

**MAR 3, 2024**

**3rd Sunday of Lent**



# Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

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



**ZEAL FOR**  
YOUR HOUSE WILL  
CONSUME ME.

— JOHN 2:17 —

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**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:**

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# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

## Parish Support - February 2024

	ACTUAL <u>as of 2/23/2024</u>	BUDGETED <u>for Feb.</u>
Reg. Envelopes .....	\$62,333.47	\$64,000.00
Offertory.....	\$2,549.67	\$2,400.00

## Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 2024

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Operating Income .....	\$633,121.45	\$607,098.32
Operating Expenses .....	\$565,242.52	\$612,958.39

## Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/23...	\$128,503.08
Donations.....	\$29,687.36
Expenses .....	\$50.00
<b>Balance (2/23/2024)</b>	<b>\$158,165.44</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

### Reconciliation Service

Our reconciliation services take place on Wednesday, March 6, with one service at 12:00 pm and one service at 7:00 pm. All sinners are welcome!

Not just because I have helped craft these services in the past, and not because I am preaching at the services this year, but I truly appreciate how we celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation at Our Lady of Lourdes.

We don't do it as individuals. We gather as a community, knowing that many of the sins of our lives are social sins—sins against the common good and freedom of others. Led by an examination of our actions and our attitudes, we dare to look inside to see where we have fallen short, to see where our choices did not reflect that we are God's beloved—to see where we did not treat others as the beloved of God.

In this service, we humbly admit to one another that we have not always been faithful to God's covenant of love.

We do this surrounded by music and scripture and the support of the community. We leave the service feeling the grace of God's forgiveness.

It is so easy to hold onto the shame and embarrassment over the mistakes we have made. The sacrament of reconciliation is an opportunity to let go of all of that and to receive God's love and God's forgiveness.

I hope to see you on Wednesday!

Your shepherd,  
Deb Steppe

## VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

### Accountability

Accountability is the willingness to stand in responsibility for every choice. It is acting with integrity, doing what we say we will do. When we make a mistake, we do not seek to hide it or avoid it. We have the courage to face it willingly. We are open to the lessons it can bring, and ready to make amends. People can rely on us because we are answerable for our actions.

In the Gospel, Jesus says, "Give me a drink." After a long discourse, we see the mutual openness and steady scrutiny of the woman and Jesus result in personal and communal transformation. In returning to her village, the woman says of Jesus, "He told me everything I have done." How do you find the courage to face things you have done, both good and the mistakes?

**SUN 3**

*Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative  
Collection*  
*Hallway Art Exhibit Opening*  
8:00 am Liturgy Church  
9:00 am Sacrament Prep Hall  
10:30 am Liturgy Church

**MON 4**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10

**TUE 5**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
10:30 am SVDP Mtg. Rm 3  
6:00 pm Crime Safety Mtg. Hall A  
6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group Rm 3

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Our Condolences

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

### Women's Spirituality Retreat

Saturday, April 13

9:30 am-4:45 pm

OLOL

Join us for a day to pray and reflect on the lives of biblical and contemporary women, and our own lives. We will laugh, pray, create, and play with a generous, caring group of women. All women of the parish are welcome. Please see the insert in last week's bulletin or [ololmke.org/adult-retreats/](http://ololmke.org/adult-retreats/) for the registration form. Registration is due to the parish by March 10.



## FORMATION

### The parish spring clean was a success!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Parish Spring Clean. Service is an integral part of our faith, and in honor of that, we often head out in the community to serve others. This weekend was a beautiful reminder that it is equally important to serve one another as we cared for our own space. Thank you so much for celebrating in service with us!

### Celebrating God's Presence Amongst Us with Mike Kolz

It is not a coincidence that one of Jesus' last actions with his disciples occurs around a table and a meal. Combined, the words: food, feed, feasts, and meals appear over 500 times in the Sacred Scriptures. As Jesus shared the bread and wine with his disciples he said, "Do this in remembrance of me." When the body is properly nourished it is more apt to be spiritually motivated. In this GIFT session, we examine the biblical roots of the Eucharist and discuss the importance of feeding each other. Join us on Sunday, March 17, at 9:00 am when we will discover the benefits of gratitude and thankfulness as a source of food for the soul centered around the Eucharist with the help of our GIFT presenter, Mike Kolz.

### Synod Listening Sessions

After two recent GIFT sessions that dealt with the Synod on Synodality, the Archdiocese has announced two upcoming listening sessions to prepare for the next international Synod on Synodality. These listening sessions will cover the theme of the relationship between laypeople and the ordained, to which all are invited. A summary of these sessions will be compiled and submitted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.



**WED 6**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
12:00 pm Reconciliation Service Church  
10:15 am Morning Faith Group Hall BC  
6:00 pm Easter Vigil  
Choir Rehearsal Rm 9  
6:30 pm *The Chosen: Season 2*  
Virtual Discussion Virtual  
7:00 pm GASIC Virtual  
7:00 pm Reconciliation Service Church

**THU 7**

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 Season 2* Hall C

**FRI 8**

### Office Closed

3:30 pm Anthony Cebal  
Funeral Visitation Church  
5:00 pm Anthony Cebal  
Funeral Church

## WORSHIP

### Reconciliation

Please join us at one of our reconciliation services:

**Wednesday, March 6**

**12:00 pm & 7:00 pm**

"If any one of you feels guilty and you know that you deserve it, fear not. Look at Jesus Christ. You only need to say, 'Have mercy on me.' Then, with the eyes of faith... see an unseen hand wipe out all your sins and misdemeanors. You will realize you are in paradise because he who is merciful dwells in you. Where he is, there is paradise. It is as simple as that..."



"Faith assures us that when we come close to God with sorrow in our heart, his consuming fire cleanses everything in us. His arms reach out and take us in and rock us back and forth. We rest against his breast and are lulled by the heartbeats of God."

Servant of God Catherine de Hueck Doherty

### Scripture Readings for March 9/10

#### 4th Sunday of Lent

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 | Psalm 137 | Ephesians 2:4-10 | John 3:14-21

## 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.

### A Day of Healing: Beyond Divorce

Whether you are still in the process of divorcing, or you have been divorced for years, this day of healing is offered to all. Explore divorce in a deeper, gentler way, including presentations that guide you in a relationship with yourself, with God, and with others.

**Saturday, April 20, 2024 • 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Schoenstatt Sisters Retreat House  
W284 N698 Cherry Ln, Waukesha, WI 53188

**Cost: \$50 (includes lunch).**  
Financial assistance is available.

**Note:** Adults only please.  
People of all faiths are welcome!

**Pre-registration required:**  
[archmil.regfox.com/dayofhealingregister](http://archmil.regfox.com/dayofhealingregister)

REGISTER HERE:



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**  
**Monday, April 15, 2024**

**Questions? Contact:** Edell Schaefer  
([ballintra@wi.rr.com](mailto:ballintra@wi.rr.com))

ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE

**SAT 9**

2:00 pm Fleece Blanket Event Hall  
5:00 pm Liturgy Church

**SUN 10**

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

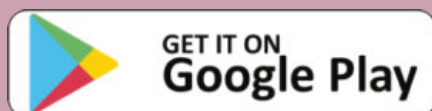


## COMMUNICATIONS

## SPOTLIGHT

### Getting the App is Easy

If you are new to the parish or just have easier access to all things OLOL, download our app! We have active buttons on our website home page that take you directly to the download screen! These buttons will also appear in our email blasts. If you haven't downloaded our app, please consider it as it is the easiest way to stay in touch with OLOL.



### Blessings

I will soon be finishing my second term on the Pastoral Council and have been recalling blessings I've received from this parish. Thirty-five years ago this Lent, Mary Beth and I started coming regularly to Lourdes. Three couples sitting in the row behind us—Donna and Vinnie, Kathleen and Pickles, Nancy and Tom—introduced themselves and welcomed us.

In the mid 1990's the adult drama ministry started. Mary Beth was on stage, and I stayed backstage or in the kitchen. But we both made lifelong friends. Over the years we've celebrated their weddings, children's baptisms, and more recently funerals.

Originally, we attended mostly the 10:30 am Mass, but at some point, migrated to 5:00 pm with an occasional appearance at 8:00 am. I worked every other Saturday at Alverno and would often arrive at the 5:00 pm Mass tired after a long week at work, ready to be rejuvenated by vibrant liturgies, thought-provoking homilies, and good music.

Over the past six years, I've been blessed to be on the Pastoral Council, getting to know the people on the council and the staff and seeing their dedication and faith. Last fall, I worked with a small group to update the parish history and came to a new appreciation of how much this community does, and the wide variety of ministries.

Pope Francis made news this fall when he spoke about blessings for LGBTQ+ couples. As part of Lourdes, we have been blessed in many ways over the years, individually and as a couple. Thank you.

Anita Eikens, Pastoral Council member

## DISCIPLESHIP

### Book Discussion – The Meal That Reconnects: Eucharistic Eating and the Global Food Crisis

Mondays, April 8, 15, and 22

7:00 pm–8:30 pm

Room 10 or via Zoom

Discussion Facilitator: Tanya Gross

In *The Meal That Reconnects*, Dr. Mary McGann, RSCJ, invites readers to a more profound appreciation of the sacredness of eating and the destructiveness of the industrial food system that is supplying food to tables globally. She presents the food crisis as a spiritual crisis—a call to rediscover the theological, ecological, and spiritual significance of eating and to probe its challenge to Christian eucharistic practice. McGann invites communities to reclaim the foundational meal character of eucharistic celebration while offering pertinent strategies for this renewal. Register on the Discipleship Institute web page at [ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/](http://ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/) or through the Parish Office. You have the option of Zoom or in person.

## STAFF EMAIL

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