

SEP 17, 2023

24th 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

A Belated Thank You

The company that prints our bulletins often needs content in advance. Because of that, my thank you to all of you for all that happened at our kick-off weekend at the end of August is rather tardy.

Thank you to everyone who attended the 10:30 am liturgy where I was affirmed as Parish Director and where I received the blessing of the parish. Gratitude fills my heart for the support and blessings I received on that day and continue to receive every day.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our parish picnic and ministry fair. What a joy it was to have lunch together, to chat with one another, and to get to know each other again.

And thank you to all those who signed up for new ministry opportunities. The parish is growing and thriving because of all of us—not just the staff, not just certain groups—we are thriving because of the way we all consider ourselves disciples. As I said on that weekend, what is so wonderful about our faith is that we were all baptized to be priest, prophet, queen, and king. What is so wonderful about Our Lady of Lourdes is that we really believe that, and we live that out! I am just the most recent example.

Your grateful 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 - September 2023

	ACTUAL as of 9/8/2023	BUDGETED for Sept.
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$15,528.31	\$63,000.00
Offertory	\$599.00	\$2,500.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: September 2023

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$157,814.69	\$209,300.01
Op. Expenses	\$139,670.95	\$213,640.44

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/23 ..	\$128,503.08
Donations.....	\$6,674.26
Expenses.....	\$0.00
Balance (9/8/2023)	\$135,202.34

THANK YOU!

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 17

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

Monday, September 18

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

Tuesday, September 19

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
10:30 am SVPD Mtg.	Rm 3
6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group	Rm 3

Wednesday, September 20

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
9:00 am BAAM Mtg.	Hall AB
9:30 am Liturgy	Church
10:15 am Morning Faith Group	Hall C
6:00 pm Pastoral Council Mtg.	Rm 3
6:30 pm Women's Spirituality	Rm 4
6:45 pm Boy Scout Troop 612	Hall B
7:00 pm Oktoberfest Mtg.	Hall A

Thursday, September 21

8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 5
8:15 am Autism Intervention	Rm 6
6:30 pm The Chosen	Hall A

Friday, September 22—Office Closed

Saturday, September 23

Welcome Weekend	
5:00 pm Liturgy	Church

Sunday, September 24

Welcome Weekend	
8:00 am Liturgy	Church
10:30 am Liturgy	Church

COMMUNITY LIFE

In Memoriam

In loving memory of
Linda Taylor
From
Don Blackstone
Family and friends

In loving memory of
Mary Jo Canar
From
Kathleen Schmid
A friend

In loving memory of
Douglas Hardy
and Jim Arnsdorff
From
Theresa Arnsdorff

In loving memory of
Victor and Stella Witkowski
From
Theresa Arnsdorff

OUTREACH

From St. Vincent de Paul

The challenge in today's Gospel, is to forget how others have behaved toward us and to look to God's way of loving and forgiving. Our focus must be on God.

Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. We want to help!

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: September 26 and October 24

Most needed items: canned soup, canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, (not fruit cocktail), and condiments. Please watch the expiration dates and non-perishable items only.

ololmke.org/food-pantry.

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Empathy

Empathy is the ability to put ourselves in another's place and to understand their experience. We are deeply present to their thoughts and feelings with such compassionate accuracy that we can hear their own thoughts more clearly. Empathy connects us with our common humanity. It protects us from prejudice, blame and judgement—those things that divide us from each other. With empathy, we reflect on how our actions affect others. Empathy connects our hearts.

Many times in life, as in the Gospel, there are difficult decisions in life that we all need to make. How can the virtue of empathy help us make better decisions?

Many Hands. One Vision.



Make a difference in your community with a gift to the **Catholic Stewardship Appeal**. Your gift of any size will impact countless lives. To donate, text **APPEAL2023** to 414-348-8380, give online at www.catholicappeal.org or mail your contribution to the Catholic Stewardship Appeal, 3501 S. Lake Drive, St. Francis, WI 53235. *Thank you!*

SPOTLIGHT

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair 2023

October 13-14-15

Oktoberfest has had 13 successful years by keeping favorite activities and trying new events to stay fresh. We want all people of all ages to come and have fun! Here are new things to look forward to this year:

- New artists to join your favorite returning artists. Some artists will have a pop-up art sale on Friday evening.
- Sheepshead game on Saturday, beginning at 11:00 am.
- New art and craft activities for all ages and skill levels on Saturday afternoon.
- Rupena's chicken dinner and sarma.
- The basket raffle will run from Friday through Sunday morning with the same basket offerings.

We post the vendors, schedules, menus and more on the OLOL website and the Oktoberfest Artisan Fair Facebook page. Visit us often and help spread the word!

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair Team

FORMATION

The Body of Christ: We Are Eucharist

We officially have one GIFT session under our belts! A big thank you to our presenter, Deb Steppe, and to everyone who attended. You are still welcome to register for GIFT online or at the Parish Office. Adults are welcome to register for individual sessions by paying the \$10 fee the day of the session. We hope you join us for a year of formation as we discover just exactly how we are Eucharist. **Don't forget to bring your tumblers to the next session if you want coffee!**

Next GIFT October 1: Where is your spiritual dining room?

As disciples we have a multitude of opportunities for spiritual nourishment; however, we don't always make the space for it. In this session, Leah Sealey will encourage us to be more aware of our spiritual connections outside of Sunday liturgy by challenging us to build our own spiritual dining room. Leah will also introduce us to resources like MKE Spiritual Directors, that will help us fortify the walls of our spiritual dining rooms. Join us Sunday, October 1, at 9:00 am for our second GIFT session where you will be reminded that we are Eucharist, we just need to make the space for it.

DISCIPLESHIP

Zoom Book Discussion—My Body is Not a Prayer Request

Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17 and 24
7:00 pm

Discussion Facilitator: Rebekah Dubrosky

This book, written by Amy Kenny, a disabled Christian, shows that the Church is missing out on the prophetic witness and blessing of disability. Kenny reflects on her experiences inside the Church to expose unintentional ableism and cast a new vision for Christian communities to engage in disability justice. She shows that until we cultivate Church spaces where people with disabilities can fully belong, flourish, and lead, we are not valuing the diverse members of the Body of Christ.

Join us as we discuss the book and brainstorm how we can incorporate all peoples to be an active, included, and truly welcomed part of our faith community. Register on the Discipleship Institute web page at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/ or through the Parish Office

WORSHIP

Oktoberfest Polka Mass Ensemble

Put on your dancing shoes, grab your cowbell, warm up your oom-pah-pahs, and get ready to celebrate Mass polka style!! That's right, Saturday, October 14, at the 5:00 pm Mass, we will come together to celebrate our annual Polka Mass.

This is a great time for individuals, friends, and families to try something new. All ages are invited, and no experience is needed. This includes a small time commitment:

Rehearsal—Wednesday, October 11, 6:00 pm—8:15 pm
Mass—Saturday, October 14, gather in church at 4:15 pm

If you play an appropriate instrument (clarinet, trombone, tuba, etc.), please contact Anne Van Deusen or Julie Fraleigh ahead of time. Otherwise, just show up at rehearsal on October 11. Bring your smile, your energy, and a willingness to have a great time.

Scripture Readings for September 23/24 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9 | Psalm 145 | Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a | Matthew 20:1-16a

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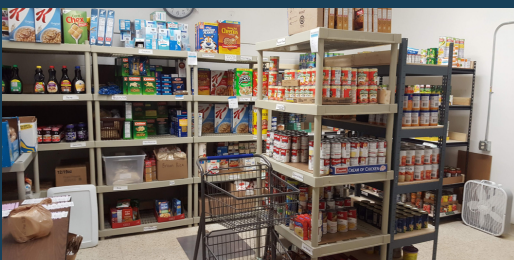


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FAITH *first*

Evolutionary Theology: Part 1 of 2 Sexual Morality & the Catholic Church

Evolutionary Theology is a bringing together of faith and science, recognizing that both have truths that can give us a fresh perspective on our understanding/experience of the mysterious presence we call God.

In part 1 of our 2 parts series we will lay out the history of sexual morality in the Catholic Church starting from biblical times to our understanding of sexuality morality today.

Then using what we have learned from history we will lay out several areas for potential dialogue where **Evolutionary Theology** can aid in understanding sexual morality in a new perspective.



***“Let the one among
you who is without
sin be the first to
throw a stone...” -
John 8:7***

Part 1—Monday October 9th, 2023—6:30—8:00 pm

Part 2—Monday, February 12th, 2024—6:30—8:00 pm

Where: St. Matthias Catholic Church—Steiger Hall

How Do I Register? - Call Brian Jens at 414-982-2406 or sign up online

at: <https://stmatthias-milw.org/ffo/>

Session will be in-person and on Zoom.