

OUR LADY OF REFUGE, Orchard Lake MI Today is the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time August 31, 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.



# 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6 ê 0 =

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:13-14

# OUR LADY OF REFUGE MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

### Readings for the week of August 31, 2025

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/

Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11 Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39 Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5 Next Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/

Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

### Observances for the week of August 31, 2025

Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Labor Day

Wednesday: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Next Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day

### PRIEST SCHEDULE

Mon 9/1: 9:00am (Fr. Suresh)

**Tue 9/2:** 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Wed 9/3: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

Fri 9/5: 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

**Sat 9/6: 5:00pm** (Fr. Suresh)

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

11:30am (Fr. Suresh)

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

**Tue 9/9:** 8:15am (Fr. Suresh)

### **CONFESSIONS:**

Saturday at 3:30

### **INTENTIONS**

Monday 9/1 Judy Spicer (+) requested by the parish family

Tuesday 9/2 Myrtle Schmidt (+) requested by Hana Shina

Wednesday 9/3 Tom Ruedisueli (+) requested by the parish

family

Friday 9/5 Bill Almas (+) requested by the parish family

Kevin Armbruster (Intentions) requested by Ana

Armbruster

Saturday 9/6 Fawzi Shaya (+) requested by the Shaya family

Our Lady of Refuge Parishioners

Sunday 9/7 (9:30) David Fowler (Intentions) requested by the

Fowler family

Maryam Shamoun (+) requested by the Abbo &

Jwaida families

(11:30) Theresa Votruba (+) requested by the Crawford

family

Patrick Saules (+) requested by the Pelkey family

Monday 9/8 John Dushane (+) requested by Leigh & Theresa

Dushane

Tuesday 9/9 Tom Bayma (+) requested by Connie Bayma

### **LECTOR SCHEDULE**

#### Saturday 9/6

Elias Escobedo Kevin Duff

#### Sunday 9/7

(9:30am)

**Amy Bachulis Alex Cintron** 

(11:30am)

Jim Whalen

**Peggy Gantz** 

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

### Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The common theme of today's readings is the importance of practicing humility and avoiding self-glorification or pride. 1) Humility enables us first to accept others as God's children, our brothers and sisters, redeemed by the blood of Jesus. 2) Humility also encourages us to offer them loving and sacrificial service through acts of charity, mercy and forgiveness. 3) Humility enables us to accept ourselves as we are before God, with all our defects and demerits. 4) Humility also prompts us to be thankful to God for giving us blessings, talents, and capabilities, for our own use, for serving our brothers and sisters and so for giving Him glory and for strengthening us every day by His grace. 5) It is humility which opens our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to the poor, the needy, the disadvantaged, and the marginalized people in our society, thus practicing Christ's option for the poor. Today's Gospel teaches us that we must act with humility and see ourselves as the servants of the community rather than those whom the community might feel honored to serve

The first reading, taken from the book of Sirach, reminds us that if we are humble, we will find favor with God, and others will love us. The second reading, taken from the letter to the Hebrews, gives us another reason to be humble, comparing and contrasting the frightening majesty of the Old Testament God with the meek and humble New Testament God in the person of Jesus. Jesus, the Only Begotten Son of God, humbled Himself by taking on human flesh and choosing to die the most humiliating death of crucifixion. The Letter to the Hebrews challenges us to imitate Jesus in his humility. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the practical benefits of humility, connecting it with the common wisdom about dining etiquette. Jesus advises the guests to go to the lowest place instead of seeking places of honor, so that the host may give them the place they really deserve. Jesus' words concerning the seating of guests at a wedding banquet should prompt us to honor those whom others ignore, because if we are generous and just in our dealings with those in need, we can be confident of the Lord's blessings.

**Life Message:** We need to practice humility in personal and social life: In our personal lives we grow into humility as we come to realize that everything we have is a loving gift from God and, therefore, we have no reason to elevate ourselves above others. True humility requires that we neither overestimate us nor underestimate our worth. We must admit the truths that we are sinners, that we do not know everything, and that we do not always act properly. Nevertheless, we must also recognize that we are made in the image and likeness of God, and that we are called to help build the kingdom of God with our God-given gifts. We are of value, not because of those gifts, but because we are loved by God as His children and redeemed by the precious blood of His son Jesus. In our social life, such a conviction should lead us to associate ourselves with the so-called marginalized or "lower classes" of the society — even the outcasts, because they too are the children of the same God. This change of attitude will in turn, change our social patterns. We will begin to connect with and serve the homeless, the handicapped, the elderly, and the impoverished – the "street people" of the world – with agape love. Our family life also becomes holier and more enjoyable when the husband and wife, in all humility, accept themselves as they are, accept each other as God's personal gift to them as a couple-madeone, and show the generosity and good will to serve each other, forgive each other, and offer their lives prayerfully and sacrificially for the welfare of their children. (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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Parish Secretary Artha Horowitz

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Worship

Lisa Marie Blanek

**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!

### **COMING SOON TO YOUR MAILBOX!**

Important Parish Mailing Arriving After Labor Day

If you are a registered parishioner, watch your mailbox after Labor Day for an important parish mailing. This packet will include two key items:

- 1. Mass Time Survey Help shape the future Mass schedule. Your input is valuable and will assist in planning decisions.
- 2. Parishioner Census Update Review and update your contact and sacramental information. Accurate records help us stay connected and communicate more effectively using the latest tools. If we move forward with a parish directory, we want to ensure your information appears exactly how you want—or not at all, if you prefer.

Please return both forms to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Your participation is greatly appreciated!

### **OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

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

August 23 & 24, 2025

Offertory: \$7,510 Online Giving: \$2,308 Total: \$9,818

Weekly Budget: \$11,731

YTD Budgeted: \$93,848 YTD Actual: \$85,145

**Under Budget: (\$8,703)** 

# **WORSHIP**

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

### Pledge of Future Glory - the Eucharist!

I had the amazing experience of attending the Jubilee of Hope for Liturgical Ministers. Staff and clergy from across the Archdiocese of Detroit gathered together for this uplifting conference. Our keynote speaker was Archbishop Emeritus Allen H. Vigneron, who shared with us a powerful mantra: "The Pledge of Future Glory."

He offered three key points to ponder and embrace:

- 1. In our preparation to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, we are also preparing for our ultimate goal: eternal life in heaven.
- 2. The very act of receiving the Eucharist is God's promise to us—a foretaste of what is to come.
- 3. In the moment of the Mass, as we gather together, we experience heaven on earth—our future already made present!

This powerful message reminded me why I chose to become Catholic. The Eucharist, which we have the opportunity to receive every day, continues to fill me with awe. The reality of receiving Jesus Christ into my own body never ceases to amaze me. Doesn't it move you, too? As Pope Francis beautifully said, "Hope is a gift and a duty for every Christian." And truly, hope in God will never disappoint us.

As we begin a new school year, we are all impacted in some way. Let us embrace this fresh start with deep awareness of what it means to invite Jesus into our human experience. He depends on us to share Him with others. The word evangelization may feel uncomfortable for many of us—but we are all called to be missionaries of hope. Ave!

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

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

Born to Eternal Life
August 4, 2025
Margaret "Mickey" Morbach
Loving mother of Terry, Tim, Tom, Ted,
Theresa, Tina & Tami
Her Funeral Mass was held on Monday, August 11th
Mass Celebrated by: Rev. Suresh Rajaian, SAC
Our Parish family extends its heartfelt sympathy

and prayers to her family and friends.

Born to Eternal Life August 10, 2025 Marc Joseph Leach

Loving father of Nick & Luc

His Funeral Mass was held on Monday, August 18th

Mass Celebrated by: Rev. Suresh Rajaian, SAC

Our Parish family extends its heartfelt sympathy
and prayers to his family and friends.

# **EVANGELICAL CHARITY**

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

### All Are Welcome to Attend the Parish Picnic!

Join us on Sunday, September 7th from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. for an afternoon of fun, food, fellow-ship, and games at our annual Parish Picnic. Enjoy festive activities including face painting and pumpkin painting for the kids — there's something for everyone in the family!

We would love for you to contribute by bringing a dish to share:

- Last names A–G: Please bring a side dish such as a veggie or fruit tray, cheese and crackers, etc.
- Last names H–Z: Please bring a salad (potato, pasta, greens, etc.). We have plenty of desserts and will also be serving ice cream, so no additional sweets are needed.

Volunteers are essential to making the picnic a success! If you can lend a hand, we need help with:

- Set-up: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Kitchen help: 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and 12:30–2:30 p.m.
- Clean-up: 3:00–5:00 p.m. Please sign up after Mass or email Joellen Shortley at ecc@olorcc.org if you're available or have any questions.

Whether you're new to the parish or a longtime member, this is a great opportunity to connect with others in a joyful and relaxed setting. Bring your appetite, and your friendly spirit — we can't wait to see you there!

**Food Pantry:** Thank you for the increase in donations to the food pantry the last two weeks. We are still low in our food sup-

plies, especially soup, rice and cereal. The number of shoppers to our pantry has increased. Last year we had an average of 42 shoppers a month. In the first three weeks of August we have already had 45 shoppers.

We would also appreciate donations of fresh vegetables and fruit. Please contact me if you have some to donate.

### Donate YourFresh Produce

If you had a great year in the garden and have extra, please consider donating some to the OLR Food Pantry!!



Contact Joellen Shortley or drop off your fruits and veggies to the parish office during business hours!

### **URGENT FOOD ITEMS**

Large & Regular Cans of Soup
Rice
Canned Fruit
Cereal (no Cheerios)
Canned Vegetables
Jelly
Breakfast/Granola Bars
Tuna
Pasta & Pasta Sauce
Beans-Baked, Black & Garbanzo
Dried Beans, Lentils & Peas
Ketchup/Mustard
Large Bags with Handles

### **CARE ITEMS**

Shampoo & Conditioner
Women's & Men's Deodorant
Women's & Men's Body Wash
Toothbrushes
Pump Hand Soap
All Purpose Cleaner
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Paper Towel
Toilet Paper

# **LITURGICAL MUSIC**

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

# The Choir is Back This September!



Have you missed their voices at Mass?

Do not worry—our choir will return in September!

### Rehearsals:

**Wednesdays** 

7:30-9:00 PM - Choir rehearsal

1 7:00-7:30 PM - Instrumentalists practice

If you love to sing or play an instrument, we warmly invite you to join us. Your gifts can help enrich the beauty of our liturgy.

For more information or to join, please contact me.

We are offering a beautiful Boston Grand Piano (Model GP-178, Serial No. 115341), previously used in our church.

Boston grand pianos are designed by Steinway & Sons. They are built to Steinway's specifications but manufactured in Japan by Kawai, under Steinway's oversight.

\* Details:

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# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

# STEPHANIE GORDON 248-682-0920 EXT. 1142 RE@OLORCC.ORG

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

is gearing up for a great year, starting September 7th!

During the 11:30am Mass, children between the ages of 4 and 7 will be invited to join one of our Catechists in the Social Hall to hear the Word of God proclaimed in a way that is tailored to their age group.

This is a great way to introduce your young children to Bible stories and to get them participating at Mass!

Interested in joining the Children's Liturgy team??

Please contact the Religious Education Department.

Resources provided and flexible scheduling!

It's not too late to register for Religious Education classes!



Scan here with your phone camera to register



Sessions begin on September 29th but registering early will help us get everything in order to make it a great year!

Questions?? Contact the Religious Education Office.

Stephanie Gordon

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Director
248.418.7242
re@olorcc.org

Janet Boyk

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Secretary
248.682.6381
resecretary@olorcc.org

# 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.



#### 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 lblanek@olorcc.org



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.







All Are Welcome

OLR Parish Picnic Sunday September 7th 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM



Join us for food, fellowship, fun, & games









Join over 200 people within 20 small groups that socialize, have snacks, watch a short video, and talk about how to live our faith in the real world. We have groups of all ages, meeting on all days of the week. Find the group that's right for you!



### Register Now thru September 12th.



Check-out the FAQ page at emmaussmallgroups.com or call Paul Zbytowski at 248.474.5720.



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