


<div><p>935 Fourth Avenue Lake Odessa, MI 48849 (616) 374-8221 Main Office (616) 374-7383 Fax www.koopsfc.com</p></div>	<div><p>Let us Pray with our Mother Mary for our Priests and our Church</p></div>	<div><p>Saint Edward Preschool 616-374-7253 ext.201</p></div>
<div><div><div><p>Owners: Allen &amp; David Haskin 7775 Clark Rd. Lake Odessa, MI 48849 Ph# 616-374-8851</p><p>Call us for all of your ready-mix concrete, aggregate and construction needs!</p><p>Open Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm Saturday 8am -12 pm (seasonal)</p></div></div></div>		
<div><p>220 N. Main Street Nashville, MI 49073 (517) 852-9080 (616) 890-3729</p><p>Owners: Mike &amp; Amber Fetterhoff Tue.- Fri. 9-5 Sat. - Sun. 9-4</p><p><a href="http://www.66uniqueantiques.weebly.com">www.66uniqueantiques.weebly.com</a> Antiques-Collectibles-Oddities</p></div>		<div></div>
	<div><p>Saint Edward Family Center 741 Washington Blvd.: Lake Odessa, MI 48849 Available for rent (max. 330 People) For Information call 616-374-7253 EMAIL fredia@wowway.biz</p></div>	
<div><p>Council #14404 Chris Vinton, Grand Knight Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the Month.</p></div>	<div><p>7857 Velte Rd Lake Odessa, MI 8849 Mon., Tues., &amp; Thurs., 8-12 &amp; 3- 7 Fri., &amp; Sat., 8-12 Phone (616) 374-7880</p></div>	<div><p>Pray for the Unborn</p></div>

# Saint Edward the Confessor Catholic Church

## The Epiphany of The Lord



**January 7, 2024**  
Saint Edward Church  
531 Jordan Lake St.  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849

**Pastor:** Father Tom Brown  
[frtombrown@ssppcatholic.com](mailto:frtombrown@ssppcatholic.com)

**Website:**[www.stedwardslakeodessa.org](http://www.stedwardslakeodessa.org)

Office: 616.374.7253

[stedwards@wowway.biz](mailto:stedwards@wowway.biz)

**Facebook:** Saint Edward the Confessor Catholic Church

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
8 AM-2 PM  
Closed Tuesdays & Fridays

**MASS SCHEDULE:**  
Saturday Vigil 6:00 PM  
Sunday 9:45 AM

**Weekday Masses:**  
Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. 9:00 AM  
Thursday 12:10 PM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Thursday 6:30 PM-7:30 PM  
or by appointment

Katherine Martin, Secretary 616-374-7253  
Dan Shields, Bookkeeper

**DRE:** Fredia 616-374-7253 ext. 202

**Hall Manager:** Fredia 616-374-7253 ext. 201

**Prayer Chain:** Gayle Peacock  
616-374-8274

**Pastoral Council:** Kathy Carnegie,  
Colleen King and Fredia Wernette

**Financial Council:** Andrew Snider,  
Jerry Tomandl, Allen Hamp, Joe Coates,  
Chris Vinton, Mary Gillette &  
Marty Kretovic

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
We, St. Edward’s Parish, joyfully experience life in Christ through the celebration of the sacraments and dedicate ourselves to faith formation. Our parish is devoted to inspiring youth to become active followers of Christ. We live to promote love within the church and community according to the Gospel.

**07 Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord**  
Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3za, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

**08 Monday: The Baptism of the Lord**  
Is 55:1-11 (Ps)Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Mk 1:7-11

**09 Tuesday: Weekday**  
1 Sm 1:9-20 (Ps) 1Sm 2:1, 4-8 Mk 1:21-28

**10 Wednesday: Weekday**  
1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2,5, 7-10 Mk 1:29-39

**11 Thursday: Weekday**  
1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 25-26 Mk 1:40-45

**12 Friday: Weekday**  
1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a Ps 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12

**13 Saturday: Weekday;** Saint Hilary, Bishop, Doctor of the Church  
1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a Ps 21:2-7 Mk 2:13-17

**14 Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 6:13c- 15a, 17-20  
Jn 1:35-42



Merry Christmas!!! Yes, it is still Christmas although tomorrow, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the last day of this most special season. Tuesday will be our first day in ordinary time. As we celebrate this feast of Epiphany, we remember it is sometimes referred to as “Little Christmas” recognizing it as the second greatest feast of all the different days we celebrate as part of the Christmas season. When I was a child, we always called it the Feast of the Three Kings because that is what we remembered...the three kings (we now call them Magi or just wise men) coming from far away in the East in search of the newborn king. Many of our church fathers saw the significance in the wise men bringing gold, frankincense, and myrrh as gifts for the new king. Does anyone remember what the meaning of the gifts were?

We read in the gospel of Matthew, “Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, Wise Men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him.’” The early Christians saw the similarities between this event and the one in the Old Testament book of First Kings. “When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions. She came to Jerusalem with a very large retinue, with camels carrying spices and very much gold and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. King Solomon explained everything she asked about and his wisdom greatly impressed her. She had not believed the reports about him and came to see for herself. She told Solomon, “Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the reports which I heard!” and she gave him gifts of gold, spice and precious stones. In looking at the two stories, Christians remembered the words of Isaiah, the prophet, “Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising...the wealth of the nations shall come to you...they shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.”

The Gospel demonstrates that what the Israelites experienced under King Cyrus in their return and rebuilding of Israel was but a foretaste of the riches God would bestow on the people at the coming of his Messiah. At Christmas, the kings bring the treasures back to Jerusalem. It signals the beginning of the restoration of the nation and the rejoicing of God’s people at the coming of the Savior. To this very day wise men and women still seek him. But what gift shall we bring? What does one give to Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords? Let us follow the example of the Magi. More than gold, frankincense and myrrh, they gave gifts of worship, time and hope. When others saw the darkness of night, they saw the light. They were so filled with hope at the light of the star, they packed up and set off on the long journey, seeking Jesus, the new born king. They gave of their time. Scholars speculate their journey took two years or more before they finally found Jesus. As they devoted themselves to seeking Jesus, so should we. Herod, the scribes, and the people of Jerusalem didn’t leave the city and go a few miles up the road when they heard of the king. Instead, they were unhappy and wondering what changes they would be forced to endure. Let us not be like them. Finally, the Magi gave their worship. These were men of wealth. How else could they afford to go on a long journey with gifts for the new king? They were men of influence. How else could they have showed up unannounced and received an appointment with Herod? They were men of intellect. How else could they have travelled hundreds, maybe thousands of miles of terrain following a star? Men of wealth, influence and intelligence.

What did they do when they found Jesus?  
Matthew tells us, “They fell on their knees and worshiped!”  
Let us do the same!!! Come, let us worship the King!  
Merry Christmas.

MASS INTENTIONS AND MINISTERS

**Sunday, January 07, 9:45 am**  
+ Evan Goble by Mr. & Mrs. Barrett  
**Monday, January 08, 9:00 am**  
+ Living & Deceased members of the Waliczek family

**Tuesday, January 09, 9:00 am**  
+ Corey McCormick by Grief Support Group


**Wednesday, January 10, 9:00 am**  
+ Evan Goble by Tom & Sue George

**Thursday, January 11, 12:10pm**  
+ Living & Deceased members of the Gerhards family

**Friday, January 12, 9:00 am**  
+ Corey McCormick by Carole Heinze


**Saturday, January 13, 6:00pm**  
+ Virginia Decker by Mr. & Mrs. Peacock  
Lector: Kathy S.  
EMHC: Bill S. & Mary S.

**Sunday, January 14, 9:45 am**  
+Corey McCormick by Marsha Stadel  
Lector: Alan B,  
EMHC: Carole H., Janice F. & Mike R.  
Greeters: Heinze



‘May the angels welcome you into paradise,  
May the martyrs greet you on your way,  
May you see the face of the Lord this day.’

Please Pray for the soul of Corey McCormick,  
Grandson of Marsha Stadel, who passed from  
death to life on December 14, 2023.



**Adoration**  
Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 pm in the Church.  
January 4, 11, 18, 25

*Adorers Needed!!*

**Join Bishop Walkowiak for the Mass for Life**  
Monday, Jan. 22 | 7 p.m.  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew

All are encouraged to join Bishop Walkowiak to pray for the legal protection of unborn children. Those attending Mass are invited to bring a donation for baby pantries in Grand Rapids and Muskegon run by Catholic Charities West Michigan.

Catholics also are encouraged to pray for an end to abortion during the Nine Days for Life novena beginning Thursday, Jan. 16. Find the daily intentions in English and Spanish at [usccb.org/resources/9-days-life-novena](https://usccb.org/resources/9-days-life-novena).

Resources to support moms and families may be found at [GRdiocese.org/walking-with-moms](https://GRdiocese.org/walking-with-moms)

**Please Pray for:**  
Robert Rasche, Randy Armstrong, Manuel and Betty Rodriguez, Julie Sutton VanLiew, those who have asked for prayers, & those preparing to be our newest deacons.



*If you would like to add a name, please call or contact the office. Be sure you have the consent of the person of a family member.*

**Grief Support Group** will meet on **February 1**(the first Thursday) at 1 PM in the family center library. If you would like information call Marsha @269-367-4403.

**K- 12 Faith Formation Classes- Sunday 11am**  
Classes are held in the Preschool class rooms.  
January 7, 14 & 21



**R.C.I.A.**  
We meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in an informal atmosphere at 753 5th Avenue, Lake Odessa. Please call with questions 616-374-8340.

**Schedule**  
1-10 Baptism Jerry  
1-17 Reconciliation Fr. Tom  
1-24 Confirmation Alan  
1-31 Holy Orders/ Anointing of the Sick Fr  
2-07 Eucharist Andrew  
2-14 Ash Wednesday no class  
2-21 Eucharist Gary  
2-28 Marriage Suzanne  
3-06 Mary and the Communion of the Saints Anne  
3-13 Review  
3-20 Paschal Mystery Gary



**Men of the Eucharist:**  
Strengthened in Christ – Responding with Joy

Pray for Seminarian:  
Greg L. Wisinski  
University of St. Thomas  
St. John Vianney Seminary  
2115 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55105



Lord Jesus, I ask your special blessing on all young men preparing for the priesthood in our seminaries. I pray that they will grow in faith, hope, and charity. May their hearts overflow with your compassion, understanding, and generosity, and may their desire to serve you inspire others to answer your call. Amen.

**Exploring Priesthood Discernment Meetings**  
Discernment is a time of obtaining spiritual guidance and understanding. If you are considering the priesthood, the Diocese of Grand Rapids invites you to meet with other young men (ages 16+) to gather and discern God’s will for your life.

Meetings will take place from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Parish, 750 Gladstone Dr. S.E., East Grand Rapids and are offered on the **following Sundays in 2024: Jan. 28, Feb. 18, March 10, and April 21.** Just show up or email Pattie Reynolds, [preynolds@grdiocese.org](mailto:preynolds@grdiocese.org), to RSVP. Questions? Contact Father Stephen Durkee, director of priestly vocations, [sdurkee@grdiocese.org](mailto:sdurkee@grdiocese.org).

OUR PARISH OFFERING – Dec 30/31, 2023	
Adults	\$ 3,453.00
Loose:	\$ 214.00
<b>Total receipts:</b>	<b>\$ 3,667.00</b>
Weekly Budget	\$ 3,950.00
<b>Overage/Shortage:</b>	<b>\$ ( 283.00)</b>
<b>July 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023 Fiscal YTD Offertory Collections</b>	
Year-to-Date:	\$ 105,282.00
Budgeted Year-to-Date:	\$ 106,650.00
<b>Overage/Shortage Year-to-Date:</b>	<b>\$ (1,368.00)</b>

*Please note that "Our Parish offering" reflects the income from Sunday and Holy day offertory **only**.*

Your weekly offering envelopes can be dropped off at the office, or placed in the locked black mail box beside the office door or sent through the mail to: St. Edward Church  
531 Jordan Lake St.  
Lake Odessa, MI, 48849

*Thank you for your continued support of the church.*

**Counter January 7: Greg Zuver & Mike Hickey**  
**Next Finance Meeting- January 22, 6:30 pm**

Next Meeting will be on  
**Tuesday, January 9, 2023 at 7pm.**

**Sidewalk snow removal Sign-up**  
Winter will bring snow, eventually. So please see the sign-up in the back of the Church to help cover all week-ends until April 14.

**Diaconate Ordination**  
Bishop Walkowiak will ordain nine (9) men on Saturday, January 13 at 10 a.m. We invite you to celebrate with us as these men begin their life of service as permanent deacons in the Diocese of Grand Rapids. You are welcome to attend the ordination Mass in person at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew or join the livestream on the diocesan website ([GRdiocese.org](https://GRdiocese.org)) or Facebook page (Diocese of Grand Rapids).

**Discerning the Diaconate Meetings**  
Is God calling you to discern a vocation to become a deacon? The Office of Diaconate Formation invites men with interest or questions about discernment and formation to an informational session. Pick a session that works best for you. Meetings are from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
-Jan. 8, 2024, at Cathedral Square Center, Grand Rapids  
-March 11, 2024, at Christ the King Catholic Church, Howard City  
-May 6, 2024, at Cathedral Square Center, Grand Rapids

To RSVP or learn more, contact Dcn. Jerry Roersma, director of diaconate formation, at 616-288-0913 or [jroersma@GRdiocese.org](mailto:jroersma@GRdiocese.org)

**Televised Sunday Mass:**  
Join us each week for the live broadcast of 10 a.m. Sunday Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Andrew. Watch on TV on FOX 17, or online at [grdiocese.org](https://grdiocese.org) or the diocesan Facebook page (Diocese of Grand Rapids).

For by gold the power of a king is signified, by frankincense the honor of God, by myrrh the burial of the body; and accordingly, they offer Him gold as King, frankincense as God, myrrh as Man.  
— St John Chrysostom