



OUR LADY OF REFUGE, Orchard Lake MI
Today is the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time August 3, 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.

RICH IN
WHAT MATTERS
TO GOD.

— LUKE 12:21 —

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR LADY OF REFUGE

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of August 3, 2025

Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/
Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/Mt 14:22-36
or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/
Lk 9:28b-36

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/Heb 11:1-2,
8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

Observances for the week of August 3, 2025

Sunday : 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. John Vianney, Priest

Tuesday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

Wednesday: The Transfiguration of the Lord

Thursday: St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan,
Priest

Friday: St. Dominic, Priest

Saturday: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr

Next Sunday: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRIEST SCHEDULE

Mon 8/4: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Tue 8/5: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

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

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

Sat 8/9: 5:00pm (Fr. Suresh)

Sun 8/10: 9:30am (Fr. Suresh)
11:30am (Fr. Suresh)

Mon 8/11: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Tue 8/12: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 3:30

INTENTIONS

Monday 8/4 Thomas R. Wagener (+) requested by the Wagener family
Trisha Sue Fowler (Intentions) requested by the Fowler family

Tuesday 8/5 Irene Stella Dewicki (+) requested by the parish family

Wednesday 8/6 Amelia Escobedo (+) requested by the parish family

Friday 8/8 Nancy Fowler (+) requested by the Fowler family

Saturday 8/9 Edward Dziuba (+) requested by Janet Boyk
Kevin Armbruster (Intentions) requested by Ana Armbruster

Sunday 8/10 (9:30) Mary Currell (+) requested by John Currell
Our Lady of Refuge Parishioners
(11:30) Michael & Theresa Majercik (+) requested by the Majercik family
Xeta Siluangkhot (+) requested by Mary Ann Scott

Monday 8/11 Richard Najor (+) requested by Juliet Najor

Tuesday 8/12 Neil Meredith Sr. (+) requested by Gus & Sherry Pantelides

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday 8/9

Liz Oras
Kevin Duff

Sunday 8/10

(9:30am) (11:30am)
Laney Henson BJ Kroppe
John Zubalik Suzanne Barcewicz

Friday 8/15

Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
A Holy Day of Obligation

*Slide Projection

FR. SURESH, SAC

MODERATOR OF THE FAMILY

248-682-0920 EXT. 1110

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Introduction: The common theme of today's readings is the futility of the greedy acquisition of wealth and power because everything and everyone is "here today and gone tomorrow." For the meaning of life cannot be found in selfishly hoarding wealth and possessions, but only in sharing these with the needy.

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from Ecclesiastes, reminds us that the greedy acquisition and hoarding of material wealth is useless because when the hoarder dies, he goes to eternity empty-handed, and his heir gains, and perhaps squanders, his riches. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 90), the Psalmist challenges us to listen to God and allow Him to soften our hearts that we may share our blessings with others.

In the second reading, Paul directs our attention to lasting, Heavenly treasures and warns that greed (pleonexia) for wealth and influence is idolatry. He advises, "Put to death, your parts that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry" (Col 3:5).

In today's Gospel, Jesus, telling the parable of the foolish rich man, warns us against all types of greed, because greed takes our life's focus away from God and away from serving and loving Him in Himself and in other people. Jesus says that God calls the greedy rich man a fool because the man thought he would not die soon and that he was not accountable for the way he used his riches. Besides, the rich man forgot the fact that his wealth had been lent to him by God for sharing with the needy. Jesus also warns us that our eternal life does not consist of earthly possessions (Lk 12:15), which we should share to gain eternal life.

Life messages: 1) We are invited to share our blessings with others. The parable of the rich fool gives us a warning as well as an invitation. It reminds us that our possessions are merely lent to us by God, and that we are accountable for their use. We must be generous in sharing our time, our treasure, and our talents in Christian stewardship. Even if we are poor financially, we may be blessed with intelligence, good will, a sense of humor, or the ability to console, encourage, inspire, support, and help others. God expects us to live out our spoken thanks to Him for all these blessings by sharing them with others for His glory. The Old Testament Scriptures are clear about tithing – giving 10% of our income for God's cause and for helping the needy. Not limiting the gift to a tenth, Paul, writing to the Corinthians in regard to a Church-wide collection for the poor in Jerusalem, declares, "Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7). In any case, experience has shown us that God can never be outdone in generosity!

2) Let us control our greed. Our greed takes different shapes and forms. For some, it may be the desire for the approval and praise of others. For others, it is the uncontrolled desire for power, control, or fame. For still others, greed takes the form of excessive and sinful indulgence in eating, drinking, gambling, drugs, or sexual activities. Greed also turns our life away from God and away from loving and serving Him in Himself and in other people. As greed directs all our energy and attention to fulfilling the self, its objects become our false gods, and they will consume us, unless we curb them, pay attention to those in need around us and, thus, become rich in the sight of God. (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
 Very Rev. Canon Walter J. Ptak

St. Fabian
 Msgr. Tim Hogan
 Fr. Matthew Kurt

Prince of Peace
 Fr. Andrew Dawson

St. Andrew Kim
 Rev. Seungsoo Oh

Parish Offices
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 (Fax) 248.682.3794
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 Email: secretary@olorcc.org

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Parish Secretary
 Artha Horowitz

Evangelical Charities
 Joellen Shortley

Worship
 Lisa Marie Blaneck

Music
 Joanne Gorney

Dir. Of Rel. Ed.
 Stephanie Gordon

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 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****OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026)

July 26 & 27, 2025

Offertory: \$7,832
Online Giving: \$1,897
Total: \$9,729

Weekly Budget: \$11,731

YTD Budgeted: \$46,924
YTD Actual: \$43,536

Under Budget: (\$3,388)

WORSHIP

LISA MARIE BLANEK

248-682-0920 EXT. 1114

LBLANEK@OLORCC.ORG

Transfiguration of the Lord – August 6th

We are truly blessed to have such rich access to sacred artwork that brings to life the miracles of Jesus we read about and celebrate in our Catholic faith. These visual representations allow us to more deeply experience and reflect on the mysteries of Christ's life. On Wednesday, August 6th, we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, a moment when three of Jesus' disciples were given the extraordinary gift of witnessing Him in His divine glory. Can you imagine yourself in that moment—standing on the mountaintop, beholding Christ radiant with light, alongside Moses and Elijah?

This feast also connects us to the wisdom of the Church in recognizing how moments of spiritual transfiguration shape both our personal lives and human history. The observance of the Transfiguration on August 6th was established by Pope Calixtus III in 1457 as an offering of thanks for the Christian victory over the Turks at the Battle of Belgrade in 1456. Yet, this same date in 1945 marks the tragic dropping of the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, a day that forever changed the course of history.

Just days later, on August 9th, the second atomic bomb devastated Nagasaki. On that very same day, the Church honors the life and martyrdom of Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, formerly Edith Stein—a Jewish-born philosopher turned Carmelite nun. She was arrested by the Nazis in Holland and killed in Auschwitz in 1942, offering her life in spiritual solidarity with her people and the suffering of the world.

The word “transfiguration” means “a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state.” As Christians, we believe that only God can take the darkest horrors of human history and draw forth light, redemption, and transformation. These layered moments in time call us to a deeper responsibility: to be people of prayer, healing, and peace. May we always seek to be instruments of God's peace in a world so deeply in need of transfiguration. “Lord, make us an instrument of Your peace.”



OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

OCIA is for adults who:

- Are interested in learning about the Catholic Faith
- Have never been baptized
- Have been baptized in another Christian faith and are interested in the Catholic Faith
- Are baptized Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of Confirmation
- Are married to a Catholic and attend Mass and would like to take the member of the Catholic Church
- Are Catholic but want to learn more about their Faith

Contact the Parish Office for more details –
Phone 248-418-7212 or Email
blanek@olorcc.org

EVANGELICAL CHARITY

JOELLEN SHORTLEY, OFS

248-682-4099

ECC@OLORCC.ORG

Blood Drive Thank you

Thank you to everyone who donated blood during our Red Cross Blood Drive on July 22, 2025. Twenty pints of much needed blood were collected. Thank you to Liz Oras for organizing the drive and for the help from volunteers Brian Bartas, Gary Lalicki, Mark Wegener and Amy Fountain. The next Blood Drive is scheduled for October 14 in the Social Hall from 1:00-7:00 p.m. Please schedule an appointment by visiting www.redcrossblood.org and entering the sponsor code "OLRC".

School Supplies Collection

Two of our pantry families have let me know they would appreciate help with getting backpacks and school supplies for their children. Please contact me if you are interested in helping with their supply needs.

We also have an opportunity to help the Jail Outreach Ministry with their back to school supply collection. This non-profit organization supports the Oakland County Jail Ministry, which has served victims, offenders, and their families for the past thirty years. They are requesting backpacks filled with school supplies listed below and labeled with the appropriate grade level. For more information about the Jail Outreach Ministry, please visit <http://jail-outreach-ministry.com>.

Please return backpacks and supplies by August 17 to the church or parish office.

High School (9th—12th grade)

Backpack	Fine Black Sharpie
Crayola Colored Pencils—box of 24	Pocket Folders—5
Composition Notebooks—3	Pencils—2 pkgs
Highlighters—multiple colors	Pens—2 pkgs
1.5-inch 3 ring binder—3	Index Cards—2 pkgs
Elmer's Glue Sticks	Ruler
Spiral Notebooks—3	Hand Sanitizer

Kindergarten—2nd Grade

Backpack	Elmer's Glue Sticks
Crayola Crayons—box of 24	Elmer's Glue Bottle
Crayola Washable Markers—1 (8 count)	#2 Pencils—2 pkgs
Black Dry Erase Markers—2 (4-pack)	Scissors—1 blunt tip
Chunky Pink Erasers—2	Hand Sanitizer
Tissues—1 box	

PANTRY NEEDS

Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry during summer break.

Donations have dropped significantly in recent weeks, even though many of our shoppers still rely on food assistance—and a few families are at risk of eviction.

Your contributions of food and personal care items help ease their burden, and we are truly grateful for your generosity.

CARE ITEMS

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

URGENT FOOD ITEMS

Canned Fruit
Breakfast/Granola Bars

Jelly
Cereal (no Cheerios)
Tuna
Rice
Beans—Black & Garbanzo
Dried Beans, Lentils & Peas
Mixed Vegetables, Corn & Peas
Large & Regular Cans of Soup
Cans of Ravioli & Spaghetti
Ketchup

LITURGICAL MUSIC

JOANNE GORNEY

248-418-7240

MUSIC@OLORCC.ORG

Psalm 90

R: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 90 is a sobering and beautiful meditation on the fragility of human life and the eternal nature of God. Attributed to Moses, it reminds us that our days are fleeting—like grass that springs up in the morning and fades by evening. Yet in this brevity, we are invited to seek wisdom, mercy, and purpose.

The refrain urges us to listen: “If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” It’s a call to spiritual attentiveness. God speaks, through Scripture, through others, through the quiet moments of our day, and we are challenged not to turn away, but to respond with open hearts.

The psalm also asks for God’s kindness at daybreak, an image of renewal and hope. It’s a prayer that our work, our lives, and our efforts be blessed and made fruitful by God’s gracious care.

This week, may we reflect on the gift of time, the importance of listening, and the invitation to live each day with intention and humility. Let us not harden our hearts, but welcome the voice of God with trust and joy.

01.

You turn man back to dust,
saying, “Return, O children of men.”
For a thousand years in your sight
are as yesterday, now that it is past,
or as a watch of the night.

03.

Teach us to number our days aright,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Return, O LORD! How long?
Have pity on your servants!

02.

You make an end of them in their sleep;
the next morning they are like the changing
grass,
Which at dawn springs up anew,
but by evening wilts and fades.

04.

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,
that we may shout for joy and gladness all
our days.
And may the gracious care of the LORD our
God be ours;
prosper the work of our hands for us!
Prosper the work of our hands!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

STEPHANIE GORDON

248-682-0920 EXT. 1142

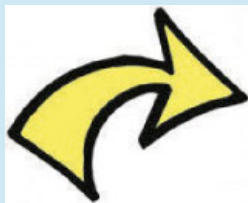
RE@OLORCC.ORG

Religious Education Registration is Open!

We invite all families with children in grades Pre-K through 8 to enroll and be part of a faith-filled journey of learning, prayer, and community. Our program offers age-appropriate lessons that help children grow in their understanding of God, the teachings of the Church, and how to live out their faith each day. Whether your child is just beginning their religious education or preparing for a sacrament, we are excited to walk alongside your family this year.

Registering early helps us plan well for class sizes, materials, and volunteers.

Scan the QR code below to register online or stop by the parish office to register in person. If you have any questions or need assistance with the process, please don't hesitate to reach out. We look forward to a wonderful year of growing together in faith!



Scan here to register for
Religious Education classes



Are you interested in becoming a Catechist??

Guiding our parish youth in the formation of their faith is an incredibly rewarding experience. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact the religious education office.

An informational meeting will be held on:

Monday, August 11th at 6:00pm



OUR LADY OF REFUGE

NEWS AND EVENTS

Attention

We are excited to enhance our liturgical environment with fresh-cut 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.

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BIBLE FOUNDATIONS



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Wed Aug 27, 7pm (OL Lakes) | Tue, Sep 2, 8-9pm (Online)

web: cbsmich.org | call/text: 586-438-3085

Annual Parish Picnic

SAVE THE DATE

September
07
2025

We are pleased to announce that the Parish picnic will be held on September 7, 2025. Liz Oras has graciously volunteered to be the Chairperson for the picnic. Please consider volunteering to help make this a great day for our parish. Liz can be reached at lizoras@gmail.com. Please let her know if you are able to help.



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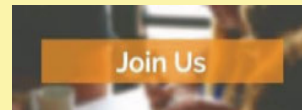
Program begins **August 15-17, 2025.**

Website: HelpOurMarriage.org

Phone: (800) 470-2230

*We are Pro-Life,
Pro-Woman,
Pro-Family!*

Do you have a passion for protecting the Unborn, the women who bore them & their families?



Come join parishioners to pray in front of the "women's clinic" in West Bloomfield @ 10:00am. The address is 6765 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Park in the Stage Deli parking lot.

We will be praying the rosary on the first Saturday of every month.

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
Michael Pinto-Air Force
Jake Ramirez-Marines



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



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Dates - Time - Location

Dates: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30
Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28
Nov. 4, & 11, 2025

Time: 9:15 - 11:15 am
(Breakfast at 9:15 am)

Location: Our Lady of Refuge Social Hall
3700 Commerce Road
Orchard Lake, MI 48324
248-682-0020

Cost: 39.95 plus S&H for Workbook
Order from: ascensionpress.com Bible Studies

For More Information

Free preview of lessons one at
ascensionpress.com
Bible Studies - "Foundations of Faith"

For questions and to register for class:
Contact Anne: 248-736-6486
annejane15@yahoo.com

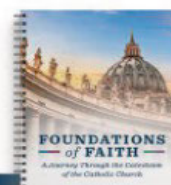
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the writings of the Church Fathers, Papal
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ages with the goal of deepening your Faith and
relationship with our magnificent Trinitarian God:
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