



OUR LADY OF REFUGE, Orchard Lake MI

Today is the Feast of SS Peter & Paul, Apostles June 29, 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.



STS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in
heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be
loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

OUR LADY OF REFUGE

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of June 29, 2025

Sunday: *Vigil:* Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19
Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Monday: Gn 18:16-33/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11/Mt 8:18-22

Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:14-17

Next Sunday: Is 66:10-14c/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1)/Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9

Observances for the week of June 29, 2025

Sunday : Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles

Monday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

Tuesday: St. Junípero Serra, Priest

Thursday: St. Thomas, Apostle

Friday: Independence Day

Saturday: St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth of Portugal

Next Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRIEST SCHEDULE

Mon 6/30: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Tue 7/1: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Wed 7/2: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Fri 7/4: 9:00am (Fr. Suresh)

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

Sun 7/6: 9:30am (Fr. Suresh)
11:30am (Fr. Suresh)

Mon 7/7: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Tue 7/8: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 3:30pm

INTENTIONS

Monday 6/30 Bill Kroppe (+) requested by B. J. Kroppe
Edward Bayma (+) requested by Connie Bayma

Tuesday 7/1 Scott Seelig (+) requested by Erin Seelig
Janet Totsky (Intentions) requested by the Simon family

Wednesday 7/2 Mary Sitto (+) requested by Juliet Najor

Friday 7/4 Fr. William Murphy (+) (former pastor) requested by the Simon family

Saturday 7/5 Fawzi Shaya (+) requested by the Shaya family
Lillian Agostinelli (+) requested by Carol & Dennis Lesnau

Sunday 7/6 (9:30) Michael Tucci (+) requested by Lorna Tucci
Our Lady of Refuge Parishioners
(11:30) Emilio Munar (+) requested by Ana Armbruster
Benjamin Munar (+) requested by Ana Armbruster

Monday 7/7 Scott Seelig (+) requested by Erin Seelig
Rita McKune (+) requested by the McKune family

Tuesday 7/8 John Jadäan (Intentions) requested by Marta Jadäan
Joseph Denha (Intentions) requested by Marta Jadäan

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday 7/5

Elias Escobedo
Suzanne Barcewicz

Sunday 7/6

(9:30am)
Amy Bachulis
Rudy Varela

(11:30am)

Reese George
Gabrielle Ansara

FR. SURESH, SAC

MODERATOR OF THE FAMILY

248-682-0920 EXT. 1110

Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul

St. Peter and St. Paul are the principal pillars of the Church. That is why this Sunday (June 29th), we celebrate the feast of their martyrdom, replacing the normal readings for the Thirteenth Sunday [C] in Ordinary Time.

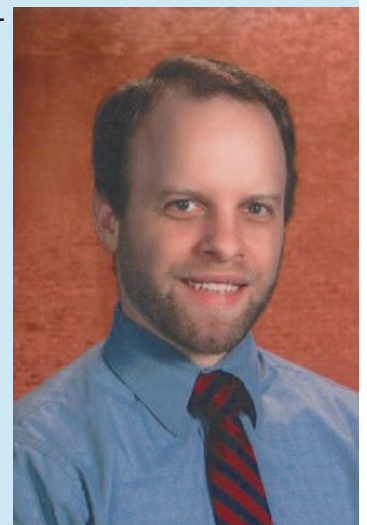
Peter was son of Jona and brother of Andrew. He was a professional fisherman from Bethsaida, a fishing town on the Lake of Galilee (Gennesaret). He might have been a follower of John the Baptist. It was his brother Andrew who introduced him to Jesus, and Jesus who changed his name from Simon to Cephas or Peter. Jesus made him the leader of his apostles. At Caesarea Philippi Jesus promised to make him the head of his Church, and the risen Jesus confirmed Peter's precedence. It was the Holy Spirit Who inspired Peter's Proclamation of the Good News to all in Jerusalem on the day of the Pentecost bringing the Church into living action. Peter made missionary journeys to Lydda, Joppa and Caesarea and convened the first Council in Jerusalem. Peter wrote two epistles addressed to the whole Church. He was martyred by crucifixion under the emperor Nero.

Paul the "Apostle to the Gentiles" and the greatest missionary was a Roman citizen by birth as he was born in Tarsus of Cilicia, a Province of Rome. His original name was Saul. He was trained as a tent-maker and practiced that trade. As a Pharisee he was sent to Jerusalem by his parents to study the Mosaic Law under the great Rabbi Gamaliel. Well-versed in the Scriptures, he became a religious fanatic and was ready to destroy the Christian faith. When Stephen was stoned to death by Jewish fanatics, Saul was there to support them. But he was miraculously converted on his way to Damascus to arrest the Christians. He made several missionary journeys, converted hundreds of Jews and Gentiles and established Church communities. He wrote 14 epistles. He was arrested and kept in prison for two years in Caesarea and two more years in Rome. Finally, he was martyred by beheading at Tre Fontane in Rome. Let us pray for the apostolic zeal and missionary spirit of Saints Peter & Paul. (Fr. Tony's Homilies)

~~~~~

As we bid farewell to Tony Kreucher, we would like to express our gratitude for his dedication and professionalism which he has shared with us over the last two years. We appreciate his hard work with the after school religious education program, OCIA and VBS. Although his time here was relatively short, we appreciate all of his contributions to our community.

We are excited for what lies ahead in his journey and wish him much success and fulfillment in his next endeavor. We're confident he'll continue to make a positive impact wherever he goes. Thank you Tony!



**Staff**

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

**Family of Parishes and**  
**Priests in Solidum**

**Our Lady of Sorrows**  
 Very Rev. Canon Walter J. Ptak  
 Rev. Jim Livingston  
 Rev. Radoslaw Zablocki  
 Rev. Ryan Asher

**St. Fabian**  
 Msgr. Tim Hogan  
 Fr. Matthew Kurt  
 Fr. Raymond Arwady

**Prince of Peace**  
 Fr. Andrew Dawson

**St. Andrew Kim**  
 Rev. Seungsoo Oh

**Parish Offices**  
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**Business Manager**  
 Eva Ashor

**Parish Secretary**  
 Artha Horowitz

**Evangelical Charities**  
 Joellen Shortley

**Worship**  
 Lisa Marie Blaneck

**Music**  
 Joanne Gorney  
**Dir. Of Rel. Ed.**  
 Tony Kreucher

**School**  
 Lauri Hoffman, Principal  
 248.682-3422  
 Principal: [lhoffman@olr-school.net](mailto:lhoffman@olr-school.net)  
 Website: [olr-school.net](http://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 funerals.

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!



## 2025 CSA update

Parish Target: \$120,000

CSA Goal: \$ 86,216

YTD Pledged: \$ 47,000

Goal Shortfall **\$(39,216)**

Target Shortfall: **\$(73,000)**

Registered OLR families: 767

Number of Pledges: 105

Participation rate: 14%



## OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

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

### June 21 & 22, 2025

Offertory: \$9,207

Online Giving: \$2,682

Total: \$11,889

YTD Budgeted: \$747,040

YTD Actual: \$652,212

**Under Budget: (\$94,828)**

# WORSHIP

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



ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT

"Let us hasten to pursue paths of peace and fraternity. Let us rejoice at the concrete signs of hope that reach us from so many countries."—Pope Francis, "Urbi et Orbi" Message, April 9, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Throughout centuries of history, Catholics have supported the Church's mission of evangelization and charity by giving to the annual Peter's Pence Collection. This collection, which began as a way for Catholics around the world to express their unity with the Pope, continues to the present day.

This tangible expression of unity with the Holy Father has a dual purpose set by the Holy See: "(1) **To support the Holy Father's mission**, which extends throughout the entire world, from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education, peace, and brotherhood among peoples: thanks also to the many activities of service carried out by the dicasteries, bodies and organs of the Holy See that assist him every day; and (2) **To support the numerous charitable works** in aid of people and families in difficulty, populations afflicted by natural disasters and wars, or who are in need of humanitarian assistance or support for development."

For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website: [www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html](http://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html) (English) or [www.obolodisanpietro.va/es.html](http://www.obolodisanpietro.va/es.html) (español).

Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as an act of mercy and charity. Join our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help our new Holy Father, Pope Leo, carry out his ministry to the Universal Church and reach out to the most marginalized in our world.

Thank you and may God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+

Most Reverend Edward J. Weisenburger  
Archbishop of Detroit



# EVANGELICAL CHARITY

JOELLEN SHORTLEY, OFS

248-682-4099

ECC@OLORCC.ORG

## Evangelical Charities Report July 1 2024- June 30, 2025

**Christian Service Commission:** The following activities were supported by the Christian Service Commission:

**Harvest Wagon:** Parishioners generously donated \$4,402 for our Harvest Wagon collection to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to our pantry families. A total of 44 Thanksgiving meals and 50 Christmas meals were provided by our pantry volunteers. Thirty turkeys and thirty hams were donated by the Hesano family, and pies were donated by the Christ family. Our Lady of Refuge School also contributed to the holiday meals.

**Adopt-a-Family:** Ten families in need were adopted for Christmas, with many gifts provided. The Knights of Columbus coordinated much of the gift-giving and personally adopted three families.

**Toy Collection:** Cindy Ciura spearheaded the collection of 600 toys for Crossroads of Michigan. The toys were collected from Our Lady of Refuge Parish and School, Prince of Peace, and Our Lady of Sorrows. All gifts were delivered to Crossroads and wrapped with care.

**Giving Tree Donations:** Our parishioners provided generous support to numerous ministries through our Giving Tree effort. Abigayle Ministries received \$575.00; the Capuchin Soup Kitchen received \$1,275.00; Grace Centers of Hope received \$1,195.00; Matchan Nutrition Center received \$675.00; and Kids Empowered on the Move received \$1,300.00 in addition to children's clothing and blankets. Mary's Children Family Center received \$1,575.00; OLR Christian Service received \$1,720.00; OLR St. Vincent de Paul received \$995.00; and Open Door Outreach received \$725.00.

**Bunk Bed Building:** We participated in a fun and fulfilling morning of bunk bed building with Prince of Peace parishioners at the Livonia Department of Public Works. The event supported the nonprofit Sleep in Heavenly Peace and involved sanding wood and assembling the bed frames. Our parish contributed \$1,700 toward the cost of bed materials.

**Advent Giving Tree:** Our parish donated a large number of baby items, including clothing, baby formula and food, crib sheets, blankets, diapers, wipes, high chairs, swings, bathtubs, potty seats, pacifiers, and rattles. These were delivered to Another Way Pregnancy Center and Right to Life – Lifespan Wee Care.

**Food Pantry:** From July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, our pantry served 635 shoppers, many of whom were new to our services. We received 17,416 pounds of food during this time. Of these donations, 56% came from our parish, 28% from other parishes, 8% from Our Lady of Refuge School, and 8% from businesses including Einstein's Bagels and Tim Hortons. From January through May 2025, 31 volunteers contributed 89 hours of friendly service to pantry operations. For Easter, we provided 50 meals, thanks to our committed volunteers and generous contributions from the Hesano and Christ families, Our Lady of Refuge School, and Prince of Peace Parish.

**Military Outreach:** We sent handmade Christmas cards along with gift cards to 10 military members who have family in our parish community. We continue to pray for their safety.

**Life Activities:** In addition to collecting baby items through the Advent Giving Tree, we sold Christmas cards and carnations to raise funds for Right to Life – Lifespan. We also hold monthly prayer gatherings on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. outside the abortion center in West Bloomfield. (cont. on pg. 8 )

# LITURGICAL MUSIC

JOANNE GORNEY

248-418-7240

MUSIC@OLORCC.ORG

## *Two Solemnities*

The Catholic Church celebrated two profound solemnities in this past week: The Nativity of John the Baptist (June 24) and the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Friday after Corpus Christi). Though distinct in focus, both feasts illuminate the mystery of God's love and His plan for salvation.

### **The Nativity of John the Baptist**

Unlike most saints, whose feast days commemorate their death, John the Baptist is honored on his birthday. This reflects his unique role as the forerunner of Christ. His miraculous birth to elderly parents, Zechariah and Elizabeth, was foretold by the angel Gabriel and marked the beginning of a divine mission: to prepare the way for the Messiah. As Scripture recounts, John leapt in his mother's womb at the presence of Jesus in Mary's womb, signaling his prophetic calling even before birth (Luke 1:41).

John's birth is celebrated six months before Christmas, symbolizing his role as the "voice crying out in the wilderness" who must decrease so that Christ may increase (John 3:30). His life of humility, repentance, and bold proclamation challenges believers to prepare their hearts for Christ's coming.

### **The Sacred Heart of Jesus**

The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart centers on the boundless love of Christ, symbolized by His heart—pierced, aflame, and crowned with thorns. Rooted in Scripture and deepened through the mystical visions of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in the 17th century, this devotion emphasizes Jesus' desire for intimacy with humanity and reparation for sin.

Celebrated on the Friday following Corpus Christi, the feast reminds the faithful that the Eucharist is the living heart of Jesus, offered in love. The image of the Sacred Heart invites reflection on Christ's mercy, especially for the weary and burdened: "Come to me... and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

Together, these solemnities call us to conversion and communion. John the Baptist points the way; the Sacred Heart opens the door.

# EVANGELICAL CHARITY

JOELLEN SHORTLEY, OFS

248-682-4099

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(Continued from pg. 6)

**Rice Bowls:** As part of our Lenten almsgiving, we collected \$1,551. Half of the total was donated to Catholic Relief Services, while the other half went to our food pantry to help families in need of food assistance.

**Evangelization Committee:** The Evangelization Committee:

**Metania:** Hosted Metania videos discussion series of 11 sessions plus a bonus session, which were well attended.

**Awaken Evenings:** Hosted on January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8 and May 6, with numbers of participants ranging from about 55 to 75 per event.

**Monthly OLR Email News:** Sent to parishioners each month in 2025.

**Outreach:** Ongoing community outreach and promotion of Our Lady of Refuge activities.

**Knights of Columbus:** Activities conducted by K of C Msgr A.X.M. Sharpe included:

**5 Pancake Breakfasts / Coffee n Donuts:** supporting American Heritage Girls, Catholic Charities and Parish fellowship

**Winter Coat Collection:** Donated 4 cases of winter coats to needy children at St. Damien of Molokai.

**Keep Christ in Christmas:** Program for OLR School and OLR Religious Education.

**Baby Bottle Drive:** Collection donated to Mary's Mantle home for homeless expectant mothers.

**OLR Food Pantry:** Financial and volunteer support for the OLR Food Pantry.

**Tootsie Roll Drive:** Conducted at the Commerce Kroger collecting over \$4,000 for the intellectually challenged.

**Right to Life-Lifespan:** Setting up and taking down the Right for Life Crosses in front of church and school.

**Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Display:** Sponsored and set up the exhibition in the Social Hall with help from the Evangelization Committee. The display was viewed by many people, including several school classrooms of students.

**Reception for Deacon Whalen:** Lead reception for OLR graduate Deacon Dan Whalen

## **St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP)**

Each month, SVdP receives multiple requests for assistance. When a request is received, SVdP sends two members (Vincentians) to the neighbor-in-need's home to pray, review their needs in-depth, and provide information about available agency resources. After further prayer and verification of their needs and circumstances, the Vincentians making the home visit prepare a recommendation for a conference vote. During this period SVdP has assisted 39 families and over 96 individuals who were hungry, homeless, or in need of essential services such as heat, water, electricity, and necessities like food, clothing, beds, mattresses, and linens over the past year. Many families require rent assistance, which is our most significant expense. Frequently, we are asked for help when there is a job loss, a serious accident, or an illness.



# OUR LADY OF REFUGE

## NEWS AND EVENTS



May the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God,  
*rest in peace.*

**Born to Eternal Life**  
**Wednesday, June 18, 2025**  
**Neil Meredith Sr.**

**Loving husband of Leah Meredith**  
**Loving father of Gina, Neil, & Nicholas**  
**His Memorial Mass was held on Monday, June 23rd**  
**Mass Celebrated by: Rev. Suresh Rajaian, SAC**  
**Our parish family extends its heartfelt sympathy**  
**and prayers to his family and friends.**

*Thank You for  
your generosity*

*Flowers for the week of  
June 29th have been  
graciously donated by  
Bronia Maiorano in loving  
memory of Joseph Maiorano*



### Join Us



You are invited to join in praying  
the Rosary and the Divine Mercy  
Chaplet after daily Mass. On Fri-  
days, the Holy Hour prayers are  
offered as well.

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### **Learn More at an Info Night**

Mon, Jul 28, 7-8pm (OL Lakes)  
Sun, Aug 24, 8-9pm (Online) | Wed Aug 27, 7pm (OL Lakes)  
Thu, Aug 28, 7-8pm (OL Sorrows) | Tue, Sep 2, 8-9pm (Online)  
**web: [cbismich.org](http://cbismich.org) | call/text: 586-438-3085**

2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
AT OUR LADY OF REFUGE

## PARACHUTE WITH THE ANGELS AND SAINTS

MONDAY-THURSDAY JULY 14-17

9 AM-12 PM  
AGES 4-ENTERING 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE IN THE FALL

for more information  
and to register, visit  
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or scan the QR code

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  
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www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d49a8ab2baaf58-](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d49a8ab2baaf58-)



Our next blood drive with the Red Cross is on **Tuesday, July 22, 2025 in the Social Hall from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm.** Donating blood to someone in need is such a wonderful gift. Blood donations help accident and burn victims, heart surgery and transplant patients and those battling cancer. Please schedule an appointment today by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and entering sponsor code "OLRC." The Red Cross website is very informative if you are donating blood for the first time.



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