Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Church

October 25, 2026

30th 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

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Join the Parish

ololmke.org/become-a-member

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Notes from Deb

Remembrance

The Catholic Church so beautifully sets aside the month of November to remember the dear souls who have gone before us. In this month especially, we hold tight to our understanding of the Communion of Saints, that we are all united in sacred connection, a bond so deep and so holy that it cannot be severed, not even by death.

Next weekend, here at Our Lady of Lourdes, we will remember those of our parish family who have died in the last year. Their names and photos will be part of the liturgy, their family members are invited to participate in the entrance procession, and we will all share fellowship in the Parish Hall after Mass. Throughout the month of November, our Book of Life will be enthroned near the sanctuary. Everyone who has had funerals through Our Lady of Lourdes has their name inscribed in this book of remembrance. In addition, many folks will write the names of loved ones who had funerals elsewhere. The names and photos will be shown on the screens outside of church throughout the month as well.

Grief is a burden we all bear. That burden is lessened when we accompany one another on our journeys. Our Lady of Lourdes has Walking Through Grief Together, a grief support group that meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month at 11:00 am. No reservation is needed and all are welcome.

Know of my prayers and my love.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

Calendar

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) (Baptism)	Church
11:30 am	OCIA Informational Mtg.	Rm 9

Monday, October 26

11:30 am	Resurrection Choir	Rm 9
1:00 pm	Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm	Introduction to the Gospel of Mark	Rm 10

Tuesday, October 27

10:30 am	SVDP Mtg.	Rm 3
1:00 pm	Art Guild Mtg./Class	Rm 4

Wednesday, October 28

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

Thursday, October 29

3:30 am	Spirit & Grace Choir	Rm 10
6:30 pm	Oktoberfest Mtg.	Rm 3

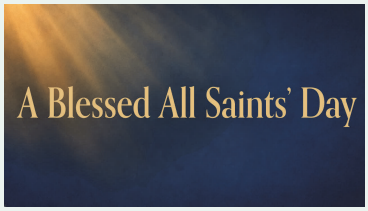
Friday, October 30–Parish Office Closed

Saturday, October 31
Community Weekend
House of Peace Food Collection
Día de los Muertos Ofrenda

4:00 pm	Mass (Burkert)	Church

Sunday, November 1
Community Weekend
House of Peace Food Collection
Día de los Muertos Ofrenda

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



Parish Support - October 2026

	ACTUAL as of 10/8/26	BUDGETED for October
Reg. Envelopes	**$21,051.84**	**$68,500.00**
Offertory	**$931.00**	**$3,750.00**

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: October 2026

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	**$232,588.36**	**$326,900.00**
Bequests	**$500.00**	
Op. Expenses	**$226,667.17**	**$345,872.98**

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/26	**$437,986.31**
Donations	**$7,707.64**
Expense	**$52,355.30**
Balance (10/8/26)	**$393,338.65**

Community Life

In Memoriam

In loving memory of Theresa Marsicek
From Dan Marsicek and Terry Lieske

In loving memory of Marion Holtz, Happy Birthday Mom
From your children

Oktoberfest Meeting

Thursday, October 29 | 6:30 pm
Topic: Debrief and celebrate

All are welcome as we discuss Oktoberfest 2026. We will celebrate the wonderful weekend with an eye on the opportunities learned.

Catholic Social Teaching

Love God. Love neighbor. Today's readings are very straightforward. In Exodus: care for the widow and the orphan and don't extort the poor. In Matthew: love your neighbor as yourself.

These are foundational Christian teachings, but that doesn't make them easy to carry out. If we are to love our neighbor as ourselves, we need to let go of our egos. Caring for the widow or the orphan requires us to give time and resources.

In our culture, time itself is our most treasured resource. In what ways can we commit to give some of our precious time away to those who need accompaniment? A conversation? A letter? A meal? Perhaps even a friendship? One way we can love our suffering neighbors is by giving the dignity of reciprocity... nobody wishes to be solely a "taker." At times we may find ourselves in the position to easily share resources and perhaps time, but we should keep in mind that a material-poor neighbor may very well be wisdom-rich!

Formation

Next GIFT Session is Sunday, November 1

The topic is "Walk With Me As I Journey." At baptism, the presider asks parents and godparents if they are willing to accept the responsibility to teach the child the practices of our Catholic faith. The presider then turns to us, the community, and says, "Community, this child will also need the support of our faith and love. Are we, the community of God's people, ready to give that help?" And we respond with a resounding, "We are!"

Most Catholics know how to do this with young children, but many feel ill-equipped to fulfill this call with adolescents. Presenters Joe Schmidt and Tanya Gross will take some time to explore this challenge, talk about what it means to become a more youth-focused community, and look at ways to walk with youth on their faith journey.

If you are not registered for GIFT, but wish to attend, please call the Parish Office.

OCIA Information Meeting

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic or receiving the sacrament of confirmation and first Eucharist?

This initiation process welcomes:

- Those who have not yet been baptized and wish to join the Catholic Church
- Those baptized in another Christian tradition who seek to become Catholic
- Those baptized in the Catholic Church but not raised in the faith, who now desire full initiation (confirmation, first Eucharist)

An informational meeting will be held on Monday, November 9, at 6:00 pm in Room 9. Come learn about the process and ask questions!

Worship

Upcoming Musical Opportunities

Full of Grace – St. Matthias Church

St. Matthias Parish (9306 W Beloit Rd, Milwaukee) is holding auditions this week for the musical *Full of Grace*. This work, written by local composer Jeff Honoré and lyricist Elisa Neckar, celebrates the story and life of our Blessed Mother, Mary. The cast includes lead roles, supporting characters, and an off-stage choir. It would be great to have folks from Our Lady of Lourdes, along with your friends, get involved. **All ages** are invited!! No need to prepare anything for the audition, just come as you are and have fun.

Helpful information: *Full of Grace* is written in the style of *The Song of Mark* by Marty Haugen, which you might be familiar with, as it's been performed many times in the Milwaukee area. The variety of roles makes this extremely accessible for people of all skills and confidence levels. Basically, don't be afraid to try out!!

Audition dates:

October 26 and 27, 6:30 pm–auditions in Steiger Hall at St. Matthias (choose either night)
October 28, 7:30 pm–callbacks for selected people/roles

Performance dates:

January 28, 7:00 pm / January 29, 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm / January 30, 7:00 pm / January 31, 2:00 pm

Fun at and with Our Lady of Lourdes

1. **Christmas Tree Lighting** – **Friday, December 4, at 6:45 pm** Join your fellow OLOL friends as they lead a few holiday songs at the Jackson Park Community Association tree lighting. Bring your family and friends. Open to all ages. No experience required. The more, the merrier. Watch for more info in the upcoming months.
2. **The Thrill of Hope: An Advent Musical Celebration – Sunday, December 6, at 4:00 pm** You are invited to attend this one-hour concert of beautiful seasonal music and poetry, presented by members of our OLOL music ministry. It's a perfect opportunity to relax and remind yourself of the hope and love of the season. There might even be some holiday treats!

Spotlight

Your Voice Matters

In his book, *The Bill of Obligations; The Ten Habits of Good Citizens*, Dr. Richard Haass explores the idea that in a healthy democracy citizens enjoy rights, but also bear "obligations." We are encouraged to be open to compromise, to work together for the common good, and to reject violence. During election season, we are called to participate in our democracy by becoming informed and through exercising our right to vote.

Election day is Tuesday, November 3. Up to date, easy to use, voter registration information (including checking on your own registration status) early voting dates, and polling location information can be found on this Wisconsin state website https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Register-To-Vote . The The Active Nonviolence group at OLOL will offer a **prayer service** on the evening before election day, **Monday, November 2, at 6:30 pm.**

At this time, for many reasons, some of us may be drawn to gather. Soon our state will elect a governor, and many races across our nation will impact us all. We may feel anxious, uncertain, and hopeful. We may be tired, we may be energized, and we may be scared. But whatever our reason, we sense that whatever we are looking for, it is here. We invite you to join us in a space that provides some quiet in a world of noise, some reassuring community, the presence of our resurrected savior, surrounded by the word of God, and the comforting light and sounds of the Holy Spirit.

We will listen, reflect, and pray. We know that the outside noise may always await us during election season, but we will share with each other our faith that God and his eternal love is with us always, and there we find our hope.

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/.

Women's Spirituality Group

November 4 | 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 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.

Men's Spirituality Group

November 12 | 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.

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

Outreach

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. Tags listing the food items needed are now available on the bulletin board in the classroom hallway. We invite you to take a tag and return the donated item(s) on the shelves in the classroom hallway by November 11. Thank you for sharing your blessings and helping make the holidays a little brighter for families in our greater Milwaukee community.

Request for Baked Goods

On Tuesday, November 10, from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm in the Hall, the Social Justice Committee will welcome Richard Gonzalez to mark Native American Heritage Month. The entire OLOL community is encouraged to attend.

We are seeking baked goods for this event. If you like to bake and are willing to donate some baked goods, please call Steve Szymanski. Baked items would need to be delivered on Monday, November 9, by 4:00 pm or Tuesday, November 10, by 6:15 pm. Please provide a list of ingredients as well for allergy sensitivities.

Communications

Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, which means it's time for our annual reminder that the internet is… well, the internet. We've put together a simple guide full of everyday safety tips, the kind you can use without needing a secret hacker alias.

Clip out this list or check your email for the latest Wednesday Table Reflection. Stick it somewhere visible like the fridge, near your computer, or wherever you keep the "don't forget!" stuff. It's a fun little way to stay one step ahead of the scammers before they even try.

Thanks for taking a moment to stay cyber-savvy this month.

Cybersecurity Everyday Tips

Don't answer calls from unknown or unexpected numbers. Let them go to voicemail. You can always call back.

Don't click links from email addresses or text numbers you don't know or were not expecting.

Know if you're expecting a delivery.

Be suspicious of first time texts or emails pressuring or scaring you to do something.

Use strong, unique passwords. Engage multi-factor authentication. Employ passkeys or biometric authentication (safer than passwords).

Run updates when your computer or phone tells you to. Yes, the interface may change and you may not like it, but you are taking a major risk if you don't stay up-to-date.

Change your home router's password from the default "admin" setting (this is different from your wi-fi password).

Don't click on search results labeled "Sponsored" in search engines like Google. They may lead to a fake website.

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HOUSE OF PEACE FOOD BOXES

It is almost time to fill up the Holiday Food Boxes for Capuchin Community Services! Our Lady of Lourdes has been part of this wonderful ministry for a number of years. This year, we are again going to pack the food boxes as a community during our Saturday, November 14, GIFT session (child care will be provided for children under kindergarten age). Our goal is to fill 300 boxes!

Our theme for GIFT this year is "Walking in the Footsteps of Christ." One of the ways to walk this walk is through service. This will be a wonderful way to show our young people, and everyone in our formation program, how to be Jesus to others.

This is a community effort. We have people who donate food, people who sort the food, and people who pack the boxes. Through this project, we are building the community at OLOL and supporting the Greater Milwaukee community at the same time.

How will this work?

- **Donating items:** There are tags on a bulletin board in the classroom hallway with items that are needed for the boxes. We have combined them in a way that we believe each set of groceries costs about the same for each tag. Select however many tags you would like and purchase those items. **NO GLASS jars**, please, and check the use by dates go until December 2026.

- **Dropping items off:** Please bring your items to OLOL by Wednesday, November 11, and leave them on the shelving racks in the hallway.

- **Packing the boxes:** We will pack the boxes as one of our GIFT service sessions on Saturday, November 14. If you would like to join us for that GIFT session but are not a regular GIFT participant, you are more than welcome to come and be part of this process! Please call the Parish Office to let us know if you will be attending.

Thank you so much for your donations! You are helping to contribute to the formation of our young people and GIFT attendees, you are helping to share a Thanksgiving meal with members of the Milwaukee community, and you are modeling what it truly means to walk in the footsteps of Christ.

If you have questions, please call the Parish Office at (414) 545-4316.

Generations Together In Faith

Each year Capuchin Community Services provides food boxes to families at Thanksgiving. These boxes are given out at the House of Peace and St. Ben's Community Meal.

About one third of those who eat at St. Ben's have access to a kitchen, but don't always have food. Many of those served by the House of Peace are the working poor who rely on their Emergency Food Pantry.

For more information about Capuchin Community Services, please visit their website at: https://www.capuchincommunityservices.org/.

Our Lady of Lourdes is always generous in filling up boxes, and we are looking forward to helping Capuchin Community Services again this year.

To see how you can help fill boxes this year, please see the other side of this flyer.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

How did the Iroquois influence the writing of the U.S. Constitution?

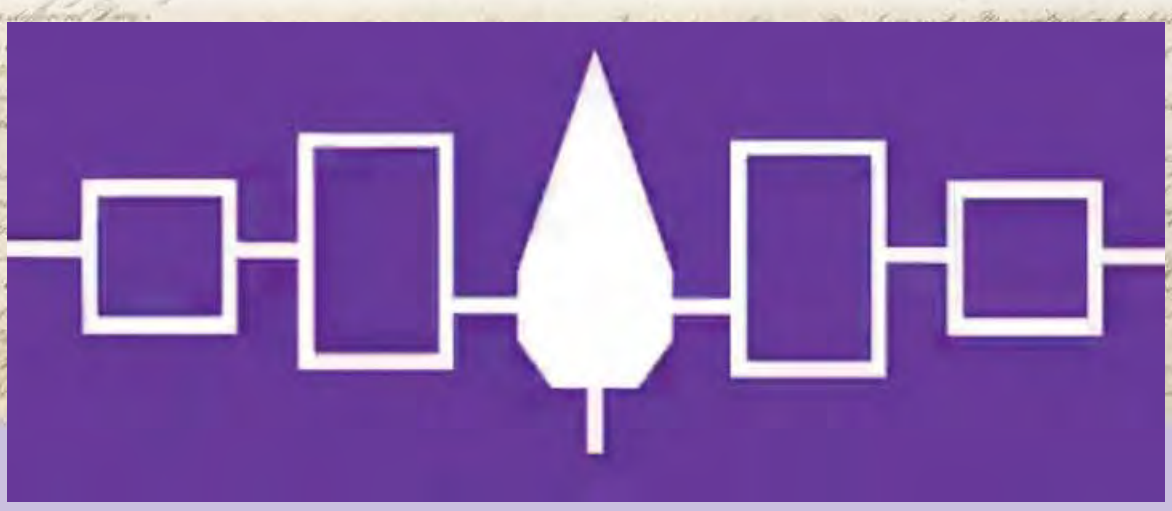
Join us as Richard Gonzalez, an expert on Native American history and culture, will enlighten us on how the Iroquois Nation influenced the writing of the U.S. Constitution. Mr. Gonzalez, a member of the Iroquois/Oneida Nation, is recognized for his cultural expertise, public ceremonies, and educational work on Native American Heritage.

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 • 6:30 pm-8:00pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall
3722 South 58th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53220

Bring your family. – Enrich your knowledge of Native American contributions to American history!

Sponsored by the OLOL Social Justice Committee



The Seneca Keepers of the Western Door
The Cayuga
The Onondaga Keepers of the Central Fire
The Oneida
The Mohawk Keepers of the Eastern Door

The flag of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (often called the Iroquois Confederacy) is based on the historic Hiawatha Belt, a wampum record dating back centuries to the original unification of the five independent nations.