



2nd 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.)





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Notes from Deb

Easter Hospitality

A tradition here at Our Lady of Lourdes is to gather in the Parish Hall for a short reception after the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. After that sacred liturgy where we hear our salvation history, light the Easter candle, and sing the Exultet and soaring Alleluias, it is wonderful to be able to have a cold drink and some sweets afterward.

We are looking for a few parishioners to coordinate the reception this year. Duties would include putting out sign-up sheets a few weeks before Easter requesting donations for bottled water and desserts, setting up the treats in the hall on Holy Saturday afternoon and cleaning up afterward.

This is a lovely ministry opportunity and is just for one night. All the information from last year is on hand, so planning will not be difficult. If you are interested in providing some Easter hospitality, please give me a call.

Thank you!

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

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Calendar

Sunday, March 1

Hallway Art Show Opening

Collection for Capuchin Community Services

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

Monday, March 2

9:30 am	Active Nonviolence Planning Mtg.	Rm 9
1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10

Tuesday, March 3

10:30 am	SVDP Mtg.	Rm 3
5:30 pm	Pink Umbrella	Rm 7
6:30 pm	GIFT Core Team Mtg.	Virtual
6:30 pm	Season for Nonviolence Prayer Service	Church

Wednesday, March 4

9:30 am	Mass	Church
10:15 am	Wednesday Morning Faith Group Social	Hall C
12:30 pm	Euchre Card Group	Rm 10
6:00 pm	Worship Team Mtg.	Rm 3
6:30 pm	Women's Spirituality	Rm 6

Thursday, March 5

12:00 pm	Women's Grief Support Group	Hall C
4:00 pm	Serving at All Saints Meal Program	Off-site
5:30 pm	Pink Umbrella	Rm 7
6:30 pm	Youth Advisory Council Planning	Rm 9
6:30 pm	Lent Evening Prayer	Church

Friday, March 6—Office Closed

Saturday, March 7

Hallway Art Show

Collection for Capuchin Community Services

11:00 am	Walking Through Grief Together	Rm 3
4:00 pm	Mass (Burkert)	Church
5:00 pm	Men's Spirituality Group Planning	Rm 9

Sunday, March 8

Hallway Art Show

Collection for Capuchin Community Services

8:00 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
10:30 am	Mass (Lewis)	Church
10:30 am	OCIA Reflection	Rm 3

Stewardship Update

Parish Support - February 2026

	ACTUAL as of 2/12/26	BUDGETED for February
Reg. Envelopes	\$38,394.45	\$60,916.67
Offertory	\$1,611.50	\$3,750.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$707,642.58	\$656,846.64
Op. Expenses	\$629,299.59	\$644,478.82

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/21/25	\$346,205.22
Donations	\$88,994.55
Expense	\$29,293.26
Balance (2/12/26)	\$405,906.51

Community Life

In Memoriam

In loving memory of **John Alexander Zaganczyk Jr.**

From **Zaganczyk Family**

In loving memory of **Gertrude Kropidlowski**

From **Sue Miller**

Women's Spirituality Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 4

6:30 pm–8:00 pm

Discussion and reflection of next weekend's scripture readings, led by fellow parishioners. All women welcome.

Virtue of the Week

Devotion

Devotion is commitment to something we care about deeply. It is a passionate focus on our life's purpose. Devotion to those we love is a promise kept in daily ways to care for one another always. What is my "yes"? What calls me so strongly that I cannot resist, knowing that it is truly mine to do? When we are devoted, we give all we have and all that we are. That is our true wealth.

How are you a blessing to those you know and to those in need?

Do you bear your share of hardship to spread the Gospel message?

How can you let Jesus calm your fears?

These seem to be our challenges from the readings today.

Formation

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.

Next GIFT Session – March 15, 2026

Our next GIFT presenter is Tanya Gross, Director of Formation Ministries here at Our Lady of Lourdes. She will be presenting on our GIFT theme this year - "Activating the Body of Christ". For more about Tanya, you can check out her staff bio on our website at ololmke.org/parish-staff/.

If you do not regularly attend GIFT and wish to attend, please know you are always welcome. Call the office for details on registering so we can plan appropriately for you.

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.

How Does the Lenten Practice of Fasting Facilitate Shalom?

Fasting helps achieve shalom (wholeness, peace, and harmony) by creating space to prioritize spiritual needs over physical desires, fostering closer connection with God, and building empathy for others. By intentionally abstaining from food or comfort, individuals cultivate humility, sharpen spiritual focus, and practice self-control, leading to inner peace.

- **Cultivates Spiritual Connection:** Fasting breaks routines to focus on God, allowing for deeper prayer and reflection. It helps individuals align their hearts with divine will.
- **Encourages Humility and Repentance:** It is a way to humble oneself before God, leading to repentance, spiritual renewal, and a stronger, more dependent relationship with God.
- **Fosters Inner Peace and Self-Control:** By bridling fleshly desires, fasting increases self-control, which helps calm inner turmoil and fosters a sense of inner peace.
- **Enhances Empathy and Compassion:** The experience of hunger fosters greater compassion for the poor and oppressed, driving actions that promote justice and peace in the community.
- **Purification and Focus:** It is seen as a means to quiet the distractions of life, allowing for greater spiritual clarity, discernment, and strength.

Fresh Ways to Fast

- Limiting social-media exposure or fasting from the 24-hour news networks are ways to quiet our minds and open our hearts to transformation.
- We might also strive to fast from anger, road rage, workaholism, judgment or jealousy.

Lent is a time to fast from those things or habits that may have become a roadblock to our relationship with God.

Spotlight

Celebrating the Sacraments!

Here at Our Lady of Lourdes, we do intentional discipleship very well. We often talk about celebrating the sacraments, but have you ever thought about celebrating on the way to a sacrament?

A few weeks ago, the communion song began with "Taste, taste and see, the goodness of God, the blessings of God." People had already started clapping to the lively beat when it was our row's turn to get in line. A few teenagers ahead of me were doing a bit of fancy footwork for a few measures. I thought, "Wow! If we all really believed in God's presence in the Eucharist, we'd all be dancing up the aisle to receive the sacrament!" How wonderful to see youth excited about being at Mass and joyfully participating. I witnessed the goodness and blessings of God!

That same weekend, we had the sacrament of anointing at all the Masses. I was honored to accompany the priests as they traveled around the room, bringing the holy oils out to the people. The peace and joy on each person's face as the oil was placed on their foreheads and upturned hands revealed a sacred moment. Weekly, we proclaim that we reverence the presence of God in the Word, in the sacraments, and in each other. This communal anointing was a powerful witness that, indeed, we were in the presence of God.

Finally, each week, we call forward our homebound Eucharistic Ministers. The preparing, blessing and sending of these disciples attest to another way of cherishing and living the sacraments here at Lourdes. We all participate in this ministry as we raise our hands in blessing.

So, next time you see me at Mass, I just might be dancing! Come join me!

Mary Botsford, Pastoral Council

Discipleship

Shalom

As a faith community, we will work together during this season of Lent to achieve "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. Disciples are called to be agents of God's peace (or shalom) in a chaotic world. This involves living out the values of the Kingdom of God—wholeness and justice—in our personal lives, relationships, and communities.

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: 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.

Communal Reconciliation

Wednesday, March 11 | 12:00 pm and 7:00pm

Join us as we gather as a faith community to admit our need for healing and forgiveness as we journey through Lent. There will be the opportunity for private confession after the communal service.

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

Capuchin Collection

The Human Concerns Committee is sponsoring a Collection of Hygiene Items for the Capuchin Community Services March 1-8.

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

Donations can be placed into the bins located inside the East and West Church Entrances.

Please see the flyer in the March 1 bulletin for more information. Thank you for your generosity!

Communication

What Magisterium.ai Is – and Why It's Actually Pretty Wonderful

If you've ever tried to look up a Church teaching online, you know the experience can feel a bit like wandering into the world's largest library with no map, no librarian, and a dozen people shouting contradictory answers from the stacks. Enter Magisterium.ai, a tool designed to make that whole adventure a lot less... adventurous.

Magisterium.ai is essentially a faithful, well-organized, never-tired assistant that helps you find clear, cited answers from authentic Catholic teaching. It draws from tens of thousands of Church documents (encyclicals, councils, saints, Scripture, the Catechism, and more) and brings them together in one place so you don't have to go spelunking through PDFs at 11:00 pm.

Think of it as the world's most patient theology librarian. It doesn't roll its eyes. It doesn't sigh when you ask a basic question. It doesn't say, "Were you sleeping during CCD class?" It simply offers reliable, well-sourced answers, instantly. In fact, the creators describe it as the "world's #1 answer engine for the Catholic Church," which is a bold claim, but honestly, after seeing it work, it's hard to argue.

And no, Magisterium.ai is not here to replace priests, catechists, or your favorite parish director of communication and technology integration. It doesn't preach homilies (but can write them), hear confessions, or judge your coffee intake. It just helps you find trustworthy information quickly, so you can spend more time on the things that matter: prayer, ministry, service, and maybe even getting to bed on time.

Used wisely, it's a gift – a tool that supports formation, deepens understanding, and makes the riches of the Church more accessible than ever before. And unlike some AI tools, this one isn't guessing. It's citing. It's grounded. It's faithful. It's here to help.

Do you want to check it out? Just go to magisterium.com to enter your first query!

Now, if only it could also help schedule the parish calendar. But let's not ask for miracles.



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The Rosebud Program

The Human Concerns Committee, in collaboration with the Women's Spirituality members, is pleased to announce the inception of the Rosebud Program, a part of the Elizabeth Ministry.

This program honors life by offering families prayer and support during the tender times of bringing new life into a family.

Prayer intentions are requested through the use of six different colored prayer request cards and colored roses. It's as easy as writing your request on a card and hanging the card on the corresponding-colored rose. The roses, with the prayer intentions, are displayed in a vase located by the Our Lady of Lourdes statue in the west entrance.

Yellow –Wanting a child

for those wanting a child by trying to conceive, suffering infertility, or seeking to adopt

Pink – Pregnancy

for those who are pregnant

Red – birth or adoption

for those who have recently given birth or adopted

White –Loss

if you have lost a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, or newborn death

Blue – Troubled Times

if your child has an illness or you are facing any other troubles

Purple – Grandparent Concerns

for grandparents who have concerns with a grandchild

As prayers are requested, Human Concerns and Women's Spirituality members will pray for your intentions.

Once the vase is filled, the roses will be recycled for others to use.

The roses, and associated materials, can be found in the west entrance of church in front of the Our Lady of Lourdes statue.