

SEP 10, 2023

23rd 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

Remembering 9-11 and Praying for Peace

This week we mark the anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. I am finding myself remembering not only the attacks but what happened afterward. I remember contacting my siblings to let everyone know that our eldest brother who lives in Washington DC, and our youngest brother who at the time worked in a high-rise office building, were both safe. I remember members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats arm in arm singing "God Bless America" on the steps of the Capitol that night. I remember the unity I felt in our country. We were united in our sadness, united in our grief for so many lives lost, and united in our love for our country. It seemed for a time that the political rancor somewhat abated.



On this 22nd anniversary of the attack, let's hold in prayer those who are grieving someone who was lost on that day. Let us pray for the first responders and all who experienced trauma because of the attacks.

Most importantly, let us work for peace—starting with our own hearts. Let's keep our political dialogue respectful. Let's give one another the benefit of the doubt. And let us all work to create God's kin-dom in our world.

Your 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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FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Parish Support - August 2023

	ACTUAL as of 8/31/2023	BUDGETED for Aug.
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$63,032.97	\$63,000.00
Offertory	\$2,523.51	\$2,400.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: August 2023

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$140,335.11	\$135,248.34
Op. Expenses	\$124,862.20	\$146,878.59

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/23 ..	\$128,503.08
Donations.....	\$5,380.26
Expenses.....	\$0.00
Balance (8/31/2023)	\$133,908.34

THANK YOU!

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 10

Boy Scout Popcorn Sale	
8:00 am Liturgy	Church
9:00 am GIFT Session 1	Hall
10:30 am Liturgy	Church

Monday, September 11

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
10:00 am Catholic Parishes Against Racism	Rm 10
11:30 am Resurrection Choir	Rm 9
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm Building & Grounds	Rm 3

Tuesday, September 12

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
1:00 pm ART Guild	
Open Studio	Rm 4
2:00 pm Blood Drive	Hall
3:00 pm Food Pantry	Rm 7

Wednesday, September 13

7:00 pm St. Ben's Meal Prep	Kitchen
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
9:30 am Communion Service	Church
10:00 am Alverno Nurses	Rm 10
10:15 am Morning Faith Group	Hall BC
6:30 pm Youth Group	Rm 6
6:45 pm Boy Scout Troop 612	Hall A
7:00 pm GASIC	Virtual
7:00 pm Oktoberfest Mtg.	Rm 3

Thursday, September 14

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
3:30 pm Spirit & Grace Reh.	Church
6:30 pm The Chosen	Hall A
6:30 pm The Chosen	Virtual
6:30 pm Social Justice Cmte.	Rm 3

Friday, September 15—Office Closed

Saturday, September 16

Boy Scout Popcorn Sale	
10:30 am Black Lives Matter Witness Event	Field
11:00 am Walking Through Grief Together	Rm 6
5:00 pm Liturgy	Church

Sunday, September 17

Boy Scout Popcorn Sale	
8:00 am Liturgy	Church
9:00 am Sacrament Prep	Hall
10:30 am Liturgy	Church

COMMUNITY LIFE

In Memoriam

In loving memory of
Harris and Virginia Weller
From
Their children & grandchildren

Oktoberfest Meeting

September 13

7:00 pm—8:00 pm

Topic: Publicity Push

It is time to invite neighbors, other
parishes and communities.

St. Ben's Meal Program

We serve at St. Benedict the
Moor's meal program on
Wednesday, September 13. Please
bring food donations to the Parish
Office on Monday, Tuesday, or no
later than 3:00 pm on Wednesday.
ololmke.org/st-bens/

OUTREACH

Blood Drive

Tuesday, September 12

2:00 pm-6:00 pm

Sign-up after any Mass or online.

ololmke.org/blood-drives.

Every person who donates will
receive a Versiti bottle koozie and
as an added bonus a coupon from
Culver's for a pint of custard. Give a
pint; get a pint!

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: September 12 and 26

Most needed items: spaghetti
sauce, ready to serve soup,
condiments, and peanut butter.
Please watch the expiration dates
and non-perishable items only.

ololmke.org/food-pantry.

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is overlooking mistakes and letting go of resentments.

Forgiveness frees us from the needless pain of reliving a hurt over and over. It doesn't make a wrong choice right; it brings the generosity of spirit to release it. Forgiveness can heal even the most grievous offense. Self-forgiveness moves us forward, ready to do things differently, with compassion for ourselves and faith that we can change. It opens the door of hope.

In the Gospel, Jesus lays out a plan which involves the community in reaching forgiveness. The source of this confidence is found in the presence of the Lord in those gathered. In their ministry of forgiveness and in their petition of the Lord's aid, the community of believers experiences the presence of Jesus in their midst. How does our sacrament of reconciliation help us find forgiveness for ourselves and others?

SPOTLIGHT

Open Wide Our Hearts—Invitation to Action

Do you want to participate in an **action** in support of the black members of our community? If so, join us on **Saturday, September 16, 10:30 am-11:30 am** in a witness event led by the movement **Black Lives Are Sacred**. We will stand in solidarity for racial justice and human dignity as we gather on the corner of **58th and Forest Home Avenue**, with a nine-minute kneeling segment at 11:00 am in memory of George Floyd. This is not a protest event, just a group of folks from various faiths and backgrounds who feel strongly about the racist conditions in our society.

Blessed are those who act justly. Psalm 106:3
Our Lady of Lourdes Social Justice Committee

FORMATION

One down, eleven to go!

We officially have the first GIFT session of the year under our belts. A huge round of applause to our presenter Deb Steppe and an equally large thank you to all of those who attended. Join us for our next session on Sunday, October 1, lead by MKE Spiritual Directors.

Don't forget to bring your tumbler to take advantage of the coffee and juice bar!



DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship Institute Events

Gay and Straight in Christ (GASIC)

Wednesday, September 13

Via Zoom

7:00 pm

Gay and Straight in Christ is a Christian-based fellowship group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, their families, friends, allies and supporters. We are celebrating 10 years of providing a safe environment where ideas can be exchanged without fear or judgment. We share our unique gifts and perspectives openly. All are held in confidence.

Visit us on the parish webpage at ololmke.org/gasic or contact the Parish Office to register for the Zoom link to the discussion.

WORSHIP

Thoughts on Today's Gospel

In today's gospel, Jesus calls his disciples to forgive "from your heart"—a practice of transformation. Forgiveness is not about forgetting, despite what the popular adage says. Real harm has been perpetrated. Jesus would never want a person to put themselves back in an abusive or dangerous situation. Rather the act of forgiving frees a person to begin healing. Forgiveness does not always happen overnight. Sometimes the response is immediate, like when the king in today's gospel forgave the servant on the spot. But oftentimes, forgiveness is a longer process of acknowledging the harm, working through the feelings and thoughts that were provoked and praying for God's help.

Excerpted from *Living Liturgy*, 2023

Scripture Readings for September 16/17

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:30-28:7 | Psalm 103 | Romans 14:7-9 |
Matthew 18:21-35

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**OCTOBER 13-15
2023**



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES
MILWAUKEE**

Volunteer!

Why?

To witness incalculable joy throughout the weekend party!

About 200 shifts are filled each Oktoberfest Artisan Fair weekend. We thank every kitchen server, broom sweeper, greeter, popcorn-maker, cake-walk caller, and Polka Liturgy musician and more. It is not just "shift-work." Here are a few of the benefits you are bringing to our community.

- You create opportunities for people to meet each other, laugh, dance, and have fun.
- You create opportunities for people to share stories, sadness, find comfort, and build understanding.
- You contribute to a legacy, a tradition.
- You create opportunities for artists and musicians to receive compensation for their work.
- You are building a community. The family that plays together stays together.
- Children working with family members feel valued by their faith community and learn useful life skills.
- You contribute about \$80/shift to OLOL but you are priceless!

How to sign up?

There are 2 ways to sign up this year.

1. Electronically: [Use this link](#) or go to the OLOL Oktoberfest website.
2. Paper copy in the Classroom Hall. Similar to years past.

*Society of
Saint Vincent de Paul*

COMMITMENT

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are committed to visiting people in need and working with them to resolve their problems. They are one of the important outreach ministries of Our Lady of Lourdes and give witness to the Lord's special concern for all who experience difficulties. All Catholics, as followers of Jesus, are called to respond in love to people in need.

Vincentians make this response as part of an organized effort to grow in their faith while giving witness to God's love for the most distressed. We pray that their example may lead others to a life of service.



DID YOU KNOW

In 2022 over 600 Milwaukee County Vincentians (volunteers) dedicate their time and talent served our neighbors in need by:

- Making 8,757 visits to homes, senior care centers, etc.
- Providing \$1,600,000 worth of goods and services
- Serving 59,447 meals at both meal program locations
- Serving 5,557 of those meals to children
- Working 45,160 volunteer hours

We are dedicated to eliminating poverty and hunger throughout Milwaukee County.

Consider joining us in helping those in need!

We meet every other Tuesday at 10:30 AM.

Check the calendar in the bulletin for next meeting date.