



The Baptism of the Lord

Mass and Communion Services

WEEKEND

Sat: 4:00 pm

Sun: 8:00 am | 10:30 am

WEEKDAY

1st and 3rd Wed: 9:30 am Mass

2nd, 4th, and 5th, Wed: 9:30 am

Communion Service

(Except on holy days or communal reconciliation during Advent and Lent. Please check the Parish Calendar.)



Connect

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ololmke.org/become-a-member



Notes from Deb

A few thoughts on this mid-January weekend

- Next Sunday, January 18, is the Ecumenical Prayer service. All are welcome to join with our Christian sisters and brothers from around the area to begin the week of Christian Unity. Let's pray for peace and let's hear each other's stories of who we see working for peace in our world. This year the service is here at Our Lady of Lourdes. It begins at 3:00 pm with refreshments and time for fellowship in the hall afterward.

- If you have not yet completed your pledge donation form for 2026, it's not too late! Simply give us a note with the amount of money you plan to donate this year and place it in the collection basket. Envelopes are available on the counter by the main office.

- It's cold and flu season! One of the lessons that the COVID pandemic taught us was how important it is to stay home when we're sick. I am grateful for the technology that allows us to live stream Mass every weekend. Those can be found at youtube.com/@ololmke/streams.

Let's continue to hold one another in prayer as we journey into this new year.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

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Calendar

Sunday, January 11

Mitten Tree

8:00 am	Mass (Cooper)	Church
9:00 am	GIFT	Hall
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
11:30 am	Environment Change	Church

Monday, January 12

11:30 am	Resurrection Choir	Rm 9
1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm	Building and Grounds	Rm 3

Tuesday, January 13

9:30 am	Gertrude Kropidlowski Funeral Visitation	Church
11:00 am	Gertrude Kropidlowski Funeral	Church
1:00 pm	Art Guild Open Studio	Rm 4

Wednesday, January 14

7:00 pm	St. Ben's Meal Prep	Kitchen
9:30 am	Mass	Church
10:15 am	Morning Faith Group	Hall C
7:00 pm	GASIC	Rm 3

Thursday, January 15

6:30 pm	Youth Advisory Council	Rm 6
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Friday, January 16—Office Closed

Saturday, January 17

11:00 am	Walking Through Grief Together	Rm 3
1:00 pm	Community Mosaic Class	Rm 4
4:00 pm	Mass (Jurkus)	Church

Sunday, January 18

8:00 am	Mass (Burket)	Church
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
3:00 pm	Ecumenical Prayer Service for Christian Unity	Church

Stewardship Update

Parish Support - December 2025

	ACTUAL as of 12/31/25	BUDGETED for December
Reg. Envelopes	\$99,538.44	\$87,916.67
Offertory	\$5,419.25	\$5,750.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: December 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$553,734.96	\$490,086.65
Op. Expenses	\$447,892.47	\$477,756.17

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/25	\$346,205.22
Donations	\$75,827.67
Expense	\$29,293.26
Balance (12/31/25)	\$392,735.63

Community Life

Our Condolences

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

In Memoriam

In loving memory of **Kathy Masch**
From **Mary Horne**

In loving memory of **Ben Litwin**
From **Karen Holtz**

Virtue of the Week

Respect

Respect is an attitude of honoring ourselves and others as people of value. We care for each person's dignity. Everyone has the right to expect respect. We show respect in the courtesy of our words, and in our tone of voice. When we treat others as we would like to be treated, we raise the level of trust and peace in our relationships. When we live respectfully, we are a source of grace in the world.

In the Gospel, despite John's resistance, Jesus declares it fitting for him to be baptized by John. Here the respect is mutual. Jesus encourages John, and imagine the surprise when John hears the response from skies. Nothing that clear usually happens to us. In what ways are you encouraged to show respect. What does it feel like when you are shown respect?

Formation

Service Program (Grades 7-12) Teen

We're excited to launch a new service program for teens! Each month, we'll offer opportunities to serve both our parish and the greater Milwaukee community. It's an amazing way to live out their faith in real, meaningful ways. Contact Tanya Gross for details. We'd love your input!

Teens will also be asked to do liturgical service. You have been seeing options listed in the bulletin in the Worship section over the last month. In upcoming GIFT sessions, we will share a full list of ways to get involved at Mass, including behind-the-scenes roles for those who prefer a quieter contribution.

January Service Project - Fleece Blankets

We're excited to come together on Saturday, January 24, from 1:00 pm-3:45 pm to create cozy fleece blankets for local homeless shelters and warming houses. Due to fleece fabric availability locally, we will have fleece blanket kits that can be purchased. If you can't make the date but want to donate to help defray the cost of the kits, please contact Tanya Gross. Please reach out to Tanya with any questions about this project.

OCIA Informational Meeting

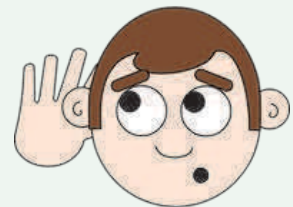
There will be one last Informational Meeting on Thursday, January 29, at 6:00 pm, in Room 10. If you or someone you know is interested in OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation, formerly known as RCIA), please contact Tanya Gross as soon as possible so that we can plan appropriately for you. We begin our OCIA sessions on Sunday, February 15.

Worship

A Reminder, Some Thank-Yous, and Looking Ahead

Assistive Listening Devices

Do you have difficulty hearing the music and spoken word during Mass? If so, please consider trying out one of our Assistive Listening Devices. Each device consists of a simple box and a lightweight earpiece. Just like a radio, you can control your own volume. Wanna give it a try? Simply take one from the gift table area against the back wall, plug the earpiece into the power box and enjoy. Then, please return the device to the charger station at the end of Mass, so that someone else can use it next time.



Advent Thank-Yous

Thank you to all who attended our extra prayer and community experiences during Advent. These included our Advent Kindness Challenge, Advent Evening Prayer, and the "Humble Night" concert, featuring our own Tom and Barb Webber. It's so wonderful to have opportunities to gather as a faith family, celebrating our personal and collective creativity, and continuing to build our kin-dom here on Earth.



Broadway Comes to OLOL

Grab a pen and mark your calendar for our next concert - Friday, February 6, at 7:00 pm. "A Night on Broadway" features parishioners, Jim and Anne Van Deusen, along with several of their theatre friends, as they share an evening of Broadway tunes. There will be powerful vocals and lots of storytelling through the music – and the night will include a wide variety of musical theatre styles. You won't want to miss the fun! A free-will donation will be collected.



Spotlight

Open Wide Our Hearts

In the beginning of a new year, it is a beneficial time to review the past year, ponder our lives, and see the times of growth. A new year is a good opportunity to look back at what guided our intentions and decisions each day, to look at the person we are and who we want to become. As we look over our year, we are watchful for the ways that our lives have taken on greater meaning and when we have resisted it. We ponder how and when hope has filled our days. We meander through the months recalling who and what gave us strength. We look for graced moments that we have totally forgotten, or those days where we realized the grace of a loving, caring God who has walked with us.

God continues to speak to us through the prophets of old. Isaiah from the Old Testament prophesied, "Thus says the Lord, fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine. When you pass through water, I will be with you; in the rivers you shall not drown. When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned; the flames shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your savior. You are precious in my eyes and glorious, and I love you." (Is. 43: 1-2, 4) Let Isaiah's message linger in our hearts as we step into this new year.

Sister Diana De Bruin, OSF and Social Justice Committee Member

Discipleship

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 is an international ecumenical observance where Christians of different denominations come together to pray for unity within the Church. It typically lasts for eight days and runs from January 18–26 this new year. The theme for 2026 is "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope of your calling" (Ephesians 4:4).

The primary purpose of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is to remember Jesus' prayer that his disciples "may be one" (John 17:21) and to pray for the fulfillment of that vision.

Upcoming Discipleship Events

Ecumenical Prayer Service

Sunday, January 18 | 3:00 pm | Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

Save the date! After last year's success, the clergy of the Green Corners, a group of clergy from Greendale, Greenfield, and Hales Corners, have decided to host another ecumenical prayer gathering for unity. More information about the theme and focus of the service will be shared closer to the date.

The Psalms—Faith's Prayerbook

Tuesday, January 20 | 6:30 pm | Room 10 | Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

For millennia, the Psalms have formed the backbone of prayer for people of faith. In this evening of enrichment, we will explore their origins, types and use in prayer throughout time, including in the Eucharistic Liturgy and the Liturgy of the Hours. We will complete the evening by praying the Evening Prayer.

Register online at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute or call the Parish Office.

Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogue

Wednesday, January 28 | 6:00 pm | Greendale Community Church

People of all faiths and no faith, all spiritualities and theologies gather in small groups to share a meal and participate in a moderated discussion using a proven model. Evoking deep exchanges about lived experiences and the role of faith or spirituality in their lives. Participants learn about the beliefs and traditions of others within an atmosphere of respect and understanding and are empowered to stand as witnesses for tolerance and inclusion. Register at greendalecommunitychurch.org/events.

Outreach

St. Ben's Meal Program

We serve at St. Benedict the Moor's meal program on Wednesday, January 14. Please bring food donations to the Parish Office on Monday, Tuesday, or no later than 3:00 pm on Wednesday.

ololmke.org/st-bens/

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: January 13 and 27

Most needed items: personal hygiene, condiments (please **no yellow mustard**), and jelly. Remember to check expiration dates.

Additionally, a sincere thank you to everyone for supporting the pantry. Because of your efforts we have been able to provide basic needs for many.

ololmke.org/food-pantry

Communications

Bulletin News!

For the past several years, our contract with our publisher LPi needed to be altered for cost savings on printing due to ad revenue reduction, mostly caused by the financial impact of COVID-19 on local businesses. This caused us to go to 4-page bulletins for half of the year instead of always having 6-page bulletins. The LPi ad reps have worked very hard over the years to build our advertising back up. We are pleased to announce that this year, every bulletin will be 6 pages long.

While it is good to see businesses able to have funds to advertise again, it's even better if we as a community thank them for their generosity and investment in our community. Be sure to look at the ads on the back of the bulletin and see who is there. Perhaps you may need to connect with one of these businesses now or in the future. Some of them are parishioners of OLOL. Others are local to the community.

Lastly, if you have a business or know of someone who might be interested, please let us know and we will pass the information on. These ads allow us to print the bulletin at no cost to the parish. All we ask is for you to look at the page as a resource rather than something to skip. The ads change annually and some new ones do get added during the year.

Gospel Reflection

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called "Behind the Mac – Greatness." It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, "There's a certain kind of person who doesn't wait for greatness. They make it." It's a compelling message. There's beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can't anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today's Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn't preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." It's not a reward for success. It's not earned. Before he does anything "great," Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: "You are my beloved." That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.

Father John Muir

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 (800) 477-4574 x6424

Join the Fleece Blanket Making Community at OLOL!

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

Saturday, January 24, from 12:30 pm-3:45 pm



- All ages welcome! Great intergenerational activity!
- No experience necessary. Helpers will be available to get you started.
- A blanket blessing for the recipients will be done at the 4:00 pm liturgy.
- Blankets will be donated to various homeless shelters and warming houses in Milwaukee.

This year we have purchased fleece in bulk so you don't have to purchase it ahead of time. You will be able to select pre-cut kits at \$40 per kit.

Please bring a pair of sharp scissors!

If you cannot make a blanket but want to participate, you can donate to defray the cost of the pre-cut kits.

Please contact Tanya Gross (grosst@ololmke.org) or (414) 545-4316 x115 with questions.

Our Lady of Lourdes Hallway Art Gallery Exhibition

Theme: "Coat of Many Colors"

February 28–April 30

Art Exhibition requirements:

Theme: Subject Matter must relate in some way to the theme, "Coat of Many Colors" and is open to the artist's unique interpretation.

Number of Pieces: 1-4 pieces may be exhibited depending on space available

Entrance fee: \$25.00 (Non guild members)
No fee to Art Guild Members

Hanging Requirements: Artwork must be framed and suitable for hanging with a wire. No sawtooth hangers please! Fiber/glass pieces do not have to be framed but must be set up for hanging. **Please clean your frame and glass before submitting.**

Art Intake: Saturday, February 7, and Sunday, February 8 (1/2 hour before and after Mass). To arrange a late drop-off, contact Intake Coordinators, Mary Beth Javorek or Elena Olveda. Absolutely no artwork is accepted after February 25.

Artist Statement Required: Upon submission, please provide a two or three sentence statement on how your pieces relate to the theme.

Pricing: Artwork may be priced or designated as "Not for Sale." Sold items will be red dotted and kept up throughout the entire exhibit. Checks are made out to the artist. A 10% or 20% commission donation to the parish is suggested.

Art accepted: 2-dimensional work only, including drawings, paintings, prints, mixed media, fiber art pieces, clay, mosaics, stained glass, and photography.

Age Requirement: Adults, age 16 and up. No family groups with underage children.

Opening Reception: Takes place following Masses on Saturday, February 28, 4:00 pm and Sunday, March 1, 10:30 am. Artists' presence at receptions is encouraged.

Pick Up Art Weekend: Saturday, May 2, after the 4:00 pm Mass and Sunday May 3 after Mass. Individual arrangements must be made with the Parish Office for pickup between Monday, May 4, and Thursday, May 7.

Labels for Submission

Please cut out this entire column, sign the disclaimer, and turn it in when submitting your work, regardless of whether you submit one or more pieces.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Title:

Media:

Price or NFS (note\$\$ value): _____

Statement: Please provide a 2 or 3 sentences paragraph explaining how the piece relates to the theme (on the back of this label)

Disclaimer: I understand the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and the Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee does not take financial responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of the submitted artwork.

Artist's Signature _____

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Title:

Media:

Price or NFS (note\$\$ value): _____

Statement: Please provide a 2 or 3 sentences paragraph explaining how the piece relates to the theme (on the back of this label)

Disclaimer: I understand the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and the Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee does not take financial responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of the submitted artwork.

Artist's Signature _____