

DEC 15, 2024

3rd Sunday in Advent



# Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

... a pilgrim church  
coming to know  
the kingdom of God  
by being Christ  
to the world.

“Rejoice in the Lord  
always.”

Phil 4:4



3722 S. 58th Street | Milwaukee, WI 53220-2053 | (414) 545-4316

#### EUCCHARIST:

**SAT** 4:00 PM

**SUN** 8:00 AM | 10:30 AM

**WED** 9:30 AM

#### PARISH DIRECTOR

**DEB STEPPE**

Office: (414) 545-4316 x113

#### CONNECT:

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# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

## End of the Year Contributions

You are reminded that contributions for calendar year **2024** must be dropped in the collection by the weekend of **December 28/29** or in an envelope postmarked no later than December 31, 2024. A check dated December 31 or earlier, but not in our possession or in a valid postmarked envelope and received after January 1 is a 2025 contribution. Parishioners who want to make any contributions in person must drop them off in the Parish Office or the secure mailbox outside the 58<sup>th</sup> Street entrance by **12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, December 31**, to receive credit for 2024. We do check this mailbox regularly. Please plan accordingly!

### NOTES FROM DEB

**“Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all.” (Philippians 4:4-5)**

As we move closer to Christmas, I’m finding myself being a bit more reminiscent in my thoughts and prayers. As I prayed with this passage from Philippians, I thought about people around the world who probably don’t feel much like rejoicing. I think of our sisters and brothers in Haiti. I think of distant cousins in Ukraine and the people of Gaza, Israel, and Sudan. I also thought about my parents, and wondered what it was like for them, to hear the exhortation to rejoice when my dad was on a battleship in the Pacific during Advent 1944, when they didn’t know if he’d ever make it home.

Regardless of circumstances, we rejoice. We rejoice because the Lord is near—as near to us as the love we receive. The Lord is near to all the folks we encounter when we show them we care, when we lend a hand, or when we let our kindness be known. The Lord is near when we raise our voices in song and prayer when we gather at Mass.

Yes, the Advent season is about remembering Jesus Christ’s birth 2,000 years ago, and it is about waiting for the second coming, but more immediately, Advent is about realizing that the presence of Jesus is with each of us, and when we share that love with one another, our frightful world becomes a little more beautiful.

Know of my prayers for you all.

Your shepherd,  
Deb Steppe

### VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

#### Joyfulness

Joyfulness is an inner wellspring of peace and happiness. It is beyond ordinary happiness because it is not an occasional emotional reaction to luck or circumstances. It is a deep sense of wellbeing that fills us with delight and hope. We appreciate the gift of life and savor its richness. We enjoy simple pleasures. We find the humor in things. Joy comes when we are being true to a soulful purpose. It gives us a true sense that all is well.

Drawing on the joy that permeates Paul’s letter, the Second Reading calls the community to rejoice. What is your greatest source of joyfulness? How do you name it and share it with others?

**SUN 15**

**MON 16**

**TUE 17**

*Haiti Craft Fair*  
*Art Guild Mosaic Canvas Distribution*  
*Welcome Weekend*  
8:00 am Liturgy (Schramm) Church  
10:30 am Liturgy (Burkert) Church

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10  
6:00 pm Christmas Choir Reh. Church

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
3:00 pm Food Pantry Rm 7

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Martin Luther King Prayer Service

Saturday, January 28

1:30 pm

St. Francis of Assisi Church

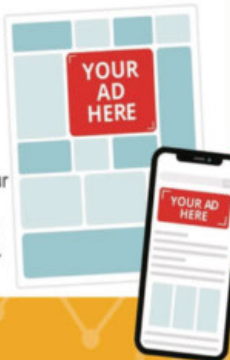
1937 N. Vel Phillips Ave., Milwaukee

Dr. King was a man of God who allowed scripture to guide him and motivate him. The prayer service is a way to experience his message and re-dedicate ourselves to the causes Dr. King stood for and gave his life for. The service engages and challenges attendees to look within and ask, "How are you living God's call for you? How are you being Christ-like in your homes, in your communities, in your churches, in the world?"

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Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Tim Brincherhoff from LPI, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



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## FORMATION

### Christmas Eve Gospel Pantomime

Please join us on Christmas Eve at the 4:00 pm liturgy when children from grades three and four in GIFT enhance our worship by dramatizing the Nativity Story as it is read from the Gospel. This is a particularly good way to teach young children the story of Jesus's birth.

### New Year's Eve Potluck—RSVP Today!

Celebrate New Year's Eve with your OLOL family! Join us on December 31 for 4:00 pm Mass, followed by dinner and a fun London-style countdown at 6:00 pm. Check out the flyer in this bulletin for full event details, and RSVP at [tinyurl.com/NYEatOLOL](http://tinyurl.com/NYEatOLOL) or call the Parish Office to let us know you're coming!

## Join us FOR SIMBANG GABI

The Filipino community invites you to a devotional, nine-day series of Masses in preparation for Christmas.

Mass | Music | Food | Fun

**December 15 – 23, 2024**

Simbang Gabi is the annual Filipino festival commemorating the Advent season, with a devotional nine-day series of Masses. Scan here or visit the Archdiocese of Milwaukee website for more information.  
[archmil.org/simbang-gabi](http://archmil.org/simbang-gabi)



**ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE**

**WED 18**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6  
9:30 am Liturgy Church  
10:15 am Faith Group Social Hall C

**THU 19**

8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 5  
8:15 am Autism Intervention Rm 6

**FRI 20**

**Office Closed**

# WORSHIP

## Advent Wreath Song

Now as the winter chills us and the darkness stills us  
 We are like children still awake  
 Silent but never sleeping  
 A vigilant watch we're keeping  
 Waiting for rumors of your grace  
 Waiting in wonder, a spell of hope we are under  
 See this candle burn before us.

Come, O Jesus, Holy Light  
 Come and illuminate our sight  
 Come, O Jesus, God Among Us  
 Come, O Justice, Come, O Peace  
 Come, O Gift of Love we seek  
 Shine upon us  
 Come, O Jesus, shine!



Come to your own creation, every creature and every nation  
 Come to the rich and to the poor  
 To the increasing violence, to the crippling fear inside us  
 To communities torn apart by war  
 To the mighty and lowly, to the loved and the lonely  
 See these candles burn before us.

Come, O Jesus, Holy Light  
 Come and illuminate our sight  
 Come, O Jesus, God Among Us  
 Come, O Justice, Come, O Peace  
 Come, O Gift of Love we seek  
 Shine upon us  
 Come, O Jesus, shine!

"Advent Wreath Song" by Peter Mayer (www.petermayer.net)

### Scripture Readings for December 21/22

#### 4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:1-4a | Psalm 80 | Hebrews 10:5-10 | Luke 1:39-45

# OUTREACH

## Grief Support

The Walking Through Grief Together group will meet twice next month, January 4 and 18, in Room 6 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: December 17, January 7 and 21

Most needed items: soups (both condensed and not), canned fruit, canned meats, and spaghetti sauce. Thanks for your ongoing support to the pantry. It is because of you that we can provide food to the needy. God bless.

Please watch expiration dates.

[ololmke.org/food-pantry](http://ololmke.org/food-pantry)

**SAT 21**

**SUN 22**

11:00 am Walking Through Grief Together Rm 3  
 5:00 pm Liturgy Church

8:00 am Liturgy Church  
 10:30 am Liturgy Church  
 11:30 am Environment Change Church

**CELEBRATE  
 ADVENT  
 IDEA 3:**

**Bake cookies to secretly drop off to your neighbors. Include a Christmas card with an Advent prayer or an invitation to Christmas Mass at your parish!**



## COMMUNICATIONS

## SPOTLIGHT

### Cancellation and Closing Notifications

We are just about to enter winter. Therefore, please stay in touch with OLOL regarding building and event notifications during inclement weather.

First alerts will go out through our app and text notifications. Then postings will go up on our website home page and Facebook. Lastly, the local TV stations will be contacted. This order is based on the speed and ease (fastest to slowest) of disseminating the information.

We are aware that not everyone has a smartphone, so we will continue to use every means necessary to alert people about closings and cancellations. If you do have a smartphone, we encourage you to download our app.

### Unsung Disciples

Beth Stamatakos, Jenny Keats, Lynda Beller, Theresa Arnsdorf, Lyle and Mary Jackson, Ben Litwin, and Ken Kaniewski are some of the first faces we see upon entering the worship space at OLOL. They set the tone for a positive and spiritually enriching experience. They greet us with warm smiles and even know the “regulars” who come to their Masses so well that they always take a few moments to catch up with those parishioners before they take their seats.

Our ushers serve as OLOL’s ambassadors, embodying the spirit of hospitality and kindness that we’re known for. Whether helping visitors feel at home or assisting those with special needs, their presence makes our weekly gatherings more accessible to all.

Their dedication often goes unnoticed; so let’s reflect on their contributions, from distributing bulletins, collecting the offertory collection, and anything in between. Please offer our ushers heartfelt thanks for their service, commitment, and the grace they bring to our worship experience each week! Remember, new ushers are always welcome!

## DISCIPLESHIP

## STAFF EMAIL

### Complete Joy

Joy is not dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people we are with. It does not depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from God. The joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, and of Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with great rejoicing.

Our joy is a gift.

It is the gift that God gave us that very first Christmas in Jesus Christ. Our joy is encompassed in the fact that God came to dwell among us—the Creator became the created. How unimaginable is that?

May your heart be flooded with complete joy this Advent season as you reflect on the good news of Jesus’ birth!



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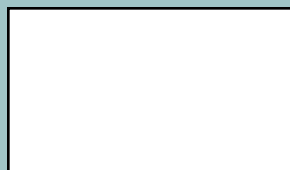
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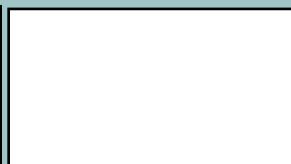
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