



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass and Communion Services

WEEKEND

Sat: 4:00 pm

Sun: 8:00 am | 10:30 am

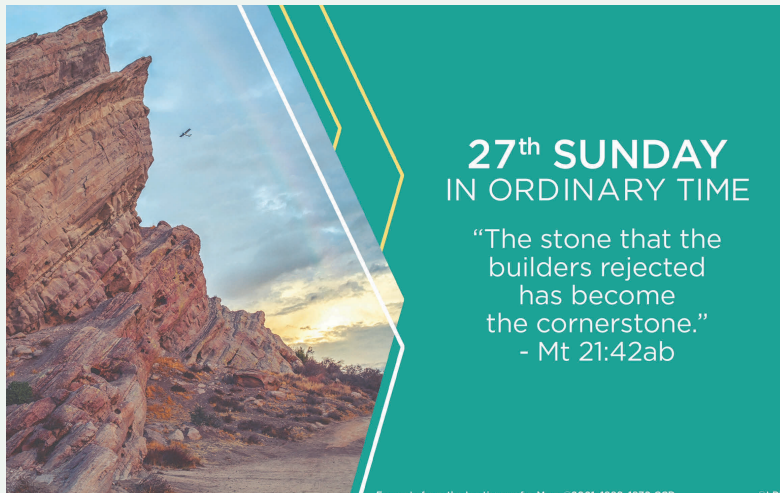
WEEKDAY

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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(414) 545-4316



ololmke.org



office@ololmke.org



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Join the Parish

ololmke.org/become-a-member



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Notes from Deb Respect Life Weekend

This weekend is set aside as Respect Life Weekend. This year, the theme of the campaign is "Love-Until the Last Breath." Archbishop Grob is voicing concerns about changing legislation that allows for assisted suicide. The State of Illinois has enacted this. His comments are shared in the flyer in this bulletin.

As we discussed this issue in a recent staff meeting, we realized that there is a great need for more information on this very serious subject. The archdiocese has planned events this month addressing this issue.

A few things to keep in mind as we begin discussing this topic. The church encourages palliative care and hospice care for those with serious illnesses and illnesses that are terminal. Palliative care is medical care focused on providing relief from the symptoms, pain, and stress of serious illness. Hospice care focuses on the care, comfort, and quality of life of a person who is approaching death. In palliative care, medical interventions designed to cure or heal the person are still involved. In hospice care, those medical interventions are discontinued. The church approves and encourages the discontinuation of aggressive medical treatment in such cases. The Church is basically saying that it is okay to end treatment, but it is not okay to take drugs or do something for the intention of ending one's life.

The church has a lot of work to do to educate people on the ins and outs of these very serious topics, and we will attempt to do so as a parish in the coming months. In the meantime, let's continue to hold one another in prayer – especially those of us who are facing difficult, painful illnesses. May we find a way to comfort them and walk with them.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Calendar

Sunday, October 4

Blood Drive Sign-up

8:00 am	Mass (Jurkus)	Church
9:00 am	Sacrament Prep	Hall A
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church

Monday, October 5

9:30 am	Lazarus Fall Planning	Rm 10
1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm	DI Team Planning	Virtual

Tuesday, October 6

4:00 pm	Serving at All Saints	Offsite
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Wednesday, October 7

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

Thursday, October 8

6:30 pm	Youth Action Council Mtg.	Rm 2
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Friday, October 9—Parish Office Closed

Oktoberfest
4:00 pm-9:00 pm

Saturday, October 10

Oktoberfest
11:00 am-9:30 pm

4:00 pm	Mass (Burkert)	Church
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Sunday, October 11

Oktoberfest
9:00 am-1:00 pm

8:00 am	Mass (Cooper)	Church
10:30 am	Mass (Schramm)	Church

Parish Support - September 2026

	ACTUAL as of 9/17/26	BUDGETED for September
Reg. Envelopes	\$28,145.70	\$65,500.00
Offertory	\$1,640.10	\$3,750.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: September 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$171,431.97	\$220,350.00
Bequests	\$500.00	
Op. Expenses	\$173,991.05	\$251,873.48

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/26	\$437,986.31
Donations	\$6,252.76
Expense	\$41,889.00
Balance (9/17/26)	\$402,350.07

Community Life

In Memoriam

In loving memory of Peg Kasun
From David and Susan Porter

Virtue of the Week

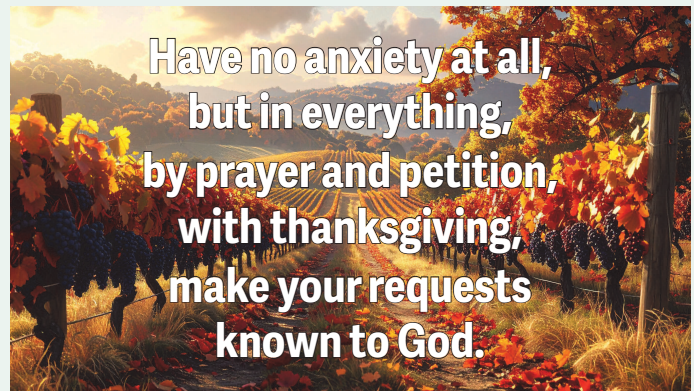
Clarity

Clarity is the ability to see beyond the surface and understand the deeper meaning of a situation. Clarity allows us to speak with confidence and truth. It helps us rise with courage when faced with challenges and hardship. It is seeing through emotion and desire, connecting us to what is truly meaningful. Clarity clears the fog so we can walk with detachment and purposefulness.

What helps you clear the clutter and fog in your life?

How does seeking facts and truth help?

How can we work to see the big picture and how the pieces fit together?



Formation

Youth Action Council

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 8, at 6:30 pm. We will be doing service together as a group helping the Oktoberfest team put the finishing touches on the building in preparation for a fun-filled weekend.

Next GIFT Session

Sunday, October 18 | 9:00 am–10:20 am

"Dependent on Beauty: Our role as co-creators of beauty as a means of solidarity"

Presenter: Clare Houston

Clare is currently a resident of the Harambee neighborhood where she participates in life at St. Bakhita Catholic Worker House. Since coming to Milwaukee in 2024 as a member of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC), she has enjoyed learning about the ways that neighbors serve each other in this diverse and rich city. If you are not registered for GIFT, but wish to attend, please call the Parish Office.

Save the Date – Movie Night

Friday, October 23 | 6:00 pm | Parish Hall

To celebrate Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), we will be showing the movie *Coco*. Come and learn more about this Mexican tradition and why we set up an ofrenda in our lobby. All ages welcome!

Please RSVP via the QR code or call the Parish Office by Wednesday, October 21.



Worship

Celebrating Saint Francis of Assisi

This year we are journeying through a historic Franciscan Jubilee Year, which marks the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis' holy passing and return to God. Pope Leo XIV proclaimed this special year of grace to run from January 10, 2026, to January 10, 2027, inviting the global Church to renew its commitment to the Gospel.

Born into a wealthy merchant family in Italy, Francis initially chased a life of luxury and worldly glory; however, his path changed forever when he heard Jesus speak to him from the crucifix at San Damiano, saying, "Francis, go and repair my house." In response, Francis radically stripped himself of his wealth to embrace total poverty, deep prayer, and a tireless love for the poor and marginalized.

This Jubilee Year calls us to walk in his footsteps. It is a timely reminder to audit our own lives, choose simplicity over excess, and actively build peace in a divided world.

We can celebrate Saint Francis's legacy through daily action:

- Care for Creation: Spend time outdoors, thanking God for the environment and our shared home.
- Act with Radical Kindness: Perform a concrete act of service for someone in need within our local community.
- Pray for Peace: Dedicate time to prayer, asking to be made instruments of Christ's peace.

Let us open our hearts to the graces of this Jubilee, allowing Saint Francis to inspire us toward deeper humility, joy, and love for all of God's creation.



Spotlight

Who do you say St. Francis of Assisi is?

Each of us probably has a favorite story regarding St. Francis of Assisi and maybe even a favorite prayer like his Prayer for Peace. Many are familiar with his conversion from wealth to poverty, care for the poor and the sick, love for the environment and the planet itself, and love for “brother sun and sister moon”! There are many events throughout the world this year honoring St. Francis and Franciscan Spirituality. Many churches and schools held blessing of animals the weekend of October 3 and 4 in memory of St. Francis’s love for animals!

Pope Leo XIV declared a Franciscan Jubilee Year from January 10, 2026, through January 10, 2027, to commemorate the 800-year anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi and an opportunity for a continuation of spiritual renewal modeled on the life of St. Francis.

The GIFT program at OLOL has chosen “Franciscan Spirituality” as its program theme for this year and Lisa and Jon Metz presented the life and major themes of Franciscan Spirituality at the September 13 opening program for GIFT. They placed before us these six themes of Franciscan Spirituality: 1. Conversion, 2. Joy in Simplicity, 3. Embracing Compassion and Caring for the Marginalized, 4. Faithfulness, 5. Care for Creation and 6. Peace Making. Do any of these speak loudly to you? Are some of these the way you walk in the footsteps of Jesus? Are there areas of Franciscan Spirituality you would like to more deeply develop? Future GIFT sessions will delve further into these themes.

I believe many of the ministries at Our Lady of Lourdes have similar core values as those of Franciscan Spirituality. That is pretty special, isn’t it?

Donna Van Wynsberghe
OLOL Pastoral Council member

Discipleship

Men’s Spirituality Group

October 15 | 6:30pm

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 normally meets the second Thursday of each month, but due to Oktoberfest, the date has been changed for the month of October only. The group will meet in Room 10.

More detail is available at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/ or by calling the Parish Office.

Men & Women’s Retreat Opportunity

October 22–25

Bill and Jeanne Goulding invite you to attend a mixed retreat they are coordinating at the Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh. The retreat is for adult men and women. You could even attend with an adult child or grandchild!

The accommodations include private bedrooms with private baths. The retreat house is located on a sprawling former estate on Lake Winnebago. Join them for three days and nights of plentiful food and comfortable lodging, all in an amazing setting. If you have questions about this retreat, please contact Deacon Bill at CeltDeac58@gmail.com or visit the Jesuit Retreat House website at jesuitretreathouse.org/.

Introduction to the Gospel of Mark

October 26 | 6:30 pm | Presenter: Jim Gill

Get ready for Mark! Most of the Sunday readings, beginning when the new church year starts on the first Sunday of Advent, will come from the Gospel of Mark. This presentation will familiarize you with Mark’s writings as a whole. This will allow you to have a deeper understanding of the passages you will hear.

Registration is strongly recommended and is available by calling the Parish Office or online at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/.

Outreach

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: October 20, November 3 and 17

Most needed items: peanut butter (both crunchy and creamy), tuna, frosting, graham crackers, jelly, oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, and baked beans. Please remember to check expiration dates.

ololmke.org/food-pantry

SVDP Blood Drive Our Lady of Lourdes Tuesday, October 20 1:30 pm-6:00 pm

Did you know that every two seconds someone in America requires a blood transfusion? From trauma patients to those battling cancer, your donation can make a lifesaving impact.

You're invited to donate and become a hero at our upcoming blood drive. Registration will be after all Masses or you can register online at:

ololmke.org/blood-drives/.

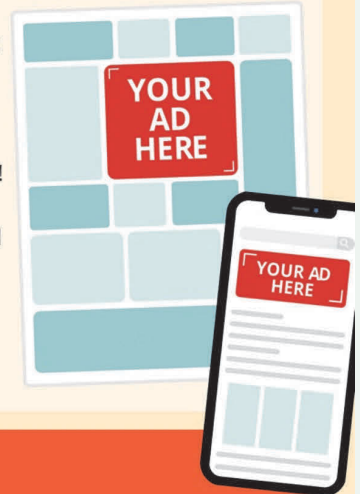
AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Bebe Smith from LPI, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church the week of October 12. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

Church bulletin advertising is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

Digital advertising allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a church profile page on ParishesOnline.com — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!



Oktoberfest Artisan Fair 2026 October 9-11

We are celebrating our 17th year of Oktoberfest Artisan Fair as a "fun-raiser" at Our Lady of Lourdes. Our goal has always been to have fun at Oktoberfest, harvest our talents, honor art and artists, cover our costs, and be grateful for any profit.

We have a wonderful parish family, a noisy exuberant family! We get to know each other by working side by side in the kitchen or selling popcorn. We stop in the Hall to chat or catch up over a cup of coffee in the Black Forest Café. We play together at the cake walks or Saturday activities. We make a joyful noise at the Polka Mass. We meet new friends, cherish old friends, and remember those no longer with us. Guests are always welcome!

The Saturday evening Polka Mass is a highlight of our time together. Anne assembles a talented group of instrumentalists and vocalists to lead us in uplifting music. How can you not smile, tap your toes and sing with enthusiasm to music with an accordion? Wayne and Mary Jo have been dancing in the liturgical processions since the beginning, often joined by our own movement ministry and of course Deb. St. Augustine said, "to sing is to pray twice!" Does that mean then that to dance and sing is to pray three times?

Please consider worshipping together, spending time with our OLOL family, or taking a meal home for someone who cannot join us.

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair Team



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Our Lady of Lourdes | 01-0531

JOIN US FOR MOVIE NIGHT



To celebrate Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), we will be showing the movie *Coco*.

Come and learn more about this Mexican tradition and why we set up an ofrenda in our lobby. All ages welcome!

Snacks, Beverages
and Photo Op
provided



Where: Parish Hall



Date: Friday, October 23



Time: 6:00 pm



Please RSVP via the QR code or call the parish office by Wednesday, October 21.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On this Respect Life Sunday, we are invited to reflect on the sacredness and dignity of every human life.

This year, I want to draw your attention to an issue gaining momentum throughout the world and here in the United States: the legalization of assisted suicide. Legislation to make assisted suicide legal was passed in Illinois last year and has recently been proposed here in Wisconsin. It is an issue that deserves the attention of every Catholic.

The Catholic Church teaches that intentionally causing the death of an innocent person is always wrong, regardless of the circumstances or the person's condition. Our lives are gifts from God, and our worth does not depend upon our health, independence, productivity, or ability to avoid suffering. We remain beloved sons and daughters of God when we are seriously ill, disabled, elderly, or approaching death.

For this reason, the Church cannot support assisted suicide. At the same time, our response must be about more than public policy. We must ask: How can we better accompany people who are suffering and support those who are caring for them?

When someone is facing serious or terminal illness, that person needs to know that he or she is not a burden. Families need support. Patients need compassionate medical care, including appropriate palliative and hospice care, that seeks to relieve suffering while respecting the dignity of the person. No one should feel that death is the only way to escape pain, loneliness, or fear.

We know that suffering and death do not have the final word. Jesus Christ entered fully into human suffering and death, and through his Resurrection transformed them. In Christ, even the hour of death is illuminated by the promise of eternal life.

I encourage every Catholic to take time to learn more about assisted suicide and the Church's teaching on human dignity, compassionate care, and end-of-life decisions. Throughout October, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will offer information and opportunities for reflection, including presentations at parishes throughout the archdiocese. Watch our social media and your parish bulletin for details, and visit the archdiocese website to learn more.

Join me in praying for all who face serious illness, those who care for them, and those who mourn the loss of a loved one. May the Lord give us the courage and compassion to protect life, accompany those who suffer, and proclaim with confidence the hope of the Resurrection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Jeffrey S. Grob
Archbishop of Milwaukee

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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