

SEP 7, 2025

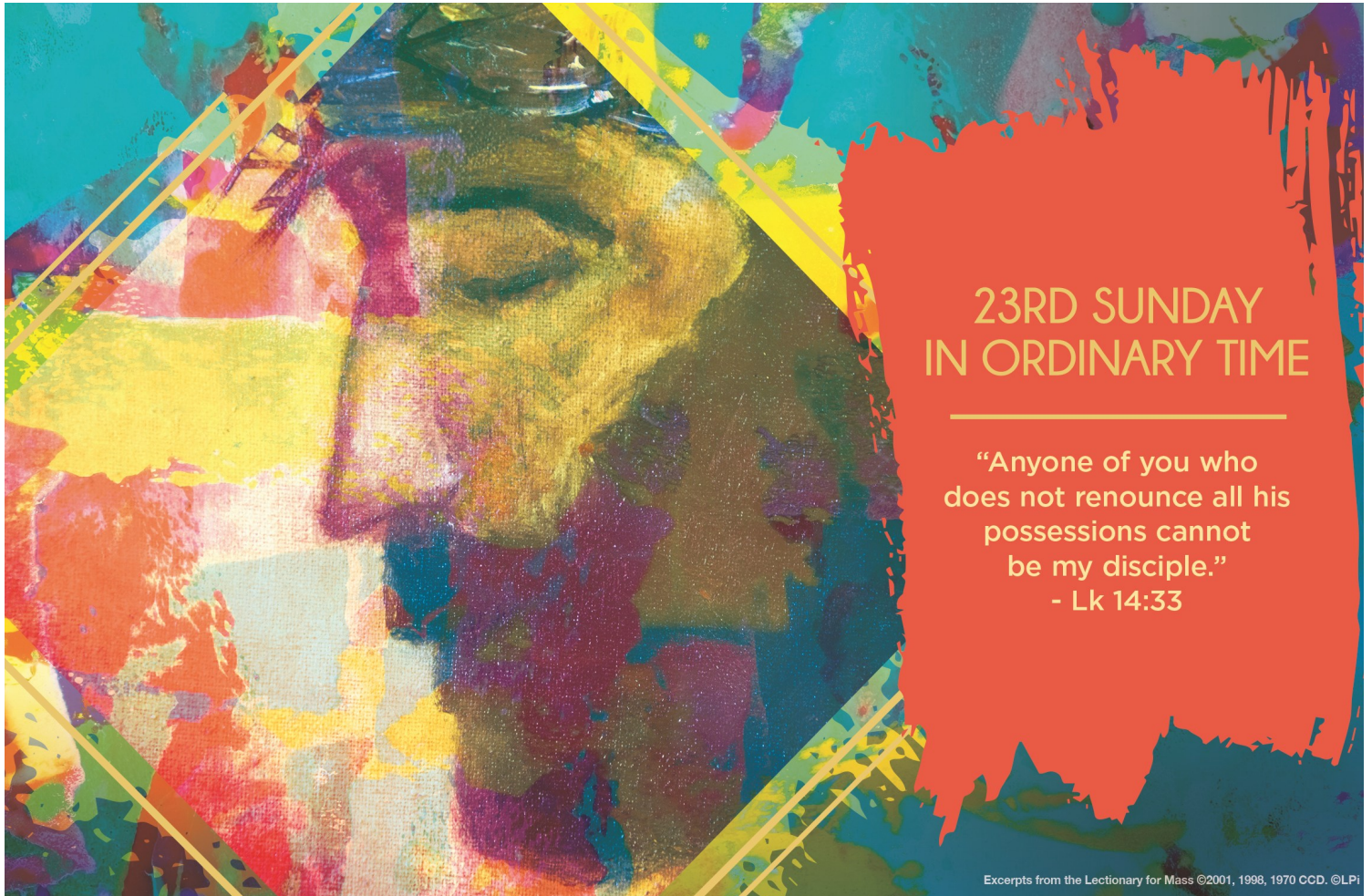
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

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



## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Anyone of you who  
does not renounce all his  
possessions cannot  
be my disciple.”  
- Lk 14:33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

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

### EUCCHARIST:

**SAT** 4:00 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)

**EMAIL** [office@ololmke.org](mailto:office@ololmke.org)

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**JOIN THE PARISH:** [ololmke.org/become-a-member](http://ololmke.org/become-a-member)



# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

## Love One Another Update

Thank you to all who continue to contribute to Love One Another on behalf of Our Lady of Lourdes. We just received our quarterly distribution of \$11,327.60 from the total collected of \$191,389.

If you are new to the parish or would like to contribute to this investment in our future facility improvement projects please call the Parish Office and we will provide you with the information you need.



### NOTES FROM DEB

#### Some Sad News

After five years as our Director of Formation Ministries, Maggie Russell is leaving the staff of Our Lady of Lourdes. For the past couple of years, she has been working on her Master of Science degree, specializing in Professional Counseling. While I jokingly told her that I was hoping she'd fail so she wouldn't leave us, I knew that helping people heal their internal struggles is where Maggie's passion lies. She will be a true gift to her clients as she becomes a practicing therapist in the Milwaukee area.

We are currently advertising to fill Maggie's position, so if you know of someone who might be a good fit for OLOL, please send them my way. In the meantime, we as a staff will pitch in together—as we always do—to keep GIFT and Maggie's many ministries going in this interim time.

I ask that you join me in holding Maggie in prayer as she transitions into this new phase of her life, and let's pray too that God's Holy Spirit guides the right person to our door to take on this vital role for the parish.

Your shepherd,  
Deb Steppe

### VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

#### Discernment

Discernment is accessing the wisdom of our intuition to discover what is essential and true. Detaching from our desire to rush decisions, we seek to distinguish what's true from what is false, the facts from our assumptions, and then choose the best path. With deep reflection, we open ourselves to clarity. We become alert to the messages that come in subtle and surprising ways until the truth emerges. Discernment allows us to be guided by Grace.

In the Gospel, Jesus is calling his followers to set their priorities straight. The way to enhance all their relationships is to be sure God comes first. What can we realistically accomplish as Jesus' disciples? Can you commit to follow through on one thing that will make a difference?

**SUN 7**

**MON 8**

**TUE 9**

*Oktoberfest Sign-up Sheets*  
*Repairers of the Breach Collection*

8:00 am Liturgy (Jurkus) Church  
9:00 am GIFT Hall  
10:30 am Liturgy (Burkert) Church

1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10  
6:30 pm Building & Grounds Rm 3

1:00 pm Art Guild  
Open Studio Rm 4  
3:00 pm Food Pantry Rm 7  
3:30 pm Pink Umbrella Mtg. Rm 3  
6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group Rm 3

# COMMUNITY LIFE

# FORMATION

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of  
Richard Kosiboski  
From  
Kathy Kosiboski & family

*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, October 18, 2025 • 8:15 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/a-day-of-healing-october-18-2025](http://archmil.regfox.com/a-day-of-healing-october-18-2025)

REGISTER HERE:



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**  
Friday, October 10, 2025

**Questions? Contact:** Edell Schaefer  
(ballintra@gmail.com)

ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE

## Still Not Registered for GIFT? You can still Activate the Body of Christ!

GIFT began this weekend, September 7, with Deacon Bill Goulding on the Mass. Our next GIFT session will be Sunday, September 28, at 9:00 am in the Hall. Our new Director of Worship Ministries, Jim Wielgosz, will present on "Secret Superpowers: Unlocking Your God-Given Abilities."

If you haven't yet, register at [ololmke.com/gift](http://ololmke.com/gift) for our intergenerational religious formation program GIFT. GIFT is open to our entire OLOL family. Call the Parish Office with questions.



ACTIVATING THE  
BODY OF CHRIST  
GIFT 2025-2026  
OUR LADY OF LOURDES

## Sacrament Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

Our first Sacrament Prep session for first reconciliation and first Eucharist is Sunday, September 21, from 9:00 am–10:15 am in the Parish Hall. Children must have participated in our formation program, GIFT, last year in order to be eligible to celebrate these sacraments this year. Contact Director of Child Ministry, Steve Szymanski, if you have any questions.

## Things Your History Teacher Didn't Teach You: Blacks in History

Join us on September 15, as Derek Mosley, Director of Marquette Law School's Lubar Center for Public Research and Civic Education, will discuss the many contributions of African Americans as he conveys that Black History is indeed U.S. History.

Historically, the contributions and stories of people of color in America have been minimized or ignored in American history books. Through narration, photos, and humor, Mr. Mosley will provide us an opportunity to meet people and hear stories that will surprise and enlighten.

The program will take place from 6:30 pm–8:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Please register at [ololmke.org/social-justice](http://ololmke.org/social-justice) or call the Parish Office.

**WED 10**

7:30 am St. Ben's Meal Prep Kitchen  
9:30 am Communion Service Church  
10:15 am Faith Group Social Hall C  
7:00 pm GASIC Virtual

**THU 11**

11:00 am Pink Umbrella Mtg. Rm 3  
6:30 pm *The Chosen* Hall C

**FRI 12**

**Office Closed**

## WORSHIP

### The Cost of Discipleship

A teacher asked her eager 10-year-old students to hold up their hands if they would give one million dollars to the missionaries. The response was unanimous! All their hands went up immediately and they shouted, "Yes!" They raised their generous arms again when asked, "Would you give \$1,000?" or "How about \$100?". Their proud arms waved like tall trees in the summer wind.

Finally, the teacher asked, "Would you give \$1 to the missionaries?" Again, the students exclaimed, "Yes!" except for one of the boys. He remained silent and kept his arm down. The teacher was curious and asked him, "Why didn't you say 'Yes,' this time?"

The boy answered, "Well, I actually have a dollar."

We want to be disciples. We want to follow Jesus. It is not always easy to do so.



### Scripture Readings for September 13/14

#### Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Numbers 21:4b-9 | Psalm 78 | Philippians 2:6-11 | John 3:13-17

## OUTREACH

### From St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ."

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

### St. Ben's Meal Program

We serve at St. Benedict the Moor's meal program on Wednesday, September 10. 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/)

### Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: September 9 and 23

Most needed items: bottled juice (64 ounce size), peanut butter (16 ounce size), Hamburger and Tuna Helper, vegetables (all varieties), cookies, and soups .

Thanks for your ongoing support to the pantry. God bless.

**Please watch expiration dates.**  
[ololmke.org/food-pantry](http://ololmke.org/food-pantry)

### Thank You

A heartfelt thank you from the St. Vincent de Paul Society to our generous parishioners. Not only did you step up to the plate when you heard our funds were low, but you also donated much needed school supplies for the students at Prince of Peace. Both the staff and students were very appreciative of your thoughtfulness.

**SAT 13**

**SUN 14**

Oktoberfest Sign-up Sheets  
4:00 pm Liturgy (Suriano) Church

Oktoberfest Sign-up Sheets  
8:00 am Liturgy (Cooper) Church  
10:30 am Liturgy (Lewis) Church

## COMMUNICATIONS

## SPOTLIGHT

### Active Nonviolence Corner

The **Active Nonviolence Corner** on the OLOL website is **now live!** This new initiative offers information, reflection, and action suggestions, with a focus on our call to create opportunities for peace in our world.

The Active Nonviolence Corner will have monthly themes and content will change regularly. This month's theme is "Season of Creation: Peace With Creation." We hope you check it out.

Look for the Active Nonviolence Corner link on the Social Justice page at [ololmke.org/social-justice](http://ololmke.org/social-justice).

### From the Pastoral Council

Nature is turning the page on summer. Here is a challenge for the new season. Pick one way to become involved at Our Lady of Lourdes to add to your routine. Use the website to explore your options. GIFT starts on September 7. It's not too late to sign up. Mark your calendars for the Octoberfest Artisan Fair, October 10-12. Plan now for how you will be involved.

Did you know there are opportunities to become connected to OLOL without leaving home? You can participate in the live stream weekly Mass or pray the weekly Table Reflections. You can interact in a weekly discussion group on Zoom with Fr. Chuck Schramm. The Discipleship Institute offers virtual resources on a wide variety of topics.

Are you creative? The Community Garden, Art Guild, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Sacred Movement Ministry, and Music Ministry provide opportunities for you to share your talents. Ready to reach out? Go to the Outreach page ([ololmke.org/outreach](http://ololmke.org/outreach)) on our website for an expansive list of ways to carry out our faith in action in the community. Limited time to become involved? Go to the Worship page ([ololmke.org/worship](http://ololmke.org/worship)) to find a way to serve while you are here at Mass.

Are you already involved? Invite a friend or make a new friend feel welcome to a ministry you already enjoy. What one small step can you make part of your routine that will enrich our pilgrim church coming to know the Kingdom of God by being Christ to the world?

Christine M. Yatchak, Pastoral Council Member

## DISCIPLESHIP

### Discipleship Institute Presents A Walk Through the Bible

Wednesdays: September 17 and 24  
7:00 pm–8:30 pm  
Room 10  
Presented by Jim Gill

If you attended "Bible Basics for Beginners" last spring, then this is the natural next step for you!

In this two-part session, we will dive just a bit deeper into the origins and arrangement of the Bible. We will learn how to use footnotes, commentaries, and maps as well as resources outside of the Bible such as commentaries and concordances. If you want to sharpen your Bible skills, please register at [ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/](http://ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/) or call the Parish Office.

## STAFF EMAIL

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## 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.

### How to sign up?

There are 2 ways to sign up this year.

1. Electronically: The link is on the OLOL Oktoberfest website ([ololmke.org/oktoberfest/](http://ololmke.org/oktoberfest/)).
2. Paper copy in the meeting room hallway. Similar to years past.