



1st Sunday of Lent

Mass and Communion Services

WEEKEND

Sat: 4:00 pm

Sun: 8:00 am | 10:30 am

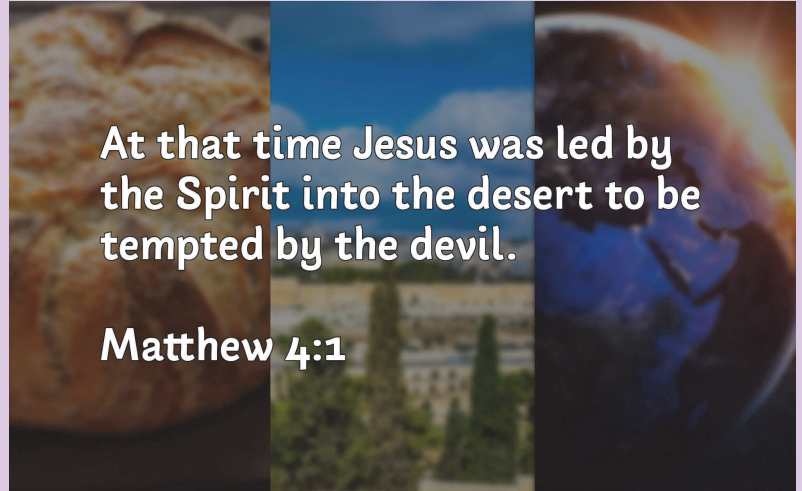
WEEKDAY

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

Greetings all,

These are busy days here at Our Lady of Lourdes! I am pleased to tell you that we continue to grow! Folks are registering as new members every month. What a blessing! To help us get to know one another and to help us celebrate who we are, we will be doing a photo directory this summer. Representatives from Harmonn Studios will be here on the first week of June and the first week of July to take photos of everyone—at no cost to you or the parish—and welcome in the photo is your family pet!

As our membership has grown, so has our discipleship. I am in the process of trying to understand all the different ministries we undertake and who in our parish are engaging in them. To that end, I am in the process of sending out emails to committee chairs. I look forward to seeing the big picture of our OLOL ministries—I'm guessing that it will be quite an amazing picture.

The Discipleship Institute folks have begun a new venture – Disciples on the Journey podcast! The monthly podcast will feature OLOL parishioners who share their faith journeys. The podcast can be found on our Word Services and Reflections page at ololmke.org/word-services-and-reflections/. In the first episode, you will hear the story of my job interview at the archdiocese (think chocolates...and maybe even bribery 😊).

Know of my continued prayers.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

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Bill Goulding (Deacon) gouldingb@ololmke.org	Cindi Roark (Finance) roarkc@ololmke.org
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Julie Petri (Admin. Asst.) petrij@ololmke.org	Jim Wielgosz (Worship Ministry) wielgoszj@ololmke.org

Calendar

Sunday, February 22

8:00 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
9:00 am	GIFT	Hall
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
10:30 am	OCIA Reflection	Rm 3

Monday, February 23

1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
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Tuesday, February 24

1:00 pm	Art Guild Class	Rm 4
1:00 pm	Priest/Parish Director Deanery Mtg.	Rm 10
3:00 pm	Food Pantry	Rm 7
5:30 pm	Pink Umbrella	Rm 7
6:00 pm	Finance Council	Rm 9
6:30 pm	Season for Nonviolence Prayer Service	Church

Wednesday, February 25

9:30 am	Communion Service	Church
10:15 am	Wednesday Morning Faith Group Social	Hall C

Thursday, February 26

12:00 pm	Women's Grief Support Group	Hall C
3:30 pm	Spirit & Grace Choir Rehearsal	Church
5:30 pm	Pink Umbrella	Rm 7
6:30 pm	Oktoberfest Mtg.	Rm 3
6:30 pm	Lent Evening Prayer	Church

Friday, February 27—Office Closed

6:30 pm	All Saints' Choir Presentation	Church
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Saturday, February 28

<i>Hallway Art Show Opening</i>		
<i>Collection for Capuchin Community Services</i>		
9:30 am	9th & 10th Grade Retreat	Hall
4:00 pm	Mass (Burkert)	Church

Sunday, March 1

<i>Hallway Art Show Opening</i>		
<i>Collection for Capuchin Community Services</i>		
8:00 am	Mass (Abert)	Church
9:00 am	Sacrament Prep	Hall
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
10:30 am	OCIA Reflection	Rm 3

Stewardship Update

Parish Support - February 2026

	ACTUAL as of 2/5/26	BUDGETED for February
Reg. Envelopes	\$25,792.08	\$60,916.67
Offertory	\$693.00	\$3,750.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$691,856.02	\$656,846.64
Op. Expenses	\$590,966.77	\$644,478.82

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/21/25	\$346,205.22
Donations	\$88,745.55
Expense	\$29,293.26
Balance (2/5/26)	\$405,657.51

Community Life

In Memoriam

In loving memory of **John Zaganczyk Jr.**
From **Thomas Maher**

In loving memory of **Ben Litwin**
From **Wayne and Kathy Sojkowski**

Oktoberfest Meeting

Thursday, February 26

Topic: Food and Menu

All are welcome as we choose the menu for the party!

Catholic Social Teaching

In Matthew's account of Jesus' 40 day fast in the desert, the devil tempts Jesus three times. The first temptation is food, the second is pride ("if you are the son of God, throw yourself down"), and the third, power. This harsh testing prepares Jesus for his ministry.

Being fully human and fully divine must have been quite the balancing act. Experiencing suffering, witnessing suffering, and living under corrupt occupation would almost certainly have tempted Jesus to use his power to solve all of the earthly problems before him; however, Jesus didn't come to take over. He came to bring healing, forgiveness, and an invitation so that we might join together and build the "kin-dom" of God. Perhaps the 40 days of Lent this year could be used for discernment as we each struggle to find the best way to bring forth the kin-dom in these challenging times. Are you called to provide aid? To make phone calls and write letters? To march? Pray? Host discussions? Provide hospitality to those affected by current injustices? What temptations get in the way of your ministry?

Formation

Lent Booklets Available for GIFT Households and All GIFT Children and Youth

We have Lenten resources for all GIFT households, as well as Lenten resources for children and youth at each GIFT grade level. If you have not picked yours up yet, please do so outside of the Formation Ministry Office (Room 2). Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 18.

Next GIFT Session – Active Christianity: Faith is the Driving Force - February 22, 2026

Mike Kolz, a Theology teacher for 40 plus years at the high school level, will be our next presenter. Join us as he talks about Christianity being a faith that requires action. As we try to walk in the footsteps of our Lord, it is expected that we do as Jesus did. Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved You." To love as a Christian, we are called to actively serve. In this session, we will discuss the ways we can emulate the path and actions of Jesus in our effort to bring about the Kingdom here on Earth.

If you do not regularly attend GIFT and wish to attend, please call the Parish Office for details.

9th and 10th Grade Retreat

Our 9th and 10th graders will be on retreat on Saturday, February 28, from 9:30 am–5:00 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes. Please remember to keep these youth in prayer as they explore how we are all created in the image and likeness of God.

Youth Advisory Council

Our next meeting is Thursday, March 5, from 6:30 pm-7:30 pm in Room 9. Anyone in grades 7-12 is welcome! We will be planning some events for the remainder of the year based on the brainstorming done at our last meeting. Please contact Tanya Gross with any questions.

Worship

Shalom

There is a universal human longing, spanning across many cultures and religions, for a renewed world. We see the world as it is but hope and pray for the world as it should be. Different cultures have different words for this longing, but the biblical tradition of Christianity draws from the Hebrew vision of **shalom**.

Shalom is translated as "peace," but it is much larger than the absence of conflict. Shalom imagines and calls forth the world that God intended. It is about the restoration of right relationship: with God, self, others, and creation. It could also be described as: well-being, harmony, wholeness, abundance, and justice.

Deepening Prayer

One opportunity for achieving shalom is to deepen your prayer life. For some of us, this means beginning a habit of daily prayer, setting aside time each day to share your hopes, joys, fears, and frustrations with God. Praying first thing in the morning, while the house is still quiet, or talking to God while on your commute to work are simple ways to integrate prayer into everyday life. Utilize the Little Black Book for Lent, pray the Stations of the Cross, visit our online daily Lenten retreat, attend the Lenten Evening Prayer on Thursday evening at 6:30 pm. Even the simplest form of prayer can begin to lead you to right relationship with God.

Singing is Praying Twice!

Are you planning to attend our Easter Vigil celebration on April 4? Please consider joining the Easter Vigil Choir and add your voice to the joyous spirit of that most holy night.

Rehearsals (one absence is okay / attendance at the final rehearsal is mandatory)

Mondays, March 9, 16, 23 – 6:00 pm-7:15 pm

Monday, March 30 – 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Mass–Saturday, April 4 – 7:00 pm (meet at 6:00 pm)

Questions? Please contact Anne Van Deusen.

Spotlight

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair 2026

Yes, we are a go! Thank you to Nevenka, Jean, Belen, Mary and Cliff for coordinating our kitchen and food for Oktoberfest! Sharing a meal is at the center of our family and religious traditions.

It takes many hands to throw a party. Every contribution is a gift! Hanging lights, moving furniture, baking strudel, making a theme basket, selling a raffle ticket, donating a boxed cake and so much more. Thank you to all who are a part of our autumn celebration of talent and family.

The team always benefits from new ideas and more participants. If you are looking for a way to meet more people, find out more about Oktoberfest, or are thinking you may want to be more involved at OLOL, then please know you are welcome. All meetings are posted in the bulletin and open to everyone.

If you are an art show shopper, keep your eyes open and invite new artists to apply to join Oktoberfest. Very shortly, the application information will be on the web page.

We are off to a great start and look forward to the party in October!

Barb Webber (bwebber@wi.rr.com)

Discipleship

Shalom

Lent. There will be so many opportunities to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ during this spiritual season. This Lent, our faith community will focus on the theme of “shalom.”

The full meaning of shalom is more than just “peace” and includes concepts like wholeness, completeness, harmony, well-being, security, and prosperity. Derived from a Hebrew root meaning “to be complete,” shalom encompasses a state of being where everything is intact, nothing is missing, and relationships—with oneself, others, and God—are put right. As a faith community, we will work together this season to achieve “shalom.”

Upcoming Discipleship Events

Lent Evening Prayer Service

Deacon Bill Goulding and Deb Steppe will alternate hosting Evening Prayers throughout the season of Lent at 6:30 pm on the following Thursdays: February 26, March 5, 12, and 19. Our theme will be “Shalom.” Come to learn how to achieve the shalom that only God can provide – wholeness, completeness, soundness, health, and serenity. You are welcome to attend one or all. These services will be live-streamed.

All Saints Church Gospel Choir Concert

Friday, February 27 | 6:30 pm | Church

We are blessed to have an on-going relationship with All Saints Catholic Church in Milwaukee, and for a third year their choir will lead us in a celebration of black history. Enjoy an inspiring evening of song and reflection followed by fellowship and refreshments. Register at: www.ololmke.org/social-justice/ or call the parish office. Free Admission: A suggested donation of hygiene items for distribution through All Saints Church would be appreciated.

Sacred Balance in an Exhausting World

Monday, March 23 | 6:30 pm

Does the world feel like it is asking more than you have to give? If you wake up already tired, feeling physically heavy, and spiritually muted, you are not just stressed – you are experiencing a total system drain. In a chaotic, negative heavy, non-stop world, finding “shalom” isn’t just a luxury: it is a sacred necessity. Parishioner Ann LeBaron presents some basic health tips that will help you become a healthy, well-rounded disciple. Register online at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/ or call the Parish Office.

Outreach

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates:

February 24, March 10 and 24

Most needed items: Knorr sides (both pasta and rice), Hamburger Helper, and cookies. 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

Communication

What AI Is – and What It Isn't

You've probably heard people talk about "AI" as if it's either going to solve all our problems or take over the world by next Tuesday. Rest assured: if AI **were** planning world domination, it would first have to understand planning a parish calendar, and that alone would stop it cold.

At its simplest, **Artificial Intelligence is just a set of computer tools that notice patterns and make suggestions.** It can help draft a note, organize information, or remind you of the word you were trying to think of but couldn't because you were on your third cup of coffee.

There are different kinds of AI, too. Some can create images or music. Others can help write or summarize text. AI learns by studying examples, like a student preparing for an exam, except AI never sleeps, never eats, and never once asks, "Is this going to be on the test?"

But even when AI produces something impressive, **it doesn't feel joy, inspiration, or the Holy Spirit giving it a nudge.** It doesn't pray. It doesn't dream. It doesn't have opinions about the carpet color in the Parish Office. It simply imitates patterns.

So no, AI isn't taking over the world, and it won't ask you, "Do you want to play a game?" Used wisely, AI can lighten tasks and free us to focus on what matters most: people, relationships, compassion, and community. It's a tool – not a threat, not a savior, and definitely not the next Supreme Ruler of Earth (but say "Please," and "Thank you," when using your smart speaker, just in case).

Youth Service Opportunities

March – Food Sort at Feeding America

Looking for something to do in March? We only have a few spots left for Feeding America on Saturday, March 14, from 9:00 am-11:30 am. Kids as young as 10 can participate in this one as long as there is an adult accompanying them. Contact Tanya Gross if you want to participate.

Service Booklets

Liturgical Service Booklets were distributed to all teens in Grades 7-10 at the last GIFT session. A reminder to look over the opportunities and choose one area where you will participate through June 2026. We will confirm those areas at the next GIFT session on Sunday, February 22.

More Community Life

Welcome New Parishioners

January 2026

Francisco & Janeth Mendieta

Teresa Mrnik

Karen Robinette

Jesus & Maritza Campos Vazquez



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Collection for Capuchin Community Services March 1-8, 2026

Capuchin Community Services' guests are always in need of hygiene items. **Travel-sized supplies** are distributed to our guests at **St. Ben's Community Meal**, where many are homeless. **Household-size supplies** are distributed at the **House of Peace**, where most guests have a home.

The Human Concerns Committee is asking for your help in supplying these basic needs for those that are struggling. Here's a suggested list:

Soap/Body Wash

Shampoo, Conditioner

Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Dental Floss, Lip Balm

Hand/Body Lotion

Deodorant

Shaving Razor

Hand Sanitizer

Feminine Sanitary Products

Facial Tissues, Toilet Paper

Dish Soap

Washcloth/Baby Wipes

Please drop off your donations in the bins at the west and east entrances.

Thank you OLOL for your continued generosity!!

(For more information visit their website: <https://www.capuchincommunityservices.org/>)