

O R C H A R D L A K E S C H O O L S

CAMPUS COMMUNICATOR

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

"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not be faint" ~ Isaiah 40:31

MARCH 2026



GOLDEN GALA CHARTS CREW COURSE



CLARENCE CONSTANTAKIS (P'44)



There is a photograph in the 1944 Saint Mary's Prep yearbook of a group of students posed on the steps of what was then — already — a historic lakeside building. The boys stand in topcoats fitting the era, their smiles reflecting easy friendship. Who among

them could have imagined, even in the bravado of youth, how important that Eaglet Class of 1944 would become to Orchard Lake?

Clarence Constantakis, who celebrated his 100th birthday on February 9, was among them. So were the late Msgr. Walter Ziemba and the late Fr. John Rakoczy. From that class, Mr. Constantakis would emerge from humble beginnings to become one of the school's most significant benefactors. Msgr. Ziemba would go on to serve as Chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools, and Fr. Rakoczy would become one of the most widely remembered and beloved faculty members in St. Mary's history.

Today, the Clarence & Lillian Constantakis St. Mary's Preparatory Building is a core academic building for students. The Fr. John Rakoczy Gymnasium, "the Old Gym" hosts athletic practices and special events. These buildings stand side-by-side serving nearly 900 St. Mary's students. And Msgr. Ziemba's wisdom continues to permeate the mission of the school, while his name adorns the Eaglet baseball

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Happy 100TH Birthday

MR. CLARENCE CONSTANTAKIS!



ON THE COVER

On February 7, 2026, OLSM Crew celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a glorious Gala in the Fr. Rakoczy Old Gym, the historic home of winter erg training for decades of St. Mary's men. The Gala honored the past 50 years, including the new legacy the women of St. Mary's are adding to this heralded rowing program (read more on page 11).



Immediately following graduation, he began active duty in the Army Air Corps. Upon his return from his service, he was accepted into Adrian College. "I got into Adrian because they saw my diploma was from Orchard Lake," he says. "My grades weren't great, but the diploma coming from Orchard Lake got me admitted." His went on to earn a Juris Doctorate from Wayne State, a key milestone for a man who remains intellectually curious and deeply committed to learning.

It would be easy to attribute his accomplishments — overcoming what we would now recognize as a learning disability that affected his reading — to raw intelligence alone. But Clarence is quick to correct that assumption.

"It wasn't my intelligence alone," he says. "It was my determination."

The St. Mary's experience has not simply lived in his heart. He has used it to give life to similar opportunities for generations of students, serving as one of St. Mary's most generous benefactors for as long as records have been kept. Most notably, he provided a lead gift for the Spirit of St. Mary's Campaign, through which the historic Prep Building was dedicated as the Clarence & Lillian Constantakis St. Mary's Preparatory Building.



A new project honoring his late wife will soon "break ground" within the Dombrowski Fieldhouse. The Lillian DeRose Constantakis Center for Eaglet Student Athletes will serve all Eaglet student-athletes, with particular impact for those in the Girls Division. "I just can't do enough for Orchard Lake because of what they did for me," he says.

Few conversations with Mr. Constantakis pass without mention of his love for St. Mary's. That enduring affection — and the gratitude that accompanies it — continues to inspire Eaglets young and old.

In celebration of his 100th birthday, St. Mary's shared news with the Class of 1944 graduate that the school would establish the Clarence & Lillian Constantakis Legacy Award, ensuring that the values that have shaped his life — determination, gratitude, service, and a commitment to learning — will live on in the students who follow.

The **CLARENCE & LILLIAN CONSTANTAKIS** *Legacy Award*

The Clarence & Lillian Constantakis Legacy Award is presented annually to one student from the Boys Division and one student from the Girls Division who have demonstrated a deep and abiding love for St. Mary's, expressed through sustained dedication to the school and its community, while embracing learning with intellectual curiosity and a commitment to continual growth.

Named in honor of Clarence Constantakis, Prep Class of 1944, and his wife, Lillian, on the occasion of his 100th birthday, the award celebrates a legacy of determination, generosity, and appreciation for our surrounding environment.

Celebrating

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS Week



Catholic Schools Week January 26-31, 2026, gave us a perfect moment to celebrate what Orchard Lake St. Mary's exists to do: form faith-filled leaders for the Church, community, and world. For generations, our halls have helped shape men of character and conviction, including Cardinal Adam Maida; Jesuit missionary and Servant of God Fr. Walter Cizek; Orchard Lake chancellors Msgr. Stanley Milewski and Fr. Timothy Whalen; priest-scholars and community leaders such as Fr. Leonard Chrobot, Fr. Stanley Ulman, and Fr. Thomas Machalski; public servant Congressman Kerry Bentivolio; and media and business executive Jay Penske.

That same Catholic formation has inspired distinguished athletic alumni—Allen Robinson, Dion Sims, David Bowens, Morgan Trent, Sam Rogers, Grant Mason, Josh Ross, Scott Kowalkowski, Leonard Renfro, and Filmel Johnson—who have shown leadership, discipline, and perseverance at the highest levels of competition. As we mark Catholic Schools Week, we give thanks for these outstanding and distinguished graduates, and we joyfully look ahead to the new generation of young men and women at Orchard Lake St. Mary's who will step forward to lead in their parishes, professions, and communities, carrying this legacy of Catholic education into the future. God, Family, St. Mary's!



In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, the OLSM Boys Division hosted a CYO alumni all-stars basketball tourney! Students represented their Catholic grade schools playing in games. The final four teams were St. Pats, Our Lady of Refuge, Our Lady of Sorrows, and a combined team of St. Fabian and St. Regis. The Sorrows and Regis/Fabian alumni teams made it to the championship game with Regis/Fabian beating Sorrows 12-11 in the 10-minute championship game. Students had fun showcasing their Catholic school roots!

An Evening of

NHS APPRECIATION

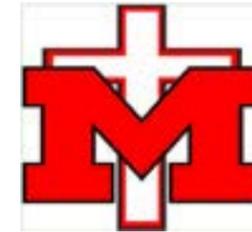
On January 23, 2026, Magnolia by the Lakes Senior Living hosted its Employees & Staff Application Dinner—an occasion dedicated to honoring those who give so much of themselves every day to assist senior residents. Despite the snow storm that closed schools, commitment rose above the weather. Ms. Simone, our National Honor Society (NHS) advisor, along with five dedicated NHS students, arrived at

Magnolia with helping hands and grateful hearts. From the moment the evening began, the students managed every detail—serving dinner and dessert, clearing tables, and handling cleanup—so the Magnolia staff could relax and be celebrated.

For one night, the caregivers became the cared for. The students stepped into the very roles the

Food Drive Fills HEARTS

BY MARK LENGEL
OLSM SOCIAL STUDIES DEPT. CHAIR, HISTORY TEACHER,
TRACK COACH & ATHLETES FOR CHRIST CO-MENTOR



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Sr. Judie Outreach Food Drive this year. It really makes a difference for those in need. The campus community came together in a great way. I would like to thank our student members of Athletes for Christ for organizing the drive and sacrificing their seminar hours and after school sessions to help transport and sort the donations. We are so thankful for the OLSM staff volunteers who help make the donations possible. Sue Rejc does an incredible job volunteering her time to sort and organize the donations each year. Bobby Clouse arranges for and drives the rental truck from campus

to the Sr. Judie facilities. Sean Clouse organizes the truck loading process and leads prayers and discussion at the Sr. Judie Outreach site.

“We’re so thankful for the OLSM students and families who helped provide donations that will fulfill six to eight months of lunches and meals to the people we serve.”

- GRACE BAYER OF THE SR. JUDIE OUTREACH

For more information on this great cause, check out this video link <https://youtu.be/KCR-OJXViCQ> or visit the Sister Judie Outreach website at www.sisterjudiesoutreach.com/



employees so faithfully hold for Magnolia's residents, offering kindness, attentiveness, and genuine appreciation through every small act of service. Laughter filled the room, music played, and soon dancing followed creating an atmosphere of joy, connection, and well-deserved celebration. What began as an appreciation dinner became a shared experience of warmth and gratitude. Through their presence and selfless service, the NHS students helped make the Magnolia by the Lakes team feel truly seen, valued, and special, turning a snowy day into an unforgettable evening.



Photo L to R: OLSM Juniors - Simi Schoelch, Miley Karana, Anna Blazic, Ms. Carla Simone (NHS Faculty Co-Advisor/Spanish Teacher), Emanuel Taylor, Nicholas Kavanaugh and Dr. Farideh R. Bagne, Ph.D., JD-Founder, President & CEO of Magnolia by the Lakes Senior Housing (Independent & Assisting Living)

Congratulations to our STUDENT ATHLETES



Photo by Tara Johnson | Art Teacher | OLSM

Girls JV & Varsity Basketball

These teams won their CHSL leagues! MHSAA District playoffs begin March 2nd! Girls Basketball CHSL Honors – All Catholic: Allie Crighton, Reese Holton, Laney Larsen, Brooke Shockey; All League: Jessica Asmussen; All Academic: Josie Andrzejczak

Boys Basketball

The following Boys Varsity Basketball student athletes received CHSL honors — All Catholic: Eligiah Hines; All League: Chad Willis; All Academic: Dillan Arafat.



Photo by Tara Johnson | Art Teacher | OLSM

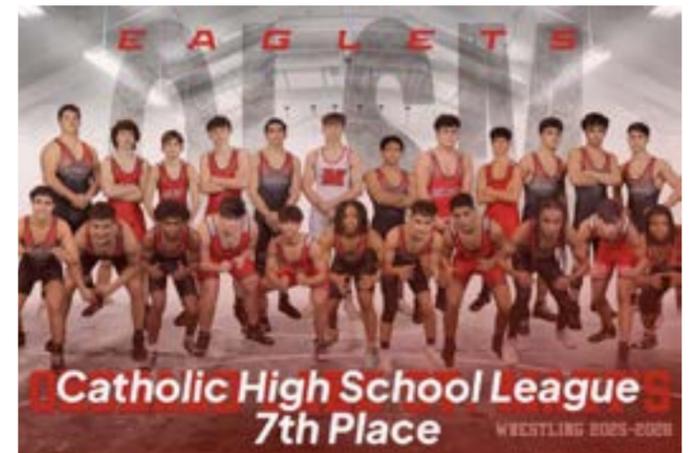
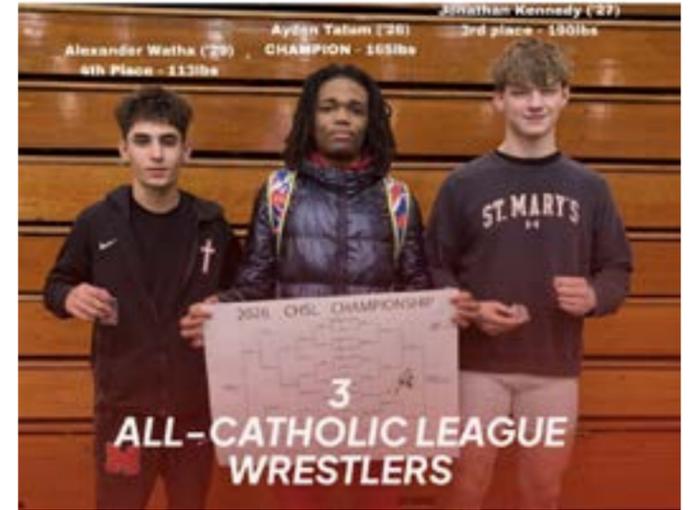
OLSM Wrestling

February 7 | Three Eaglets earned All-Catholic honors at the CHSL Finals. Freshman Alexander Watha placed 4th at 113 lbs, Junior captain Jonathan Kennedy placed 3rd at 190 lbs, and Senior captain Ayden Tatum captured the Catholic League Championship at 165 lbs. **With this victory, Ayden made history as the first 4-time Catholic League Champion in OLSM Wrestling history.**

February 11 | Eaglets claimed their first district championship since 2023, defeating Avondale High School 51-30 in the district finals.

February 14 | Two wrestlers advanced to the individual regional tournament: Junior Will Mukavetz at 285 lbs and Senior captain Ayden Tatum at 157 lbs.

February 21 | Ayden continued his historic season by qualifying for the MHSAA Individual State Finals with a 4th place finish at regionals. He becomes the first wrestler in OLSM history to qualify for the state tournament four times, adding to his record as the program's first 4-time Catholic League Champion, and third all-time in OLSM career victories with 111 (and counting). **The State Finals will take place March 6-7 at Ford Field.**



Boys & Girls Ski Teams



Congratulations to junior Pierson Kuhn on winning the Division 2 State Skiing Championship.



Cheer Team

Competitive Cheerleaders Catholic League Honors – All Catholic: Maddie Neil; All League: Sophia Bourasaw; All Academic: Josie Stevens



Signing Day

We're so excited to congratulate the 11 OLSM Boys Division and 4 Girls Division student athletes on signing their National Letter of Intent (NLI) on February 4, 2026, to play college sports!



BOYS DIVISION

- Tommy Rushwin | Soccer | Kalamazoo College
- Blaise Krol | Golf | Oakland University
- Kareem Pruitt | Football | University of Massachusetts
- Reece Hurst | Football | Grand Valley State University
- Ryan Harrington | Football | Wake Forest University
- Jaden Denham | Football | Madonna University
- Kinnus Paul II | Football | Saginaw Valley State University
- John Kolarchick | Football | Bowling Green State University
- Camari Patterson | Football | Western Michigan University
- Abe Marcial | Football | Wayne State University
- Greg Smith Jr. | Football | Hillsdale College

Pink in the Rink

When the ice turned pink for the 4th Annual Pink in the Rink (PITR) last month, local high school hockey rivals St. Mary's Prep and Brother Rice once again joined forces to help make an impact in the fight against cancer. "Over the past four years, Pink in the Rink has raised almost \$250,000 for cancer research," said Lisa Klanow, event organizer. This year, PITR again partnered with the Karmanos Cancer Center to support breast cancer research and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) for childhood blood cancer research.



Hockey photos by Tara Johnson | Art Teacher | OLSM



GIRLS DIVISION

- Avery Daniels | Rowing | University of Minnesota
- Riley Martin | Soccer | Hope College
- Sydney LeButt | Rowing | Indiana University
- Victoria Andrzejczak | Cross Country | Track & Field
Cleary University



New Era Begins:

GIRL'S FLAG FOOTBALL is Here

We are thrilled to announce the launch of Girls Flag Football (club sport) at OLSM! Through collaborative efforts between the Community Partnership & Student Engagement Director, Tracie Robinson and our Athletic Directors, Don Buchanan and Jermaine Gonzales, this exciting new opportunity is now available to our students. We are especially proud to share that the Detroit Lions will sponsor our team, providing valuable support and equipment as we build and grow this program.

WELCOME, GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL HEAD COACH, HALEY DUTTON

Orchard Lake St. Mary's is proud to announce Haley Dutton as the Head Coach of the Eaglets Girls Flag Football Club Program. Coach Dutton grew up in West Salem, Wisconsin, and brings a lifelong passion for athletics and football to our school community. Born on Super Bowl Sunday, her connection to the game runs deep.

Coach Dutton was a collegiate rower at Eastern Michigan University for five years, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science and a master's degree in Orthotics and Prosthetics. Outside of coaching, she is a proud pet parent to her dog and cat, Harley and Hank, who keep her busy and smiling when she's not on the field. Her hobbies include anything related to sports or the outdoors.

She currently plays semi-professional football and also serves as a football referee, giving her a unique, well-rounded perspective on the game.

With experience as a player, referee, and now coach, she is excited to bring all three roles together to develop confidence, discipline, and competitive student athletes. "I'm beyond excited to build this program and help our athletes discover their confidence, leadership, and love for the game," Coach Dutton shared. "Girls flag football is about more than competition—it's about teamwork, growth, and creating opportunities. I can't wait to get started and work toward a championship season together."

We look forward to an exciting season ahead as the Girls Division flag football takes the field and provides new opportunities for our Eaglets to learn, compete, and thrive.



APRIL 25
 6:00 PM - 12:00 AM
Vibe Credit Union Showcase
(Formerly Suburban)
 46100 Grand River Avenue,
 Novi, MI 48374
 To Purchase Tickets, visit:
<https://olsm.maestroweb.com/>

8th Annual Alumni Scholarship Awards & Networking

Spotlights STELLAR ESSAYS

Each year, guests who attend the Annual Alumni Scholarship Awards & Networking Event are amazed by the finalists' essay readings, not only because they speak to the audience with grace, humility, and heart, but because the four finalists show and tell their own stories reminiscent of the faith, culture and tradition inherent in our 141-year OLS history! This year's finalists, announced at the student Masses just prior to the event, include **Lindsey Schwegman, Anna Blazic, Jonathan Washington and Cian Caffrey.**

Here are a few excerpts from finalist, Johnathan Washinton's personal essay. It is Washington's storytelling that not only left many attendees reaching for a tissue but feeling in their hearts how his OLSM journey has impacted him particularly after facing a football season ending injury. He shared how his faith centered him through the spiritual, mental, and physical challenges he faced as he healed:

“At St. Mary's faith is more than something we talk about. It is something we live by everyday . . . Between medical expenses, rehabilitation, training, and the costs that come with being a student-athlete, my family placed my future above their own comfort . . . My journey here has graced me with valuable lifetime experiences—trusting God, honoring family, and serving the community . . . Recovery meant patience and discipline. Physical therapy was challenging and painful, but I showed up committed to work . . . Serving has taught me humility, gratitude and the importance of giving back.”

- JONATHAN WASHINGTON

Each of the four finalists received awards to put toward their senior year tuition. Congratulations to 1st place winners **Lindsey Schwegman** and **Jonathan Washington** who each received \$3,000, and the 2nd place winners **Anna Blazic** and **Cian Caffrey** who each received \$2,000.

This annual event takes place within the beauty, culture and historical surroundings of the Galeria right here on campus where the Polish Institute of Culture & Research features incredible exhibits and events that entertain and educate all those that visit during open hours or by special appointment. Visit www.Picrol.org for more information.



Photos by Tara Johnson | Art Teacher | OLSM

Crew 50 YEAR Legacy Lauded at Gala

On Saturday, February 7th, OLSM Crew celebrated it's 50th Anniversary with a gala at the Fr. Rakoczy Old Gym. The DNA of the St. Mary's Crew program is indelibly linked to this historic building, with generations of St. Mary's men having utilized it as their home for winter erg training. This Golden Anniversary was a moment for us to celebrate the many achievements of the past 50 years, and to help chart a course for a meritorious future.

The evening was attended by a phalanx of alumni rowers who came home to St. Mary's to rekindle past glory, and to inspire our youngest generation of rowers to reach for the victory that is earned by only the cherished few. Guests experienced a lively evening hosted by our erudite head coach, Chris Czarnecki. They danced to live music, enjoyed a sumptuous array of epicurean delights prepared by local celebrated chefs, and sipped elegantly prepared cocktails, Champagne, and fine wines. And some even slipped out to a mysteriously glowing

red tent that served as a Bourbon and Cigar lounge where they could luxuriate in the memories of the coveted past.

Overall, the night was a tremendous success, one that helped raise invaluable funds for one of St. Mary's most unique and cherished varsity sports. Since its founding in 1976, the rowing program has established a tradition of dominance par excellence. It has produced Olympic level athletes, multiple National, State, and Midwest Champions, and a second place finish in the coveted Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup at the Henley Royal Regatta, the world's most prestigious rowing event.

While this event celebrated the incredible legacy of OLSM Crew and the generations of past oarsmen, it also demonstrated the strength of its future potential, with a new generation of St. Mary's athletes who have trained their steely gaze upon an equally bright and victorious future.



We would like to thank the following sponsors for their incredible commitment to making this event a success:



Chef David Krause



Chef Anthony Lombardo



Smerecki Family

Our 2026

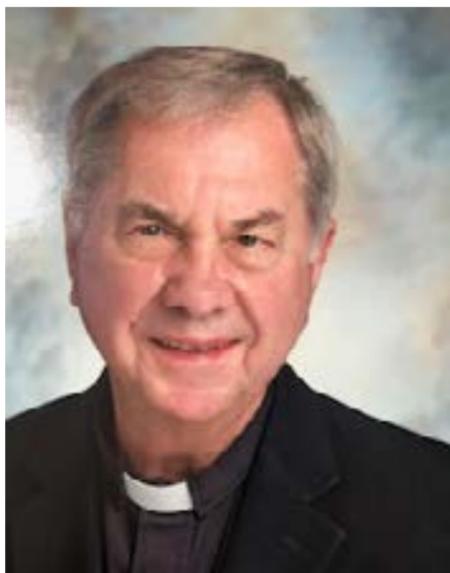
FIDELITAS MEDALISTS

This spring, we come together once again to renew the important tradition of the Ambassadors Ball returning to the Orchard Lake Country Club in Orchard Lake, Michigan, on Saturday, April 18. We are thrilled to recognize our esteemed group of Ambassadors for the lasting impact they make on the Orchard Lake Schools and to present our 2026 Fidelitas Medalists.



In keeping with a tradition that began in 1949, the Fidelitas Medal is presented in recognition of one's fidelity in serving God, country, and the Orchard Lake Schools. Fidelitas Medalists are evaluated for their realization of the religious and cultural ideals of Orchard Lake Schools founder, Rev. Józef Dąbrowski, a Polish missionary priest who established the original educational institution in Detroit in 1885.

Through decades of faithful ministry, leadership, and dedication to Catholic education, **Rev. Msgr. Francis Koper** and **Rev. Stanley Ulman** embody the ideals envisioned by Rev. Józef Dąbrowski. Their lives of service to the Church, the Orchard Lake Schools, and the wider Catholic community stand as an enduring example of Fidelitas — fidelity in action.



**Reverend Msgr.
Francis B. Koper**



**Reverend
Stanley Ulman**

REVEREND MSGR. FRANCIS B. KOPER
(P'63, C'67)
(SCCMS Faculty 1974-2018)

Reverend Msgr. Francis B. Koper devoted more than four decades of priestly life and ministry to the Orchard Lake Schools (OLS), leaving a legacy of leadership, formation, and service. He served as rector for 25 years (1977-2002), guiding the Seminary through a period of academic growth and spiritual vitality, and provided leadership in obtaining initial accreditation of the Seminary by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States and Canada in 1995. In addition to serving as rector, he was professor of moral and pastoral theology. From 1986 until 2000, he also served as Vice Chancellor of OLS under Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski. Msgr. Koper served the last 11 years of his tenure as Dean of Pastoral Formation and professor of U.S. Catholic Church History. "Becoming a Fidelitas Medalist is a great honor, perhaps in fact the greatest bestowed by our beloved Alma Mater upon an alumnus who embraced the ideals of our beloved founder, Father Jozef Dabrowski!" said Msgr. Frank Koper.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Msgr. Koper is a graduate of St. Mary's Preparatory (1963) and St. Mary's College (B.A. in Philosophy, 1967). He earned theological degrees (S.T.B., S.T.M, and D. Min.) from St. Mary's Seminary and University School of Theology in Baltimore and a Master of Religious Education (M.R.E) from Seattle University. After being ordained a priest for the Diocese of Wilmington on May 21, 1971, he served as associate pastor of St. Hedwig, taught high school theology at the parish high school, moderated parish CYO (Catholic Youth Organization), and developed a catechetical program for the elementary school. At the request of OLS Seminary leadership and with the permission of his diocesan bishop, Father Koper joined the OLS Faculty and engaged primarily in the education and formation of future priests, many of whom came from Poland.

During his tenure at Orchard Lake, Msgr. Koper also served as Seminary Director of Field Education, and College Dean of Students and instructor of catechetics. In the mid-1980s, he initiated the Polish American Vocation Awareness Project, strengthening vocational outreach and deepening ties with Poland. In recognition of his service to the Church, Pope John Paul II named Father Koper a "Prelate of Honor to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor" in 1996. For Msgr. Koper's full story, visit the following link in early March: <https://www.orchardlakeschools.com/ambassadors>

REVEREND STANLEY ULMAN
(P'64, C'68)
(Board of Trustees, SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary)

In line with serving Country and Orchard Lake Schools: Fr. Stan Ulman served three terms as a Regent of the Orchard Lake Schools and a Trustee of St. Mary's Preparatory. Shortly after ordination, he taught a couple of classes in Pastoral Theology in the Seminary. For many years, he was the director of the Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland and president of the Priests' Conference for Polish Affairs. Fr. Ulman was also very active and held several offices in MOSES, a faith-based community organization in Detroit.

"I feel very honored to receive the Fidelitas Medal," said Fr. Ulman. "I have a special place in my heart for Orchard Lake. My eight years on campus were very formative, and I'm eternally grateful for everyone that made that possible. Orchard Lake grounded me in my faith, inspired my vocation, and made me proud of my heritage. They gave me an outstanding well-rounded education that embodied true and lasting values. The bonds of friendship that were created continue to this day. I've tried to emulate the sacrifices and service of teachers, staff and volunteers that I witnessed while a student and later as an alumnus of the Orchard Lake Schools. OL gave this Eaglet wings."

Reverend Stanley Ulman has faithfully served the Archdiocese of Detroit for more than 50 years, marked by steady pastoral leadership and deep commitment to the people entrusted to his care. A graduate of St. Mary's Preparatory (1964) and St. Mary's College (1968), Fr. Ulman continued his priestly formation at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, completing his studies prior to his ordination on August 25, 1973.

Following ordination, Fr. Ulman's early assignments included service as associate pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Wyandotte, St. Gertrude Parish in St. Clair Shores, and St. Ladislaus Parish in Hamtramck, where he later served as administrator. In 1982, he was appointed pastor of St. Ladislaus Parish, a role he fulfilled for more than two decades.

In 2004, Fr. Ulman was named pastor of St. Mary of the Hills Parish in Rochester Hills, where he continues to serve today as a member of the In Solidum team of priests for the Paint Creek 1 Family of Parishes. He has also served the Archdiocese of Detroit in numerous leadership capacities, including as vicar for multiple vicariates, a member of the Presbyteral Council, and as an adviser to the archbishop through service at the College of Consultors. He also served as a Trustee of the Board of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. In August 2023, Fr. Ulman celebrated his 50th Anniversary Jubilee Mass, commemorating a half-century of faithful priestly service to God's people. Throughout, he is a faithful and kind presence in all matters celebrating and advocating for the Orchard Lake Schools.



THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS
AMBASSADORS BALL

SUPPORTING THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS AMBASSADORS ENDOWMENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026
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 \$7 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 2025-2026, you will receive a mailed invitation. To check on your Ambassador Membership status, contact Stephanie Gonzales at (248) 392-9209 or sgonzales@orchardlakeschools.com.

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
OR CONTACT STEPHANIE GONZALES AT (248) 392-9209
OR SGONZALES@ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM.



FOUNDER'S DAY SCHEDULE

MORNING EVENTS

ENJOY FUN, FOOD & MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S ATHLETIC COMPLEX

- 8:00 AM* • Family 5K Fun Run/Walk
- 9:00 AM* • Breakfast at Concessions Stand
- 9:00 AM* • Alumni Soccer Game
- 11:00 AM • Lunch at Concessions Stand
- 11:30 AM* • Alumni 7-on-7 Football Game

*Sign-in time. Activities begin 30 minutes later.



EVENING CELEBRATION

CIGAR BAR • SILENT AUCTION • BOURBON TASTING

- 4:30 PM • Holy Mass at Grotto • Fr. Witek, Celebrant
- 5:30 PM • Cocktail Reception at Rakoczy Gymnasium
- 6:45-10:30 PM • Founder's, Alumni & Friends Dinner in Quad



FRIDAY MORNING GOLF AT PINE KNOB • JUNE 5th

Limited Tee-Times starting 9:30 AM

Our Alumni & Friends Golf Outing in the Fall will replace the annual Founder's Day Golf Outing. QUESTIONS? Contact Lisa Gray at (248) 392-9974

ADMISSION • \$125 **SCAN CODE TO REGISTER OR**
YOUNG ALUMNI ADMISSION • \$100 **email: foundersday@orchardlakeschools.com**
Prep graduates: 2016-2026

SATURDAY, JUNE 6th

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS

REFLECTION

BY FR. BERNARD WITEK
DIRECTOR | ST. JOHN PAUL II LITURGICAL CENTER

This year the whole month of March falls in the Lenten season, starting with the 2nd Sunday of Lent on March 1st and leading us to the Holy Week which begins with the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord on March 29th. The Lenten season invites us to meditate more on the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, and that can enable us to recognize

the suffering Lord in other suffering people. Lenten penitence is expressed through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and that urges us to show compassion and be charitable to all who experience any kind of suffering, poverty, want, injustice, or persecution. St. John Paul II made some reflection on it during his general audience on April 11, 1979:

In the Words of

ST. JOHN PAUL II

The call to special and exceptional solidarity with suffering Christ is felt towards the end of the Lenten period. It is felt when the attitude of spiritual conversion, and especially the sense of solidarity with all our suffering brothers, has already matured in us. This corresponds to the logic of the revelation: love of God is the first and greatest commandment, but it cannot be fulfilled outside love of man. It cannot be fulfilled without it.

2. At the same time the deepest and most powerful impulses of love must spring from this Week, in which we are called to a special and exceptional, solidarity with Christ, in his passion and death on the Cross. "For God so loved the world"—man in the world—"that he gave his only Son" (Jn 3:16). He gave him to suffering and death. Contemplating this revelation of love, which starts from God and goes towards man in the world, we cannot stop, but must take "the way back": the way of the human heart which goes towards God, the way of love. Lent—and above all Holy Week—must be, in every year of our life in the Church, a new beginning of this "way of love". Lent is identified, as we see, with the culminating point of the revelation of God's love for man.

Therefore the Church exhorts us to linger in a quite, special and exceptional way beside Christ, alone near him. She exhorts us to endeavour—like St. Paul—

(at least in this week) to "Know nothing ... except Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Cor 2:2). The Church addresses this exhortation to everyone: not just to the whole community of believers to all followers of Christ, but also to all the others. To stop before Christ who is suffering, to find solidarity with him in oneself again—this is the duty and need of every human heart, this is the verification of human sensitivity. Man's nobility is manifested in this. Holy Week is therefore the time of the Church's greatest opening to humanity and at the same time the peak time of evangelization: through everything that the Church thinks and says of Christ in these days, through the way in which she lives his passion and death, through her solidarity with him, the Church returns, year after year, to the very roots of her mission and her proclamation of salvation. And if in this Holy Week the Church, more than speaking, is silent, she does so in order that Christ himself can speak all the more. That Christ whom Pope Paul VI called "the very first and the greatest evangelizer".



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY NIEDZIELA MIŁOSIERDZIA BOŻEGO

AT THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS



1:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sacrament of Confession

2:00 PM Holy Mass • celebrated by Fr. Bernard Witek, SDS

3:00 PM Divine Mercy Novena



Po Mszy będzie obiad. Chętnych na obiad prosimy o zgłaszanie się do 8 kwietnia (248) 602-7579 lub bernardwitek@yahoo.com; cena \$20.

There will be a luncheon after the Mass. Those wishing to attend the luncheon, please RSVP by April 8 • (248) 602 7579 or email bernardwitek@yahoo.com; Price \$20.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12th
ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

SHRINE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II: JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE SITE

Did you know that the Archdiocese of Detroit has designated our Shrine Chapel at Orchard Lake one of 12 Detroit-area pilgrimage sites ahead of the Jubilee 2025; a place for pilgrims to visit and receive a plenary indulgence?

The Church celebrates ordinary jubilees every 25 years. In December 2024, the late 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."

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.



EVER FORWARD!

ZAWSZE DO PRZODU!

STRATEGIC MASTER PLANNING PROJECT

The “Ever Forward” Strategic Plan has been approved, and the Orchard Lake Schools has initiated a new path. We are moving on to the second phase of the Master Plan for campus. “Ever Forward” charts a path forward for the OLS and its three major operational divisions.

That path goes in the direction Fr. Dąbrowski envisioned – it leads toward OLS providing the best possible organizational structures and activities to enable the spiritual formation and educational growth of the people OLS serves.

For more information, visit www.orchardlakeschools.com/Ever-Forward

PREPARE FOR

EASTER

and

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

AT THE ST. MARY'S BOOKSTORE.

There's More at The Bookstore.
248.392.9964

ORCHARD LAKE CAMPUS
1885
ST. MARY'S BOOKSTORE

POLISH INSTITUTE OF CULTURE AND RESEARCH PRESENTS
A RECULTURED DESIGNS FASHION SHOW

BLOOMS of TRADITION

SECOND EDITION

SOLD OUT

SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026
THE GALERIA, 3535 COMMERCE RD.
ORCHARD LAKE, MI
TICKETS: WWW.PICROL.ORG

Save the Date

“With a Song in My Heart”

Sunday, April 19, 2026 | 2:00 PM
Fundraiser Concert for the Galeria

Galeria at the Polish Institute of Culture & Research
3535 Indian Trail,
Orchard Lake, MI 48324
www.picrol.org for tickets



Polish Institute

UPDATE

BY ANIA BIECIUK
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR POLONIA AFFAIRS, POLISH
INSTITUTE OF CULTURE & RESEARCH AT ORCHARD LAKE



February offered moments of joy, beauty, and connection that reflect the heart of our mission at the Polish Institute of Culture & Research at Orchard Lake. As we continue the Lenten season in March, the rhythm of our communal life offers reflection,

renewal, and preparation for Easter.

This month also invites us to pause in recognition of meaningful moments in the Polish calendar. We remember March 1, the National Day of Remembrance of the Cursed Soldiers, honoring those who fought for Poland's freedom. We also celebrate March 8, Women's Day, acknowledging the strength, creativity, and contributions of women in our families, communities, and cultural life.

THE STORY OF POLAND IN POSTERS

Our newest exhibition, The Story of Poland in Posters, featuring 50 posters, opened to the public in February. Spanning the 19th through the 21st centuries, the exhibition presents a powerful visual narrative of Poland's history, culture, and artistic innovation. Through graphic language, symbolism, and design, these works illuminate the resilience and imagination of a nation, inviting visitors to encounter Poland's story in a vivid and compelling way. Appointments to view the exhibit may be made by calling 248-836-1284 or by emailing info@picrol.org.

STUDENT SEMINAR WITH OLENKA LISIECK

This special seminar on March 6th offers St. Mary's students the opportunity to engage directly with a contemporary designer whose work bridges heritage

and innovation, providing meaningful access to distinguished artists and cultural leaders.

BLOOMS OF TRADITION FASHION SHOW

We are delighted to share that the March 7th Blooms of Tradition fashion show is sold out. In celebration of Women's Day, this evening will honor the enduring legacy of the women who shaped our past while celebrating the creativity of today through the designs of Olenka Lisiecki of Recultured Designs. With student models and the presence of the Polonia community, the event will be both festive and reflective. We remain deeply grateful for the remarkable sponsorship and cultural patronage of the Royal Eagle Foundation, whose partnership helps bring this celebration to life.

PISANKI WORKSHOPS

These Saturday, March 21st workshops invite participants into one of the most cherished artistic traditions of Polish culture. Through the intricate process of decorating Easter eggs, guests experience a practice rich with symbolism and meaning, perfectly aligned with the themes of renewal that accompany the Lenten journey toward Easter (Register for one of the following workshops: 10:00 AM Kids Class, 12:00 PM Session, 3:00 PM Session).

FUNDRAISER CONCERT FOR THE GALERIA

With a Song in My Heart is a special afternoon of music that takes place on April 19th at 2:00 PM. The event will support thoughtful improvements that allow the Galeria to better serve artists, audiences, and educational programming.

CONSULAR VISIT

Representatives of the Polish Consulate will be on site April 24 – 25 to provide passport services. Please visit our website for details and scheduling information.

Visit our website to explore the calendar and purchase tickets for upcoming events at www.picrol.org.

Save the Date

30th Friends of Polish Art
Fine Arts Competition

In Partnership with the Polish Institute of Culture & Research



Detail of painting by Richard Kubinski

Opening Reception
September 12, 2026

Closing Reception
October 24, 2026

At the Galeria, 3535 Commerce Road, Orchard Lake, MI
Entry is free of charge, all are welcome

Send questions to Elijah Majeski, PICROL Galeria Manager
emajeski@picrol.org



PISANKI WORKSHOP



Polish Institute
of CULTURE
& RESEARCH
AT ORCHARD LAKE

THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF CULTURE & RESEARCH is hosting an educational workshop about the art of making Pisanki Easter eggs which is decorated using the wax-resist method. You'll learn how to create an authentic Pisanka (singular egg) with skilled instructor, Iwona Jędrzejczak.

WORKSHOP FEES*:

Adults \$40
Children (up to 18 years) \$15

- Price includes eggs, dye, and a kistka (wax stylus)
 - Pisanki kits available for purchase
 - Easter babkas for sale
 - Cash or check only for in-person sales
- You will be able to take your final product home!*

Call (248) 836-1284 to reserve your seat today! Space is limited.

SATURDAY · March 21, 2026
10AM · 12PM · 3PM Dining Hall
 KIDS CLASS* ADULT CLASSES

*Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Adult tickets may be purchased for this time only when attending with a child.

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS • 3535 Commerce Rd. Orchard Lake, MI 48324
 PLEASE NOTE: Parking behind Dining Hall is limited. We invite you to park in main lot adjacent to Archdiocesan Shrine.

New Exhibit Now on View

The Story of POLAND in POSTERS



Elijah Majeski, Galeria Manager

The Story of Poland in Posters showcases the heritage of Polish poster art from the 19th century to the 21st century. Through these posters the tumultuous and fascinating story of Poland and its culture comes to life.

Step into a powerful visual journey through history with this exhibition featuring 50 posters that reveal how design, symbolism, and artistic innovation captured Poland's cultural spirit and social change across generations.

The exhibit received its first public preview during the February 13 DSO concert and is now available for visits by appointment.

Appointments may be scheduled by calling **248-836-1284** or emailing **info@picrol.org**.

CASA PIANO QUARTET at the Galeria

On Feb 13, just on the eve of Valentine's Day, the Galeria at Orchard Lake was filled with warmth and anticipation as the Casa Piano Quartet, Detroit Symphony Orchestra musicians Marian Tănău, Michael Chen, David Ledoux, and Kazimierz Brzozowski, brought an unforgettable program to life. Featuring piano quartets by Władysław Żeleński, Gustav Mahler, and Robert Schumann, the performance unfolded with intimacy and emotional depth and reflected the high caliber of artistic programming presented at the Galeria.

Guests also enjoyed a first preview of the new poster exhibition, adding another layer to an evening shaped by music, art, and shared experience. We are grateful to our event sponsor, Wipfli Advisory LLC, for their generous support.





THE MARY PROJECT

AT ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

Please visit and enjoy the NEW

WALKING ROSARY AND REFLECTION AREA *in the Marian Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at St. Mary's Preparatory.*

**WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS TO HELP DEFRAY THE
COST OF THIS ADDITION TO THE GROTTTO.**

YOU CAN DONATE BY:

- 1) Purchasing a brick paver. Order forms are available at the gate or online at the link www.orchardlakeschools.com/ways-to-give
- 2) Leave a donation in the donation box at the Grotto inside the candle area.
- 3) Mail a check (payable to The Mary Project) to:

*The Mary Project
3535 Commerce Road
Orchard Lake, MI 48324*

For naming opportunities, please contact Maureen Gross at themaryproject@myyahoo.com.

All donations are tax deductible. EIN: 82-5453994



The Mary Project



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 3 will begin in early November. Sales for Phase 4 (continuing towards the lake) begin September 15, 2025. There is plenty of space for additional commemorative bricks. Bricks purchased for Phase 4 are \$150 each and will be installed in November 2026.

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, 2026

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

\$150 - 4x8 Brick

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

Join Us for
HOLY WEEK
Here on Campus



SUNDAY, MARCH 29
 PALM SUNDAY MASSES
 9:00 AM | Polish | Seminary Chapel
 8:15 AM | Latin | JPII Shrine Chapel
 11:00 AM | English | JPII Shrine Chapel



THURSDAY, APRIL 2
 HOLY THURSDAY
 MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
 7:00 PM | English | JPII Shrine Chapel



FRIDAY, APRIL 3
 GOOD FRIDAY
 JPII Shrine Chapel
 1:00 PM | Stations of the Cross
 2:00 PM | Good Friday Liturgy



SATURDAY, APRIL 4
 HOLY SATURDAY
 JPII Shrine Chapel
 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM | Blessing of the Food
 8:30 PM | Easter Vigil Mass



SUNDAY, APRIL 5
 EASTER SUNDAY
 JPII Shrine Chapel
 9:00 AM | Polish | Seminary Chapel
 9:00 AM | Latin | JPII Shrine Chapel
 11:00 AM | English | JPII Shrine Chapel

March 2026

Upcoming EVENTS highlights

- 1 Polish 1st Sunday Mass | 1:00 PM
Galeria Open | 12-3:00 PM
- 6-7 MHSAA Wrestling State Championship | Ford Field
- 7 Blooms of Tradition Fashion Show | Galeria | 5:00 PM
- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
Father-Son Mass & Luncheon | 12:00 PM
- 13 End of 3rd Card Marking Period
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Girls Division NHS Induction Ceremony | 5:00 PM
- 19 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 20 NO SCHOOL
First Day of Spring
Girls Softball vs. Macomb Dakota | 4:30 PM
- 21 Varsity Baseball vs. Catholic Central Doubleheader | 11:00 AM
Pisanki Workshops | 10:00 AM (Children's) | 12:00 PM | 3:00 PM
- 22 5th Annual Mother-Daughter Brunch | Wabeek CC | 11:30 AM
- 23 Girls Soccer vs. Warren Cousino | 6:00 PM
- 25 Varsity Baseball vs. Brother Rice Doubleheader | 4:00 PM
Boys Division NHS Induction Ceremony | 5:00 PM
- 26 Girls Soccer vs. Macomb Lutheran North | 6:00 PM
- 29 Palm Sunday
- 30 Girls Soccer vs. St. Catherine's | 6:00 PM
- 31 Girls Softball vs. South Lyon East Workout/Scrimmage | 5:30 PM

Visit olsmathletics.com for more information on schedules and 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 January.

FR. ANTHONY CAMILLERI	JOSEPH LENTINE, JR.	RAYMOND TEURIAN
VICTOR CHOLAK	ED LOGSDON	JUDITH THRONE
BARRI DRAYTON	MICHAEL JOSEPH LUCKOW, JR.	RICHARD A. VARYU
NORM DZIADZIO	MIKE MCINERNEY	JOHN WASCANIZUS
RITA MARIE GEORGE	GEORGE MIKESELL	CHARLES ZEGOWSKI
JOSEPH HODGSON	MARY MUSCAT	CHRISTOPHER ZIEMBA, P'63
TERI JACKSON	MICHAEL GERARD OSIECKI, P'77	(NEPHEW OF FR. WALTER ZIEMBA)
SALWA ODISH KAMMO	ELIZABETH PINNICK	
KATHLEEN KOHNE	ANITA V. SCHRYUER	

For more enrollment information, please contact Lisa Gray at lgray@orchardlakeschools.com

March 2026

MASS schedule

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
9:00 AM	MSGR. BROWNE LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
Polish 1st Sunday		
1:00 PM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

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, MARCH 15

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
9:00 AM	FR. WHITAKER LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1:00 PM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 | PALM SUNDAY

9:00 AM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
8:15 AM	FR. MCDONELL LATIN	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
11:00 AM	FR. WITEK ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

*The Polish Mass is now live streamed at:
www.youtube.com/@orchardlakeschools9385 within the "Live" tab



DAILY MASSES

MONDAY-FRIDAYS	7:00 PM ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
SATURDAYS	9:00 AM ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SHRINE OPEN HOURS

SUNDAY & SATURDAY	8:00 AM – 9:00 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
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EXTRA-LITURGICAL DEVOTIONS

1 ST FRIDAY 3/6	STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6:30 PM MASS 7:00 PM DEVOTIONS * FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1 ST SATURDAY 3/7	MASS 9:00 AM DEVOTIONS * FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
THURSDAY 3/19	BIBLE STUDY AFTER MASS 7:45 PM	SEMINARY CHAPEL
FRIDAY 3/20	DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS 7:45 PM KRAĞ BIBLIJY 8:00 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE SEMINARY CHAPEL

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY-FRIDAYS	6:00 – 6:55 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
SATURDAYS	8:00 – 8:55 AM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE