

# Ash WEDNESDAY

Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.  
Ecclesiastes 3:20

## DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

### Week of February 12

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
5:15 p.m.

Friday 12:10 @ Kanley Chapel



## ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14

12:10 p.m.

at Kanley Chapel/WMU  
Reconciliation follows

12:10 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
at St. Tom's

## RECONCILIATION

Ash Wednesday  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday  
5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

## STUDENT HOLY HOUR

Thursday  
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

## HOLY HOUR

Friday  
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 6:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

## St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish

421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo, MI

Parish Office located at 1333 W. Lovell Street Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Phone: 269-381-8917

email: [sttoms@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:sttoms@sttomskazoo.org) website: [www.sttomskazoo.org](http://www.sttomskazoo.org)

Parish Office Hours: Mon. thru Thurs.: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fri.: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Fr. Paul Redmond | ext. 264  
Pastor  
[frpaul@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:frpaul@sttomskazoo.org)

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Deacon Frank Sila,  
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Michael Zutis  
Director of Music Ministry  
[zututriot@gmail.com](mailto:zututriot@gmail.com)

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT** — We, the people of St. Thomas More Parish, gifted and led by the Holy Spirit, are called to build up the kingdom of God among the college communities of Kalamazoo. Diverse, yet one, we are called to be the Body of Christ, to praise and worship our Heavenly Father, to proclaim God's Word, to love and serve others, especially the poor and neglected. We welcome all into our parish family who wish to share in this mission.

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

*Congratulations to***Meadow Millard and Seth Millard**

children of Timothy &amp; Nicole

who were baptized on Friday, February 2, 2024

**Lincoln Jordan Willner**

son of Jospeh &amp; Alexa

who was baptized on Saturday, February 3, 2024



**BAPTISM** - Parents and godparents are expected to participate in a class before the celebration of this sacrament.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** - Couples planning to marry within the next year need to attend a marriage prep meeting.

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR BOTH CLASSES**

To register or for more information call the parish office at 269-381-8917 or email [sttoms@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:sttoms@sttomskazoo.org)

**FAMILY PERSPECTIVE —**

Family life is about decisions. The leper in today's gospel knew this when he said to Jesus. "If you will, you can make me clean." Jesus knew this when he said, "I do will it." Love is not an emotion. It is a decision to be with and for another person in "good times and bad," even when we don't feel like it.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10** — St. Scholastica

6:00 p.m. †Deceased members of Ben Pawlowski family by Nancy Vader

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11** — Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. †Mrs. McCarry from pen pal Lilie  
10:30 a.m. †Jean Klingel by Gail Falk  
6:00 p.m. People of the parish

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

5:15 p.m. †Joanie Carey by Doreen & Ed Thomas

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

5:15 p.m. †Margie Ochs by Mary Anne Munley

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14** — Ash Wednesday

at Kanley Chapel

12:10 p.m. †Michelle Bowman  
at St. Tom's  
12:10 p.m. People of Maria Madre de low Pobres  
5:30 p.m. †Hank Darragh by Jim & Mary Grace

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15** — Thursday after Ash Wednesday

5:15 p.m. College Students

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16** — Friday after Ash Wednesday

at Kanley Chapel

12:10 p.m. †Matt Kemper by Mary Anne Munley

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17** — The 7 Holy Founders of the Servite Order

6:00 p.m. †Greg Bergenske by joe & Becky Schmitt

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18** — First Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. People of the parish  
10:30 a.m. †Rene Adrian by wife Joan  
6:00 p.m. †Jan & Maria VandenHomergh by family

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of February 11

**Sunday** Lv 13:1-2; 44-46; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11;  
1 Cor 10:31—11:1; Mk 1:40-45  
**Monday** Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76;  
Mk 8:11-13  
**Tuesday** Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19;  
Mk 8:14-21  
**Wednesday** Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17;  
2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
**Thursday** Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 9:22-25  
**Friday** Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15  
**Saturday** Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32  
**Sunday** Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22,  
Mt 4:4b; Mk 1:12-15

## FATHER PAUL'S POST

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we celebrate the month of February with Black History Month, it is a good time to recognize the work of Cardinal Wilton Gregory of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. He was the first African American from the United States to be elevated to the rank of Cardinal on November 28, 2020. Unfortunately, this occurred during the Covid pandemic and may not have been as well publicized. However, his life and his work in the church should not be overlooked.



On his coat of arms (shown above), it displays a silver (white) field is a black cross, edged in green, over a red cross. These colors are known as the African American colors. By their use on the cross Cardinal Gregory honors the religious and racial heritage that has come to him from his parents, Wilton and Ethel (Duncan) Gregory.

In an interview on the *Today Show*, on February 15, 2021, the Cardinal discusses his elevation, his life as a Catholic and how he has dealt with issues such as racism.

The link to the interview is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0XibGmb74>. The total time is under six minutes. It gives some great insight into the work of the Cardinal and his continuing mission!

Have a blessed day!

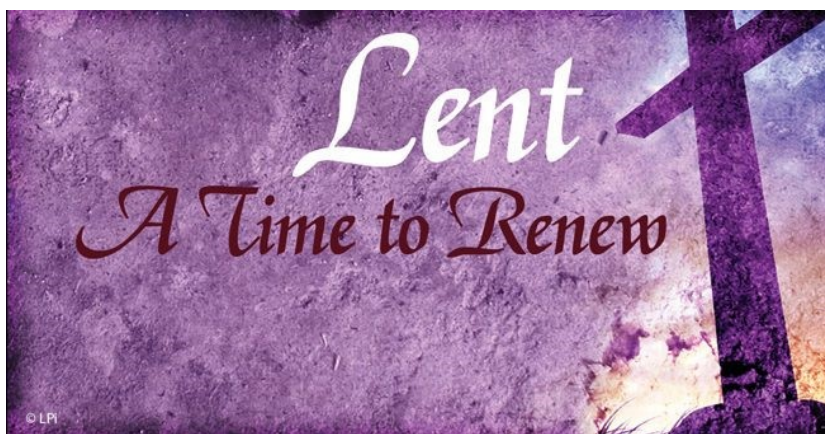
Peace, *FR. Paul*

*Thank You...*

**800 COATS DONATED!**

We received a note from St. Vincent de Paul expressing their gratitude to the people of St. Tom's for your generosity.





### "10 THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR LENT"

**Remember the formula.** The Church does a good job capturing certain truths with easy-to-remember lists and formulas: 10 Commandments, 7 sacraments, 3 persons in the Trinity. For Lent, the Church gives us almost a slogan—Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving—as the three things we need to work on during the season.

**It's a time of prayer.** Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with him.

**It's a time to fast.** With the fasts of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics these days actually fast. And maybe that's why it gets all the attention. "What are you giving up for Lent? Hotdogs? Beer? Jelly beans?" It's almost a game for some of us, but fasting is actually a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.

**It's a time to work on discipline.** The 40 days of Lent are also a good, set time to work on personal discipline in general. Instead of giving something up, it can be doing something positive. "I'm going to exercise more. I'm going to pray more. I'm going to be nicer to my family, friends and coworkers."

**It's about dying to yourself.** The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it's about more than self-control – it's about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent, and we join in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ and being resurrected in a purified form.

**Don't do too much.** It's tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but it's best to keep it simple and focused. There's a reason the Church works on these mysteries year after year. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don't try to cram it all in one Lent. That's a recipe for failure.

**Lent reminds us of our weakness.** Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. When we fast, we realize we're all just one meal away from hunger. In both cases, Lent shows us our weakness. This can be painful, but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God's help with renewed urgency and sincerity.

**Be patient with yourself.** When we're confronted with our own weakness during Lent, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. "What a bad person I am!" But that's the wrong lesson. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with unconditional love.

**Reach out in charity.** As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. It's about more than throwing a few extra dollars in the collection plate; it's about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God's unconditional love.

**Learn to love like Christ.** Giving of ourselves in the midst of our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the cross on Good Friday, as we seek him out, ask his help, join in his suffering, and learn to love like him.

Written by: Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, former chairman of the USCCB Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis,

### THE LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

with Lenten reflections  
are available in the narthex.

LENT starts this week! Join our faith community in a transformative Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia who are working hard to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl in the narthex.



During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. For other resources visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org)

### COLLECTING SHEETS AND TOWELS FOR THE ALEMAN CENTER

now through Palm Sunday, March 24



Do you have spare linens you can share? Both new and used sheets and towels are needed. The Aleman Center serves over 400 families each year, migrant workers who come to Michigan from the south to pick summer produce. Living conditions on the farms are sparse, and families arrive with few possessions, clothing, or household items. St. Tom's parishioners generously provide groceries, donated clothing, and volunteers to help every summer. One of the biggest needs often goes unmet because we do not receive enough donations of sheets and towels. You can help make a difference for these families. During Lent we will be collecting sheets and towels for families who need them this spring and summer. Donations may be placed in the box located near the toilet paper collection area. If possible, please label sheets with the size (we need all sizes).

**Sheets and towels only, please; clothing and other household items will be collected during the summer.** Thanks so much for your willingness to help these families in need.

### LENTEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE REGULATIONS

Abstinence from eating meat is to be observed by all those 14 and above on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays in Lent. On Fridays outside Lent, they may substitute another penitential act in place of abstinence. Fasting is required of those ages 18 to 60 on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The USCCB has defined fasting in the United States as one full meal and two smaller meals not equaling another full meal together. Snacking is not permitted. (People may be excused from these practices for certain reasons, e.g. pregnant mothers.)



## HERE AT ST. TOM'S

**TOILET PAPER MINISTRY**

Toilet paper donations for those in need. The back door of the office garage is open Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 PM or bring to church When you come to mass.

**FOAM RECYCLING**

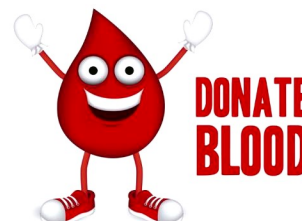
Foam accepted at the parish garage only. Either inside the garage or in the large brown bin outside the door. Please make sure all foam is clean and free of food.

**OUR NEXT DRIVE IS —**

**THURSDAY  
APRIL 4**

To register use the QR Code or at the link below.

[https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donorschedulesdrive\\_schedule/157389](https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donorschedulesdrive_schedule/157389)



## NEWS AROUND THE AREA

**WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION:****ENCOUNTERING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST**

The Kalamazoo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women in conjunction with Catholic Charities' Hispanic Ministry office invites you to a Women's Lenten Day of Reflection: Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist, Saturday, March 2, 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m., St. Augustine Cathedral, 542 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo. Register by emailing [KDCCW.REG@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KDCCW.REG@GMAIL.COM) or call Ann Vrablic at 517.812.3727

**CIRCLE OF FRIENDS**

This gathering for adults with cognitive/developmental disabilities is a time of fellowship, activities and reflection on the Sunday readings and a simple dinner. We will gather on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:00 – 7:30p.m in the Fellowship Room in the Stanley Centre at St. Catherine of Siena, 1150 W. Centre St., Portage. All are welcome! Upcoming gatherings are Feb. 28, Mar. 27, and Apr. 24. Contact Lisa Irwin, [lisairwin@ccdok.org](mailto:lisairwin@ccdok.org) or 381-9800 x227 to RSVP or for more information.

**ST. PAUL STREET EVANGELIZATION BASIC EVANGELIZATION TRAINING**

Want to know what authentic, non-confrontational, joyful evangelization looks and sounds like? Then make sure to attend our upcoming workshop with **St. Paul Street Evangelization Vice President Adam Janke** on **Saturday, March 9, 8:00am – 3:30pm, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Kalamazoo**. This non-profit, grassroots organization has mobilized thousands of ordinary Catholics to get out there on the streets and help God save souls. Our one-day Basic Evangelization Training with SPSE is open to all parishioners. Registration is \$20 and includes, lunch and all training materials. You can register online at <http://stpaulse.com/kalamazoo>.



**Support  
Hackett Catholic Prep  
Class of 2024  
GRAD BASH**

**DROP OFF**

**Thursday, Feb. 15th 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.**  
(and stay for the home basketball game!)

**Friday, February 16 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, Feb 17th 9:00 a.m. - Noon**

Hackett Catholic Prep  
Lower Parking Lot 1000 W Kilgore Rd.

## ONCE IN A BLUE MOON GARAGE SALE



**Friday, March 15, and Saturday, March 16, 2024**

Make a difference in your diocese AND community!  
Did you know that the Once in a Blue Moon Garage Sale  
for St. Augustine Cathedral School  
accepts donations many times per year  
in preparation for the HUGE sale in March?

**WE ACCEPT MOST ITEMS IN CLEAN AND GOOD CONDITION**

**ESPECIALLY NEEDED:**

Furniture, baby items (but no cribs please),  
children's clothing, appliances, housewares

\*\*\*Please wait to bring furniture or large items until the week of the sale\*\*\*

**We DO NOT accept:**

Sleeper sofas, large exercise equipment, tube TVs, mattresses, or personal pillows  
No baby cribs, car seats, filing cabinets, or hazardous materials (paint, cleaners, etc.)

**Donation drop-off dates:**

Saturday, February 17, 10-2:00

Monday, March 11, 10-6:00 in the gym

Tuesday, March 12, 10-6:00 in the gym

Wednesday, March 13, 10-6:00 in the gym

Saturday donations will be accepted at the rear of the Crowley Center next to the school.

Please bring donations during the sale week directly into the gym.

Donations are tax deductible and receipts are available.

Questions? Call the school at 349-1945.

Thank You for your support!

## HERE AT ST. TOM'S

**RACE MATTERS***Building Our Beloved Community*

**Race Matters: Racism in Our Community  
Gang Life on Our Streets**  
Monday, February 12, 7:00-8:30 pm

Race Matters will welcome  
**Michael Wilder and  
Yafinceio "Big B" Harris,**

members of the Group Violence Intervention Team. Big B and Michael share personal histories of gang life and were once enemies on the street. After serving transformative prison terms, they co-founded Peace During War, an outreach program targeting at-risk youth in the Kalamazoo area.

They will talk about how racism was the impetus for the formation of gangs, their past involvement in gangs, how their group intervention began, and how they created a safe space at Urban Alliance for shooters and victims. A shooting victim will also be a member of the panel.

**This program will take place  
in person at St. Tom's and on Zoom.**

Please register in advance and indicate whether you will attend in person or on Zoom.

To register, email: [sttomssjm@gmail.com](mailto:sttomssjm@gmail.com).

**YOGA**

Experience the benefits of yoga every Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00-11:00 am in the Cougar Room. Reduce stress, improve awareness, posture, strength, balance and flexibility. Uniting body, mind and spirit with instructor Gena Pezzoli. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. Suggested donation of \$10 to help our Feminine Care Product Ministry. Reminder: If Kalamazoo Public School cancels due to weather Yoga will not be held at St. Tom's.

**REACH, STRETCH, RELAX**

Join us for group chair exercise class that targets balance, flexibility, range of movement and breathing. The class meets every Wednesday 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Cougar Room. This class is appropriate for "every body". Contact Matt Barretta at 343-7857 or 548-6837 for more information. Reach, Stretch,

**ST. TOM'S  
Women's  
SOCIAL GROUP**

**Join St. Tom's Women's  
Social Group on Monday,  
February 19 at 2 pm** in the Cougar Room. We will be planning our next

few months of get togethers. Please join us and meet the women of our parish and make new friends!

## FEBRUARY 2024 SUNDAY COLLECTION

Target for February	56,604
2/4	7,591
2/11	
2/18	
2/25	
Electronic gifts for February	8,781
Total gifts to date for February	16,372



## COLLEGE STUDENT NEWS

**SPRING COLLEGE STUDENT RETREAT**

This spring we welcome you to join us in learning more and reflecting on the Mass as it brings us together to celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus. Our college student spring retreat Together at One Altar will be at Pretty Lake Camp in Mattawan the weekend of February 23-25. Find all the details and sign up with this link: <https://forms.gle/ceQNHSGXUIT863EGA>

**SUPER BOWL PARTY**

Join us for a special Sunday Supper on February 11 at 6:15 or after 6PM Mass in the St. Tom's Cougar Room. Its Super Bowl night, so we will have the game on and have food available early for those who want to watch the whole game. There will be a catered dinner of pulled pork, Mac n cheese, rolls, and potato casserole. We will also have a squares game, so you can play to win Amazon gift cards!

**MORE AT MIDWEEK**

This week we gather early for More at Midweek for Ash Wednesday. St. Tom's will have Ash Wednesday Mass at 5:30 p.m., which More at Midweek will follow and begin the Cougar Room right after, around 6:30, for those not attending Mass. We will have meatless pizza and play Lent-themed Jeopardy.

**STUDENT HOLY HOUR:**

Come for an hour of silent prayer, beginning and ending with a couple of traditional songs and prayers. Bring some spiritual reading, a prayer, journal, your a rosary, or anything else that helps you to connect with the Lord during this time. Come for the whole hour or 5 minutes in the Worship Space at St. Tom's on Thursdays 6-7 PM. Confession is normally available.

**FRIDAY MASS AT KANLEY CHAPEL**

This semester Fr. Paul will be offering Mass at Kanley Chapel almost every Friday! Mass will be at 12:10 PM in Kanley Chapel (located by WMU's Student Center).

**SUNDAY SHUTTLE**

Are you a college student who would like a ride to a Sunday Mass? If so, please contact Lisa at [lisa@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:lisa@sttomskazoo.org) to ride the Sunday Shuttle or be paired with another student driving into Mass.

**SOCIALS**

Follow us on Instagram @KalamazooCatholic or sign up for our weekly email or GroupMe to get info on new events first. Email [Lisa@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:Lisa@sttomskazoo.org) to subscribe to our weekly email. Our GroupMe texting group can be found here: [https://groupme.com/join\\_group/89335085/4QjZw0gK](https://groupme.com/join_group/89335085/4QjZw0gK)

**KVCC STUDENT ORGANIZATION:**

Calling all KVCC students! We are working with interested students to get a Catholic student organization officially approved on KVCC's campus. If you are interested in being put on the list for details about our big kickoff event in January or February, please email [Lisa@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:Lisa@sttomskazoo.org) to get details.



 <p><b>John D. Bradshaw, P.C.</b> Attorneys at Law Parishioners 269-373-4400</p>	 <p>6185 W. KL Ave. <b>372-2035</b> <a href="http://www.keiecm.com">www.keiecm.com</a></p>	<p><b>LAKELAND ASPHALT</b> PAVING THE WAY SINCE 1959</p> <p>INDUSTRIAL MUNICIPAL RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL</p> <p>FOR ALL YOUR PAVING NEEDS</p> <p>M-DOT Pre-qualified FREE ESTIMATES Plant &amp; Office 474 Avenue "A" Battle Creek</p> <p><b>964-1720</b></p>	 <p><b>Scott Betzler</b> Catholic Funeral Director</p> <p><a href="http://BetzlerLifeStory.com">BetzlerLifeStory.com</a> (269) 375-2900</p>
<p><b>NAYLOR Landscape Management</b></p> <p>Landscape Design, Construction &amp; Maintenance</p> <p><b>375-0084</b></p> <p>"Making Landscapes a Showplace!"</p> <p><a href="http://www.naylorlandscape.com">www.naylorlandscape.com</a></p> <p>Barney &amp; Judy Naylor St. Augustine Parishioners</p>	 <p><b>Langeland</b> FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES &amp; CREMATION SERVICES</p> <p>269-343-1508</p> <p>WESTSIDE - CLIMAX - KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE</p>	<p><b>STAFFORD-SMITH, Inc.</b> Design-Engineering-Sales-Installation-Service</p> <p>COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION FOOD SERVICE EQUIPMENT HEATING &amp; AIR CONDITIONING</p> <p>3414 S BURDICK ST. <a href="http://www.staffordsmith.com">www.staffordsmith.com</a> <b>343-1240</b></p>	<p><b>Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will</b></p> <p>For further information, please call the parish office.</p>
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<p><b>IN LOVING MEMORY OF</b></p> <p>Richard Gutknecht</p>	<p><b>Redmond Funeral Home</b> <a href="http://www.redmondfuneralhomes.net">www.redmondfuneralhomes.net</a> MARTHA L. REDMOND</p> <p>4100 S Westnedge 2300 East G Ave. Kalamazoo Parchment 343-6156 349-7735</p> <p>Serving Families with Dignity and Grace Since 1934</p>	<p><b>FIRST IN SAVINGS ZEMBLICK FIRST IN SERVICE</b></p>  <p>Everything for the Workplace.</p> <p>Oh, ya! We have Furniture too!</p> <p>A FAMILY COMPANY</p>	<p><b>DIEKEMAHAMANN</b> architecture &amp; engineering</p> <p><a href="http://www.dhae.com">www.dhae.com</a> 269-373-1108</p>
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