

Saint Edward the Confessor Catholic Church

March 22, 2026

Saint Edward Church
531 Jordan Lake St.
Lake Odessa, MI 48849

Pastor: Father Eugene Batungbacal
Freugene@sspccatholic.com

Website: www.stedwardslakeodessa.org

Office: 616.374.7253

stedwards@wowway.biz

Facebook: Saint Edward the Confessor
Catholic Church

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8:30 AM-2 PM

Closed on Monday & Wednesday

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil **6:00 PM**
Sunday **8:00 AM**

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday **12:10 PM**
Friday **9:00 AM**
First Saturday only 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday **11:00 AM-12:00 PM**
Thursday **6:00 PM- 8:00 PM**
With Adoration

First Friday After 9 AM Mass

Secretary: Connie Goble 616-374-7253

Bookkeeper: Dan Shields

DRE: Fredia 616-374-7253 ext. 202

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

Prayer Chain: Gayle Peacock 616-374-8274

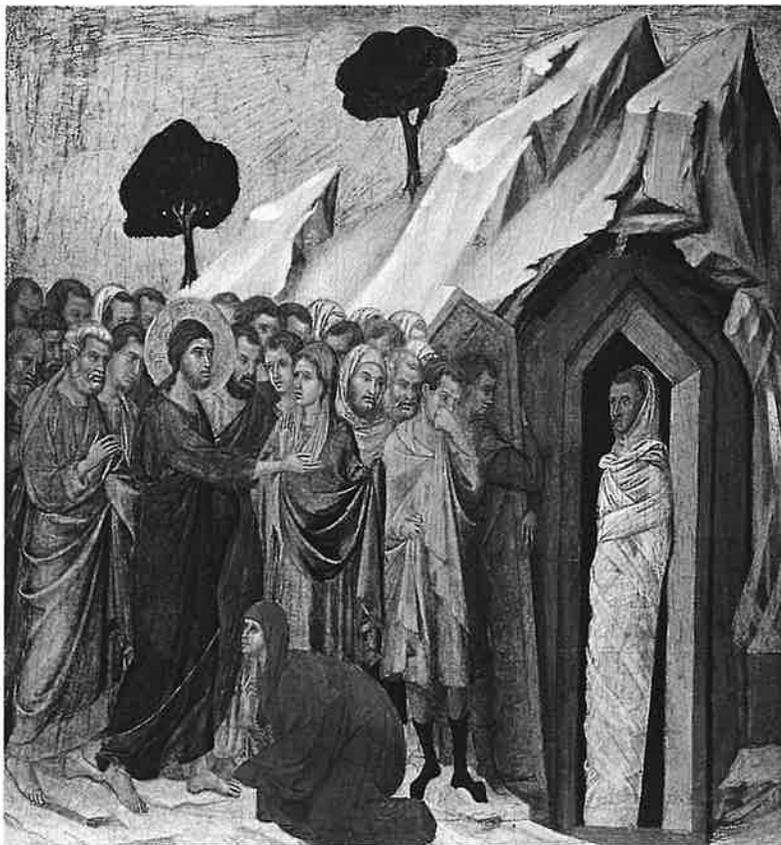
Pastoral Council: Kathy Carnegie, Colleen King,
and Fredia Wernette

Financial Council: Andrew Snider,
Jerry Tomandl, Mary Gillette, Doug Fox & 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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



22 Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14 Ps 130:1-8 Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45

23 Monday: Lenten Weekday: Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo; Bishop

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-6 Jn 8:1-11

24 Tuesday: Lenten Weekday

Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 Jn 8:21-30

25 Wednesday: THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Is 7:10-14, 8:10 Ps 40:7-11 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

26 Thursday: Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59

27 Friday: Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10: 31-42

28 Saturday: Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21-28 (Ps) Jer 31:10-12d, 13 Jn 11:45-56

29 Sunday: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Mt 21:1-11 Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14—27:66

Simon of Cyrene Carries Jesus' Cross

The fifth station of the way of the cross speaks of Simon, a foreigner, who was tasked with helping carry the weight of Jesus' cross. The bystander was accosted by the Roman soldiers to help Jesus with His cross for fear that He might die even before reaching the summit of Mount Calvary.

Like Simon, we are all spectators of the sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand by the sidelines and look at Jesus as He carries the cross. What are your reasons for being there? Is it because of curiosity? Is it because you think that what is happening to Jesus is wrong? Are you among the people who yelled "Crucify Him" as He was standing in front of Pontius Pilate? Or are you among the many, like the mother of Jesus, whose heart is aching because of what they are doing with our Lord Jesus Christ?

When asked to help our Lord Jesus Christ to carry the cross, will you be a willing participant? Like Simon will you step up and help. We might find ourselves unexpectedly carrying the cross. The burden of it may be too much for us but we have been given the privilege of sharing in the burden that our LORD is carrying. With this unexpected cross, Simon, though reluctant at first, embraced the responsibility that was given to him. He took upon the weight of the cross and became the companion of Jesus along the way of the cross.

There may be some reluctance in our lives when it comes to the unexpected challenges in life. We may find ourselves annoyed and angry by it. Or we can be inspired by Simon of Cyrene and put aside our own feelings and help carry the weight of the cross. As difficult it maybe to be carrying someone else's burden, know that God delights with the help and assistance that you give. The virtue of CHARITY, which calls us to go and act beyond our own needs. Charity upholds and purifies our human ability to love and raises it to the supernatural perfection of divine love (CCC 1827).

Act of Charity Prayer

O Lord God, I love you above all things and I love my neighbor for your sake because you are the highest, infinite and perfect good, worthy of all my love. In this love I intend to live and die. Amen.



Stations of the Cross
following the 9am Mass and
at 6pm Friday, March 27

HOLY TRIDIUM SCHEDULE

April 2 Holy Thursday: 7pm (Bi-lingual) Mass at SSPP
No Mass at St. Edward

April 3 Good Friday: Stations with Confession at SSPP
11:30am with Liturgy at 12pm

Good Friday: Stations with Confession at St. Edward
2:30pm with Liturgy at 3pm

April 4 Easter Vigil at SSPP beginning at 9pm
(No Mass at St. Edward)

April 5 Easter Sunday: Mass 8am St. Edward
10:15 am & 12pm at SSPP

Please note there is no 6pm Mass at St Edward or 4 pm at SSPP on Saturday.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 22, 8:00 am Mass

+Marlene Harkey by Reigler Family

Tuesday, March 24, 12:10 pm Mass

+Rosemary Hickey by Grief Ministry

Friday, March 27, 9:00 am Mass

Parish Family

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, March 28, 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

+Rosemary Hickey by Bert Walliczek

Lector: Pat St. Amour/Dave B.

EMHC: Bill & Mary

Sunday, March 29, 8:00 am Mass

+Martin Johnson by Linda Wood

Lector: Anne A. Alan B

EMHC: Mike R., Cindy G., Volunteer

**ADORATION**

Thursday Evenings - 6 to 8 pm
Every First Friday 9:30 am – 11 pm
Adorers March 26:

Fredia/Marsha (6-7)

Anne/ open (7-8)

Thank you to all who have signed up for adoration. If you need more information, please get in touch with Suzanne King at 269-271-6406.

Scan the QR code or use the sign-up sheets located in the church to sign up for Adoration.



Please Pray for:

Eric Clark, Robert Rasche, Randy Armstrong, Juile Sutton Van Liew, Jake Jacobson, Angie Raymond, & 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 family member.



Please pray for our Catechumens and Candidates, Kendra Wernet, Amber Reyes, Kade Boucher, Kyle Rodriguez, Zachary Villeneuve, Keegan VanAlstine, and Yetta Ferguson.

Saint Edward Faith Formation 2026

Class Dates: March 29 April 12, 19, 26

Classes will be on Sundays from 9:15 am to 10:30 am. Faith formation is for all students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Contact Fredia at 616-374-7253 x4 or at fredia@wowway.biz.

OCIA

Anyone who needs to complete their initiation into the church is invited to attend. If you or someone you know has not received First Communion or Confirmation, now is the time to complete your catechesis. Call with questions: 616-374-8340.

Grief Support Group

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 7, at 1:00 pm in the library. All meetings will now be on the first Tuesday of the month. For more information, please call Marsha, 269-367-4403.

The sign-up sheet for the Family Rosary is in the vestibule of the church. Please take this opportunity during Lent to share the Mysteries of the Rosary with your family.



Create space for grace

Lent is not just a season of temporary sacrifice, but a call to lasting conversion. Consider choosing disciplines that reshape daily habits and create space for grace. Here are five meaningful ways to begin redirecting your path:

Practice trust. "Which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life?" (Matthew 6:27). Concern is human, but persistent worry bears little fruit. When anxiety rises, turn it into prayer, "Jesus, I trust You, I place this moment and its outcome in Your hands." Trust grows through repetition. Refocus your heart. Lasting fulfillment does not come from appearance or possessions, but from knowing God and resting in His love. Keep a daily record of blessings received. Review it often.

**Men of the Eucharist-
Strengthened in Christ- Responding with Joy**


Dawson Morrissey
St. John Vianney, Wyoming
Propaedeutic Stage – College
New Man
St. John Vianney College
Seminary

O Lord Jesus Christ, great High Priest, lead our seminarians in Your unerring footsteps; so that they may become priests who are models of purity, possessors of wisdom and heroes of sacrifice. Teach them generosity and detachment from possessions; but above all, teach them to know You and to love You, the One and Only Eternal Priest. Amen.

Welcome to the Parish

Please welcome **Jennie Yonkers** to the parish. Jennie resides in Lake Odessa area.

Welcome!

Fire up your marriage and your faith!

Apply to attend a Catholic Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience in Michigan. April 10-12 at the St. Francis Retreat Center - DeWitt; June 15-17 at the Center for Ministry - Saginaw; July 24-26 at the Augustine Center - Petoskey. Apply today at wwme.org/. For more info, contact Amy & Joe at 517-667-0433 or visit wwme.org.

Volunteers

Volunteering is not just about sharing our time or talents; it is about growing closer to Christ through life in the parish as we give to others. There are many opportunities to get involved and make a difference here in your parish. We could not make the impact we do without the continued support and dedication of our volunteers. Please consider volunteering for one of the many ministries that we have here.

We need Lectors, Sacristans, Bulletin Folders, Ushers, Greeters, and gardeners. Every volunteer, every hour given, is a blessing!
Please call the office for more information.

Cor Men's Group

Our Cor Men's Group meets every first Saturday of the month in the Family Center Library at 9:00 am. The next meeting will be on April 5. If you're looking to grow in faith and fellowship with your fellow Catholic men, please join us. Contact Andrew Coates for more details.

ST. EDWARD'S PRESCHOOL

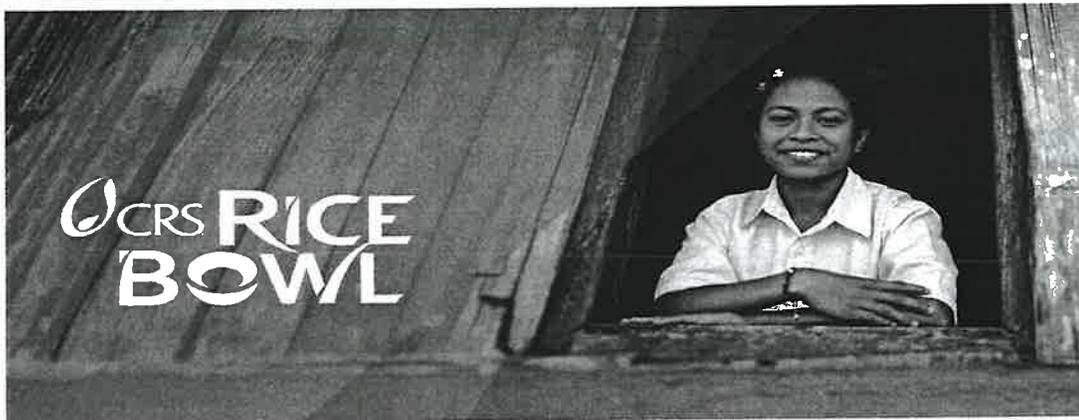
Open Enrollment for 2026-27

March is here and we are now planning for the 2026-27 preschool year. We are accepting applications from families who would like their child to attend our program this Fall. While looking forward to another exciting school year, we believe that our current curriculum will allow your child to continue to learn while also contributing to the development of the whole child - cognitive, physical, social, emotional, and language. We are committed to challenging, fun and formative activities that will teach each child that they are a unique gift from God and to help them develop in their educational growth with using Zoophonics in the classroom. Our preschool gives children plenty of hands-on opportunities to explore their world while in a Christian environment. Class size is small, which provides your child a better chance to build on their current skills while developing socially as well as academically. If you would like to enroll, please fill out attached enrollment application and return it with non-refundable deposit. You can get more information by contacting us at 616-374-7253 x4 or by emailing fredia@wowway.biz. Extra enrollment applications are located at the sign in table at Preschool.

Blessings,

Ms. Fredia / Program Director of St. Edward's Preschool

Where learning and play
are all in God's hands!



Have you ever heard the stories about trudging miles to school through harsh conditions? So have we. But when we met Adriana in Ermera, Timor-Leste, her story was no exaggeration. Every day, she walks over 12 miles to get from home to school—a dangerous walk for anyone, especially 14-year-old.

During the rainy season, Adriana must cross a river where flash floods are a threat. Tragically, she lost her 11-year-old cousin to one of these flash floods. The journey is worth it to her though, because she is learning about healthy eating and self-care, which she told us will help her because she dreams of becoming a doctor in her village.

Take a moment to read Adriana's story—it will remind you of the incredible strength that is found even in the most challenging situations. How can we respond with love?

<https://www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-4>

Simón de Cirene carga la cruz de Jesús

La quinta estación del Vía Crucis nos habla de Simón, un extranjero, a quien se le encomendó la tarea de ayudar a cargar el peso de la cruz de Jesús. Los soldados romanos abordaron a este transeúnte para que ayudara a Jesús con su cruz, por temor a que Él muriera antes siquiera de llegar a la cima del Monte Calvario.

Al igual que Simón, todos nosotros somos espectadores de los sufrimientos de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Nos mantenemos al margen y observamos a Jesús mientras carga la cruz. ¿Cuáles son tus razones para estar allí? ¿Es por curiosidad? ¿Es porque piensas que lo que le está sucediendo a Jesús es injusto? ¿Te encuentras entre las personas que gritaron: «¡Crucifiquenlo!» cuando Él estaba de pie ante Poncio Pilato? ¿O estás entre los muchos —como la Madre de Jesús— cuyo corazón se estremece de dolor por lo que le están haciendo a nuestro Señor Jesucristo?

Cuando se te pida ayudar a nuestro Señor Jesucristo a cargar la cruz, ¿participarás de buena voluntad? Al igual que Simón, ¿darás un paso al frente para ayudar? Podríamos encontrarnos, de manera inesperada, cargando la cruz. Su peso podría resultarnos abrumador, pero se nos ha concedido el privilegio de compartir la carga que nuestro Señor lleva sobre sus hombros. Ante esta cruz inesperada, Simón —aunque reacio al principio— asumió la responsabilidad que se le había encomendado. Cargó sobre sí el peso de la cruz y se convirtió en el compañero de Jesús a lo largo del camino del Calvario.

Es posible que surja cierta reticencia en nuestras vidas cuando nos enfrentamos a los desafíos inesperados. Tal vez nos sintamos molestos o enojados por ellos. O bien, podemos inspirarnos en Simón de Cirene, dejar a un lado nuestros propios sentimientos y ayudar a cargar el peso de la cruz. Por difícil que resulte cargar con la carga de otra persona, ten la certeza de que Dios se complace en la ayuda y la asistencia que tú ofreces. Se trata de la virtud de la CARIDAD, la cual nos llama a ir más allá de nuestras propias necesidades y a actuar en consecuencia. La caridad sostiene y purifica nuestra capacidad humana de amar, y la eleva a la perfección sobrenatural del amor divino (CCC 1827).

Oración: Acto de Caridad

¡Oh, Señor Dios! Te amo por encima de todas las cosas y amo a mi prójimo por amor a Ti; pues Tú eres el Bien supremo, infinito y perfecto, digno de todo mi amor. En este amor pretendo vivir y morir. Amén.

KOC homemade pies are in! Pick up your pies after the Mass today.

OUR PARISH OFFERING

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.

Counters March 29-Cindy & Mike

The next Knights of Columbus

meeting will be held on

April 14, 2026 at 7pm



Winners of the Knights of Columbus Raffle for 3/15/2026

1 st Place	\$175	Bill King
2 nd Place	\$ 50	Londa Bower
3 rd Place	\$ 25	Diane Zinzler



“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 **Tom McCarthy**,
the father of Carrie Haskin, who passed from
death to life on March 16.

“Eternal rest grant unto him, Oh Lord, may
he rest in peace.”

Lent is about love

Lent can feel discouraging. After all, we give up things we like and focus on suffering. Yet, in Holy Week, for which Lent is the preparation, we see God’s response to us in our sins. He meets us in our mess. He returns our rejection with freely offered love, our selfishness with radical self-gift, and our suffering with unfathomable mercy. We give up things for Lent because Love gave Himself up for us.

“[Our Lord] is thinking about you and not only about you but about every hair of your head: this is an article of faith and you must not have the slightest doubt about it... you have no cause to doubt that he is looking upon you with love...”

— St. Francis de Sales, Selected Letters

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As to be holy is nothing else than to will what God wills, so to be wise is nothing else than to judge of things as God judges of them. Now, who knows whether their sentiments be always in conformity with those of God? How many times have you discovered yourself to be deceived in your judgments and decisions?----St. Vincent de Paul



Council #14404
 Andrew Coates, Grand Knight
 Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the Month.

*Saint Edward Preschool
 616-374-7253 ext.201
 Enroll for the
 2026-27
 School Year*



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

Saint Edwards sites, please scan the QR code for each.



Facebook



website