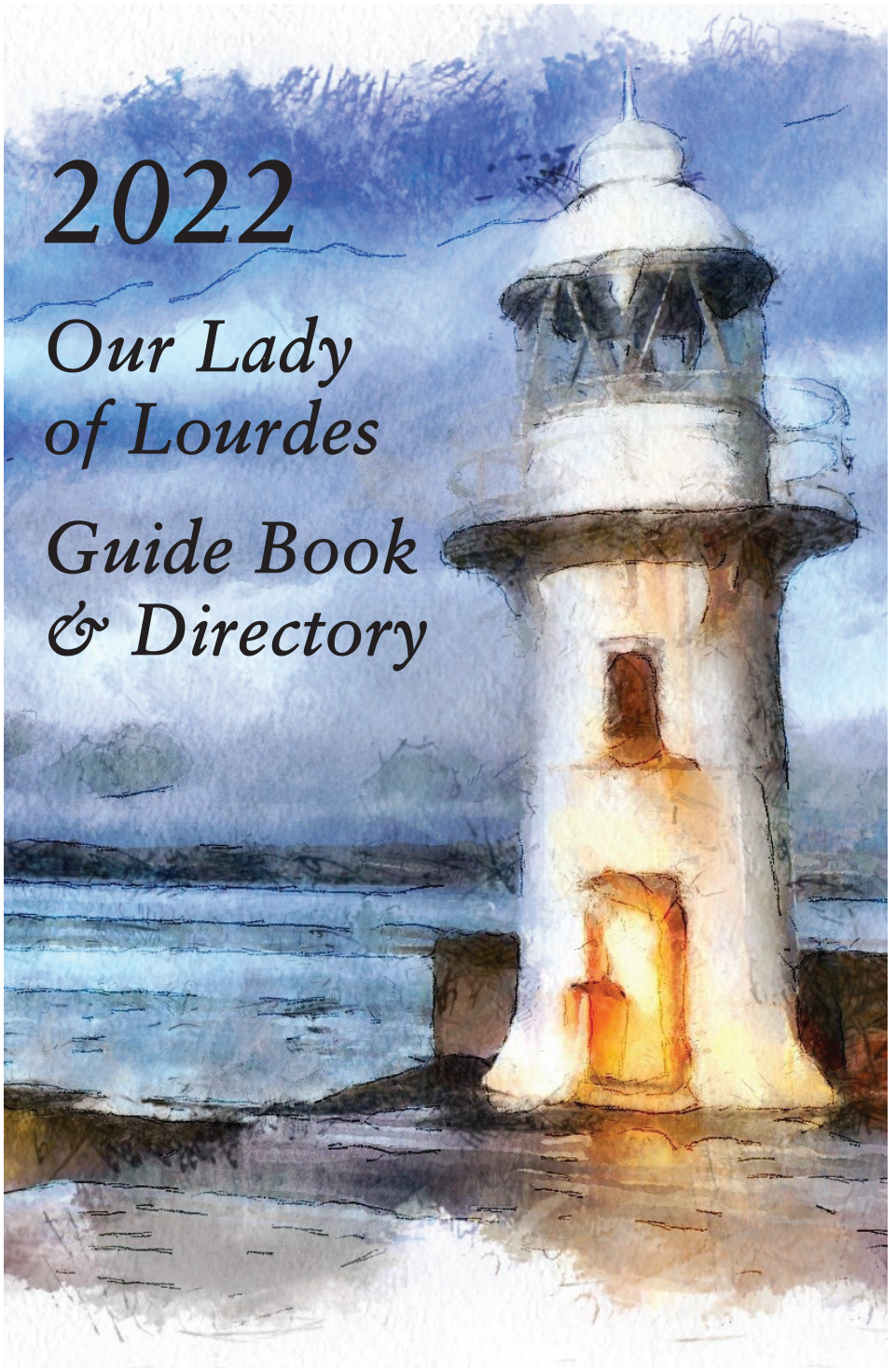


2022

*Our Lady  
of Lourdes*

*Guide Book  
& Directory*



# Our Lady of Lourdes Congregation

3722 South 58th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53220-2053  
Phone: (414) 545-4316  
Fax: (414) 541-2251  
E-mail: [office@ololmke.org](mailto:office@ololmke.org)  
Website: [www.ololmke.org](http://www.ololmke.org)  
Social Media: Find us on Facebook,  
YouTube, and Instagram (Search "Our  
Lady of Lourdes Milwaukee")

Dear Disciples and Friends of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Welcome to our parish! Churches often define themselves as welcoming. My experience of this faith community, in the 16 plus years I have been privileged to serve here, is that we really take welcoming and hospitality to heart! OLOL, or Lourdes, as this place is lovingly known, is a community in the Catholic tradition of parish. We are people who are seeking Christ through prayer, service and continuing formation as Disciples of Christ. Our mission and vision statements (below) speak well to this passion.

One of the "graces" of the COVID-19 pandemic is that we have learned how to extend our welcome. Our prayer gatherings happen virtually and in person. We continue to explore how to be a church in a post pandemic reality. A big part of this is how we live identifying as Disciples of Jesus Christ. There are many ways in which to live out this quest of prayer, service, and formation. You have in your hands the "2022 Our Lady of Lourdes Guide Book & Directory" that contains useful information to help you know who we are and what is happening. We will continue to gather in various ways, always seeking to be the Body of Christ alive in our world. We hope this booklet will aid you as we strive to thrive as members and friends in this community.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with ideas and questions. Let us together continue to grow in our discipleship, and to be the hands and feet of Christ!

In Christ,

Nancie Chmielewski,  
Parish Director

## ***Mission Statement***

Our Lady of Lourdes is a pilgrim church  
coming to know the Kingdom of God by being Christ to the world.

## ***Vision Statement***

Our Lady of Lourdes is a way station where all are welcome.

By freely sharing our gifts, we build community.

Energizing prayer and worship nourish us  
on our journey of transformation.

We are called also to evangelize and witness to the world,  
committing our creativity to the service of justice and compassion.

## *Worship Schedule*

<b>Weekend Mass</b>	Saturday	5:00 pm
	Sunday	8:00 am, 10:30 am
<b>Weekday Mass</b>	1st & 3rd Wednesday	9:30 am
<b>Communion Service</b>		
	2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesday	9:30 am
<b>Reconciliation</b>	1st & 3rd Wednesday	10:00 am-10:15 am

## *Sacramental Celebration*

### **Baptisms**

Baptisms are celebrated five weekends throughout the liturgical year within the context of a weekend liturgy. We look forward to being a supportive community in which the whole family grows in faith. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

### **First Reconciliation**

First reconciliation is prepared for and received during the second grade and is done in conjunction with preparation for the sacrament of first Eucharist. Parents and children will work together throughout the year to prepare for these sacraments. In addition, children and parents are required to be enrolled in GIFT at least the year prior to second grade. Since faith development is an ongoing journey, continued involvement in faith formation (GIFT) beyond reception of these sacraments is highly encouraged. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

### **First Eucharist**

First Eucharist is prepared for and received during the second grade and is done in conjunction with preparation for the sacrament of reconciliation. Parents and children will work together throughout the year to prepare for these sacraments. In addition, children and parents are required to be enrolled in GIFT at least the year prior to second grade. Since faith development is an ongoing journey, continued involvement in faith formation (GIFT) beyond reception of these sacraments is highly encouraged. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

### **Confirmation**

Juniors in high school or any youth at least 16 years of age who has participated in Christian formation or Catholic high school may begin preparation for this sacrament. As with all sacramental preparation programs, youth must be in formation for at least the entire year prior to the year the sacrament is celebrated. The process consists of formation sessions, service, an interview, choosing a sponsor, a two-day retreat, and a commitment to prayer and faith sharing. Confirmation is celebrated in the spring.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Anointing of the sick is celebrated on the first Saturday of the month following the 5:00 pm liturgy. In other times of need, request anointing from the presider prior to any weekend liturgy. You may also contact the Parish Office during office hours, or the Parish Director, Nancie Chmielewski, at (414) 545-4316, Ext. 113 and we will alert a priest. **Please seek this sacrament, if at all possible, while the recipient is able to be present to the ritual.** Thank you.

### **Hospital Visitation**

Because of current federal laws, hospitals no longer inform us when parishioners are admitted. Parishioners or their families need to contact the parish office by phone or e-mail so we may make a hospital visit and/or celebrate the anointing of the sick.

### **Christian Marriage**

It is necessary to contact Parish Office at (414) 545-4316 a minimum of six months prior to the date of your wedding to make the necessary arrangements.

### **Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)**

RCIA is the process by which a person 18 or older becomes an active member of the Catholic Church. It is for unbaptized adults, those baptized in another tradition or those baptized Catholics who have not been raised in the Catholic tradition.

### **Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC)**

This is a process for children of catechetical age (6-14) who are seeking baptism and Eucharist in the Catholic Church.

## *Parish Staff*

### **Nancie Chmielewski, Parish Director**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 113**

**chmielewskin@ololmke.org**

Nancie is the pastoral and spiritual leader of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. She was appointed by the archbishop and has been given the responsibility for the spiritual life of our parish, the administration of the parish and its physical plant. Nancie directs the Women's Retreat and Restore to Wholeness (sexual/domestic violence awareness), as well as overseeing the Pastoral needs and life of the Faith Community.

### **Paul Kuenzi, Custodian**

**(414) 545-4316**

Paul is our full-time custodian. His position is primarily responsible for providing janitorial services for the parish. Paul sets up, takes down and provides cleaning services for parish activities within our facility. Paul works primarily 2nd shift with frequent evening and occasional weekend hours.

**Ken Marshman, Maintenance Engineer**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 118**

**marshmank@ololmke.org**

Ken is responsible for the management, maintenance and repair of the entire parish complex and grounds. He works with the Buildings and Grounds Committee to review and assist with major projects.

**Marc Puechner, Director of Communications and Technology Integration**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 112**

**puechnerm@ololmke.org**

Marc organizes all of the traditional forms of parish communication such as the bulletin and inserts, monthly stewardship mailings, and bulletin boards as well as the digital forms of communication—bulk emails, website, parish app, and social media. He also organizes our Audio/Visual Ministry and is the point person for all the A/V tools for our worship and gathering spaces.

**Cindi Roark, Stewardship Associate**

**(414) 545-4316 Ext. 122**

**roarkc@ololmke.org**

As a stewardship associate, Cindi is responsible for record keeping of parish contributions, deposits, and accounts payable as well as providing other administrative support.

**Maggie Russell, Director of Formation Ministries**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 115**

**russellm@ololmke.org**

Maggie serves as the administrator of the parish Youth Ministry Program and serves as the Liaison for the Young Adult and RCIA programs. As a formation team member, she co-coordinates and implements our whole community faith formation program—GIFT (Generations in Faith Together).

**Jenni Sladky, Ministry Associate**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 111**

**sladkyj@ololmke.org**

Jenni assists the Faith Formation Team members in implementing all aspects of the GIFT program. She assists with the sacramental preparation programs (baptism, reconciliation, Eucharist, confirmation, and marriage) and many other aspects of child, youth, and adult ministries for our parish. She also has many clerical responsibilities in the Parish Office.



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**(262) 548-8070**

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## *Parish Benefactors*

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**Deb Steppe, Director of Liturgical Ministries**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 116**

**stepped@ololmke.org**

Deb serves in tandem with the parish director, staff and Liturgy Committee in the planning and preparation of all liturgical and sacramental celebrations. Deb also collaborates with the various parish committees and individuals to assist with their liturgical needs. Deb works closely with the director of music ministries and the Music Ministry Associate in planning music for all liturgies and prayer services. She also works with other ministers in the preparation of sacramental celebrations. Deb oversees the training and scheduling of lectors, servers, usher-greeters, and sacristans. There are many opportunities for anyone who would like to become involved in our vibrant liturgies. Deb would be glad to meet with you to explore your interest in these ministries.

**Steve Szymanski, Director of Child Ministries/Social Justice**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 127**

**szymanskis@ololomke.org**

Steve serves the children of the parish from birth through grade six. He coordinates the preparation for the sacraments of baptism, reconciliation, and Eucharist. He also oversees the Children's Liturgy of the Word program. As a formation team member, he co-coordinates and implements our whole community faith formation program—GIFT (Generations in Faith Together). Steve is also the director of social justice and serves as the staff liaison to the Social Justice Committee.

**Anne Van Deusen, Director of Music Ministries**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 117**

**vandeusena@ololmke.org**

**Julie Fraleigh, Music Ministry Associate**

**414-545-4316, Ext. 120**

**fraleighj@ololmke.org**

Anne and Julie work together to lead sung prayer, helping the scripture take root in our minds and hearts. They are the coordinators of this collaborative ministry, which includes various vocal ensembles, cantors, instrumentalists, and special guests as needed. They plan and execute music for weekend liturgies, weddings, funerals, and special events. Anne and Julie would love to meet with you and help you discern where your gifts lie in music ministry so that you can share them with our parish community!

**Maryrose Wolf, Director of Administrative Services**

**(414) 545-4316, Ext. 125**

**wolfm@ololmke.org**

Maryrose serves in a key parish management position as a staff resource in support of the parish director, fulfilling parish administrative needs in finance, building and grounds, personnel, stewardship, and communications. She directs these efforts within the framework of shared ministry in Christian and Catholic values.

## *Parish Cluster*

St. Gregory the Great Parish is our partner in cluster collaboration. We work with St. Greg's on our Parish Mission, Bible studies, and other events where we can help each other throughout the year. St. Gregory the Great School offers a discounted tuition rate for Our Lady of Lourdes parish families and participation in the school athletic program by those participating in the GIFT program at OLOL.

### **St. Gregory the Great Parish & School**

**3160 South 63rd Street**

**Milwaukee, WI 53219**

**Parish Office: (414) 543-8292**

**School Office: (414) 321-1350**

**Website: <http://www.stgregsmil.org>**

### **St. Matthias Catholic Parish**

**9306 West Beloit Road**

**Milwaukee, WI 53227**

**Parish Office: (414) 321-0893**

**Website: <http://www.stmatthias-milw.org>**

## *Stewardship Time-Talent-Treasure*

As you review the information contained in this guidebook, it is easy to see that Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is a warm and welcoming place, vibrant in faith. Our parish community knows the joys of receiving and sharing the blessings we have been given. We embrace our responsibility as God's stewards giving of our time, talent, and treasure, knowing that our sacrifices are being used to deepen our own spiritual life and, in turn, the spiritual life of our parish. In working together, we remain strong and continue to thrive.

### **Time and Talent**

The stewardship of time and talent calls us to search out our talents, nurture them, help them grow and then generously share both our time and talents in service to all of God's people. We all have something to share, that we are good at or that we especially like to do. Our parish family is not only in need of your talents, but we recognize the responsibility we have to help you nurture them and give you opportunities to use them.

If you haven't already found your opportunity, please take some time to reflect on the ministry offerings within this guidebook and let us know if you would like to join a group or volunteer for a project. We invite every parishioner to participate in at least one parish ministry each year. Putting our faith into action is at the very heart of the beliefs we profess and celebrate. By bringing diverse talents to various projects, committees and ministries, every member of our parish community has the opportunity to serve and live out their baptismal call.



## **Treasure**

The work of our parish requires your support—active, prayerful, and financial. Each one of us is important to the life and ministries that thrive at our parish.

In our parish, we ask new parish families to make a financial stewardship pledge. Our parish also asks all families to renew their stewardship commitments annually. This is done so that we can make meaningful decisions concerning our ministries and plan the programs that will be carried out in the following year. The amount each parish family gives will be different because the resources of each family are different. Every family is asked to discern their pledge through prayer and give in proportion to what you have been blessed with but give sacrificially.

Living as faithful stewards of God's gifts is the best gift we can offer. God will do the rest! We are all partners in this journey of faith! May we continue to be blessed by our most wonderful Lord!

## ***GIFT***

### ***(Generations in Faith Together)***

GIFT is our parish's innovative approach to faith formation for everyone. As its name implies, the program provides an opportunity for singles, seniors, couples, and families/households to grow in faith together. The GIFT coordinators have received extremely positive feedback from participants of all ages in this program.

GIFT takes place on 12 Sundays a year from September through April or May. For households with school aged children, we expect that you will attend all sessions. For everyone else, we would love to have you present at each session as well, but you have the option of signing up for individual sessions.

The monthly gatherings include an opening activity that is an introduction to the theme of the session and breakout sessions that allow for different ages to receive religious education in a developmentally appropriate manner. \*Session schedule and format is subject to change due to public health or other conditions.

**GIFT Calendar 2021-2022    Our theme for the year is  
“Bring All of You.”**

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Sunday, October 2, 2022

Sunday, October 23, 2022

Sunday, November 6, 2022

Sunday, November 20, 2022

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Sunday, January 8, 2023

Sunday, January 29, 2023

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Sunday, March 12, 2023

Sunday, March 26, 2023

Sunday, April 23, 2023

**Contact:** Steve Szymanski, (414) 545-4316, Ext. 127 or Maggie Russell at (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115

**GIFT Core Team**

The GIFT Core Team helps to plan and evaluate each GIFT session. Some experience in planning processes and our Catholic teachings is helpful, but not necessary. A sincere desire to explore and plan for the whole community is necessary. This team meets six times between August and May.

**GIFT Catechists**

Adults (21 and older) are needed to teach our faith for children at the following levels: K4-K5, Gr. 1-2, Gr. 3-4, Gr. 5-6, Gr. 7-8, Gr. 9-10, and Confirmation. Lesson plans and materials for each session are provided.

Catechists are asked to work together to implement each session. In-service training, safe environment training, and continuing education are needed. The catechist should be a person of faith actively involved in the liturgy and life of the parish.

If you enjoy working with children and youth and desire to share your faith, you are invited to call our faith formation directors for more details. The rewards are not just in heaven!

**Contact:** Steve Szymanski, (414) 545-4316, Ext. 127 or Maggie Russell at (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115

**GIFT Aides**

Teens and adult helpers are needed to assist the catechists with the activities and needs of the children and youth.

## ***Discipleship Institute***

The Discipleship Institute of Our Lady of Lourdes has two roles/responsibilities:

1. Forming disciples in the “way” of Jesus, who modeled our way of living.
2. Continuously nurturing Christ’s disciples by having His vision, His message, and His way of life ingrained in all our daily lives.

The Discipleship Institute continues the formation process of disciples by offering programs, events, opportunities and discussions for families and adults of the parish. This includes:

### **On-Going Scripture Discussions**

Sunday scripture readings, seasonal Scripture readings (Advent/Lent), and books of the Bible.

### **Book Discussions**

Virtually dissect books on topical issues.

### **Prayer-Spirituality**

Evenings of reflection, and afternoon or day-long retreats.

### **Parish Ambassadors**

A coming together of adults who reach out to visitors, new members, their neighbors, etc. in the name of the parish.

Continuing education/formation for committee and/or council members

Planning, organizing, problem-solving, etc.

### **Building Bridges**

Each semester we bring to light an issue facing us as disciples, “building bridges” between cultures, different ways of thinking, etc.

### **Stewardship**

Programs featuring information and/or resources for a healthy environment such as the parish community garden (Our Common Home Community Garden under guidance of UW Extension), which can provide fruits and vegetables for our food pantry or for Octoberfest.

### **Theology-Faith Formation**

Continuing education of the adults of the parish, provided by priests and professionals.

The Discipleship Institute works very hard to collaborate with other parish committees (listed below), to provide information and opportunities to be a disciple of Our Lady of Lourdes.

### **GASIC (Gay and Straight in Christ)**

Gay and Straight in Christ (GASIC) welcomes, supports, and affirms LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) persons, their families, friends, and those who wish to stand in solidarity with them in Christ. This ministry works to help the LGBTQ community find comfort in taking its rightful place within the Catholic community.

GASIC strives to provide the message that our community is open to all persons as a welcoming Christian community. We affirm the love of Christ for everyone and offer a place of worship for any who may have felt unwelcomed or disenfranchised in the Catholic faith. God does not discriminate. We do not discriminate.

All conversations are held via Zoom on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:00 pm–8:30 pm unless otherwise noted. If you are interested in joining us or know of someone who would benefit from this group, please request a link to any meeting!

For more information or to receive a link to the Zoom meetings, kindly contact Jim Wielgosz at (414) 208-5647 or email [jmwig66@wi.rr.com](mailto:jmwig66@wi.rr.com).

### **The Art Guild**

Through the Art Guild we are able to look at spirituality through art. The group meets monthly and provides open studios on various mediums. Then once a year they facilitate a display of art by the parishioners and a mosaic also done by parishioners. We profess our faith through art.

### **Our Common Home Community Garden**

Our Common Home Community Garden is a sacred space that reflects the mission and vision of Our Lady of Lourdes, where all are welcome, energizing the community and encouraging its residents to share their unique spirit and be co-investors in the outcome. The garden is managed by the UW-Extension.

Contact to rent a plot..... (414) 615-0538  
[Milwaukee.Garden.Rentals@extension.wisc.edu](mailto:Milwaukee.Garden.Rentals@extension.wisc.edu)

We invite all parishioners and their friends to participate in these programs. We especially invite young adults who might want to meet people and get more involved in their faith community. We fully support the GIFT formation program and want to be the place where adults can find more!

The Discipleship Institute Team is Harry Fleddermann, Anita Hallman Kowalski, Cathie Slater, Jim Wielgosz, Rebekah Dubrosky.

## **RCIA**

### ***[The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults]***

The RCIA is a process that can be characterized in this way:

“[The RCIA] is designed for adults who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts. By God’s help they will be strengthened spiritually during their preparation and at the proper time will receive the sacraments fruitfully.”

[The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: A Pastoral Commentary, J. Michael McMahon, 19.]

There are four periods that belong to this process:

1. Precatechumenate—Inquiry and pondering
2. Catechumenate—scripture, faith sharing, catechesis
3. Purification/Enlightenment—intense spiritual preparation
4. Mystagoga—celebration of the sacraments/Easter season

The RCIA program also has opportunities for people to share their faith with the candidates:

#### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Inquiry Team**

The Inquiry Team works with persons who are learning about possible membership in the Catholic Church. A team member shares the basics of the Catholic faith as well as invites inquirers into the faith to share their questions and understandings. The inquiry group meets weekly for about four or five sessions. Team members can be called upon whenever new inquirers come forward.

#### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Catechumenate Team**

The Catechumenate Team works with persons on Sunday mornings, sharing around the Sunday Scriptures. Team members usually facilitate sessions about once a month for the greater portion of the year. They plan the session together and invite candidates’ participation. The Catechumenate Team also meets as a group about every four to six weeks to reflect on the process and continue their own formation. It is helpful if persons serve as RCIA sponsors before becoming team members.

#### **Parish RCIA Sponsors**

Any confirmed Catholic who is willing to walk with a person seeking to become a Catholic can become an RCIA sponsor. The sponsor needs to be willing to share one’s faith with another and to put the candidate’s needs before his/her own. Sponsors are not expected to be experts in the faith; rather, they are asked to be honest and open with their candidate as they continue to grow themselves. Sponsors are asked to come to most of the sessions, which usually coincide with the 10:30 am liturgy. This involves a commitment of up to one year.

**Contact:** Maggie Russell..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115  
..... russellm@ololmke.org

## *ARISE*

### *(Association for Religious Instruction, Special Education)*

ARISE is a collaboration of seven parishes that provides quality special religious education for their parish children, teens and adults who are challenged with disabilities.

ARISE serves students who have varying degrees of learning disabilities, cognitive disabilities, and emotional disabilities, including but not limited to Down Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome, Autism Spectrum Disorders and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Depending on the specific needs of the student, he/she is placed in a specialized classroom, an inclusive classroom, or a combination of these.

To date, the parishes that have joined this collaboration are St. Alphonsus, St. Augustine, St. Gregory the Great, Holy Assumption, St. James, Our Lady of Lourdes, and St. Rita.

All classes and meetings are currently held at the ARISE collaboration site, St. Gregory the Great, South 60th Street and Oklahoma Avenue. For more information or to inquire about volunteer opportunities, please contact:

Tom & Sue Klawien

ARISE Coordinators

St. Gregory the Great Parish & School

3160 S. 63rd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53219

(414) 614-7071 (cell)

ARISEPROGRAM@gmail.com

## *Pastoral Council*

The Pastoral Council is a vehicle for the parish to fulfill the pastoral mission of Jesus and the Church at Our Lady of Lourdes. It does this by developing Catholic identity, promoting evangelization, and fostering stewardship. The Council strives to build a community of disciples who recognize their baptismal calls to lives of holiness, witness, and service. The Council engages in a continuous process of pastoral planning, which takes into account the needs and priorities of its parishioners, the archdiocese, the broader community, and the world. The Council is the consultative and planning body regarding pastoral activity.

The Council is comprised of ex officio and at-large members, all of whom must be baptized, practicing Catholics, registered members of the parish, participants in the parish worship life, especially Mass and the sacraments, and at least 18 years of age.

The Council meets 10 times each year on the third Wednesday of the month. Meetings last one hour and a half.

**Contact:** Nancie Chmielewski, Parish Director... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 113



## *Finance Council*

Per Archdiocesan Council Norms:

The Finance Council provides advice and guidance to the Pastor or Parish Director in the administration of parish assets. The council prepares the parish budget, any budgets for extraordinary expenditures, and reviews financial statements. The council monitors the financial condition of the parish, including regular financial reviews/audits as well as the internal financial controls by following the recommendations in the audit/review. The council provides assistance in the formulation and communication of an annual financial report to the parish community as required by canon 1287.2.

The council is the consultative body in all parish financial matters.

The council is comprised 5-7 members, all of whom must be baptized, practicing Catholics, registered members of the parish, participants in the parish worship life (especially Mass and the sacraments) and at least 25 years of age. Members are selected because of their familiarity with financial matters and financial expertise.

Per the OLOL Finance Council members, we summarize our responsibilities as:

- To monitor & maintain the financial status of the parish through prudent use of its monetary resources.
- To understand & respect all groups' & committees' financial needs and help them meet their objectives.
- To communicate regularly and transparently to keep parishioners informed and to invite them to play their vital role as stewards funding the parish's ministries & mission.

The council meets 10 times each year on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Meetings last one and a half hours.

**Contact:** Nancie Chmielewski, Parish Director... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 113

## *Administration*

### **Building and Grounds Committee**

The Building and Grounds Committee is responsible for the physical condition of the parish property. They are charged with the care, upkeep and improvements of the landscape and structures of our parish grounds. This committee identifies and articulates the needs of the parish in this area and makes recommendations to the Finance Council.

**Contact:** Al Marifke..... (414) 545-6109  
amarifke@wi.rr.com

### **Human Resources Committee**

The Human Resources Committee monitors the administration of parish policies regarding employment, staffing, compensation, benefits, performance management, employee relations, and compliance with state and federal employment laws. Meetings are held as needed.

**Contact:** Maryrose Wolf ..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 125  
wolfm@ololmke.org

## *Community Life*

### **Boy Scouts**

Troop 612 gathers at Our Lady of Lourdes on most Tuesday nights year-round. We camp nine months of the year, one of those being a week long summer camp in July. In that one week, the boys learn cooking, fishing, safe shooting sports, and make lifelong friendships with other boys and have the time of their lives. The troop holds fish fries at Our Lady of Lourdes during the year to help pay for camps. Our troop has the ability to take boys and turn them into fine young adults. The troop is always looking for new boys to come join us. Contact the Parish Office for contact information.

### **Funeral Hospitality**

The Funeral Hospitality Committee assists any family that requests a reception either for a wake or after a funeral at Our Lady of Lourdes. Committee members assist with table setup, serving and cleanup for funeral receptions or catered luncheons held in the church hall.

**Contact:** George Sladky ..... (414) 418-0542  
georgesladky@yahoo.com

### **Oktoberfest Artisan Fair**

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair is a unique parish event, a “fun”-raiser, held annually in October. Oktoberfest has 5 goals; to build community at OLOL, to introduce OLOL to the larger local community, to celebrate art and talent, to support the social justice issue of buying local from small businesses, and to raise funds for the parish. Artisans sell quality handmade items on one side of the campus while on the other there is food, music, and activities for all ages. The polka liturgy occurs on Oktoberfest weekend. Volunteers are needed to plan, move furniture, serve food and beverages, greet guests, support family craft activities, and assist with the basket and 50/50 raffles. Planning begins in February and event sign-up occurs in September. Many friendships have begun through involvement with Oktoberfest!

**Contact:** Barb Webber ..... (414) 377-9177  
bwebber@wi.rr.com

### **Wednesday Morning Faith Group**

The Our Lady of Lourdes Morning Faith Group is a parish ministry that strives to give members of the community a place to pray, socialize, and enjoy a bite to eat. We meet every Wednesday after the 9:30 am Mass or Communion service in the Parish Hall. Special events are scheduled throughout the year for the enrichment of everyone. All are welcome!

**Contact:** JoAnn Godkin ..... (414) 828-7172  
joanngodkin@gmail.com

## **Welcome Committee**

The Welcome Committee exists to help make Our Lady of Lourdes a welcoming place by sponsoring Community Weekend socials once a month to give all parishioners a chance to get to know each other. Commitment is occasional or monthly, at your availability. We would like to send greetings to the newly baptized and newly married, but we need more volunteers. New ideas or suggestions are welcome! Please volunteer!

**Contact:** Mary Mueller ..... (414) 327-0307  
mcjakemuel@aol.com

## ***Formation Ministries***

The parish has many ways of reaching out to share our faith and love of God. Below are the main ministries. We are always open to new ways to teach and dialogue on the truths of our faith.

## ***Additional Youth Ministries***

### **Teen Action Group - TAG**

Youth who are in grades 6-12 are invited to join other youth leaders to help plan, implement, and evaluate a total youth ministry program. Youth who make this commitment are expected to attend one meeting each month September – May (No meeting in April). Participation in the Christian Formation (GIFT) program, service and relational opportunities is helpful. Participation in weekend liturgies and prayer opportunities is expected. In return, you will come to know a wonderful group of youth and adults!

**Contact:** Maggie Russell..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115  
russellm@ololmke.org

### **Retreat Small Group Leader**

A retreat is held yearly for every grade level. For Grades 5-8, these day-long events are held at a site in the community. Help is needed to transport youth and help with the experience of the day (for example, meal programs and nursing home experiences). Retreats for Grades 9-Confirmation are one-night overnight. Your help with leading a small group of teens requires openness to their ideas and feelings and a willingness to share your faith. The basic requirement for this role is a love and respect for teens.

**Contact:** Maggie Russell..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115  
russellm@ololmke.org

### **Summer Mission Experience**

Each summer, high school youth participate in a youth mission experience. This is a wonderful experience for youth of living in community, learning about complex social justice issues, and praying together. Volunteers are subject to a background check and safe environment training.

**Contact:** Maggie Russell..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115  
russellm@ololmke.org

## **Youth Service**

Many opportunities to serve in the parish and larger community exist for youth. Teens and families are presented with these opportunities to serve and asked to choose at least two each year. Confirmation candidates have more in-depth opportunities because it is an integral part of their preparation for the sacrament. Parents are asked to join us for many of these opportunities.

Sign up is at GIFT sessions or call Maggie Russell, (414) 545-4316, Ext. 115..... russellm@ololmke.org

## ***Outreach Ministries***

Our outreach work includes the ministries of pastoral care, social services, social justice, and evangelization. Its scope includes outreach to both the parish membership and the larger community, either in the neighborhood or beyond.

## ***Pastoral Ministry***

### **Walking Through Grief Together**

Our Lady of Lourdes holds a support group for adults experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one due to death and/or any kind of loss. This group provides a safe and confidential setting for sharing and finding support with others who are also experiencing loss whether the loss is within the last few weeks, months, a year, or a few years ago. Give yourself permission to share your pain and explore healing with others. Experienced group leaders offer knowledge and guidance and will facilitate group discussion to help participants work and heal through their grief journey.

**Contact:** Parish Office ..... (414) 545-4316  
office@ololmke.org

### **Lazarus Ministry for Bereavement**

Volunteers minister to families grieving the loss of a loved one. Ministers pray for family members as well as contact them with a series of “Care Note” cards mailed throughout the year following the loved one’s death. This group also prepares an annual prayer service on All Souls’ Day to remember all the parishioners who have died in the past year and all of our deceased loved ones.

**Contact:** Eileen Dunning..... (414) 543-6114  
edunning@sbcglobal.net

### **Ministry to the Homebound**

This rewarding ministry comprises persons who go into the residences of our home-based parishioners to visit socially, to take communion, and to pray. Training for visitation is provided. An evening of reflection is offered once per year to gather our visitors and provide them an opportunity to prayerfully reflect upon their experiences.

**Contact:** Nancie Chmielewski ..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 113  
chmielewskin@ololmke.org

### **Prayer Ministry**

Prayer Ministry consists of volunteers who have chosen to serve Jesus and our community by praying for the needs of others. Everyone is invited to join in intercessory prayer for those experiencing difficulties. Members pray in their own homes in their own way.

**Contact:** Rose Riedy ..... (414) 525-4532  
Rita Klein..... (414) 543-2726

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This is an inspiring movement for interested persons to knit or crochet and pray for others in need. The finished prayer shawls are blessed at a weekend liturgy and taken to the shawl recipient by a home visitor. The shawl becomes a tangible expression of your prayer, and it fosters a greater connection between the community and those in need.

**Contact:** Parish Office ..... (414) 545-4316  
office@ololmke.org

## ***Social Services***

### **Lourdes Food Pantry**

St. Vincent de Paul Society administers the food pantry which provides non-perishable food items to those in need in the Lourdes community. This assistance is made possible by the food and monetary donations of our congregation. The pantry is located in Room 7 and is open every other Tuesday from 3:00 pm-4:30 pm.

**Contact:** Sharon Piotrowski ..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 121

### **Outreach to Haiti**

The parish has established a twinning relationship with Outreach to Haiti in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The twinning committee works to educate the parish community about the plight of the Haitian people and the work of Outreach to Haiti. Additionally, it holds a craft sale of Haitian-made gifts to raise funds for our twinning efforts and gathers a small number of parishioners to travel to Port-au-Prince each year to visit the Outreach to Haiti.

**Contact:** Ralph Stewart..... (414) 412-5842  
rael1956@sbcglobal.net

### **St. Ben's Meal Program**

Volunteers representing OLOL serve a complete meal at St. Benedict the Moor Parish on the second Wednesday of each month. Volunteers participate by cooking and serving the meal or by donating food or baked goods.

**Contact:** Mel and Joan Hynek..... (414) 427-1450  
mhynek@wi.rr.com or jhynek@wi.rr.com

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society serves the parish and its neighbors through a variety of service projects, including filling requests for food, furniture, and other necessities; and addressing various needs of our parishioners.

**Contact:** Parish Office ..... (414) 545-4316  
office@ololmke.org

## *Social Justice*

### **Human Concerns Committee**

Connects with various outreach activities sponsored by the parish. Members work toward assisting the less fortunate of the greater Milwaukee area by providing help and support to local agencies which feed, shelter, advise, and assist our neighbors in need.

**Contact:** Parish Office ..... (414) 545-4316  
office@ololmke.org

### **Social Justice Committee**

Formed in 2007, The Social Justice Committee (SJC) offers a venue for individuals who want to become more involved in improving the lives of the less fortunate in our society. The committee has partnered with other parishes located in southeastern Wisconsin. The committee addresses issues that affect many Americans today. During the past several years, committee members have been working to educate parishioners on human trafficking, racism, fair trade, affordable healthcare, immigration reform, and environmental concerns. The SJC seeks to explore and share the social teachings of the church clearly and comprehensively so that its principles can help shape our choices and actions. Together we learn and explore links between faith and life, and between theology and ethics. The SJC meets the second Thursday of the month (no meetings in July or August). The meeting date or location may change occasionally, so always check the calendar.

**Contact:** Parish Office ..... (414) 545-4316  
office@ololmke.org

## *Worship Ministries*

### *Music Ministry*

We are blessed with many talented singers and instrumentalists who share their gifts to enliven and beautify our liturgies. Music ministers enjoy collaborating with one another and growing in faith and community through service to the parish.

**Contact:** Anne Van Deusen, Director of Music Ministry, to discern where you can best share your gifts.

(414) 545-4316, Ext. 117.....vandeusena@ololmke.org

### **Cantors**

Cantors function as the main song leader and psalmist at each liturgy. They are experienced singers who prepare independently for their ministry and are scheduled based on individual availability.

### **Sunday Choir**

For music lovers of all ages. This group generally leads music at the 10:30 Sunday Mass. Rehearsals currently run Sept-May, 3:30-5pm on Thursday afternoons.



### **Small Vocal Ensembles**

This is an open opportunity for creating new groups, which may include women, men, families, GIFT participants, etc. Come join us as we discover new ways to pray through song. Rehearsals will be scheduled according to the needs of each group.

### **Resurrection Choir**

This ensemble provides music ministry for funeral liturgies. Rehearsals are held as needed throughout the year. Resurrection Choir members are “on call” for whenever their schedule permits them to serve. Instrumentalists are also welcome.

### **Instrumentalists**

A wide variety of instrumentalists enhance the diverse musical styles used in our repertoire. Instruments can include, but are not limited to, piano, guitar, bass, percussion, violin, flute, clarinet, trumpet, and French horn. Preparation outside of liturgy is required.

### **Polka Mass Ensemble**

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair is an annual Lourdes tradition held in mid-October, highlighting a Polka Mass at one of the liturgies. This ensemble includes a variety of singers and instrumentalists.

### **Sound Board Ministers**

If you have a good ear for sound quality and enjoy simple technology, consider serving as a soundboard operator. Using our iPad, operators can sit in the congregation with their families, and adjust sound levels from their regular seat at Mass.

## ***Liturgical Ministries***

Liturgy is often cited as one of the “treasures” that draws people to worship at Our Lady of Lourdes: The music, preaching, rituals, and creative approach to liturgy all contribute to provide communal prayer that speaks to the heart, mind, body, and soul. As the Vatican II Document on the Sacred Liturgy states: “Liturgy is the work of the people!” The spirit of worship we experience, and treasure here would simply not be possible without the “work” of many, many hands.

We invite you to become a part of what makes Our Lady of Lourdes a dynamic and faith-filled community by checking out the many ministry opportunities listed below.

Contact for the following ministries, unless otherwise stated is:

Deb Steppe ..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 116  
stepped@ololmke.org

### **Liturgy Planning Team**

Members of the Liturgy Planning Team meet to prepare all seasonal, sacramental and feast day celebrations. We welcome a diversity of members and request only that you have a love of liturgy and a willingness to share your creative spirit.

**Scheduling:** A yearly calendar is prepared, and the team generally meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm.

### **Liturgical Art and Environment**

With the various seasons comes the need to prepare our worship space to reflect the seasonal changes and celebrations. If you have a flair for art and design, please consider sharing your gifts with your parish community.

**Scheduling:** A flexible calendar of dates and times is prepared and available to anyone interested in participating in this ministry. These dates are also posted in the bulletin and on our website.

### **Lectors (Minister of the Word)**

Lectors have a love for the scriptures and are at ease speaking in public. Training is provided on an individual basis.

**Scheduling:** Schedules are prepared four times a year and based upon your availability and preference of liturgy.

### **Eucharist Ministers**

Eucharistic Ministers help with the distribution of the bread and wine during the Communion rite.

Training is available for everyone.

**Scheduling:** The tradition at our parish is to make this ministry available to everyone. For this reason, no formal schedule is prepared. This ministry is filled on a “first come, first served” basis at each liturgy.

### **Altar Servers**

As a server you assist the presider in a variety of ways at liturgy. This ministry welcomes both male and female of “all ages,” including those who have received their first Eucharist, teens, and adults.

Training is required and provided. New servers are always paired with an experience server until they are ready to serve on their own.

**Scheduling:** Schedules are generally prepared four times a year and based upon your availability and liturgy preference.

### **Sacristan-Servers for Funeral Liturgies**

Responsibilities include setting up for liturgy, assisting the presider during liturgy, and putting things away afterward. Anyone, 16 years of age or older, is welcome to this ministry.

Training is provided. You would serve with an experienced minister until you are ready to serve on your own.

**Scheduling:** Funeral liturgies are scheduled at various times, including mornings and early evenings. You would be contacted to serve based upon your availability.

## **Weekend Sacristan**

Sacristans prepare for liturgy. This can include opening doors, turning on lights, lighting candles, setting out bread and wine, etc. At the end of liturgy, the sacristan puts things away in readiness for the next liturgy. The sacristan generally arrives one hour before liturgy begins and remains one half hour after liturgy.

Training is provided, and new sacristans work with experienced sacristans until they feel ready to serve on their own.

**Scheduling:** Schedules are based upon individual availability and liturgy preference.

## **Sacristy Helper**

If you like to work “behind the scenes,” this ministry could be for you. Duties include keeping inventory of sacristy supplies, watering plants, and maintaining holy water fonts.

Training is provided.

**Scheduling:** The time commitment is approximately one hour per week and is based upon your personal availability.

## **Ministers of Hospitality (Greeter/Ushers)**

This ministry offers the opportunity to greet parishioners and guests who come to worship at Our Lady of Lourdes. Hospitality ministers offer our guests the first impression of our community. People often join our parish due to the welcoming presence of our greeter-ushers. The ability to interact with people in a friendly and helpful way is a key quality for this ministry.

Training involves working with an experienced greeter-usher at any liturgy. Scheduling is worked out between the hospitality ministers for each liturgy.

## **Ministry of Sacred Movement**

This ministry literally “embodies” prayer through movement and has a long-standing history at Our Lady of Lourdes. People of all ages and ability, male and female, are welcome to participate. Based upon your ability and desire, this ministry can include incense, banners, gestures, group movement, individual dance, and choreography.

Training and rehearsals are provided by the coordinator, Rosalita Villa. Scheduling is done according to your availability.

**Contact:** Rosalita Villa..... (414) 305-1639  
divinemovement@sbcglobal.net

## **Liturgical Drama**

There are occasions when the scriptures are presented in a dramatic form. In addition to the spoken word, music, movement and gestures, a dramatic presentation can provide a new perspective and understanding of familiar stories. This ministry invites and includes a wide variety of abilities. Some roles require memorization while others require no speaking at all. No matter your ability, people of all ages are invited to participate in this ministry. You need only bring a love of God's word and a desire to bring that love to life through drama. Training: Rehearsals are always a part of this ministry where you would be working with the drama coordinator.

**Scheduling:** Since drama presentations are not regularly scheduled, a call for drama ministers is made by the drama coordinator.

## **Liturgical Drama Coordinator**

If you are a person with a drama background and are looking to use your experience and talent with our community, this ministry is for you. You would work in tandem with the director of liturgy and the Liturgy Planning Team.

## **Wedding Assistant**

This is a great ministry for married couples as well as individuals. Responsibilities can include assisting the presider at the wedding rehearsal and wedding ceremony as needed.

Training involves working with the director of liturgy or another wedding assistant until you are confident on your own.

**Scheduling:** A yearly calendar of weddings is prepared, and assistants are assigned according to availability.

## **Liturgical Assistants**

Liturgical assistants work "behind the scenes" to help with a variety of needs which can include collating Orders of Worship, preparing the worship aide using Publisher software, filing, and other supportive activities. Scheduling is very flexible and based upon your availability.

## **Worship Space Audio/Visual Ministry**

Full, active, and conscious participation in the liturgy is a call to all of us from the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. We are urged to engage in the liturgy through various means that speak to all people. The A/V ministry employs technology to encounter Mass in new ways. We are looking for people who like to dabble in various forms of visual media, such as video, sound, and PowerPoint. This is a great way to be involved with the Mass and indulge your inner computer "geek" at the same time. Training on our equipment will be provided.

**Contact:** Marc Puechner..... (414) 545-4316, Ext. 112  
puechnerm@ololmke.org