

SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

August 16, 2026

16 de Agosto de 2026

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

Mass Schedule Horario de Misas

Saturday 4 p.m.
Sunday 10:15 a.m. 12 p.m. (Spanish)
Wednesday 12:10 p.m., 7 p.m. (Spanish)
Thursday 8 a.m.

Reconciliation Schedule Calendario de Reconciliación

Wednesday 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. (noon)
Saturday 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Contact the Parish Office

email: parishoffice@ssppcatholic.com
phone: 616-527-3610
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Prayer Chain for Immediate Need

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

A parish
clustered
with St.
Edward,
Lake Odessa

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Letter from Father Eugene Una carta del Padre Eugene

The Glorious Assumption of Mary

This occasion fills us with hope as we reflect on this particular aspect of the extraordinary faith of our Blessed Mother. Mary's life serves as an inspiration, guiding us through her own example and prayers, to foster an ever-deepening connection with God's grace, to be open and willing to align our lives with His divine will, to transform ourselves through acts of self-denial and repentance, and to strive for that eternal communion in the Heavenly Kingdom.

In order to honor the triumph of Mary, He came himself from paradise to meet and accompany her. And precisely for this object it was, says St. Anselm, that the Redeemer wished to ascend before his mother, not only to prepare for her a throne in that palace, but also to render her entrance into heaven more glorious, accompanying her himself, with all the blessed spirits (St Alphonsus Liguori, *The Glories of Mary*, Discourse VII).

Prayer of St Alphonsus on the Assumption of Mary

Oh, our most sweet Lady and Mother, thou hast already left the earth, and hast reached the kingdom, where thou sittest as queen over all the choirs of angels, as the holy Church sings: She was exalted above the choirs of angels in the celestial kingdoms: "Exaltata est super choro angelorum ad coelestia regna." We know that we sinners are not worthy of having thee with us in the valley of darkness. But we know also that thou in thy grandeur hast never forgotten us in our misery, and by being exalted to such glory hast never lost compassion for us poor children of Adam, but rather that it is increased in thee. From the high throne then, where thou dost reign, turn, oh Mary, even upon us, thy pitying eyes, and take compassion upon us.

Remember, too, that on leaving this world, thou didst promise not to forget us. Look upon us and succor us. See in what tempests and in how many dangers we are, and always shall be, till the end of our life arrives. By the merits of thy holy death, obtain for us holy perseverance in the divine friendship, that we may finally depart from this life in the grace of God, and thus come one day to kiss thy feet in paradise, and unite ourselves with the blessed spirits in praising thee, and singing thy glories, as thou dost merit. Amen.

La Gloriosa Asunción de María

Esta ocasión nos llena de esperanza al reflexionar sobre este aspecto particular de la fe extraordinaria de nuestra Santísima Madre. La vida de María nos inspira, guiándonos con su ejemplo y oraciones, a fomentar una conexión cada vez más profunda con la gracia de Dios, a estar abiertos y dispuestos a alinear nuestras vidas con su divina voluntad, a transformarnos mediante actos de negación y arrepentimiento, y a luchar por esa comunión eterna en el Reino Celestial.

Para honrar el triunfo de María, Él mismo descendió del paraíso para encontrarse y acompañarla. Y precisamente para este fin, dice San Anselmo, que el Redentor quiso ascender antes que su madre, no solo para prepararle un trono en ese palacio, sino también para hacer su entrada al cielo más gloriosa, acompañándola Él mismo, con todos los espíritus benditos (San Alfonso María de Liguori, *Las Glorias de María*, Discurso VII).

Oración de San Alfonso sobre la Asunción de María

Oh, nuestra Señora y Madre, muy dulce, ya has dejado la tierra y has llegado al reino, donde te sientas como reina sobre todos los coros de ángeles, como canta la santa Iglesia: Fue exaltada sobre los coros de los ángeles en los reinos celestiales: "Exaltata est super choro angelorum ad coelestia regna." Sabemos que nosotros, pecadores, no somos dignos de tenerte con nosotros en el valle de oscuridad. Pero también sabemos que tú, en tu grandeza, nunca nos has olvidado en nuestra miseria, y que al ser exaltada a tanta gloria, nunca has perdido compasión por nosotros, los pobres hijos de Adán, sino que en ti se ha incrementado. Desde el alto trono donde reinas, vuelve, oh María, incluso sobre nosotros, tus ojos misericordiosos, y ten piedad de nosotros.

Recuerda también que, al dejar este mundo, prometiste no olvidarnos. Miranos y socórrenos. Mira en qué tempestades y en cuántos peligros estamos, y siempre estaremos, hasta que llegue el fin de nuestra vida. Por los méritos de tu santa muerte, obtén para nosotros la santa perseverancia en la amistad divina, para que finalmente podamos partir de esta vida en la gracia de Dios, y así un día besar tus pies en el paraíso, y unirnos a los espíritus benditos en alabarte y cantar tus glorias, como tú mereces. Amén.



*Mujer, ¡qué
Grande es
Tu Fe!*

Mateo 15,28

*O Woman,
Great is
Your Faith!*

Matthew 15:28

Our Parish Prayer List

Please Pray For:

Feleciana Alcario, Ericka Baer, Sharon Baer, Dawn Baldwin, Landon Battle, Dorr Bissell, Tony Burns, Terri Butler, Angie Cedillo, Michelle Charon, Pamela Coggan, Kathy Coughlin, Mark Dawson, Judy Dick, Joe Drysdale, Pat Duffy, Travis Eveleth, Greg & Terry Fattal, Sr. Shaun Marie Fattal, Cherie Flinn, Jackie Franz, Jerry & Maribeth Fritz, Jessica Fritz, Jeff & Pam Goss, Sarah Gregg, Melissa Harper, Finnly Hunt, Ron Kaminski, Joe & Sue Kleiss, Kathy Kranz, Larry Lafler, Jack & Sue LaPeer, Nathan Lower, Tracie Lower, Pat MacLachlan, Mona Martinez, David & Judy Maynard, Susan Meyers, Karen Miller, 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, Roxanne Rader, Michelle Richard-Mix, Russinda Rohde, Janice Schell, Anita Hozeski Scott, Georgia Sibert, Sue Speckin, Arlene Stanton, Randy Tripp, Connie Waterman, Denise Ward, Shirley Weber, Jerry & Cindy White, Tom White, Chad Wickerink, Jo Wirtz

SS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Parish Staff

Parish Office: 616-527-3610

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

Fr. Eugene Batungbacal ext. 12

Permanent Deacon: Zenon Cardenas

Secretary	Cecilia Luke	ext. 10
Office Manager	Adam Rewa	ext. 11
Mission & Discipleship	Vanessa Booth	ext. 14
Bulletin Editor	Tiffany Ferguson	ext. 39
Music Director		
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

Liturgies This Week

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10/Ps 45:10-12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

Saturday, August 15

4:00 p.m. Patrick Hufnagel (Bridget Strickling)
(OCIA Prof. of Faith & First Eucharist)

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/

Mt 15:21-28

Sunday, August 16

10:15 a.m. Floyd & Nita Kenney (Kevin Kenney)
12:00 p.m. Misa en español (Baptism at Mass
of Araceli Isabel-Arcos)
(Rosary Procession after Mass)

Monday, August 17 - Weekday

Ez 24:15-23/(Ps) Dt 32:18-21/Mt 19:16-22

5:30 p.m. Back to School Mass

Tuesday, August 18 - Weekday

Ez 28:1-10/(Ps)Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35-36/Mt 19:23-30
No Mass

Wednesday, August 19 - St. John Eudes, Priest

Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 20:1-16

11:00 a.m. Confessions
12:10 p.m. Jerry & Cindy White-65th Anniversary
6:00 p.m. Adoration
7:00 p.m. Misa en español

Thursday, August 20 - St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor

Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14
No Mass

Friday, August 21 - St. Pius X, Pope

Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-9/Mt 22:34-40
No Mass

Saturday, August 22 - Queenship of the Blessed Virgin

Ez 43:1-7/Ps 85:9-14/Mt 23:1-12
8:30 a.m. Scriptural Rosary
1:00 p.m. Quinceañera of Jariany Valencia
3:00 p.m. Confessions

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Saturday, August 22

4:00 p.m. Ken Hozeski (Gloria Hozeski)

Sunday, August 23

10:15 a.m. Roger Hogan (Hogan family)
(Bilingual Mass with
Installation of Fr. Eugene as Pastor)
No 12 p.m. Misa en español

August 15, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 p.m. Lector: Sue Wizorek
Altar Servers:
Levi & Logan Haskin
EMs: Julie Bennett, Barb Mulnix,
Phill Wizorek
Greeters: Volunteers

August 16, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:15 a.m. Lector: Shannon Andrews
Altar Servers:
Alexis/Hans/Kendra Heinlein
EMs: Shannon Andrews, Theresa
Scholtens, Laurie Tjalsma
Greeters: Deb Porter

August 22 & 23, Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Lector: Mary Lou Mulick
Altar Servers: Jace & Jaclyn Rewa
EMs: Phill & Sue Wizorek,
Cecilia Luke
Greeters: Chris & Pilya Christensen

10:15 a.m. Lector: Paul Meyer
Altar Servers:
Alexis Heinlein, Gavin McGuire
EMs: Cheryl & John Hildebrandt,
Laurie Tjalsma
Greeters: Theresa Scholtens

Parish Events This Week

Sunday, August 16

1:30-3 p.m. Hispanic gathering after
Rosary procession (VR & AH)

Monday, August 17

5-7 p.m. Back to School Mass & Picnic (CH, SC)
6:30-8 p.m. Bible Timeline (VR)

Tuesday, August 18

11 a.m. - 9 p.m. El Mariachi fundraiser for CROP Walk
1-2 p.m. OCIA (PO)
5:30-6:30 p.m. OCIA (PO)

Wednesday, August 19

First Day for SSPP K-8
dismissal at 11 a.m.

Thursday, August 20

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

Friday, August 21

6-8 p.m. Hispanic Adult Classes for
First Communion & Confirmation (VR)

Saturday, August 22

9:30 a.m. Grief Support Group (PO)

Sunday, August 23

At 10:15 a.m. Mass Installation of Fr. Eugene as Pastor
of SS. Peter & Paul Parish
followed by reception in
Apostles Hall.

(VR) Veritas Room / (PO) Parish Office / (SC) School

God's Housekeepers - August 16

General Cleaning

Maria Cardenas
Teresa Nuñez
Carolina Velasco

Vacuuming

Ray Korytkowski
Lon MacLachlan

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of eating His flesh and blood. Parents can identify with this, for they often feel devoured by all the demands of family life. This is unavoidable for children to grow in the soil of sacrificial love. Parenting is not part-time work. It is a consuming lifetime commitment.



Support Our Mission

Together in Christ, we strive to actively seek and welcome all people in a community that expresses God's love. Help us foster faith & fellowship within our community.

Make A
Paperless
Donation



Our Parish Offering Week of August 9, 2026

Regular Offertory	\$5,507.00
ACH Giving	1,440.00
QR Code Giving	270.44
Total Offertory	\$7,217.44

Budgeted Weekly	\$10,192.31
Deficit for the Week	\$2,974.87

Budgeted Year to Date	\$61,153.86
Actual Year to Date	56,887.25
Deficit Year to Date	\$4,266.61

Rite of Installation

Please join us on Sunday, August 23rd for the Rite of Installation of Fr. Eugene as pastor. We invite our parish family to warmly welcome him through prayer and celebration as we witness this sacred milestone. Following Mass, we will gather for a luncheon in Apostles Hall. Everyone is invited to attend and celebrate together! Please bring a dessert to share for the luncheon.

We look forward to seeing you there as we celebrate this special occasion with Bishop Walkowiak and Fr. Eugene! The ceremony will be at 8 a.m. at Saint Edwards and 10:15 a.m. (Bilingual) at SS Peter & Paul. August 23rd.

Health Support Group Sessions

Any who have been touched by Cancer or other illnesses are invited to join our **health support group** discussion. Please contact Vanessa Booth at vbooth@ssppcatholic.com for more information.

Theology Over Lunch with Fr. Eugene

All are invited to join us on the **second Wednesday of each month** after the 12:10pm Mass for Theology over Lunch. **Our third gathering will be Wednesday, September 9, in the Veritas Room.**

Each gathering will bring people together around a shared meal and meaningful conversation in a welcoming and informal atmosphere. Together we will explore topics with Fr. Eugene related to Catholic theology, biblical teachings, church history, and practical discipleship. These conversations remind us that faith grows not only through bible study, but also through fellowship and thoughtful discussion. As we share a meal, we also share insights, questions, and experiences that enrich our understanding of God and His work in our lives. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church if you could volunteer to bring soup or salad for our lunch.

Alpha for Young Adults

Meet new people and explore the Christian faith together. Alpha is for anyone who's curious. No judgement, no pressure. Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith, and purpose, and is designed to spark conversation.

Young Adults, ages 18-39 are invited
Thursdays, Sept. 10-Nov. 19 7-9 p.m.
Cathedral Square Center, 360 Division Ave. S.,
Grand Rapids

Faith Formation Religious Education

All regular classes for Seedlings (4 & 5 Yr Old) through High School are held in our school on Sundays from **9-10:00am** September through April. For more information about Faith Formation, please contact Vanessa Booth at 616-527-3610 or vbooth@ssppcatholic.com.

September

20 Faith Formation Class K-8th Grade
20 Fall Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Session
4:30-6:00pm
27 Faith Formation Class K-High School
27 Parish Retreat 6:30-8:00pm (Church)

Loving Hands of Christ

The next **grief support group** session will be at 9:30am in the Parish Office on Saturday, August 22. 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.

Vatican Display of Eucharistic Miracles

Join our clustered parish, St. Edward the Confessor, in reflection that highlights the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. In collaboration with the *Mary Our Mother Foundation*, witness a series of panel displays, photographs, and scientific evidence, all thoughtfully presented to deepen your knowledge and understanding. Come, reflect, and discover the ongoing miracle of the Eucharist.

Save the Dates: October 10-13

Jubilee Year of Saint Francis - Mass and Education Sessions

Every second Saturday through January 2027 at 10 a.m. Chapel at the Franciscan Life Process Center. Bishop Walkowiak will preside at Mass. After Mass, the sisters will educate us on one of the charisms of Saint Francis.

11650 Downes St. NE, Lowell

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 on Wednesdays in the Parish Office. Please contact Vanessa in the parish office for day and evening details.

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.

OCIA sessions for Catechumens and Candidates who have been welcomed into the Church through the Rite of Entrance, or the Rite of Welcoming continue to meet on Tuesdays in the Parish Office Living Room: **1:00–2:00 PM or 5:30–6:30 p.m.**

Knights' Corner

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen Blessed Michael J. McGivney, Pray for us.

Congratulations to our August raffle winners – Jeff Speckin, Dave Rosekrans, Anton Finelli, and Spence Stewart.

Vivat Jesus!

Ron Speckin, Grand Knight



Church On Fire In the Spirit

Bart Schuchts will be the guest speaker for this three-day parish retreat for the cluster parishes of St. Edward, Lake Odessa, and SS Peter & Paul, Ionia. See the flyer in the back of church for more details.

Save the Date: September 27, 28, 29

At SS Peter & Paul Parish & School

6:30 p.m – 8:00 p.m.

Vendors Wanted: Plan Ahead

Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Lowell is looking for vendors for Christmas Through Lowell, a holiday-themed event featuring homemade arts and crafts!

When: Friday, November 20, 9:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. & Saturday, November 21, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Where: 402 Amity St., Lowell, MI 49331

Cost: \$150 for both days

Food and drinks will be available, and the chapel will be open for visitors to light a candle for a loved one or spend a quiet moment with Jesus. Only 23 vendor spaces are available and are expected to fill quickly. To learn more or reserve a space, contact Gretchen Barnett at gretchen.barnett1@yahoo.com or (703) 407-0591.

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 or women welcome.

Ionia Area CROP Hunger Walk Fundraiser At El Mariachi's, Ionia

Bring your appetite, your family, your friends, and spread the word. Let's fill the restaurant for lunch and dinner and raise funds and awareness as we answer the call to feed the hungry in the local and global community.

Come and have lunch or supper at El Mariachi's on Tuesday, August 18, between 11 Am and 9 PM. 10% of food and beverage revenue will be donated to the Ionia Area CROP Walk. We are so grateful to Moises and Tony Velasco and the people of El Mariachi's for their generosity and willingness to host this event. CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States. 25% of the funds raised by CROP Walk are given to local food agencies. Zion Food Pantry, Commission on Aging, IM Kids3rd Meal, and Saranac area food bank all benefit from the Ionia Area CROP Walk.