



23rd 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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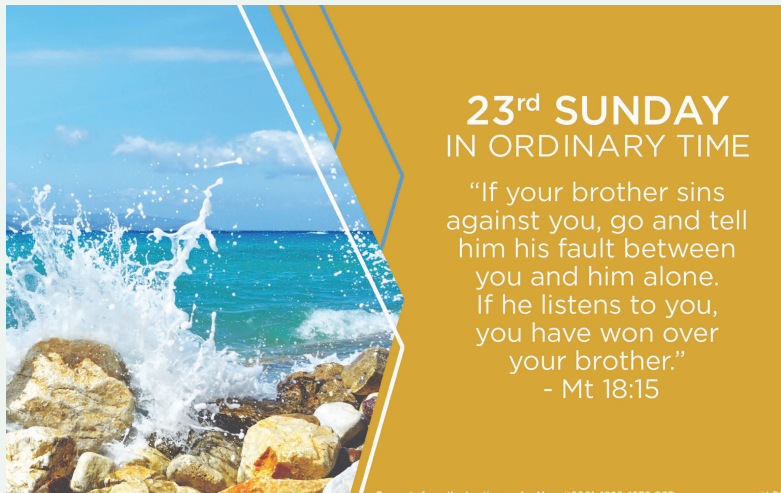
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Notes from Deb

If your brother or sister sins against you...

A few words about our Gospel

Our ability to hurt one another—to sin against one another is nothing new. It was true in the time of Jesus, and it is certainly true today. In our Gospel for this weekend, Jesus calls us to try to work things out with those who hurt us—to reconcile. That process begins by speaking to the person who hurt us. That's not always easy, and Jesus assures us of his presence as we take those courageous steps toward reconciliation, "where two or three are gathered..."

Reconciliation is what we hope for, but we all know that reconciliation is not always possible. As I said in a recent Wednesday Table Reflection, "Reconciliation may not be possible, but forgiveness is always possible."

Forgiveness is not letting the person who hurt us off the hook, forgiveness is letting ourselves off the hook. Holding onto a hurt, re-living what someone did to us over and over again takes a toll on us. Holding onto hate toward someone is a heavy burden.

Forgiveness is letting go of the hate. Forgiveness is not giving the hurt a permanent place in our heart, and forgiveness is putting the person who hurt us in God's hands; letting God deal with them.

May we continue to be a people of forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace.

Know of my prayers and my love.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Calendar

Sunday, September 6

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

Monday, September 7—Parish Closed Labor Day



Tuesday, September 8

1:00 pm	Art Guild Open Studio	Rm 4
3:00 pm	Food Pantry	Rm 7
6:30 pm	Exploring Our Faith	Rm 3

Wednesday, September 9

7:00 am	St. Ben's Preparation	Kitchen
9:30 am	Communion Service	Church
10:15 am	Wednesday Morning Faith Group Social	Hall C
7:00 pm	GASIC	Rm 9

Thursday, September 10

3:30 pm	Spirit & Grace Choir Rehearsal	Church
6:30 pm	Men's Spirituality	Rm 10
6:30 pm	Youth Action	
	Council Mtg.	Rm 2
6:30 pm	Social Justice Cmte.	Rm 3

Friday, September 11—Parish Office Closed

Saturday, September 12

11:00 am	Tammy Shalewski Funeral Visitation	Church
12:00 pm	Tammy Shalewski Funeral	Church
4:00 pm	Mass (Heinze)	Church

Sunday, September 13

8:00 am	Mass (Drenzek)	Church
9:00 am	GIFT	Hall
10:30 am	Mass (Abert)	Church

Parish Support - August 2026

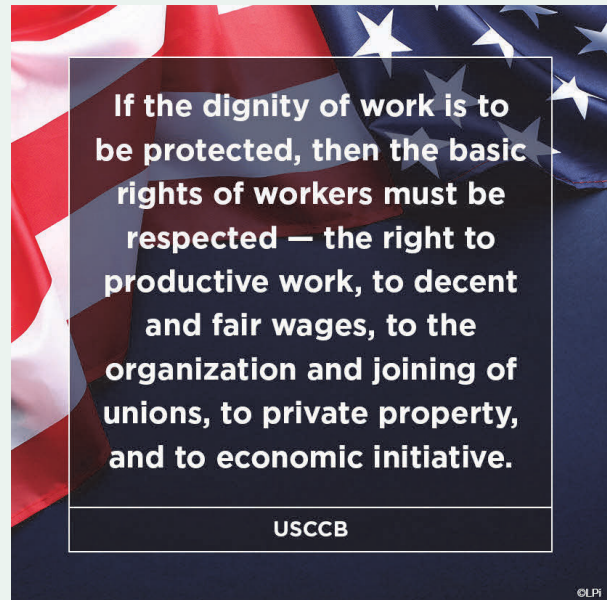
	ACTUAL as of 8/27/26	BUDGETED for August
Reg. Envelopes	\$50,437.37	\$63,167.00
Offertory	\$3,434.45	\$3,000.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: August 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$130,298.56	\$141,925.00
Bequests	\$0.00	
Op. Expenses	\$139,787.75	\$163,875.64

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/26	\$437,986.31
Donations	\$4,259.88
Expense	\$34,394.00
Balance (8/27/26)	\$407,852.19



Virtue of the Week Orderliness

Orderliness is living in a way that creates harmony around us and within us. We have a place for the things we use, and keep them where they belong. Order and beauty in our homes, school, and work spaces brings a sense of peace and freedom. Our thoughts and ideas flow more freely. We let go of clutter. We clear the way for genuine abundance. Orderliness is being focused and purposeful; planning tasks step by step instead of going in circles. We seek a still point of order in our souls.

What was the last thing you planned with purpose and what was the outcome?

How does creating order in a space bring you peacefulness?

Formation

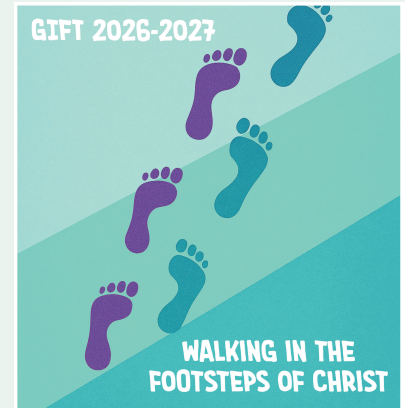
Youth Action Council

We changed our name! We are still YAC, but we are no longer the advisory council. We are taking action to plan youth-friendly events and service projects. All OLOL youth in grades 7-12 are welcome to be a part of this. Our next meeting is Thursday, September 10, at 6:30 pm in the Formation Ministry Office (Room 2). For further information, contact Tanya Gross.

Franciscan Spirituality at GIFT September 13

Join us at GIFT on Sunday, September 13, at 9:00 am, as Lisa and Jon Metz present on the "Major Themes of Franciscan Spirituality." The life and ministry of St. Francis of Assisi offers our Church so many important talking points related to justice, peace, community and the care for creation. We will share an overview of these themes and envision a way to participate in them in today's world.

If you haven't registered for GIFT, now is the time! To register and get more details, go to our website at ololmke.org/gift/. If you have questions about GIFT, please contact Director of Formation, Tanya Gross, or Director of Child Ministries, Steve Szymanski.



Worship

Labor and Worship

Labor Day is a powerful reminder that our daily work is a sacred calling. As we pause this weekend to honor the achievements of workers across our nation, we reflect on how ministry shapes our everyday lives. True ministry is not confined to the walls of our church space. It happens every time we offer our talents, patience, and integrity to the world around us.

Whether you are a teacher, healthcare worker, builder, stay-at-home parent, or retiree, your daily efforts help sustain our greater community and reflect the heart of a servant. God works through human hands to care for creation, making every honest job a form of worship. When we view our careers and daily tasks through the lens of faith, the workplace transforms into a mission field where we can share kindness, encourage the weary, and practice honesty.

This holiday also calls us to advocate for the dignity of every individual. As a faith family, our ministry extends to supporting those who face unfair conditions, unemployment, or economic hardship. We are reminded of the holy commandment to rest, which restores our spirits and keeps us grounded in God's grace rather than our own productivity.

Just as we are called to be Christ's hands and feet in the secular workplace, we are blessed by those who bring that same spirit of service to our faith community. Thank you to all those who offer their gifts and talents to the various ministries here at Our Lady of Lourdes. There are far too many to mention but please rest assured that you are greatly appreciated for all you offer to enhance our worship experiences and to make this faith community a beacon of hope and a place of comfort to the greater community.

Spotlight

Pope Leo: Son of St. Augustine

"Peace be with you all" was the first blessing given by the newly chosen Pope Leo XIV on May 8, 2025. Pope Leo went on to describe that peace as both "unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering." This blessing echoed the first words of the Risen Christ to his disciples, those followers of Christ that had just lost a beloved shepherd. Similarly, the Holy Catholic Church had recently lost a beloved shepherd, Pope Francis. Pope Leo's words carried promises of grace, compassion, and unity.

A few sentences later, Pope Leo said, "I am an Augustinian, a son of St. Augustine, who once said, 'With you I am a Christian and for you I am a bishop'. In this sense, all of us can journey together to the homeland that God prepared for us." Pope Leo shared his great devotion to St. Augustine and his order while describing leadership as being a fellow Christian walking with the people of God. Our call to discipleship, here at OLOL, follows this same path.

The Order of St Augustine was founded in 1244 on the values of community and friendship, service to the poor and shared purpose. St. Augustine, (354-430 CE), lived several centuries before the order bearing his name came into being. One of St Augustine's most famous quotes is 'our hearts are restless until it rests in you'.

Appearing on Augustinian.org, "In his daily ministry, Pope Leo XIV brings the Augustinian tradition into the life of the global Church: fostering synodality rooted in genuine dialogue, promoting justice and human dignity, encouraging interiority, and emphasizing the unity of the people of God. His papacy embodies the spirit of St. Augustine: seeking truth, serving humbly, and loving without measure". Herein lies the heart of this "Son of St. Augustine."

Mary Botsford
Parish Council

Discipleship

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 10.

Finding Spiritual Balance in a Chaotic World 2.0

September 29 | 6:30 pm

Presenter: Ann Le Baron

As we transition into fall, have you noticed life becoming a bit more chaotic and harder to balance? You are invited to join us for an evening to hit pause, reflect, and discover practical, meaningful ways to improve your life balance while nourishing your mind, body, and spirit. While this "2.0" session builds on skills from our previous spring workshop, it is fully self-contained—everyone is welcome, whether you attended the first session or are joining for the first time.

Registration is strongly recommended and is available 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:

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom*

Active Non-Violence Corner

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. As we enter this season, our reflection goes beyond ecological efforts to heal our lands, air and water. While those efforts are vital, we need to consider and fight against drastic assaults on nature happening world-wide in the name of profit.

Visit the September Active Non-violence corner located on the OLOL Social Justice webpage ololmke.org/active-nonviolence-corner/ to learn more, see a listing of events related to the topic, and engage in Scripture reading and prayer as we hold dear our Creator and creation.

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates:

September 8 and 22

Most needed items: canned beets, carrots, mixed vegetables, fruit, potatoes, and meat; cookies; pasta; and tuna. Please remember to check expiration dates. ololmke.org/food-pantry

St. Ben's Meal Program

We serve at St. Benedict the Moor's meal program on Wednesday, September 9. Please bring fresh cut vegetables, hard-boiled eggs, and bakery to the Parish Office on Monday, Tuesday, or no later than 3:00 pm on Wednesday.

ololmke.org/st-bens/

Social Justice: An Invitation

The Social Justice Committee seeks to educate and awaken people to the issues of justice that confront society today. We meet monthly on the second Thursday. Our next meeting is September 10, at 6:30 pm, in Room 3. We invite you to be our guest to learn more about our mission and activities.

Communications

Stay Informed: New Text Alerts for Weather Closings and Safety Notifications

As we approach the colder months, we want to make sure every parish household has the information they need when weather or safety concerns affect parish events. This year, we are introducing a **new text-alert option** for inclement weather closings and urgent safety notifications.

In the past, we used a different provider for text messaging, but that service has been discontinued. We are starting fresh with a new system, which means **everyone who wishes to receive text alerts must sign up**, even if you received messages from us in previous years. Your old subscription will not carry over.

Text alerts are just one part of our broader communication plan for weather-related changes. Beginning in October, we highlight all the ways you can stay informed—from our website and app to local news stations and social media. You can explore all of these methods and sign up for the new text alerts by visiting ololmke.org/weather-cancellation-alerts

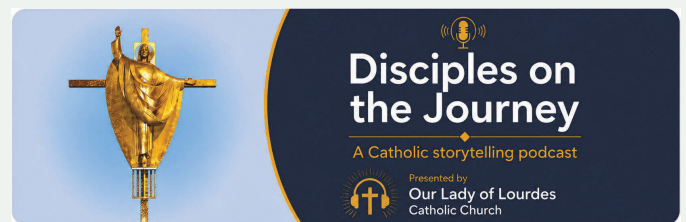
Signing up takes less than a minute and ensures you receive timely, reliable information directly on your mobile device.

We encourage you to enroll, especially since Wisconsin weather can be unpredictable, and this simple step helps us keep our community safe, informed, and connected.

Thank you for helping us strengthen communication across the parish. Stay warm, stay safe, and stay in the loop!

Direct link to text alert sign-up:

<https://ololmke.wufoo.com/forms/inclement-weather-and-safety-alert-text-agreement/>



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Volunteer!

Why?

To witness incalculable joy throughout the weekend party!

About 200 shifts are filled each Oktoberfest Artisan Fair weekend. We thank every kitchen server, broom sweeper, greeter, popcorn-maker, cake-walk caller, Polka Liturgy musician, and more. It is not just "shift-work." Here are a few of the benefits you are bringing to our community.

- You create opportunities for people to meet each other, laugh, dance and have fun.
- You create opportunities for people to share stories, sadness, find comfort and build understanding.
- You contribute to a legacy, a tradition
- You create opportunities for artists and musicians to receive compensation for their work.
- You are building a community. The family that plays together stays together.
- Children working with family members feel valued by their faith community and learn useful life skills.

How to sign up?

There are 2 ways to sign up this year.

1. Electronically: The link is on the OLOL Oktoberfest website (ololmke.org/oktoberfest/).
2. Paper copy in the meeting room hallway. Similar to years past.

Announcement! This year we will celebrate our volunteers with a raffle! One entry per shift served in the week of preparation or during the Oktoberfest weekend. All ages are included. The raffle will be \$200 worth of gift cards!

Volunteer Job Description: A brief taste

Greeters

Welcome people to OLOL! Sit or stand near the entrances, smile, hand out a program and give directions.

Artist Hospitality

Warmly welcome and tend to the artists. Visit the artists with a cart of coffee, tea, water, and popcorn. Watch their booth if they need to run an errand. Yes, you may shop on the job! Ages 18 and over.

Parish Hall Hospitality

Warmly welcome our guests and keep space as tidy as possible. Maybe clean up spills, carry a tray or two, find empty seats, and answer questions.

50/50 and Basket Raffles

Sell tickets for the beautiful baskets and 50/50 raffle. Directions for sales for each raffle will be provided. Remind people of the specific rules for buying and filling out the tickets for entry. Ages 18 and over.

Cash Register

Help people feel good about spending money. Cash register training is provided on Thursday evening before Oktoberfest. Ages 16 and over.

Volunteer Room Hospitality

Welcome and thank the volunteers; and provide a space for rest and a treat. Check in volunteers and be aware of what areas need help. Keep the treats stocked. Ages 18 and over.

Black Forest Café

Make people happy with sugar! Serve tortes, strudel, cookies, and coffee. Ages 16 and over.

Hansel and Gretel Popcorn and Pretzels

Make popcorn, warm pretzels, and create the wonderful aroma that greets our guests. This role is great for families; children can practice working a sales job!

Kitchen Servers

Such an important role. If you can use a serving spoon, you can make people happy! Lots of laughter and camaraderie happens in the kitchen!

Set-Up

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday Evening 6:30 pm–8:00 pm. We move chairs and furniture on Tuesday and Wednesday. We decorate on Wednesday and Thursday. Plenty of fun for families who like to move. Feels so good to see the campus set-up and know you were responsible!

Take-down

Sunday about 1:00 pm–3:30 pm. Bringing all the decorations back to the Parish Hall, sorting and packing, and moving chairs and tables back. Many hands make this possible!

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Recently, the St. Vincent de Paul society celebrated the 200th anniversary of the birth of its founder, Frederic Ozanam.

As a college student, Frederic led a small group of his classmates into the poor area of Paris to do what they could to address the needs for food and fuel.

Working one-to-one with families, they gave witness to non-believers about the vitality of their faith. This model of assistance spread through Europe and arrived in our archdiocese in 1849.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society helps the people in the Our Lady of Lourdes area with basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter. Our parish conference is part of an international Catholic organization bringing men and women together to grow spiritually by visiting anyone in need.

During September, we are making an effort to become more visible, giving witness to one of the best things about OLOL. Perhaps known best for its quiet, behind-the-scenes work, our Vincentians will be presenting four themes during the month of September in an effort to increase the awareness of the poor in our midst and how the St. Vincent de Paul Society serves them.

Saint Vincent de Paul ministry meets every other Tuesday at 10:00 am in Room 3. Check the bulletin for the next meeting date. Consider joining us in helping those in need.