



29th 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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29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Repay to Caesar
what belongs to
Caesar and to God
what belongs to God."
- Mt 22:21

Notes from Deb

It's that time of year.

A necessary and rather large part of shepherding an archdiocese, a parish, and a church that serves the world, is having the financial resources to carry out all our ministries. It seems like it is at this time of year that many of those requests fill our mailboxes. The Archdiocesan Combined Collections, the Fall Catholic Stewardship Appeal and our own pledge drive all occur in the next few weeks. Wow!

First up is the Combined Collections with the focus on Catholic Home Missions, Catholic Relief Services, Church in Latin America, Peter's Pence, and World Mission Sunday. You will have already received envelopes from the archdiocese for this collection, and you can find envelopes at the entrances to the church as well. I will be speaking about the Catholic Stewardship Appeal next weekend and our pledge drive in the coming weeks.

All of these causes are good and in need of funds, and yet I don't think any of us have unlimited financial resources from which to donate. I ask that you prayerfully consider each request and give as you are able to whichever cause touches your heart.

Thank you for your generosity—and not only financially. Every prayer you offer, every moment of time you give is a gift and is most appreciated.

Please know of my prayers and my love.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Calendar

Sunday, October 18

House of Peace Food Collection
Blood Drive Sign-up

8:00 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
9:00 am	GIFT	Hall
10:30 am	Mass (Lewis)	Church

Monday, October 19

11:30 am	Resurrection Choir	Rm 9
1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:00 pm	Police District 6 Safety Mtg.	Hall

Tuesday, October 20

1:30 pm	Blood Drive	Hall
3:00 pm	Food Pantry	Rm 7
5:30 pm	Wilson Park Neighborhood Watch Group	Rm 10

Wednesday, October 21

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	Baptism Prep	Rm 10
6:00 pm	Pastoral Council Mtg.	Rm 3

Thursday, October 22

12:00 pm	Women's Grief Support Group	Hall C
3:30 pm	Spirit & Grace Choir	Rm 10

Friday, October 23—Parish Office Closed

6:00 pm	Youth Movie Night	Hall
6:30 pm	Baptism Rehearsal	Rm 10

Saturday, October 24

House of Peace Food Collection
Día de los Muertos Ofrenda

4:00 pm	Mass (Heinze)	Church
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Sunday, October 25

House of Peace Food Collection
Día de los Muertos Ofrenda

8:00 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
9:15 am	OCIA Companion Orientation Mtg.	Rm 9
10:30 am	Mass (Burkert)	Church
11:30 am	OCIA Informational Mtg.	Rm 9

Parish Support - September 2026

	ACTUAL as of 9/30/26	BUDGETED for September
Reg. Envelopes	\$46,266.76	\$65,500.00
Offertory	\$4,318.55	\$3,750.00

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: September 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$198,482.52	\$220,350.00
Bequests	\$500.00	
Op. Expenses	\$221,534.32	\$251,873.48

Improvement Fund Updates

Reg. Balance 7/1/26	\$437,986.31
Donations	\$6,911.64
Expense	\$48,394.00
Balance (9/30/26)	\$396,503.95

Community Life

Collection for our Haiti Mission

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this mission effort between August 29 and September 30. Your caring generosity totaled \$10,999.55 for our Haiti partnership and we will be sending these funds out in the next week. Your ongoing support for our Haiti outreach is greatly appreciated!

Virtue of the Week

Civility

Civility means being constantly aware of others and weaving restraint, respect and consideration into the very fabric of this awareness. Civility is gracious goodness. It involves courtesy, politeness, and good manners. It is not just an attitude of benevolent and thoughtful relating to others; it is also taking an active interest in the well-being of our communities and even a concern for the health of the planet on which we live.

How can applying civility in some relationships be extremely difficult? What helps you to do so?

Are you aware of the actions that lead to your uncivilized response?

How do you avoid exposure, if you can, to those responses?

Formation

House of Peace Holiday Food Box tags are out!

GIFT is once again partnering with Capuchin Community Services to provide holiday meals for families in need. Thanks to your incredible generosity last year, we filled 275 boxes. Our goal this year is 300! Tags listing the needed food items are available on the bulletin board in the classroom hallway. We invite you to take a tag and donate the item(s) listed. Every contribution, large or small, helps make a difference.

Please return donated items to OLOL by November 11 and place them on the shelves in the classroom hallway. Donations will be sorted and packed during GIFT on Saturday, November 14.

Thank you for sharing your blessings and helping make the holidays a little brighter for families in our community. Together, we can make a meaningful difference!

Confirmation Candidates

The first candidate and sponsor event is Sunday, October 25, from 5:30 pm–7:30 pm at St. Matthias Church, 9306 W. Beloit Road, Milwaukee, WI 53227. All candidates/sponsors will meet for dinner and activities. If you haven't chosen a sponsor yet, please talk to Tanya prior to this event.

Movie Night – Last Chance to Register

This Wednesday is your last chance to register for our movie night! To celebrate Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), we will be showing the movie *Coco* on Friday, October 23 starting at 6:00 pm. Come and learn more about this Mexican tradition and why we set up an ofrenda in our lobby. Snacks and beverages will be provided. All ages are welcome!

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



Worship

The Communion of Saints

Remembering our deceased loved ones is a core element of the Catholic tradition, deeply rooted in our belief in the Communion of Saints and the promise of eternal life.

In the month of November, we gather as a faith community and remember all those who have gone before us, in an incredibly special way. This is not merely a gesture of sentimental grief, but an active, powerful expression of our faith.

Death does not break the bonds of Christian love. The Church consists of the faithful in Heaven and on Earth. We all remain connected in one mystical body. Just as we ask friends on Earth to pray for us, we pray for the deceased, keeping our relationship with them alive in Christ.

We do not mourn like those who have no hope. Remembering the dead reminds us that Christ has conquered the grave. Our prayers look forward to the day when we will be reunited with them all in the eternal kingdom.

Please join us on the weekend of October 31 and November 1 when all liturgies will specifically honor those we have lost from our parish family over the past year. We invite you to pray for all the faithful departed that weekend and throughout the month of November.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."

Full of Grace: Musical Performance at St. Matthias

St. Matthias Parish (9306 W Beloit Rd, Milwaukee) is holding auditions for the musical *Full of Grace* on October 26 and 27 at 6:30 pm in Steiger Hall. Cast includes lead roles, supporting characters, and an off-stage choir. No need to prepare anything, just come as you are and have fun. The performance is set for the last weekend of January 2027. This is a wonderful opportunity for all ages. Mark your calendar and watch for more details in next week's bulletin or see the flyer by Room 8.

Spotlight

Unsung Hero: Judi Bartholomew

Risen Christ reigns above the altar, rising above death, and inspiring us to grow in our faith. What is the story behind this beautiful wood carving and the carvings on the church's west wall?

All were created and donated by Judi Bartholomew, a member of OLOL until her death in 2017. Her obituary is short; her legacy for our faith journey is immeasurable. Judi began carving to support her son's attainment of a boy scout badge and then mastered the medium in her basement. She described her process as a spiritual experience. She sat with the wood, meditating, permitting the wood to guide her hands. Like faith, art is not easy. She wrestled with the face. Judi went to bed, dreamed the face of Christ, and arose to finish.

Jesus is not tethered to the cross, a relatively revolutionary idea in 1973. Judi invited members of the Liturgy and Life Committee to her basement. Donna Doffing and Louise Struzynski were moved and championed the cross for OLOL. Many parishioners laid hands in blessing over the cross before its installation. As this is written, a banner filled with parishioner handprints hangs behind Jesus, created 50 years later. Together, they are a powerful poetic symbol of our living faith and community through the generations.

The two bas relief wood carvings on the west wall represent Mary present at Jesus' birth and death. *He Has Come* and *Acceptance* are hung low enough so that children can see and touch them. We are encouraged to touch, allowing the oils of our hands to nourish the wood. Bernard Gruenke, renowned fine artist and appraiser, exclaimed *Acceptance* to be world class, ranking near Michelangelo's *Pieta* in the Vatican.

Judi did not live in a world of conformity. She saw possibilities, sharing her uniqueness, talent and faith. She is an inspiration for us to be "hands on."

Barb Webber
Pastoral Council

Discipleship

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/.

Sunday Scripture Reflection

Thursdays | 6:30 pm

St Matthias Parish—In person or via Zoom

Fr. Chuck Schramm, Brian Jens and Peter Morello of St. Matthias, invite you to join their weekly discussion group on the Sunday Scriptures. Call Brian Jens at (414) 982-2406 for more information or visit stmatthias-milw.org/ffo/.

Women's Spirituality Group

November 4 | 6:30pm

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 will meet monthly on the first Wednesday of each month in Room 6.

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

Outreach

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

Registration for our blood drive will again be after all Masses today. Please consider donating. Every time you give, you offer comfort, healing and more tomorrows for patients and families. You can also sign up online at ololmke.org/blood-drives/. Every person who registers will receive a coupon for a pint of Culver's custard. Give a pint; Get a Pint.

Grief Support

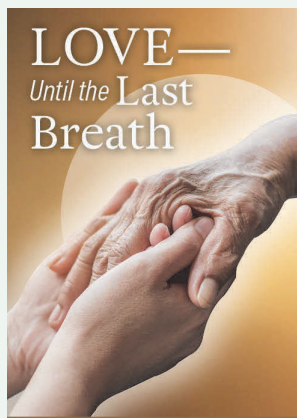
The Walking Through Grief Together group will meet twice next month, November 7 and 21 in Room 3 starting at 11:00 am. No need to register. This group provides a safe setting for sharing and support with others going through loss.

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

A Unique Tour

Members of the Social Justice Committee and the Wednesday Morning Faith Group are going to tour the recently restored St. Joseph Chapel at the St. Joseph Center at 1501 S. Layton Blvd. on Wednesday, October 28, at 11:00 am. All parishioners are invited to join them in viewing and learning about this beautiful historic chapel which was dedicated in 1917 for the School Sisters of St. Francis. Call Pat at (414) 321-3698 for further information.



LOVE—
Until the Last
Breath

Assisted suicide denies the dignity of human life.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is offering information and opportunities for reflection about assisted suicide, including presentations at parishes throughout the archdiocese.

Go to www.archmil.org/love-until-the-last-breath for details.



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Welcome New Parishioners **September 2026**

Liliana Samudio Beaver and Randy Beaver
Bonita Biba
Rita Bruce
Benedetto Depiro
Dorothy Deterding
Alexander Dominguez
Diane Domrois
Nancy Macias
Michael and Sarah Moore
Elena Perez
Kamila Perez
Rodrigo Sr. and Griselda Perez
Richard and Mary Rose Sanger
Eliana Schell-Campos

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair 2026

Thank You!

Oktoberfest Artisan Fair 2026 is a wonderful memory! We gathered. Families, our elders, our homebound, and our neighbors came and made a joyful noise!

Thank you to all the volunteers who filled over 200 shifts to make this event possible! Many of you have become experts in the areas you prefer. You help new people feel comfortable and you make our guests feel relaxed and happy. In addition to those who worked during the weekend, volunteers planned the liturgy, prepared the music, and worked on the basket and 50/50 raffles.

Thank you to our gracious staff. They pitch in to make this a wonderful weekend, as staff members and as volunteers in our community. We are fortunate to have their guidance and expertise. Thank you Fr. Chuck and Deacon Bill for leading us in liturgy polka style. And thank you Deb Steppe for your leadership in many, many ways.

Finally, we thank the Oktoberfest Artisan Fair Team who meet all year to creatively and strategically plan this weekend. They continue to develop their expertise, are diligent in keeping expenses low, and seek creative fresh ideas to share. It is a fun group of people!

Thank you all for a successful Oktoberfest Artisan Fair!

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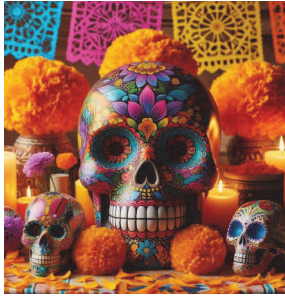
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Día de los Muertos

Day of the Dead Altar

A Parish-wide Art & Prayer Invitation
presented by the OLOL Art Guild
October 19–November 15, 2026

We will be creating a “**Remembrance Table**” in the Lobby area—a “shrine” to remember our loved ones who have died. You are invited to bring the following items to honor your dearly departed family member or friend:

- A photo of the person you wish to remember—framed or free-standing.
- Any small item that is symbolic of the person.
- Any artificial fruits and vegetables that represent their favorite foods (*no real food, please!*).
- Votive candle holders (not to be lit) but as a symbol to light the way for the anticipated reunion with our dear ones. Traditionally, tall Mexican themed votives are used. You can bring battery operated votives and light them as you attend Mass or other functions at OLOL. Please turn them off when you leave if you want them to last.
- Skeleton and skull décor (*no sugar skulls, please!*).

Please label your items with your name and phone number. These items should not be valuable or highly sentimental objects since the parish cannot be responsible for lost items.

You may bring your items and place them on the memorial tables in the lobby on the weekend of October 17/18 when you come to Mass. Art Guild members will adjust items on the altar as needed. The ofrenda will be on display from that time through November 15. At that time, you are asked to remove your personal items from the tables following all weekend Masses.



Día de los Muertos Celebración

Some Common Misconceptions

by May Herz



El Día de los Muertos is not the Mexican version of Halloween. Mexicans have celebrated the Day of the Dead since 1800 B.C.



It is not scary or morbid. There are not pictures or images of dead people, ghosts, witches, or the devil.



The Day of the Dead is not a cult. This ritual has nothing to do with cults. It is a Catholic Christian ritual intermixed with folk culture. Going to Mass is an essential aspect of this celebration.



It doesn't honor death but rather our dead relatives. We welcome the opportunity to reflect upon our lives, our heritage, our ancestors, and the meaning and purpose of our own existence.



Altars or *ofrendas* are not for worshipping but for offering our love and remembering our departed family members.



It is not a sad ritual. It's a day of happiness because we will be remembering our loved ones. Although when in the graveyard, people assume an introspective attitude.



The Day of the Dead is about love not fear.



It is not a "strange" ritual. It is very similar to going to a grave and leaving flowers or stuffed animals or lighting a candle to remember the deceased.



It is not a careless or fearless confrontation of death. It is a moment to reflect upon one's life and the cycle of life and death.