

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS COMMUNICATOR

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

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?'"

" ~ Matthew 25: 37-38

FEBRUARY 2026

LEAVING THEIR LEGACY

Every single one of the Legacy Wall bricks carried something away from this place — something that stayed in alumni hearts long after the bricks stopped remembering their name.

The LEGACY WALL

Written in Brick, Memory, and Heart

BY ROBERT MAZUR
ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICER



“If you stand quietly by the old gym for a moment—really stand still—and let the noise of the day fade, you’ll start to notice something special. Names. Years. Handwritten marks that weren’t meant to last forever . . . and somehow did.”

On the brick wall outside the old gym, generations of students have left behind something simple and powerful: their name and their graduation year. Some are bold. Some are barely visible. Some are sharp

and confident; others are faint, softened by time, weather, and the next class who came along and added their own story.

The oldest years we can still make out today are 1951 and 1958. We’re sure there were earlier ones—many more—but after more than half a century, some have faded away, some were covered by new names, and some now live only in memory. And somehow, that makes it even more meaningful.

BECAUSE THAT’S LIFE, TOO. Standing here, you can’t help but think about all the Men of St. Mary’s who once stood in this very spot. Kids when they arrived. Young men when they left. Four or five years that probably felt long at the time—but now live as a single chapter in a much bigger story.

“Today, we’re proud to call this space the Legacy & Brotherhood/Sisterhood Wall—a place that honors where we came from, reflects who we are today, and welcomes who we are becoming, because legacy isn’t always engraved in marble. Sometimes it’s written quickly between classes.”

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Some are grandparents. Some are still working. Some live across the country, across the ocean, or just down the road. Some are no longer with us. But every single one of them carried something away from this place—something that stayed in their heart long after the bricks stopped remembering their name.

THAT’S WHAT MAKES THIS WALL SPECIAL. It’s not just brick and chalk or marker or scratched initials. It’s transition. It’s laughter after practice. It’s friendships formed without knowing they’d last a lifetime. It’s lessons learned in classrooms and hallways—and sometimes the hard way. It’s the moment when boys slowly realized they were becoming men. And fittingly, these marks live on the oldest walls of the oldest buildings. The walls that have seen it all. The walls that didn’t need permission to become a scrapbook of generations.

IN RECENT YEARS, A NEW CHAPTER HAS BEEN ADDED. As St. Mary’s opened its doors to young women, this wall began to change too. New names will now appear here not only as a Brotherhood, but also as a Sisterhood—girls arriving with dreams and leaving as confident, capable young ladies shaped by the same values, traditions, and sense of belonging. The wall grows richer because of it. Different names. Shared spirit. One community.

Brotherhood—and sisterhood—isn’t always planned. Sometimes it just happens, year after year, when one class adds its name next to another and unknowingly joins a family that stretches back decades.

TO CURRENT STUDENTS: One day, you’ll look back and realize how much of yourself was shaped right here—even if you didn’t notice it at the time.

TO ALUMNI: Your name may be faded, but your place here never is.

AND TO EVERYONE WHO PASSES BY THIS WALL: Take a second. Look closely. You’re not just seeing names.

“You’re seeing history. You’re seeing brotherhood and sisterhood. YOU’RE SEEING ST. MARY’S.”



The historic campus tower houses these cherished signatures. Great news about the Tower’s future is close on the horizon. Watch upcoming Communicators for the specific plans.

Community Care Partners with



From October to December 2025, members of the St. Mary's Prep Community Care Club partnered with Thankful Hearts Foundation, a non-profit organization owned and operated by Prep Alumni Parent, Ruth Gonzales-Montaque, for a winter coat drive. Special thanks to Girls' Division leaders Chloe Naoumi and Reese Bacall who rallied the Orchard Lake community together and collected over 50 brand new coats for kids in need! They truly demonstrated the heart of the Community Care Club by servicing others with vital winter essentials.

Interested in learning more about the Community Care Club? Contact Chloe at cnaoumi@stmarysprep.com. Be sure to follow them on IG: [@OLSMCommunity_Care_Club](https://www.instagram.com/OLSMCommunity_Care_Club).



"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

- MATTHEW 25:35-40

Strike Up the **BAND**

A power outage that postponed the OLSM Band's Christmas Concert couldn't touch the students' powerful performance in January! This annual event provides both time-honored holiday tradition and support for the annual Sr. Judie Outreach Food Drive. What was the price of admission to this event? A food or household goods donation to the drive that helps so many people in need throughout the year. Now, that's more music to our ears!



National Honor Society Gifts

SENIORS Friendship & Fun

OLSM NHS student volunteers along with Carla Simone and Lauren Stahl, NHS Co-Advisors and Spanish Teachers, partnered with Tracie Robinson, Community Partnership & Student Engagement Director and Activities Director Debra Fortier of Magnolia by the Lake Senior Living Center in Keego Harbor, to celebrate the holiday season through service and community engagement. The initiative began with the NHS students staying after school to make wish list holiday ornaments made from Christmas cards where residents could write their wish for Christmas on the back of the ornaments. They also made cylinder cones out of cardstock and wrapping paper and ribbon to be filled with holiday candy.

"Being able to share stories, laughter, and holiday traditions with the residents was both humbling and rewarding."

- OLSM STUDENT

A few volunteer students attended Magnolia's holiday-themed pajama party, during which students and residents dressed in festive pajamas, elf ears, Santa hats, and scarves. Students sang Christmas carols with the residents; shared conversations centered on favorite holiday memories and read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas to the residents. Also, Mrs. Robinson assisted with serving desserts and beverages throughout the event.



Two days later, Mrs. Robinson, Ms. Simone, and NHS student volunteers returned to the center to deliver holiday care packages. These packages included towels, hand towels, washcloths, loofahs, toiletries, non-slip socks and more. In addition, residents participated in gift drawings that the school donated, which included felt blankets, Ghirardelli glass candy arrangements, and embossed holiday canisters filled with shortbread cookies.

During the visit, students spent time dancing with residents, serving meals, assisting individuals who required help with dining, and accompanying Santa through the hallways to personally deliver gifts. This service project provided students with a meaningful opportunity to give back while spreading holiday cheer and companionship to members of the senior community.

Athletes for Christ Helps Support

Sr. Judie Outreach

Athletes for Christ, a student group at St. Mary's, organized the annual Sister Judie Outreach Food Drive for January 26 – February 5, 2026. This organization was created by Sister Judie Ruggirello to serve those in need in the Detroit area. She started by making peanut butter sandwiches and distributing them, and her goodwill grew from her humble efforts and a team of volunteers. Our food drive supports the broader food drive by stocking the organization's food pantry.

This year, Prep students were asked to bring their donations in grocery bags or boxes to their first hour classroom while larger donations were directed to the CAC building (Northern part of campus near freshman drop-off). Each teacher has a roster and

checks off the student's name to confirm their participation. We have an annual goal of 100% participation.

For more information on this great cause, please see the video link below and the link to the Sister Judie Outreach website.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCR-OJXViCQ

www.sisterjudiesoutreach.com/

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Athletes for Christ Co-Mentor Mr. Mark Lengel at mlengel@stmarysprep.com



GET READY FOR LENT AT THE ST. MARY'S BOOKSTORE.

Crucifixes, Rosaries, Jewelry, Books, Medals, Framed Art, Devotionals, and More!



There's More at The Bookstore.

248.392.9964



Rising to

New HEIGHTS

OLSM Cheer

At the Titan Invitational cheer competition, the Eaglets showed up to bring home the 3rd place trophy. Congratulations to our student athletes who demonstrated grit, heart, and resilience, powering through sickness, rolling with changes, and rebounding with just one full day of practice!



OLSM Bowling

Our OLSM bowling teams are striking up the points this season. Let's go, Eaglets!



OLSM Wrestling

Congratulations to OLSM Wrestling on their 3rd place TJR Memorial Tournament finish. Also, at the West Bloomfield Invitational Will Mukavetz earned a 3rd place (285 lbs.) finish!



4TH ANNUAL

Friday & Saturday
February 6-7, 2026

PINK IN THE RINK

DONATE

SCAN ME



St. Mary's Athletic Complex

3535 Commerce Road
Orchard Lake, MI 48324



Orchard Lake



Orchard Lake Hockey
Association Games

- Friday 5:30-7:30 pm
- Saturday 7:30 am-12:30 pm

High School Games (Sat 2/7)

- 1:30 pm OLSM Varsity Girls vs Livonia United
- 3:00 pm OLSM JV vs Brighton JV
- 5:00 pm OLSM Varsity White vs BR Varsity B
- 7:00 pm OLSM Varsity Red vs BR Varsity A



Benefiting

WEBSITE



Contact

pinkintherink23@gmail.com
for more information!

BARBARA ANN
Karmanos
CANCER INSTITUTE

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY
is now
**Blood Cancer
United**

Black History Month

ART CONTEST

2D (9"X12") ~OR~ 3D(6"X6"X6")

DUE MON. FEB 23, 2026

BY 2:35 OR AFTERSCHOOL

PRIZES: 1ST - \$150 FOR BOYS & GIRLS
2ND - \$100
3RD - \$50

The theme of the Artwork must be the observance of Black History Month. This includes any media! It can include portraits representing important figures throughout Black History, designs to promote Black History education, art that reflects Black Culture or images that represent a historical event or tell a unique personal story or conceptual message.

- D. Must be ORIGINAL work (no help from parents/friends, nor traced or enlarged).
E. All art must derive from original photographs, ideas or from personal observations and should highlight the students' own artistic style.
T. Online images can be used as reference.
A. The artwork must be turned in "Gallery Ready" without stains, tears or folds.
I. Must be signed on front by the student.
S. A written statement should accompany.

PHOTOGRAPHY
~OR~
COLLAGE

DIGITAL
DRAWING

PAINTING

GRAPHIC
DESIGN

SCULPTURE
~ OR ~
CERAMICS


DRAWING,
ANY MEDIA

See Mrs. Johnson or email:
tjohnson@stmarysprep.com



Orchard Lake
St. Mary's Prep

tinyurl.com/olsm-bhm-pinterest



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



6:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Vibe Credit Union Showcase (Formally Suburban)

46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48374

To Purchase Tickets, Visit: <https://olsm.maestroweb.com/>

For Questions, Contact us at: OLSMACtionQuestions@gmail.com

Introducing Our

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Orchard Lake Schools is proud to recognize the **Wallace and Joann Ozog Student Ambassadors**, a distinguished group of students whose leadership and service reflect the values long championed by the Ozog family. Wallace and Joann Ozog established an endowed scholarship fund to support students who volunteer for the betterment of the school and its mission. This year, the Orchard Lake Schools formally aligned that scholarship with the existing Student Ambassador Program, renaming the program in recognition of the Ozogs’ legacy of service.

“The Ozog family has a long and cherished history at Orchard Lake as well as within the greater Polish community,” said Chris Czarnik, Director of Development. “They have been tireless in support of these causes and, through their scholarship fund, sought to model volunteerism and service for new generations. We are honored to carry that spirit forward through the Ozog Student Ambassador.”

Ozog Student Ambassadors serve as an important bridge between current students and the alumni, donors, and community supporters who sustain the mission of the Orchard Lake Schools. Throughout the year, they assist with key events, welcome guests, and share their personal experiences, helping to highlight the lasting impact of donor support on academics, student life, and extracurricular activities. Many of these students were invited to serve after consistently volunteering and demonstrating a strong commitment to the Orchard Lake community. Their willingness to give their time and energy reflects the spirit of service that is central to Orchard Lake Schools. In doing so, they gain valuable communication and leadership skills while representing the school with pride and professionalism.

“We are incredibly proud not only of our Student Ambassadors’ enthusiasm and professionalism, but also of their willingness to commit their time to this program,” said Lisa Gray, Assistant Director of Development. “Many of these students balance demanding schedules filled with sports, clubs, and academics, yet they still choose to serve our school community. That level of dedication speaks volumes about their character.”

The entirety of the annual proceeds from the **Wallace and Joann Ozog Endowed Fund** benefit the Ozog Student Ambassadors, with students selected collaboratively by Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Preparatory administration and the Development Office.



2025-26 Student Ambassadors (left to right): Sidney Smerecki, Lexie Karcher, Jack Debrincat, Leah Roe, Joe Smerecki, Ellie Romaya, Grady Carter, Maggie Goodman and Kayla Bauss.
Photo by Tara Johnson

Shaping the Year Ahead

Student focused investments to enhance the St. Mary's experience.



**No tuition
increase for the
26-27 School year**

**Affordability remains a
priority**

For the 2026–2027 school year, tuition will remain at \$16,950, as part of our continued commitment to keeping a St. Mary's Prep education accessible and affordable for our families.

EXPANDED TECHNOLOGY

Transitioning from Textbooks to Laptops for all students

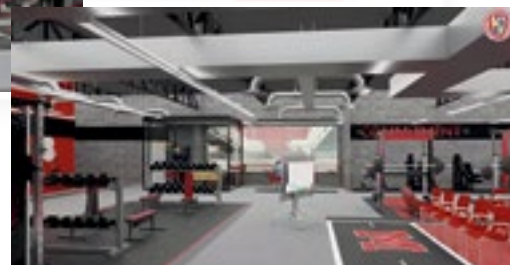
Beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, St. Mary's Prep will move from traditional textbooks to a more digital learning experience powered by Chromebooks. All classes will use online resources, with some courses still incorporating workbooks or course packs, and English classes continuing to read physical novels. Freshmen and sophomores will receive a school-issued Chromebook, while juniors and seniors will bring a laptop or Chromebook of their choice as they prepare for college-level learning.

NEXT LEVEL TRAINING BUILT FOR EVERY EAGLET

New facilities designed to support strength, training & safety

***The Lillian DeRose Constantakis Center for
Eaglet Student-Athletes.***

The new *Lillian DeRose Constantakis Center for Eaglet Student-Athletes* will represent a major investment in student-athlete development. The space will feature a **state-of-the-art weight room** outfitted with top-tier training equipment, a **cutting-edge multisport simulation and learning suite**, and dedicated **girls' locker and film rooms**. Designed to support strength, conditioning, performance analysis, and education, the facility will serve athletes across all programs while reinforcing our commitment to excellence, equity, and innovation.



ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS & NETWORKING EVENT



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | 6 PM
GALERIA ON CAMPUS

Join us for an evening celebrating the rich connections and traditions shared by Orchard Lake Schools alumni. Gather with fellow alumni for a strolling dinner and 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.

TICKETS: \$50 Advanced Online | \$75 at Door

*Advance ticket deadline: February 9th
All proceeds benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund.*

TO REGISTER:

Scan Code or email: sgonzales@orchardlakeschools.com

QUESTIONS:

Contact Stephanie Gonzales at (248) 392-9209

**TO REGISTER ONLINE,
SCAN CODE BELOW**





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 \$6 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.

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 CALL STEPHANIE GONZALES AT (248) 392-9209.

The Orchard Lake Schools Alumni Association is pleased to solicit nominations for the 2026 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS



Fr. Whalen receiving the 2025 Distinguished Alumni Award

**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 6, 2026. All alumni and friends of the Orchard Lake Schools are encouraged to come be part special occasion to honor those who have made a lasting impact.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR 2026 AWARDS IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026.

Please send all nominations to Robert Mazur at: rmazur@orchardlakeschools.com





ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS
CHANCELLOR'S SENATE
Supporting the **HEART** of Orchard Lake

Thank you to our 2025 Chancellor's Senate Members

We are deeply grateful to the generous donors of the Orchard Lake Schools Chancellor's Senate. Through your annual commitment - whether as a new member or a renewing supporter - your gifts provide essential funding for the day-to-day needs of our campus. Your continued generosity strengthens our mission and ensures that the Orchard Lake Schools can thrive today and into the future. Thank you for your unwavering support.

SUMMA CUM LAUDE PERPETUAL

Rev. Thaddeus J. Blaszczyk
Mr. Edward Bojanowski
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. and Barbara Brzustewicz
Ferd and Lottie Chmielnicki
Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Czapor
Joseph and Loretta Daiek
Mr. Robert M. Desser
Mr. Robert K. Dombrowski
Mr. Thaddeus Figurski
Mr. Edward A. Grabiec
Wanda C. Grzymala
Ms. Stasia K. Harchut
Myrtle and William Hess Trust
Mr. and Mrs. John A. and Deborah Kailunas II
Mrs. Amelia Kalwara
In Memory of Leon Anthony Kalwara
Charles S. Kassab
Mr. Patrick Kerzic and Mrs. Stephanie Germack Kerzic
Miss Hedwig Kierbiedz
In Memory of Peter W. Kierbiedz
Mary T. Kochanski and Stanley J. Kochanski Memorial
Chester J. Kolo
Mrs. Stella Krug
Mr. Alex S. Kuklinski
Miss Walda Kuklinski
Mr. George Lepo
Mr. Randall Marcial
Mr. and Mrs. Mark T. and Terry Megge
Rev. Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski P.A.
Mr. and Mrs. Leo and Bernice E. Obloy
Dr. Stanley Ozog

Mr. Frank C. Padzieski Sr.
In Memory of Mary T. Padzieski
Polish National Alliance
Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Rev. John J. Rozak
Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Sehn
Mrs. Matilda J. Shumsky
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Staskowski
Mrs. Barbara Szymanski
In Memory of Walter Szymanski
Ms. Marcia M. Trepczynski
Mr. John E. Zelazny
Mr. Roy Zurkowski

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Joseph and Leigh Lentine
Mrs. Barbara Szymanski
In Memory of Walter Szymanski (P'1970)

MAXIMA CUM LAUDE

Travis and Sandra Fox
Mark and Terry Megge
Mrs. Barbara Szymanski
In Memory of Walter Szymanski (P'1970)
Fr. Stan Ulman

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Francis and Juliana Janosz
Robert A. Jarema
Mark and Ann Marie Rottermond
Jeffrey Stewart and Diane Knoblauch
Gary and Liliana Stoneback
Helen Zakrzewski

CUM LAUDE

Adam and Maria Baron
William and Cheri Cosnowski Jr.
Todd & Christine Covert

Gary and Lynn Cummings
Philip and Nancy Cushman
Chris and Jacqueline Czarnik
Clergy for Polish Affiars
Brian and Judith Duggan
Norman Dziadzio
Stephen and Judy Facione
Felician Sisters of North America
Steve and Maureen Gross
Andrew and Vicki Harrington
James and Mary Ann Harrington
Timothy and Lori Hollandsworth
Drs. Zdzislaw and Genowefa Jurek

Lud and Trudy Koci
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Kosco
Dr. Anthony P. Kozma, Jr.
David Krakowski
Joseph and Mary Majcher
Dr. Stanislaus and Alice Majewski
Eric and Joni McGlothlin
Patricia Krasinski Minor
John and Mary Neumann
Michael A. and Christine Nykiel
Michael and Jo Obloy
Mutual of Omaha Insurance
Dr. Clark J. Okulski
Jeffrey and Michelle Petrucci, Sr.
Mike and Janet Petrucci
Dr. Jamie Reynolds - Reynolds Orthodontics
Kenneth Smerecki, Sr.
Kenneth and Nicole Smerecki, Jr.
Thomas A. and Carolyn Szczepanski
Joseph and Rebecca Ulman
Ed and Robin Wojtys
Rev. Lawrence Zurawski

REFLECTION

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

While on February 14th many focus on Valentine's Day celebrations, in the general liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church we celebrate the memorial of Saints Cyril and Methodius. The Seminary Chapel is dedicated to these two saints, and their relics are kept inside the altar.

These two holy men of Greek origin who lived in the 9th century are called "Apostles to the Slavs"

In the Words of

ST. JOHN PAUL II

Byzantine in culture, the brothers Cyril and Methodius succeeded in becoming apostles of the Slavs in the full sense of the word. Separation from one's homeland, which God sometimes requires of those he has chosen, when accepted with faith in his promise is always a mysterious and fertile pre-condition for the development and growth of the People of God on earth. The Lord said to Abraham: "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing . . ."

For the purposes of evangelization, the two holy Brothers—as their biographies indicate—undertook the difficult task of translating the texts of the Sacred Scriptures, which they knew in Greek, into the language of the Slav population which had settled along the borders of their own region and native city. Making use of their own Greek language and culture for this arduous and unusual enterprise, they set themselves to understanding and penetrating the language, customs and traditions of the Slav peoples, faithfully interpreting the aspirations and human values which were present and expressed therein . . .

Previously, Constantine and his fellow workers had been engaged in creating a new alphabet, so that the truths to be proclaimed and explained could be written in Old Slavonic and would thus be fully comprehended and grasped by their hearers. The effort to learn the language and to understand the mentality of the new peoples to

for their evangelizing work among the Slavs. To translate the Bible and liturgical books into the language of the people, they created the early Slavic alphabets, the Cyrillic and the Glagolitic.

St. John Paul II proclaimed them Co-Patrons of Europe, and in his Apostolic Letter "Slavorum Apostoli" of 1985 highlights their contribution to the Church:



whom they wished to bring the faith was truly worthy of the missionary spirit. Exemplary too was their determination to assimilate and identify themselves with all the needs and expectations of the Slav peoples. Their generous decision to identify themselves with those peoples' life and traditions, once having purified and enlightened them by Revelation, make Cyril and Methodius true models for all the missionaries who in every period have accepted Saint Paul's invitation to become all things to all people in order to redeem all. And in particular for the missionaries who, from ancient times until the present day, from Europe to Asia and today in every continent, have labored to translate the Bible and the texts of the liturgy into the living languages of the various peoples, so as to bring them the one word of God, thus made accessible in each civilization's own forms of expression.

Perfect communion in love preserves the Church from all forms of particularism, ethnic exclusivism or racial prejudice, and from any nationalistic arrogance. This communion must elevate and sublimate every purely natural legitimate sentiment of the human heart.

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 1st • 1:00 PM

- Polish Dinner after the Mass in the Dining Hall - Cost: \$20
- Please RSVP to the dinner by Wednesday, February 25th.
- 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, 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.





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

CONTACT: CHRIS CZARNIK AT CCZARNIK@ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM


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 BY FEBRUARY 11

TO (248) 602-7579 OR BERNARDWITEK@YAHOO.COM

Sunday, February 15th, 2026 at 1:00 PM

SEMINARY CHAPEL • ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS



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 GROTTO.**

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.

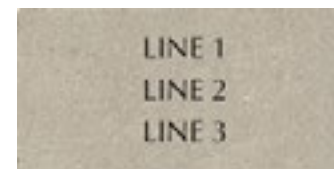
Construction of Phase 3 will begin in early November. Sales for Phase 4 (continuing towards the lake) begin September 15, 2025. There is plenty of space for additional commemorative bricks. Bricks purchased for Phase 4 are \$150 each and will be installed in November 2026.

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)

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

upcoming EVENTS highlights

1	Polish 1st Sunday Mass 1:00 PM Presentation of Our Lord Galeria Open 12-3:00 PM
1-28	Polish Institute 50 Posters Exhibit Galeria
2	Snowboarding Indy Race #4 Alpine Valley 4:30 PM
3	Skiing CHSL Championship Alpine Valley 1:00 PM Bowling vs. De La Salle Wonderland Lanes 3:30 PM Girls Hockey vs. Grosse Pointe North 4:30 PM Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Chandler Park Academy 7:00 PM Boys Varsity Hockey vs. Riverview 7:30 PM
4	Bowling vs. De La Salle/Regina Sterling Lanes 3:00 PM Snowboarding Team Race #5 Alpine Valley 4:30 PM
5	Girls Hockey vs. Mercy 4:30 PM
6	Skiing Division Championship Alpine Valley 9:00 AM Girls Hockey vs. Mercy 4:30 PM Pink in the Rink
7	Pink in the Rink Boys Hockey vs. Brother Rice Pink in the Rink Girls Hockey vs. Livonia United TBD Girls Varsity Basketball CHSL TBD Boys Wrestling CHSL Tournament Lumen Christi (All Day) Girls Hockey vs. Livonia United 1:30 PM Crew 50th Anniversary Auction Gala Fr. Rakoczy Old Gym 6:00 PM Boys Varsity Hockey vs. Brother Rice 7:30 PM
9	Bowling vs. Catholic Central/Mercy Wonderland Lanes 3:30 PM Snowboarding Team Race #6 Alpine Valley 4:30 PM
10	Girls Hockey vs. Regina 4:30 PM Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Avondale 7:00 PM
11	Skiing Region 6 Championship Alpine Valley 9:00 AM Varsity Wrestling MHSAA Team Districts TBD Patronal Feast Polish Dinner RSVP due to Fr. Witek
12	Paczki Day (Poland) Snowboarding State Qualifier Alpine Valley 4:30 PM Annual Alumni Scholarship Awards & Networking Event Galeria 6:00 PM
13	Bowling vs. U of D/Marian Plum Hollow 3:30 PM Casa Piano Quartet Concert Featuring DSO Musicians & Reception Galeria 7:00 PM
14	VALENTINE'S DAY Varsity Wrestling MHSAA Individual Districts TBD
15	Patronal Feast Mass @ Seminary Chapel 1:00 PM Polish Dinner to follow Dining Hall NO SCHOOL (Winter Break)

upcoming EVENTS highlights *cont.*

17	Paczki Day Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Pre-Regional 5:30/7:30 PM Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Frankenmuth 7:00 PM
18	Ash Wednesday (Lenten Season Begins) Skiing SEMSL Championship Pine Knob 9:00 AM Varsity Wrestling MHSAA Team Regionals TBD
18-19	Snowboarding Wild Card Alpine Valley 4:30 PM
18-21	Bowling MHSAA Regionals Century Bowl TBD
19	Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Regional 5:30/7:30 PM
21	Girls Hockey vs. Ann Arbor Skyline 4:00 PM Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Regional Final 7:30 PM Varsity Wrestling MHSAA Individual Regionals TBD
23	Classes Resume Boys Varsity Basketball MHSAA Districts TBD
24	Skiing MHSAA Finals Boyne Highlands 8:00 AM
26	Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Groves 7:00 PM (Senior Night)
27	Bowling MHSAA Finals Century Bowl TBD Snowboarding State Championship Tree Tops TBD
27-28	Varsity Wrestling MHSAA Team Semi Finals/Finals TBD
28	Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Quarterfinal TBD

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 December.

CARLOS & CORINNE ALCAINO	AURORA FERMIN	DIANE MCDANIEL
NUHA GARMO ARABO	CORA FOGLIANI,	STANLEY RADZIEWICZ
BECKY BIZON	JOSEPH H. FREY, JR.	DAVID RAMSEY
MADELINE BORSAK	RUSTY KORHONEN	PATSY ROLLINS
MICHAEL CLETUS BROWN	REGINALD KOSZYNSKI	NABBY YONO
ARTHUR J. COVEU	JOSEPH LOEFFLER	JOSEPH ZAJAC

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

February 2026

MASS schedule

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

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
Polish 1st Sunday		
1:00 PM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

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, FEBRUARY 15

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 | ASH WEDNESDAY

5:00 PM	FR. WITEK POLISH*	SEMINARY CHAPEL
7:00 PM	FR. WITEK ENGLISH	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

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

*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 2/6	MASS 7:00 PM DEVOTIONS * FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1 ST SATURDAY 2/7	MASS 9:00AM DEVOTIONS * FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
THURSDAY 2/19	BIBLE STUDY AFTER MASS 7:45 PM	SEMINARY CHAPEL
FRIDAY 2/20	DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS 7:45 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
	KRAŁ BIBLIJY 8:00 PM	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