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Council #14404  
 Joe Hickey, Grand Knight  
 Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday  
 of the Month.

**SAINT EDWARD FAMILY CENTER**

741 Washington Blvd.  
 Lake Odessa, MI 48849

Available for rent (max. 330 People)  
 For Information call 616-374-7253  
 EMAIL [fredia@wowway.biz](mailto:fredia@wowway.biz)

*Saint Edward Preschool*  
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Saint Edwards sites, please scan the QR code for each.



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website

*Saint Edward the Confessor Catholic Church*

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**September 8, 2024**  
 Saint Edward Church  
 531 Jordan Lake St.

Lake Odessa, MI 48849

**Pastor:** Father Tom Brown  
[frtombrown@sspccatholic.com](mailto:frtombrown@sspccatholic.com)

**Website:** [www.stedwardslakeodessa.org](http://www.stedwardslakeodessa.org)

Office: 616.374.7253

[stedwards@wowway.biz](mailto:stedwards@wowway.biz)

**Facebook:** Saint Edward the Confessor Catholic Church

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
 8 AM-2 PM

Closed Tuesdays & Fridays

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday Vigil **6:00 PM**

Sunday **9:45 AM**

**Weekday Masses:**

Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. **9:00 AM**

Thursday **12:10 PM**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Thursday **6:30 PM-7:30 PM**

or by appointment

**Secretary:** Katherine Martin 616-374-7253

**Bookkeeper:** Dan Shields

**DRE:** Fredia 616-374-7253 ext. 202

**Hall Manager:** Fredia 616-374-7253 ext. 201

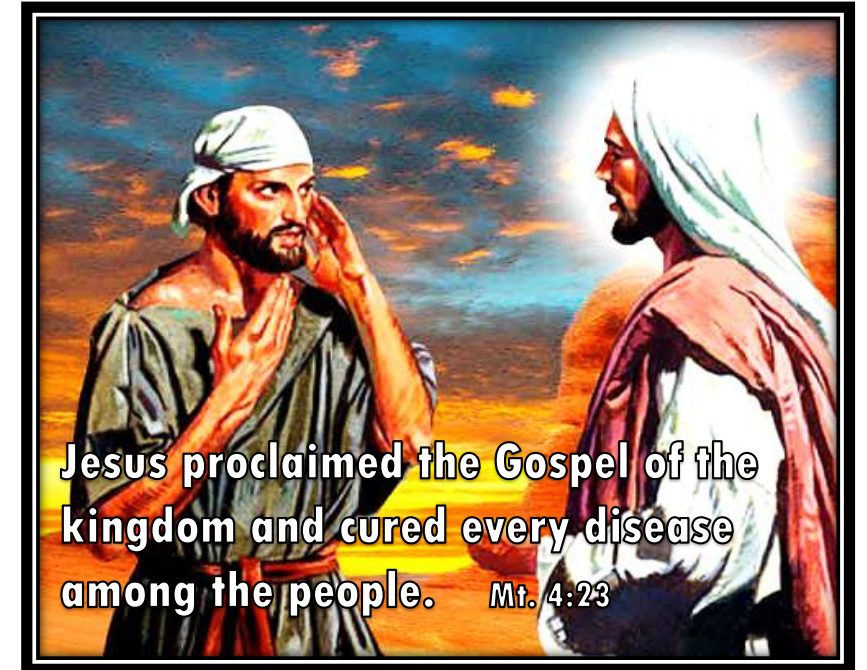
**Prayer Chain:** Gayle Peacock 616-374-8274

**Pastoral Council:** Kathy Carnegie, Colleen King, and Fredia Wernette

**Financial Council:** Andrew Snider, Jerry Tomandl, Allen Hamp, Joe Coates, Chris Vinton, Mary Gillette & Marty Kretovic

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, St. Edward's Parish, joyfully experience life in Christ through the celebration of the sacraments and dedicate ourselves to faith formation. Our parish is devoted to inspiring youth to become active followers of Christ. We live to promote love within the church and community according to the Gospel.



**08 Sunday: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Is 35:4-7a Ps 146:7-10 Jas 2:1-5 Mk 7:31-37

**09 Monday: Saint Peter Claver, Priest**

1 Cor 5:1-8 Ps 5:5-6, 7,12 Lk 6:6-11

**10 Tuesday: Weekday**

1 Cor 6:1-11 Ps 149:1-6, 9 Lk 6:12-19

**11 Wednesday: Weekday**

1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26

**12 Thursday: Weekday; The Most Holy Name of Mary**

1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13 Ps 139:1b-3, 132, 14b, 23-24 Lk 6:27-38

**13 Friday: Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 12 Lk 6:39-42

**14 Saturday: The Exaltation of The Holy Cross**

Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1-2, 34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

**15 Sunday: Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Is 50:4c-9a Ps 116:1-6, 8-9 Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35



**What a Wonderful Day ???**

I hope and pray that you are having a wonderful day. Many things happening here in your life this day. Can we take a few minutes and think about heaven? To think about the joy and what it would be like for us? Just about all of us think we will be there. We believe we will be there either instantly upon death or very soon after. We think of an enjoyable visit like going to a sports game, a trip to Disneyland, or some other really fun time we have had here. Most people will think of doing things with other people. Yet none of these events even come close to it. When we do finally close our eyes for the last time in this life and open them in the next, we will see God Himself. The fantastic moment of that event is something so great we can't even begin to describe it. Even a saint in heaven would be speechless trying to come up with words to describe it. St. Paul has given us just a few words, from a vision, trying to describe a foretaste of heaven. All he could say was "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man to see what God has prepared for those who love Him."

Still, we can and do try to get a glimpse of what the joy of heaven may be like. If we have been fortunate enough to have experienced joy here, we begin with that as an example. Even though it is inadequate, we look back to that time of exquisite happiness whenever and wherever it was. Think of some major joy here on earth, like our wedding, a newborn baby placed in your arms, or some other joyous event. Whatever it was, try to multiply the joy by a hundred million and we will still fall far short in our imagination of being in the presence of God. Even our greatest leaps of imagination fall far short. God is infinitely lovable! This means He will be infinitely irresistible. The very sight of Him will siphon love out of us as the heart of a tornado sucks water out of a lake as it passes over. Welling up from our very roots, up from our toes, love will rush out of us to God. And that will not be enough. No matter what it is, we are also certain that our love will be returned. There will be no doubt, of that, when God catches us up into His love.

God is love. He is infinite love! He made us because of His love for us. When the barrier of earthly life is removed, God will swamp us with His love. It will rock us. It will all but tear us apart with its intensity. Right now, even the most prideful person among us cannot claim to be the most lovable person in all creation. That's because we all secretly recognize that we have some pretty unlovable spots in our past. Thank God for the gift of purgatory. It is God's wash-up station where we will be totally purified. Cleansed of all sin and in the original beauty of the soul with which God endowed us, we shall find we are incredibly lovable. God will prove it to us as His love for us envelops us and carries us to the heights of ecstasy.

One final item: This joy will never end! Have you ever exclaimed, "Oh! I wish that this could go on forever! I wish it didn't have to end!" That will be heaven. It is eternal. It has no end.

Let the thought of heaven inspire you.

Let the thought of God fill your mind and soul.

Let it fill your soul with a prayer of love and thanksgiving to God.

God bless you!

Fr. Tom

**MASS INTENTIONS AND MINISTERS**

**Sunday, September 08, 9:45 am**

+ Betty Rodriguez (Joe Hickey & Family)

**Monday, September 09, 9:00 am**

+ Tim Smith (Tim & Katherine Martin)

**Tuesday, September 10, 9:00 am**

Teachers

**Wednesday, September 11, 9:00 am**

+ Luke Coon (Tim & Katherine Martin)

**Thursday, September 12, 12:10 pm**

+ Betty Rodriguez (Ruth O'Mara)

**Friday, September 13, 9:00 am**

Unborn Children

**Saturday, September 14, 6:00 pm**

St. Edward Parish

**Lector:** Rosann S.

**EMHC:** Yvonne M. & Pat S.

**Sunday, September 15, 9:45 am**

+Damian Joel Moesta (Alan Brodbeck)

**Lector:** David B.

**EMHC:** Mike R., Dave B., & Chris V.

**Adoration**



Thursday Evenings - 6 to 8 pm in the Church.

September 5, 12, 19, & 26

Contact Suzanne King at 269-271-6406 for more information.

**Parish Picnic**



September 8, 2024

1:00 pm

Family Center

Family Fun, Fellowship, and Food

**Cor Men's Group- The next meeting: September 14**

Join us as the Cor Men's Group resumes on Saturday, September 14, at 8:00 AM. This is a great opportunity to deepen your faith and build strong connections with other Catholic men in our parish community.

For more information contact Andrew Coates at (269) 838-4418.

**WME Sharing Group- The next meeting: September 13**

If you have ever attended a Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience in the past, we would like to invite you to join our sharing group. We meet at St. Edward on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month, at 7 pm in the basement.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Chris and Darla Vinton at 410-487-5226.

**Televised Sunday Mass:**

Join us each week for the live broadcast at 10 a.m. Sunday Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Andrew. Watch on TV on FOX 17, or online at [grdiocese.org](http://grdiocese.org) or the diocesan Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/DioceseofGrandRapids/](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofGrandRapids/).

**Please Pray for:**

Robert Rasche, Randy Armstrong, Manuel Rodriguez, Julie Sutton VanLiew, the Grieving, And those who have asked for our prayers.



*If you want to add a name, please call or contact the office. Be sure you have the consent of the person of a family member.*

**Grief Support Group**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, October 3**, at 1:00 pm, in the library. If you would like information, please call Marsha at 269-367-4403.

**K-12 FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION**

Faith Formation starts on Sept. 8.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is underway and we invite all 7th and 8th graders between the ages of 13 and 15+, as well as any Faith Formation student that missed out on the last class.

Parent and Candidate meeting on 9/29/24 at 11 am in the Family Center library. This is a **MANDATORY** meeting to take part in the Confirmation ceremony in the Fall of 2025. Please mark your calendars and RSVP (if you haven't already) by calling Fredia at 374-7253 x4.

**RCIA 2024-2025**

The RCIA team is offering an opportunity for the St. Edward community to explore their faith on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00. The topics include Scripture, church history, and theology. This is in tandem with RCIA at the same location in different rooms with different discussions. Please join us.

R.C.I.A.'s next meeting will be September 11th at 753 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. R.C.I.A. is for Baptized adults who haven't received all the Sacraments, spouses of Catholics who would like to enter the Church, and any adult who wants to learn about Catholicism and all it offers. We meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in an informal atmosphere. Below is the schedule through Christmas, after which we will continue with the balance of the curriculum. Please call with questions. 616-374-8340

- 09-11 God and Creation (Gary)
- 09-18 Divine Revelation, Scripture, and Tradition (Jerry)
- 09-25 Trinity and the Incarnation (Andrew)
- 10-02 Grace, Merit and Salvation (Gary)
- 10-09 Church and the 4 marks of the Church (Anne)
- 10-16 Commandments 1-3 (Suzanne)
- 10-23 Commandments 4-5-6 (Jerry)
- 10-30 Commandments 7-8-9-10 (Alan)
- 11-06 Prayer (Anne)
- 11-13 The Creed (Alan)
- 11-20 Tour of the Church
- 12-04 The Mass Bishop Barron
- 12-11 The Mass Bishop Barron
- 12-18 The Mass Bishop Barron

**A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar**

Because the deaf man in today's gospel recognized his disability, he could seek help from Jesus. Deafness abounds in families: in our children (Oh dad, not that again!) in parents ("It is just a stage") and in spouses ("Are you listening?"). Before Jesus can enter your home and heal, you must first recognize your deafness.

**OUR PARISH OFFERING – Aug 31-Sept 1, 2024**

Adults	\$	2,930.00
Loose:	\$	413.00
<b>Total receipts:</b>	\$	3,343.00
Weekly Budget	\$	3,850.00
<b>Overage/Shortage:</b>	\$	( 507.00)

**July 1, 2024 – Sept 1, 2024 Fiscal YTD Offertory Collections**

Year-to-Date:	\$	35,816.00
Budgeted Year-to-Date:	\$	34,650.00
Overage/Shortage Year-to-Date:	\$	1,166.00

*Please note that "Our Parish offering" reflects the income from Sunday and Holy Day offertory only.*

Your weekly offering envelopes can be dropped off at the office, placed in the locked black mailbox beside the office door, or sent through the mail to: St. Edward Church  
531 Jordan Lake St.  
Lake Odessa, MI, 48849

*Thank you for your continued support of the church.*

**Counter September 15: Betsy Weiland & Bill Sutton**

**Next Finance Meeting is November 11 at 6:30 pm**

**The Finance Council is looking for new members.**

If you are interested or just want more information, see Dan Sheilds.



The next Meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 10, at 7 pm.**

The Knights of Columbus Recycling Trailer is open for business. Please drop off your pre-sorted glass bottles, aluminum cans, and Michigan-approved recyclable plastic bottles (check the label).

**Pray for our Priests**

The priests of the diocese attend a retreat together every fall. Let us gather as a Catholic community during this time to pray for our shepherds. On **Wednesday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>**, the following parishes in our county will be open for prayer.

St. John the Baptist, Hubbardston (9 – 10 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.)  
St. Joseph, Pewamo (6-7 p.m.)

Check GRdiocese.org for a complete list.

**Special Mass for couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries**

Together with your families, the Diocese of Grand Rapids honors the faithful witness to your vocation of marriage and wishes to celebrate with you. Bishop Walkowiak is inviting **all couples celebrating milestone anniversaries** to join him on **Sunday, October 20 at the 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew** (301 Sheldon Blvd., Grand Rapids) for this annual celebration. A simple reception will immediately follow. Please RSVP by scanning the QR code or calling Paloma Olvera at 616-288-0908.

