

OCT 8, 2023

27th 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

### Prayerful Disciples

One of the things that is very important to me as the leader of the parish is encouraging all of us to be people of prayer. We pray together at weekend liturgy so very well—and that's important, but it is also important to take some prayer time every day. I can do all sorts of wonderful things in my ministry, but if I'm not praying those wonderful things don't feel much like ministry, they feel like work.

I know it isn't always easy to find time to pray—especially when we're so busy. If you are struggling to pray or to know what to say in prayer, here is a suggestion: Help—Thanks—Wow.

The spiritual writer Anne Lamott tells us that every prayer imaginable comes down to help, thanks, or wow. So, pray for help when you are struggling (we're pretty good at that).

Take a little time to say a quick thank you when you witness an act of kindness or when you perform an act of kindness. Say thank you when you feel love, joy, or enjoy a good joke. God is the author of all goodness, so saying thanks—even a quick one—is a perfect prayer.

Wow. In this season when the trees are ablaze in color, when our nights are crisp, and the moon is so bright it casts shadows—take the time to acknowledge God's hand in the grandeur of creation. When you notice goodness arising from difficulty, and hope rising from pain, pray "wow."

May we all continue to be people of prayer.

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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### CONNECT:

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## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### Parish Support - September 2023

	ACTUAL as of 9/29/2023	BUDGETED for Sept.
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$47,396.78	\$63,000.00
Offertory .....	\$2,536.76	\$2,500.00

### Budget Updates Fiscal Year: September 2023

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income .....	\$195,957.53	\$209,300.01
Op. Expenses .....	\$192,504.96	\$213,640.44

### Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/23 ..	\$128,503.08
Donations.....	\$12,819.56
Expenses.....	\$0.00
<b>Balance (9/29/2023)</b>	<b>\$141,347.64</b>

THANK YOU!

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

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, October 8

8:00 am Liturgy	Church
9:00 am Sacrament Prep	Hall
10:30 am Liturgy	Church
11:30 am Mercy High School Reunion	Hall BC

### Monday, October 9

Oktoberfest Set-up	
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm Building & Grounds	Rm 3

### Tuesday, October 10

Oktoberfest Set-up	
7:00 pm Book Discussion: My Body is Not a Prayer Request	Virtual

### Wednesday, October 11

Oktoberfest Set-up	
7:00 am St. Ben's Prep	Kitchen
9:30 am Communion Service	Church
10:15 am Morning Faith Group	Hall BC
6:00 pm Polka Mass Reh.	Church
6:45 pm Boy Scouts	Hall B
7:00 pm GASIC	Virtual

### Thursday, October 12

Oktoberfest Set-up	
6:30 pm The Chosen	Church

### Friday, October 13—Office Closed Oktoberfest

### Saturday, October 14

Oktoberfest	
5:00 pm Polka Mass	Church

### Sunday, October 15

Oktoberfest	
8:00 am Liturgy	Church
10:30 am Liturgy	Church

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of Tony Greco and all others who have died. Please keep them in your prayers.

### In Memoriam

In loving memory of  
Marnie Geissler and  
Mary Jo Canar  
From  
Tanya Gross

### Annual Jubilee Celebration

Saturday, October 28  
10:00 am  
St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Parish  
The Archdiocese of Milwaukee invites couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, and 50+ wedding anniversaries to a special day with Bishop James Schuerman. There is no cost for this event. Learn more at [archmil.regfox.com/jubilee-celebration-2023](http://archmil.regfox.com/jubilee-celebration-2023)

## OUTREACH

### St. Ben's Meal Program

We serve at St. Benedict the Moor's meal program on Wednesday, October 11. Please bring food donations to the Parish Office on Monday, Tuesday, or no later than 3:00 pm on Wednesday. [ololmke.org/st-bens/](http://ololmke.org/st-bens/)

### Alverno Nurses

The Alverno College Nursing students thank all who have participated in our Wednesday health topics sessions. Stop in to see us on Saturday afternoon at Oktoberfest. On October 18, attend our 10:00 am session on COVID, RSV, and the flu. We will not meet on October 25, but we will return on November 1 for an interactive game on fun health facts. Please join us.

## VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

### Fairness

Fairness is treating each other even handedly so that each person receives a share. With fairness, we meet everyone's needs. We listen to the views of others with openness, and expect to be heard with equal respect. Without bias, favoritism, or prejudice, we level the playing field. We are as protective of the rights of others as we are of our own. We are lovers of justice.

In the Second Reading, a plan is laid out for us and we are told to keep on doing what we have learned and received and heard and seen in Jesus. We are promised that God's peace will be with us. How does fairness bring peace?



ARTISAN FAIR  
OCTOBER 13-15

ART, BEER GARDEN, FOOD, SWEETS & RAFFLES ALL WEEKEND

SEE [OLOLMKE.ORG/OKTOBERFEST](http://OLOLMKE.ORG/OKTOBERFEST) FOR FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## SPOTLIGHT

# Oktoberfest Artisan Fair 2023

October 13-14-15

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair is a “fun-raiser” at Our Lady of Lourdes. Our goal has always been to have fun at Oktoberfest, cover our costs, and enjoy the extra money that arrives.

This is the year in which our Church is focusing on the Body of Christ. Oktoberfest is another vehicle for exercising our discipleship.

- We celebrate the liturgy.
- We break bread together in many ways.
- We serve each other and the guests who join us.
- We spend time in relationship with each other, recognizing the Christ within.
- We appreciate and celebrate God’s creation.

We invite you to be present as the Body of Christ.  
Oktoberfest Artisan Fair Team

## FORMATION

### Next GIFT Session: October 22

Join us at GIFT Sunday, October 22, in the Hall as Mike Kolz facilitates our examination of 1 Corinthians 12, in an effort to seek gratitude for all the members of the Body of Christ in our community and in the greater communities that we are part of.

### Thriving in Turbulent Times: Spiritual Lessons for Dancing in the Darkness

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III

Wednesday, October 11

10:30 am–1:00 pm

Siena Retreat Center—5637 Erie St., Racine

\$30 includes lunch

Join us as Dr. Moss draws on the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Howard Thurman, Black culture, and his own experience as a civil rights leader to build spiritual resilience for these times.

Register at:

[Thriving in Turbulent Times: Dancing in the Darkness | Siena Retreat Center](#) or [www.sienaretreatcenter.org](http://www.sienaretreatcenter.org).

## DISCIPLESHIP

### Book Discussion: *The Risk of the Cross: Living Gospel Nonviolence in the Nuclear Age*

Author: Arthur Laffin

Mondays, October 23–November 20

6:30 pm–8:30 pm

Room 3

Discussion Facilitator: Steve Szymanski & Social Justice Team

What does it mean to follow Jesus’ way of the cross and to place our trust in God for our true security? How do we find hope and courage to stand for God’s reign of love, justice, and nonviolence in a world threatened by nuclear weapons, environmental devastation, warfare, systemic inequality, and other perils?

Join us as we discuss this book, by Arthur Laffin, that focuses on Jesus’ call to discipleship and helps faith communities today embrace the way of gospel nonviolence.

Call the Parish Office or go to [ololmke.org/social-justice/](http://ololmke.org/social-justice/) to register.

## WORSHIP

### Polka Mass is Here!

This is your time to celebrate and shine. This is a reminder to become part of the **Polka Mass Ensemble** this week. All ages are needed and invited to participate. No special musical skills are needed. God gave each of us a voice—this is a chance to share it in a prayerful and fun way. The music for this liturgy will be familiar, with a little oom-pah-pah flair added.



We hope to see you on the following two dates:

**October 11:** rehearsal in church  
from 6:00 pm–8:15 pm

**October 14:** Mass at 5:00 pm  
(Meet in church at 4:15 pm for warm-ups)

### Scripture Readings for October 14/15

#### 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10a | Psalm 23 | Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 | Matthew 22:1-14



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# Día de los Muertos

## Day of the Dead Altar

A Parish-wide Art & Prayer Invitation  
presented by the OLOL Art Guild  
October 21–November 12, 2023

We will be creating a “**Remembrance Table**” in the Lobby area—a “shrine” to remember our loved ones who have died. You are invited to bring the following items to honor your dearly departed family member or friend:

- A photo of the person you wish to remember—framed or free-standing.
- Any small item that is symbolic of the person.
- A small bundle of artificial or dried flowers (marigolds are traditional).
- Figures or pictures of their favorite saint, Mary, or Christ.

### **Other optional traditional items you may bring to add to the authenticity of the Ofrenda /Altar:**

- Incense & burners (not to be burned) that symbolize pleasant scents believed to please the dead.
- Artificial fruits and vegetables that represent their favorite foods (*no real food, please!*).
- Votive candle holders (not to be lit) but as a symbol to light the way for the anticipated reunion with our dear ones. Traditionally, tall Mexican themed votives are used. You can bring battery operated votives and light them as you attend Mass or other functions at OLOL. Please turn them off when you leave if you want them to last.
- Skeleton and skull décor (*no sugar skulls, please!*).
- Please label your items with your name and phone number. These items should not be valuable or highly sentimental objects since the parish cannot be responsible for lost items.
- You may bring your items and place them on the memorial tables in the lobby on the weekend of October 21/22 when you come to Mass. Art Guild members will adjust items on the altar as needed. The ofrenda will be on display from that time through November 12. At that time, you are asked to remove your personal items from the tables following all weekend Masses.



# Día de los Muertos Celebration

## Some Common Misconceptions

by May Herz



El Dia de los Muertos is not the Mexican version of Halloween. Mexicans have celebrated the Day of the Dead since 1800 B.C.



It is not scary or morbid. There are not pictures or images of dead people, ghosts, witches, or the devil.



The Day of the Dead is not a cult. This ritual has nothing to do with cults. It is a Catholic Christian ritual intermixed with folk culture. Going to Mass is an essential aspect of this celebration.



It doesn't honor death but rather our dead relatives. We welcome the opportunity to reflect upon our lives, our heritage, our ancestors, and the meaning and purpose of our own existence.



Altars or *ofrendas* are not for worshiping but for offering our love and remembering our departed family members.



It is not a sad ritual. It's a day of happiness because we will be remembering our loved ones. Although when in the graveyard, people assume an introspective attitude.



The Day of the Dead is about love not fear.



It is not a "strange" ritual. It is very similar to going to a grave and leaving flowers or stuffed animals or lighting a candle to remember the deceased.



It is not a careless or fearless confrontation of death. It is a moment to reflect upon one's life and the cycle of life and death.