

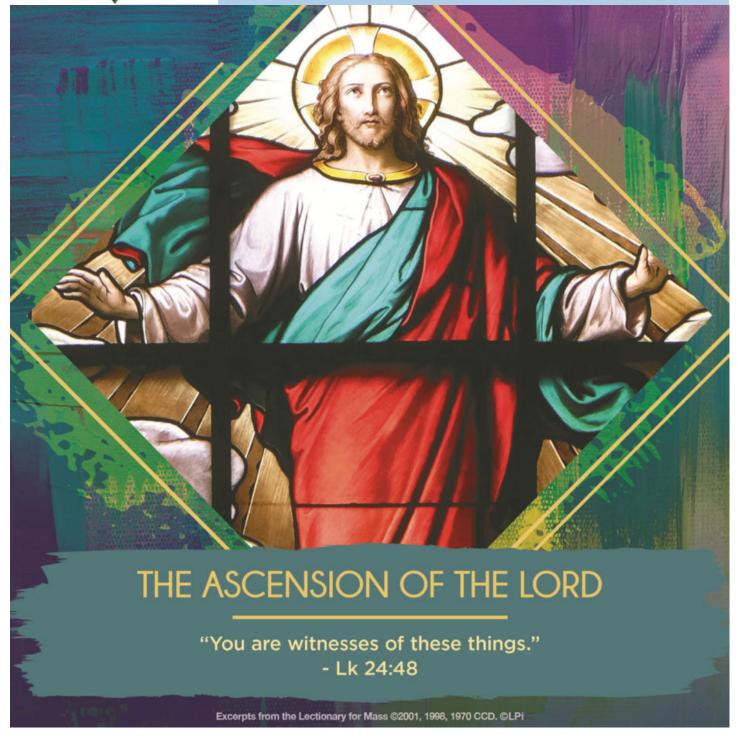
OUR LADY OF REFUGE, Orchard Lake MI

Today is the Ascension of the Lord

June 1, 2025

Mission Statement

Under the protection of Our Lady of Refuge and guided by the Holy Spirit, our parish family is dedicated to the propagation and deepening of our faith, rooted in the Sacraments, Sacred Scripture and Tradition of the Catholic Church. As stewards of the Father's gifts, we strive to reflect the love of Christ through the support of our parish and in our outreach and service to others.



OUR LADY OF REFUGE MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of June 1, 2025

Sunday: Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23

or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/

Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25
Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or

JI 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 *Day*: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/ Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or

Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Observances for the week of June 1, 2025

Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter;

Monday: Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

Tuesday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

Thursday: St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

Friday: St. Norbert, Bishop Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday

PRIEST SCHEDULE

Mon 6/2: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Tue 6/3: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Wed 6/4: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Fri 6/6: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Sat 6/7: 5:00pm (Fr. Suresh)

Sun 6/8: 9:30am (Fr. Suresh)

11:30am (Fr. Suresh)

Mon 6/9: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Tue 6/10: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 3:30pm

INTENTIONS

Monday 6/2 Joan Tomlinson (+) requested by the parish family

Tuesday 6/3 Irene Bayma (+) requested by Connie Bayma

Wednesday 6/4 Sr. Mercedes Dionne (+) requested by Leigh &

Theresa Dushane

Tobias & Julia Casab (+) requested by Juliet Najor

Friday 6/6 Patrick Devine (Intentions) requested by the Devine

family

Saturday 6/7 Fawzi Shaya (+) requested by the Shaya family

Our Lady of Refuge Parishioners

Sunday 6/8 (9:30) Mary Helen Suciu (+) requested by Nick Suciu Jr.

Kenneth Brickman (+) requested by his family

(11:30) Naima & Jarjis Bahoura (+) requested by their family

Wadia Bashi (+) requested by her family

Monday 6/9 Gary Devine (Intentions) requested by the Devine

family

Tuesday 6/10 Mary Currell (+) requested by John Curell

Fr. Len Obloy (Ordination Anniversary) requested by

the Fowler family

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday 6/7

Corey McIsaac Kevin Duff

Sunday 6/8

(9:30am)

Alex Cintron Amy Bachulis

(11:30am)

BJ Kroppe Rob Goodman

FR. SURESH, SAC MODERATOR OF THE FAMILY 248-682-0920 EXT. 1110

Ascension of Our Lord

Today's readings describe the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into his Heavenly glory after promising his disciples the Holy Spirit as their source of Heavenly power and commanding them to bear witness to him throughout the world by their lives and preaching. But the ascended Jesus is still with us through his indwelling Holy Spirit as he has promised, "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." Today's feast is a celebration of Jesus' final glorification after his suffering, death, and Resurrection – a glory in which we, too, hope to share.

The first reading gives an account of the event of the Ascension as recorded in the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. First, Jesus instructed his apostles to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the baptism by the Holy Spirit so that they might become his "witnesses to the ends of the earth" by the power of the Holy Spirit. Then a cloud took Jesus from the sight of the disciples and two



Heavenly messengers in white garments gave them the assurance of Jesus' "second coming" or return in glory.

In the second reading, Paul explains the theological meaning of Jesus' exaltation, giving us the assurance that one day, we, too, will be ascending to Heavenly Glory, provided we fulfill the mission entrusted to us by the ascending Lord.

Today's Gospel describes how Jesus ascended to Heaven after giving his final blessing and missionary command to his disciples. The command was to "proclaim the Good News to the whole creation," "to be his witnesses," and "to make disciples of all nations." (Mt 28:16-20, Mk 16:15-20, Lk 24:46-53, Acts 1:1-11).

Life messages: 1) We need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. We preach with words, but we proclaim with our lives. Let us ask the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we bear witness to Jesus by our transparent Christian lives.

- 2) We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, Love, forgiveness, mercy, and salvation by his life and preaching and gave as we have experienced our Lord and Savior.
- 3) The ascended Jesus is our source of strength and encouragement: We will be able to overcome doubts about our Faith, as well as baseless fears, anxieties and worries, by meditating on Jesus' Ascension and the lesson it teaches (Fr. Tony's Homilies)

Staff

Family-Moderator Our Lady of Refuge Fr. Suresh Rajaian, SAC

Family of Parishes and Priests in Solidum

Our Lady of Sorrows

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St. Fabian

Msgr. Tim Hogan Fr. Matthew Kurt Fr. Raymond Arwady

Prince of Peace

Fr. Andrew Dawson

St. Andrew Kim

Rev. Seungsoo Oh

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Parish Secretary
Artha Horowitz

Evangelical Charities

Joellen Shortley

Worship

Lisa Marie Blanek

Music

Joanne Gorney

Dir. Of Rel. Ed.

Tony Kreucher

School

Lauri Hoffman, Principal 248.682-3422

Principal: lhoffman@olr-school.net Website: olr-school.net

Why Be Registered?

Are you registered at Our Lady of Refuge parish? Sometimes, people attend Mass at this parish for several years, but never officially register. Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of Our Lady of Refuge community.

Being a registered parishioner makes the process much easier when it is time for baptisms, Faith Formation registration, weddings, when asked to be a baptismal or Confirmation sponsor, and even funer-

als.

If you would like to register in the parish, please call the Parish Secretary at (248) 682-0920.

We welcome you to our parish family!

SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Online Giving helps support our church by allowing you to make donations, payments, and pledg-

es via your mobile phone, smart device, or computer.

You can scan the QR Code to set up your gift today or consider an additional gift via our Online Giving link on your smart device.



OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025)

May 24 & 25, 2025

Offertory: \$7,546

Online Giving: \$2,798

Total: \$10,344

YTD Budgeted: \$694,960

YTD Actual: \$607,021

Under Budget: (\$87,940)

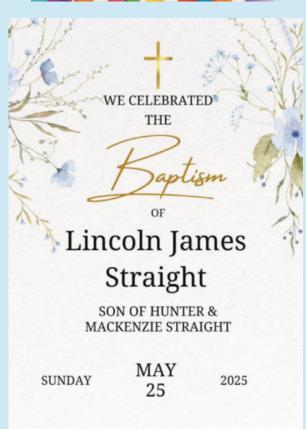
WORSHIP

LISA MARIE BLANEK 248-682-0920 EXT. 1114 LBLANEK@OLORCC.ORG

With summer upon us and many people traveling, we're in need of extra help during Mass. Please take a moment to review the list of ministries below. If any interest you, simply fill out the form and email it to Lisa Marie (address below). If you're planning to attend Mass anyway, your help would be greatly appreciated!

	Please print the following information:
	Name:
	Preferred Phone #
	Email:
	Please circle the Mass time you attend
	5 pm Saturday
	9:30 am 11:30 am Sunday
_	Altar Care - Tuesdays 12:45 – 2:30 pm
	Altar Server - Saturday or Sunday Masses (4th grade and up)
_	Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist
_	Greeter – begins 15 min. prior and stay 15 min.
	after Mass
	Pass out "Little People Sticker books and stickers
	after Mass
_	_ Live Stream Operator for Masses
_	Reader
_	_ Slide Operator for Masses
_	Usher – Men and women to assist our community
	from opening doors, offertory collection, pass out
	bulletins and help with safety/emergency assis-
	tance.
	You may take a picture of this form and email to lblanek@olorcc.org or cut out and return in the offertory





EVANGELICAL CHARITY

JOELLEN SHORTLEY, OFS 248-682-4099 ECC@OLORCC.ORG

PANTRY NEEDS

The food pantry at Our Lady of Refuge is open every Wednesday to assist individuals and families facing hardship. We invite you to help by donating any of the essential items listed. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your continued support.

URGENT FOOD ITEMS

Cereal (no Cheerios)
Pasta Sauce
Mixed Vegetables
Corn & Peas
Jelly
Canned Fruit
Large & Regular Cans of Soup
Macaroni & Cheese
Cans of Ravioli & Spaghetti
Cans of Stew & Chili
Ketchup
Empty cardboard egg containers

CARE ITEMS

Laundry Pods
Boxes of Tissues
All Purpose Cleaner
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Shampoo
Conditioner
Women's Deodorant
Men's Body Wash
Women's Razors

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

On May 19th, the 8th grade class of Our Lady of Refuge gathered in joy and reflection for a special milestone: their graduation from middle school. In the heart of our church, surrounded by family, teachers,

and classmates, students celebrated not just academic achievements, but the growth of their faith, character, and community.

The day began with a beautiful Mass, reminding everyone of God's presence in each step of life's journey. Father Suresh offered words of encouragement and prayer, reflecting on the importance of trusting in God's plan. "Graduation is not an ending, but a beginning," he shared. "Let Christ be your guide as you continue to grow in wisdom, courage, and compassion."

After the liturgy, the graduation ceremony continued with speeches from school leaders and student representatives. Mrs. Hoffman, Principal, reflected on the class's spiritual and academic journey, praising their resilience, leadership, and service. "You have learned to live your faith—not just in prayer, but in action, kindness, and responsibility," they said.

The ceremony included special blessings and the presentation of diplomas, as each graduate stood before the altar to applause and heartfelt cheers. Awards for academic excellence, Christian service, and leadership were also given, recognizing those who truly embodied the school's Catholic values.

With the light of Christ to guide them, the 8th grade graduates of Our Lady of Refuge Catholic School now step forward into high school with confidence, compassion, and the strength of their faith.

Congratulations, OLR Class of 2025—go forth and let your light shine.



LITURGICAL MUSIC

JOANNE GORNEY 248-418-7240 MUSIC@OLORCC.ORG



Psalm 47 R: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare or trumpets for the Lord.

The Ascension is the completion of Christ's mission—it is the moment when He takes His rightful place in glory, securing the path for our salvation. Without it, His work would remain unfinished, and the promise of eternal life would be incomplete.

By ascending, Jesus does more than depart—He opens the way for us to follow. He does not simply leave behind His teachings and miracles; He actively draws humanity into divine life, showing that salvation is not just about redemption from sin, but about union with God. The Ascension is proof that our destiny is not bound to this world but lifted to something greater, a reality beyond what we see.

And His return to the Father does not mean absence—it means presence in a new way. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ remains with us, guiding, strengthening, and ensuring that the grace of salvation is always available. His Ascension is not just history—it is the present and the future, the guarantee that He reigns, intercedes, and prepares a place for us.

Do you see the Ascension as a moment of completion, or as the beginning of something even greater?

01.

All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness.
For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth.

02.

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy: the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise: sing praise to our king, sing praise.

03.

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise.
God reigns over the nations,
God sits upon his holy throne.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TONY KREUCHER 248-682-0920 EXT. 1142 RE@OLORCC.ORG

This weekend, we are celebrating the Feast of the Ascension. Traditionally, Jesus ascended into heaven, returning to his Father, 40 days after Easter. While there are various ways of counting 40 days from Ash Wednesday to get to Easter Sunday, the 40 days from Easter to the Ascension are much more straightforward. However, those 40 days land on a Thursday, not a Sunday. So, the church from the very beginning celebrated Ascension Thursday and for many years it was a holy day of obligation. In the United States, there exists a unique situation in which some dioceses have transferred the Solemnity of the Ascension to the following Sunday while other dioceses have retained the celebration of the solemnity on Thursday. It is one of the few cases where the Mass readings for the day are different in some parts of the country versus others.

The story of the Ascension is one of my favorites for Lectio Divina, a practice of slowly and repeatedly reading the same bible passage to seek a new or deeper understanding. It also may involve imagining yourself being present to witness the story. I like to think of the angels appearing and waiting a moment before speaking to the disciples, pointing fingers and laughing silently. The 11 disciples were so busy looking up at Jesus, even after he had disappeared, that they did not notice two angels standing next to them!

Tuesday, June 3, will be the final school Mass for the summer. We are grateful for the school staff for their dedication in working with the students and for their hospitality in allowing the parish to use the school's spaces for our programs.

John Lajiness from Sacred Heart Major Seminary will host a webinar on Wednesday, June 25, at 1:30 p.m. to teach about the updated Lay Ecclesial Ministry Certification process. He will share the benefits of seeking certification in the Archdiocese of Detroit and provide an overview of the new process. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

You will need to RSVP to the June 25 session. Email re@olorcc.org for a link to the RSVP form from the archdiocese.

Make This a Summer to Grow in Faith! There's something rejuvenating about slowing down in the summer and finding space to reflect, grow, and reconnect with what matters most. Summer with the Saints on Formed.org is your invitation to do just that. Each week,



starting June 1, they'll highlight a saint in celebration of his/her feast day and share that particular saint's story, legacy, and spiritual wisdom through beautifully produced content. Whether you're watching during your morning coffee or winding down in the evening, these saintly stories are here to inspire and enrich your faith life. Sign up today, and let the saints walk with you this summer.

OUR LADY OF REFUGE NEWS AND EVENTS

Attention

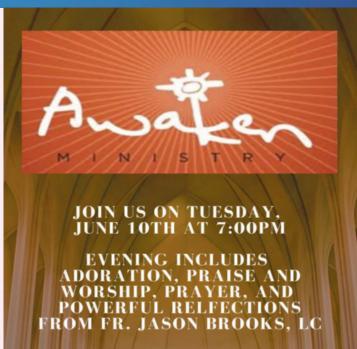
We are excited to enhance our liturgical environment with freshcut flowers each weekend and invite you to contribute \$50.00 or donate a bouquet of fresh flowers in memory of a loved one. Your generosity will be acknowledged in the bulletin with a note recognizing the person you are honoring.



To participate, please complete the form available on the shelf in the gathering space. Then, place the form in an envelope and either drop it in the collection basket or deliver it to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your consideration and support.









Pray for the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces

"Dear Lord Jesus and Mary, Mother of God, hold all these brave souls in the palm of your hand; comfort them and their families. Send angels of protection, love and comfort to all the service men and women still at war, bring them home safely and comfort their families. We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen."

Rev. P. Nowak-Army (Chaplain)
Clare Bizer-Coast Guard
Eugene Bizer-Coast Guard
Christopher Bowman-Coast Guard
Daniel Culbertson-Navy
Nicholas Harbaugh-Marines
Shane Kelly-Air Force
Harrison Lamar-Navy
Gunnar Ottman-National Guard



Please contact Cora Armitage at 248-736-6228 to add or remove a name.

Let There Be Light!

Dear Parishioners,

As many of you have noticed, the lighting in our worship space has been less than ideal—some lights are too bright, some are not working at all, and others flicker, causing discomfort. We are aware of these issues and have consulted with a lighting company to find a solution that won't break the bank.



The good news is we've received a proposal for new light fixtures that will fit into our existing fixtures, provide better fitted lights, and eliminate the harsh glare. We have 92 fixtures that need to be updated. The total cost for materials is \$1,259, with labor at \$5,520, bringing the entire project to \$6,779 – that's \$74 per light, including labor.

We're grateful to share that a generous parishioner has already donated \$1,200 toward this project (thank you, anonymous benefactor!). Now, we're reaching out to see if you'd be willing to help us improve our sanctuary by "buying a light." Donations can be mailed to the parish office or placed in the Offertory basket with a memo that reads: "Buy a Light."

We're so thankful for your ongoing support and generosity. May God bless you for your kindness!

With gratitude,

Eva Ashor, Business Manager



We wanted to remind you that, as a parishioner, you have free access to the FORMED website. This website is loaded with amazing content to both entertain and educate you and your family using Catholic content. In the last year our parishioners enjoyed 24,933 minutes and 891 unique videos using their free FORMED log-in. To access this free content, use the following to create and/or login to the FORMED website!

New Account Registration:

- 1. Go to formed.org/signup
- 2. Select your parish (using zip code is easiest)
- 3. Register your name and email address
- 4. Check that email address for a link to start.

Log in for parishioner with previous access:

- 1. Go to formed.org/signup
- 2. In the upper right corner, select "Sign In"
- 3. A new "Sign In" screen appears. Enter your email address and select "Next"
- 4. Check your email and click the link to begin using FORMED.

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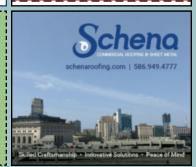
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