



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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Join the Parish

ololmke.org/become-a-member



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Notes from Deb

Time to retreat!

On Wednesday of this week, the staff of the parish, the Pastoral Council and the Finance Council will spend a few hours on retreat (and eating pizza). As the decision and advising bodies of the parish, I think it's vitally important to not only nurture our individual prayer lives, but to pray together in a special way as we look at our discipleship. I ask that you hold us in prayer on Wednesday evening.

Of course, I think retreats are great for all of us. Our lives can get so hectic! Taking some time to pray, to take stock of how things are going for us, and to simply rest, are sacred and wise endeavors. We are blessed with several retreat centers near us including the Siena Center in Racine (www.SienaRetreatCenter.org) and the Jesuit retreat house in Oshkosh (www.jesuitretreathouse.org). There are retreats that last a weekend, day-long retreats, and even retreats offered online via Zoom.

Whether you can get away for a day or two at a retreat house or for just a few hours in a quiet spot in your home, I invite you to take some time to retreat. Take some time to slow down life's hectic pace and rest in the presence of our God.

Please know of my continued prayers.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Calendar

Sunday, January 18

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

Monday, January 19

1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
5:00 pm	Police District 6 Safety Mtg.	Hall AB

Tuesday, January 20

1:00 pm	SVDP Mtg.	Rm 3
6:00 pm	Adoption Support Group	Rm 6
6:15 pm	Catechist Training	Hall C
6:30 pm	The Psalms	Rm 10
6:30 pm	Faith Sharing Group	Rm 3

Wednesday, January 21

9:30 am	Mass	Church
10:15 am	Morning Faith Group	Hall C
12:30 pm	Euchre Card Group	Rm 10
6:00 pm	Parish Staff and Councils Retreat	Church

Thursday, January 22

9:00 am	Year End Statement Mailing Preparation	Rm 4
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Friday, January 23—Office Closed

Saturday, January 24

12:30 pm	Fleece Blanket Making	Hall
4:00 pm	Mass (Burkert)	Church

Sunday, January 25

8:00 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
9:00 am	Sacrament Prep	Hall A
10:30 am	Mass (Cooper)	Church
11:30 am	OCIA Companion Mtg.	Rm 3

Stewardship Update

Parish Support - December 2025

	ACTUAL as of 12/31/25	BUDGETED for December
Reg. Envelopes	\$102,048.59	\$87,916.67
Offertory	\$5,419.25	\$5,750.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: December 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$556,245.11	\$490,086.65
Op. Expenses	\$447,993.29	\$477,756.17

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/21/25	\$346,205.22
Donations	\$75,827.67
Expense	\$29,293.26
Balance (12/18/25)	\$392,735.63

Community Life

Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of Sister Elizabeth Heese and all others who have died. Please keep them in your prayers.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of **Ben Litwin**
From **Robert L. Pratt**

In loving memory of **Ben Litwin**

From **Rodney L. Harder and Wilma M. Abella Harder**

Virtue of the Week

Honor

Honor is deep respect for what we know is right and true. It is living up to the virtues of our character. We honor our abilities by using them for a meaningful purpose. Honor is appreciation in action. We honor others when we treat them with the dignity they deserve. When we do things we are ashamed of, we restore our honor by taking responsibility and making amends. We act with integrity, not to be admired, but because it is the right thing to do.

Respect shines strongly in the Gospel. But how are we doing today, in our times? When you turn on TV, where do you view respect, disrespect? Can you focus on only speaking respectfully? See what happens!!

Formation

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.

Next GIFT Session – Immigration: Fiction, Facts & Faith – February 1

Please attend our next GIFT session for an engaging and thought-provoking presentation from Darryl Morin and dialogue on the critical issue of immigration. This dynamic session uncovers common myths and realities surrounding immigrants and immigration while examining the six essential principles of immigration reform outlined by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through informed discussion and meaningful reflection, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the intersection between faith, policy, and the human experience of migration.

Darryl is the National President and Chairman of the Board for Forward Latino which is a nonprofit organization that empowers affiliates to inspire and engage communities, strengthen our democracy, improve the lives of working families, protect the environment, and stand up for equality and civil rights.

This is also a GIFT Donut Sunday. Join us from 8:45 am-9:00 am for a donut and fellowship before GIFT starts. To get your donut, RVSP by January 28 on the GIFT webpage under Session 8 or by using this link <https://ololmke.wufoo.com/forms/donut-sundayfebruary-1-signup/>. If you have dietary restrictions, call the Parish Office by January 28. If you do not regularly attend GIFT and wish to attend, please call the Parish Office for details.

Worship

Anointing of the Sick Explained

The sacrament of anointing of the sick is a Catholic ritual where a priest anoints a gravely ill or elderly person with blessed oil, offering spiritual strength, comfort, peace, and forgiveness of sins, uniting them with Christ's Passion, and sometimes restoring physical health or preparing them for eternal life. It provides grace to endure suffering, strengthens hope, and can be received multiple times, not just at the point of death, for serious illness or old age.

Who Can Receive It?

- Any baptized Catholic who is seriously ill, in danger of death, or experiencing the frailty of old age.
- People facing major surgery or chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, or serious mental illness.

What Happens During the Sacrament?

- **Laying on of Hands:** The priest places his hands on the sick person, a sign of blessing and invocation of the Holy Spirit.
- **Prayer:** The priest offers prayers for healing and strength, drawing from Scripture (like James 5:14-16).
- **Anointing with Oil:** The priest anoints the forehead and hands (and sometimes the area of pain) with the Oil of the Sick (blessed olive oil).
- **Words:** The prayer accompanying the anointing asks the Lord to help them with the grace of the Holy Spirit and to free them from sin, raising them up.

Effects of the Sacrament:

- **Spiritual Healing:** Forgives sins, provides peace, courage, and hope.
- **Unites us with Christ:** Shares in Christ's suffering, giving meaning to suffering (Redemptive Suffering).
- **Physical Healing:** May restore physical health if it is God's will, but this is not guaranteed.
- **Preparation for Eternal Life:** Prepares the soul for its journey to God.

Key Understanding: It's a powerful sacrament for the sick, not just the dying, symbolizing God's healing touch and presence in suffering.

Join us the weekend of February 7 and 8 to experience this beautiful sacrament during all liturgies as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Spotlight

Donation of bakery goods to St. Ben's

Our Lady of Lourdes has served at St. Ben's Caphuchin Community Food Program for a number of years. Mel and Joni Hynek, the dynamic duo, have led this ministry for years. Every meal served is different. Each day a different meal is served by a different group of volunteers. Baked chicken is the main course OLOL provides. I write this as one of the many volunteers who serve at St. Ben's. My "sweet" role is overseeing the desserts served, which tops off the delicious meal. I'm impressed and immensely grateful for the number of members from OLOL who regularly and consistently provide a variety of desserts, often homemade. The guests coming through the food line end up at the dessert section to choose the treat of their choice. I reach out to all of you, unknown Unsung Disciples, who continue and consistently contribute to this part of the meal. Amazingly, we never run out of desserts and can offer the guests more than just one cookie. What a "sweet" ending to a delicious meal. I am so grateful for your generosity and consistency. God's blessings to you. My prayers are sent out to all you generous individuals.



Jacqueline Dombrowski
Pastoral Council 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

The clergy of the Green Corners, a group from Greendale, Greenfield, and Hales Corners, have decided to host another ecumenical prayer gathering for unity. Who do you see working for peace in the world today? Come share your answers to this question and hear who our Christian sisters and brothers see as working toward peace. Light refreshments will follow in the Hall.

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

Grief Support

The Walking Through Grief Together group will meet twice next month, February 7 and 21 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:

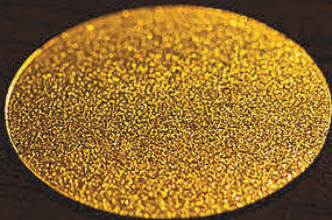
January 27, February 10 and 24

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

Something
meaningful



has been
growing for
50 years.

Service Opportunities

Teen Service Program (Grades 7-12)

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 - an amazing way to live out their faith in real, meaningful ways. Please contact Tanya Gross with questions or interest.

January - Fleece Blankets

Come together on Saturday, January 24, from 12:30 pm-3:45 pm to create cozy fleece blankets for local homeless shelters and warming houses. RSVP ahead of time by purchasing a fleece blanket kit from Tanya so we can plan for space accordingly. If you can't make the date but want to donate to help defray the cost of the kits, please contact Tanya.

February – Valentine's Day Cards for Veterans

Join us in spreading kindness this Valentine's Day! We're partnering with the Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative (MHVI) to create heartfelt cards for veterans in our community. Drop in any time between 6:00 pm-8:00 pm on Thursday, February 5, in Room 10 and bring your creativity! No RSVP needed.

March – Food Sort at Feeding America

Looking for something to do in March? We have reserved a spot with Feeding America on Saturday, March 14, from 9:00 am-11:30 am. Learn about what Feeding America does in our community and then help them sort the food they get in bulk. The time flies by! Kids as young as 10 can participate in this one as long as there is an adult accompanying them. Space is filling up and we have a limited number of slots so sign up early!

In addition, 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.



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