

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](http://saintspeterandpaulionia.org)

**February 8, 2026**

8 de Febrero de 2026

**Mass Schedule**

Horario de Misas

**Saturday** 4 pm

**Sunday** 10:15 am, 12 pm Spanish

**Wednesday** 12:10 pm, 7 pm Spanish

**Thursday** 8 am

**Reconciliation Schedule**

Calendario de Reconciliación

**Wednesday** 11 am-12 pm (noon)

**Saturday** 3 pm to 3:45 pm

**Parish Office**

Oficina Parroquial

**Monday-Friday** 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

**Contact Us**

Contacta con Nosotros

[parishoffice@sspcatholic.com](mailto:parishoffice@sspcatholic.com)

616-527-3610

Prayer Chain for Immediate

Need please call

616-522-0279 or 616-527-0438.

# Fifth Sunday *in ordinary time*

**"Just so, your light must shine before others,  
that they may see your good deeds and  
glorify your heavenly Father."**

Matthew 5:16

# Holy Hour for Peace

By Archbishop Coakley

Many people today feel powerless in the face of violence, injustice, and social unrest. To those who feel this way, I wish to say clearly: your faithfulness matters. Your prayers matter. Your acts of love and works of justice matter.

I am deeply grateful for the countless ways Catholics and all people of good will continue to serve one another and work for peace and justice. Whether feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, caring for the sick, accompanying the lonely, visiting the imprisoned, or striving daily to love their neighbors, no work of mercy or act of justice is ever wasted in the eyes of God. While proper laws must be respected, works of mercy, peacefully assembling, and caring for those in your community are signs of hope, and they build peace more surely than anger or despair ever could. Christ reminds us that even 'a single cup of cold water' given in his name will not go unrewarded (cf. Mt 10:42).

The recent killing of two people by immigration enforcement officers in Minneapolis and that of a detained man in Texas, are just a few of the tragic examples of the violence that represent failures in our society to respect the dignity of every human life. We mourn this loss of life and deplore the indifference and injustice it represents. The current climate of fear and polarization, which thrives when human dignity is disregarded, does not meet the standard set by Christ in the Gospel.

As a step toward healing, I invite my brother bishops and priests across the United States to offer a Holy Hour for Peace in the days ahead. Let us pray for reconciliation where there is division, for justice where there are violations of fundamental rights, and for consolation for all who feel overwhelmed by fear or loss. I encourage Catholics everywhere to participate, whether in parishes, chapels, or before the Lord present in the quiet of their hearts for healing in our nation and communities.

May this Holy Hour be a moment of renewal for our hearts and for our nation. Entrusting our fears and hopes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, let us ask the Lord to make us instruments of his peace and witnesses to the inherent dignity of every person.

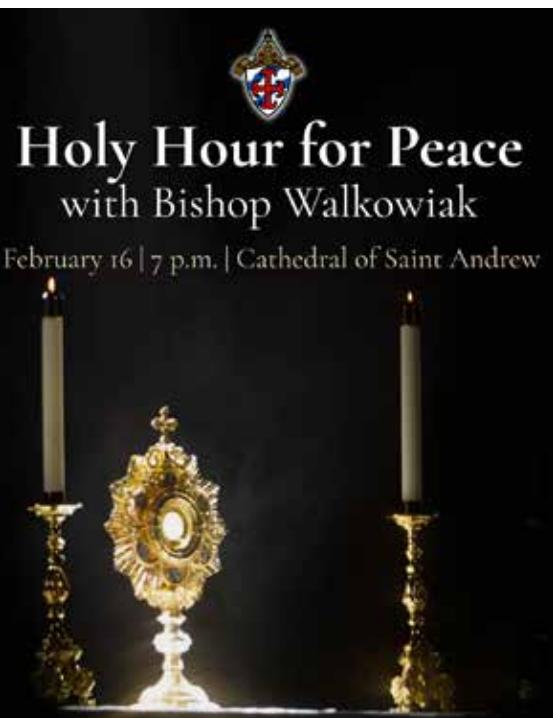
Let us pray together, confident that God hears the cry of his people and remains close to all who seek him.

## 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 Mulinix, 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



## An open letter to the parishioners of Saints Peter & Paul,

As many of my SSPP Parish Family have noticed, I've not been on the altar for the last few weeks. When I "Retired" back in November of 2024, it was my intention to step back in the amount of time I dedicated to parish ministry, but I continued to pursue my passion, which always fills my heart and soul. I've enjoyed my ministry and helping with the maintenance of our buildings throughout all these years and have always said that I'll continue to do God's calling "as long as my body allows me to". These past few weeks my body has told me that it's time to spend a little more time on my health. I'm working with Fr. Eugene on a schedule that affords me the opportunity to assist him at the altar for one mass per week, alternating between Saturday and Sunday.

While I'll not be seeing my fellow SSPP Family members as often as I've enjoyed in the past, I'll still see and worship with you, but on a more limited basis, "as long as God allows." So now, at 14 months after retirement, I begin my journey in my "Retired Ministry" and ask that we all look inside ourselves and see what each one of us can do to help our parish grow in God's love and grace; assist with the physical needs of a large and vibrant community and join together in celebrating in worship and community. I look forward to watching our parish grow as more parishioners step forward to volunteer and celebrate together.

In Christ,  
Deacon Zenon Cardenas Sr.

## Our Parish Offering

Week of February 1, 2026

Regular Offertory	\$13,360.29
Electronic Giving	\$4,710.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$18,070.29</b>
Budgeted Weekly	\$10,096.15
<b>Surplus for the Week</b>	<b>\$7,974.14</b>
Budgeted Year to Date	\$312,980.65
Actual Year to Date	\$313,601.02
<b>Surplus Year to Date</b>	<b>\$18,620.37</b>

## Liturgies This Week

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16*

#### **Saturday, February 7**

4:00 p.m. Sandra Meyers  
(Doug & Nancy Cusack)

#### **Sunday, February 8**

10:15 a.m. Mike Petersen (Hemenway family)  
12:00 p.m. Misa en español  
2:00 p.m. Baptisms of Vayla Grace Gentry,  
Opal Mae Linderman, & Ryker James  
Linderman

#### **Monday, February 9 - Weekday**

*1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-10/Mk 6:53-56*  
No Mass

#### **Tuesday, February 10 – St. Scholastica, Virgin**

*1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3-5, 10-11/Mk 7:1-13*  
No Mass

#### **Wednesday, February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes**

*1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40/Mk 7:14-23*  
11:00 a.m. Confessions  
12:10 p.m. Eugene Suomi Sr. (Lillian Suomi)  
6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour  
7:00 p.m. Misa en español

#### **Thursday, February 12 - Weekday**

*1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40/Mk 7:24-30*  
8:00 a.m. Ray Dietrich

#### **Friday, February 13 – Weekday**

*1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-15/Mk 7:31-37*  
No Mass

#### **Saturday, February 14 - Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop**

*1 Kgs 12:26-32/13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7, 19-22/Mk 8:1-10*  
8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary  
3:00 p.m. Confessions

### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/  
Mt 5:17-37*

#### **Saturday, February 14**

4:00 p.m. Deborah Kaminski (Ron Kaminski)

#### **Sunday, February 15**

10:15 a.m. Bill & Judy Nowak (Diane Verdun)  
12:00 p.m. Misa en español  
2:00 p.m. Baptism of Arial Joy Mulford

# SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Our Parish Staff

Parish Office: 616-527-3610

Parish Office Email: [parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com)  
[saintspeterandpaulionia.org](http://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

## February 7 & 8, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**4:00 p.m. Lector:** Phill Wizorek

**Altar Servers:**

Autumn/Kendall/Kyle Cusack

**EMs:** Cecilia Luke, Mary Lou Mulick, Sue Wizorek

**Greeters:** Volunteers

**10:15 a.m. Lector:** Veronica Meyer

**Altar Servers:**

Shyla & Stephen Johnson

**EMs:** Kevin Heinlein, Cheryl & John Hildebrandt

**Greeters:** Dave O'Mara

## February 14 & 15, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**4:00 p.m. Lector:** Mary Lou Mulick

**Altar Servers:**

Adah Drown, Jace Perry

**EMs:** Cecilia Luke, Barb Mulnix, Mary Perrien

**Greeters:** Chris & Pilya Christensen

**10:15 a.m. Lector:** Kevin Kenney

**Altar Servers:**

Reagan Crooks, Gavin McGuire

**EMs:** Shannon Andrews, Sam Meyer, Theresa Scholtens

**Greeters:** Deb Porter

## God's Housekeepers - February 8th

**General Cleaning** Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan

**Vacuuming** Julie Bennett, Bridgett Flanigan

## Health Support Group

Join our discussion. The next session will be at Biggby Coffee February 21st at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.

### Events This Week

#### Sunday, February 8

*Souper Bowl of Caring Donations*

Before Weekend Masses

8:30 a.m. OCIA (PO)

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation classes

#### Monday, February 9

6:30 p.m. Liturgy Commission Mtg. (VR)

#### Tuesday, February 10

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

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

#### Wednesday, February 11

1:00 p.m. Parish Staff Meeting (VR)

#### Thursday, February 12

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

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

#### Friday, February 13

#### Saturday, February 14

10-11:30 a.m. Marriage Prep Session (PO)

#### Sunday, February 15

No Faith Formation Classes

8:30 a.m. OCIA (PO)

1-7 p.m. Following Christ (AH)

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

## 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 800th 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 231-519-4348. **We hope you can join us!**

## Events & Announcements

### Loving Hands of Christ

A new **Grief Support Group** series will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Office on 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. 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).

### Sponsor a Student for the Jr. High SHINE Youth Rally

Our Jr. High students have a wonderful opportunity to attend the SHINE Youth Rally, a faith-filled day designed to help them grow closer to Christ through prayer, music, community, and dynamic speakers.

You can help make this experience possible by sponsoring a student. The cost to sponsor one student is \$45, which includes the conference ticket and a Parish/School T-shirt. Sponsorship is a beautiful way to invest in the faith and future of our young people.

If you are interested in sponsoring a student or would like more information, please contact Vanessa Booth at the parish office.

Thank you for supporting our youth and helping them shine in faith!

### 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.

### Youth Group

The next youth group night will be Sunday, February 22nd, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. See you in the Cornerstone room.

### 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).

#### February

8th	Faith Formation Class SOUP-er Bowl Sunday
15th	Mid Winter Break - No Class
22nd	Faith Formation Class Grades Seedlings-7th
22nd	Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Session 4:30pm - 6:00pm in Veritas Room

### Interested in Learning More About the Catholic Faith?

Are you curious about the Catholic Church or considering becoming Catholic? Our parish offers OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) Inquiry Sessions—a welcoming, no-pressure opportunity to ask questions, listen, and explore the faith at your own pace.

Inquiry sessions are held Tuesdays in the Parish Office Living Room at two convenient times: 1:00–2:00 PM or 5:30–6:30 PM.

These sessions are open to anyone who is exploring the Catholic faith, returning to the Church, or simply seeking a deeper understanding. There is no commitment required—just come as you are. For more information, please contact the parish office. We look forward to welcoming you!

### 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.



### Knights Corner

The making and selling of pies and our Lenten Fish Fry are next on the agenda for Council #944. Pay attention to future bulletins and e-mails for further details on dates and times! We are also beginning to restore our depleted Easter supplies so donations of baskets, candy and plastic eggs would be appreciated over the next few weeks.

I also want to thank those Knights who took the time to handle several tasks and duties over the last few months in the manner and spirit of faith, family, church and community! "You will know them by their deeds". Be Catholic, Be Loud, Be Proud!

Vivat Jesus!  
Ron Speckin, Grand Knight

## 2026 Easter & Lent Schedules

## Lenten Penance Service

### Ash Wednesday, February 18th

SS. Peter & Paul  
St. Edward

8am, 12:10pm, 7pm Bilingual Mass  
12pm, 7pm

### Palm Sunday, March 29

(Regular Sunday Mass Times)

### Holy Triduum

#### Holy Thursday, April 2 .....

SS. Peter & Paul

7pm Bilingual

Mass of the Lord's Supper  
with Washing of the Feet

Transfer of Eucharist with  
Adoration until 11pm.

*Holy Thursday will be a combined celebration  
for both parishes at SSPP, Ionia.*

#### Good Friday, April 3 .....

SS. Peter & Paul

11:30am Stations of the Cross  
with Confessions  
12pm Good Friday Liturgy  
7pm Spanish Viernes Santo

St. Edward

2:30pm Stations of the Cross  
with Confessions  
3pm Good Friday Liturgy

#### Holy Saturday, April 4 .....

no confessions, no 4pm or 6pm masses

SS. Peter & Paul

9pm Easter Vigil Bilingual

*Easter Vigil will be a combined celebration  
for both parishes at SSPP, Ionia.*

#### Easter Sunday, April 5 (Regular Sunday Mass Times)

## Confessions

SS. Peter & Paul

Wednesdays	11am & 6pm
Thursday	9-10am
Saturday	3-4pm

St. Edward

Tuesday	11am & 6pm
Thursday	6-8pm
Friday	9:30-10am

## Stations of the Cross

*every Friday led by volunteers*

SSPP

2pm, 6pm, 7pm Spanish

St. Edward

9:30am, 6pm



# 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**

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

## Upcoming Dates

**Feb. 13**

Classroom Valentine's  
Day Parties

**Feb. 16-17**

No School - Mid  
Winter Break

**Mar. 25**

Meet the Teacher Night  
for PS & Kdg.

## The Gift of Education

Enrollment for the  
2026/2027 school year  
will be opening in late  
February/Early March.

## Now Available: Spirit Wear/Uniforms

We are happy to now be able to offer  
SSPP Spirit Wear and our uniform  
crewnecks and jackets online! We  
are working with Hometown Sports in  
Portland for all of our products. The link  
for shopping is here: [hometown-sports-inc.myshopify.com/collections/saints-peter-paul-panthers](https://hometown-sports-inc.myshopify.com/collections/saints-peter-paul-panthers)

**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

**Saturday, February 14th.**

I am the patron saint of **love**.

I became a martyr

for my faith in **278 AD**.

I performed many miracles.

I started the tradition of saying

**"from your valentine."**



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