



935 Fourth Avenue  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(616) 374-8221 Main Office  
(616) 374-7383 Fax  
www.koopsfc.com



7857 Velte Rd  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
Mon., Tues., & Thurs.,  
8-12 & 3-7  
Fri., & Sat., 8-12  
Phone (616) 374-7880



7775 Clark Rd.  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
Ph# 616-374-8851

Call us for all of your ready mix concrete, aggregate and construction needs!

Open Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm  
Saturday 8am -12 pm (seasonal)

**Clark's**  
SPECIALIZING IN KITCHENS Custom Cabinets and Furniture Refacing and Installation  
SPECIALIZING IN ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS  
Owner: Eric Clark (269)838- 3771  
Email: [clarkscustomcabinets1@gmail.com](mailto:clarkscustomcabinets1@gmail.com)  
www.facebook.com/clarkscustomcabinets1

**Televised Sunday Mass:**  
Join us each week for the live broadcast of Sunday Mass at 10 a.m. 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/](http://www.facebook.com/DioceseofGrandRapids/)



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*  
616-374-7253 ext.201



**STAIRLIFTS OF MICHIGAN**  
RALPH RUSSEL (517) 202-3254

Stairlifts Wheel Chair Ramps  
Tub Conversions Bathroom Conversions

Email: [ralph@stairliftsofmichigan.com](mailto:ralph@stairliftsofmichigan.com)  
Website: [stairliftsofmichigan.com](http://stairliftsofmichigan.com)

Lifetime Warranty Made in America

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



Facebook



website

*Saint Edward the Confessor Catholic Church*  
*Second Sunday in Lent*

**March 16, 2025**  
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:**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
& Friday **9:00 AM**  
Thursday **12:10 PM**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Thursday **6:30 PM-7:30 PM**  
Tuesday **8 am**  
**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

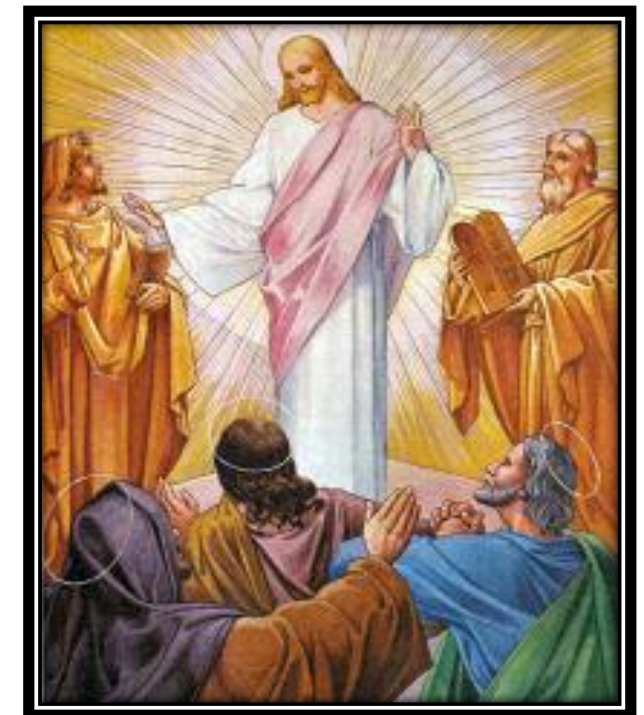
**Prayer Chain:** Gayle Peacock 616-374-8274

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

**Financial Council:** Andrew Snider, Jerry Tomandl, Allen Hamp, 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.



**16 Sunday: Second Sunday in Lent**

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18 Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14 Phil 3:17—4:1  
Lk 9:28b-36

**17 Monday: Lenten Weekday**

Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8-9, 1, 13 Lk 6:36-38

**18 Tuesday: Lenten Weekday; Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 Mt 23:1-12

**19 Wednesday: Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27-29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

**20 Thursday: Lenten Weekday**

Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 16:19-31

**21 Friday: Lenten Weekday**

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-21 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**22 Saturday: Lenten Weekday**

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-4, 9-12 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

**23 Sunday: Third Sunday in Lent**

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15 Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11 1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12  
Lk 13:1-9

**Prayer**

Prayer is something that we acknowledge is very important yet at the same time, far too often, we relegate it to the bottom of our list rather than at the top. We know we should pray to God every day. Should. But do we? We should pray to God because we love him. But again, love is not something that is simply taught. Love of God isn't something we learned from someone else. Nor did we learn how to rejoice in God's light or how to desire to live or how to love our parents. When we were first born, we didn't just immediately love our parents. It took time. We were born with reason planted inside us like a seed containing the ability and the need to love. It took time to grow. We experienced their love for us. We experienced their giving us clothing, food, shelter, hugs and love. So, it is with God's love for us.

We are born with this desire for love within us. Not just love of parents but also to love God. We have within us from God the ability to fulfill God's commands. We have no reason to resent them as if it was more than we could pay back from what we have received. When we use our God given ability correctly, we lead a life of holiness and virtue. If we don't then we fall into sin. Sin then is the misuse of powers given to us by God to do good.

Because God gave us this ability to do good, we can say the same thing about love. We have within us the ability to love God. Each one of us can learn this. Look at this planet. It is a wonderful place to be born and it is natural to desire things that are good and pleasing to the eye. A sunny day, warm air, clean water, beautiful plants, and the ability to make sounds that are musical and pleasing are but a few of the many gifts God gives to us. Other gifts come from God as well. The ability to build things, to sell items, and to create wealth comes from God.

Somehow, all this and more escaped from us. We took them for granted. Even worse we began to battle with others to hoard more and more items for ourselves. Finally, God our loving Father sent his Son, Jesus Christ into this world. He came to reveal to us God's love and to show us how to live.

This is what our faith is all about. It reveals his love and the creation of the world. We learn how to love God. Having loved him and following Jesus, we are then welcomed into eternal life. This is our only way into eternal life. To reject Jesus and his teaching is to reject God and therefore eternal life.

Do you want to live longer? Do you want more than the decades of life here on earth? Do you wish to live forever? Then we must embrace Jesus. To love Jesus means we then follow his teachings on life. This means we will obey his commandments and learn to love him as he has and continues to love us. Learning to love Jesus means we pray. But what is prayer? How do we pray?

St. John Damascene taught, "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." St. Therese of Lisieux said, "For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy."

"Teach us to pray!" the disciples of Jesus asked. And He taught them how to pray. Learning to pray will be our topic in the coming weeks. It is important. It is the desire of our hearts.

God bless you,  
Fr. Tom

**MASS INTENTIONS AND MINISTERS**

Sunday, March 16, 9:45 am

+ Alice Wernette (Connie Goble)

Monday, March 17, 9:00 am

+ Edeltraude Gerhards (Bert Walliczek)

Tuesday, March 18, 9:00 am

+ Jim Miller (Irene Miller)

Wednesday, March 19, 9:00 am

Walliczek Family

Thursday, March 20, 12:10 pm

+ Steven Goble (Connie Goble)

Friday, March 21, 9:00 am

Rosie Hickey (Prayer Partner)

Saturday, March 22, 6:00 pm

+Pamela Pontius (Grief Support Group)

Lector: Rosann S

EMHC: Pat S., & Yvonne M.

Sunday, March 23, 9:45 am

+ Elsie Marrow (Marty & Gayla Kretovic)

Lector: Kathy C.

EMHC: Kathy C. & Volunteers

**Resuming Friday Masses-**


Father Tom will be resuming Friday, 9 am, Mass on **March 21.**

**Stations of the Cross** will be on Friday evenings 6:30 pm from starting on March 7. We are still in need of people to lead the stations. Contact the office for available dates.

**Adoration**  
Thursday Evenings - 6 to 8 pm in the Church.  
March 20 & 27

Adorers Schedule for March 20  
6-7 pm Cindy & Mary Gillette/ Mary Endres  
7-8 pm Andrew Coares/ OPEN

Are you looking for something to do with the family for Lent? Sign up to be an adorer. Open times are 7- 8 pm on the first, third, fourth and fifth Thursdays of the month and 6-7 pm on the fourth and fifth Thursday. Prayerfully ponder, spending **one hour** a month in adoration of our Lord. Contact Suzanne King at 269-271-6406 for more information.

  
"May the angels welcome you into paradise,  
May the martyrs greet you on your way,  
May you see the face of the Lord this day."  
Please Pray for the soul of Pamela Pontius,  
Mother of Jamie Shafer, who passed from death  
to life on March 6, 2025.

**A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar**

Jesus "went up the mountain to pray" and he was "changed." Prayer has the power to change us. This Lent set aside a few minutes each day to pray for members of your family. Pray before each meal and if you are married, spend five minutes in prayer together.

**Please Pray for:**

Robert Rasche, Randy Armstrong, Manuel

Rodriguez, Julie Sutton VanLiew,

Bill Sutton & 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 or the family member.*



**Grief Support Group**

The next meeting will be on April 4 at 1:00 pm, in the library. For more information, please call Marsha at (269)367-4403.

**K-12 FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION**

Faith Formation will be at 11 am on Sunday. Contact Fredia if you have any questions.

|   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <b>March</b>                            | <b>April</b>                         |
| 02 Faith Formation Class                | 06 No Faith Formation - Spring Break |
| 09 Faith Formation Class- Lent          | 13 Faith Formation Class             |
| 16 Faith Formation Class- Plus Stations | 20 No Faith Formation - Easter       |
| 23 No Faith Formation Class             | 27 Faith Formation Class -           |
| 30 Faith Formation Class                | <b>Last class!</b>                   |

**OCIA (RCIA) 2024-2025**

O.C.I.A. is for Baptized adults who haven't received all the Sacraments, spouses of Catholics who would like to enter the Church, or any adult who wants to learn about Catholicism & all it offers. We meet in an informal atmosphere from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at 753 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

- 3-19 Mary and Communion of Saints Gary
  - 3-26 Prayer Jerry
  - 4-02 Trinity and Incarnation Andrew
  - 4-09 Paschal Mystery Gary
  - 4-16 Wind up and questions Alan
- Please call Ann with questions at 616-374-8340.

**Living and Loving the Faith**

Join us on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 8 pm at 753 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Lake Odessa. In this weekly class, we'll uncover the great spiritual treasure within our Catholic faith and learn how to live that faith boldly in an increasingly secular culture. Please call 616-374-8340 with any questions.

**Part 3: Defense of the Faith**

- March 19 Objection to Mary and the Saints
- March 26 Other Common Objections to the Faith
- April 2 Understanding Moralistic Therapeutic Deism
- April 9 Living and Loving the Faith in the Modern World

**Why do Catholics do that? Why do Catholics give something up for Lent? – Growing in Faith**

Catholics around the world make sacrifices during Lent to remind us that God is greater than anything the world can offer. By giving up small comforts or practicing acts of self-denial, we acknowledge that every good gift comes from Him. The sacrifice service to remind us.

True love requires sacrifice. God demonstrated this perfectly by giving His only Son for our salvation (JN 3:16). Our Lenten sacrifices help us imitated this divine love. By uniting our sacrifices with Christ's ultimate sacrifice on the Cross, we become more like Him.

**OUR PARISH OFFERING – Mar 8/9, 2025**

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Adults                   | \$ 3,333.00        |
| Loose:                   | \$ 237.00          |
| <b>Total receipts:</b>   | <b>\$ 3,570.00</b> |
| Budgeted Weekly:         | \$ 3,850.00        |
| <b>Overage/Shortage:</b> | <b>( 280.00)</b>   |

**July 1, 2024 – Mar 9, 2025 Fiscal YTD Offertory Collections**

|                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Year-to-Date:                         | \$ 146,401.00      |
| Budgeted Year-to-Date:                | \$ 138,600.00      |
| <b>Overage/Shortage Year-to-Date:</b> | <b>\$ 7,801.00</b> |

*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 March 23: Cindy G. and Carole H.**  
**Next Finance Meeting-** May 19 at 6:30pm

The next Knights of Columbus meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 8**



Lucky 300 K of C raffle drawing winners  
For the week of 3/ 9/2025  
\$ 175 Nick Manshum  
\$ 50 Mike Brough  
\$ 25 Cameron Doane

**Men of the Eucharist**  
**Strengthen by CHRIST- Responding with Joy**



Hunter D. Ostapowicz  
Mundelein Seminary  
1000 E. Maple Avenue  
Mundelein, IL 60060

Oh God, hear our prayer for the men you have chosen to follow in your Son's footsteps. Teach them humility and fidelity to unselfishly help others. May their devotion to Our Blessed Mother, Queen of Vocations increase, enabling them to do your will. Strengthen their prayer life so that they may grow spiritually without worldly distractions. --Give them courage and perseverance in their studies. May the Holy Spirit lighten their struggles with their vocations, until they know the joy of being a priest. We ask this through Christ your Son.  
Amen.

**Cor Men's Group-**  
Join us for the Cor Men's Group at 8:00 am on the second Saturday of the month. For more information contact Andrew Coates at (269) 838-4418.

**WME Sharing Group-**  
We meet at St. Edward on the 2nd Friday of the month, at 7 pm in the basement. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Chris or Darla Vinton at 410-487-5226.