

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS COMMUNICATOR

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

APRIL 2025

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!" ~ Psalm 118



"Easter is a 'movable feast' determined by the lunar calendar. Its date was established by the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox. Therefore, the date of Easter falls, depending on the full moon, between March 22 and April 25. Easter and the Sacred Triduum that precedes it is the highest moment in our liturgical calendar, it is the greatest feast, because we celebrate the 'Paschal Mystery' (Jesus' death and Resurrection)." Read more, including the excerpt from St. John Paul II, on page 10 by Fr. Bernard Witek, Director, St. John Paul II Liturgical Center.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WINTER SPORTS CHAMPS & HONOREES!

Varsity hockey defeated East Grand Rapids (5-1) in MHSAA Quarterfinals play and advanced to the State Semifinals vs. Alpena HS on Friday, March 7 at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, winning that game (9-1). On March 8, OLSM defeated Cranbrook Kingswood (3-0), winning the MHSAA D3 State Hockey Championship!

The following hockey players received All-State honors:

All-State 1st Team: **WILL KEANE**, **THADDEUS RAYNISH**, **JACK SQUIRE**

All-State 2nd Team: **JULIAN JOHNSTON**



MHSAA Regional competition on March 4, won the Quarterfinals defeating L'Anse Creuse, and advanced to the MHSAA Final Four at the Breslin Centre at Michigan State University.

OLSM's **TREY MCKENNEY** was named 2025's Mr. Basketball by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan (BCAM)! The OLSM Combo Guard and all-time leading scorer will continue his journey in 2025-26 playing for the University of Michigan Wolverines.

The following OLSM skiers received All-State honors:

All-State 1st Team: **PIERSON KUHN**, **NOAH MORLEY**

All-State Honorable Mention: **COLE ZEWATSKY**.

Senior Malek Zawaideh captured 8th place in the Division 2, 285 lbs. weight class at the **MHSAA Wrestling Finals** at Ford Field February 28-March 1, earning him All-State Individual Honors!

The **Girls Hockey** team with St. Catherine of Siena made it to the semifinal vs. Grosse Pointe South at the Arctic Edge Arena in Canton on Wednesday, March 5th.



It was an Operation Friendship game OT thriller at Eastern Michigan University when OLSM varsity basketball defeated Renaissance (76-73).

Boys varsity basketball 4-peated the MHSAA District Championship by defeating West Bloomfield High School (69-44).

They advanced to



COACH NICK DIPONIO HIGHLIGHTS FATHER & SON EVENT

This year's Father & Son event, OLSM's annual baseball fundraiser, was a fantastic time to honor tradition. We gathered for Mass together in worship, then enjoyed a wonderful luncheon. The day was highlighted by guest speaker and former MSU and NBA player Mateen Cleaves! He brought incredible passion to the gathering and his words inspired so many, especially the way he conveyed his message with his champion mindset. The differences between liking, loving, and living your passion were great words to apply to anything you want to achieve.



INTRODUCING OUR 2025 NHS INDUCTEES

Congratulations to the following OLSM students who were recently inducted into the National Honor Society (NHS). Both ceremonies took place in the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II.



GIRLS DIVISION:

SENIORS:

BRYNN ARCHER

MIA KASHAT

EMELIA MARKOZ

LAURITA ROTTERMOND

JUNIORS:

ANDREA ABARCA
STELLA ANDERSON
VICTORIA ANDRZEJCAK
ANGELINA ATTO
JADE BACALL
ELAINA BAKKAL
BROOKLYN BARBAT
PHOEBE BARKER
CLAIRE BELTZ
GIA BRIKHO
NOLA CECCOLI
MADDILYN CURTIN
AVERY DANIELS
DELANEY DAVID
CECE DAVIES
SKYLA DENHA
CLARE DONOVAN
IRENE ECONOMY
CHLOE FILIATRAUT
AVA GALLEGOS
CHLOE GARMO
JILLIAN GIBBS
MICHELLE GRAVES

RUBY IGNASIAK
ALYSSA JAPPAYA
VICTORIA KAKOS
MADELYN KALLABAT
LEAH KAMINSKI
DELILAH KASSAB
GENEVIEVE KASSAB
NIKA LADOSENSZKY
MADISON LAWRENCE
SYDNEY LEBUTT
LOGAN LOUSIA
RILEY MARTIN
LILLIAN MCCAFFREY
AVA MERLO
KAYLEE MORTON
LILY NAJOR
MADELINE NEIL
AUBREY ORAHA
EMMA PARZUCHOWSKI
KAITLYN PESTA
HOPE RICHER
SADIE ROSS
OLIVIA RUST

ALIVIA SALMAN
JULIA SAMONA
AVA SAROKI
ELLA SELAKOWSKI
GENEVIEVE SHINA
CHARLI SIKORSKY
CARLEY STEVENS
OLIVIA STEVENS
MICHELLE SUROWIEC
GIAVANNA TANGUAY
MADELINE TRAYNOR
MIA VITALE
DELANEY WALSTAD
HAILEY WARD
SAMANTHA WHEELER
ELISE WILLIAMS
BROOKLYN YALDO
SIENNA YONO
ZARA YONO
ALAYNA YOUSIF
OLIVIA ZANONI



FRENCH CLASSES DISCOVER FRANCE'S SCHOOL DAY DIFFERENCES

Recently, the French 1 classes learned about the differences and similarities of high school in France and the U.S. The students then prepared questions to ask Aurore Defour, a colleague of mine, who is a French native. We sat down in the conference room to interview her with our prepared questions.

Not only were our students able to converse with a French person but were also able to learn about major differences in French school days, including the one- or two-hour lunches during school, the block scheduling, how sports are not a part of high school, the grading system in France and the Baccalaureate (a big test at the end of high school).

MICHAEL PETTIT
OLSM French Teacher

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONTEST WINNERS



Students both celebrated and recognized the achievements and contributions of Black Americans throughout history and attempted to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of their rich cultural heritage and the struggles they have faced. This year, we had over 115 art submissions, in the form of pottery, photography, graphic design, drawings and painting. This collection demonstrates amazing talent, creative interpretations and art that promoted social change to represent Black History Month. A special thank you to our judging panel, consisting of teachers, deans and administrators, who debated for over an hour to narrow down our top contenders. Congratulations to our winners!

TARA JOHNSON
Art Teacher, St. Mary's Preparatory

Art Contest Winners:

GIRLS DIVISON:

- 1st Place: **WILLOW RHODES** ①
2nd Place: **ELLA BASSETT** ②
3rd Place: **MIRIAM CZARNIK** ③

BOYS DIVISON:

- 1st Place: **CAM GLASKER** ①
2nd Place: **EVERETT MARIK** ②
3rd Place: **ANTHONY ABELLA** ③

Essay Contest Winners:

BOYS DIVISION: Chase Tonnies, Jacob Jarjosa, and Phil Assad
GIRLS DIVISION: Nina DiFonzo, Amanda Atty, and Amelia Abraham



Check out the spring sports season's upcoming events inside this issue, on Facebook and Instagram, and at www.olsmsports.com



MOMS AND DADS CLUB BRINGS ON BINGO NIGHT!

On Thursday, March 6th the Moms and Dads Club had over 300 in attendance for its first Bingo Night. Everyone brought food, drinks, and party hats and had a great night of laughs and fun. There were 18 winners that night. We will be looking to possibly do another one in the fall.

The Moms and Dads Club is always open to ideas and suggestions. You can scan the QR code to share any ideas you would like us to consider. We appreciate your suggestions.

Scan this code
to share your
ideas with the
Moms and
Dads club!



THE BOOKSTORE IS OPEN FOR THE LADDIE CUP REGATTA

SATURDAY, MAY 3 | 8:00AM - 3:00PM



**CLEARANCE SALE ON
ALL CREW APPAREL!**
(EXCLUDING GORE-TEX JACKETS)

*"We never give
more honor
to Jesus than
when we honor
his Mother."
- St. Louis
DeMontfort*



THE MARY PROJECT
AT ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS



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.*

OUR 2025 FIDELITAS MEDALIST: RICHARD TRZCINSKI (P'70)

Each year at the Ambassadors Ball, we honor our Fidelitas Medal tradition. We are excited to announce our 2025 Fidelitas Medalist, **RICHARD TRZCINSKI** (P'70).



The FIDELITAS MEDAL, first awarded in 1949, 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 the Orchard Lake Schools founder, the Rev. Joseph Dabrowski, a Polish missionary priest, who established the original education institution in Detroit in 1885.

Richard Trzcinski's deep-rooted faith and compassion for the Orchard Lake Schools have guided him to champion the mission and vision of our founder, Fr. Joseph Dabrowski.



"God is my pillar of strength, and the power of prayer can help accomplish what we are all here to do – to thrive," said Hamtramck native Richard Trzcinski. "I am so blessed to be honored as the 2025 Fidelitas Medalist! It is such a privilege to be part of the 140-year history of the Orchard Lake Schools and help build upon the faith, education, culture and tradition that continues to shape the future of generations to come."

The Richard & Mary Trzcinski Quad within our campus community is one of the many such efforts that connects our founder's mission and vision – the footsteps of the past, including those of a saint – with the present and future. Richard and his wife, Mary, have made extraordinary, transformative contributions to the Orchard Lake Schools that also include the Ever Forward Strategic Planning Project initiative.

The St. Mary's Preparatory graduate of the Class of 1970 and commercial real estate developer who founded and is the president of Primerica Group One, Inc. in Tampa, Florida, believes that the Orchard Lake Schools community is grounded in the religious and cultural ideals that Fr. Dabrowski, a Polish missionary priest, first established in Detroit in 1885. It is the place where all those within our campus community, both near and far, grow and prosper. "These are some of the major reasons Mary and I made the gift for the beautification of the Quad," said Trzcinski. "And with the implementation of the St. Mary's Preparatory Girls Division now in its fifth year and the strong leadership of headmaster Len Karschnia and his faculty and staff, we know the students here will continue to grow and prosper into future leaders in society."

Richard Trzcinski was born in Hamtramck, Michigan, and experienced very humble beginnings. By the fourth grade, he and his family moved to Shelby Township, and he went on to attend Orchard Lake St. Mary's Preparatory where he lettered in basketball, baseball, and golf. He was also elected sports director by the student body. He has fond memories of growing up with the brotherhood that is St. Mary's. "Back then, all students lived in the dorms," he said. "The Class of 1970 was special. We had a daily regimen that began with a structured breakfast followed by Mass, classes, athletic practices, and study hall. We all kept busy. That is one of the secrets to what made the student body who we are today. That time management regimen helped prepare me for my acceptance into the University of Michigan."

The spiritual aspect of the Orchard Lake Schools family is very dear to his heart just as his own family is at the center of everything he does. Just like his three daughters have grown and prospered, he wants nothing more than for the Orchard Lake Schools to reap the core values inherent in the historic, grounded campus foundations. "It's a place where young men and women are thriving on their motivation and good grades, alumni and friends are networking, and all those who come here, even if they are just passing through, are engaging in cultural traditions, and following their spirituality entrenched in their core moral values," he added. "God is their pillar of strength, and the power of prayer can help us all accomplish what they are here to do – to thrive."



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

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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



Easter is a “movable feast” determined by the lunar calendar. Its date was established by the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox. Therefore, the date of Easter falls, depending on the full moon, between March 22 and April 25. Easter and the Sacred Triduum that precedes it is the highest moment in our liturgical calendar, it is the greatest feast, because we celebrate the “Paschal Mystery” (Jesus’ death and Resurrection). Let us read St. John Paul II’s reflection on Jesus’ Resurrection given in his address on Sunday, April 21, 1996:

IN THE WORDS OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

1. In the liturgical season running from Easter to Pentecost, the Church is recollected in contemplation of the risen Christ. Thus she relives the primordial experience that lies at the basis of her existence. She feels imbued with the same wonder as Mary Magdalen and the other women who went to Christ's tomb on Easter morning and found it empty. That tomb became the womb of life.

Whoever had condemned Jesus, deceived himself that he had buried His cause under an ice-cold tombstone. The disciples themselves gave in to the feeling of irreparable failure. We understand their surprise, then, and even their distrust in the news of the empty tomb. But the Risen One did not delay in making himself seen and they yielded to reality. They saw and believed! Two thousand years later, we still sense the unspeakable emotion that overcame them when they heard the Master's greeting: “Peace be with you.”

2. The Church is based on their extraordinary experience. The first proclamation of the Gospel was nothing other than the testimony of this event: “This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses!” (Acts 2:32). The Christian faith is so linked with this truth that Paul did not hesitate to declare: “If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain” (1 Cor 15:14). Along these lines the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: “The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community, handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 638).

Christ's Resurrection is the strength, the secret of Christianity. It is not a question of mythology or of mere symbolism, but of a concrete event. It is confirmed by sure and convincing proofs. The acceptance of this truth, although the fruit of the Holy Spirit's grace, rests at the same time on a solid historical base. On the threshold of the third millennium, the new effort of evangelization can begin only from a renewed experience of this Mystery, accepted in faith and witnessed to in life.

3. Regina caeli, laetare! Rejoice, Holy Virgin, because He whom you bore in your womb is risen! Dear brothers and sisters, let us try to relive the joy of the Resurrection with Mary's heart. Even in the darkness of Good Friday she prepared herself to receive the light of Easter morning.

Let us ask her to obtain for us a deep faith in this extraordinary event, which is salvation and hope for the world.



FR. BERNARD WITEK

Director, St. John Paul II Liturgical Center

THE TRADITIONAL POLISH EASTER BASKET

BUTTER (Masło) • We often see butter formed into a lamb (*Baranek Wielkanocny*) or cross. It symbolizes the good will of Christ we should have toward all things.

EASTER BREAD (Babka) • A round or long loaf topped with a cross or fish, symbolic of Jesus, who is the Bread of Life.

HORSERADISH (Chrzan) • This is symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds.

EGGS (Jajka and Pisanki) • These are often decorated with symbols of Easter and represent new life and Christ's resurrection from the tomb.

SAUSAGE (Kielbasa) • This food is symbolic of God's favor and generosity.

HAM (Szynka) • This meat symbolizes great joy and abundance, and some prefer lamb or veal.

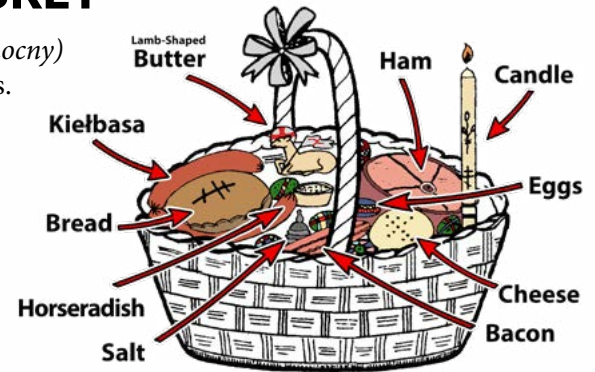
SMOKED BACON (Slonina) • This represents the overabundance of God's mercy and generosity.

SALT (Sol) • It is a necessary element in our physical life, representing prosperity and justice and a time to remind us people are the flavor of the earth.

CHEESE (Ser) • This food symbolizes moderation Christians should have at all times.

CANDLE • A candle represents Christ as the Light of the World.

LINEN COVER • A linen or other cloth cover is placed over the top of the basket and removed in time for the priest's food blessing on Holy Saturday.



ZAPRASZAMY

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

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

Sunday, May 4th • 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, April 30th.
- For more information, call (248) 602-7579 or bernardwitek@yahoo.com.



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

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, 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.

ST. FAUSTINA & DIVINE MERCY ALTAR PROJECT

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



A MESSAGE FROM FR. WITEK

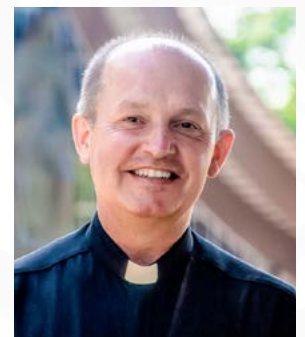
The Shrine Chapel at Orchard Lake Schools stands as a beacon of faith, hope, and spiritual renewal. For generations, it has symbolized our commitment to fostering a deeper connection to God while honoring the cultural and spiritual legacies that define our diverse community. At the heart of this mission is the Divine Mercy—God’s infinite love and forgiveness offered to all.

As we enter the Jubilee Year 2025, designated as the year of “Pilgrims of Hope”, we recognize an extraordinary opportunity to complete the Divine Mercy Altar, making the Shrine Chapel a more profound place of pilgrimage and reflection. This will also complete the Shrine of St. John Paul II, since in his teaching the Divine Mercy was one of the main focuses, as he himself stated it, “The Message of Divine Mercy has always been near and dear to me . . . which I took with me to the See of Peter and which it, in a sense, forms the image of this Pontificate.”

The Shrine of St. John Paul II at Orchard Lake has been officially designated as one of 12 Detroit-area pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee Year 2025, reaffirming its significance as a place of grace, mercy, and renewal. This designation provides an extraordinary moment to complete the altar project and welcome pilgrims seeking spiritual growth, healing, and indulgences through prayer and reflection.

The Shrine continues to foster Polish spiritual traditions while welcoming a broader, diverse faith community. **With this final piece of the Divine Mercy Altar, we invite you to be a part of this historic and sacred endeavor.**

FR. BERNARD WITEK, SDS
Director, St. John Paul II Liturgical Center



HOW TO MAKE A GIFT TO SUPPORT FR. WITEK'S WORK

Campaign Goal: \$100,000



Gifts of any amount are needed and are blessings to our work.

- All gifts will be recognized with a listing in a future issue of the Campus Communicator.
- All gifts of \$500 or more will be recognized on a permanent plaque inside the Shrine Chapel.
- Sponsorships are reserved in a first-come, first-served manner.
- Should we exceed our fundraising goal, ALL gifts will be dedicated to the Liturgical Center for additional needs including sprinkler systems around the Shrine gardens and other approved priorities as identified by Fr. Witek.

To reserve a sponsorship or for more information, please contact:

Chris Czarnik
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
(248) 392-9267
cczarnik@orchardlakeschools.com

Fr. Bernard Witek
DIRECTOR, SJPLC
(248) 602-7579
bwitek@sjp2liturgicalcenter.com

Joseph Majcher
VICE CHAIR, OLS REGENTS
jmajcher@orchardlakeschools.com

To make a gift by mail, please send a check made out to Orchard Lake Schools and clearly noted for the "Shrine Altar Project."

Send to: Chris Czarnik, Development
The Orchard Lake Schools
3535 Commerce Road
Orchard Lake, MI 48324

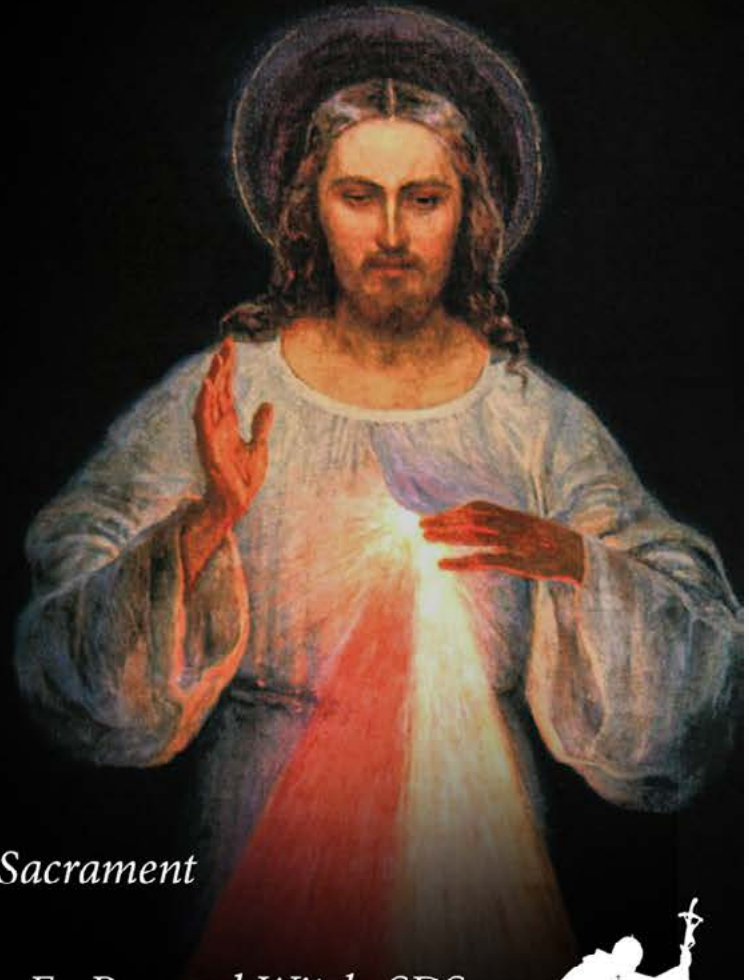
To make a secure online gift using a credit card, go to Orchardlakeschools.com and click on "Support Us" and then "Shrine Altar Project"



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 23 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 23 • (248) 602 7579 or email bernardwitek@yahoo.com; Price \$20.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27th

ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

OBCHODY KONSTYTUCJI TRZECIEGO MAJA 1791 R.

Niedziela, 4 maja 2025 r.



1:00 PM

- Polska Msza Św. w Sanktuarium św. JP II-go
- Program patriotyczny; wystawy patriotyczne

2:30 PM

- Obiad
- Prosimy o rezerwację: \$20 dla dorosłych, dzieci za darmo

**Potwierdź swoją obecność do 29 kwietnia telefonicznie lub e-mailem:
(248) 602-7579 lub bernardwitek@yahoo.com**

Z Udziałem:

Centrum Liturgicznego,
Polskiego Instytutu,
Kongresu Polonii, Chóru Filaretów,
Młodzieży szkół polskich,
Członków harcerstwa,
Polskich weteranów

SPONSORZY:



ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II
3535 COMMERCE RD • ORCHARD LAKE, MI 48324

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Polish Institute of Culture & Research is the recipient of a DigMichNews Grant from Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University. The grant allows the Polish Institute to digitize existing microfilm of the magazine *Niedziela* (Sunday), published by the Polish Seminary in Detroit between 1891 and 1909. This will allow us to provide access to this important early publication to researchers anywhere in the world through the web. The Clarke Historical Library has a large collection of digitized Michigan newspapers, but *Niedziela* will be the first non-English language publication to be added to this important collection.

Niedziela was the very first publication of what we know today as the Orchard Lake Schools. It was founded by Fr. Józef Dąbrowski and staffed by faculty and students of the Polish Seminary. It was designed to advance Fr. Dąbrowski's goal of educating the growing Polish community in the USA (and of course to advertise the work of the Seminary).

Niedziela was published each week and designed for people to read on days off from work. It contained articles on current events, the Catholic faith, history, literature, and scientific discoveries. It made a special effort to promote the Polish language, and readers were reminded to "speak to your children in Polish." While most of its readers were in Michigan, it circulated in Polish communities all over the Midwest. Although Fr. Dąbrowski was not the editor, his impact on the magazine was clear, especially in the regular columns on science, one of his favorite subjects. The magazine continued to be published after Fr. Dąbrowski's death until 1909, when the Seminary moved to Orchard Lake. After a few years, it was replaced by a new publication, *Sodalis*, which continued for many decades thereafter.

The Polish Institute is very grateful to Clarke Historical Library for this grant and the opportunity to share a piece of our history with people across the state and the world.



One of the first issues of Niedziela from September 1891 from the collection of the Polish Institute of Culture & Research at Orchard Lake.

JOHN RADZIŁOWSKI, PH.D.

Director, Polish Institute of Culture & Research

EVER FORWARD!
ZAWSZE DO PRZODU!

2023-2024
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.

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

5K RUN & WALK

2nd Annual
VIVAT 3 MAJA
Sport Event

SATURDAY, MAY 3 – 9:00 AM
ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

COME & JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE POLISH CONSTITUTION OF MAY 3RD

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25
EARLY REGISTRATION
(BEFORE APR. 1ST) **\$15**

REGISTRATION ONLINE
STARTS ON MARCH 1ST

Each participant in the Run/Walk
receives a starting number, a medal,
and a T-shirt



MORE INFO & REGISTRATION
www.polishweekly.com/vivat



FR. JÓZEF DĄBROWSKI POLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL RECEIVES \$1,000 GRANT

Language is the foundation of literature and literature is the foundation of culture. The Fr. Józef Dąbrowski Polish Language School, originally started in 1993 by Mrs. Alina Paszek with Msgr. Stanley Milewski's encouragement and support, has been operating continuously since then on the Orchard Lake Schools campus although it is its own separate 501 (c) 3 corporation. Ms. Grażyna

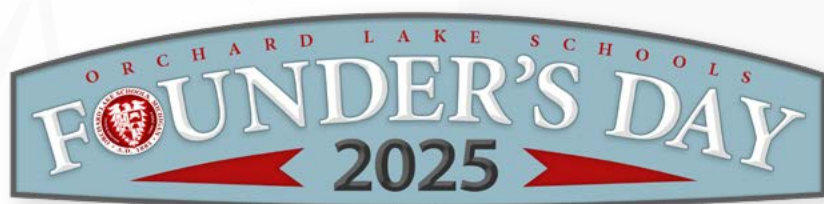
Stanowski is the school's current director, and it continues to operate on the OLS campus. Its classes are conducted in the Library every Friday evening. It has two sections. One is tailored to younger children, teaching elementary Polish and the other for older children, teaching more advanced Polish. It is run by parents.

The Edward and Josephine Wikiera Foundation's charter is to support and promote Polish culture. It finances the Polish Institute of Culture & Research at Orchard Lake. The Wikiera Foundation's Board of Trustees recently approved a \$1,000 grant towards the Fr. Józef Dąbrowski Polish Language School recognizing its important role advancing Polish culture and its longstanding relationship with OLS. The unrestricted grant will help the school acquire needed supplies.

When the seminary existed, seminarians taught the students Catholic religion and prepared many children to receive their first Holy Communion. With the seminary gone, the Polish Language School is fortunate to have a teacher, Ms. Benita Wojciechowski, who has a degree in theology. She prepares students who may not attend a Catholic school to receive their first Holy Communion. That Polish school is very worthy of continued support.

FOUNDER'S DAY 2025: EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING!

As June 7 draws closer, momentum is growing for Founder's Day 2025—and we can't wait to welcome you back to campus! We're keeping the best parts of last year while stepping things up with a few surprises.



We've partnered with a fantastic company to create a true Vegas-style* tent experience—

adding energy and entertainment to the evening celebration. Of course, the famous **Polish Platter** returns, and for those who crave tradition, yes—you can get it in a classic Styrofoam container, just like the old days. But don't be fooled by the nod to nostalgia—all your favorite food and drink options will be there, too.

NEW ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR!

CIGAR BAR



LAS VEGAS STYLE ENTERTAINMENT
Casino tables are for entertainment purposes only and are free and open to the public.

BOURBON TASTING



ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS SUMMER CAMPS!



**LACROSSE
FOOTBALL
BASKETBALL
ROWING
BASEBALL**

**SOCCER
VOLLEYBALL
HOCKEY
NEW! SOFTBALL
NEW! PHOTOGRAPHY**



FOR CAMP INFORMATION & REGISTRATION:
SCAN QR CODE ON RIGHT OR VISIT
orchardlakeschools.com/summer-camps-2025



ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS FOUNDER'S DAY 2025

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 PM • Alumni 7-on-7 Football Game



EVENING CELEBRATION

NEW! CIGAR BAR • LAS VEGAS STYLE ENTERTAINMENT • BOURBON TASTING

- 4:30 PM • Holy Mass at Grotto • Fr. Witek, Celebrant
- 5:30 PM • Cocktail Reception
- 6:45-10:30 PM • Founder's, Alumni & Friends Dinner
- 7:30-10:30 PM • Las Vegas Style Entertainment

Casino tables are for entertainment purposes only and are free and open to the public.



FRIDAY MORNING GOLF AT PINE KNOB • JUNE 6th • Limited Tee-Times starting 10:30 AM

Our Alumni & Friends Golf Outing in the Fall will replace the annual Founder's Day Golf Outing. QUESTIONS? Contact Robert Mazur at (248) 830-9711

ADMISSION • \$125
\$100 FOR 1885 CLUB MEMBERS

SCAN CODE TO REGISTER OR
email: foundersday@orchardlakeschools.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS

As we shared last month, the Founder's Day Golf Outing has moved to September 15 to combine efforts with the Alumni & Friends Outing—one premier event to benefit the Orchard Lake Schools. For those gathering in June, Friday tee times at Pine Knob Golf Club are still available for a casual day on the course with classmates and friends.

Reunion classes, alumni, families, and friends—this is your weekend. Join us in celebrating the mission that shaped us all.



*Scan this code
to get all the
information on
Founder's Day!*

FOR PINE KNOB TEE TIMES

contact Robert Mazur
(248) 830-9711

FOR FOUNDER'S DAY INFO & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

contact Lisa Gray
(248) 392-9974

WELCOME HOME TO ALUMNI WEEKEND, REUNION CLASSES!

This is your weekend!
Join us in celebrating the
mission that shaped us all!

ALL FORMER STUDENT
ALUMNI OF THE ORCHARD
LAKE SCHOOLS OF CLASSES
ENDING IN 'O' AND '5'

*Celebrate, reconnect with
fellow alumni, and enjoy all
that Founder's Day 2025 has
to offer on campus at your
alma mater!*



FOUNDERS DAY ALUMNI EVENTS • JUNE 6-7, 2025

OLS CAMPUS ATHLETIC COMPLEX ~ TRZCINSKI QUAD ~ OLD GYM

For Pine Knob tee times, contact Robert Mazur at (248) 830-9711.

For Founder's Day information or sponsorships, contact Lisa Gray at (248) 392-9974.



CHRISTOPHER DE MARTINIS (P'19) RECEIVES GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to Christopher De Martinis on receiving the 2024 National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowship Award sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), the Army Research Office (ARO), and the Office of Naval Research (ONR) under the Office of the Under Secretary for Research and Engineering. He was granted this fellowship for outstanding achievements in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), chosen from a pool of 3,392 applications.



A JOBS MARKETPLACE FOR ST. MARY'S ALUMNI!

Have you visited our brand-new Alumni-4-Alumni jobs marketplace exclusively for St. Mary's Preparatory alumni and current students! Whether you are looking for your next career opportunity or have a job opening to fill, this is the place to connect and grow within our incredible community! Help us build this incredible resource at your fingertips!

www.orchardlakeschools.com/alumni-for-alumni

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 February.

CHESTER ADAMCZYK

(CHET ADAMS)

TERESA ANDERSON

JOANNA DALLO & FAMILY

JOSEPH JOHN DARATONY

AMIR DENHA

THOMAS "TIM" HOOSAC

MILDRED KISH (MIRON)

JEREOME KRASUSKY

JACKIE LOGAN

FRED MASTERS

MARK MCCADNEY

JACK MCCAULEY

EILEEN MCMANUS

RICHARD MESSEL

FRANK MIDDLETON

NANCY PLUMB

VIRGINIA HELEN ROLLING

ROSE MARY PHILLIPS SILVA

BETTY SZYARTO

ANNE UCHKLAT

KATHERINE PURRENHAGE WAGNER

HAYAT BASHOKA YACOB

RONALD R. ZANT

UPCOMING EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2025

- 1 Girls Varsity Tennis** vs. Shrine @ Sports Club
WB @ 2:00 PM
- 2 Varsity Baseball** vs. De La Salle @ 4:00 PM
(Doubleheader)
- 4 NO SCHOOL** Professional Development Day
- 5 Varsity Baseball** vs. Catholic Central
@ 11:00 AM (Doubleheader)
Varsity Lacrosse vs. Stoney Creek @ 1:00 PM
Pisanki Workshops @ Dining Hall (10 AM, 2 PM, 5 PM)
Grand Rapids Polish Historical Society Visit
@ Galeria
Ambassadors Ball @ Orchard Lake
Country Club
- 6 POLISH 1ST SUNDAY** Mass @ 1:00 PM
Galeria Open 12-3 PM
- 7 Boys Golf** @ Welbourne Market Invitational @
Katke Cousins @ 10:00 AM
- 8 Boys Golf** vs. Brother Rice @ Wabeek @ 3:30 PM
Varsity Lacrosse vs. Toledo St. Francis @ 7:00 PM
"Swan Lake" by European Royal Classical Ballet
@ Berman Center
- 10 Boys Golf** vs. Cranbrook @ TBD
Girls Softball vs. Lake Orion @ 4:00 PM
(Doubleheader)
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Cranbrook @ 7:00 PM
- 11 Girls Varsity Soccer** vs. Warren Cousino
@ 7:00 PM
- 11-12 Polish Consular Visit** from Chicago @ Galeria
- 12 Varsity Baseball** vs. Toledo Central Catholic @
11:00 AM (Doubleheader)
Varsity Lacrosse vs. Petosky @ 2:30 PM
- 13 PALM SUNDAY**
- 14 Boys Golf** @ Plum Market Invitational @ Tam-O-
Shanter @ 12:00 PM
Girls Softball vs. Divine Child @ 4:00 PM
(Doubleheader)
- 15 Boys Golf** vs. Catholic Central @ 3:30 PM @ TBD
Varsity Lacrosse vs. Catholic Central @ 7:00 PM
- 16-27 NO SCHOOL • EASTER BREAK**
- 17 HOLY THURSDAY**
- 18 GOOD FRIDAY**
- 19 HOLY SATURDAY**
Easter Basket Blessing 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM
@ Shrine
Crew @ Mitten Series #1 @ Kensington SP
- 20 EASTER SUNDAY**
- 21 Boys Golf** @ Hasen Transfer Invitational @ Red
Run @ 12:00 PM
- 22 Boys Golf** @ The Cardinal at St. John's @ 9:00 AM
- 23 Varsity Baseball** vs. Detroit Western @ 4:30 PM
- 25 Boys Golf** @ American Dunes Invitational @
American Dunes @ 11:00 AM
- 26 Crew** @ Mitten Series #2 @ Kensington State
Park
- 27 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**
Adoration @ 1:00 PM, Mass @ 2:00 PM
Polish Dinner @ 3:00 PM
- 28 CLASSES RESUME**
Boys Golf @ Capital Invitational @ Eagle
Eye @ 10:00 AM
Track vs. Cranbrook/Mercy @ 4:00 PM
- 29 Boys Golf** vs. De La Salle @ Wabeek @ 3:30 PM
Girls Softball vs. Mercy @ 4:00 PM (Doubleheader)
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Everest Collegiate
@ 7:00 PM
- 30 NO SCHOOL** (Grades 9-11)
Honors Convocation
Varsity Baseball vs. U of D Jesuit @ 11:00 AM

Check www.olsmathletics.com for more information on CHSL & MHSAA playoffs, and check for results on Instagram and Facebook.

APRIL 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

| | | |
|----------|---|-------------------------|
| 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* POLISH 1st SUNDAY | ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE |

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 • **PALM SUNDAY**

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

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| HOLY THURSDAY • 4/17 | 7:00 PM | MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER | SEMINARY CHAPEL |
| GOOD FRIDAY • 4/18 | 1:00 PM | STATIONS OF THE CROSS | SEMINARY CHAPEL |
| | 2:00 PM | LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION | SEMINARY CHAPEL |
| | 3:00 PM | DIVINE MERCY NOVENA | SEMINARY CHAPEL |
| HOLY SATURDAY • 4/19 | 8:30 PM | EASTER VIGIL MASS | SEMINARY CHAPEL |

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 • **EASTER SUNDAY**

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 |

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 • **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 9:00 AM | FR. WITEK • POLISH* | SEMINARY CHAPEL |
| 9:00 AM | FR. NGUYEN • LATIN | ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE |
| 11:00 AM | FR. WITEK • ENGLISH | ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE |
| 1:00 PM | ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT | |
| 2:00 PM | DIVINE MERCY MASS | |

* Feed for the Live stream of the Polish Masses: www.facebook.com/olsnews

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAYS OF LENT 6:30 PM ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

DAILY MASSES

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

HOLY SATURDAY BLESSING OF FOOD

4/19 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY-THURSDAY 6:00 PM - 6:55 PM ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
FRIDAYS IN LENT 5:30 PM - 6:25 PM ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
SATURDAYS 8:00 AM - 8:55 AM ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE