

# ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS COMMUNICATOR

ST. JOHN PAUL II LITURGICAL CENTER ✦ ST. MARY'S PREPARATORY ✦ POLISH INSTITUTE OF CULTURE & RESEARCH

—  **FEBRUARY 2025**  —

*“My grace is all you need, for my power is the greatest when you are weak.” ~ 2 Corinthians 12:9*



*Faith, education, culture and tradition are the pillars of the Orchard Lake Schools. On Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, we honor them at the Galeria along the Richard & Mary Trzcinski Quad of the Orchard Lake Schools when we gather for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Scholarship Awards & Networking Event.*



## IN & OUT OF THE CLASSROOM



**FRENCH IMMERSION EXPERIENCE** • Prep teachers Michael Pettit and Ashley Yenor accompanied French Club students on another French influenced field trip experience! Over the December break, club members enjoyed a French brunch at Le Suprême in downtown

Detroit before seeing Cirque du Soleil, an acrobatics show that started in Québec, Canada, at the Fox Theatre. The theme of the performance was "T'was the Night Before". Club members agreed it was quite a spectacle!



**MARCH FOR LIFE** • The Prep helped launch Catholic Schools Week with a pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual March for Life. At 7:00 AM on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, St. Mary's Preparatory students, along with parents and faculty chaperones, braved the elements and prepared for the bus ride to Washington, D.C. for the 2025 March for Life.

After a nine-hour bus ride, we arrived at the hotel to enjoy some free time, a meal and settle into our rooms to get some rest for the March for Life the next day. On Friday morning, the group attended Mass at St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church with

the Chaldean Catholic Diocese of St. Thomas the Apostle. After Mass, we headed over to the National Mall to hear from pro-life advocates and policymakers to prepare us and remind us why we are marching on this particular day. We marched from the National Mall, past the United States Capitol Building, and ended at the United States Supreme Court.

We marched prayerfully, together in community, to stand in defense of the most vulnerable, the unborn child, and all families in crisis. It was an honor for the Pro-Life Club to represent the Orchard Lake Schools and the St. Mary's Preparatory community on the 2025 March for Life. The Pro-Life Club would like to extend sincere gratitude for all the prayers and support to make this experience possible!

**PETER RICHER**  
OLSM Theology teacher





**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK** • In addition to OLSM's journey to Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life, students, faculty and staff celebrated Catholic Schools Week January 26-February 1, 2025, here on campus.



## OLSM CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK WEEK SCHEDULE

### Monday

*Saint John Paul II Day for both divisions. The colors associated with him are blue and gold, so wear those colors for this dress down day!*

### Tuesday/ Girls

*Girls Saint of the Day: St. Therese of Lisieux. Her colors are pink/floral colors, so girls should wear those colors for their dress down day OR they can rep their middle school or elementary school!*

### Tuesday /Boys

*St. Anthony. His colors are blue, gray, and brown, so boys should wear those colors for their dress down day OR wear something that reps their middle/elementary schools.*

### Wednesday

*Girls Mass Dress Code, Boys Support Our School Day. Boys will enjoy a dress down day repping St. Mary's gear*

### Thursday

*Boys Mass Dress Code, Girls Support Our School Day. Girls will enjoy a dress down day wear they rep St. Mary's gear*

3RD ANNUAL

Saturday, February 8, 2025

OLSM vs. Br. Rice

**PINK  
IN**



**THE  
RINK  
2025**



St. Mary's Athletic Complex

3535 Indian Trail

West Bloomfield, MI 48324



Orchard Lake Hockey Association

High School Game Times

Game Times

Friday 6p-8:15p

Saturday 8a-12:30p

3p JV

5p Varsity White

7p Varsity Red



DONATE

SCAN ME





Congratulations to Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **JERMAINE GONZALES** (P'99) who was named 2024 All North Coach of the Year by *The Detroit News*.



O-mazing! **TREY MCKENNEY** (P'25), OLSM senior and University of Michigan basketball commit, makes history as OLSM Basketball's all-time leading scorer with 1,689 points (as of January 1, 2025) and counting! He surpassed Kalin Lucas and accomplished this feat at the Motor City Roundball Classic (December 28, 2024).



**TREY MCKENNEY** was named a McDonald's All-American, the first in our school's history! He is the 24<sup>th</sup> player in Michigan basketball program history to receive this honor, and the first since 2021.



On Friday, January 17, at the OLSM boys varsity basketball game, we honored long-time trainer **NANCY HALL** for her 25 years of service. She becomes the first female to ever be inducted into the St. Mary's Hall of Fame! Thank you, Mrs. Hall, for everything you do, and have done for St. Mary's.

## OLSM WINTER SPORTS SEASON IS THRIVING!



Check out all the teams and highlights at [www.olsmsports.com/winter-sports.html](http://www.olsmsports.com/winter-sports.html)



THE GREATEST GALA ON EARTH

SAINT MARY'S PREP

# AUCTION GALA

EST 1885



SATURDAY  
**FEB. 01** 2025

TICKETS ON SALE

SCAN HERE TO  
PURCHASE



[OLSM.MAESTROWEB.COM](http://OLSM.MAESTROWEB.COM)

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NOV  
SUBURBAN  
SHOWPLACE





THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS  
**AMBASSADORS BALL**

*SUPPORTING THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS AMBASSADORS ENDOWMENT*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025**  
ORCHARD LAKE COUNTRY CLUB

GIFTS TO THE AMBASSADORS ENDOWMENT FUND ARE PRUDENTLY INVESTED, AND ANNUAL EARNINGS ARE USED TO SUPPORT THE CORE PARTS OF THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS. SINCE 1974, THE AMBASSADORS ENDOWMENT HAS PROVIDED MORE THAN \$5 MILLION TO PROJECTS IMPACTING EDUCATION, OUR CATHOLIC FAITH, AND POLISH HERITAGE.

— *Ambassadors with current annual memberships* —  
*receive two complimentary tickets to the Ambassadors Ball.*

*If you are an Extraordinary Ambassador, Perpetual Ambassador, or current Annual Ambassador for 2024-2025, you will receive a mailed invitation. To check on your Ambassador Membership status, contact Lisa Gray at (248) 392-9974.*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THIS ESTEEMED GROUP,  
ATTEND THE AMBASSADORS BALL, AND MAKE A LASTING IMPACT ON  
THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS, PLEASE VISIT:

**[WWW.ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM/AMBASSADORS](http://WWW.ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM/AMBASSADORS)**

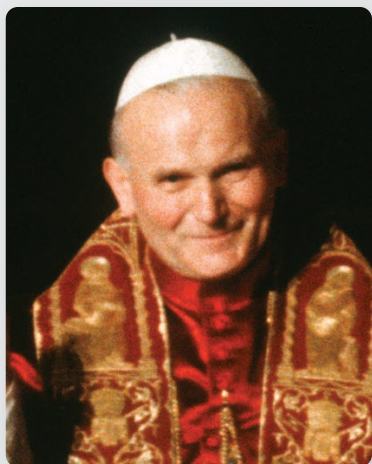
OR CALL LISA GRAY AT (248) 392-9974.





## ST. JOHN PAUL II LITURGICAL CENTER UPDATE

The Christmas Season traditionally ends on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and therefore, in Polish tradition, Christmas decorations are kept until that date. The reason is that 40 days after Christmas we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the child Jesus in the temple and the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary following the customs of the Old Testament, for according to the Book of Leviticus, a mother was considered unclean for 40 days after giving birth to a son. We may read some extracts from the homily of St. John Paul II delivered for this feast in 1997:



### IN THE WORDS OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

*Forty days after his birth, Jesus was taken by Mary and Joseph to the temple to be presented to the Lord (cf. Lk 2:22), according to what the law of Moses prescribes: "Every first-born male shall be consecrated to the Lord" (Lk 2:23); and to offer in sacrifice "a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons, in accord with the dictate in the law of the Lord" (Lk 2:24).*

*In recalling these events, the liturgy intentionally and precisely follows the sequence of Gospel events: the completion of the 40 days following Christ's birth. It does the same, later, with regard to the period between the Resurrection and the Ascension into heaven.*

*Three basic elements can be seen in the Gospel event celebrated today: the mystery of the coming, the reality of the meeting and the proclamation of the prophecy.*

*First of all, the mystery of the coming. The biblical readings we have heard stress the extraordinary nature of God's coming.... However, the liturgy looks beyond. In that 40-day-old infant it sees the "light" destined to illumine the nations, and presents him as the "glory" of the people of Israel (cf. Lk 2:32) ...*

*The second characteristic element of today's celebration is the reality of the meeting. Even if no one was waiting for Joseph and Mary when they arrived hidden among the people at the temple in Jerusalem with the baby Jesus, something most unusual occurs. Here they meet persons guided by the Holy Spirit...*

*Simeon and Anna: a man and a woman, representatives of the Old Covenant, who, in a certain sense, had lived their whole lives for the moment when the temple of Jerusalem would be visited by the expected Messiah. Simeon and Anna understand that the moment has come at last, and reassured by the meeting, they can face the last phase of their life with peaceful hearts: "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation" (Lk 2:29-30) . . .*

*The third element that appears in this feast is prophecy: today truly prophetic words resound...*

*The elderly Simeon adds, turning to Mary: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed" (Lk 2:34-35).*

*Thus while we are still at the dawn of Jesus' life, we are already oriented to Calvary. It is on the Cross that Jesus will be definitively confirmed as a sign of contradiction, and it is there that his Mother's heart will be pierced by the sword of sorrow. We are told it all from the beginning, on the 40th day after Jesus' birth, on the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, so important in the Church's liturgy.*

**FR. BERNARD WITEK**

Director, St. John Paul II Liturgical Center



# SHRINE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II AMONG THE 12 PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR THE JUBILEE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

The Church celebrates ordinary jubilees every 25 years. In

December 2024, Pope Francis ushered in the Holy Year 2025 by opening the Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome for a year of grace, forgiveness and renewal — centered on the theme, "Pilgrims of Hope."

According to the Detroit Catholic feature, "Archbishop designates 12 Detroit-area pilgrimage sites ahead of Jubilee 2025," the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II here at the heart of the Orchard Lake Schools campus has been designated by Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron as a pilgrimage site for pilgrims to visit to receive a

plenary indulgence. "While the Holy Doors in Rome will be the only such doors throughout the world during Jubilee 2025, Detroit-area pilgrims won't have to travel to Rome to experience the jubilee's graces," Archbishop Vigneron said.

In 1470, Pope Paul II established the practice of celebrating jubilees every 25 years, instead of 50, to allow more people to experience a Holy Year within their lifetimes.

For the full Detroit Catholic feature, visit:

[www.detroitcatholic.com/news](http://www.detroitcatholic.com/news)



## ZAPRASZAMY

**You are invited to join us for Polish 1st Sunday!**

*A special Mass at the Orchard Lake Schools to pray for Polonia*

**Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> • 1:00 PM**

- Polish Lunch after the Mass in the Dining Hall - Cost: \$20 (Kids Pizza for \$5)
- Please RSVP to the dinner by Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
- For more information, call (248) 602-7579 or [bernardwitek@yahoo.com](mailto:bernardwitek@yahoo.com).



*at the Shrine of St. John Paul II, celebrated by Fr. Bernard Witek*



*A special Mass*  
**CELEBRATING THE FEAST**  
*of*  
**SS CYRIL & METHODIUS**

*Fr. Bernard Witek SDS, Celebrant*



**POLISH DINNER WILL FOLLOW IN THE CAMPUS DINING HALL.**

**COST IS \$20 PER PERSON**

**PLEASE RSVP TO (248) 602-7579 OR [BERNARDWITEK@YAHOO.COM](mailto:BERNARDWITEK@YAHOO.COM)**

***Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 1:00 PM***

**SEMINARY CHAPEL • ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS**





# THE MARY PROJECT

AT ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

After many years of thoughtful footsteps, the pathways of the Marian Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Orchard Lake St. Mary's have given way to age and are in need of repair. The Mary Project needs your help to sustain this prayerful space.

We are soliciting your support to repave the walkways and paths, starting with the walkway from the Grotto towards the lake. It will be paved with custom bricks to make it much more attractive and durable than poured concrete, and we are asking that you donate one or more of the bricks.

You may individualize a brick for you, or your family, honor a loved one or create an in-memoriam message. The donated bricks will become a part of the Grotto, paving the way for generations of visitors. As a friend of the Grotto and Orchard Lake Schools, please take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to have your commemorative brick(s) become a permanent part of this prayerful space.

Construction of Phase 2 will begin in early November. Sales for Phase 3 (continuing towards the lake) begin September 15, 2024. There is plenty of space for additional commemorative bricks. Bricks purchased for Phase 3 are \$150 each and will be installed in November 2025.

The bricks are 4" x 8" x 2 1/4" and are engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology. Every brick engraving is guaranteed for life!

All donations are tax deductible. EIN: 82-5453994

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

**PLEASE PROOF READ CAREFULLY! \$20.00 FOR CHANGES MADE AFTER ORDER IS PLACED**

☐ **\$150 - 4x8 Brick**

Enter your text: 3 lines of text, 20 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation)

LINE 1  
LINE 2  
LINE 3


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL FORM AND PAYMENT TO:**

The Mary Project  
3535 Commerce Road  
Orchard Lake, MI 48324

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

The Mary Project

If you have any questions,  
please contact: Maureen Gross  
themaryproject@myyahoo.com



### FEBRUARY AT THE POLISH INSTITUTE: A MONTH OF REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION

We recently concluded the closing ceremony for *Sacred Images, Holy Spaces*, hosted in partnership with the Italian Consulate and Honorary Polish Consul Richard Walawender. With 150 guests in attendance, the evening was extraordinary—baritone Jake Surzyn and pianist Vanessa Kwiatkowski delivered breathtaking performances, earning a standing ovation and encore. Italian Consul Paola Allegra Baistrocchi and Richard Walawender offered stirring words filled with history, anecdotes, and a shared reverence for Polish and Italian culture.

The caliber of individuals in attendance was a testament to the significance of the evening. We were honored to also welcome the Honorary Consuls of Japan, France, North Macedonia, Belgium, and South Korea, who joined us in celebrating the profound impact of art and heritage. Their presence underscored the event's global resonance, reinforcing the universal language of culture and history. Congratulations to the Polish Institute for organizing such an inspiring and far-reaching gathering.

February brings new opportunities for engagement. On February 28, we proudly open our next exhibit, *Biography, Art, History: Polish-American Memories of Great Men and Women*, accompanied by an exclusive performance from world-renowned classical guitarist Krzysztof Meisinger, making a stop at the Galeria as part of his U.S. Solo Tour. His 75-minute performance will feature Polish classical compositions and passionate flamenco—an evening not to be missed.

Earlier in the month, on February 20, we welcome Professor Ewa Barczyk from the University of Wisconsin, author of *Footprints of Polonia*, for an insightful discussion on Polish-American legacies.

February also marks Święto Matki Bożej Gromnicznej (Candlemas) on February 2, a cherished Polish tradition symbolizing light and protection. For Polish Americans, this month serves as a reminder of our enduring contributions—from General Pulaski's heroism to the countless Polish figures who have shaped American history.

I encourage you to visit our website's calendar to stay updated on PICR events, as well as Polish cultural gatherings across Michigan and Ohio. Your support makes it possible for us to share and safeguard our rich heritage—dziękujemy za Waszą obecność i zaangażowanie!

**ANIA BIECIUK**

*Associate Director for Polonia Affairs, Polish Institute of Culture & Research*





# NEW PICR EXHIBIT FOCUSED ON BIOGRAPHY, ART, HISTORY

The Polish Institute of Culture and Research is thrilled to announce *Biography, Art, History: Polish-American Memories of Great Men and Women* will open at the Galeria this February. Through the lens of portraiture, the exhibition will examine the various ways notable persons throughout history have risen to embody Polish-American experiences and values: freedom, self-determination, generosity, bravery, and the pursuit of truth. A combination of artworks and historical documents will explore the lives and legacies of: Nicolas Copernicus, Tadeusz Kościuszko, Kazimierz Pułaski, Helena Modrzejewska, Józef Piłsudski, Henry Ford, St. John Paul II and Klara Święczkowska. The selection of these figures spans contexts both local and global, from centuries past to recent generations, who have made a significant impact on the cultural identity of Polish-Americans. Whether it be through scientific discovery, military prowess, magnetic creative inspiration, innovations in industry or a tireless defense of the faith, whether they were contentious or beloved, the featured individuals devoted their skills and talents to causes that transcended personal circumstance.

The exhibition will demonstrate the ways in which visual culture memorializes the past through a wide range of media: medals, posters, paintings, tapestries, sculptures, photographs and more. Each material offers a unique method of description which emphasizes a range of traits which cumulatively provide a nuanced depiction of each person. As stories are retold and reinterpreted, personal images and artifacts transform into symbols that reach far beyond the anecdotes or likenesses they represent. Their influence echos and expands into the present as the commemorative parades, holidays, and institutions that honor past heroes continue to create shared experiences and associations that build collective identity and inspire future growth.

A dynamic selection of performances and lectures expanding on these memorable figures and their influence on Polish-American culture will complement the run of the exhibition, which is set to be on view throughout the Spring of 2025.



## NEW EXHIBIT OPENING:

BIOGRAPHY, ART, HISTORY:

POLISH-AMERICAN MEMORIES OF GREAT MEN AND WOMEN

Featuring:

**KRZYSZTOF  
MEISINGER**

*A concert of Polish  
Classical and  
Flamenco Guitar*



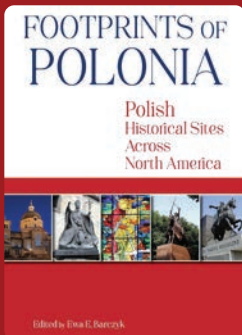
*Musical Performance begins at 7:00 PM*

**\$20 admission**

*(includes one drink token for Polish beer or wine • cash bar also available)*

**RSVP at [info@picrol.org](mailto:info@picrol.org)**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2025 • THE GALERIA • ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS**



## GALERIA LECTURE SERIES

February 20th, 6:00 PM

**Featuring: Professor Ewa Barczyk**

*University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Emerita, Associate Provost & Library Director*

Free and open to public.

Please RSVP to [info@picrol.org](mailto:info@picrol.org)



## A NOTE FROM THE GALERIA MANAGER



Candlemas or the Feast of the Purification of Blessed Virgin Mary falls on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and marks the presentation of Jesus at the Temple by Joseph and Mary, thereby marking the end of the Christmas season. This day holds significance in Polish folk traditions, as parishioners brought special beeswax candles to mass for a special blessing- these candles are called “gromnice.” The gromnica (or “thunder candle” in English) had a place in Polish village life. According to ancient tradition, they were believed to be imbued with protection from the Virgin Mary, the candle was often lit and placed near windows during storms to ward off any danger or destruction away from the home. These blessings were to be renewed each year at Candlemass.

In rural Polish villages, gromnice were often given as gifts to individuals at their time of birth or baptism and remained an important part of ceremonies throughout that person's life: from First Communion, to Confirmation, Anointing, and even Vigils, lit for one final time at one's funeral. Some even buried the gromnica with its owner, as tradition stated the candle “died” alongside.

A few examples of the visual culture surrounding these traditions are held within the collections of the Polish Institute of Culture and Research. Notable examples include a skillful painted copy and several printed reproductions of Our Lady of the Thunder Candle by Piotr Stachiewicz. This image depicts the Virgin Mary in a snowy field, faced by a pack of vicious wolves as she stands guard at a village gate in the dead of night. Her pale, white form seems to emerge gracefully from the snow itself; her face glows with a peaceful expression, as a diagonal strip of painted gold light demonstrates her brandishing of the long gromnica in her hands as defense against the snapping jaws of her foes. In the distance, a home is nestled safely in the hills behind, safely protected by the supernatural powers of the Virgin Mary. The scene beautifully depicts Polish tales related to gromnica and the effectiveness of their blessings, filled with details tied to the daily realities and risks of agrarian life, ultimately reinforcing confidence in the spiritual care and protection of the Blessed Mother as she leads earthly souls toward salvation in her Son, Jesus Christ.







## THE MARY PROJECT

AT ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

*“We never give more honor  
to Jesus than when we  
honor his Mother.”*

*St. Louis DeMontfort*



### PLEASE NOTE:

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF THE GROTTO AND THOSE WHO KEEP IT CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL FOR US.  
NO CANDLES FROM HOME ALLOWED, ESPECIALLY IN THESE TIMES AS SOMEONE HAS TO REMOVE THEM.  
NO VASES, BASKETS, PAPERS, OR ITEMS SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR OR LEFT ANYWHERE ON GROTTO  
GROUNDS. WE HAVE PLACED TWO LARGE VASES ON THE SIDES OF THE ALTAR FOR CUT FLOWERS.

*The Mary Project is dedicated to the beautification of the  
Marian Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Orchard Lake St. Mary's.  
The Mary Project is a registered 501(c)(3) and all donations are tax exempt.*





## ALUMNI NEWS



On Friday, January 17, OLSM celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Class of 2000 State Championship Varsity Basketball team! They finished their season 28-0 and were ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation. Legendary coach, **GEORGE PORRITT**, became the first coach in school history to win both the football and basketball state titles in the same academic year.

**PETE STABNICK** (P'73) recently donated his varsity sweater and button memorabilia to campus for all to share in the amazing OLSM school spirit! Thank you, Pete! Go Eaglets!



**BRENDAN TABONE** (P'16), a seminarian at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, celebrated Mass with some of our Prep student leaders and coaches at the St. Sebastian conference for student athletes.

**RYAN MCKAY** (P'23), a two-time OLSM baseball state champion, now plays for the Michigan State Spartans and is one of the top second basemen in the Northwoods League (NWL), one of the largest organized baseball leagues in the world with more than 340 players advancing to the MLB level. McKay was recognized as one of the 2024 recipients of the Rawlings "Finest in the Field" award for his standout defense.





# ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS **ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS** & NETWORKING EVENT

Please join us for an evening celebrating the rich connections and traditions shared by Orchard Lake Schools alumni. Gather with fellow alumni to witness this year's junior class finalists as they present their heartfelt essays on the profound impact of being an Eaglet, competing for senior year scholarships.

## ATTENDEES WILL ENJOY:

- **A strolling dinner at the newly renovated Galeria**
- **An opportunity to connect with other St. Mary's Alumni**
- **An opportunity to hear from our Finalists as to why they are the obvious choice for the scholarship.**

**Tickets: \$100/per person**  
*\$70 for 1885 Club Members*

*All proceeds benefit the  
Alumni Scholarship Fund.*



**THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 2025 • 6:00 PM**  
**GALERIA ON CAMPUS** (ACROSS FROM SHRINE)

**TO REGISTER: Scan Code**  
or email [sgonzales@orchardlakeschools.com](mailto:sgonzales@orchardlakeschools.com)  
**Questions? Contact Robert Mazur at (248) 830-9711**

TO REGISTER ONLINE,  
SCAN CODE BELOW





The Orchard Lake Schools Alumni Association is pleased to solicit nominations for the

# 2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS



THE HONOR IS OPEN TO ANY ALUMNUS OF  
ST. MARY'S PREP, ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, OR SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS SEMINARY.

**Criteria for the Distinguished Alumni Award include:**

- Lifetime achievement in a profession
- Tops in field (CEO, Founder, Owner, Originator, etc.)
- Received awards/accomplishments in field
- Exemplary contributions to their communities
- Connection to school/alumni association after graduation
- Person wants to be honored

Nominations should include the person's name, class year, the person or group nominating the alumnus, and known information that addresses the above criteria. Those not selected this year still can be considered for subsequent years. Alumni are encouraged to please think, talk to, and discuss with classmates about the individuals whose stories should be told, especially to inspire our current students.

The prestigious awards will be presented to this year's honorees at the Alumni/Founder's Day Celebration on June 7, 2025. All alumni and friends of the Orchard Lake Schools are encouraged to come be part of this special occasion to honor those who have made a lasting impact.

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR 2025 AWARDS IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025.**

**Please send all nominations to Robert Mazur at: [rmazur@orchardlakeschools.com](mailto:rmazur@orchardlakeschools.com)**



# UPCOMING EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## FEBRUARY 2025

- 1 St. Mary's Prep Auction Gala**  
**Girls Varsity Basketball** vs. Huron/Skyline  
 (Senior Night) @ 6:00 PM  
**Wrestling** @ CHSL Tournament
- 2 POLISH 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY MASS @ 1:00 PM**  
**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**
- 3 Skiing/Snowboarding** @ CHSL Championship @ 1:00 PM
- 4 Girls Varsity Basketball** vs. Clarkston @ 7:00 PM  
**Bowling** vs. De La Salle/Regina @ 3:00 PM
- 5 Wrestling** @ MHSAA Team Districts
- 6 Skiing/Snowboarding** @ Div. Championship @ 9:00 AM
- 8 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Pink in the Rink" Boys Hockey** vs. Br. Rice  
**Girls Varsity Hockey** vs. Livonia United @ 12:30 PM  
**Boys Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Tournament  
**Girls Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Quarterfinals  
**Wrestling** @ MHSAA Individual Districts
- 10 Bowling** vs. Catholic Central @ 3:00 PM
- 11 Skiing/Snowboarding** @ Reg. 6 Championship @ 9:00 AM  
**Boys Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Tournament  
**Boys Varsity Hockey** vs. Hartland @ 7:30 PM  
**Girls Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Semifinals
- 12 Girls Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Semifinals  
**Wrestling** @ MHSAA Team Regionals  
**Bowling** vs. U of D/Marian @ 3:00 PM
- 14 VALENTINE'S DAY**
- 15 Boys Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Championship  
**Girls Varsity Basketball** @ CHSL Championship  
**Girls Varsity Hockey** @ CHSL Championship  
**Wrestling** @ MHSAA Individual Regionals  
**Bowling** @ CHSL Championship @ 8:00 PM
- 16 PATRONAL FEAST** Mass @ 1:00 PM & Polish Dinner
- 17 Boys Varsity Hockey** @ MHSAA Regionals
- 17-23 NO SCHOOL** (Winter Break)
- 18 Skiing/Snowboarding** @ SEMSL Championship @ 9:00 AM
- 20 Girls Varsity Hockey** vs. Grosse Pointe North @ 4:00 PM  
**Girls Varsity Basketball** vs. Carman-Ainsworth @ 7:00 PM
- 21 Bowling** @ MHSAA Regionals @ 8:00 PM
- 22 Bowling** @ MHSAA Regionals Singles @ 8:00 PM  
**Boys Varsity Basketball** @ Operation Friendship
- 24 Classes Resume**  
**Skiing/Snowboarding** @ MHSAA Finals @ 8:00 AM  
**Boys Varsity Basketball** @ MHSAA Districts
- 27 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Scholarship Awards & Networking Event** @ Galeria
- 28 Bowling** @ MHSAA Finals @ 8:00 PM

*Check [www.olsmathletics.com](http://www.olsmathletics.com) for more information on MHSAA playoffs, and check for results on Instagram and Facebook.*

### MONTHLY ENROLLMENTS

*Throughout the year, donors to the Orchard Lake Schools enroll their loved ones in the "Friends of the Orchard Lake Schools."*

*Prayers are offered at every mass at the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II for those names enrolled.*

*These names are those that have been added from the month of December.*

KAREN ARONSON	PAT DENNY	ILEANO LUCIANO	ROBERT POOTTU
STEVEN ASHE	LEONCIO DIAZ	REGINA JABBOURI MARKOZ	BENEDETTO RODI
LYNN BOTZON	DORIS F. GOUDREAU	CAROL JEAN MCCLOUD	SALIM KASHO YALDO

*For more enrollment information, please contact Lisa Gray at [lgray@orchardlakeschools.com](mailto:lgray@orchardlakeschools.com).*



# FEBRUARY 2025

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 • FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK • POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
9:00 AM	FR. CHIKRI • LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK • ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1:00 PM	FR. WITEK • POLISH* <b>POLISH 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY</b>	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK • POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
9:00 AM	FR. McDONELL • LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK • ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK • POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
9:00 AM	FR. WARD • LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK • ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1:00 PM	FR. WITEK • POLISH* <b>PATRONAL FEAST OF SS CYRIL &amp; METHODIUS</b>	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK • POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
9:00 AM	FR. McDONELL • LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK • ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

\* Feed for the Live stream of the Polish Masses: [www.facebook.com/olsnews](http://www.facebook.com/olsnews)

## DAILY MASSES

<b>MONDAYS-FRIDAYS</b>	7:00 PM • IN ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	9:00 AM • IN ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

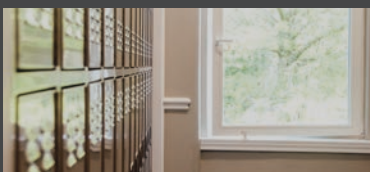
## SHRINE OPEN HOURS

<b>SCHOOL DAYS</b>	3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
<b>ALL OTHER DAYS</b>	8:00 AM - 9:00 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

## CONFESSIONS

<b>MONDAY-FRIDAY</b>	6:00 PM - 6:55 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	8:00 AM - 8:55 AM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

LOOKING FOR IMPACTFUL CAMPUS DEDICATION OR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES THAT LEAVE A LASTING CAMPUS IMPRESSION FOR GENERATIONS TO ENJOY?



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[CCZARNIK@ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM](mailto:CCZARNIK@ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM)

