



Cathy Hoppough

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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

December 7, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

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: 10:15 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.

December 7, 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Women and men religious have ministered in parishes, schools, and organizations bringing the Gospel to life for decades. I am grateful for the impact these women and men religious have had on the faith of people here in West Michigan.

In their years of ministry, they often served for little to no pay without retirement benefits. Today, only 4 percent of communities reporting to the National Religious Retirement Office have the assets necessary to fund eldercare, and many rely on donor support to bridge the gap. You can help by donating to the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection next weekend, Dec. 13 - 14.

The 2024 collection was the 37th annual and raised more than \$28.1 million. The generosity of the Catholic laity remains strong through the (arch)diocesan national collection, which is evidenced here in the Diocese of Grand Rapids. You contributed \$257,586.63 during the in -pew collection last year. Your gift had a local impact, with several religious orders in Michigan receiving financial support made possible because of the Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

We have certainly been blessed by the ministry of many religious orders here in the Diocese of Grand Rapids. Now we have an opportunity to show our appreciation for their witness and ministry. The men and women religious are thankful for your support. You can make your gift through your parish's second collection next weekend or online at GRdiocese.org.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak Bishop of Grand Rapids

Estimados Amigos y Amigas en Cristo,

Las religiosas y los religiosos han ejercido su ministerio en parroquias, escuelas y organizaciones, dando vida al Evangelio durante décadas. Estoy agradecido por el impacto que estas religiosas y estos religiosos han tenido en la fe de las personas aquí, en el oeste de Míchigan.

Durante sus años de ministerio, a menudo prestaban servicio a cambio de una remuneración mínima o sin alguna remuneración y sin beneficios de jubilación. En la actualidad, solo el 4 % de las comunidades que dependen de la Oficina Nacional de Jubilación Religiosa cuentan con los activos necesarios para financiar la atención a las personas mayores, y muchas dependen del apoyo de donantes para cubrir el déficit.

Puedes ayudar haciendo una donación a la colecta anual del Fondo de Jubilación para Religiosos el próximo fin de semana, del 13 al 14 de diciembre.

La colecta de 2024 fue la 37^a anual y recaudó más de 28.1 millones de dólares. La generosidad de los laicos católicos continúa siendo significativa a través de la colecta nacional de las (arqui)diócesis, lo cual también se refleja aquí en la Diócesis de Grand Rapids. El año pasado, ustedes contribuyeron con 257, 586.63 dólares durante la colecta realizada en las iglesias. Su donativo tuvo un impacto local, ya que varias órdenes religiosas en Michigan recibieron apoyo económico gracias a lo recaudado por el Fondo de Jubilación para

Hemos sido verdaderamente bendecidos por el ministerio de muchas órdenes religiosas aquí en la Diócesis de Grand Rapids. Ahora tenemos la oportunidad de mostrar nuestro agradecimiento por su testimonio y ministerio. Las religiosas y los religiosos agradecen sinceramente su apoyo. Usted puede hacer su donativo en la segunda colecta de su parroquia el próximo fin de semana o en línea en GRdio-

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL



Prepare the way of the Lord!

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Saturday, December 6

4:00 p.m. Living & deceased of Freund & Stoj families

Sunday, December 7

9:35 a.m. Children's Choir Practice (choir loft) 10:15 a.m. Paget Seymour (Theresa Giacalone)

12:00 p.m. Misa en español (Guadalupe novena during Mass)

2:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols

Monday, December 8—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Holy Day of Obligation

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 12:10 p.m. Holy Day Mass (for the people of the parish)

7:00 p.m. Bilingual Holy Day Mass

Tuesday, December 9—St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-3, 10-13/Mt 18:12-14

No Mass

5:00 p.m. Advent by Candlelight—Adoration at 5 p.m. in church, Dinner at 6 p.m. in Apostles Hall

Wednesday, December 10—Our Lady of Loreto

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30

8:00 a.m. School Christmas Program rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Confessions

12:10 p.m. Supp family (Barbara Burrows)

6:00 p.m. Holy Hour

7:00 p.m. Misa en español (Guadalupe novena during Mass)

Thursday, December 11—St. Damasus I, Pope

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15

8:00 a.m. Intention of Jessica Fritz (Gerald & Maribeth Fritz)

1 & 6 p.m. School Christmas Program (in church)

Friday, December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec. 2:14-17/(Ps) Jdt 13:18-19/Lk 1:26-38

6:00 a.m. Mañanitas

7:00 p.m. Misa en español

Saturday, December 13—St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9-13

8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary

3:00 p.m. Confessions

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6, 10/Ps 146:6-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Saturday, December 13

4:00 p.m. Special Intention (Jane Emelander)

Sunday, December 14

9:35 a.m. Children's Choir Practice (choir loft) 10:15 a.m. Roy & Dee Cook (Kurt & Laurie Tialsma)

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

God's Housekeepers—Week of Dec. 7

General Cleaning:

Maria Cardenas, Teresa Nuñez, Carolina Velasco

Vacuuming

John & Kathy Curtin

DECEMBER 7, 2025



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

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

Sunday, December 7—Second Sunday of Advent Breakfast with Santa (AH)

8-9:45 a.m. 8:30 a.m. OCIA (PO)

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation (SC) 5-7 p.m. Discovering Christ (AH) 5:30-7:30 p.m. Youth Group to Live Nativity

Monday, December 8-Immaculate Conception Holy Day

Tuesday, December 9

5 p.m., 6 p.m. Advent by Candlelight (CH, AH)

Wednesday, December 10

Thursday, December 11

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

Friday, December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday, December 13

8 a.m.-1 p.m. Hispanic Catechesis (VR)

Sunday, December 14—Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. OCIA (PO)

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation classes (SC) Church Decorating for Christmas 1:15 p.m.



OUR PARISH OFFERING: November 29 & 30, 2025

Regular Offertory Collection \$5,021.02 Electronic Giving 4,250.00 Total \$9,271.02 -5% Tithe <u>-463.55</u> Net Total \$8,807.47

Budgeted Weekly: \$10,096.15 Deficit for the Week: \$825.13 Budgeted YTD: \$232,211.45

Deficit YTD: \$3,803.19

Flower Memorials \$100.00 **Christmas Baskets** \$165.00 Campaign for Human Development \$110.00

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Special Liturgies at SS. Peter & Paul Church

Immaculate Conception Holy Day

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Fri. Dec. 12 6 a.m. Mañanitas (Spanish) 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

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

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

Posadas Dec. 15-23, 7 p.m. in school

Epiphany Concert Sun, Jan. 4, 2:30 p.m. in church

December 6 & 7, Second Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. Lector: Monica Mabe

Altar Servers: Adah Drown, Jace Perry EMs: Mary Lou Mulick, Phill & Sue Wizorek

Greeters: Julie Bennett

10:15 a.m.. Lector: Shannon Andrews

> Altar Servers: Raelynn Christensen, Gavin McGuire

EMs: Kevin Heinlein,

Cheryl & John Hildebrandt Greeters: Judy Hamblin

4:00 p.m.

EMs: Shannon Andrews, Sam Meyer,

Greeters: Dave O'Mara

Please pray for:

Lisa Pringle

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

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.

Landon Battle

Altar Servers: Levi & Logan Haskin EMs: Julie Bennett, Cecilia Luke,

December 13 & 14, Third Sunday of Advent

Barb Mulnix Greeters: Volunteers

Lector: Mary Lou Mulick

10:15 a.m. Lector: Paul Meyer

Altar Servers: Shyla & Stephen Johnson

Laurie Tjalsma

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 Music Director Whitney Crooks 616-527-3610 ext. 21 Faith Formation Vanessa Booth Matt Lang 616-527-3610 Maintenance Cemetery Sexton Aaren Perry 616-527-3610

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

www.ssppcatholic.com

Jenny Leik Principal 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

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



Knights' Corner

Councils are always in recruitment mode, and ours is no different. If you are a Catholic man 18 years of age or older and have an interest in the Knights, feel free to contact me or any

Knight, and we'll start you on your journey to becoming part of this great organization. If you desire opportunities with fraternal benefits, spiritual growth and community involvement, and participating in parish and local causes, then we're what you're looking for! You can join online at www.kofc.org/joinus. "By their deeds shall you know them!"

Brother Knights, remember to monitor your emails for projects we are involved in during the Advent season. Thank you!

Congratulations to the winners of our final raffle drawing of 2025: Phil Desrochers, Joan Nummer, Judy Cardenas, and Jane Emelander

Vivat Jesus! Ron Speckin, Grand Knight

Youth Group travels to Live Nativity

Back by popular demand, our Youth Group will be traveling to the Live Nativity presented by Shiloh Community Church on Sunday, December 7th. We will meet in the parish parking lot at 5:30 p.m. and should return about 7:30 p.m. Permission forms are located on the table in the back of the church.

—Kevin Heinlein

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Like John the Baptist, every parent "prepares the way of the Lord" in the hearts of their children. Advent is a good time to ask: "Do I help or hinder my children to know Jesus?"



All of the 11 families our parish was given to adopt for Christmas have been matched with 11 generous parishioner families. If you picked one of the profiles from the Christmas tree that was in the back of church, be sure to call Monica Mabe at 517-526-3201. She will give you more information about your family and about the Adopt-a-Family process.

All parishioners are encouraged 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 call Theresa Scholtens at 616-648-2959.

Panther Prayer Corner

Please pray for our staff, students, and volunteers as we prepare for our Christmas Program. May the joyous voices of our students lift our eyes to the true reason for the season.

Rincón de Oración Pantera

Por favor, oren por nuestro personal, nuestros estudiantes y voluntarios mientras nos preparamos para nuestro Programa de Navidad. Que las alegres voces de nuestros estudiantes eleven nuestra mirada hacia la verdadera razón de la temporada.

Church Decorating for Christmas

Church decorating for the Christmas season will take place after the 12 o'clock Masses on Sunday, December 14th and Sunday, December 21. There will be plenty to do on both dates, and it should not take more than a couple of hours each afternoon. Many hands make light work. Please consider helping to make our church even more beautiful to celebrate the coming of our Savior. Please contact Kevin Heinlein if you have any questions.

Decoración de la Iglesia para la Navidad La decoración de la iglesia para la temporada navideña se llevará a cabo después de la Misa de las 12 del mediodía el domingo 14 de diciembre y el domingo 21 de diciembre. Habrá mucho por hacer en ambas fechas y no debería tomar más de un par de horas cada tarde. Muchas manos hacen el trabajo más ligero. Por favor, considere ayudar a hacer que nuestra iglesia sea aún más hermosa para celebrar la llegada de nuestro Salvador. Por favor, contacte a Kevin Heinlein si tiene alguna pregunta.

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, from 8 to 9:45 a.m. 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.

Faith Formation Program

Registration remains open for Seedlings (ages 4-5) through High School. All regular classes are held in our school from **9 to 10 a.m.** (Families, be sure to sign up for the Remind App to receive notifications about class cancellations due to inclement weather. Use Remind App Code: adgedc.) For more information about Faith Formation, please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com or 616-527-3610.

December

7th Faith Formation Class (Come early for Breakfast with Santa.)

14th Faith Formation Class

21st Faith Formation Class—Advent Party

28th No Faith Formation Class—Christmas Break

Januar

4th No Faith Formation Class—Christmas Break
11th Faith Formation Classes resume

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. Our next training session for new volunteers in this ministry will be on Saturday, December 20, from 9 to 11 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 are preparing our new volunteer schedules for 2026! Please call the parish office (616-527-3610) if you'd like to join or form a team, or if you'd be willing to substitute now and then.

Church Cleaners & Church 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 two months.

Church Collection Counters

Teams of four 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 December 7th . . . 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, please email Lauren Mulford 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