



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

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

Triduum

We have journeyed through Lent and now enter into Holy Week—our most sacred days.

We will begin the Triduum on Thursday night when we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's supper, not only hearing the scriptures of the night before Jesus died, but we will live them out as we wash one another's feet as Jesus did at the Last Supper.

On Good Friday, we will listen to Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial, reminding us again of the human heartbreak Jesus must have experienced during those most difficult days. There are two other prayer opportunities on Good Friday: A synodal style of prayer with Fr. Bill and me at noon in church and the ecumenical Good Friday service at St. Luke's Lutheran church in Greendale with a procession through the village at 2:00 pm and the prayer service at 3:00 pm.

On Holy Saturday night, we darken the church and light the Easter fire and watch the light of Christ fill our worship space. We will hear in scripture the stories of our faith. And on that night and on Easter Sunday morning our "Alleluias" will ring out with joy.

Please join us and bring a friend!

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Calendar

Sunday, March 29—Passion Sunday

Hallway Art Show

8:00 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
10:30 am	Mass (Abert)	Church
11:30 am	OCIA Retreat	Rm 3
11:30 am	Environment Change	Church

Monday, March 30

1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:00 pm	Easter Vigil Choir Rehearsal	Church

Tuesday, March 31

10:30 am	SVDP Mtg.	Rm 3
6:30 pm	Season for Nonviolence Prayer Service	Church

Wednesday, April 1

9:30 am	Mass	Church
10:15 am	Wednesday Morning Faith Group Social	Hall C
1:00 pm	Euchre Card Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm	Women's Spirituality	Rm 6

Thursday, April 2—Holy Thursday

7:00 pm	Holy Thursday Mass	Church
9:30 pm	Environment Change	Church

Friday, April 3—Good Friday | Office Closed

12:00 pm	Good Friday Reflection: A Synodal Experience	Church
7:00 pm	Good Friday Veneration Service	Church
9:30 pm	Environment Change	Church

Saturday, April 4—Holy Saturday

Hallway Art Show

11:00 am	Easter Food Blessing	Church
12:00 pm	OCIA Rehearsal	Church
7:00 pm	Easter Vigil (Burkert)	Church

Sunday, April 5—Easter Sunday

Hallway Art Show

8:00 am	Mass (Jurkus)	Church
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
10:30 am	Children's Easter Service	Rm 9



Stewardship Update

Love One Another

Thank you to all who continue to contribute to the Love One Another campaign on behalf of Our Lady of Lourdes. We just received our quarterly distribution (ending on 1/31/2026). The total collected was \$64,296.09 and we received our distribution of \$27,344.44.

LOL was the recipient of a bequest dedicated to this campaign during the last quarter which made a large impact on our distribution portion.

If you are new to the parish or would like to contribute to this investment in our future endeavors, please call the office and we will provide you with the information you need.

Community Life

Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of Pat Galaska, Richard Bathke, and all others who have died. Please keep them in your prayers.

In Memoriam

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

In loving memory of **Therese Marsicek**
From **Dan Marsicek and family**

In loving memory of **Jim Arnsdorff and Douglas Hardy**
From **Theresa Arnsdorff**

In loving memory of **Victor and Stella Witkowski**
From **Theresa Arnsdorff**

Women's Spirituality Group Meeting

Wednesday, April 1 | 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

Zeal

Zeal is a passion for a purpose we deeply value. We follow a vision of what is possible with enthusiasm. When we are zealous, we give our all. Zeal is fueled by our belief and faith. We do all that we can to serve a call we believe to be real and true. We need tolerance when our beliefs differ from others. Zeal illuminates even the smallest task with joy.

What is the real zeal of Palm Sunday? As we start this holy week, we realize the importance of hearing the story of Jesus' real suffering and death. Listen carefully again on Good Friday as we hear of the betrayal, torture, and humiliation that Jesus endured. Sit in front of a crucifix and consider what that was like.

Formation

Calendar Change for April GIFT session

Please note that the date for the April GIFT Service Project has changed due to the Milwaukee Riverkeeper event. This event will now be held on Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 am–12:00 pm. We will clean up Jackson Park again. Lunch will be at Our Lady of Lourdes. Registration to open soon.

Easter Prayer Service for Children Ages 3-6

It's time to celebrate...New Life in Jesus! We will sing, pray, hear the story of the first Easter, and more during the 10:30 am liturgy Easter Sunday, April 5. You can register your child as you enter church for the 10:30 am Mass on Easter. At the beginning of the liturgy, the children will be dismissed. We hope to see you!

7th and 8th Grade Retreat

Our 7th and 8th graders will be on retreat on Saturday, April 25, from 9:30 am–5:00 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes. Please remember to keep these youth in prayer.

Youth Advisory Council

Our next meeting is Thursday, April 16, from 6:30 pm–7:30 pm in Room 9. Anyone in grades 7-12 is welcome! Please contact Tanya Gross with any questions.

Youth Service Opportunities

April Service Project

The service opportunity for the month of April is the GIFT Service Project with Milwaukee Riverkeeper. Even if you are not regularly a part of GIFT, please feel free to join the group. Watch for notification about registration. Working to finalize the May and June opportunities! Watch the bulletin for further updates.

Worship

The Triduum

The Easter Triduum is the culmination of the entire Church year. In this festival, Christ's saving work is commemorated by the Church with the utmost solemnity. Through the liturgy of the Triduum, the Church is intimately united with Christ and shares in His passage from death to life.

The Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and concludes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday.

The Triduum (Latin for "three days") is the pinnacle of the Catholic liturgical year, encompassing the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus from Holy Thursday evening to Easter Sunday evening. Though it spans three days, it is liturgically celebrated as one continuous event.

- **Holy Thursday:** The Mass of the Lord's Supper, commemorating the Last Supper, institution of the Eucharist, and foot washing.
- **Good Friday:** A solemn, non-Mass service focused on the Passion and Veneration of the Cross.
- **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil:** Begins after sundown, focusing on the Resurrection, baptismal promises, and lighting of the Paschal candle.

Key Details

- **One Liturgy:** The Triduum is a single, unfolding celebration, which is why Holy Thursday and Good Friday do not end with a final blessing, but rather in silence.
- **Focus:** It moves from the intimacy of the Last Supper to the agony of the crucifixion, and finally to the joy of the resurrection.
- **Significance:** It is the "three holiest days" of the year.



Spotlight

Shalom and Holy Week

The biblical vision of shalom—as we have explored through Lent—names God’s desire for creation to flourish in wholeness, justice, harmony, and right relationship. It is the world as God intends it to be: healed, reconciled, and alive with divine presence. As we enter Holy Week, this fuller meaning of shalom becomes the lens through which the Paschal Mystery unfolds.

On Palm Sunday, the crowds cry “Hosanna,” welcoming Jesus as the long-awaited king of peace. Yet the shalom He brings is not the political triumph they expect. He enters Jerusalem not on a warhorse but on a donkey, revealing that true peace is born of humility, mercy, and self-giving love. Palm Sunday exposes the tension between human expectations of power and God’s deeper work of restoring creation from within.

During the Triduum, shalom takes on its most paradoxical form. At the Last Supper, Jesus gives His peace as gift and command: “My peace I give you.” In Gethsemane, He bears the fracture of human fear and betrayal. On the cross, He absorbs the world’s violence, sin, and division into His own body. Shalom is not denied by suffering; it is accomplished through it. In Christ’s surrender, every broken relationship—between God and humanity, between peoples, within our own hearts—is gathered into divine compassion.

Then, on Easter, shalom bursts forth as new creation. The risen Christ greets His disciples with the words, “Peace be with you,” not as comfort alone but as commissioning. Resurrection peace is dynamic, sending us to become agents of reconciliation, justice, and healing. Easter shalom is the Spirit-filled life that restores what was lost, renews what was shattered, and promises that God’s wholeness will have the final word.

In this holy season, shalom becomes both God’s gift and our mission—peace received, peace lived, peace shared.

Discipleship

Digital Discipleship

Achieving shalom—wholeness, harmony, and peace—as a digital disciple involves intentionally cultivating loving and restorative relationships in online spaces, moving beyond mere information sharing to fostering deep and meaningful community. It requires using digital tools to bring healing to a broken world by acting as a calm presence and spreading hope rather than conflict.

Key Aspects of Achieving Shalom Online

- **Active and Empathic Engagement:** Instead of just posting, engage in dialogue by listening carefully, asking questions, and responding in a meaningful way, focusing on understanding others' needs.
- **Building Nurturing Communities:** Actively build nets of relationships that foster connection and support, acting as a digital missionary to encourage and lift up others, particularly those who are shunned, ignored, or bullied.
- **Intentional Digital Boundaries:** To maintain internal peace and avoid being dominated by technology, set clear boundaries for online activity, ensuring your digital habits are spiritually edifying.
- **Promoting Reconciliation:** Use digital platforms to bridge gaps between faith and technology, using social media for prayer sharing, encouragement, and providing resources that bring people together, rather than dividing them.
- **Reflecting Christ's Character:** Embody compassion and professionalism in every interaction, avoiding anger and responding to conflict with grace. This will effectively reflect the values of Christ in a secular space.

New: Disciples on the Journey podcasts are available!

Disciples on the Journey is a monthly audio program featuring parishioners from Our Lady of Lourdes who share how they follow Jesus Christ in their everyday life. In each episode, you will hear real stories of faith lived out in family life, work and daily responsibilities, parish involvement, and in service to others. These conversations are meant to encourage, inspire, and strengthen all disciples on their faith journey. They will also help foster a sense of community, as you learn more about your fellow faith community members.

You can access the current episodes available by going to Spotify (search for Our Lady of Lourdes Milwaukee), our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@ololmke/podcasts>, or the parish website at ololmke.org/digitalmedia/.

Outreach

Palm Sunday Path

Palm Sunday | March 29 | 2:00 pm–3:00 pm
Cathedral Square, Milwaukee, WI.

A witness to authentic Christian values in response to white Christian nationalism in an ecumenical, faith-based, liturgical action. Welcoming Jesus. Welcoming the stranger.

Bring a palm. Bring a chair. Bring a prayer. All are welcome!



Communications

AI as Your Everyday Sidekick (Cape Not Included)

Last month, we talked about what AI is (a pattern-spotting tool) and what it isn't (sentient, prayerful, or plotting to take over the world). Also, AI doesn't dream, doesn't feel the Holy Spirit, and has no opinions about the carpet color in the Parish Office. In short, it's a tool—helpful, sometimes impressive, occasionally silly—but still just a tool.

This week, let's look at how AI can actually help in your everyday life, in the same way a good sidekick helps a superhero: quietly, reliably, and without demanding a theme song. Think of AI as that super-organized friend who always has a list, a plan, and a pen, except this friend never judges you for forgetting the pen, the plan, or the list.

AI can help you:

- Draft a birthday message when your brain is still warming up
- Plan meals for the week based on whatever is hiding in your pantry
- Summarize long emails so you don't need a fourth cup of coffee
- Turn scattered thoughts into a tidy checklist
- Brainstorm ideas when you're staring at a blank page

None of this replaces your creativity or your common sense. AI doesn't know your life the way you do. But it can take the "heavy lifting" out of the small stuff so you can focus on the good stuff. Used wisely, AI becomes a kind of digital sous-chef for your daily tasks, while you decide what's for dinner.

Everyday AI Helpers

- **Microsoft Copilot** — a gentle place to start and part of Windows and Microsoft 365. Just start a conversation like you would to a friend and it helps you along.
- **Apple Intelligence** (iPhone, iPad, Mac) — already has AI built in. It quietly helps with writing, organizing, and communicating. It's a friendly helper that tidies up your messages, suggests clearer wording, summarizes long text, and helps you stay organized.
- **ChatGPT** (OpenAI) — friendly, flexible, great for writing help.
- **Google Gemini** — strong for planning and organizing.

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