

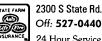


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# SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

434 High Street, Ionia, MI 48846 Phone: 616-527-3610 Website: www.saintspeterandpaulionia.org

Email: parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com

# November 23, 2025 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

### Canonical Administrator:

Fr. Eugene Batungbacal

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.

#### Prayer Chain

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

#### Christ the Kina!

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical Quas primas ("In the first") to respond to growing secularism and atheism. He recognized that attempting to "thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law" out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go. Christ reigns as King forever. His sovereignty transcends the limitations of our mortal existence, and His reign embodies a power that surpasses all earthly kingdoms. In celebrating Christ, we acknowledge a rule defined not merely by authority, but also by love, grace, and eternal life—qualities that ensure His legacy will endure forever, far beyond the fleeting nature of human monarchs.

As a King, he has demonstrated to us great humility. Though He was in the form of God, He did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at. He emptied himself and took the form of a slave. If Jesus Christ, then, who is King, Lord, and God, took the form of a slave, then we do not have any ground to act so mighty and grand in His presence. We are not God. We are not royalty by any worldly means, but only by the grace of Baptism. Because of Christ's offering, we have become adopted sons and daughters of the King.

#### ¡Cristo Rev!

El Papa Pío XI instituyó esta fiesta en 1925 con su encíclica Quas primas ("En el primero") para responder al creciente secularismo y ateísmo. Reconoció que intentar "excluir a Jesucristo y su santa ley" de la vida pública resultaría en una continua discordia entre los pueblos y las naciones. Esta solemnidad nos recuerda que, si bien los gobiernos van y vienen, Cristo reina como Rey para siempre. Su soberanía trasciende las limitaciones de nuestra existencia mortal, y su reinado encarna un poder que supera a todos los reinos terrenales. Al celebrar a Cristo, reconocemos un gobierno definido no solo por la autoridad, sino también por el amor, la gracia y la vida eterna: cualidades que aseguran que su legado perdurará para siempre, mucho más allá de la naturaleza efímera de los monarcas humanos.

Como Rev. nos ha demostrado una gran humildad. Aunque tenía la forma de Dios, no consideró la igualdad con Dios como algo a lo que aferrarse. Se humilló a sí mismo y tomó la forma de un siervo. Si Jesucristo, quien es Rey, Señor y Dios, tomó forma de siervo, entonces no tenemos derecho a actuar con tanta arrogancia en su presencia. No somos Dios. No somos de la realeza por ningún medio mundano, sino solo por la gracia del bautismo, que, gracias al sacrificio de Cristo, nos ha convertido en hijos adoptivos del Rey.

## SAINTS PETER AND PAUL



# See how they love

#### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-5/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

Saturday, November 22

4:00 p.m. Ed Bredice (Denny & Sharon Bledsoe)

#### Sunday, November 23

10:00 a.m. Living & deceased of Patrick & Carol Lewis families 12:00 p.m. Misa en español (for the people of the parish)

#### Monday, November 24—St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/(Ps) Dn 3:52-56/Lk 21:1-4 No Mass

#### Tuesday, November 25—St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

Dn 2:31-45/(Ps) Dn 3:57-61Lk 21:5-11 No Mass

#### Wednesday, November 26—Weekday

Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/(Ps) Dn 3:62-67/Lk 21:12-19

11:00 a.m. Confessions

12:10 p.m. Phil O'Mara (Teresa & Robert Krieger)

6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour 7:00 p.m. Misa en español

#### Thursday, November 27—Thanksgiving Day

Sir 50:22-24/Ps 138:1-5/1 Cor 1:3-9/Lk 17:11-19 9:00 a.m. Mike Nelson (Chris & Whitney Crooks)

#### Friday, November 28—Weekday

Dn 7:2-14/(Ps) Dn 3:75-81/Lk 21:29-33 No Mass

#### Saturday, November 29—Weekday

Dn 7:15-17/(Ps) Dn 3:82-87/Lk 21:34-36

8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary

3:00 p.m. Confessions

#### First Sunday of Advent

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

#### Saturday, November 29

4:00 p.m. Ron Wilson Sr. (Hemenway family)

#### Sunday, November 30

10:15 a.m. Robert O'Connor (Joan Nummer)

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

#### GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS-WEEK OF NOV. 23

#### **General Cleaning**

Kip Geldhof, Tom & Norma White

#### Vacuuming

Bruce Sibert, Joe Peckins

## NOVEMBER 23, 2025



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

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

#### Sunday, November 23—Christ the King

OCIA (PO) 8:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation classes 9:40 a.m. Children's Choir Practice (loft) 5-7 p.m. Discovering Christ (AH)

#### Monday, November 24

Full day of school

3-8 p.m. Parent-Teacher Conferences 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study (VR)

#### Tuesday, November 25

11:00 a.m. School dismissal

Teacher training in p.m.

#### Wednesday, November 26

No School

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (VR)

#### Thursday, November 27—Thanksgiving Day

School & Parish Office closed

#### Friday, November 28

School & Parish Office closed

#### Saturday, November 29

Sunday, November 30—First Sunday of Advent

No OCIA, Faith Formation, or

**Discovering Christ** Children's Choir Practice (loft)

9:40 a.m.



#### OUR PARISH OFFERING: November 15 & 16, 2025

Regular Offertory Collection \$5,176.25 Electronic Giving 3,155.00 Total \$8,331.25 -5% Tithe -416.56 **Net Total** \$7,914.69

Budgeted Weekly: \$10,096.15 Deficit for the Week: \$1,764.90

Budgeted YTD: \$212,019.15 **Deficit YTD: \$537.91** 

School Support Fund: \$96.00 Christmas Baskets \$420.00 Cemetery \$100.00 Campaign for Human Development \$2,439.00

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.

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

#### Special Liturgies at SS. Peter & Paul Church

#### **Thanksgiving**

Wed. Nov. 26 7 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

Thurs. Nov. 27 9 a.m. Mass

#### **Advent Penance Services**

Wed, Dec. 3 6-8 p.m.

9-11 a.m. for SSPP School Thurs, Dec. 4

#### **Immaculate Conception Holy Day**

Mon. Dec. 8 12:10 p.m. Mass 7 p.m. Mass (bilingual)

#### **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

6 a.m. Mañanitas (Spanish) Fri, Dec. 12 7 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

#### **Christmas Holy Day**

Wed, Dec. 24 4 p.m. Mass

10 p.m. Mass (bilingual)

Thurs, Dec. 25 10 a.m. Mass

#### Mary, Mother of God Holy Day

Wed, Dec. 31 5 p.m. Mass Thurs, Jan. 1 10 a.m. Mass

#### Special Liturgies at St. Edward's Church

#### **Thanksqiving**

Thurs, Nov. 27 9 a.m. Mass

#### **Advent Penance Service**

Thurs, Dec. 4 6-8 p.m.

#### **Immaculate Conception Holy Day**

Mon, Dec. 8 9 a.m. Mass & 6:30 p.m. Mass

#### **Christmas Holy Day**

Wed, Dec. 24 7:30 p.m. Mass Thurs, Dec. 25 10 a.m. Mass

#### Mary, Mother of God Holy Day

Wed. Dec. 31 7 p.m. Mass Thurs, Jan. 1 10 a.m. Mass \*

November 29 & 30, First Sunday of Advent

#### Other Seasonal Events (at SS. Peter & Paul)

**Lessons and Carols** Sun, Dec. 7, 2:30 p.m. in church Advent by Candlelight Tues, Dec. 9, 5 p.m. Adoration & Evening Prayer in church, Dinner at 6 p.m. in school

Dec. 15-23, 7 p.m. in school **Posadas** Sun, Jan. 4, 2:30 p.m. in church **Epiphany Concert** 

Lector: Bill Trueblood

Lector: Dan Lower

Mary Perrien

#### November 22 & 23, Christ the King

4:00 p.m. Lector: Pat Rinker

Altar Servers: Levi & Logan Haskin EMs: Julie Bennett, Phill & Sue Wizorek Greeters: Mary Lou Mulick

10:00 a.m.

Lector: Pete Fox Altar Servers: Alexis/Hans/Kendra Heinlein

EMs: Cheryl & John Hildebrandt,

Laurie Tjalsma

Greeters: Dave O'Mara

10:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Alexis/Hans/Kendra Heinlein EMs: Shannon Andrews, Kevin Heinlein,

Altar Servers: Charlotte & Lillian Mabe

EMs: Monica Mabe, Mary Lou Mulick,

Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

Theresa Scholtens Greeters: Deb Porter

### Please pray for:

Dorr Bissell

Bob Parker Jim Zook Jo Wirtz Martha Misak Terri Butler Martha Brooks Chad Wickerink Denise Ward Mary O'Connor Shirley Weber Terri Nurenberg Mona Martinez Tom Lower Judy Dick Jessica Fritz Sue Speckin Cindy Hardy Travis Eveleth Linda Melcher Diana Kuiala Larry Lafler Traccie Lower Arlene Stanton Mark Dawson Jack & Sue LaPeer Pat MacLachlan Tony Burns Sharon Baer Ed Élyth Jim & Barb Mulnix Jackie Franz Doug Zeeck Ken and Sherry North Yolanda(Lewis)Hardison Randy Tripp Nathan Lower Kirsten Mork Mike Peckins Finnly Hunt Jerry & Maribeth Fritz Sue & Joe Kleiss Glen Alvord Kathy Kranz Heather Rensi Tom White Pamela Coggan Theresa Hess Cherie Flinn Mike Gallagher Joe Drysdale Anita Hozeski Scott Mike Priest Karen Miller Nichole Munsell Lisa Pringle Russinda Rohde Jace Peterson Lesley Williams Landon Battle Georgia Sibert Connie Waterman Marsha Packer

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.

Angie Cedillo

#### SS. Peter & Paul Parish Staff (616) 527-3610

616-527-3610

Permanent Deacon Zenon Cardenas 616-527-8942 Secretary Cecilia Luke ext. 10 Office Manager Adam Rewa ext. 11 616-527-3610 Music Director Whitney Crooks ext. 21 Faith Formation Vanessa Booth 616-527-3610 Matt Lang Maintenance

Aaren Perry

#### SS. Peter and Paul School (616) 527-3561

#### www.ssppcatholic.com

Cemetery Sexton

Jenny Leik Principal ext. 18 Joann Johnson Secretaries

& 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

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



This Monday, November 24th, marks the 121st anniversary of the founding of our council. I wonder how many thousands of hours of service and how much good work our council has done in the

years since! The descendants of some of those first members are still in our parish to this day.

If you haven't purchased your raffle tickets yet, they are going fast! We will be selling them after the weekend liturgies.

Many blessings on your family and loved ones this Thanksgiving!

Ron Speckin, Grand Knight

#### A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Today's Gospel reminds us that the Kingdom of Heaven is not like Disney's Magic Kingdom. Admission to Christ's Kingdom is paid with the currency of acceptance, forgiveness, attention to the poor, and love of one's enemies.

PLEASE Note: Starting the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, the Sunday morning Mass at SS. Peter & Paul will be changed from 10 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. This small change will give Fr. Eugene a bit more time to arrive comfortably and avoid any unexpected delays or tricky weather conditions. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to welcoming you just a little later for the Sunday morning Masses.



Have you noticed the Christmas tree in the back of church with the profiles of families to be "adopted" for Christmas? The profiles include information about the number of people in the family, the ages of the children, and a few suggestions for the items each of them desire or could use.

Thank you to those who have already picked a family to adopt. Please contact Monica Mabe at 527-526 -3201 for more information about your family and about the Adopt-a-Family process. At this writing, we have 5 more families needing to be adopted.

The rest of our parishioners are asked to bring in non-perishable food items to fill the totes that the adopted families will receive. You may place your donated food items near Mary's altar until Sunday, December 14. Distribution of the food and gift items will be on Saturday, December 20, at 10 a.m.

If you have questions or would like to help in any way, please contact Theresa Scholtens at 616-648-2959.

#### **Panther Prayer Corner**

Please pray for all the staff and parents of our school as they prepare to meet for Parent-Teacher Conferences with week

#### **Holiday Baking**

Has God blessed you with a talent for baking? Would you consider baking some of your favorite holiday cookies or bread or candy for the SSPP School Annual Cookie sale? We would greatly appreciate any contributions to our efforts to raise money. The sale will begin at the school on Friday, December 5th, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. We will then transport the baked goods to the Mrs. Claus Bazaar on Saturday, December 6th, at the Ionia Middle School. Any remainders will be available at our Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 7th, in Apostles Hall.

#### **Box Tops for Education**

SSPP School needs your *grocery receipts*. General Mills Box Tops for Education program will award schools money for educational needs. Every time you purchase an item with the Box Tops for Education logo on it, our school can benefit from it. We are asking that you leave your *receipts* in the basket on the table in the back of church. They will be scanned and the rewards will be credited to SSPP. It's that easy. Please help us reach or exceed our goal this year.

¿Ha notado el árbol de Navidad en la parte trasera de la iglesia con los perfiles de las familias que se pueden "apadrinar" para Navidad? Los perfiles incluyen información sobre el número de personas en la familia, las edades de los niños y algunas sugerencias de los artículos que cada uno desea o podría necesitar.

Gracias a quienes ya han elegido una familia para apadrinar. Por favor, comuníquese con Monica Mabe al 527-526-3201 para obtener más información sobre su familia y sobre el proceso de Apadrinar a una Familia. Al momento de redactar esto, tenemos 5 familias más que necesitan ser apadrinadas.

Se solicita al resto de nuestros feligreses que traigan alimentos no perecederos para llenar las canastas que recibirán las familias apadrinadas. Puede colocar sus alimentos donados cerca del altar de María hasta el domingo 14 de diciembre. La distribución de los alimentos y regalos se realizará el sábado 20 de diciembre a las 10 a.m.

Si tiene preguntas o desea ayudar de alguna manera, por favor comuníquese con Theresa Scholtens al 616-648-2959.

#### **NOVEMBER 23 2025**

#### Faith Formation Program

Registration remains open 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 <a href="mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com">vbooth@ssppcatholic.com</a> or 616-527-3610.

#### November

16th Faith Formation Classes 23rd Faith Formation Classes

30th Thanksgiving Break—no classes

#### December

7th Faith Formation Classes 14th Faith Formation Classes

21st Faith Formation Classes—Advent Party

#### **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. Team members of the Ministry of Consolation will be offering Health Support gatherings on Saturday mornings. Our next gathering will be on Saturday, December 6, at 9:30 a.m. at Biggby Coffee. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Vanessa at <a href="mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com">vbooth@ssppcatholic.com</a>.

#### Ministry of Consolation

Called by the healing ministry of Jesus, the Ministry of Consolation continues to reach out to parishioners and community members suffering from any type of a loss, as well as those struggling with an illness. Training for new volunteers in this ministry will be on Saturday, November 29, from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Parish Office Living Room. To learn more about this ministry, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

#### Volunteers Needed!

We will soon be preparing our new volunteer schedules for 2026. Please call the parish office soon if any of the following pique your interest.

#### **Church Cleaners & Vacuumers**

A number of teams of volunteers clean the church and sacristy, and other teams vacuum the body of the church and the vestibule. Teams rotate and serve about once every 2 or 3 months.

#### **Church Collection Counters**

Teams of 4 people count the weekend collection each Monday morning at 9 a.m. They are scheduled on a rotating basis and serve about once a month.

#### Care of Altar Linens

Several women currently care for the altar cloths, purificators, hand towels, and servers' albs used in church. Are you an experienced laundress who would like to help?

Coming Soon . . . A New Tradition

Lessons & Carols:

An Ecumenical Celebration

of the Advent & Christmas Seasons

Sunday, December 7, 2:30 p.m.

in SS. Peter & Paul Church

#### Advent by Candlelight

Saints Peter & Paul Church Tuesday, December 9, 2025 5 p.m.: Holy Hour in the church 6 p.m.: Dinner in Apostles Hall

Calling all ladies! Please join us for our annual Advent by Candlelight dinner. This year, we offer some new additions to our evening. To truly embrace the Advent spirit of quiet anticipation, we will begin with a Eucharistic Holy Hour of Adoration and Evening Prayer in church. Following that, we will move to Apostles Hall for a time of socializing, touring the tables, dinner catered by Olivera's, and a guest speaker.

The cost per woman will be \$20 this year. This will cover the cost of dinner and, more importantly, the rest will be donated to Pregnancy Services of Ionia County to support our local moms and babies during this season of giving.

If you would like to participate or host a table, please email Lauren Mulford by December 1st at lauren.mulford@gmail.com.



The Christmas wreaths and poinsettias that adorn our church during the Christmas season are offered to honor the birth of Christ and to glorify God. You are invited to honor your loved ones, living or deceased, by offering a **Christmas Flower Memorial**.

The names of those honored will be published in our parish bulletin during the Christmas season. Your donation will help to decorate the church not only at Christmas, but into the new year. The suggested donation is \$10 per name.

To make an honorary or memorial offering, please pick up a request form near the main entrances to church. You can submit your request and donation in an envelope in the collection basket, or return to the parish office by December 13