



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass and Communion Services

WEEKEND

Sat: 4:00 pm

Sun: 8:00 am | 10:30 am

WEEKDAY

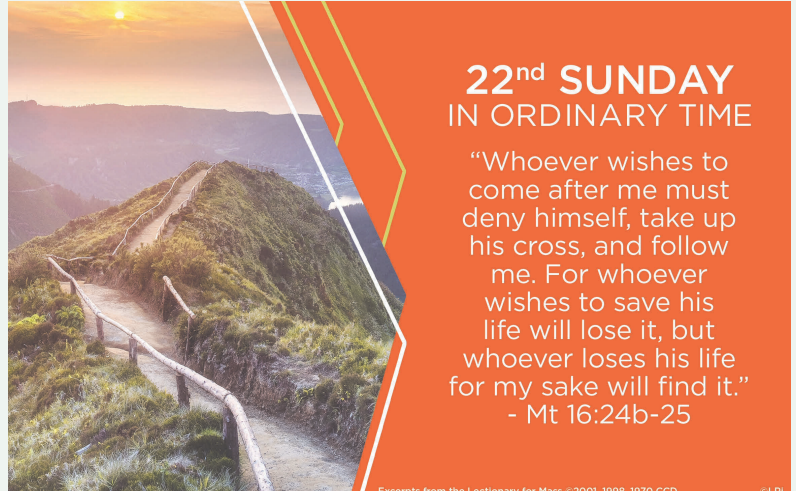
1st and 3rd Wed: 9:30 am Mass

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.)



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."
- Mt 16:24b-25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass, ©2001-1998, 1970 GCD © LEB

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Join the Parish

ololmke.org/become-a-member



Notes from Deb

Our Priests

Our Lady of Lourdes is blessed with nine priests who celebrate the sacraments with us: Father Bill Burkert, our Assisting Priest, and eight others who help out: Fathers Rick Abert SJ, Dave Cooper, Peter Drenzek, Art Heinze, Alan Jurkus, Dennis Lewis, Chuck Schramm, and Tom Suriano.

Each one of them is a gifted preacher. Each one blesses our community with their wisdom, their theology, and their love. We are so blessed!

To allow our congregation to have access to all the homilies each weekend, we are now recording them (with the presider's permission). Those can be found on our website:

ololmke.org/digitalmedia/

It is such a gift to be able to hear different perspectives on our scripture readings as well as being able to go back and listen again to a homily we have heard that touched our hearts.

Please join me in holding our nine priests in prayer. May they know God's many blessings, our gratitude and our love, and may they continue to serve with us for many, many, **many** years to come!

With love and prayers,
Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Patricia Fabian (Administration) fabianp@ololmke.org	Marc Puechner (Communications) puechnerm@ololmke.org
Bill Goulding (Deacon) gouldingb@ololmke.org	Cindi Roark (Finance) roarkc@ololmke.org
Tanya Gross (Youth & Adult Ministry) grosst@ololmke.org	Deb Steppe (Parish Director) stepped@ololmke.org
Paul Kuenzi (Maintenance) kuenzip@ololmke.org	Steve Szymanski (Child Ministry) szymanskis@ololmke.org
Ken Marshman (Maintenance) marshmank@ololmke.org	Anne Van Deusen (Music Ministry) vandeusena@ololmke.org
Julie Petri (Admin. Asst.) petrij@ololmke.org	Jim Wielgosz (Worship Ministry) wielgoszj@ololmke.org

Calendar

Sunday, August 30

8:00 am Mass (Burkert) Church
10:30 am Mass (Drenzek) Church

Monday, August 31

1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10
7:00 pm Confirmation
Orientation Rm 9

Tuesday, September 1

10:30 am SVDP Mtg. Rm 3
6:30 pm World Peace Day of
Creation Stations of
the Cross Garden

Wednesday, September 2

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, September 3

4:00 pm Serving at All Saints
Meal Program Off site

Friday, September 4—Parish Office Closed

Saturday, September 5

11:00 am Walking Through
Grief Together Rm 3
4:00 pm Mass (Burkert) Church

Sunday, September 6

8:00 am Mass (Drenzek) Church
10:30 am Mass (Jurkus) Church

Parish Support - August 2026

	ACTUAL as of 8/20/26	BUDGETED for August
Reg. Envelopes	\$46,480.74	\$63,167.00
Offertory	\$2,435.45	\$3,000.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: August 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$123,273.12	\$141,925.00
Bequests	\$0.00	
Op. Expenses	\$110,428.54	\$163,875.64

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/26	\$437,986.31
Donations	\$4,031.88
Expense	\$33,994.00
Balance (8/20/26)	\$408,027.19

Community Life

In Memoriam

In loving memory of Beverly Harnack Maher
From Thomas Maher

In loving memory of Paul Servais
From Carol Letellier

Did your address or phone number change?

The Parish Office reminds you to share any changes to your home address, phone number, and/or email. We reach out to folks in many different formats. Keeping our email records accurate has been very challenging recently as people change their older and no longer supported email addresses or providers to newer versions (for example, switching from yahoo.com to gmail.com.) Please use the change form at ololmke.wufoo.com/forms/m12ke02b0457pm5/ or give us a call and keep us up to date!

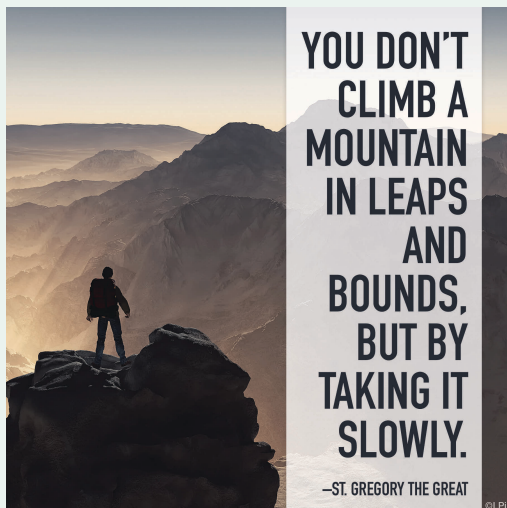
Virtue of the Week

Optimism

Optimism is a positive, cheerful outlook. When we are optimistic, we are hopeful even when others have lost faith. We believe that good has the power to overcome evil. We do not allow ourselves to be victimized by setbacks or losses. We embrace challenges with confidence and vitality. We are solvers, not complainers. We trust that everything works together for good. Nothing can destroy our hope.

As children head back to school, how can you help them build optimism for the year ahead?

Can you name examples that you have seen of good overcoming evil? Reflect on the crucifix to help you with this.



Formation

GIFT Registration

We need you! If you haven't registered for GIFT, please do so as soon as possible. It will help us to better plan for supplies, snacks and other items we purchase ahead of time.

To register and get more details, go to our website at ololmke.org/gift/. Our first session will be **Sunday, September 13**. If you have questions about GIFT, please contact Director of Formation, Tanya Gross, or Director of Child Ministries, Steve Szymanski.

Confirmation 2027

A **Parent/Youth Confirmation Orientation** meeting for juniors in high school will be held on **Monday, August 31, at 7:00 pm**, in Room 9. During this gathering we will walk through the Confirmation preparation process and discuss important details for the year.

This meeting is designed to help families understand what to expect and answer any questions as you begin preparing for this important sacrament. Please contact Tanya Gross if you are unable to attend so other arrangements can be made to review this information.

Nursery Helpers Needed

We occasionally need babysitting help in the nursery for various events at OLOL. Parents involved in GIFT, Sacramental Preparation, Baptism Preparation and/or OCIA often need someone to watch their children while they participate in these respective activities. Nursery helpers are required to go through a background check and must complete the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's Safe Environment training. If you are interested in helping in the nursery at OLOL, please contact Director of Child Ministries, Steve Szymanski.

Worship

The Thrill of Hope: An Advent Musical Celebration

Coming this December to a church near you—The Thrill of Hope by Joseph M. Martin and Heather Sorenson. Please join our OLOL music ministers and friends on Sunday, December 6, at 4:00 pm, as we share songs and reflections on our journey through Advent and Christmas. This complete musical work incorporates both traditional and contemporary pieces, enhancing all the joys of the season. Take an hour or so away from your busyness and enjoy music, prayer and fellowship. Perfect for the entire family. Mark the date in your calendar and watch for more information in the upcoming months. We hope to see you there!!



Excerpted from the Foreword:

"From the loss of hope in the Garden of Eden, trace God's promise of new hope from Abraham through the royal line of David to an ordinary girl named Mary. Sing of hope restored by the birth of a Baby and hear it announced to shepherds in a midnight visit by angels. Take a star-guided trek with kings across foreign soil and, like them, find that Hope is alive today. This season, at a time when a weary world longs for peace and light, let us celebrate and share the thrill of hope that is ours through Christ!"

Spotlight

Gospel Meditation

Do you know what it is like to be thrilled by the power of Christian faith one moment and then utterly fail in it the next? I do. That is Peter in today's Gospel. After last week's bold confession, he now hears Jesus speak of suffering and death, and something in him recoils. He takes Jesus aside and tries to correct him. Jesus responds with the shocking rebuke, "Get behind me, Satan."

Peter is the mirror of every disciple. We love Jesus until he contradicts the script we have written for our lives. Peter does not reject Jesus. He rejects a suffering Jesus. So do we, whenever we avoid a hard responsibility, resist a demanding relationship, or cling to comfort instead of choosing love. We want a Lord who supports our plans, not one who overturns them.

Yet Jesus does not discard Peter. He redirects him. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." In effect, Jesus says, stop trying to lead me. Let me lead you. Discipleship does not begin with heroism or clarity but with surrender. It means trusting that God's path to life often passes through places we would never choose.

Peter is all of us. We move from insight to confusion, from confidence to correction. That is why we should have hope. Jesus patiently teaches us again and again. Trust me. Get behind me. Follow me. When we stop fighting the crosses that come and start carrying them with him, we discover a freedom deeper than comfort and a love stronger than fear.

Father John Muir

©LPi

Discipleship

Way of Creation Prayer Service

September 1 | 7:00 pm

Join us in Our Common Home Community Garden as the Social Justice Committee celebrates the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The garden is located just north of the church building. We will journey through the creation story in Genesis, weaving in other scripture, poetry, and inspirational writings as we give thanks and praise for each gift of creation. We hope for a beautiful late-summer evening, but the service will be held indoors if there is rain or extreme heat. Please bring a lawn chair.

Women's Spirituality Group

September 2 | 6:30 pm

The Women's Spirituality Group will gather again to reflect on the Sunday readings and bible study with other women from the parish. This group meets on the first Wednesday of each month in Room 6.

Gay & Straight in Christ (GASIC)

September 9 | 7:00 pm

Gay and Straight in Christ welcomes, supports, and affirms LGBTQ+ persons, their families and friends and those who wish to stand in solidarity with them in Christ. This ministry works to help the LGBTQ+ community find comfort in taking its rightful place within the Catholic community.

All meetings are hybrid, in person or virtual, from 7:00 pm-8:00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. For more information go to ololmke.org/gasic/ or contact the Parish Office.

Men's Spirituality Group

September 10 | 6:30 pm

All men are welcome to gather for real life conversations on how to live the Gospel in our day to day lives. Through prayer and reflection we will explore our role as brothers in Christ. This group will meet on the second Thursday of each month in Room 6.

More details are available for all programs at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/ or by calling the Parish Office.

Outreach

World Day of Migrants and Refugees September 27, 2026

As part of our parish's efforts to identify and confront racism in our midst, we offer this reflection: "As Catholics, we are compelled to recognize that racism is a stain upon the Body of Christ—and if one part of the Body suffers, "all the parts suffer with it," St. Paul tells us. (1 Cor 12:26)"

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.
Archbishop of Philadelphia, A Pastoral Letter
on Racial Healing, June 11, 2023

Communications

Staying Safe from Modern Scams

Scammers today use phones, computers, and even fake videos to trick people. A few simple habits can protect you from most traps.

One of the best ways to avoid scams is to **stop answering every phone call**. If the number is unfamiliar—or even if it is a place you know but you weren't expecting a call, like a bank—let it go to voicemail. Listening to the message later gives you time to think clearly and check whether the message is real. You can call back using a number you already trust. This removes the pressure scammers use to confuse you.

Bad actors also send emails or text messages that look urgent. They may say your bank account is locked, your package is delayed, you won a prize, or your credit card has been used for something you didn't pay for. Do not click any link unless you are sure who sent it. If something feels odd or too good to be true, delete it.

Be careful how you pay online. **Never use a debit card for online purchases**. Debit cards pull money straight from your bank account, and if a scammer gets the number, your money can disappear quickly. Credit cards and trusted payment services offer much better protection. If a website allows it, use established services like **Google Pay, Apple Pay, or PayPal**. These methods hide your card number, add extra security checks, and make it easier to dispute a charge if something goes wrong.

Fake ads and videos made with AI are becoming common. They can show famous people saying things they never said. If an ad promises easy money, miracle cures, or "secret investment tips," it is almost always a scam.

Finally, strengthen your accounts. Turn on **two-factor authentication (2FA), passkeys, or biometric sign-ins** like fingerprint or face unlock. These tools make it much harder for scammers to break into your accounts, even if they know your password.

A few simple steps help a lot:

- Let unknown calls go to voicemail.
- Use safer payment methods online.
- Keep passwords private and strong.
- Turn on 2FA, passkeys, or biometrics.
- Slow down—scammers rely on panic.
- Ask a trusted friend before making financial decisions.

You don't need to be a tech expert. A little caution and a calm moment can keep you safe.

RURAL LIFE MASS



*Dinner and fellowship
with Archbishop Grob
following Mass.*



**Saturday,
September 19
4:30 p.m.**

**St. Katherine Drexel
Catholic Church**
511 S. Spring St., Beaver Dam



ARCHDIOCESE of
MILWAUKEE

Join us for an evening of Mass and thanksgiving for the harvest, and for the families who make our rural communities what they are. Archbishop Grob, a farm boy himself from Cross Plains, will celebrate Mass and share a meal afterwards. All are welcome.

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