

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

April 5, 2026

5 de Abril 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@ssppcatholic.com
616-527-3610

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



Easter Sunday

the Resurrection of the Lord

"El Señor verdaderamente ha resucitado, aleluya. A él sea la gloria y el poder para todas las edades de la eternidad, aleluya, aleluya."

"The Lord is truly risen, alleluia. To him be the glory and power for all ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia."

Luke 24:34 cf. Revelation 1:6

A Letter from Father Eugene Una carta del Padre Eugene

A Glorious Easter to One and All!

Rejoice! Sing Alleluia! Christ has risen from the dead. He has conquered death and brought salvation to all!

The word “Easter” is an Old English word which means “East”. Just as the sun rises from the East which marks a new day and a new beginning, Easter reminds us of the new life brought by the glorious Resurrection of Jesus Christ who made all things new (Revelation 21:5). By His resurrection, Christ has brought new hope in our lives, healing from the pains of sins and new life in Him.

The Easter Vigil is the ultimate and most important liturgical celebration in the Catholic Church. Saint Augustine (lived 354-430, baptized by St. Ambrose of Milan in 387) would call the Easter Vigil as the “mother of all vigils” because on this night the Church stays awake, watching over, the resurrection of Christ (Sermon 219).

On this very night, we are not just mere spectators but witnesses to the glorious victory of our Lord Jesus Christ as proclaimed in the Exsultet, the Easter proclamation:

This is the night when Christians everywhere, washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement, are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. What good would life have been to us, had Christ not come as our Redeemer?



¡Una gloriosa Pascua para todos!

¡Alégrense! ¡Canten Aleluya! Cristo ha resucitado de entre los muertos. ¡Ha vencido a la muerte y ha traído la salvación a todos!

La palabra «Pascua» proviene del inglés antiguo y significa «Este». Así como el sol sale por el este, marcando un nuevo día y un nuevo comienzo, la Pascua nos recuerda la nueva vida que trae la gloriosa Resurrección de Jesucristo, quien hizo nuevas todas las cosas (Apocalipsis 21:5). Con su resurrección, Cristo ha traído nueva esperanza a nuestras vidas, sanación de los dolores del pecado y nueva vida en Él.

La Vigilia Pascual es la celebración litúrgica más importante y trascendental de la Iglesia Católica. San Agustín (354-430, bautizado por San Ambrosio de Milán en 387) la llamaba la «madre de todas las vigiliass», porque en esta noche la Iglesia permanece despierta, velando por la resurrección de Cristo (Sermón 219).

En esta misma noche, no somos meros espectadores, sino testigos de la gloriosa victoria de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, proclamada en el Exsultet, el Pregón Pascual:

Esta es la noche en que los cristianos de todo el mundo, limpios del pecado y liberados de toda impureza, son restaurados a la gracia y crecen juntos en santidad.

Esta es la noche en que Jesucristo rompió las cadenas de la muerte y resucitó triunfante de entre los muertos. ¿De qué nos serviría la vida si Cristo no hubiera venido como nuestro Redentor?

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:

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

CSA 2026 Strengthened in Christ, Responding With Joy

Every year our diocese asks each of us to support the many good works done by the Church throughout western Michigan. Our parish CSA assessment this year is \$81,314. We sent in our third batch of pledges this week which, along with the online pledges we've received, brings our total to \$31,660. We are well over one third of the way there! Thank you to all those who have responded already! If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, blank cards are available on the table in the back of church. Pledges can also be made online at gdiocese.org.

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.

Announcements

Do you have any photos from Holy Week or Easter Vigil that you'd like to share? We'd love to see them. Please email Tiffany Ferguson at tferguson@ssppcatholic.com.

Follow us on Facebook

Look for *SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church* on Facebook for the latest events and information in our faith-filled community.

Electronic Giving in the Palm of your Hand

No matter the amount, your donations help keep a roof over our heads and the lights shining today and tomorrow. We ask that you prayerfully consider making a donation. Thank you for your support and continued generosity.



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Our Parish Offering

Week of March 29, 2026

Regular Offertory	\$10,280.53
Electronic Giving	<u>4,680.00</u>
Total Offertory	\$14,960.53
Budgeted Weekly	\$10,096.15
Surplus for the Week	\$4,864.38
Budgeted Year to Date	\$393,749.85
Actual Year to Date	\$415,134.39
Surplus Year to Date	\$21,384.54

SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Parish Staff

Parish Office: 616-527-3610

Parish Office Email: parishoffice@sspccatholic.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. 14
Hisp. Faith Formation	Claudia Graciano	616-540-9584
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

April 4, Easter Vigil

9:00 p.m. Lectors: Mary Lou Mulick, Dan Lower,
Paul Meyer
Altar Servers: Marjorie Brodbeck, Lillian
Mabe, Jaclyn Rewa
EMs: Shannon Andrews, Mary Lou Mulick,
Barb Mulnix, Theresa Scholtens
Greeters: Volunteers

April 5, Easter Sunday

10:15 a.m. Lector: Madeline Desrochers
Altar Servers: Alexis/Hans/Kendra Heinlein
EMs: Cheryl & John Hildebrandt,
Veronica Meyer
Greeters: Judy Hamblin

April 11 & 12, Second Sunday of Easter

4:00 p.m. Lector: Phill Wizorek
Altar Servers: Levi & Logan Haskin
EMs: Julie Bennett, Cecilia Luke,
Sue Wizorek
Greeter: Mary Lou Mulick

10:15 a.m. Lector: Shannon Andrews
Altar Servers: Stephen Johnson,
Gavin McGuire
EMs: Barb Mulnix, Theresa Scholtens,
Laurie Tjalsma
Greeters: Deb Porter

Liturgies This Week

Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

Acts 10:34, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9

Saturday, April 4

9:00 p.m. Bilingual Easter Vigil (other readings)

Sunday, April 5

10:15 a.m. People of SS. Peter & Paul Parish

12:00 p.m. Misa en español

Monday, April 6 – Monday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/Mt 28:8-15

No Mass

Tuesday, April 7 – Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/Jn 20:11-18

No Mass

Wednesday, April 8 – Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-4, 6-9/Lk 24:13-35

11:00 a.m. Confessions

12:10 p.m. Michael Gallagher (Gayle Gardner)

6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour

7:00 p.m. Misa en español

Thursday, April 9 – Thursday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5-9/Lk 24:35-48

8:00 a.m. Intention of Christopher Hommel

Friday, April 10 – Friday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27/Jn 21:1-14

No Mass

Saturday, April 11 – Saturday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-21/Mk 16:9-15

8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary

3:00 p.m. Confessions

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

Saturday, April 11

4:00 p.m. Barbara Howe (Christine Bewell)


Sunday, April 12

10:15 a.m. Dilly Kay Perpich (Philip Thelen)

12:00 p.m. Misa en español

Easter Reflection Booklets

There are free daily reflection booklets available in the back of church while supplies last.

A painting of a mountain landscape. In the center, a tall evergreen tree stands prominently, with a golden cross mounted on its trunk. The cross has a sunburst design at its top. The background shows a bright sun or light source behind more trees, creating a hazy, golden glow. The foreground features a rocky stream flowing through a valley, with large boulders on either side. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

The Lord's love for us is strong;
the Lord is faithful forever.

Hallelujah!

Psalm 117:2

Events This Week

Sunday, April 5 – Easter Sunday

No Faith Formation – Spring Break

Monday, April 6

Spring Break April 6-10. No School.

Tuesday, April 7

No OCIA Inquiry sessions
7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus meeting (VR)

Wednesday, April 8

1:00 p.m. Grief Support Group (PO)
4 – 6 p.m. Ladies Social Group:
White Elephant Bingo (VR)
5:00 p.m. Hispanic 1st Communion Prep. (AH)
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (VR)

Thursday, April 9

9:00 a.m. Daytime Faith Sharing (PO)
3:45 p.m. Life Fit (VR)

Friday, April 10

Saturday, April 11

9:30 a.m. Health Support Group (Biggby)
12:00 p.m. Marriage Preparation Session (PO)

Sunday, April 12 - Second Sunday of Easter

9-10 a.m. Faith Formation classes
5-7 p.m. Sharing Christ (AH)

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

God's Housekeepers - April 5

General Cleaning

Jane Hemenway
Laurie Tjalsma

Vacuuming

Ray Korytkowski
Lon MacLachlan

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Today's gospel instructs us Jesus "had to rise from the dead." The dying we experience with unmet expectations in marriage and parenting is normal to family life. Families must rise above disappointments and be Easter people all year long.

News from the School

Enrollment for the 2026/2027 school year is open!

Upcoming Dates

April 6-10 Spring Break
April 24 1st Communion Retreat
May 2 SSPP Auction

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!

SUNDAYKIDZ

Easter Sunday

Y	O	B	T	S	T	E	R	A	N
G	R	U	X	A	U	O	U	V	R
E	R	R	H	W	L	D	M	U	X
D	I	I	P	O	J	O	A	B	O
L	S	A	L	F	G	R	V	G	U
Y	E	L	I	S	F	M	V	E	K
S	T	O	N	E	O	H	O	W	D
D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	Z	O
Z	M	O	R	N	I	N	G	K	C
Q	I	C	L	O	T	H	A	U	J

Tomb Morning Stone Loved
Disciple Ran Burial Cloth Saw Rise

Loving Hands of Christ

The next Grief Support Group will be held on Wednesday, April 8th at 1:00pm following the 12:10 mass in the Parish Office living room. 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. All are welcome to attend; need not attend the prior sessions to come. 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.

Lenten Soup Lunch

Our hearts are full of gratitude for the many generous hands that made this year's Lenten soup lunches such a beautiful success. Week after week, volunteers lovingly prepared and shared nourishing meals, creating a space not only for food, but for fellowship, conversation, and community. Your kindness and willingness to serve brought warmth to these Wednesdays in a very special way. Thank you for the time, care, and spirit you offered so freely—it truly made a difference.

As we move beyond the Lenten season, we're happy to share that opportunities to gather will continue. Beginning in May, we will host once-a-month gatherings following the 12:10 p.m. Mass on Wednesdays. These moments together will be a chance to reconnect, share, and grow in community.

Be sure to keep an eye on the bulletin for upcoming dates and details. We look forward to seeing you there and continuing the spirit of fellowship that you helped make so meaningful this Lent.

Housekeeper Needed

Fr. Charlon Mason, a retired priest of our diocese living here in Ionia, is seeking someone to clean house for him one day a week. This will include vacuuming, dusting, sweeping, and mopping the living areas of the house, and cleaning the bathroom. This is a paid position that will require 4-6 hours per week. If interested, please contact the parish office, 616-527-3610.

Faith Formation Religious Education

All regular classes for Seedlings (4 & 5 Yr Old) through High School are 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.

April

- 5 No Faith Formation Class - Spring Break
- 12 Faith Formation Class
- 19 Faith Formation Class
- 24 1st Communion Retreat **7:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. SSPP School**
- 26 Faith Formation Class (End of Year Party)

Catechist Workshop Training

All adults currently volunteering as a Catechist or interested in learning more about the role of the Catechist are invited to join us for this insightful training. **The Vocation of the Catechist Saturday, April 18 - 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Veritas Room.** A light breakfast will be provided.

First Communion Retreat - Schedule Change

Please note an important update to our First Communion Retreat. The retreat will now take place on **Friday, April 24, from 7:40am-2:30pm at SSPP School.** The First Communion Mass will be on **Sunday, May 3rd at 10:15am.** Thank you for your continued support and prayers. Please contact Mrs. Booth in the parish office if you have any questions.

Health Support Group

Anyone burdened by illness is invited to join our health support group discussion. The next Health Support Group meeting is Saturday, April 11th at 9:30 a.m at Biggby Coffee in Ionia.

Ladies Social Group

Mark your calendars for White Elephant Bingo on Wednesday, April 8th from 4-6 p.m. Bring a wrapped prize and a snack to share. Water will be provided or you may bring your own beverage.



Knights Corner



Happy Easter! Alleluia! Christ is Risen! I hope that you and your loved ones were able to celebrate this wonderful feast of our Lord's Resurrection together, and that your day was filled with joy.

Just a quick reminder to our brother Knights that this Tuesday, April 7th, is our monthly business meeting. We will gather in the Veritas Room at 7:00 p.m. for the rosary, and the meeting will follow at 7:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Ron Speckin
Grand Knight
616-755-2175



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Rosary at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Grand Knight: Ron Speckin

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