

Hello everyone!

As promised, here is the OCIA schedule for the summer and fall.

# Schedule Overview

All sessions are on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m., held at Anne's house (753 5th Ave., Lake Odessa).

**Inquiry Segment** 

Meeting every other week:

- Wednesday, July 2
- Wednesday, July 16
- Wednesday, July 30
- Wednesday, August 13 •
- Wednesday, August 27

Then weekly starting in September:

- Wednesday, September 3
- Wednesday, September 10 •
- Wednesday, September 17

### **Catechumenate Segment**

(continues weekly)

- Wednesday, September 24
- Wednesday, October 1
- Wednesday, October 8
- (and so on...) •

# A Few Important Notes

- If you're familiar with our former format, the biggest change is that we're starting in the summer instead of waiting for fall
- The OCIA journey is now divided into three segments: Inquiry, Catechumenate, and Enlightenment. Don't worry if that sounds unfamiliar-we'll explain everything in our first session!
- During July and August, we'll meet every other week. Starting in September, we'll shift to weekly sessions.
- All sessions are on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m., held at Anne's house (753 5th Ave., Lake Odessa).
- Come hungry—Anne always treats us to an amazing spread of food and drink! The atmosphere is casual, welcoming, and full of good conversation.

We can't wait to see you on Wednesday, July 2 at 6:30 p.m. at Anne's house.

Bring your questions, your curiosity, and feel free to bring any family or friends who might also be interested in exploring the Catholic faith.

If you have any questions before then, just reply to this email—we're happy to help.

In Christ,

St. Edward Catholic Church OCIA Team Anne, Jerry, Alan, and Andrew

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### God's Kitchen is running extremely low on ground beef. Can you help?

God's Kitchen served more than 77,000 hot meals in 2024 to those in need in West Michigan, and the numbers continue to increase. With food costs rising significantly, we need help restocking our protein supplies so we can continue serving our community. Our most desperate need is ground beef.

Please help us feed the hungry in West Michigan by donating anytime Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 303 Division Ave S, Grand Rapids. Thank you for your support!

Questions? Contact Jeff Hoyh at (616) 454-4110 or jhoyh@ccwestmi.org

#### Will you help us Top off the Truck?

Diapers are a basic need, and the cost of diapers can be a financial burden to many families. That's why Catholic Charities West Michigan is hosting its second "Top Off the Truck" diaper drive event for St. Gianna's No Cost Baby Boutique! In 2024 alone, 4,500 families and 7,430 children entered the doors of St. Gianna's seeking support. Please consider helping parents and children in need by topping off our truck with these essential diapers! July 30

2-6 p.m.

St. Gianna's No Cost Baby Boutique, 1400 Plainfield Ave. NE, Grand Rapids For more information, please visit ccwestmi.org/top-off-the-truck/

> Michigan Catholic Women's Conference Saturday, Oct. 11 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E Michigan Ave, Lansing

The conference focuses on the theme, "Living the Promise" (cf. Proverbs 3:5-6). The day will feature talks from wonderful Catholic speakers and diocesan priests, praise and worship music, a time of Eucharistic Adoration. The day culminates with Mass celebrated by bishops from Michigan. The messages will center around God's unlimited faithfulness to our story and the incredible grace that comes from putting our trust in Him.

#### Register today – mcwc.ticketspice.com/2025-mcwc



Join us for upcoming Jubilee 2025 events *November 3 – 11, 2025* 

Join Father Lam Le, pastor of St. John Paul II in Cedar Springs and Mary Queen of Apostles in Sand Lake, and Catholics from the Diocese of Grand Rapids as they embark on a special pilgrimage during this Jubilee Year to the homeland of Saint John Paul II.

Highlights include:

- Mass celebrated by Fr. Lam Le at St. James Church in Warsaw
- Explore Old Town in the center of Warsaw City.
- Take a cable car ride to the breathtaking village of Zakopane and then head to the Jaszczurówka •
- Chapel, which was visited many times by the young Karol Wojtyla (St. John Paul II).
- sites in Poland.
- Visits to many other popular and devotional sites

For more information and to register contact Pattie Reynolds at preynolds@grdiocese.org or https://www.206tours.com/cms/grdiocese/poland,

July 13, 2025

# **ENCOUNTERING THE SAINTS OF DIVINE MERCY IN POLAND**

Visit the beautiful hilltop Jasna Gora Monastery, where Saint John Paul II made frequent visits throughout his life.

• Explore Wawel Hill in Krakow. This hill is home to the Cathedral and Coronation Chapel, one of the most the most important

Spend time in prayer and reflection at the Auschwitz concentration camp. Visit the cell of St. Maximillian Kolbe.

## Lord, it is good to be here!

### Scripture: Luke 9:28-36

Being in this parish, I echo Saint Peter's words the moment he witnessed the glorious Transfiguration of Christ, the Son of God. He said, "Lord, it is good to be here!" I find myself echoing those sentiments each day as I marvel at the countless ways God's goodness and blessings manifest in our lives.

During the celebration of the mass, we come in the presence of God to experience His boundless love and abundant mercy. In this communal worship, we stand in awe of the glorious divinity of Christ, who has selflessly given all of Himself for our wellbeing and salvation. The Eucharist is particularly special; it is a moment when we receive Him into our very beings, nurturing our spirits with His grace.

I pray that you delight in the experience of this amazing grace. Do not allow yourself to be distracted or preoccupied, causing vou to miss out on the beauty of the moment. Your attitude towards the experience will determine the level of fulfillment you receive. So, choose to be present, choose to delight in the experience, and allow yourself to be immersed in the glory of God that would make you say, "Lord, it is good to be here."

Escriptura: San Lucas 9:28-36 ¡Señor, es bueno estar aquí!

Al estar en esta parroquia, me hago eco de las palabras de San Pedro en el momento en que presenció la gloriosa Transfiguración de Cristo, el Hijo de Dios. Dijo: «¡Señor, qué bueno es estar aquí!». Me encuentro haciéndome eco de esos sentimientos cada día, mientras me maravillo ante las innumerables formas en que la bondad y las bendiciones de Dios se manifiestan en nuestras vidas.

Durante la celebración de la misa, nos acercamos a la presencia de Dios para experimentar su amor sin límites y su abundante misericordia. En esta ofrenda divina comunitaria, nos asombramos ante la gloriosa divinidad de Cristo, que se ha entregado desinteresadamente por nuestro bienestar y salvación. La Eucaristía es particularmente especial; es un momento en el que le recibimos en nuestros propios seres, nutriendo nuestros espíritus con su gracia.

Rezo para que ustedes gocen de la experiencia de esta gracia magnífica. No permite que te distraigas o te preocupes, haciendo que te pierdas la belleza del momento. Tu actitud hacia la experiencia determinará el nivel de plenitud que recibas. Así pues, elige estar presente, elige deleitarte en la experiencia, y permítete sumergirte en la gloria de Dios que te hará decir: «Señor, es bueno estar aquí».

Father Eugene Batungbacal

MASS INTENTIONS AND MINISTERS Sunday, July 13, 8:00 am + Don & Gert Arens (Radamacher Family) Tuesday, July 15, 9:00 am Saint Edward Parish Friday, July 18, 9:00 am +Ray Dietrich (Fr. Brown) Saturday, July 19, 6:00 pm + Jaenette Campbell (Bert Walliczek) Lector: Greg H. EMHC: Bill S. & Mary S. Sunday, July 20, 8:00 am + Fred Teachworth (Connie Teachworth) Lector: Kathy C. EMHC: Kathy C. & Chris V.

#### **Note From Father Eugene:**

Father Eugene is available to meet with you, please call the office for an appointment.

Monday will be his day off.

#### Nota de Father Eugene:

El Padre Eugene está disponible para reunirse con usted. Por favor, llame a la oficina para programar una cita. El lunes será su día libre.



Adoration Thursday Evenings - 6 to 8 pm in the Church. July 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31

Adorers Schedule for July 17 6-7 Cindy & Mary Gillette/ Mary Endres 7-8 Andrew Coates/ Open

Thank you to all that have signed up for adoration.

There are supposed to be two (2) adorers at all times. We still have 3 more open times that need to be filled. Adorers are needed form 7-8 pm on the first (1st), third  $(3^{rd})$  and fourth  $(4^{th})$  Thursdays.

If you need more information or have questions, please contact Suzanne King at 269-271-6406.

#### **Summer Office Closures**

During the summer months the office will be closed from July 23 through July 29. If you have an item you would like in the bulletin for Sunday July 27, please have in the office by 11 am on July 17. Thank you, Katherine

#### Updating records

Have you had any manor or major life changes, including but not limited to, new phone number, birth of a child, new email address or just moved into the area?

You can call, stop by, or email with the updates to the office.

#### **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 or the diocesan Facebook page (Diocese of Grand Rapids)

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Robert Rasche, Randy Armstrong, Jake Jacobson, Julie Sutton VanLiew & those who have asked for our prayers.



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

#### **Grief Support Group**

The next meeting will be on August 7 at 1:00 pm, in the library. For more information, please call Marsha at (269)367-4403.

#### Volunteers Needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word program for ages 4 (PreK) through 1<sup>st</sup> grade that will begin in the Fall. We are looking for volunteers to present the lessons to our parish children each week during the 8 am mass.

For more information or to get involved, contact the DRE office at 374-7253 X4.

#### **Donuts and Coffee**



Come over to the Family Center after the 8am

Sunday Mass for fellowship, donuts and coffee.

### Growing in Faith <sup>™</sup> Q & A: Can we console Jesus?

If you saw a close friend in deep pain, you wouldn't walk by thinking "She will get over it- I am busy." You would drop everything, run to her, and ask, "What can I do?' this is the logicand love- behind consoling the Heat of Jesus. It's not just a pious tradition; it reaches into the very core of our faith.

Jeus is fully human. He felt real emotions- joy, grief, betrayal and sorrow. He understands our pain, and we can share in His, since He is also fully God, He stands outside of time. In the Garden of Gethsemane, He saw not only every sin but also every act of love, repentance and faith. That means your love today can truly console His Heart in His Passion.

Words like "consolation' or "reparation" might sound outdated, by they mean something simple and powerful: to love Jesus where He has been wounded, to bring gratitude where there was ingratitude, and to respond with compassion where He was abandoned. Even small acts of love- a kind word, a prayer, a moment of sincere repentance – to touch Him deeply.

#### **Family Perspective**

by Bud Ozar

Children learn by watching us. Do they see you helping others like the Good Samaritan, or do they see you avoiding others like the Levite in today's gospel. Worry more about what your children see in YOUR LIFE than what they see on TV.

#### **Olivewood Cravings** July 19 & 20, 20205 Saint Edward Church and Saints Peter & Paul Church

Representatives from Bethlehem Christian Families, Wafa Al Sahouri with the shepherd and the lost sheep will be with us on July 19 & 20, 2025 to ask for your help and blessing for the native people of the Holy Land in Bethlehem. All the proceed from sales will be sent back to the families of the Holy Land so that they may be able to keep their homes and provide their families. The last few years were very tough for the Christian families, and this is the only source of income. https://theshepherdandthelostsheep.net

#### July 13, 2025

#### **Please Pray for:**

<b>OUR PARISH OFFERING</b>	– Ju	ıly 5/6, 2025
Adults	\$	3,893.00
Loose:	\$	471.00
Total receipts:	\$	4,364.00
Budgeted Weekly:	\$	4,000.00
Overage/Shortage:	\$	364.00
July 1, 2025 – July 6, 2025 Fiscal	YTD	Offertory Collection
Year-to-Date:	\$	4,364.00
Budgeted Year-to-Date:	\$	4,000.00
<b>Overage/Shortage Year-to-Date:</b>	\$	364.00

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, placed in the locked black mailbox 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 July 20- Pat drake & Bill Sutton

#### **CSA Update**

Thank you for your gifts to 2025 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Please keep in mind any amount raised over our goal is returned 100% to the parish.

Please return our completed pledge cards. Learn more art GRdiocese.org/CSA

Please continue to pray for the success of this effort.



The next Knights of Columbus meeting will be on

#### **Tuesday, August 12**

#### The Knights Family of the Month

The Mark & Julie Barbour family has been selected for Family of the Month. Opposites do attract. Julie is a cradle Catholic from out of town and Mark is a local who joined the church in 2017. Mark met Julie at Morrison Lake Country Club just down the road from where he grew up.

The pair hit it off, dating for a while at a distance. In 1996, they were wed in Julie's home parish, Saint Michaels in Maple Grove. The couple raised their daughter Rose in the parish. Rose and her husband still live near the Barbour family farm.

The couple attends mass regularly together. Julie works as an aide with the Saint Edward's Preschool students. She acted as an aide for the Children's Liturgy. Mark also helps out with some of the Preschool programming and is a Knight of Columbus.

The Barbour family appreciates the close relationships of Saint Edwards parishioners. The Barbours often notice the difference between the deep faith of Cradle Catholic and the sense of wonder held by Catholics that have joined the church later in life. In this they echo the words of Saint Paul to the Corinthians, they bring a variety of gifts, yet the Barbours unite in one body, as a domestic church.