leading me to begin a new missionary adventure, so I will be ending my employment here on Sunday, October 5.

I simply wanted to take this bit of space in our bulletin to say THANK YOU to the many people I have met, worked with, and served during this time, and to our Pastors during these years: Fr. Charlie Hall, Fr. Mel Fox, Fr. Tom Boufford, Fr. Luis Garcia, Fr. Tom Brown, Fr. Oscar Londoño, and Fr. Eugene Batungbacal. I've met people with whom I've simply crossed paths, and others with whom I've grown in close relationship. I am grateful for each of you. My life is better for having met you. To those of our faith community I haven't yet met, I hope to do so!

We have celebrated and laughed, worked and played, mourned and cried, learned and grown, and sung and worshiped together over these many years. God has blessed me so richly, and I pray that I have served God and all of you well through His gift of ministry work.

I will continue to be around – as a "regular" parishioner! You'll continue to see me at Mass, at our Monday Night Study Group, at the ChristLife program events – and wherever else the Holy Spirit leads me! Life is an adventure! As you walk about your own mission territory, allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide – in your own conversion and transformation to be more Christ-like, and in your bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to every person you meet!

May God bless you all! Peace! —Toni McKay

Panther Prayer Corner

Please pray for our students. May they always seek Christ in one another and show kindness and respect in their words and actions.

Congratulations to Fr. Eugene, who celebrated his 15th Anniversary of priestly ordination on October 2!

Ionia Area CROP Hunger Walk

You can help make a difference in local AND global hunger by walking in our CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 5. Pat Rinker will be present at the 4 p.m. and 10 a.m. Masses this weekend accepting donations. Walkers will meet at Zion Church at 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cash or checks to support our efforts to feed the hungry are welcome. Make checks payable to CWS/CROP. Thank you for your prayerful support.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

We invite you to join us as we pray the Rosary together, beginning 30 minutes before the start of the 4 p.m. and 10 a.m. weekend Masses in October. **Volunteers are needed to lead the Rosary.** If you would like to volunteer, please call the parish office at 616-527-3610, or add your name to the sign-up form in the back of church.

Our 2025 Harvest Raffle Drawing for prizes totaling \$2,550 is on Sunday, October 19, at 2:00 p.m. in Apostles Hall. You can make your returns by mail, in the Sunday collection, or at the parish office, but please have them in the parish office by noon on the 19th so we have time to process them for the drawing. If you sell \$100 worth of tickets and we receive your returns in the parish office by Monday, October 13, at 4 p.m., your name will be entered in a special Early Bird drawing for \$250.

Harvest Dinner & Raffle Sunday, October 19 1:00 p.m. in Apostles Hall

Our Harvest Dinner this year will be a parish potluck on the day of the raffle, beginning after the 12:00 Mass.



The Knights of Columbus will provide the meat and drinks, but all salads, side dishes, rolls, and desserts will be welcome additions! The raffle drawing will be held at 2:00 p.m.

Come join us!

Faith Formation Program

Registration is available in the school on Sunday mornings for Seedlings (4 & 5 year olds) through High School. All regular classes are held in our school from **9:00—9:55 a.m.** For more information about Faith Formation, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or 616-527-3610.

We are super excited to announce that we have new teachers AND many returning teachers:

PreK (Seedlings) in Room 10: Jennifer Thomas Kdg. & 1st Grade in Room 109: Haley Barker 2nd Grade in Room 110: Amy Pung 3rd & 4th Grades in Room 102: Rana Johnson 5th & 6th Grades in Room 107: Diane Grummet 7th Grade in Room 104: Chris Brown

8th Grade in Room 100: Kylie Booth

9th Grade Confirmation in Veritas Room: V. Booth

<u>October</u>

- 5. Faith Formation Classes
- 12. Faith Formation Classes for PreK—8th grade
- 12. Fall Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Session 4:30—6 p.m.

Local moms and babies need our help!

We will be collecting donations for Pregnancy Services of Ionia County (PSIC) through October 5, Respect Life Sunday. The following items are most needed: Diapers- sizes Newborn, 4, 5, & 6

Baby wipes
Formula (all types)
Baby shampoo and soap
Baby food/snacks/pouches
Baby and kids' toothbrushes
Fall outfits for boys & girls

You may place your donations in the baby crib in the back of church. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting life!

Cena de Cosecha y Rifa Domingo, 19 de octubre 1:00 p.m. en el Salón de los Apóstoles

Nuestra Cena de Cosecha este año será una comida compartida parroquial el día de la rifa, comenzando después de la Misa de las 12:00.



Los Caballeros de Colón proporcionarán la carne y las bebidas, ipero todas las ensaladas, guarniciones, panes y postres serán bienvenidos!

El sorteo de la rifa se realizará a las 2:00 p.m.

¡Ven y únete a nosotros!

Ladies Social Group Event: Pumpkin Craft with Joyce Essich

Wednesday, October 8, 4-6 p.m., Veritas Room Please bring:

- —old t-shirts (plain, any color; no graphics or writing on the fabric to be cut; designs & patterns are fine)
- —Poly-fil (fiberfil) or pillow stuffing (if you have it) to share
- —your favorite PUMPKIN treat for all to sample
 —a beverage of your choice (bottled water provided)
 Come & enjoy an afternoon of conversation, crafting, and pumpkin confections. Questions: Call Kip Geldhof at 517-983-8241.

From October 1-31, 2025, shoppers at www.tiny saints.com will have the opportunity to select "Saints Peter and Paul School" from a dropdown menu during checkout to support our school. Please let your family and friends know about this. With more than 250 saint charms and keychains at just \$6.99 each, Tiny Saints offers simple, affordable gifts and collectibles that are guaranteed to bring a smile. What a great way to prepare for All Saints Day! —Jenny Leik

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Faith is one of those things we just can't get enough of! In today's Gospel the apostles asked Jesus to "Increase our faith." It is faith in ourselves, our spouse, our children, and our parents which equips us to overlook annoyances, helps us to forgive, and urges us to ask forgiveness. "Lord, increase our faith!"

Nuestro Sorteo de la Cosecha 2025 con premios que suman \$2,550 se llevará a cabo el domingo 19 de octubre a las 2:00 p.m. en el Salón de los Apóstoles. Puede entregar sus boletas por correo, en la colecta del domingo o en la oficina parroquial, pero por favor asegúrese de entregarlas en la oficina parroquial antes del mediodía del día 19 para que tengamos tiempo de procesarlas para el sorteo. Si vende boletos por un valor de \$100 y recibimos sus boletas en la oficina parroquial antes del lunes 13 de octubre a las 4 p.m., su nombre será ingresado en un sorteo especial de Avance por \$250.



Come rest awhile in the Lord's presence.

Wednesdays 6-7 p.m. in the Church