Orchard Lake Good News

Charting New Territory

Faith. Education. Tradition.
Fall/Winter 2018 Campus Calendar

**October**
14  Junior Class Ring Day  
20-21  St. John Paul II Celebration Weekend  
27-28  Polish Bilingual Day at the American Polish Cultural Center (Troy, MI)  
28  Open House – 9 AM Mass/10 AM – 1 PM

**November**
3  Annual Prep Auction  
6-9  KAIROS Retreat  
11  Polish Independence Day Concert & Banquet  
21-25  Thanksgiving Recess

**December**
6  Advent by Candlelight  
8  Chancellor’s Christmas Concert @ Chapel OLOL  
9  Chancellor’s Senate Recognition Dinner (PLCC)  
10-14  Seminary Final Exams  
14  Seminary Wigilia Mass & Dinner  
18-21  Midterm Exams (OLSM)  
Dec. 16- Jan. 7  Christmas/New Year Recess (SSCMS)  
Dec. 22-Jan. 6  Christmas/New Year Recess (OLSM)

**January**
7  Prep Classes Resume  
7  Seminary Classes Resume  
15  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)

**February**
15  No School - Winter Break  
16  SSCMS Patronal Feast and Auction  
24  Mother/Son dance
“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.”

James 4:10

This summer, in August, I marked my first anniversary of joining the Orchard Lake Schools as Chancellor. Looking back, I am truly humbled by the Lord who guided me here and all those among the campus community, from the shores of Orchard Lake, around the United States, Poland and Italy, who have helped show, teach and advise me.

Whoever thought a native of Poland and former student of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS) would be installed as Chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools (OLS) and be the first Polish-born one in over 50 years to help guide founder Fr. Józef Dąbrowski’s mission and vision 132-years later? Whoever thought I would be entrusted to carry on what he established – a Polish Catholic Seminary in Detroit to serve the Polish-American community? I am truly humbled.

St. John Paul II, who twice visited the campus, stated, “If the Orchard Lake Schools did not exist, it would be necessary to establish them,” and “Fill Orchard Lake to capacity; sustain Orchard Lake; we need Orchard Lake!”

I have asked myself, How can I possibly fill these immense shoes? and the answer I receive is this:

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

Much of that strength comes from all of you and the time, talents and treasures you give back to the Orchard Lake Schools. And other strength comes from those sent here with messages for all of us. I am truly humbled.

In the last year, I have tried to focus on numerous goals, particularly revitalizing the splendor of the Orchard Lake Schools and our presence within Polonia. This important work has and will continue to take constant cooperation with many Polish organizations and people throughout the U.S., including the hard work of one of our institutions, The Polish Mission.

I continue to work with the Church in Poland to send seminarians to Orchard Lake for studies and placement within Catholic parishes in the United States. Polonia and Orchard Lake are committed to this important work.

To all the parents of the Moms & Dads Club of St. Mary’s Preparatory, the Lord is truly watching over you in all the work I have seen and heard of you doing for the present and future of our young men and this campus. From the incredible annual auction each November to the astounding magnitude of the Polish Country Fair and its over 80,000 attendees over Memorial Day Weekend, I am humbled by your support, volunteerism, guidance, and passion for helping to move our educational community
to be the best it can be today and for those who join us for generations to come.

During my extraordinary visit to Poland to address the Polish Episcopate and reestablish cooperation between them and SSCMS, I met with Beata Maria Szydło, Prime Minister of Poland, and Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, Apostolic Nuncio to Poland. I also visited numerous seminaries to speak to students and invite them to come study with us at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. One of my goals is to double the SSCMS enrollment. The historic journey continued to Rome, Italy, where I participated at Mass at the Vatican at the tomb of St. John Paul II on his Feast Day. Later that week, at Mass celebrated by Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz, I gave the Homily in Polish and English, and was also blessed with the privilege of being joined by special guest Mr. Angelo Gugel, St. John Paul II’s personal assistant during his entire pontificate.

This journey exemplified some of my first-year leadership goals in reconnecting SSCMS with Poland and the Catholic Church and reminded the Polish Episcopate that SSCMS and the Orchard Lake Schools family are prepared to grow with the Church here and around the world. SSCMS has prepared nearly 2,000 priests for the Church, for service to the Catholic people in dioceses in the U.S. and lay people who serve academia and spread the Word of God. I am truly humbled.

In ongoing efforts to unite the Orchard Lake Schools with the community and Polonia, I joined so many guests at the Chancellor’s Christmas Concert to celebrate the extraordinary performances of the Collegium Cantorum Polonia Choir and Chicago Nightingale Children’s and Youth Choir, and Mrs. Maralgua Darja, plus the St. Mary’s Jazz Band, the SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary Choir and the Fr. Józef Dąbrowski Polish Language School Children’s Choir. Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz, Archbishop Emeritus of Krakow, Poland, was the honorary patron of this Christmas tradition. In the spirit of the season, I witnessed the celebration of Advent by Candlelight and the Chancellor’s Senate recognition dinner. Faith truly does bring us closer to the Lord who lifts us up to do great work and give thanks for the support of the future of this fine educational community.

Throughout my first-year efforts to revitalize the campus community, I also wanted to reintroduce Polish First Sundays, in which after the 1:00 pm Mass the first Sunday of each month, campus visitors were invited to take part in a Polish dinner in the Dining Hall. Both the Polish Panorama and the Campus Bookstore were open as well to provide insights to Polish history and opportunity to purchase campus items and Polish cards, gifts and books.

The 45th Annual March for Life in Washington, DC marked a journey in support of the pro-life movement by both seminarians and Prep students at the National Mall and march down Constitution Avenue leading to the steps of the Supreme Court. The trip also afforded the seminarians and I the privilege of a visit to the Embassy of the Republic of Poland and a meeting and special dinner with the Ambassador, Professor Piotr Wilczek.

I am deeply grateful for all those who supported our seminarians, priests and SSCMS at the annual Patronal Feast and Auction, from the morning’s Polish
Mass to the Adoration and Chaplet/Benediction to Holy Mass and the dinner and auction. I was truly humbled.

On February 26, 2018, I was privileged to have a private audience with Polish President Andrzej Duda. During the meeting, I shared with him the present state of the Orchard Lake Schools and our plans for the future. Throughout the 40-minute meeting, he asked many questions and expressed interest in visiting our campus, and I extended the formal invitation to him.

The momentum continued into March with the Orchard Lake Schools community welcoming Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, the private, personal assistant to Pope John Paul II for 27 years, to campus. His Eminence was a witness to the life of one of the greatest Popes in history. The visit was marked by a special Mass and a benefit dinner supporting the St. John Paul II “Be Not Afraid” Center in Krakow, Poland.

April was also a very special time for the Orchard Lake Schools – a time when the Ambassadors Ball takes place at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham to honor the support of our Orchard Lake Ambassadors and their tremendous generosity and support our educational community. It also marked the recognition of His Excellency Professor Piotr Wilczek, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in the United States and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, as the 71st Fidelitas Medal recipient in recognition of his scholarly achievement and support of the Orchard Lake Schools and Polonia in the U.S.

I am so proud of all our students at St. Mary’s Preparatory. There is so much praise for these young men, whether it be about their academic successes, community service, club outcomes or athletic results, I am grateful for the opportunities I’ve had to participate in their endeavors and wish to attend more of their events in the coming academic year. For all they do, and for all the faculty and staff do to guide and support them, I am truly humbled.

In May, I was honored to help celebrate new beginnings for all three Orchard Lake Schools institutions. Both the SS. Cyril & Methodius and St. Mary’s Preparatory held commencements. Six members of our seminary graduated and are moving on to play even greater roles in the Church. Some of them left their homeland in order to fulfill God’s call. And our Men of St. Mary’s are well-prepared to enter society in pursuit of their dreams thanks to the Catholic faith, education and tradition received here at Orchard Lake. And we were truly blessed to welcome Dr. Arkadiusz Gorecki as the new director of The Polish Mission, and Robert Pyles as new headmaster of St. Mary’s Preparatory. I am confident their leadership will help us accomplish the mission and vision of the Orchard Lake Schools.
One of the many things I have learned about this incredible community is the momentum it has to move forward and chart new courses. In June, we hosted the Polish Priests Retreat, celebrated the 66th Annual Founder’s Day as well as Alumni Day, and recognized Honorary Alumni at our annual ceremony, bringing so many friends and family together to help us move forward. They are proof that this campus moves the work of our founding fathers forward by celebrating our past, recognizing our present, and looking to our future in harmony with the mission and vision of the Orchard Lake Schools.

In this first year as Chancellor, I am blessed to have had the support of Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron. Our regular meetings and his valued input have helped guide me and the campus community throughout this journey.

I can’t tell you what the future holds, but I can tell you this . . . I will continue to humble myself before the Lord, and He will continue to lift us all up to do great work here at Orchard Lake. God Bless Orchard Lake!

Chancellor, Orchard Lake Schools

**Major Events in Fr. Król’s First Year**

- Installed as Chancellor
  - October 3, 2017

- Addressed Polish Episcopate in Poland.
  - Met with Prime Minister and Apostolic Nuncio.
  - Late October, 2017

- Celebrated Mass at Vatican
  - at Tomb of St. John Paul II
  - October 22, 2017

- Gave Homily at Mass Celebrated
  - by Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz at the Vatican
  - October 25, 2017

- Annual Auction (OLSM)
  - November 4, 2017

- Celebrated First Chancellor’s
  - Christmas Concert
  - December 2, 2017

- Advent by Candlelight
  - December 7, 2017

- Chancellor’s Senate
  - December 10, 2017

- Reintroduction of
  - Polish First Sunday Tradition
  - January 7, 2018

- March for Life
  - and Meeting with Ambassador to Poland in the U.S.
  - January 19, 2018

**Patronal Feast Mass and Dinner/Auction**

- February 10, 2018

**Private Meeting with Polish President Andrzej Duda**

- February 26, 2018

**Mass with His Eminence Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz**

- to Benefit the St. John Paul II “Be Not Afraid” Center
  - March 7, 2018

**Divine Mercy Sunday Mass & Entombment of First-Class Relic of St. Faustina**

- April 8, 2018

**Ambassadors Ball**

- April 21, 2018

**SSCMS / OLSM Commencements**

- May, 2018

**Polish Country Fair**

- May 25-28, 2018

**Polish Priests Retreat**

- June 3-6, 2018

**66th Annual Founder’s Day**

- June 8, 2018

**Alumni Day**

- June 9, 2018

**Honorary Alumni Dinner**

- June 9, 2018
It is with undying gratitude that we give thanks to our SS. Cyril & Methodius faculty who have retired or are pursuing other callings. For, as Peter says, each of them has demonstrated their profound gifts in their service to others. They are the faithful stewards of God’s grace who have served the Orchard Lake Schools and guided seminarians to dioceses throughout Polonia and lay people to serve the Lord in numerous capacities. With endearing gratitude, we bid farewell to:

Msgr. Francis Koper, D.Min., Dean of Pastoral Formation
Rev. Fr. Leonard Obloy, S.S.L., Dean of Intellectual Formation
Rev. Bryan Patterson, S.T.L., Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture and Pastoral Theology
Very Rev. Michael A. Woroniewicz, M.Div, M.A. D.Min., Rector

Msgr. Francis Koper is retiring. He served as rector for 25 years (1977-2002) and provided leadership in obtaining initial accreditation of the Seminary by the Association of Theological Schools. Ordained in 1971 for the Diocese of Wilmington (Delaware), he spent 44 years of his priestly life and ministry here at Orchard Lake. In addition to serving as rector and professor of moral theology, catechetics, pastoral theology, and U.S. Catholic Church History, he also served for the past 11 years as Dean of Pastoral Formation, and Vice Chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools under Msgr. Stanley Milewski.

Rev. Fr. Leonard Obloy is also retiring. He received his A.B. degree in 1973 from Borromeo College of Ohio, and his Master of Divinity from St. Mary Graduate School of Theology in Cleveland, Ohio (1977). Fr. Obloy went on to study in Rome, Italy, at the Pontifical Biblical Institute and received his S.S.L. in 1983, before pursuing his S.S.D. (Cand.). The Dean of Intellectual Formation at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary more recently also oversaw the Lay Ministry program.

Rev. Bryan Patterson has been called back by the Diocese of Brooklyn to serve in another capacity. Prior to his ordination and assignment, he studied at the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy, where he received his S.T.L. The SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture and Pastoral Theology developed a strong connection to the St. Mary’s Preparatory student body and offered many life lessons to the Men of St. Mary’s in his frequent Homilies, helping to guide them on life’s journey.

Very Rev. Michael A. Woroniewicz, SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary Rector, from the Archdiocese of Detroit, has also been called to serve away from SSCMS. “Fr. Mike” received his B.A. from Wayne State University (1981) before beginning his priestly journey at St. John Provincial Seminary (M.Div., 1985). He went on to acquire his M.A. in Liturgy from Notre Dame University (2010) and his D.Min. in Preaching from Aquinas Institute of Theology (2005). Prior to serving as Rector of SSCMS, he served as Pastor of St. Gabriel Parish/St. Irene Rectory in Dundee, Michigan, while teaching at SSCMS. Although he was only with SSCMS for one academic year, he has truly touched many lives through his ministry.
Coming to America

Earlier this year, two new seminarians left homes in Poland for their journey to the United States. They came here to Orchard Lake, Michigan, to the shores of the Orchard Lake Schools, to study for the priesthood at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. If you haven’t had the privilege of meeting both of them yet, here is a closer look at each of these young men who now call this campus home.

My full name is Michał Mateusz Petka, and I come from Rybnik, Poland, where I lived with my parents, Adam and Alina, and younger brother, Mariusz. I studied in Higher Silesian Seminary in Katowice for six years, and earned a Master of Arts in Theology which I completed while on the Theology faculty. I also had the chance to work at Sacred Heart Parish in Katowice, and to teach primary school. Here at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, I am taking courses in preparation for my priestly ministry. I am interested in liturgy of the Church, so my stay in the U.S. gives me new experiences and knowledge.

I like indoor climbing, but hope to do it in some of the U.S. mountains at some point. I also love meeting new people and trying new foods, and my adventures here are giving me opportunities to do so. In my free time, I also like reading and listening to music. I am very enthusiastic about living in the U.S., and believe that it gives me a great opportunity to serve the Catholic Church. I hope with God’s help, and prayer and support from people of good will I will prepare myself to be a good priest in one of America’s dioceses.

My name is Wojciech Sobczuk. My hometown is Oświęcim (Auschwitz), Poland. I graduated from high school in Oswiecim and studied at the Jesuit University of Ignatianum in Krakow. From my youth, I’ve been interested in philosophy, or human life, who is next to me and who is no longer there. That’s why I really like traveling and meeting people, learning about their ways of thinking, learning about new cultures and enriching my personality. Other particular interests are in metaphysics, personalistic ethics and anthropology.

I began my theology studies at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary this past semester. When not studying, my favorite activities and travels here in the U.S. include reading books and running, which I started doing about three years ago.

I was a Jesuit for three years. It was a real school of spiritual learning for me, which I owe to my great spiritual masters. The spirituality of Saint Ignatius, based on Spiritual Exercises, is an amazing tool for me, used in everyday development. One motto of Saint Ignatius – Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam (To the greater glory of God) – is, for me, a daily challenge and everyday question in the examination of conscience.

“It is more blessed to give than receive . . .” (Acts 20:35)

On Saturday, February 10, Saints Cyril and Methodius, our seminary patron saints, were honored at the annual SSCMS Patronal Feast and Auction. We wish to express our deepest gratitude to all the volunteers, organizers, donors and attendees. Devotions began in the Seminary Chapel at 9 AM (in Polish), followed by Adoration and Divine Mercy Chaplet/Benediction. Holy Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake, followed by dinner and an auction in the St. Mary’s Athletic Complex (SMAC). We are forever grateful to all those who supported the seminarians, priests and the seminary.
“Higher education was born in the Church.”

-Dr. John Grondelski

At the 129th Annual Mass & Commencement Exercises on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II and the Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake, six men of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary graduated, and a few will celebrate their ordination to the priesthood. Special guest Dr. John Grondelski addressed the graduates and guests, sharing valuable insights, including the following:

“. . . there are three aspects of your background I want to address, three aspects of which this institution prepared you and for which you will continue to need to educate yourselves. You are Catholics. You are Polish or of Polish descent. You will be serving in the United States . . . the Seminary’s goal for your intellectual formation was not just to communicate a certain fixed pool of knowledge. Rather, its goal was also to prepare you for a lifetime of learning . . . you are not just Catholic and not just Polish, you are American. You will serve the Church in the United States, and you will serve American Catholics, Polish and non-Polish alike . . . Your responsibility is to serve this local Church and to do so as best as you can. That means becoming ever more closely, ever more deeply, even more profoundly part of that community.”

SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS), a Roman Catholic Seminary, continues to offer several formation programs. One prepares men, primarily from Poland, for the ordained priesthood. The other is a theological degree program for lay people.

The mission of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary is actualized in three purposes:

• To provide priesthood candidates with a program of priestly formation that offers the Master of Divinity degree.
• To provide theological education and ministerial formation for lay people seeking preparation for other ministries in the Church by offering the Master of Arts (Theology), and Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry degrees.
• To offer clergy and lay ministers opportunities for theological and pastoral-ministerial continuing education in Biblical Studies, Theology, Spiritual Theology, and Religious Education.
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SSCMS is proud to announce the following graduates and their degrees:

- Mr. Jeffrey J. (JJ) Przewozniak (Waterford, Michigan) Master of Arts in Theology
- Deacon John Liddle (Detroit, Michigan) Master of Arts in Theology
- Reverend Mr. Marcin Wiktor (Diocese of Biloxi, Mississippi) Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Theology
- Mr. William Chmielewski (Canton, Michigan) Master of Arts in Theology
- Reverend Mr. Tomasz Gołębiewski (Diocese of Biloxi, Mississippi) Master of Divinity
- Reverend Fr. Ameer Brikha (Sterling Heights, Michigan) Master of Arts in Theology
Life at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary as a layperson is a curious thing for many people, no doubt. For practicing Catholics, forming one’s academic substrate for a career in ministry at a seminary is a normal and exciting part of life that’s special in its purpose but relatively ordinary in its form. But what about those whose paths aren’t directed to ordained ministry?

The truth is that seminary studies have a way of deepening faith and enhancing life for all people. I was asked to reflect on my experience at SSCMS, and now that my studies are over, I’m happy to encourage everyone to consider making a seminary part of your own academic and spiritual formation.

I took a different path than many I suppose, and I’m glad I did. As many in our community know, I’m Curator of Collections at The Polish Mission, which is a full-time obligation just a few doors down from the seminary building. Pursuing higher education in theology had always been something that piqued my interest, but I never thought I’d ever have the opportunity (or time, for that matter) to attend a seminary, especially not with a demanding work schedule. Regardless, something in my mind kept recalling Luke 5:1-11, in which Jesus commanded Simon Peter to “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” The Sea of Galilee in this context, is a metaphor for conversion. The spiritual masters of the church such as St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Augustine, St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta and so many others have given us great examples of conversion toward Jesus. We’re called to that same kind of conversion in our everyday lives. Whether it’s in an awesome way such as the many prominent and famous Catholic figures in history, or it’s the smaller, more intimate experiences that draws us to Jesus step by step, those conversion experiences are equal in their purpose: they call us to discipleship, and they apply to everyone from the devout to those just starting to explore Christianity.

We all know how the story in Luke ends: Simon Peter’s trust in Jesus resulted in huge quantities of fish caught, and afterwards the awestruck Simon Peter pledged himself to Jesus. Perhaps I was like Simon Peter on my own Sea of Galilee; perhaps enrolling was my homage to “put out into the deep,” just as St. John Paul II reminded us all in his famous Apostolic Letter Novo Millennio Ineunte from 2000. I didn’t realize just how much my faith could deepen in this experience, and now that my journey is done, I regret not doing it sooner.

Initially, I had taken evening and online classes that would allow me to remain focused on my work duties, while moving my studies along at a medium pace. Our seminarians routinely take 12+ credits per semester (one class is 2 or 3 credits), but time constraints forced me to be a lightweight in a certain sense, taking only one or two classes per semester at the beginning. I look back fondly at those classes with Fr. Obloy, Fr. Madey, Dr. Genig, and all the others! It was exciting to be back in an academic setting after some years away from university, and taking just a couple classes at a time was a great way to digest and appreciate the content and direction of my studies. At first, it seemed like I’d never finish, which was a bit depressing, but then I realized that I was looking at this experience all wrong. Isn’t it true that we often run through life at what seems like breakneck speed only to regret not enjoying the things we passed up? In my opinion, that’s a terrible affliction that affects us in more ways than we suspect. I saw that in myself for sure, so the SSCMS staff helped me create a steady path, and I became determined to stick with it.

From what we see in our society, it’s fair to suspect that few are willing to make the investment of time and money for such a venture as pursuing a graduate degree in theology, but the main idea of these few paragraphs is to encourage it! There are many reasons why my particular journey was
successful, not the least of which was the excellent team of people at SSCMS who advised and guided me throughout the process. Every professor brought their own rich experience to bear in educating the diverse classrooms of lay ministry students, future priests, and ordained people. And there were also plenty of smiles and laughter to balance out the quiet contemplation and study: Between Fr. Madey’s talent of explaining difficult philosophy through hunting and hiking stories, to Fr. Patterson’s comparative accounts of biblical life to the modern day, there was no shortage of good humor to look forward to at class time. Thanks to my experience at SSCMS, not only have I achieved an academic goal, but more importantly, I’ve met wonderful people; mentors and classmates whose positive influence will continue to be a blessing in my life, and to everyone who enters the seminary doors. Encountering not only an excellent academic program, but wise and joyful staff and faculty, is an experience I wish I had done sooner.

SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS) is a Roman Catholic seminary under the patronage of these two great missionaries to the Slavic peoples. The Seminary offers a formation program that prepares men, primarily from Poland, for the ordained priesthood. The Seminary also offers theological degree programs for lay people. Deeply rooted in its American and Polish heritage, the Seminary shares in the mission of Our Lord Jesus Christ and the Church to form evangelizers in the Third Millennium.

Visit www.sscms.edu
On the Road to Washington, DC

Members of both SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary and St. Mary’s Preparatory traveled to Washington, DC for the 45th Annual March for Life, right to life event founded in 1973 when a group of pro-life leaders gathered at Nellie Gray’s home in Washington, DC to express concern that the first anniversary of Roe v. Wade would pass without recognition. The very first march was held January 22, 1974 on the steps of the Capitol.

The seminarians met up with some Prep students for the march on the National Mall down Constitution Avenue leading to the steps of the Supreme Court. Fr. Król and the seminarians also had the privilege of meeting with the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Above: Chancellor Fr. Mirosław Król and OLSM student Gabriel Hull smile for the camera at the March For Life; Left: While in Washington, DC for the march, Fr. Król and the seminarians met with Ambassador Wilczek at the Polish Embassy.
Dedicated to the saintly brothers who were great missionaries to the Slavic peoples, SS. Cyril and Methodius, the Seminary was founded in 1885. The purpose of the Seminary was to prepare candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood, primarily to serve Polish American immigrant communities. Approval for founding the Seminary, as such, was granted on January 14, 1879, by His Holiness Pope Leo XIII, and SSCMS was placed under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Detroit. In 1909 the Seminary relocated to its current site in Orchard Lake, Michigan. The 115-acre campus is situated on the Eastern shore of beautiful Orchard Lake and includes a large Chapel, a modern library, Polish American museums, archives, an art gallery, as well as sporting grounds and athletic facilities, one of which houses an NHL-sized ice arena.
Welcome, Headmaster Robert Pyles

Our Lady of Refuge Parish and St. Mary’s Preparatory High School are pleased to announce a win-win administration structure for the 2018-19 school year. Mr. Robert Pyles, principal at Our Lady of Refuge for the past seven years, is the new Headmaster at the Prep while continuing as the principal at Our Lady of Refuge.

Additionally, Our Lady of Refuge strengthened its administration by adding Mr. Denny Rapal, currently the principal at Roosevelt Elementary School in the West Bloomfield School District, as its assistant principal under Mr. Pyles’s direction. Mr. Rapal has years of experience in both teaching and administration. Before becoming principal at Roosevelt, Mr. Rapal was an accomplished classroom teacher in both regular curriculum as well as gifted and talented programs. He later became assistant principal of Abbott Middle School, also in the West Bloomfield School District.

Robert Pyles brings a wealth of experience to his new duties at St. Mary’s, also largely through the West Bloomfield School District. He was principal at Scotch Elementary School, Abbott Middle School and West Bloomfield High School, one of the largest in the state. Running two schools simultaneously will be nothing new for Pyles. He was principal at both West Bloomfield High School and the school district’s second high school, Laker Academy, during changes of administration at Laker.

It is expected that Pyles will eventually serve exclusively at St. Mary’s, but there are no hard and fast timelines. St. Mary’s, Pyles, and Our Lady of Refuge agree the process will be driven by results, not the calendar. When the leadership at Our Lady of Refuge is at the same excellent level provided by Pyles during his tenure, the transition will be complete. “I have made it clear to Refuge so that the passing of leadership responsibilities remains seamless and rewarding for both schools,” said Pyles. “Also, because of the strengths of the dedicated staff at St. Mary’s, as well as the proximity of the two institutions, I strongly believe that right from the start of the process I can help make St. Mary’s an even better school.”

Our Lady of Refuge and the Orchard Lake Schools are already discussing other ways in which they can exchange more services and support, and look forward to a closer relationship as these arrangements take hold.
We continue to move deeper into our Prep Building renovation project. In late winter, work on two classrooms and the new restroom began. Upon completion of the two classrooms, the faculty will have an opportunity to review the rooms to ensure that we make any necessary adjustments as we move forward on the remaining 13 classrooms. Being able to see the impact that a few small modifications, new lighting, and trim work can make, is a significant improvement over our existing rooms. As well as the layout of the room, faculty will have an opportunity to review various interactive panels (commonly referred to as smart boards) to ensure we select the best possible platform for our students and staff. The introduction of the interactive displays combined with the wireless internet will allow our teachers to balance twenty-first century instructional practices with the personal touch and small classes that St. Mary’s provides to our students.

Regarding the new academic building, we have begun to move from conceptual drawings to full architectural renderings. Site surveys were conducted in the spring and soil samples were taken to ensure that the land is able to support the new building. Conversations among the architects, facilities committee, the Prep Board, and various stakeholders are ongoing. We continue to refine the project and maximize the potential of the facility, one that will help ensure we meet the current and future needs of the Prep. More specific plans will be shared as they become available.

Among these building projects, we have continued to focus on enhancing the safety and security of our campus and school buildings. In the fall of 2017, the Prep Board of Regents unanimously approved a measure to have a police presence on campus. After consulting with the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office and Orchard Lake Police Department, it was determined that Orchard Lake was best positioned to meet our needs. The Orchard Lake City Council approved the position in March. In April, we welcomed Officer Tracy Krettlin (with police vehicle) to our campus. We have also added two-way radios across our campus to enhance and expedite our communication. We are currently exploring various mass communication systems that would tie into the technology upgrades we are implementing across our entire campus.

We are on the verge of doing some great things at the Prep that will secure our long-term future, and ask for and appreciate your continued prayers and support as we work through these projects and simultaneously “provide deserving young men [with] the moral guidance, discipline, and education to become Christ-like models of service and leadership for the world.” (Taken from the St. Mary’s Mission Statement)
Class of 2018
College Acceptances

Total Graduates: 117

Adrian College
Albion College
Alma College
Aquinas College
Arizona State University
Ave Maria University
Ball State University
Beloit College
Boston University
Bowling Green State University
Butler University
Calvin College
Capital University
Carthage College
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University of America
Central Michigan University
Clark University
Columbia College Chicago

Concordia University
Connecticut College
Cornerstone College
Davenport University
DePaul University
Duquesne University
East Stroudsburg University
Eastern Michigan University
Ferris State University
Fordham University
Fork Union Military Academy
Franciscan University
Grace College
Grand Canyon University
Grand Valley State University
Heidelberg University
Hillsdale College
Holy Cross College
Hope College
Indiana University Bloomington

Indiana University
Purdue University Indianapolis
John Carroll University
Kalamazoo College
Kettering University
King's College
Lake Superior State University
Lawrence Technological Institute
Lehigh University
Lincoln University
Loyola University Chicago
Madonna University
Marietta College
Marquette University
Methodist University
Miami University
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Nazareth College
Northern Illinois University
Northern Michigan University
Northwood University
Oakland University
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Purdue University
Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Saginaw Valley State University

Total Scholarships awarded: $8,517,029
Average Scholarship award per graduate: $72,795

1-2 %
3-4%
5-6%
7+ %

Boston University
Bowling Green State University
Butler University
Calvin College
Capital University
Carthage College
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University of America
Central Michigan University
Clark University
Columbia College Chicago

Indiana University
Purdue University Indianapolis
John Carroll University
Kalamazoo College
Kettering University
King's College
Lake Superior State University
Lawrence Technological Institute
Lehigh University
Lincoln University
Loyola University Chicago
Madonna University
Marietta College
Marquette University
Methodist University
Miami University
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Nazareth College
Northern Illinois University
Northern Michigan University
Northwood University
Oakland University
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Purdue University
Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Saginaw Valley State University

Total Scholarships awarded: $8,517,029
Average Scholarship award per graduate: $72,795
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- Salem International University  
- Santa Barbara City College  
- Siena Heights University  
- St. Louis University  
- St. Mary’s College of California  
- The Ohio State University  
- The Pennsylvania State University  
- Trine University  
- U.S. Marine Corp.  
- U.S. Naval Academy  
- U.S. Coast Guard  
- U.S. Military Academy at West Point  
- University of Alabama  
- University of Arkansas  
- University of California - Davis  
- University of California - Irvine  
- University of California - Santa Barbara  
- University of California - Santa Cruz  
- University of Dayton  
- University of Delaware  
- University of Denver  
- University of Detroit Mercy  
- University of Findlay  
- University of Florida  
- University of Kansas  
- University of Kentucky  
- University of Michigan  
- University of Michigan Dearborn  
- University of Michigan Flint  
- University of Mississippi  
- University of Nebraska  
- University of Notre Dame  
- University of Portland  
- University of South Carolina  
- University of Toledo  
- University of Tulsa  
- University of Vermont  
- University of Wisconsin  
- University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point  
- Valparaiso University  
- Villanova University  
- Wayne State University  
- Western Michigan University  
- Xavier University
Our Athletics Game Plan

**Basketball.** The Varsity basketball team had a lot to celebrate when they won the District Championship after a 51-38 win over Waterford Mott.

**Baseball.** Congratulations to the 2018 District Champs and to the following members of the OLSM Baseball team on their CHSL Awards. The varsity team went on to win regionals and the Division 2 Quarterfinals.

*All Catholic:* Carter Macias (P’18), Harrison Poeszat (P’19), Logan Wood (P’20)
*All League:* Blake Bean (P’18), Dillon Kark (P’19)
*All Academic:* Ryan Boyd (P’18)

**Bowling.** All League honors went out to Alex Borowski (P’12), and All Academic to Ryan Langan (P’12).

**Golf.** Our Prep athletes hit the links this season with a 4-3 record in the Catholic League and 5-3 overall. Low score of the year was 154 for CHSL matches and 316 for the Oakland County tournament. The team finished 14th at the state championship. The following players earned season honors: *All Catholic:* Jack Stanley (P’20); *All Catholic Academic:* Charlie McGorisk (P’20); *All State Academic:* Charlie McGorisk. Zak Knoll (P’18) will be attending Ferris State this fall on the PGM Program. Bryce Dorough (P’18) will be a freshmen at Nazareth College and received a golf scholarship.

**Crew.** It is time for celebration as Crew earned a National Championship title with its Junior 8 on Saturday, May 26 in Princeton, New Jersey! It is the culmination of a fantastic season, from winning a third straight State Championship to bringing home medals at the Midwest Scholastic Rowing Championship (Junior 8 – 1st; Varsity 4 – 3rd), that which qualified them for Nationals. Back home, the annual Laddie Cup Regatta has grown from the match race with two competitors it was in 2009 to 16 clubs, 30 events, 256 boats, over 750 athletes and almost 2,000 spectators!

**Hockey.** Congratulations to the following Prep Varsity Hockey team members who received the following honors: *All State:* Nick Cloud (P’18), Bryce Kallen (P’19), Cole Gibbs (P’18), Tanner Beals (P’18); *All League:* Hunter Baudino (P’18), Dane Pelkey (P’18), Nick Cloud; *All Catholic:* Tanner Beals, Cole Gibbs, Bryce Kallen, Ryan Tucker (P’18); *All Academic:* Ryan Tucker.

**Lacrosse.** Congratulations to the following senior lacrosse players on their CHSL Honors: *All-Catholic:* Jace Conley, Patrick Wells; *All-League:* Noah Dailey-Chwalibog, Paul Heuschele; *All-Academic:* Tim Machnaeki

**Skiing/Snowboarding.** Congratulations to the following students who received All-Catholic honors: Stephen McGregor (P’18), Nick Santoni (P’20) and Bryce Suman (P’19).
Track. This spring, our team finished third in the Catholic League (CHSL). Great job, Eaglets! Congratulations to the team on their third place finish at regionals. OLSM qualified for the state meet in the following event: 4 x 8, 800, long jump, and the following athletes received All-State honors: Josiah Lau (P’19), Josh McCarty (P’19), Jack Rankin (P’20) and Edward Watkins (P’21).

Wrestling. Several student athletes were awarded honors this season. All Catholic honorees included: J.P. Bungart (P’20), Kyle Filby (P’19), Americao Milani (P’20), Luigi Milani (P’20) and Luke Selakowski (P’21). All League honors went to: Mason Mylenek (P’21), Mike Conniff (P’18) and Jacob Mansour (P’19).

National Signing Day. Fourteen athletes from St. Mary’s Prep took part in National Signing Day on Wednesday, February 7, 2018. It is the day high school athletes can officially sign their letter of intent to play collegiate sports. Look where OLSM athletes are headed:

Photo #1: Louis Sala, (Northern Illinois University/Soccer); Avery Truman (Madonna University/Lacrosse); Noah Dailey-Chwalibog (Albion College/Lacrosse); Blake Bean (Kalamazoo College/Baseball); Patrick Wells (Trine University/Lacrosse). Photo #2: RaShawn Allen (Lehigh University/Football); MacGregor Adams (Adrian College/Soccer); Victor Thacker (Adrian College/Crew); Carter Macias (United States Military Academy at West Point/Baseball); Luke Stoneback (Connecticut College/Soccer). Photo #3: Jace Conley (Albion College/Lacrosse); Paul Heuschele (Alma College/Lacrosse); Nick Goerrs (Hillsdale College/Football); Ben Fee (United States Naval Academy/Football)
Meet Officer Tracy Krettlin:
St. Mary’s Preparatory Law Enforcement Liaison

This spring, we talked to Officer Krettlin, a retired police officer from Southfield Police Department after 25 years of service in 2016. He is in his second year with Orchard Lake so that makes 27 years.

GN: How long have you been a police officer?

TK: I retired from the Southfield Police Department after 25 years of service in 2016. I am in my second year with Orchard Lake so that makes 27 years.

GN: How did you become the St. Mary’s Preparatory law enforcement liaison?

TK: My chief assessed my 1) police experience; 2) ability to communicate with staff and students; 3) ability to represent both the police department and the Orchard Lake Schools in a professional manner.

GN: How would you describe your role here on campus, and how did you present this to the students when you first started?

TK: My number one role here on campus is to protect the kids and staff. The second is to be a positive, encouraging mentor to the kids. I was able to present this to the kids my first week after Mass. I also told them they could come to me with any safety concern including social media.

GN: What type of feedback have you had from students regarding your role on campus?

TK: The feedback I received from the students has been very positive. The kids here at St. Mary’s Preparatory are very respectful and polite!

GN: How should one go about reporting something out of the ordinary to you and/or other campus authorities? Do you have a process that summarizes standard procedures?

TK: If there is any doubt, you should report it. It may be a suspicious incident report. Better to have information than not. The liaison officer’s job is to advise students on what the proper thing to do is.

The Mary Project

The Mary Project is dedicated to the beautification of the Marian Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Preparatory. “The Grotto was in need of some beautification and utilization improvements,” said Maureen Gross, The Mary Project. “We formed a committee and a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit to help raise money to repair and improve this historical place where, it is estimated, over 25,000 people annually visit to pray, meditate or pause for a few moments to reflect.”

“The sprinkler system was repaired, and many candles were in need of replacement,” said Gross. “We had space for 50 additional candles by August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. In the near future, we hope to add 50 more. Peter Nwoke and Harrison Ogochukwu, two of our boarding program students from Nigeria, agreed to monitor the Grotto daily to help ensure it is maintained for all those who come visit.”

Gross and the other committee members are truly thankful for the beautiful flowers (annuals) donated by English Gardens, and ever so grateful for the money donated thus far that has enabled them to consult and move forward with work from landscape architects and water management specialists.

On Wednesday, August 15 at 7 PM, a Mass on the Feast of the Assumption of Mary was held for the general public at the Grotto. Offertory monies were directed to The Mary Project.

“All proceeds donated to this project will help improve the beauty of this special place,” added Gross. For more information, and to make a donation to The Mary Project, please contact Maureen Gross by phone (248) 421-8179 or email her at mgross12@comcast.net.
Meet Officer Tracy Krettlin:
St. Mary’s Preparatory Law Enforcement Liaison

This spring, we talked to Officer Krettlin, an Orchard Lake Police Officer, who was assigned to the Orchard Lake Schools campus, specifically St. Mary’s Preparatory, as the law enforcement liaison as of April 16. He was happy to share his answers to some frequently asked questions.

GN: How long have you been a police officer?
TK: I retired from the Southfield Police Department after 25 years of service in 2016. I am in my second year with Orchard Lake so that makes 27 years.

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In addition to his responses to our questions, Officer Krettlin also shared a valuable resource called Teen Yellow Pages (www.teenyellowpages.net), a community service directory that contains critical topics and resources to help one make choices, gather information, and make more informed decisions. The State of Michigan also offers a valuable resource called OK2SAY. If, for example, a student in the state has concerns approaching a staff member at school, he or she is encouraged to consider using the OK2SAY app/website. Since inception in 2014, OK2SAY has received over 10,000 tips, preventing multiple tragedies, including planned school attacks and student suicide. OK2SAY is confidential and available 24/7. To report a concern, please call 1-855-565-2729, text 652729, email ok2say@mi.gov, or visit their website www.mi.gov/ok2say.
St. Mary’s Prep
Boarding Program
students speak up!

The St. Mary’s dorm traditions are what make our program a home in which students can feel assured that stability, culture and our OLSM family never wane. The pride we feel in who they have become is complimented by the gratitude we feel for what they have helped us to become, growing together as men of St. Mary’s.

-Eric Hurt, Boarding Program Assistant Dorm Director

“I’m a seven-day boarder and just finished my freshman year. I play hockey and lacrosse, and am involved in the Squires Club. I’m lucky to be going to school here and living in the dorm, a really fun yet structured place with rigorous academics and highly ranked athletics. The teachers and staff really care about every student, and the brotherhood among students is really strong.”

-Zeke Paquette; Huntington Beach, California

“I’m 16 years old and came here because I wanted to develop my English language and broaden my knowledge in different directions. Here, I have the same class schedule every day. In Poland, we had different lessons every day. Here, I can play hockey and work out with great trainers. The educators here help me a lot, and I’ve made many friends.”

-(Kris) Krzysztof Petryla; Krynica-Zdrój, Poland

“During my two years here, I joined the soccer team, snowboarding and track. It’s hard to keep both grades up while playing sports, but there are many study halls for boarding students. The school encourages us to break our limits, making us stronger for college life. I’m honored and proud to be a part of Orchard Lake St. Mary’s.”

-Alex; Shanghai, China

“When I heard about St. Mary’s Prep, I looked the school up and read about the culture and history, and what amazed me the most was the strong brotherhood the students had. So I came here as a freshman international transfer student. The natural environment is so different than in my country... lots of trees and fresh, clean air. The school area is quite large and looks like a mini college campus.”

-Peter Nwoke; Lagos, Nigeria
"St. Mary’s creates a strong environment for those willing to succeed. With early morning wake-up calls and after school team practice, I’ve been able to stay on track thanks to the support from staff and faculty. This is a boarding program for anyone who is looking to achieve greatness."

-Randy Rasins; Flint, Michigan

“My main purpose for leaving my country was to get a higher standard of education. Living 5,000 miles away from my family and friends isn’t easy, but a sacrifice to become what I dream to be in the future, because education is the best legacy.”

-Harrison Ogochukwu; Lagos, Nigeria

“I came to study here for many reasons, including the beautiful campus, the abundant activities available, the care and support extended to us foreign students, and many more. It’s been almost 2 years now since I’ve first arrived, and it turns out that my decision to come study here at St. Mary’s Preparatory has been more than correct... the gym and cafeteria make maintaining a balanced and healthy lifestyle easily manageable. As an international student, I want to emphasize how strong the bonds between students in our dorm have been; whenever someone needs help, friends will all offer to help in their own way. In addition, there’s so much one can learn from more senior students just by chatting with them in the hallway.”

-William Xia; China
Side Lines: Eaglets Soar Outside the Classroom

Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Preparatory (OLSM) students “work hard to gain character, reverence and fortitude to meet all challenges for the greater glory of God and their alma mater.” This is learned both in and out of the classroom. Take a look at what a few are doing to prepare outside of class for the betterment of campus, community and country.

**John Jasinski (P’19) and Trent Beaumarchais (P’18)** are Eaglets on campus but Eagle Scouts outside of school. On the side, they’ve been working hard for quite a few years to earn their Boy Scout Eagle Award.

John Jasinski’s Eagle project benefitted Hawk Woods Nature Center in Auburn Hills, Michigan. He researched the land and the family who originally owned the property back to a land grant sign by President Andrew Jackson. He also created a hands-on museum of pioneering, with museum quality signs and interactive pioneering tools to be used in a Michigan history education program.

Trent Beaumarchais approached Fr. Król about refurbishing the statue of Mary here on campus. They discussed the project, and Robin Goddard, assistant athletic director, explained the detailed needs of such an endeavor. Beaumarchais did some research and located a source in Sterling Heights that specialized in this type of restoration. Not only did the Prep senior fund the project, but also worked to help ensure the final touches, including the statue’s surrounding beautification, were complete in order to earn his Eagle Award.

Three OLSM Class of 2018 graduates will be serving in the United States Armed Services. **Carter Macias** will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. **Ben Fee** will attend the U.S. Naval Academy. And **Christian Dean** is enlisting in the U.S. Marines. We are proud of these young men and grateful for their commitment to help serve and protect our country.
CZEŚĆ • HELLO • HOLA • ПРИВЕТ • SALUT • HEI

POLONIJNY DZIEN DWUJĘZYCZNOŚCI
POLISH BILINGUAL DAY

28 Października / October 2018

MIEJSCE/ PLACE: American Polish Cultural Center
2975 E Maple Road
Troy, MI 48083

ATRAKCJE/ ATTRACTIONS:
- Performance and workshops by The Polish Theatre Institute in the USA
- Educational workshops by The Polish American Numismatic Society
- Polish Game Room for all ages
- University and local Polish language & culture programs open house
- Academic lectures and artistic workshops
- Children’s dance party

For more information, please visit www.polishmission.com
Celebrating Our Language:
_A Nationwide Appeal to Preserve our Culture_

by Polish Language Coordinator Marzanna Owinski

The United States is a home to linguistically diverse communities. In one of the latest reports, a U.S. Census Bureau emphasized the expansive diversity of language in our country. According to the report, at least 350 languages are spoken in American homes by more than 20 percent of the people living in America, with Spanish speaking making more than 13 percent of the population. Despite such an asset and potential, for some reason, we do not pay attention to teaching languages as the rest of world does. Some fear that English is going to be replaced by another language, particularly Spanish. Others say that speaking English is enough because it is used in business and is a primary language in the whole country. Yet we forget about all of these benefits the knowledge a second language brings. Multilingualism has been shown to have many social, psychological and lifestyle advantages. Learning another language is a great asset to the cognitive process and is beneficial for the society. Bilingual young adults not only do better in the job market, but also show empathy and problem-solving skills. According to the European Commission of Education, every European citizen should be proficient in at least two other languages in addition to his or her mother tongue. How come we Americans cannot learn just one foreign language at the proficient level?

World language advocates in the United States have been partially successful in introducing language programs and awards and getting some support from a business world. For instance, the Seal of Biliteracy, the award for being proficient in languages, exists in 33 states already, and has been adopted with great enthusiasm.

In the American schools frequently taught languages are Spanish, French, German, Italian and Chinese. But what about all of the heritage less commonly used languages? What about the other 345 languages? The seal is an award for knowledge of any language. It is not possible to have all of these languages at the public schools, but students who know them can be recognized and awarded thanks to the seal. There are many different ways to learn languages but it is just a matter of setting standards to achieve a required level. Local communities quite often offer their own language education programs. Thanks to these opportunities, people stay in contact with their heritage and culture. By helping these learners develop highly proficient skills, these community programs help meet the needs of the 21st century world citizen.

The status of Polish language in the United States is quite bothersome. Polish Americans number more than 11 million but most of them cannot speak Polish fluently. According to the 2000 United States Census, less than 700,000 Americans with Polish heritage speak Polish, which is about 1.4 percent of people who speak languages other than English and 6 percent of the Polish-American population. In 1948, there were almost 200,000 students who learned Polish in parochial schools. After WWII, a growing decline of ethnic consciousness caused a gradual Americanization of most of these schools. The Polish language was lost among many generations of people whose grandparents came from Poland, but did not share and pass it onto their descendants.
Today, we have an opportunity to revitalize our knowledge of the Polish language right here on American soil. This is where I play a role. My task is not only to promote learning of Polish among children with Polish heritage (and reaching a high level of proficiency), but to promote it as a second language. I take actions on the local, state and national level. I traveled quite a bit last spring, mostly to deliver lectures about the Seal of Biliteracy for Polish language in the big Polish communities in New Jersey, New York, and Chicago. I was asked by the Consulate General of Poland to deliver a presentation for the First Lady of Poland, Mrs. Agata Kornhauser-Duda, in May when she and the President of Poland visited Chicago. I had lectures at the Polish Teachers Conference in Portland in May. Attendees were very enthusiastic about the idea of students in U.S. schools earning the Seal of Biliteracy for proficiency in Polish, and saw this opportunity as long overdue, and a great way to revitalize the community by giving the children a reason to master their heritage language. This fall I will also have lectures in Michigan. I have translated flyers about the Seal of Biliteracy into Polish for Departments of Education in Michigan, New York, and New Jersey. I have been cooperating with American language organizations on the promotion of Polish language education. Right now I am coordinating the compilation of Polish language programs for the Lead with Languages website. I also initiated preparation of a handbook for the Polish language exam.

Besides promoting the Seal of Biliteracy, I established the annual Polish Bilingual Day celebration in Michigan. For the second time in our state, this year it will take place on October 28 at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy. The event program has been created to reach every age group. Its goal is to educate about Polish culture, history and science. The Polish Theatre Institute from New York will be performing "Adventures of Cheating Flea," a play in Polish with English subtitles. Jacek Zuzanski, Dream Tale Puppets founder and director, will lead the acting workshop for youth (registration required). There will be an education program by Polish American Numismatic Society that will include live demonstrations of 14th-century coin striking, and virtual reality demonstrations on the pioneer scientific work of Nicolas Copernicus. We will also offer a Polish game room, where people of all ages can learn and play Polish-designed tabletop and video games like K2, Hodowla Zwierzątek (Superfarmer), Kolejka (Queue), Scythe, and The Witcher (and many more). For adults, we are proposing a lecture on the innovation and history in Polish video game design and philosophy by Professor Alina Klin of Wayne State University, and also a lecture on the 100th Anniversary of Polish Independence. In the meantime, visitors can join a folk art workshop or have a Polish meal at the Wawel Restaurant. I hope the event will accumulate a lot of interest from both Polish and American communities. I hope to see you there too!
Rediscovering Poland

The Polish Mission is proud to have organized two educational trips to Poland in 2018. The first was with the students and staff of International Academy, and the second for our very own family of St. Mary's students, staff, alumni, and friends.

The cross-country tours spanned the Tatra Mountain Range to the Baltic Sea, and visited Poland's most renowned places, including Wawel Castle, Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa, the Wieliczka Salt Mine, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Malbork, and the European Solidarity Center. The first tour was made possible thanks to our partner, International Academy Okma Campus History teacher Marc DeZwaan. Thanks to his support, our mission to showcase our ancestral homeland was realized in the hearts of students from across our diverse community. The second tour was a bit longer, and brought together an OLSM community from ages 9 to 80.

These two trips have been the first time in recent history that an Orchard Lake Schools team has welcomed others to Poland, and it wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of Marzanna Owinski, Robert Mazur, and JJ Przewozniak. Would you like to visit Poland with us? Our tour packages are the best way to experience the homeland of our founder Fr. Dąbrowski. Whether it's your first time flying, or you're a seasoned traveler, everyone agrees: it's the time of your life!

The price is far better than any similar European tour, and every dollar helps support The Polish Mission!

To learn more about our adventures, please visit www.polishmission.com to read our day-by-day travel blogs, and to view our photos archive. If you'd like to be informed about future trips, contact Marzanna Owinski today (mowinski@orchardlakeschools.com or 248-683-0433), to be put on our first-to-know list.
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It was a very busy summer in our archives in Orchard Lake. Three groups of guests spent many hours working alongside Orchard Lake staff in the Ark building. From June to August, seven researchers from The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin Research Center and The Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw conducted interviews, took pictures and scanned documents on both existing and closed parishes of Polish heritage.

This year, in addition to visiting Orchard Lake, the visiting researchers spent a few weeks in Chicago finishing work they began in 2017 and also visited churches in the Detroit, Wyandotte, Grand Rapids and Bay City areas. The researchers’ trip concluded with visits to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and Buffalo, New York area churches.

Their goal is to create a collection of book and internet resources about historic Polish churches. The Central Archives of Polonia is their strategic partner in the United States of America. The researchers plan to return in February 2019 to continue their work.

This was part of the 10 year project connected to the 105th Anniversary of the Baptism of Poland and the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Poland. The main goal of the project is to show the effect and influence of Polish immigrants on the religious life secular culture in the United States.

Archivist Tomasz Szpil visited the Orchard Lake Schools for the fifth time. He is representing the Central National Archives in Warsaw (Naczelna Dyrekcja Archiwów Państwowych w Warszawie). His work is enabled by grants we have received since 2014 from the Republic of Poland. In total, Szpil has spent over a year working at Orchard Lake. The magnitude and quality of his work is enormous. The work of the visiting researchers along with the staff at Orchard Lake is aimed at our goal of becoming part of the Integrated Archives Information System ZoSia so that the archival collection at Orchard Lake will be available online at www.szukajwarchiwach.pl

Thank you for the hospitality to our guests.

Jolanta Halaczkiewicz, The Central Archives of Polonia
The Fr. Dąbrowski Polish Language School Celebrates 25 Years

Last spring, the Polish Language School celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Father J. Dabrowski School was founded by Mrs. Alina Paszek in 1993 and was directed to the children of Polish immigrants who were supposed to not only continue learning their parents' language but also learn about the history and geography of Poland. Over time, students who wanted to learn Polish as a foreign language, started to attend the school. Today, the school offers two programs for students who can speak Polish and for those who learn Polish as a foreign language. The school also has classes for adults.

Our school is named after Father Józef Dąbrowski who is being considered the father of Polish education on the American soil. Father Dąbrowski was not only the founder of the first Polish seminary in the United States, founded in Detroit in 1885, but also a great promoter of teaching the Polish language. According to him, every child for the well-being of his or her self-esteem should know the language of his fathers, grandparents and great-grandparents. He emphasized that speaking and teaching Polish language is very important for the sense of belonging to the nation and remembering everyone's roots. He said that by preserving the Polish language and not forgetting about the Polish culture, we also become better American citizens. And today, 133 years after the establishment of this Polish center in Michigan, our language still is heard and taught on the campus.

The school ceremony began with Holy Mass celebrated by Father Damian Chrzanowski, followed by the official program prepared by our teachers and students. The school performance was dedicated to bilingual children and almost the whole school took part in it. Two students, Isabella Kozlowska and Damian Barkas sang the American and Polish anthems. Older students performed a Polish traditional dance, Polonaise, and younger students performed Krakowiak.
Greetings everyone! One part of the role of The Polish Mission here at the Orchard Lake Schools is to develop, organize, and maintain our collections. As part of that, we invest time into safeguarding our precious treasures because those objects all help tell the story of our ancestors and Polish heritage here in the U.S. This behind-the-scenes work includes a variety of tasks that range from delicate object cleaning to heavy moving, and the tasks are never-ending as we continue to safely store and protect our art and artifacts, some of which are hundreds of years old!

While we strive to maintain and manage the collection, our primary objective is to use the objects to tell an educational story that will spark interest in the past. As such, and as our long-time followers already know, we embrace opportunities to partner with organizations that have similar missions. This way, we effect results in public education, and greater awareness of the collection. Our summer has been very busy with just that! Archivist Jolanta Halaczkiewicz has already written about our new partners at the Catholic University of Lublin and also our longstanding cooperation with the Polish National Archives. Additionally, we’re proud to have hosted representatives from The Museum of Emigration in Gdynia, and Copernicus University in Toruń to help us in our mission!

Chief Registrar Dr. Grzegorz Labuda and Collections Officer Anna Wroblewska were our guests from the Emigration Museum in Gdynia for about two weeks in August. They had sought and won a grant from the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage to conduct research at Orchard Lake that would be beneficial to both organizations. Their research program, much like the mission statement of their museum, is rooted in the experiences of migrant Poles who came to America and organized into Polish-American institutions. The Polish Mission arranged a special event in cooperation with the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan (PGSM), during which Grzegorz and Anna introduced the audience to their museum and purpose, and hosted a Q&A session that addressed important concerns for Polish history and museum education in general. Please take a moment to explore the Emigration Museum on the internet (or plan your visit to Poland!), and join me in thanking the PGSM for their great support.

Łukasz Kędziora and Iza Kiełek are two doctoral students studying at Copernicus University affiliated with the Printing & Literature Museum in Grebocin (Muzeum Piśmiennictwa i Drukarstwa w Grębocinie). Long-time readers would be familiar with our great partnership with Museum Director Dariusz Subocz, and like Grzegorz and Anna, he sought and won a grant for Łukasz and Iza to visit us for several weeks in July and August! The purpose of the visit was for them to lend their expertise and valuable time in helping to organize our collections, and to finance the purchase of archival-grade storage solutions. As doctoral students in art and museum organization, their knowledge base made a significant impact: thanks to their hard work, we’ve implanted an object accession numbering system, conducted background research on many artifacts, and have over 500 objects photographed and cataloged to be added to our growing database of the collections. Łukasz and Iza worked long hours during the hottest time of the year, so please join me in thanking them both for their hard work, and in thanking Dariusz Subocz for his support of The Polish Mission!

While there was much activity over the summer in the Ark building, more work...
was being done behind the scenes. While in Warsaw earlier this year, I had the pleasure of visiting our long-time partner institution, the Museum of Polish History for a meeting with Deputy Director Anna Piekarska, and Culture Projects and International Cooperation Department Senior Specialist Aleksandra Rodziewicz about a project to bring a moving exhibition to Orchard Lake. Łukasz Kubacki, long-time associate of The Polish Mission, arranged the meeting. The exhibition is titled Wielka Wojna Polaków (Poles & The Great War), and I’m happy to announce that this powerful and artistic story of the Polish people in WWI is coming to Orchard Lake! Images on this page are taken from the exhibition catalog. It will be displayed on new semi-permanent outdoor panels that were generously financed in part by the Orchard Lake Ambassadors and the Polish Consulate in Chicago.

Please join me in thanking all of our partners who’ve supported our mission for many years, and remember to check www.polishmission.com to stay current on announcements and activities.

Visit Our Partners Online!

The Museum of Printing and Literature: http://muzeum.grebocin.pl
Copernicus University: https://www.umk.pl/en/
Polish Ministry of Culture: http://www.mkidn.gov.pl/

Polacy! Idźcie na bój na prawy- za ziemę Polskę, za pokrzywioną!
Poles! Under the Polish flag on to the fight for our liberty and yours! Fight for our homeland!
As we completed another school year, I welcomed all our new alumni from both SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS) and St. Mary’s Preparatory (OLSM). Graduation services from both were very successful and we wish the best for all as they move forward in their lives.

One of the most exciting items that I hope all alumni will see value and participate in is the Alumni Business Directory. This can be accessed on our website and the Orchard Lake St. Mary’s app. We launched this in March, and in less than three months have doubled in the number involved. It is our goal to double the size of the alumni names again by the end of the year! This directory is another way for alumni to help and stay connected to each other. We want and need you listed so please email, text or call me with your information. Listed will be name, cell number, position, company name, state and email.

Again this past semester, we had outstanding alumni speakers, engaging campus visits and purchased an Alumni Tent for events. These are all supported through The Annual Alumni Fund (TAAF). Our challenge again is to have each class collectively donate $1,000 and add that we receive participation from 100% of each of the last 50 classes. I want to truly thank everyone in advance for their generosity and pray for your involvement in our appeal. I ask that you will keep us in your prayers as well.

The Alumni Association also needs you at our meetings of which we only meet four times per year so it is not a huge commitment. Please mark your calendars and attend:

Next Alumni Association meeting: Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 6:30 PM, Dining Hall

God Bless you and your families!

Donald J. Buchanan, Director of Alumni Relations
248-639-9699 dbuchanan@orchardlakeschools.com

Allen Robinson, Reuniting with Former OLSM Teammate Dion Sims and Former Southfield Falcon Bennie Fowler III

In 2017, Dion Sims (P’09) signed with the Chicago Bears in the off-season. In March, 2018, the Bears signed unrestricted free agent Allen Robinson (P’11), which means the Bears now have both Sims and Robinson on their roster. One month later, their former Southfield Falcons youth football teammate, Bennie Fowler III, formerly of the Denver Broncos, was also signed as an unrestricted free agent with the Bears.

Sims and Robinson played together at St. Mary’s Preparatory. Sims and Fowler played together at Michigan State University. Now, all three look to maximize their production in new Bears head coach Matt Nagy’s offense in the upcoming 2018 NFL football season.
Clouse Hall of Famer

Monday, March 26 was officially Sean Clouse Day at OLSM. He was inducted into the Catholic League Hall of Fame as a coach of St. Mary’s football, track, hockey, wrestling and bowling over the past 30 years. In his honor, the Prep gave students a complete dress-down day with one stipulation – students had to wear either St. Mary’s or Michigan State University gear.

Among his many other accomplishments, Clouse (P’84) was a member of the 1988 MSU Rose Bowl team. The Prep celebration for the Hall of Famer and back-to-back state championship track coach also included a hot dog cookout in the quad.
The Adventures of Founder’s Day & Alumni Weekend

Over the last 66 years, the annual Orchard Lake Schools tribute to Fr. Józef Dąbrowski, our founder, has been celebrated in many ways. “Founder’s Day has always been a great day for golf and sharing time with our Orchard Lake friends,” said John Neumann.

Tracie Robinson and the entire Founder’s Day Committee worked to ensure the 66th annual event weekend was filled with a variety of adventures, including:

- **Golf Outing at Pine Knob Golf Club** (this year, all in one location) – included continental breakfast, **Mass at the Grotto**, **Themed buffets**, Hourly **pontoon boat rides** on Orchard Lake, **Silent auction** (sports memorabilia), **Live entertainment** – Big Daddy and the La Dee Das, Bugs Beddow Band, DJ (Double Trouble Entertainment), **Sunset Party** (all-new ticket option; library location overlooking lake), **Cash prize drawings**, and **Late night snacks**!

Proceeds from the event support the Orchard Lake Schools in so many ways. Attendees helped celebrate our 133 years of service to our community. “We have been blessed to bring family and friends together to golf every year and return to campus for great food, drinks and music.” added Mary Kaye Neumann. “It is truly a fun-filled day with laughter and reminiscing about fond memories.”
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Founder’s Day golfers gathered at Pine Knob.

(Left to right): Roosevelt Barnes Jr., NFL Retired Football Player and Linebacker for the Detroit Lions; Dion Sims (P’09), Chicago Bears Tight End; Allen Robinson II (P’11), Chicago Bears Wide Receiver; David Talley (P’12), Unrestricted Free Agent (Green Bay Packers) Linebacker; Devin Funchess, Farmington Harrison High School (Class of 2012), Carolina Panther Wide Receiver. Not featured Bennie Fowler III, Detroit Country Day School (Class of 2009), Chicago Bears Wide Receiver.

The Bugs Beddow Band entertained at the Founder’s Day Sunset Party as guests mingled lakeside.
Thank you to all of the Prep parents for your hard work on the annual auction and the Polish Country Fair. In addition to all of the enrichment activities that they support annually, the Moms & Dads Club was able to present the Prep with a $350,000 check to fulfill their annual commitment. Again, thank you for your continuing support. We could not do this without all of you!

Welcome baby Dorian Michael Mullen into the St. Mary’s Prep family! He was born on February 28, 2018 at 8 lbs, 2 oz. Congratulations to teacher Mr. Mullen and his wife, Jennifer, on their healthy baby boy!

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the National Honor Society after Mass on March 15. In alphabetical order: Mark Amidon, Alex Ayar, Blake Bean, Daniel Brzozowski, Maxwell Camara, Kyle Campagna, Michael Conniff III, Daniel DaCorte, Christopher DeMartinis, Adam Eischen, Preston Hazelton, Zixian (Ethan) He, Rocco Hutter, Joseph Jabro, John Jasinski, William Jozwiak, Bryce Kallen, Maxwell Karibian, Joshua Kashat, Steven Latham, Preston Lenarcic, Carter Macias, Daniel McCarthy, Matthew McLain, Daniel Miller, Jack Mooney, Brendan Moriarty, Cole Morris, Christian Namy, Christian Nuckolls, Harrison Poeszat, Sawyer Przekop, Noah Sadowski, Eamon Salfi, Joshua Smolek, Edward Spengler, Michael Strouse, Jason Strzelewicz, Charles Vitek, Thomas Walker, Wei (William) Xia, Yiheng (Sean) Xiao and Dylan Yearn.

Prep social studies and English teacher Dominic Vena and his wife, April, welcomed son, Vincent Gregory Vena, born Monday, March 26, 2018, just in time for the Easter bunny.
The guest speaker of the annual *Father & Son Luncheon* was none other than Coach Lloyd Carr. He served as the head football coach at the University of Michigan from 1995 through the 2007 season. Under Carr, the Michigan Wolverines compiled a record of 122–40 and won or shared five Big Ten Conference titles. Carr’s 1997 team was declared the national champion by the Associated Press. His record coaching against top ten-ranked opponents was 20–8. Lloyd Carr was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as a coach in 2011.

**St. Mary’s Athletic Complex Skating Coaches Are 2018 Olympic Athletes!** Two of the St. Mary’s Athletic Complex (SMAC) Learn-to-Skate and private lesson coaches competed in the 2018 Winter Olympics ice dancing in PyeongChang, South Korea! Alexander Gamelin (partner is Yura Min) represented South Korea, and Michal Ceska (partner is Cortney Mansour) represented the Czech Republic. These coaches train in Michigan and spend time on the weekends at the SMAC teaching children in the community how to skate. They’ve had a tremendous impact on our skating programs. They are amazing role models. Their hard work has paid off and now they are Olympians!

Congratulations to Joseph Gusumano (P’20) who received a Certificate of Excellence from The *Prudential Spirit of Community Awards*, which signifies that Joseph was among the top 10 percent of all applicants in Michigan! In addition, based on the number of volunteer hours indicated on his application, Joseph has qualified for the President’s Volunteer Service Award. This award recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country.

Congratulations to the following *Forensics* students that have advanced as national championship qualifiers: RaShawn Allen (P’18)/original oratory; Brennan Menser (P’19)/extemporaneous; Tommy Skellett (P’20)/dramatic interpretation.

Congratulations to John Frank (P’21) for his Squires Club “Right to Life” speech contest winning performance.
Captain Emil Kornacki passed away on May 4, 2018 at the age of 97. He was born in 1920 in the town of Baranów Sandomierski in southern Poland, and received the highest military honor for gallantry in combat – the Virtuti Militari (equivalent to the American Medal of Honor) – in 1944 for gallantry at the Battle of Monte Cassino as a member of the Polish Second Corps. He also received Poland’s second highest military honor – the Krzyż Wałcznych (Cross of Valor) – for gallantry at the battle of Montefortino. Kornacki is also distinguished as having been the last living survivor in North America of the infamous Katyn Massacre of April-May 1940. During that massacre, over 22,000 individuals were executed, and Kornacki was one of only several hundred survivors. Read more about Emil Kornacki at www.polishmission.com

Sr. Judie Ann Ruggierello passed into eternal rest on Saturday, February 24, 2018, just one week after OLSM students, parents and faculty delivered the annual food drive donations to her. She moved to Detroit after seeing a mother and daughter searching for food out of a dumpster near Eastern Market. “God sent me here,” she said. “I didn’t choose this place.” Most mornings she woke up about 4 a.m. to start making 200 lunches with notes of encouragement, with the help of some friends, and delivered the brown bags by noon to the hungry and homeless on the streets of Detroit, just a portion of the over 3,000 she says are turned away daily by a shelter in the motor city. She did all this and kept a night job to help pay for the supplies for the brown bag deliveries. After lunch deliveries, she often transported those in need of medical care to their doctors or treatment facilities. “Just be kind to these people and love them,” she’d say.

Walter Bala (H’70)
Southfield, Michigan
Sep 2, 1923 – Jan 17, 2018
(Age 94)

Daniel Chrzanowski (P’67)
Clinton Township, Michigan
November 13, 1949 – April 28, 2018
(age 68)

Phillip A. Gwinn (P’71)
Dana Point, California
1953 – October 7, 2017
(age 63)

Fr. Matthew S. Kafka (C’61, S’65)
Imlay City, Michigan
September 15, 1933 - December 05, 2017
(age 84)

Edward Loniewski D.O. (H’00)
Plymouth, Michigan
January 13, 1932 – January 23, 2018
(age 86)

Zofia Madey (Mother of Fr. Louis Madey)
Lublin, Poland
Passed into eternal rest May 17, 2018

Kyle McCormick (P’15)
White Lake, Michigan
April 2, 1997 – August 24, 2018
(age 21)

Helene Megge
(Mother of Mark P’66, Tim P’69; Sister of late Msgr. Walter Ziembala)
Flushing, Michigan
1923 – July 16, 2018
(age 95)

Stephen Nestor (H’04)
Bayside, New York
Passed into eternal rest March 2018
(age 94)

Dr. Thaddeus C. Radzilowski
(Former of St. Mary’s College)
Farmington Hills, Michigan
1938 – July 20, 2018
(age 80)

Deacon Gerald Smoker (P’50, C’54)
Bronson, Michigan
February 27, 1933 – June 5, 2018
(age 85)
For More Information . . .

**Orchard Lake Schools (OLS)**

Office of the Chancellor

*Very Rev. Can. Miroslaw Król*

Office of the Vice Chancellor

*Fr. Jakub Grzybowski*

Executive Assistant to the Chancellor

*Mariusz Palka*

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Summer Camps & Internal Events

Adam Cardinal Maida Alumni Library

Bookstore

St. Mary’s Athletic Complex/Ice Arena

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**SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS)**

Seminary Registrar

Seminary Administrative Assistant

Judy Brooks

**St. Mary’s Preparatory (OLSM)**

Headmaster

*Robert Pyles*

Executive Assistant to the Headmaster

Lynda Kosco

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Athletic Director

George Porritt

**The Polish Mission**

Director

*Dr. Arkadiusz Gorecki*

Curator of Collections

JJ Przewozniak

Polish Language Coordinator

Marzanna Owinski

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*Check out our website for additional contact information: www.orchardlakeschools.com*