

**FEB 18, 2024**

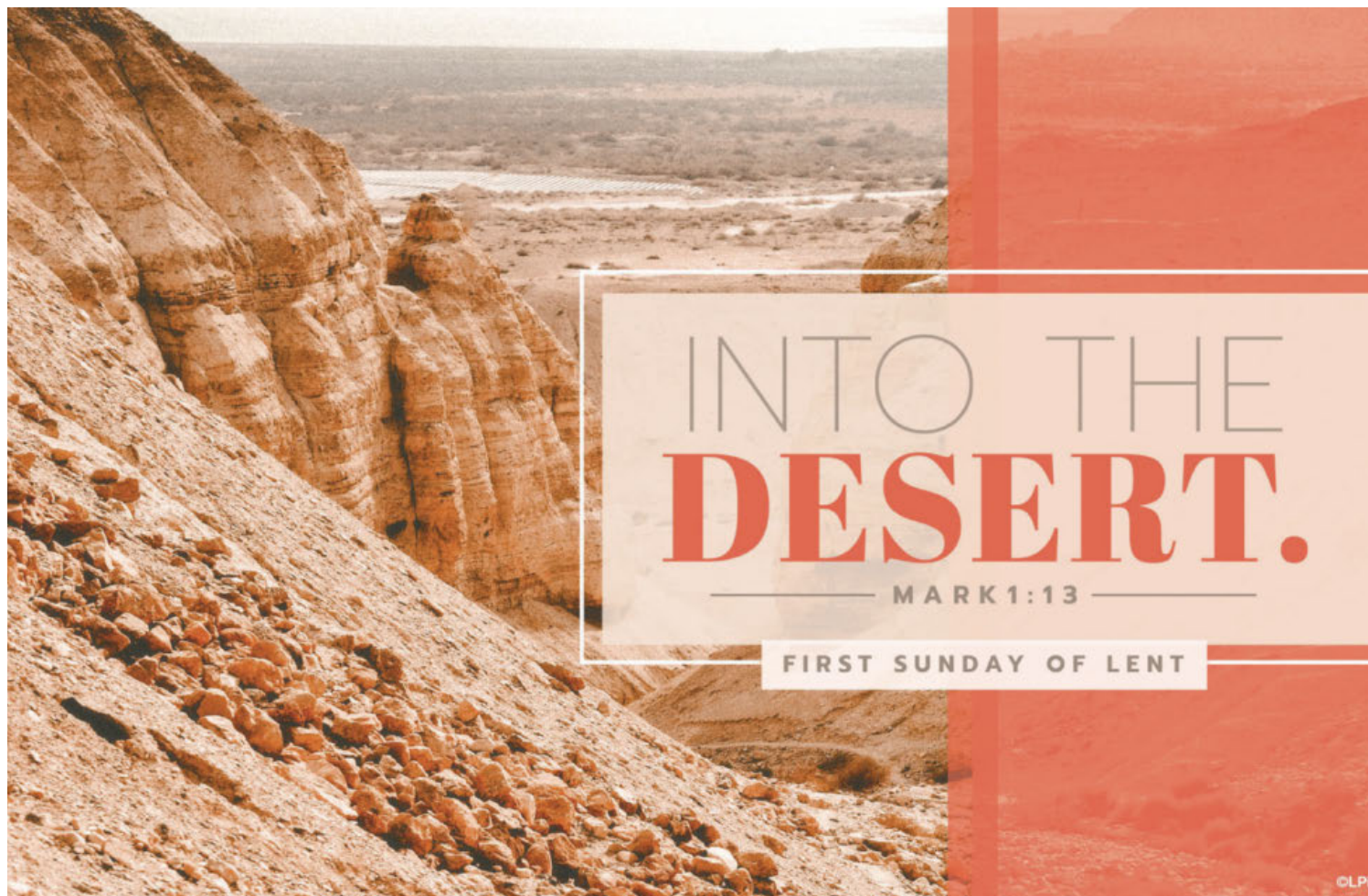
**1st Sunday of Lent**



# Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

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



**3722 S. 58th Street | Milwaukee, WI 53220-2053 | (414) 545-4316**

## **EUCCHARIST:**

**SAT** 5:00 PM

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

**WED** 9:30 AM

## **PARISH DIRECTOR**

**DEB STEPPE**

Office: (414) 545-4316 x113

## **CONNECT:**

**WEBSITE** [ololmke.org](http://ololmke.org)

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**FACEBOOK** [/ololmke](https://www.facebook.com/ololmke)

**INSTAGRAM** [/ololmke](https://www.instagram.com/ololmke)

**YOUTUBE** [@ololmke](https://www.youtube.com/ololmke)

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

## Parish Support - February 2024

	ACTUAL <u>as of 2/9/2024</u>	BUDGETED <u>for Feb.</u>
Reg. Envelopes .....	\$26,401.75	\$64,000.00
Offertory.....	\$824.57	\$2,400.00

## Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 2024

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Operating Income .....	\$556,896.27	\$536,468.85
Operating Expenses .....	\$500,323.61	\$535,675.82

## Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/23...	\$128,503.08
Donations.....	\$28,437.36
Expenses .....	\$50.00
<b>Balance (2/9/2024)</b>	<b>\$156,915.44</b>

THANK YOU!

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

## 2023 Catholic Stewardship Appeal (1/9/2024)

Donations: ..... **\$27,674.00**  
Goal is \$42,840..... 64.60%

Donors: ..... **142**  
# of donors: 1,043..... 13.61%

DECIDE TO LEAD

[www.CatholicAppeal.org](http://www.CatholicAppeal.org)

## NOTES FROM DEB

### Beloved

In today's Gospel we hear of Jesus' temptation in the desert. I think it is important to note that right before this passage, we hear of Jesus' baptism in the Jordan with the heavenly voice that said, "this is my beloved Son."

Jesus began his ministry knowing he was God's beloved. Jesus heard this again at the end of his earthly life at the Transfiguration. Jesus did it all knowing that he was God's beloved.

We too are God's beloved. We too can let God's love lead us through our joyous days and our tough days.

Also, in today's Gospel we hear Jesus' call to repent—to turn away from sin. Here is a definition of sin that I invite you to ponder: Sin is any obstacle we put in the way of God's love for us.

So, in these Lenten days, I invite you to let God love you. Let's all take some time and let Divine love penetrate the toughness, the stubbornness, and the sadness of our hearts.

Your shepherd,  
Deb Steppe



Art by Tanya Gross

## VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

### Mindfulness

Mindfulness is living reflectivity, with conscious awareness of our actions, words, and thoughts. Awake to the world around us, we fully experience our senses. We are attentive to others' needs. Living mindfully lightens our lives by helping us to detach from our emotions. We transform anger to justice. We cultivate our inner vision, aware of life's lessons as they unfold. This can bring serenity.

As we begin our Lenten journey, can we heed John's words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."? How can being mindful keep us more aware of this message and how we follow through?

**SUN 18**

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

**MON 19**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10  
6:30 pm Lenten Lunch  
Bag Retreat Virtual  
6:30 pm Lenten Reconciliation  
Planning Mtg. Rm 9

**TUE 20**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
10:00 am Mosaic Set-up Rm 4  
10:30 am SVDP Mtg. Rm 3  
6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group Rm 3

## COMMUNITY LIFE

## FORMATION

### Our Condolences

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

### In Memoriam

In loving memory of  
Patricia Lynch

From  
Nancie & Tom Chmielewski

In loving memory of  
George Strnad

From  
Nancie & Tom Chmielewski

In loving memory of  
Judy Bialk

From  
Byron Nichols

### Spring Primary—Vote!

The Wisconsin Spring Primary Election takes place on **Tuesday, February 20**, in most communities. Ballots for Milwaukee residents will list mayoral candidates as well as other offices in some communities. For further information please check the social justice bulletin board and the website [vote411.org/wisconsin](http://vote411.org/wisconsin). Winners on February 20 will advance to the **Spring Election on April 2**, which will also be the **Wisconsin Presidential Primary**.

### Parish Spring Clean

We are once again dedicating our spring service session to our parish community by caring for our building. This service day is open to our entire OLOL community in addition to GIFT attendees.

We will gather at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 2, and the morning of service will close with a catered lunch. All attendees, including GIFT members, should RSVP by contacting Roxanne in the Parish Office or using the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/springclean24>.



### Gospel Meditation—1st Sunday of Lent

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous “Double Rainbow” video on YouTube to feel better. It’s hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. “Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!” he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, “What does it mean?” Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante’s medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God’s promise of peace. For Dante, it’s even more: nature’s encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, “Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory.” This Lent let’s embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

Father John Muir, ©LPi

**WED 21**

**THU 22**

**FRI 23**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
9:30 am Liturgy Church  
10:15 am Morning Faith Group Hall BC  
5:30 pm Councils and Staff  
Evening Rm 10  
6:30 pm *The Chosen: Season 2*  
Virtual Discussion Virtual

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
12:00 pm Women’s Grief  
Support Group Hall C  
3:30 pm Spirit & Grace Reh. Church  
6:30 pm *The Chosen Season 2* Hall C

### Office Closed

10:30 am Jack Liebl Funeral  
Visitation Church  
12:00 pm Jack Liebl Funeral Church



## WORSHIP



### The reviews are in— Seasonal Choirs are a hit!

Next attraction: The Easter Vigil Choir  
Don't miss your opportunity to join this blockbuster.

Participation in our Easter Vigil Choir is open to everyone. As in the past, this is a short-term commitment:

**Rehearsals:** Wednesdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27  
6:00 pm-7:15 pm

**Vigil service:** Saturday, March 30  
7:00 pm

Attendance at all four rehearsals is ideal, but one excused absence will work, too. You will definitely need to attend the final rehearsal on March 27.

We hope you will look at your schedule, get excited, and make plans to join the choir. The form for signing up is found outside Room 8 (music/liturgy office), and the deadline for signing up is Sunday, March 3. Questions? Please reach out to Anne Van Deusen or Julie Fraleigh.

### Scripture Readings for February 24/25

#### 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 | Psalm 116 | Romans 8:31b-34 |  
Mark 9:2-10

**SAT 24**

*Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative Collection*  
9:00 am Confirmation Retreat Building  
5:00 pm Liturgy Church

**SUN 25**

*Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative Collection*  
8:00 am Liturgy Church  
10:30 am Liturgy Church

## OUTREACH

### Join the Fleece Blanket Making Community

Join us on Saturday, March 9, at 2:00 pm to make a fleece blanket for those at homeless shelters in Milwaukee. You do not need experience. Helpers will be available to get you started. All ages are welcome.

You will need:

- 2 1/2 yards of plain fleece
- 2 1/2 yards of print fleece
- good scissors

Let's keep this spirit of keeping others warm this winter as our mission. Those who receive blankets will receive the blessings for them at the 5:00 pm liturgy.

Any questions talk to or email Mary Osep, osep@outlook.com or Tanya Gross, tanyamg69@hotmail.com. Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee.

### Grief Support

The Walking Through Grief Together group will meet twice next month on Saturdays, March 2 and March 16, in Room 3 starting at 11:00 am. No need to register. This group provides a safe setting for sharing and support with others going through loss.

### Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: February 27, March 12 and 26

Most needed items: spaghetti sauce, Chef Boy R Dee, soup, canned potatoes, canned tomatoes, 5 oz. sized tuna, canned meat, condiments, and jelly. Thanks for your ongoing support to the pantry. It is because of you that we can provide food to the needy. God bless.

Please watch expiration dates.

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

## COMMUNICATIONS

## SPOTLIGHT

### A Lenten Challenge

Some years ago, we started doing online retreats for Advent and Lent. Each season, the number of participants grows larger, but every season follows an interesting trend—the number of retreatants declines as the weeks go on. Online retreats are a challenge of commitment. It's easy to forget to return to the retreat as life enters and derails our best intentions. Life's hurdles have gotten the best of all of us at times, even to steal the five minutes we have reserved for our Lenten journey.

Our online Lent retreat has begun, and even if you missed the first three entries, please join us. The challenge is this: see it all the way through. Make it a point of your journey to connect each day of the retreat.

[ololmke.org/lent-prayer/](http://ololmke.org/lent-prayer/)

### Helping Our Neighbors in Need

Did you know that we have a group of parishioners who visit individuals and families in need and provide support? In talking with Kathy Parnau, who leads the OLOL chapter of St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP), this past month SVDP helped a woman cover rent, clothed a mother and her 4 children, and provided another family with three beds. Our parishioners do 3-4 home visits each month to understand the needs and make personal connections. Based on the needs identified (food, rent, clothing, furniture), they refer them to the food pantry, pay rent, or provide vouchers to St. Vincent de Paul Store to purchase what is needed. To learn more or help, please contact Kathy Parnau.



*St. Vincent de Paul Society*  
*At the Heart of Giving*

## DISCIPLESHIP

### Lenten Lunch Bag Retreat

Now—March 18

Allow for about one hour each week.

Introduction to the Retreat on Zoom—Monday, February 19—6:30 pm

Final Discussion on Zoom—Monday, March 18—6:30 pm

Facilitated by: Anita Hallman-Kowalski

Pack up your lunch bag and go on a Lenten retreat—in the comfort of your own home! We will look at the Lenten Sunday scriptures through the Ignatian Examen to see where we are invited or challenged to change. Register and you will receive a packet of material in your email to guide you. There will be an introduction to the retreat offered via Zoom on Monday, February 19. Please register on the Discipleship Institute web page at [ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/](http://ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/) or through the Parish Office.

## STAFF EMAIL

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# **Join the Fleece Blanket Making Community at OLOL!**

**Let's keep the spirit of keeping others  
warm this winter as our mission.**

**Saturday, March 9, at 2:00 pm**



**Please bring:**

- \* **2 1/2 yards of print fleece**
- \* **2 1/2 yards of matching plain fleece**
- \* **Pair of sharp scissors**

- \* **All ages welcome! Great intergenerational activity!**
- \* **No experience necessary. Helpers will be available to get you started.**
- \* **Blankets will be blessed for those who receive them at 5:00 pm liturgy.**
- \* **Blankets will be donated to various homeless shelters in Milwaukee**

**For questions contact:**

**Mary Osep (osepm@outlook.com) or Tanya Gross (tanyamg69@hotmail.com)**

**Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee.**

## **COLLECTION FOR MILWAUKEE HOMELESS VETERANS INITIATIVE (MHVI)**

Helping homeless and at-risk veterans for 13 years and counting!

- Men • Women • Families

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FEBRUARY 24–MARCH 3

Many veterans we serve work hard to secure safe and stable housing. When they do have housing, they often face a situation many of us do not consider—they do not have anything to put in their home—no furniture, household items, or cleaning supplies. That is where MHVI steps in.

We provide everything a vet needs to set up a household, furniture, household goods, bedding, toiletries, kitchenware, groceries, and more. Nearly all are donated items and are supplied at no charge to veterans and their families. Many of the veterans we assist remain connected with us, receiving additional services to help them reach their goals.

### **OVER 2,000 VETERANS HOMES WERE FURNISHED LAST YEAR**

#### **WE WOULD LIKE TO HELP THEM BY COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING:**

- **new** bed sheets - twin, full, and queen
- mops, brooms, dust pans, and toilet bowl brushes
- all-purpose cleaners, sponges, and dish soap
- can openers, dish towels, plastic storage containers for food, general kitchen utensils, and **new** microwave dishes
- soap, lotion, hand towels, and wash clothes

There are a bevy of items listed on their website, along with who they are and what they do.

<https://www.mhvivets.org/>

Place your donations in the bins located at the east and west entrances of the building. Thank you for your generosity!

Every little bit helps. Together we are serving those who served.