

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS CAMPUS COMMUNICATOR

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

MARCH 2024

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." ~ St. John Paul II

This month we celebrate Easter Sunday symbolizing the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The 40 days (about 1 and a half months) of the Lenten season leading up to Easter Sunday are times of fasting, repentance, and almsgiving. What did Pope John Paul II mean when he referred to us as 'Easter people'? On Sunday, November 30, 1986, when he visited Australia during a period in the middle of the Cold War, many wondered what he meant by 'Easter people' in his speech. The following excerpt sheds light on these words and helps us connect with his message:

We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of his Paschal Mystery – the mystery of his Death and Resurrection. "We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!" We are not looking for a shallow joy but rather a joy that comes from faith, that grows through unselfish love, that respects the "fundamental duty of love of neighbour, without which it would be unbecoming to speak of Joy." We realize that joy is demanding; it demands unselfishness; it demands a readiness to say with Mary: "Be it done unto me according to thy word."

May his words resonate with us as we celebrate our Easter tradition on March 31st (see Lenten Schedule on last page of this issue). Please join us for all our Holy Week observances, including our Holy Saturday Easter basket blessing. If you have ever wondered about the traditional foods found in a Polish Easter basket and their symbolism, we share the diagram and explanations below:

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.

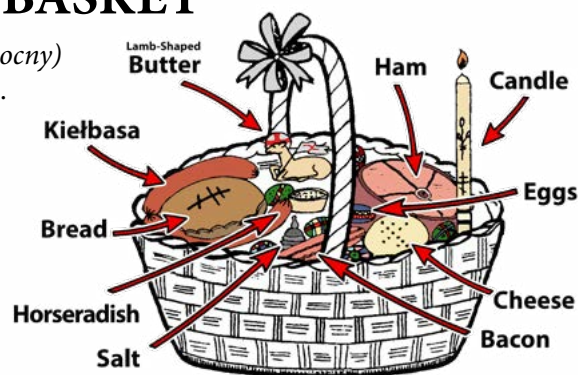
SMOKED BACON (*Slonina*) • This represents the overabundance of God's mercy and generosity.

SALT (*Sól*) • 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.



The Orchard Lake Schools

ST. MARY'S PREP & ST. JP II LITURGICAL CENTER SPONSOR DETROIT HISTORIC CHURCH PILGRIMAGE



On Saturday, January 27th, 40 enthusiastic Orchard Lake Schools employees and friends embarked on an exciting pilgrimage to visit five magnificent historic Catholic churches in downtown Detroit. The pilgrimage began with a 9:00 AM Mass celebrated by Fr. Bernard Witek in our Shrine Chapel. Subsequently, tour participants boarded a bus bound for downtown Detroit. From beginning to end, the pilgrimage was religiously inspired to include Fr. Witek leading the recitation of the rosary on the way to Detroit and recitation of the Divine Mercy chaplet on the way back to OLS.

The pilgrimage included the Catholic Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit, Greektown's Old St. Mary's Catholic Church, Sweetest Heart of Mary Catholic Church, the Capuchin St. Bonaventure Catholic Church and Solanus Casey Center, and the

St. Joseph Catholic Shrine. Although every church visited was architecturally awesome and historically significant, perhaps the most spectacular and most beautifully and elaborately Christmas decorated was the Sweetest Heart of Mary Catholic Church on Russell Street, one of the oldest and grandest Polish Catholic churches in Detroit.

Upon seeing these churches, one cannot help but feel awestruck at the obvious deep faith that the hundreds of thousands of immigrants to this area sacrificed, so much of their time and money, to build such magnificent edifices to honor God.

This pilgrimage was months in the making. It was a very harmonious combined effort between the Prep and Liturgical Center. Maysa Anwar, the Information Technology teacher at the Prep, conceived the idea last October, and asked Joe Majcher, Liturgical Center Chairman, if the Liturgical Center would agree to advertise and permit ticket sales for the pilgrimage bus tour on its website.

Special thanks to Fr. Witek and Maysa Anwar for organizing this special day. We're also grateful for the Prep faculty, Ashley Yenor and Hannah Kenrick, for assisting in the effort, and the student volunteers, parish representatives, and Solanus Casey Center staff and volunteers, all of whom so graciously made this experience so memorable for all who participated. We look forward to this opportunity again next year in addition to offering other collaborations between the Prep and the St. John Paul II Liturgical Center.



ATHLETES FOR CHRIST & 4th ANNUAL SR. JUDIE OUTREACH FOOD DRIVE

The Athletes for Christ group marked its 4th year of organizing the Annual Sister Judie Outreach Food Drive. The group spent a great deal of time preparing for this tradition and decided to make this year's drive



competitive -- Boys Division against Girls Division. The food delivery was fantastic! Special thanks to all that donated, and to the group and volunteers that gave of their time for a wonderful cause.

This year, Sister Judie's Outreach and Grace Bayer (Director) provided us with a list of requested items: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Lunch Sized Fruit Cups and Snacks, Peanut Butter Crackers,

Granola/Protein Bars, Bottled Water, Pasta, Macaroni and Cheese, Soup, Diapers, Baby Wipes, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Body Wash, Napkins, Toilet Paper, and Paper Towels.

The goal was 100% participation from the student body and faculty. Thank you to all those who dropped off donations at the CAC for the food drive January 29 – February 9.

Online readers can view a video about Sister Judie's Outreach by clicking on this link:

<https://youtu.be/KCR-OJXViCQ?feature=shared>

Online readers can view a video documenting one of the Drives at St. Mary's: <https://youtu.be/IL9XWm-SPao?feature=shared>

WHAT A NIGHT TO THINK PINK!



OLSM, you provided a momentous day of hockey at the 2nd Annual Pink in the Rink and kicked cancer's butt in support of pediatric cancer charities!

We are so proud of our success at Pink in the Rink! We had over 1,500 attendees supporting Karmanos and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We were able to honor cancer survivors and were so excited to have Hudson Gazsi as our

honorary Eaglet who was escorted on and off the ice by Warren Davis, University of Michigan Quarterback, who also is a cancer survivor. Hudson is on his path to winning against Leukemia.

We will be excited to tell you our final donation numbers soon but it looks like we will be close to doubling our goal from last year!

We want to thank St. Mary's faculty and staff, students, hockey families, coaches, the Orchard Lake Hockey Association, our amazing Pink in the Rink committee, and all of our incredible sponsors! You all made this possible.

This night. These people. Cancer isn't just about saying you care. It's showing up for people. It's love and true connection. It's strength. **#hudsonfortough**



BRIAN & LISA KLANOW

On behalf of all who made this possible!

MAKING PINK MUSIC . . .

For the first time, the OLSM Band performed at Pink in the Rink! It was such a wonderful event for students, athletes, and the OLSM community.



"We're so blessed to have been part of such a great cause!" said Gina Dlugosielski, OLSM music teacher. "OLSM Band thanks Mrs. Boji for designing and donating our very first band merchandise to wear for Pink in the Rink."



. . . AND MORE MUSICAL MOMENTS

Congratulations to Junior clarinet player, **NOAH SALLACH**, for being awarded 1st place in the Boys Division of the 2024 Alumni Scholarship. He read his essay at the scholarship event at the Detroit Athletic Club last month where the alumni scholarship committee determined the winners in both the Boys and Girls Divisions.

In other music news, **NOAH SALLACH** (P'25) and his brother, **LUKE SALLACH** (P'26) were selected to perform in the Wayne State University High School Honors Band!

More good news . . . next academic year, both band and choir classes will be offered to students!



EVER FORWARD!

ZAWSZE DO PRZODU!

STRATEGIC MASTER PLANNING PROJECT



FOR UPDATES FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS, VISIT

www.orchardlakeschools.com/everforward

WARRIORS HEART VETERANS RESPOND TO OLSM EFFORTS



February 19, 2024

Dear Mr. Klanow,

I would personally like to thank you for your support of our organization. Through the last 20 years of war, we have learned so many lessons about what it means to send an entire generation away to defend our great nation against those who may choose to do it harm. For many of us, this patriotism is often linked to a vision of watching the towers fall on 9/11. For those who were either not born yet, or were too young to remember what this felt like, that patriotism may not come so naturally. It is thanks to educators like you, who remind these children of the cost of true freedom, that gives me hope for the next generation.

The repercussions of the reality of what our veterans and first responders experience day in and day out is not always an easy discussion, especially not to school age children... in some cases, not even to adults. We are more than willing to send our young men and women to the frontlines so that we may live safely, and it is our responsibility to take care of them when they return home. For our veterans, this may be when they return from overseas, but often...the battle in their mind lives on long after they have returned from foreign soil. For our first responders, this battle may occur every night when they return from work.

I like to provide context for donations, so you may truly understand the impact of your donation. \$1,474.25 will provide one Warrior with one month of sober living. That is one month that this Warrior does not have to worry about where they will lay their head, one month that they do not have to worry about where their next meal comes from.

Thank you, truly. We could not do this without people like you. If anyone within your community that has served needs help, please, don't hesitate to reach out.

v/r

Jordyn Jureczki

Jordyn Jureczki

CEO, Board Member

Frontline Healing Foundation

jordyn.jureczki@frontlinehealingfoundation.org



OLSM AUCTION GALA SUCCESS!

It is with great delight that we announce a successful 2024 OLSM Auction Gala! First and foremost, we must thank the sponsors, donors, attendees, staff and volunteers that truly made this auction a night to remember.

Now, we would like to share our 2024 goals and results:

- Create a Gala that would generate buzz, increasing attendance year over year for Parents & Alumni: Buzz Generated...Bring on 2025!
- Raise a minimum \$125K; 2024 Gala Net Profit 127K!
- Bring back Fund A Need: Kicked off at the Gala - 28% of our first goal was raised!
- Fund-A-Need is still open & earns auction PIP hours

Each \$50 donation = 1 PIP hour towards your required 5 Auction/20 Annual hours

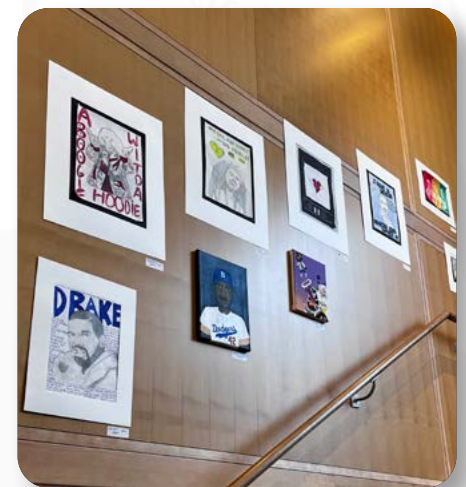
CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Last month, OLSM students, faculty & staff celebrated Black History Month with events related to the extraordinary accomplishments of historical African Americans in our nation. We are continuing to uplift the inspirational contributions of Black artists, writers, musicians, scientists, politicians, and religious figures through a variety of activities that we are excited to share.

ART CONTEST • Students from all grade levels could submit an original work for posting on campus for all to see. Winners in both the Boys and Girls Divisions were selected. They will receive \$250 to the Campus Bookstore. Art submissions were submitted to Mrs. Saldana. Boys Division 1st place winner was **AIDEN BROWN**, 2nd place was **NATE DRESSELHOUSE**, and 3rd place was **NATANAEL BARAN**. Girls Division 1st place winner was **WILLOW RHODES**, 2nd place was **ANNALIESE WEBBER**, and 3rd place was **ELLA BASSETT**.



ESSAY CONTEST • Students from all grade levels could submit an essay highlighting the impact an African American historical figure has made in changing the world for the better. A winner from each grade level was selected for both the Boys and Girls Divisions. Winners will receive \$200 to the Campus Bookstore. Essays were submitted to Mr. Matyus. 1st place winner was **EMANUEL TAYLOR** and 2nd place **ANNA BLAZEVIC**



HIGHLIGHTING AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS • Throughout the month, music inspired from Black musicians in the 20th century was played on campus in the hallways.

SCAVENGER HUNT • On February 26th, students participated in a scavenger hunt on campus and matched the description of the historical figure to a picture of the individual.

CELEBRATION • The closure of Black History Month culminated with celebrations of the winners of the contests, highlighting the significance of the month, and providing students with vanilla ice cream (*along with a lesson connecting a unique Black History invention to the revolutionization of vanilla*).

WINTER SPORTS SHOUT OUTS

Boys Varsity Basketball became CHSL Champs when they defeated Brother Rice on February 17.

Congratulations to the following boys on their CHSL Basketball Honors:

All Catholic • **SHAROD BARNES**, **TREY MCKENNEY**, **JAYDEN SAVOURY**

All League • **DANIEL SMYTHE**

All Academic • **ANDREW SMITH**



Congratulations to our Boys varsity basketball who are Detroit City Champs after their 73-41 win over Cass Tech in the Operation Friendship game on February 24th!



Girl's Varsity and JV Basketball won the Catholic High School League (CHSL Cardinal Division) Championship. JV

won the league going undefeated with a 10-0 record and Varsity won the league, also going undefeated with a 12-0 record.

The following players received league honors:

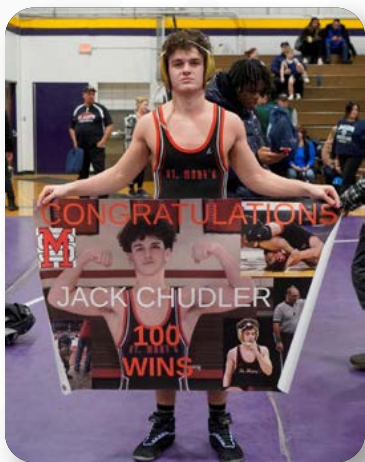
All Catholic • **ALLIE CRIGHTON**, **STELLA POOTA**, **LAYLA STEWART**

All League • **REESE HOLTON**, **BROOKE SHOCKEY**

All Academic • **BELLA RAYNISH**



Three Eaglet wrestlers qualified for the state finals at Ford Field in late February: **JACK CHUDLER** (2nd in 138), **AYDEN TATUM** (1st in 150), and **MALAK ZAWAIDEH**. All three of these wrestlers also earned All League and All Catholic honors. **JACK CHUDLER** became the 10th wrestler in OLSM history to record 100 career varsity wins!



The Boys Ski Team won the CHSL Championship! Congratulations to the skiers who were awarded All Catholic honors by finishing in the Top 10: **ELI BUDDE**, **COOPER EATON**, **PIERSON KUHN**, **NOAH MORLEY**, **BRADY WEBSTER**.

GIADA MIRJAH qualified for the State Championship in snowboarding.

GRANT ESSIG placed fourth in the region and qualified for states in the singles tournament in late February! **KAYLEE MORTON** of the Girls Division bowled a career-high and St. Mary's girls bowling record of 227 in the team's win against Mercy High School. The following bowling team members received league honors:

All Catholic (Boys Division) • **AIDAN DONOVAN, GRANT ESSIG, NOAH HEYMES, RYAN SOMMER;**
All League & All Academic (Boys Division) • **PARKER BRZUSTEWICZ;**
All League (Girls Division) • **KAYLEE MORTON;**
All Academic (Girls Division) • **CAROLINE KOPMEYER.**



Congratulations to our Regional Champion Boys Varsity Hockey Team! They move on to the state quarter finals vs East Grand Rapids on Saturday, March 2. Go Eaglets!

This inaugural year for Prep Girls Hockey, the team made it to the CHSL Championship! Congratulations to our CHSL Girls Ice Hockey Honor Team:

All Catholic -- **PORSCHÉ CARIERA, MACY WARD**
All League -- **MAYA LITTLE, SYDNEY SCHAFFER**
All Academic -- **LACI McCLAFFERTY**



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



HANNAH JABIRO

- *Middle School:* Sarah Banks Middle School
- *Parents:* Mark Jabiro and Crystal Kassab Jabiro
- *Siblings:* Mark II, Alivia, Jaxson, and Jordan Jabiro
- *Athletics:* None this year (competitive cheer and soccer in sophomore year)
- *Favorite Campus Activity:* I enjoy working with other students to set-up and help at events.
- *Fun Fact:* My FAVORITE color is purple.
- *College/Career Aspirations:* Major in Cellular Biology or Biomedical Engineering. I want to become a Neurology Oncologist.



ANDREW SMITH

- *Middle School:* Our Lady of Sorrows
- *Parents:* Brian and Kristin Smith
- *Athletics:* Varsity basketball, captain
- *Favorite Campus Activity:* Spirit week and student sections
- *Fun fact:* Andrew had open heart surgery as a child and has persevered to become an incredibly talented and competitive athlete.
- *College/Career Aspirations:* Hope College, Business

1st Annual



OLSM FIRST PITCH MASS AND LUNCHEON

HELP US KICK OFF THE 2024 BASEBALL SEASON!



As a Sport & Performance Psychology Coach, Dr. Jason Novetsky subscribes to the notion that talent is over-emphasized and mental toughness is the competitive advantage that creates champions. The skills he teaches prepare athletes and teams to take their game to the next level and beyond.

- Meet the new coaching staff
- Hear from Guest Speaker
Dr. Jason Novetsky
Sports Psychologist
Champion Mindset Group

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

Mass at 11:00 am

Luncheon 12:00 pm

in the SMAC

PURCHASE TICKETS NOW



Are you looking to up your game in your sport? All athletes, parents, and sports enthusiasts are invited to attend!

\$100 per person

All are welcome!

All proceeds
will support our
OLSM Baseball
program.

**WE APPRECIATE
YOUR SUPPORT.
REGISTER BY
MARCH 3RD.**





ST. JOHN PAUL II LITURGICAL CENTER UPDATE

This year the month of March ends with Holy Week, which is the most solemn of all weeks of the Liturgical Year, because it commemorates the final days of Our Lord's life. It opens with Palm Sunday, Jesus' final entrance into Jerusalem. The three days from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday are referred to by different names as the Easter Triduum or Paschal Triduum. The word "triduum" comes from Latin and means "three days." These three-days are considered one great festival, a summit of the Liturgical Year and the culmination of the Paschal Mystery is Jesus' Resurrection, "therefore Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts,' the 'Solemnity of solemnities.'" (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1169).

For St. John Paul II, the mystery of redemption celebrated in the Paschal Mystery was one of his core teachings and therefore his first Encyclical Letter was *Redemptor Hominis* published on March 4, 1979. Let us read the first paragraphs below.

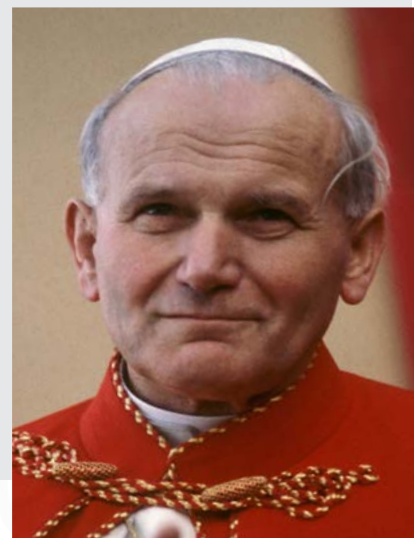
FR. BERNARD WITEK

Director, St. John Paul II Liturgical Center

IN THE WORDS OF ST. JOHN PAUL II:

THE REDEEMER OF MAN, Jesus Christ, is the centre of the universe and of history. To him go my thoughts and my heart in this solemn moment of the world that the Church and the whole family of present-day humanity are now living. In fact, this time, in which God in his hidden design has entrusted to me, after my beloved Predecessor John Paul I, the universal service connected with the Chair of Saint Peter in Rome, is already very close to the year 2000. At this moment it is difficult to say what mark that year will leave on the face of human history or what it will bring to each people, nation, country and continent, in spite of the efforts already being made to foresee some events. For the Church, the People of God spread, although unevenly, to the most distant limits of the earth, it will be the year of a great Jubilee. We are already approaching that date, which, without prejudice to all the corrections imposed by chronological exactitude, will recall and reawaken in us in a special way our awareness of the key truth of faith which Saint John expressed at the beginning of his Gospel: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1:14), and elsewhere: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16).

We also are in a certain way in a season of a new Advent, a season of expectation: "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son..." (Heb 1:1-2), by the Son, his Word, who became man and was born of the Virgin Mary. This act of redemption marked the high point of the history of man within God's loving plan. God entered the history of humanity and, as a man, became an actor in that history, one of the thousands of millions of human beings but at the same time Unique! Through the Incarnation God gave human life the dimension that he intended man to have from his first beginning; he has granted that dimension definitively-in the way that is peculiar to him alone, in keeping with his eternal love and mercy, with the full freedom of God-and he has granted it also with the bounty that enables us, in considering the original sin and the whole history of the sins of humanity, and in considering the errors of the human intellect, will and heart, to repeat with amazement the words of the Sacred Liturgy: "O happy fault... which gained us so great a Redeemer!" (Exsultet at the Easter Vigil)

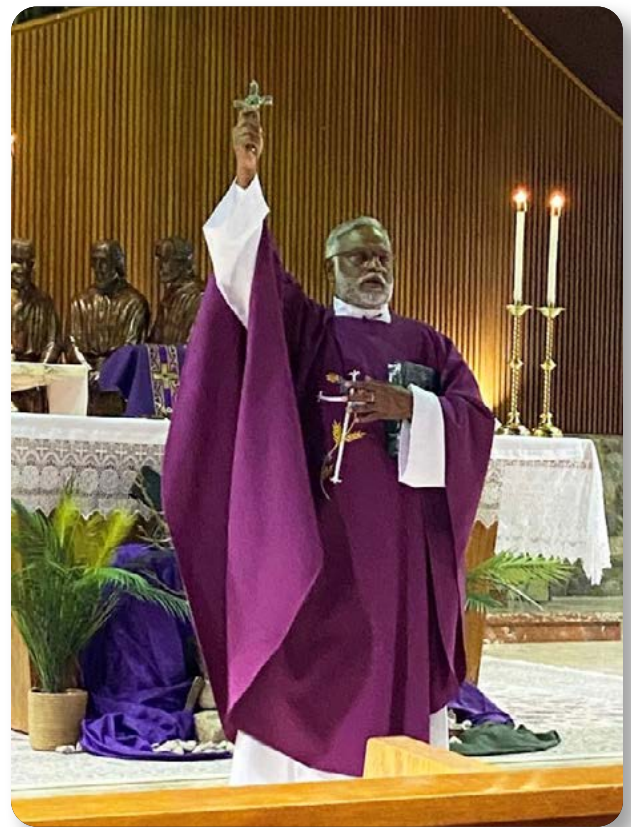


LITURGICAL CENTER HOSTS HEALING MASS & ADORATION

Recently, Fr. Bernard Witek arranged for Fr. Augustine Mundackatt, V.C., an internationally recognized Catholic priest, faith healer and inspiring homilist, to celebrate a Healing Mass, Adoration, and anointing on February 20 at 7:00 PM in the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II. Fr. Mundackatt expressed how privileged he felt to be on campus where the great saint Pope John Paul II walked many years ago, and prayed at the relic of St John Paul II before Mass.

Fr. Mundackatt currently serves as the Global Evangelization Director and Counselor General of the Vincentian Congregation in charge of retreats and centers across the globe. Previously, he was editor of the *Vicar Provincial*, a popular Indian Catholic renewal magazine published in seven languages, and director of retreat centers in Calcutta, India. Responding to the world evangelization call of Pope John Paul II over 25 years ago, he has travelled to more than 40 countries preaching the Gospel. Throughout the course of his faithful ministry, numerous signs and healings have been reported.

During the enthusiastic Holy Mass, Fr. Mundackatt called upon the Holy Spirit to come down upon the congregation to heal not only physical ailments, but also social, family, and psychological problems. He also celebrated his Healing Mass and Adoration at five other local Catholic Churches in the Archdiocese within the 10 days following his visit to OLS, all just days before returning to India. We, at the OLS, were very fortunate to host his visit here. Over 300 faithful and fervent people from the surrounding area attended the February 20, 2023 event on campus. Participants left with a sense of peace and hope. It was indeed an inspiring and moving experience!



Fr. Mundackatt called upon several people to share their moving stories and need for healing.

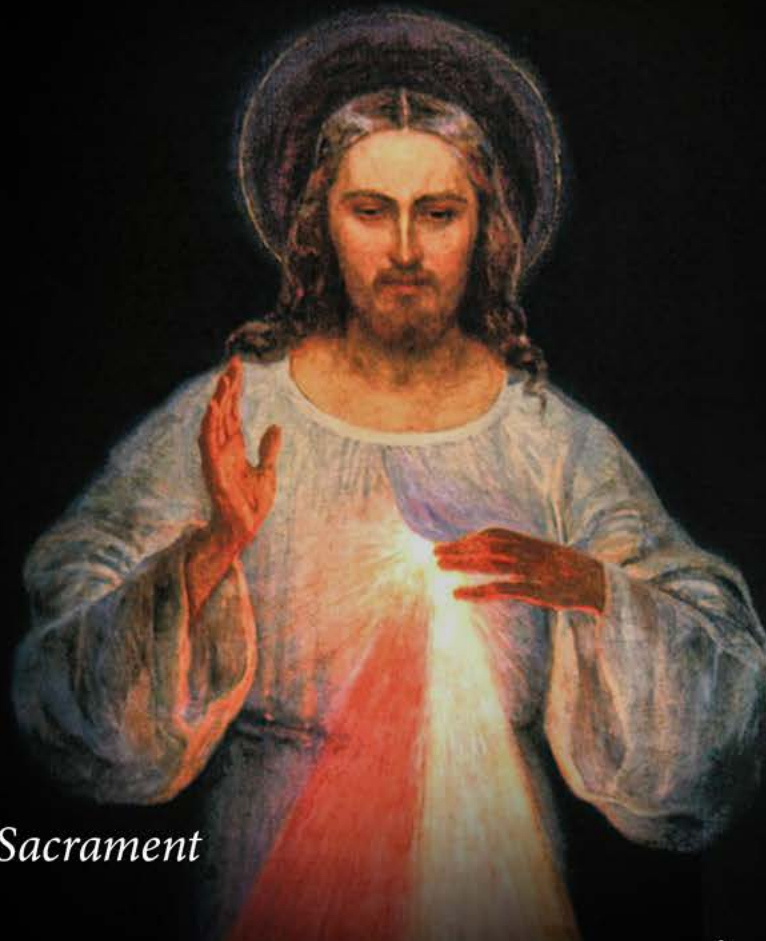


After the Adoration, Fr. Mundackatt and Fr. Witek laid their hands and prayed over each individual participant for the Holy Spirit's intercession and healing.

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
Mass Music by the Filarets choir*

3:00 PM *Divine Mercy Novena*



Po Mszy będzie obiad. Chętnych na obiad prosimy o zgłaszanie się do 3 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 3 • (248) 602 7579 or email bernardwitek@yahoo.com; Price \$20.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th

ARCHDIOCESAN SHRINE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE ALUMNI REUNION



It's been 20 years since St. Mary's College students strolled the campus at Orchard Lake.

**All former St. Mary's College students and alumni are invited
to COME BACK HOME to Orchard Lake this summer!**

*Celebrate, reconnect with fellow alumni, and enjoy
a great BBQ dinner on the campus of your alma mater!*



BBQ DINNER • BEER & WINE • \$45 PER PERSON



SCAN CODE TO REGISTER

JULY 13, 2024 • 5:00-9:00 PM
OLS CAMPUS QUAD & OLD GYM

BLOOMS OF TRADITION FASHION SHOW HIGHLIGHTS DETROIT NATIVE REPURPOSING CULTURE WHILE HELPING REFUGEES REBUILD THEIR LIVES

The Polish Institute of Culture & Research (PICR) at Orchard Lake invites you to Blooms of Tradition: A Fashion Show by Recultured Designs, on Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 5:00 PM in the Galeria along the Trczinski Quad on the campus of the Orchard Lake Schools.

Recultured Designs, based out of San Francisco, California, was established in 2012 by Alexandra Lisiecki, a Detroit native who was deeply influenced by her Polish heritage. Lisiecki rethinks tradition by weaving inspiration from the world of Slavic folklore. She blends a rich cultural heritage with a contemporary twist. "The driving force behind my creativity is my international travels which provide me with an endless source of inspiration and cultural richness," adds Lisiecki. "I love crafting pieces that stay wardrobe favorites for years, with a strong belief in the beauty of simplicity."

Blooms of Tradition is no ordinary event. "This one-of-a-kind fashion show is about forging friendships, appreciating fashion, and championing two noble causes: supporting a burgeoning small business and a dedicated Polish non-profit organization," says Ania Bieciuk, Associate Director of Polonia Affairs for the PICR. "Each garment is crafted by internally displaced war refugees in Ukraine, providing them with a means of income and a chance to rebuild their lives."

This evening promises more than expected. It stands as a testament to creativity and collaboration, providing a stage for the stunning creations of Recultured Designs. In a unique gathering, 20 young women from our local Polish community as well as Orchard Lake St. Mary's will bring these designs to life, symbolizing a harmonious blend of cultures. "I'm thrilled beyond words to bring the enchanting world of Polish-inspired folk fashion to you with the 'Blooms of Tradition' Fashion Show," adds Lisiecki. "This event is not just a runway show; it's a journey back to my roots and a celebration of tradition. Get ready for a night filled with style, nostalgia, and a touch of magic."

"And for those who love a tangible piece of the experience, the Recultured Designs pop-up shop will surely delight," said Bieciuk. "We invite and encourage all attendees to grace the event wearing your most fabulous flower crowns." Tickets are \$50 per person and include appetizers, a complimentary glass of sparkling wine, and the fashion show.

Reserve your tickets now at <https://host.nxt.blackbaud.com/registration-form/>. All proceeds from ticket sales go to the Polish Institute. Proceeds from the pop-up will go to Recultured Designs.

To learn more about the designer, visit her website at <https://reculturedesigns.com/>



PROMINENT POLISH PAINTINGS RECENTLY RESTORED

On February 14, the Polish Institute of Culture & Research was happy to receive back a group of eight paintings sent out for cleaning and restoration. The work was accomplished by Detroit's Conservation and Museum Services under the direction of master restorer Kenneth B. Katz. The eight works are some of the most important paintings in the Institute's collection, including two paintings by Zofia Stryjeńska, two by Wlastimil Hofman, and one by Jacek Małczewski.

One of the Hofman paintings was a recently discovered miniature winter landscape found amid some papers left at the Orchard Lake Schools by the late Msgr. Zdzisław Peszkowski, who taught theology and Polish at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary and St. Mary's College. He was a well-known faculty member for many years and a friend of the famous artist.

The conservation work was the result of a generous donation by the Mark Levandoski family. Institute staff are preparing a second group of paintings to go out for restoration in March, thanks again to our kind benefactors.

The restorers cleaned and re-varnished some of the paintings and did repairs on some of the original frames. Stryjeńska's Adoration of the Shepherds was also strip lined, a process by which additional strips of canvas are added to reinforce fragile edges of a canvas. This allows the painting to be safely reframed in a way that prevents damage to the painted surfaces. Stryjeńska's painting is well-known and loved at the Orchard Lake Schools and has been used for Christmas cards and announcements for holiday programs for many years.



Director of the Polish Institute of Culture & Research, John Radzilowski, with Wlastimil Hofman's Woman with a Quern, at Detroit Conservation and Museum Services.



Zofia Stryjeńska's Adoration of the Shepherds recently cleaned and strip lined.



A conservator strip lines Stryjeńska's famous painting.



WELCOME, DR. ALINA KLIN

The Polish Media Center at the Polish Institute of Culture & Research at Orchard Lake welcomes Dr. Alina Klin to the staff of the Media Center. She graduated from Jagiellonian University in Poland with a Ph.D. in Slavic Studies.

Dr. Klin's career transitioned when she came to the United States in 1986 to work as a visiting lecturer in Polish Studies at Wayne State University. Teaching Polish language, literature, and culture, as well as researching and promoting Polish heritage, became her life passion.

During her many years at WSU, Dr. Klin also focused on fostering a deeper understanding of contemporary Poland, taught Polish and Yugoslavian film, advised the WSU Polish Culture Club, organized numerous events, and took students on study abroad programs to Poland. As a member of the WSU interdisciplinary group Ethnic Layers of Detroit, she created short videos about the Polish American legacy, as well as mentored students making such films.

She was honored by the Polish Government with the Golden Cross of Merit, received the WSU College of Liberal Arts Excellence in Teaching Award, and the General Kazimierz Pulaski Medal of Honor.

She is a member of many Polish organizations: first vice president of the Friends of Polish Art; director of the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society; and Kościuszko Foundation, Michigan Division; and member of the North American Association of Teachers of Polish.

In 1990-1992, Dr. Klin was first a writer and later the associate editor of the *Polish Weekly/Tygodnik Polski*. It was then that her interest in journalism and Polonia affairs developed.

Dr. Alina Klin is very much looking forward to working for the Polish Media Center as she hopes to chronicle our local Polish American life, as well as continue to research and highlight the importance of Polish contributions to the building of the "American dream."



PAŃCZKI DAY! 1,200 SHARED ON FAT TUESDAY AT OLS

Students, faculty and staff were able to enjoy a pączek at lunch in celebration of Fat Tuesday and this particularly delicious Polish tradition courtesy of the Polish Institute of Culture & Research. Thank you to Srodek's and Irena's Pastry & Bistro for the wonderful pączki!



ALICJA KARLIC
Polish Media Center

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



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.



THE MARY PROJECT
AT ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

PISANKI WORKSHOP



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 • Price includes your egg & kit supplies.

Adults \$30 • You will be able to take your final

Children (up to 18 years) \$15 product home!

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

SATURDAY • MARCH 16, 2024

~~12:00 PM~~ • ~~3:00 PM~~ • 6:00 PM • DINING HALL

ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS • 3535 COMMERCE ROAD • ORCHARD LAKE, MI

PLEASE NOTE: Parking behind Dining Hall is limited.

We invite you to also park in main lot adjacent to Archdiocesan Shrine.

"MEET THE AUTHOR" NIGHT WITH PROF. JADWIGA BISKUPSKA

On Friday, February 16th, the Polish Institute hosted a captivating "Meet the Author" Night at the Burkacki Academic Center. The event featured Professor Jadwiga Biskupska, an esteemed Associate Professor of Military History from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Professor Biskupska presented her new book, *Survivors: Warsaw under Nazi Occupation*, and led a riveting dialogue with attendees.



The discussion, sparked by Professor Biskupska's insightful talk, delved into the themes of her book, with a particular focus on Catholic religiosity's role in the mature resistance movement in Warsaw during the Nazi occupation. The interaction between Professor Biskupska and the audience was both intense and engaging, with the author demonstrating her exceptional skills as a speaker and her deep engagement with the subject matter.



The event was a testament to the power of historical analysis and personal narratives in understanding complex periods of history, and it provided a profound opportunity for attendees to reflect on the resilience and resistance of the people of Warsaw during one of the darkest chapters of the 20th century. Thank you to all who attended!

THE POLISH EXPERIENCE: OLSM TAKES A FIELD TRIP

Thirty-three individuals from Orchard Lake St. Mary's campus participated in a field trip hosted by the Polish Institute on February 15th to visit the Nicolaus Copernicus Exhibit on display in Troy. A portion of the students in attendance are presently enrolled in Polish Language class at OLSM.

We are immensely grateful to the staff at the Wawel Restaurant as well as the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy for their hospitality and remarkable Polish cooking. We thank The American Polish Cultural Society for organizing a commemorative exhibit for the 550th anniversary of the Birth of Nicolaus Copernicus. Thank you to Mr. Frank Dmuchowski for providing an insightful and interactive lecture on the topic as well as Ms. Aneta Łuziński for preparing guides for the students to follow. A final thank you to Mr. Dariusz Klepko for putting together an additional exhibit titled "The Copernicus Trail", a digital adventure with Nicolaus Copernicus. For more information regarding his exhibit please check out the link: szlakkopernikowski.pl/en/ (for English).



Additionally, we are grateful to Vice Headmaster Leonard Karschnia, Vice Regent of the Orchard Lake Schools Joe Majcher, Polish Language teacher Marta Włoch, Polish Media Center associate Mietek Oniskiewicz, PICR Associate Director Ania Bieciuk and parent volunteer Wendy Machak for making today an experience to remember.

Finally, a Polish field trip would not be complete without a stop at the Polish Market where students were able to stock up on some of their favorite Polish treats.



SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT MAKES FUTURES BRIGHT

This year's 6th Annual Alumni Scholarship Event at the Detroit Athletic Club was an incredible night, both for our student finalists and for alumni, alumni parents, and all others who supported the Alumni Association. It was a great evening had by all. The finalists, announced at the Wednesday and Thursday Masses the week prior to the event, include **DANIELLA DAMAN**, **ALAYNA KIRMA**, **TREY GOIKE** and **NOAH SALLACH**.

On Thursday, February 8, at the Alumni Scholarship event, Bishop Fisher opened the evening with a prayer. Alumni President Bryan Gray welcomed all attendees, and the finalists read their essays explaining why they are the obvious choice as the scholarship recipient. After careful consideration, the alumni scholarship committee determined the winner from both the Boys and Girls Divisions. Congratulations to 1st place winners Noah Sallach and Daniella Daman who each received \$3,000 toward their senior year tuition, and to 2nd place winners Trey Goike and Alayna Kirma who each received \$2,000.

"The 2024 St. Mary's Alumni Association Scholarship Event gives alumni the opportunity to acknowledge Prep student hardship, perseverance, faith, and philanthropy – all the building blocks necessary for young adult leadership and character growth," added Bryan Gray. "These students embody what it means to be a student of St. Mary's."

Special thanks to Alumni Association President Bryan Gray for sharing what makes this event so special, Prep Headmaster Bob Pyles for reiterating the importance of our alumni community, and OLS Vice Chancellor Todd Covert for updating attendees on the Ever Forward initiative, Galeria reopening, and St. John Paul II Center's faithful leadership within our campus community.

BLAKE BEAN (P'18): AT BAT FOR THE BEARS

Prep Class of 2018 alumnus **BLAKE BEAN** grew up in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and played both varsity baseball and varsity football. He went on to Kalamazoo College where he played for the Hornets before transferring to Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina. There, he's continuing his baseball career for the Bears, an NCAA Division II team in the South Atlantic Conference.

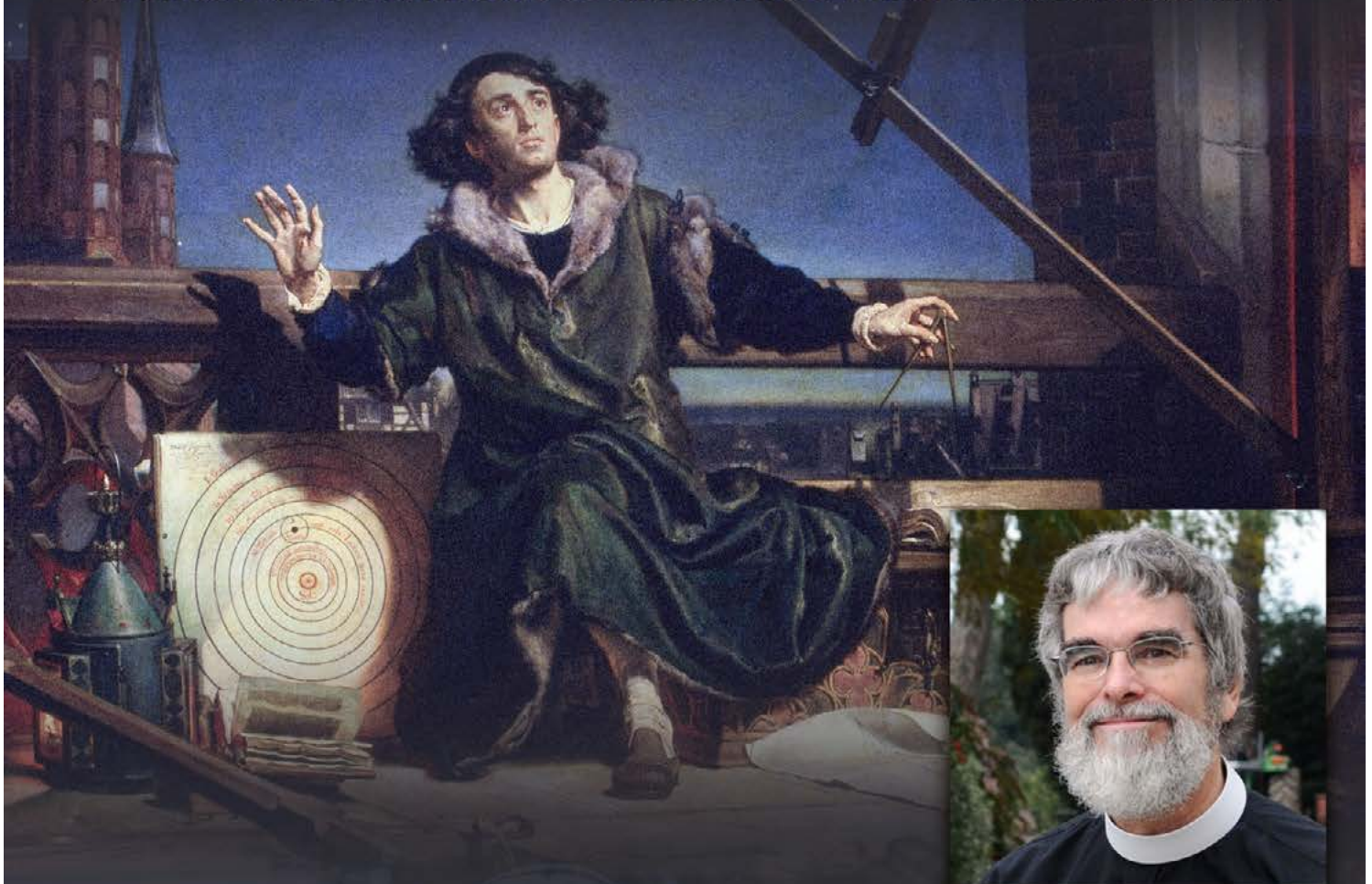
In January, the outfielder was named a 2024 NCAA Division II Preseason All-American Third Team member by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association! In the 2023 season, Bean led the Bears with 73 hits and 61 runs.

Photo by Lenoir-Rhyne Athletics



THE VATICAN ASTRONOMER *comes to Orchard Lake*

TO CELEBRATE POLISH SCIENTIST NICHOLAS COPERNICUS
ON THE 550th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS HISTORIC HELIOCENTRIC DISCOVERY



DIRECTOR OF THE VATICAN OBSERVATORY
and Detroit Native

BR. GUY CONSOLMAGNO, SJ

will speak about the work of the great Polish visionary

MONDAY, MARCH 18th • 6:30 PM

Galeria Building • Orchard Lake Schools

3535 COMMERCE ROAD • ORCHARD LAKE, MI



THE ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS
AMBASSADORS BALL

CELEBRATING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS AMBASSADORS ENDOWMENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

THE TOWNSEND HOTEL • BIRMINGHAM, MI

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

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

If you are an Extraordinary Ambassador, Perpetual Ambassador, or current Annual Ambassador for 2023-2024, you will receive a mailed invitation. To check on your Ambassador Membership status, contact Lisa Gray at (248) 392-9974.

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

WWW.ORCHARDLAKESCHOOLS.COM/WAYS-TO-GIVE AND SCROLL DOWN TO
AMBASSADORS; OR CALL LISA GRAY AT (248) 392-9974.

VIVAT MAY 3



5K RUN/WALK

DATE: MAY 4 AT 9 A.M.

CAMPUS OF ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS

[Polishweekly.com/vivat](https://polishweekly.com/vivat)



Looking for impactful campus dedication/
naming opportunities that leave a lasting
campus impression for generations to enjoy?

CONTACT
Chris Czarnik

cczarnik@orchardlakeschools.com



Upcoming Event Highlights • **MARCH 2024**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Bowling @ MHSAA Finals – TBD
Wrestling MHSAA Individual Finals 2 Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Quarterfinals 3 Divine Mercy Sunday Mass @ 2:00 PM & Polish Luncheon 4 Girls Varsity Basketball MHSAA Districts 5 Boys Varsity Basketball MHSAA Regionals 6 NHS Induction Ceremony (<i>Girls Division</i>) 7 Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Semifinals TBD 8 End of 3rd Card Marking Period 9 Blooms of Tradition Fashion Show
Boys Varsity Hockey MHSAA Semifinals/Finals TBD 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins 11 Girls Varsity Basketball MHSAA Regionals TBD 12 Boys Varsity Basketball MHSAA Quarterfinals TBD 13 Parent-Teacher Conferences
Mother-Daughter Brunch at Detroit Yacht Club 14 Boys Varsity Basketball MHSAA Semifinals @ Breslin Center, E. Lansing TBD 15 NO SCHOOL | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 Boys Varsity Basketball MHSAA Finals @ Breslin Center, E. Lansing TBD
Pisanki Workshops @ Dining Hall 17 Class of 2027 Boys Division Mass 18 Brother Consolmagno Visit & Presentation @ 6:30 PM – Galeria 19 Girls Varsity Basketball MHSAA Quarterfinals TBD 20 NHS Induction Ceremony (Boys Division) 21-22 Girls Varsity Basketball MHSAA Semifinals @ Breslin Center, E. Lansing TBD 23 Girls Varsity Basketball MHSAA Finals @ Breslin Center, E. Lansing TBD 24 Palm Sunday 24 Girls Basketball CHSL Championship TBD 28 Holy Thursday 29 Good Friday 29 Holy Saturday
Easter Basket Blessing 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM @ Shrine 31 Easter Sunday 3/27-4/7 No School (<i>Easter Break</i>) |
|--|--|

MONTHLY ENROLLMENTS

*Throughout the year, donors to the Orchard Lake Schools enroll their loved ones in the “Friends of the Orchard Lake Schools” Enrollment. These names are those that have been added from the month of January. Prayers are offered at every mass at the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II for those names enrolled. **For more enrollment information, please contact Lisa Gray at lgray@orchardlakeschools.com.***

CHESTER ADAMCZYK (P'30)
MARGARITA AGUINALDO
MARGARET BILICKI
MICHAEL BODNAR
NATHAN BRANNIGAN
PATRICIA KATHLEEN CARPENTER
DONALD CHOUINARD
LINDA CHROSTOWSKI
LINDA COLLINS
TERRY DONOVAN

ROBERT DOWD
JOHN JOSEPH GLEI
STANISLOW & GENOWEFA
GRABOWSKI
EDWARD GROMEK
CHRIS GUTIEREZ
ANTHONY JOHN HOLT
DANIEL FRANK JUHASZ
MICHAEL KENDROWSKI
MARIE LAGIODICE

BOB LOHITE
JOAN CARROL MALCZEWSKI
ELIZABETH MENDES
MARJORIE G. PARENT
BOB RUGGIO
FRANCIS E. SHEA
LEO TAFTE
MARIA VANDERPLOEG

MARCH 2024

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

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
1:00 PM	FR. WITEK • POLISH* POLISH 1st SUNDAY	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 • **PALM SUNDAY**

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

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

3/28	HOLY THURSDAY • LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER • 7:00 PM • FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
3/29	GOOD FRIDAY • LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION • 2:00 PM • FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
3/30	HOLY SATURDAY • EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT • 8:30 PM • FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 • **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

EXTRA-LITURGICAL DEVOTIONS

1 ST FRIDAY 3/1	MASS AT 7:00 PM THEN DEVOTIONS • FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1 ST SATURDAY 3/1	MASS AT 9:00 AM THEN DEVOTIONS • FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
1 ST THURSDAY 3/7	MASS AT 7:00 PM THEN DEVOTIONS • FR. WITEK	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
FRIDAY 3/15	DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS AT 7:45 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
	KRAĞ BIBLIJNY AT 8:00 PM	SEMINARY CHAPEL
THURSDAY 3/21	BIBLE STUDY AFTER MASS AT 7:45 PM	SEMINARY CHAPEL
FRIDAYS IN LENT	STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 6:30 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
GOOD FRIDAY 3/29	STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 1:00 PM	
	DIVINE MERCY NOVENA AT 3:00 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
HOLY SATURDAY 3/30	BLESSING OF FOOD AT 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE
CONFESSIONS		
MON-THURS	6:00 PM - 6:55 PM • FRI 5:30 PM - 6:25 PM • SAT 8:00 AM - 8:55 AM	ST. JOHN PAUL II SHRINE