

A parish clustered with St. Edward, Lake Odessa

## SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

434 High St. Ionia MI 48846  
616-527-3610  
saintspeterandpaulionia.org

**January 25, 2026**

25 de Enero de 2026

### **Mass Schedule** Horario de Misas

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4 pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:15 am, 12 pm Spanish</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12:10 pm, 7 pm Spanish</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8 am</b>

### **Reconciliation Schedule** Calendario de Reconciliación

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11 am-12pm (noon)</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3 pm to 3:45 pm</b>

**Parish Office**  
Oficina Parroquial  
Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

**Contact Us**  
Contacta con Nosotros  
parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com  
616-527-3610

Prayer Chain for Immediate  
Need please call  
616-522-0279 or 616-527-0438.

# Third Sunday *in ordinary time*

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord,  
all the Earth. In his presence are majesty and  
splendor, strength and honor in his holy place.

Psalm 96: 1,6



## A Letter from Father Eugene

## Catholic Education Enhances Faith Through Learning

From January 25-31 of this week, we will be celebrating Catholic School Week—a time to come together as a community and embrace the unique blessings of Catholic education. We are grateful for the privilege of nurturing our children, not only in academic excellence but also in faith and compassion.

Through Catholic education, our children discover the profound values of the Catholic faith, experiencing love, hope, and joy in every lesson and interaction. They are encouraged to see the world through the eyes of Christ while learning to participate in the heart of our faith: the joy of prayer, the boundless grace of God found in learning and fellowship, and the sacred encounter with God in the celebration of the Holy Mass.

As a parish, providing Catholic education for our children is a heartfelt mission—one rooted in compassion and care. Whether through Sunday faith formations, daycare programs, or elementary schools, we are united in our commitment to nurture each child in an environment of kindness, support, and love for God. Bishop David Walkowiak noted that “Catholic schools are the single most effective means the Church has created for evangelization.” Our role as a parish community then is to ensure every child feels cherished and supported on their journey of growth—mind, heart, and spirit.

I invite you to consider Catholic Education for your children. Please contact our school for more information.



## A Message from the Diocese

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we approach Catholic Schools Week, January 25 – January 31, we have much to celebrate and much for which to be grateful. The Catholic schools in our diocese, from our elementary schools to post-secondary institutions such as Aquinas College and Harmel Academy of the Trades, are working hand-in-hand with the Church to fulfill our primary mission: evangelization.

Our Catholic schools are foundational for the Church of tomorrow. By providing a transformative education that nurtures the whole person—body, mind, and soul—we are actively ensuring the vitality and spiritual health of the Catholic Church in West Michigan.

Catholic schools bring young people into a daily encounter with our Lord, preparing them to seek and fulfill God’s plan for their lives. Through prayer, adoration, and the celebration of the sacraments, students have multiple opportunities to listen for God’s voice and discern how He is working in their life. This personal relationship with Jesus Christ is the key to living out our baptismal call to love God and neighbor and to become ambassadors for Christ.

You, the generous and dedicated members of our parishes, are integral in this endeavor. Thank you for the ways you support this educational ministry through your prayer, financial support, and faithful advocacy. Please pray for and spread the word about Catholic schools within your community during this upcoming week and throughout the year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak  
Bishop of Grand Rapids

## A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

It is in our family where we learn to be merciful and comforting to others. The Beatitudes of the Kingdom of God begin at home and depend on you. Parents lead the way.

### Liturgies This Week

#### **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Is 8:23 - 9:3/Ps 27:1,4,13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23*

#### **Saturday, January 24**

4:00 p.m. Carol Cope  
(Jack & Carole Hausserman)

#### **Sunday, January 25**

10:15 a.m. Carol Gallagher (Dane & Linda Droste)  
12:00 p.m. Misa en español

#### **Monday, January 26**

#### **Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops**

*2 Tim 1:1-8/Ps 96:1-3, 7-8, 10/Mk 3:22-30*  
No Mass

#### **Tuesday, January 27 – St. Angela Merici, Virgin**

*2 Sm 6:12-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7-10/Mk 3:31-35*  
No Mass

#### **Wednesday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church**

*2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-30/Mk 4:1-20*  
11:00 a.m. Confessions  
12:10 p.m. Bertha Meier  
6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour  
7:00 p.m. Misa en español

#### **Thursday, January 29 - Weekday**

*2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-5, 11-14/Mk 4:21-25*  
8:00 a.m. Intention of Juan Mendez

#### **Friday, January 30 - Weekday**

*2 Sm 11:1-10, 13-17/Ps 51:3-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34*  
No Mass

#### **Saturday, January 31 - St. John Bosco, Priest**

*2 Sm 12:1-7, 10-17/Ps 51:12-17/Mk 4:35-41*  
8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary  
3:00 p.m. Confessions

#### **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12*

#### **Saturday, January 31**

4:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Thome (Mildred Brown)

#### **Sunday, February 1**

10:15 a.m. Catherine Verdun  
12:00 p.m. Misa en español

## Parish Prayer List

We continue to pray for all those who need healing. **If you would like to add or remove a name from this list, please call the parish office at 616-527-3610.** Be sure to have the consent of the person or a family member. Names will remain on the prayer list for three months. Requests may be renewed.

### Please Pray for:

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

## Our Parish Offering

Week of January 18, 2026

Regular Offertory	\$9,823.00
Electronic Giving	<u>\$1,785.00</u>
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$11,608.00</b>

Budgeted Weekly	\$10,096.15
<b>Surplus for the Week</b>	<b>\$1,151.85</b>

Budgeted Year to Date	\$292,788.35
Actual Year to Date	\$307,663.73
<b>Surplus Year to Date</b>	<b>\$ 14,875.38</b>

# SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Our Parish Staff

Parish Office: 616-527-3610

Parish Office Email: parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com  
saintspeterandpaulionia.org

Fr. Eugene Batungbacal

Permanent Deacon: Zenon Cardenas

Secretary	Cecilia Luke	ext. 10
Office Manager	Adam Rewa	ext. 11
Bulletin Editor	Tiffany Ferguson	ext. 39
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

**Parish Finance Council:** Chris Christensen,

Tom O' Connor, Kip Geldhof, Dave O'Mara,

Denise Peabody, Vanessa Booth

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Deb Campbell, Shannon Andrews

## God's Housekeepers - January 25th

General Cleaning	Chris & Pilya Christensen, Joe Thelen
Vacuuming	Chris & Pilya Christensen, Joe Thelen

## Events This Week

### Sunday, January 25

Catholic Schools Week (January 25-31)

8:30 a.m.	OCIA (PO)
9:00 a.m.	Faith Formation classes
5-7 p.m.	Following Christ (AH)

### Monday, January 26

### Tuesday, January 27

1-2 p.m. OCIA Inquiry Session (PO)

5:30-6:30 p.m. OCIA Inquiry Session (PO)

### Wednesday, January 28

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

### Thursday, January 29

9:00 a.m. Daytime Faith Sharing(PO)

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

### Friday, January 30

### Saturday, January 31

9:30 a.m. Health Support Group  
(Biggby Coffee)

### Sunday, February 1

8:30 a.m.	OCIA (PO)
9:00 a.m.	Faith Formation Classes
5-7 p.m.	Following Christ (AH)

(CH) Church/(VR) Veritas Room /  
(PO) Parish Office / (CR) Cornerstone Room

## January 24 & 25, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**4:00 p.m.** Lector: Phill Wizorek  
Altar Servers: Charlotte & Lillian Mabe  
EMs: Monica Mabe, Mary Lou Mulick,  
Sue Wizorek  
Greeters: Volunteers

**10:15 a.m.** Lector: Dan Lower  
Altar Servers: Hans & Kendra Heinlein  
EMs: Julie Bennett, Kevin Keinlein,  
Sam Meyer  
Greeters: Theresa Scholtens

## Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**4:00 p.m.** Lector: Cecilia Luke  
Altar Servers:  
Reagan Crooks & Jaclyn Rewa  
EMs: Mary Lou Mulick, Barb Mulnix,  
Mary Perrien  
Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

**10:15 a.m.** Lector: Sam Meyer  
Altar Servers:  
Alexis/Kendra/Hans Heinlein  
EMs: Shannon Anderson, Julie Bennett,  
Veronica Meyer  
Greeters: Judy Hamblin

## Are you interested in the Catholic faith?

Curious about the Catholic Church or considering becoming Catholic? Join us for a no-pressure inquiry session which are held Tuesdays in the Parish Office Living Room at two convenient times: 1:00-2:00 PM or 5:30-6:30 PM.

## Ladies Social Group

We will be taking a winter break from activities until April. Expect to resume after Easter.

## Parish Contribution Statements

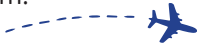
If you would like a copy of your 2025 parish contributions statement, please call the parish office at 616-527-3610. We will mail it to you, or you may pick it up from the parish office. Thank you for your continuing support.

### Ministry Name Change & New Grief Support Group

We are pleased to announce that the *Ministry of Consolation* is now called **Loving Hands of Christ**. This new name reflects our continued mission to offer Christ-centered compassion, presence, and care to those experiencing loss.

As part of this ministry, **Loving Hands of Christ** will be launching a new **Grief Support Group series beginning February 28**. The group is open to anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one and is seeking support, encouragement, and healing in a faith-filled environment.

More details about meeting times and registration will be shared soon. Please keep this ministry and all who are grieving in your prayers. For more information please contact Vanessa Booth at the parish office or [vbooth@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com).



### Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi

The Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi with Fr. Tom Boufford is scheduled for **April 12-20**. We will join pilgrims from all over the world to commemorate the 800 th anniversary of the death of St. Francis. The pilgrimage will also include the weekly audience with Pope Leo and visits to the four major basilicas and other sacred sites that are precious to our Catholic faith. The cost of the pilgrimage is \$3,400 dollars. Airfare is extra, and a valid passport is required. This is the trip of a lifetime. For more information, go to [rootsinrome.com](http://rootsinrome.com). To register, please contact Fr. Tom Boufford at 231-519-4338. **We hope you can join us!**

### Seven Sisters Apostolate

If you are interested in joining with others to pray for our parish priest every week, consider joining the Seven Sisters Apostolate. Contact Lauren Mulford for more info. Men and women welcome. **Reach out to lauren.mulford@gmail.com**

### Faith Formation Religious Education

Open Registration for Seedlings (4 & 5 Yr Old) through High School. All regular classes will be held in our school from **9:00-10:00am**. For more information about Faith Formation please contact Vanessa Booth at 616-527-3610 or [vbooth@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com).

#### January

25th

Faith Formation Class

#### February

1st

Faith Formation Class

8th

Faith Formation Class

15th

Mid Winter Break - No Class

22nd

Faith Formation Class

Grades Seedlings-7th

22nd

Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Session  
4:30pm in Veritas Room

#### SAVE THE DATE:

**SHINE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH CONFERENCE**

**March 22 1-6:30pm**

### Saint Exchange

Students in the Faith Formation program will be participating in a saint exchange leading up to Valentine's Day. We are asking for any donations such as saint cards, medals etc., that you may have to help them with this exchange. Please drop off donations at the parish office. Thank you in advance for helping us teach our students more about the lives of saints.



### Souper Bowl of Caring

Join us as we raise money, food donation and awareness of food hunger in and

beyond our community. On **February 7th & 8th** we will have representatives from our parish and school collecting donations before the weekend Masses which will be donated to the Ionia Food Pantry. For more information, on how you can be involved please contact Vanessa Booth at [vbooth@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:vbooth@ssppcatholic.com). Thank you in advance for your donation.



### Knights Corner

Brother Knights and fellow parishioners,

In just over four weeks, we will be preparing for Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season. That means the Knights of our Council will be preparing for fish fries, pie making, the Easter Egg Hunt, and whatever else comes our way in the service of Faith, Family, Parish, and Community. "You will know them by their deeds!" Be Catholic, be loud and proud in your faith. Use that rosary as your weapon of choice in your life as Catholics. And as a Knight, have Charity forever in your heart, Fraternity towards your brothers, Unity where unity is not, and Patriotism in the love of the freedoms we have in this country.

Vivat Jesus!

Ron Speckin, Grand Knight



## Una Carta del Padre Eugene

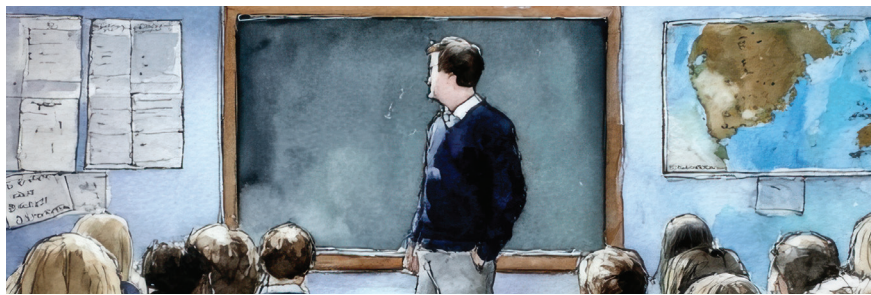
### Educación católica fortalece la fe a través del aprendizaje.

Del 25 al 31 de enero de esta semana, celebraremos la Semana de las Escuelas Católicas, un momento para reunirnos como comunidad y apreciar las bendiciones únicas de la educación católica. Estamos agradecidos por el privilegio de educar a nuestros hijos, no solo en la excelencia académica, sino también en la fe y la compasión.

A través de la educación católica, nuestros hijos descubren los profundos valores de la fe católica, experimentando el amor, la esperanza y la alegría en cada lección e interacción. Se les anima a ver el mundo a través de los ojos de Cristo mientras aprenden a participar en el corazón de nuestra fe: la alegría de la oración, la gracia ilimitada de Dios que se encuentra en el aprendizaje y la comunión, y el encuentro sagrado con Dios en la celebración de la Santa Misa.

Como parroquia, proporcionar educación católica a nuestros hijos es una misión sincera, arraigada en la compasión y el cuidado. Ya sea a través de la formación dominical en la fe, los programas de guardería o las escuelas primarias, estamos unidos en nuestro compromiso de educar a cada niño en un entorno de amabilidad, apoyo y amor a Dios. El obispo David Walkowiak señaló que «las escuelas católicas son el medio más eficaz que la Iglesia ha creado para la evangelización». Nuestro papel como comunidad parroquial es, por tanto, garantizar que cada niño se sienta querido y apoyado en su camino de crecimiento: mente, corazón y espíritu.

Les invito a considerar la educación católica para sus hijos. Pónganse en contacto con nuestra escuela para obtener más información.



## Un Mensaje de la Diócesis

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

Al acercarnos a la Semana de las Escuelas Católicas, del 25 al 31 de Enero, tenemos mucho que celebrar y mucho por lo que estar agradecidos. Las escuelas católicas de nuestra diócesis, desde las escuelas primarias hasta las instituciones de educación superior como Aquinas College y Harmel Academy of the Trades, trabajan de la mano con la Iglesia para cumplir nuestra misión principal: la evangelización.

Nuestras escuelas católicas son fundamentales para la Iglesia del mañana. Al brindar una educación transformadora que nutre a la persona en su totalidad — cuerpo, mente y espíritu—, garantizamos activamente la vitalidad y la salud espiritual de la Iglesia Católica en el oeste de Michigan.

Las escuelas católicas brindan a los jóvenes un encuentro diario con nuestro Señor, preparándolos para buscar y cumplir el plan de Dios para sus vidas.

A través de la oración, la adoración y la celebración de los sacramentos, los estudiantes tienen múltiples oportunidades para escuchar la voz de Dios y discernir cómo Él actúa en sus vidas. Esta relación personal con Jesucristo es clave para vivir nuestra vocación bautismal de amar a Dios y al prójimo, y para convertirnos en embajadores de Cristo.

Ustedes, miembros generosos y comprometidos de nuestras parroquias, son parte fundamental de esta labor. Gracias por el apoyo que brindan a este ministerio educativo a través de sus oraciones, su apoyo financiero y su fiel compromiso.

**"wonder is the  
desire of  
knowledge"**

St. Thomas Aquinas

**"el asombro es  
el deseo del  
conocimiento"**

Les pedimos que oren por las escuelas católicas y que difundan información sobre ellas en su comunidad durante la próxima semana y a lo largo del año.

Sinceramente  
tuyo en Cristo,  
Reverendísimo  
David J. Walkowiak  
Obispo de  
Grand Rapids

# SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Our School Staff

School Phone: 616-527-3561  
ssppcatholic.com

**Principal**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
**Administrative Assistant/Librarian**

**Preschool Teacher**  
**D. Kindergarten Teacher**  
**Kindergarten/1st Grade Teacher**  
**2nd Grade Teacher**  
**3rd/4th Grade Teacher**  
**5th/6th Grade Homeroom**  
**7/8th Grade Homeroom**

**P.E. Teacher**  
**Art & Spanish Teacher/ School Counselor**  
**Technology Teacher**

**Board of Education:** Allen Wizorek (Chair)  
Samantha Crawford (Vice-Chair)  
Cara Brownell (Secretary)  
Kara Dipzinski, Nik Discher, Dianne Grummet,  
Kevin Heinlein, Sharon Vanett, Rachel Wilson

## Coloring Corner

My feast day is soon.

We celebrate it on

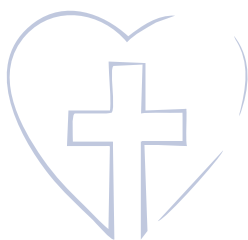
**Wednesday, January 28th.**

I am the patron Saint of

**Catholic Schools.**

I was born in Italy and had  
eight other siblings.

I dedicated my life to blending  
philosophy and theology.



## Upcoming Dates

**Jan. 25-31**

**Feb. 13**

**Feb. 16-17**

Catholic Schools Week

Classroom Valentine's

Day Parties

No School - Mid

Winter Break

Jenny Leik  
Amie Heinlein  
Joann Johnson

ext. 18

ext. 23

ext. 23

Angie Bush  
Ronda Kapp  
Audra Searfoss  
Danielle Wandel  
Petra Laux  
Molly Lang  
Beth Rutter

Brad Starks  
Kim Paton  
Joyce Essich

## Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Each year, we end the month of January with a HUGE celebration of Catholic Schools Week! We will have days filled with exciting celebrations of all the great things about Catholic Schools! We have a great week planned for our students!

