

**JUN 25, 2023**

**12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



# Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

... a pilgrim church  
coming to know  
the kingdom of God  
by being Christ  
to the world.

## NOTES FROM DEB

### Gratitude & Transition

It is with great joy that I begin my tenure as the next parish director at Our Lady of Lourdes! I continue to be deeply touched at the support and prayers that you all have given me. Thank you.

I am profoundly grateful to Nancie Chmielewski. Over the past 17 years, she has been a mentor, a guide, a friend, and a beloved co-worker in ministry. She shepherded the parish with grace, humility, and wisdom. While I can never fill her shoes (high heels? me???), I hope to continue on the path that she has created. No matter where her retirement journey takes her, Nancie will always be welcome here at Our Lady of Lourdes.

I am hoping that the transition from Nancie's leadership to mine will be seamless, but it will still be a transition. I may do things a little differently. I most certainly will make some mistakes and forget things that should be remembered. I ask your indulgence and continued prayers as I take on this new role.

My family joined Our Lady of Lourdes 23 years ago. Things were different then—the worship space had pews all facing in one direction, we had a priest pastor, and many beautiful souls who befriended us then are now enjoying their heavenly reward. What has not changed is the spirit of this community. The kindness, the hospitality, and the passionate way we pray continues. Let's all take these next steps together as we continue to build God's kin-dom!

Your new shepherd,  
Deb Steppe

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### EUCCHARIST:

**SAT** 5:00 PM

**SUN** 8:00 AM | 10:30 AM

**WED** 9:30 AM

### PARISH DIRECTOR

**DEB STEPPE**

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### CONNECT:

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## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### Parish Support - June 2023

	ACTUAL as of 6/9/2023	BUDGETED for June
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$27,246.25	\$61,000.00
Offertory .....	\$815.04	\$2,400.00

### Budget Updates Fiscal Year: June 2023

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income .....	\$871,724.36	\$841,105.00
Op. Expenses .....	\$799,210.51	\$840,591.63

### Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/22 ..	\$110,693.46
Donations.....	\$34,557.16
Expenses.....	\$8,768.92
<b>Balance (6/9/2023)</b>	<b>\$136,481.70</b>

THANK YOU!

*Our Lady of Lourdes is greatly  
blessed with your continued  
generous support  
of all our ministries!*

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, June 25

Hall of Honor	
8:00 am Liturgy	Church
10:30 am Liturgy	Church

### Monday, June 26

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 3
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6

### Tuesday, June 27

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 3
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
10:30 am SVDP Mtg.	Rm 4
1:00 pm ART Guild Mtg.	Rm 4
6:00 pm Finance Council Mtg.	Virtual

### Wednesday, June 28

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 3
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
9:30 am Communion Service	Church
10:15 am Morning Faith Group	Hall BC
6:45 pm Boy Scout Troop 612	Hall A

### Thursday, June 29

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 3
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6

### Friday, June 30—Office Closed

### Saturday, July 1

Hall of Honor	
11:00 am Walking Through Grief Together	Rm 9
5:00 pm Liturgy	Church

### Sunday, July 2

Hall of Honor	
8:00 am Liturgy	Church
10:30 am Liturgy	Church
6:00 pm Mass Watch Party	Virtual



**The Parish Office will be closed  
Monday, July 3, and Tuesday, July 4.**

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of  
Mary Jo Canar and all others who  
have died. Please keep them in your  
prayers

### In Memoriam

In loving memory of  
Mary Jo Canar  
From  
Leon & Carole Burzynski

In loving memory of  
Rosalind Boville  
From  
Bruce & Therese Zivney

### Grief of Loss Support

The Walking Through Grief  
Together group will meet twice next  
month, July 1 and July 15 in Room 9  
starting at 11:00 am. No need to  
register. This group provides a safe  
setting for sharing and support with  
others going through loss.

## OUTREACH

### From St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, we hear  
Jesus say: "Everyone who  
acknowledges me before others I  
will acknowledge before my  
heavenly Father."

This week, know that you will  
bringing hope to the poor by your  
gift to the Society of St. Vincent de  
Paul.

### Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: June 20 and July 18

Most needed items: bottled juice,  
condensed soup, canned meats, and  
Spaghetti sauce. Please watch the  
expiration dates and non-perishable  
items only. Thank you for the  
generous support of the pantry. At  
this time we are overwhelmed with  
bags, please keep for a later date.

Learn more at  
[ololmke.org/food-pantry](http://ololmke.org/food-pantry).

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Jesus tells his disciples: "And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul." In our country today, we do not need to be slain for what we say when we are speaking truth to power. But there may be undesirable consequences—an argument, loss of a friend, loss of a job, etc. The question is whether our faith, our belief in our truth is strong enough to say or do what we know is the right thing. Compromising our integrity to make things easier for ourselves both allows the evil to continue unchallenged and results in the death of our soul.

## SPOTLIGHT

### Gospel Meditation

When I was in middle school, there were times I didn't want my fellow students to see my parents drop me off or pick me up in the school parking lot. I was embarrassed of my parents. Why? I have no idea. Maybe it was our station wagon. Or I didn't want to look like a little kid. But in retrospect that was a silly thing to do. I was a kid. And I had two parents who loved me and had built a wonderful family. I was afraid of the other kids' judgment. How silly! I should have been afraid of forgetting or downplaying my family, which is where my identity had its deep roots.

This is a way to understand Jesus' words to his disciples this Sunday, when he says, "Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." Fear, in this sense, refers to where we find our deepest identity and our highest love. That's why Jesus says next that when we acknowledge him before others, he will acknowledge us before the Father. It doesn't mean we're brash or boastful. But rather we unhesitatingly and humbly embrace our identity as followers of Jesus and children of God the Father. After all, if we love who we are and where we come from, who cares what the other kids think about us?

Father John Muir ©LPi

## FORMATION

### GIFT 2023/2024

The first day of summer is fast approaching but the Formation Team already is planning for fall. GIFT registration information will be available soon. In the meantime, fill out your fall calendar with the following GIFT sessions:

- Session One: September 10, 2023
- Session Two: October 1, 2023
- Session Three: October 22, 2023
- Session Four: November 5, 2023
- Session Five: November 19, 2023
- Session Six: December 10, 2023
- Session Seven: January 14, 2024
- Session Eight: February 4, 2024
- Session Nine: **Saturday**, March 2, 2024
- Session Ten: March 17, 2024
- Session Eleven: April 7, 2024
- Session Twelve: April 28, 2024

## DISCIPLESHIP

### Fear No One

This weekend, the readings call each one of us, as disciples of Christ, to fear no one. We are called to be bolder than ever in our witnessing of the Gospel message as we encounter the world today.

Fear is often our worst enemy.

External forces will try to mute our voices and paralyze our bodies from proclaiming the message of love that the Gospel has to offer to all. We must not allow fear to limit the message to only a "chosen" few. The Gospel is meant for all!

No person is undeserving of God's love. The Holy Spirit moves us to share the Good News with all peoples and proclaim it, even from the housetops!



## WORSHIP

### Thoughts on Today's Gospel

In today's Gospel, we are reminded in the clearest way to hold fast to our faith by holding fast to Christ. We hold fast to Christ by holding fast to one another, carrying one another, believing in one another, and loving one another—all at the times when it feels impossible to continue. Today, we are told that stark and startling truth: The Cross awaits us all, along with some torment along the way. But the Cross is bigger than all of that, and the love of God is stronger than all of it – even stronger than death.

Many have gone before us in Christ, and may many come after us, and may we all gather as One in that same Christ, believing in the promise and sharing with all those around us.

Excerpted from "So Do Not Be Afraid" by Fran Rossi Szpylczyn

### Scripture Readings for July 1/2

#### 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a | Psalm 89 | Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11 | Matthew 10:37-42



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