

Blessed Sacrament Parish



2275 Diamond Avenue NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Phone: (616) 447 - 7554 | Fax: (616) 447-7548

bsacrament.net | church@bsacrament.net

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mass Times

Sunday 10:30 a.m. | **Tuesday** 8:30 a.m. | **Wednesday** 10:30 a.m.

Confession Times

Wednesday 11:15 a.m. to noon

Parish Staff

Fr. Christopher Epplett | Canonical Administrator | cepplett@stalphonsusgr.org

Deacon John Falicki | jfalicki@stalphonsusgr.org

Darrell Beckwith | Business Manager | dbeckwith@bsacrament.net

Maureen Cromwell | Director of Religious Education | mcromwell@stalphonsusgr.org

Marie LeMire | Pastoral Care Coordinator | mlemire@bsacrament.net

Bulletin submissions: communication@stalphonsusgr.org

April 27, 2025 | Divine Mercy Sunday

Mourning the Loss of Pope Francis

As we learned early Monday morning of the Pope's passing, there was a certain beauty in its timing. God has a way with timing. As the Easter Octave began — celebrating the glorious resurrection of our Lord in which he opened the gates of heaven — the end of the earthly life of Pope Francis reminded us of the hope of his heavenly inheritance.

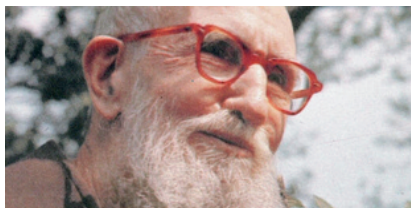
Certainly, as with any death, there is a certain sadness. Pope Francis was a loving shepherd for our Church and helped navigate well in difficult times. I especially think of his wonderful homily at the onset of Covid. I was in the pope's presence four times during his pontificate (a few feet away, but never one-on-one) and can attest to his warmth, compassion, and fatherly nature. Watching him embrace infants in St. Peter's Square the first time I saw him brought a real sense of his tender care, while hearing him preach to the young people in Poland for World Youth Day showed me how evangelistic and inspiring he was.

The days of mourning, the Novendiales do not officially begin until the papal funeral and thus will encompass April 26 through May 4. Both the 8:30 a.m. Mass at Blessed Sacrament and 5:30 p.m. at St. Alphonsus will be a Mass of the Dead for Pope Francis. Please pray for the repose his soul — customarily the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be are encouraged. I also ask that you pray a rosary for him.

I also want to encourage prayers for the Conclave, which should begin sometime in the next few weeks (most likely early May). Let us pray the Holy Spirit is abundantly clear in this time of discernment.

Peace,
Fr. Christopher

Join Fr. Christopher for a pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center



Searching for peace? On May 14, join Catholic Charities West Michigan as we embark on a pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. Inspired by the life and example of Blessed Solanus Casey, the center serves as a place of pilgrimage, healing, reconciliation, and peace — a perfect opportunity to draw closer to God in this Jubilee Year. Celebrate Mass, tour the center, and more. Tickets are \$70, which includes your bus ride to and from the center along with lunch. For more information or to register, visit ccwestmi.org/jubilee-year. Questions? Please reach out to Sarah Stechschulte at sstechschulte@ccwestmi.org.

The Adventure Series for Children

Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St. NE

Technology Free, Ages 6-12 Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Weeklong experiences will help children develop life skills and enhance critical thinking and creative artistic exploration through a variety of activities.

Join us for: The Wild West, July 21- 25, In the Footsteps of St. Francis July 28 -

August 1, and Campfire Storytellers, August 4 - 8 Cost is \$300

Go to www.lifeprocesscenter.org to learn more.

Sunday, April 27 - Divine Mercy

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 20:19-31

+ Charles & Cecilia Lane

Tuesday, April 29

Mass at 8:30 a.m. | Jn 3: 7b-15

+Dave Wrona

Wednesday, April 30

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 3:16-21

+Mariae Firlit

Sunday, May 4

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 21:1-19

+ Gene & Marie Borek

First Communion Mass at 4:30 p.m.

For the People

Parish Events

Monday, April 28

5:45 p.m. Ladies Bunco

Tuesday, April 29

9:15 a.m. Bible Study

6 p.m. Pickleball

7 p.m. Adult Choir

Wednesday, April 30

10:30 a.m. School Mass

11 a.m. Confession & Adoration



Congratulations on your Baptism!

Let us Pray: Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the gift of Owen William Fochtman and the grace of his Baptism.

Bless him with your love and guidance as he begins his journey of faith. May he grow in wisdom, walk always in the light of Christ, and be strengthened by your presence each day. We ask this in Your holy name. Amen



Interested in Catholicism?

Are you searching for a deeper relationship with God? Fulfillment of your purpose in life? Are you attracted to the truth, beauty, and goodness you've experienced in the Catholic Church?

Interested in becoming Catholic? Contact cepplatt@stalphonsusgr.org

Congratulations and welcome to those received into the Church!

Welcome home to our new Catholics who were received into the church on April 19 at the Easter Vigil.

Angie McIntosh & Eric Vite

May we continue to pray that the Holy Spirit guides them on this faith journey.



Confirmed In Christ

Congratulations to Brendan Brouwer who was confirmed at the Easter Vigil Mass on April 19. May we continue to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to guide him in his faith journey.



Catholic Services Appeal

We ask that you prayerfully consider giving a gift to this year's Catholic Service Appeal which help support ministries like Seminarian Education, Catholic Schools, Catholic Charities, Communication, Cultural Ministries and Catechesis. Visit GRdiocese.org/CSA to make a donation online or call the Finance office to give the gift of a stock, IRA, charitable distribution or Donor Advised Fund at 616-475-1253 or fill out a pledge card and return to the parish or by mail.

Card Ministry: Please remember in your prayers, parishioner Mary Lou Thompson. Mary Lou is having health problems and is unable to come to Mass. Cards to Mary Lou may be sent to 1310 Ecklund St. NE, 49505.

Puzzles: Be sure to explore our latest collection of puzzles in the conference room across the stairs. New donations welcome and feel free to take any return when you're finished.

Weekly Offertory

Offertory for April 20, 2025

Adult Envelopes: \$8,744.30

Automatic Envelopes: \$1,036

Youth: \$2.15

Loose Stewardship: \$1,488.35

Total Stewardship this week: \$11,270.80

YTD: \$503,776.84

Budget YTD: \$524,113.21

Last YTD: \$529,453.93

5% Tithe this week: \$563.54

Tithe YTD: \$25,188.84

Thank you for your generosity!

Many thanks to Fr. Epplert, Deacon Falicki, Marie Lemire, Jean Haney and the parish of Blessed Sacrament for your hospitality and generosity as we celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial for our mom, Marcy Radecki. We truly appreciated the many who graciously prepared the food, especially the cookies! We are grateful also, to all those whose ministry it is to do the set-up, serving, and clean-up of the tables and food. Thank you for sharing your time to do that. The luncheon was a wonderful setting to share memories with family and friends.

Dave and Mary Koss and the family of Marcy Radecki

G.I.F.T.E.D. Group

Do you know of an adult with special needs who is interested in deepening their faith? Our G.I.F.T.E.D. Group (growing in faith together every day) might be just the perfect fit! We meet in St. Alphonsus' parish lounge on the 1st and 3rd Sunday during the school year and monthly during the summer. Our meetings run from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. We pray together, read the weekly gospel, discuss how it applies to us and then usually have an activity to tie it all together by the end of our meeting. We sing and share so much laughter together that we're clearly given a glimpse of God's kingdom everytime we gather. Please contact : faithformation@stalphonsusgr.org for more information.

Is God calling you to consider the permanent diaconate?

Has the Vocations Prayer moved you to question if God is calling you to become a deacon? The Office of Diaconate Formation invites men with interest or questions about discernment and formation to a Discerning the Diaconate information session.

Monday, May 5 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Cathedral Square Center, 360 Division Ave. S. Grand Rapids.

To RSVP or learn more, contact Deacon Jerry Roersma, director of Deacon Formation, at 616-288-0913 or jroersma@grdiocese.org



Phone: 616-447-2997

Website: asagr.org

Blog: asatoday.blogspot.com

Become a sponsor!

All Saints Academy and businesses on the northeast side of Grand Rapids are working together to assist our students through the ASA Sponsors Program. We invite your business to become a sponsor by visiting our website at asagr.org/sponsors or emailing asadonate@asagr.org. Sponsors are featured on our website, in our weekly newsletters and our Eaglefest booklet. You can find more information about our sponsors, how to support them, and how to become an ASA sponsor on our website at asagr.org/sponsors.

ASA's Atrium Program

All Saints Academy's atrium program uses the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd approach for religious formation of students 3-12 years of age. The curriculum is constructed so that it accommodates and nurtures the faith, moral and psychological states of the child's growth. The themes are offered in such a way as to develop the precious religious potential present in every child: the capacity to love and be loved. To learn more, we invite you to watch the last video in our Day in the Life series highlighting our atrium program on our Facebook page, website, or Youtube channel.

Proudly serving
our community.

REYERS NORTH VALLEY
CHAPEL | GRAND RAPIDS
616-363-7755 | ReyersNorthValleyChapel.com

Every Detail Remembered™ | Dignity®



Carrie (Galloway) Vos
Realtor®
GRAR Board of Directors
MI-Residential Real Estate Council Director
ABR, AHWD, BA, CRS, C2EX, e-PRO, IREP
cell: 616-460-7109
carrie@carrievos.com
www.carrievos.com
2355 Belmont Cntr Dr, Ste 104
Belmont, MI 49306

TEAMVOS



No better time
than now to discuss your
pre planning options
call today to schedule an appointment
616.453.1636 | grcathcem.org

Support your LOCAL
Catholic radio station
by donating your car,
truck, boat or camper
to Holy Family Radio
and our parish will
receive a portion of
the proceeds!



1140 AM 98.3 FM 91.5 FM 89.7 FM
GRAND RAPIDS GRAND RAPIDS KALAMAZOO NORTHEAST
STREAMING AT HFLIVE.NET ANYWHERE, ANYTIME
YOUR LOCAL CATHOLIC RADIO NETWORK

We will take care of
all the paperwork
and expense of
moving the vehicle!
Call 844-33-RADIO
(844-337-2346)

**ADVERTISE
HERE**

**Promote your Business
AND Support your Parish.**

Deb Myers ~ 616-554-3285
dmyers@diocesan.com

KARL ORTHODONTIC
SPECIALIST

Paul J. Karl, D.D.S., M.C.I.D.
Diocesan Parishioner

Advanced Orthodontics & Beautiful Smiles
License #13613

3989 Cascade Road at I-96 459-7171

**Arsulowicz
Brothers**
MORTUARIES INC.

"Family Owned & Operated"

458-1297

Pre-Arrangements Available

MIKULA CHIROPRACTIC P.C.

Brian P. Mikula D.C.
Jean M. Mikula, D.C.
(Parishioner)



Chiropractic care for adults, children, and babies

MikulaChiropractic.net • 4029 Plainfield NE • (616) 365-0255



Life Story Funeral Homes®
ALT & SHAWMUT HILLS CHAPEL
VAN STRIEN - CRESTON CHAPEL

616-453-8263



Alex Ritzenhein

Insurance Advisor
616-616-4883
alexritz@shieldagency.com

Home • Auto • Commercial • Life
Scan to Start Quoting Process



**WEST CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**



Dynamic. Excellence-Driven.
GRWESTCATHOLIC.ORG

DELLENBUSCH & RYAN, PLC

Nicholas J. Ryan • www.dellenbuschryanlaw.com
2944 Fuller Ave. NE, Suite 100 • 616.451.4242

Estate Planning • Elder Law • Guardianship • Probate
Long Term Care & Special Needs Planning
Conservatorship • Medicaid Application & Appeals



**Northeast
AUTOMOTIVE**

1156 Knapp St. NE
(616)364-6200



www.northeastautomotive.com



**Get this bulletin
emailed to you
every week.**

Simply go to

www.DM.CHURCH/1147



...or scan →

DISCOVERMASS

**catholicmatch®
Michigan**



[CatholicMatch.com/
goMI](http://CatholicMatch.com/goMI)



**DIOCESAN
PARISHIONER**

4019 WEST RIVER DR.

616 784 5395



Brooke Wila

Parishioner
All Saints '12, West Catholic '16, Aquinas College '21
Homemade sweet treats for your next party!

bwila8@gmail.com 616-498-7144

