

DEC 22, 2024

4th 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.



“Blessed are you
who believed
that what was
spoken to you by
the Lord
would be fulfilled.”
Luke 1:45

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:

WEBSITE ololmke.org

EMAIL office@ololmke.org

FACEBOOK /ololmke

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FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Parish Support - November 2024

	ACTUAL <i>as of 11/24/2024</i>	BUDGETED <i>for Nov</i>
Reg. Envelopes	\$67,783.63	\$87,222.47
Offertory	\$3,212.55	\$4,999.95

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: November 2024

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Operating Income	\$375,545.61	\$379,288.36
Operating Expenses.....	\$363,486.60	\$388,521.34

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/24...	\$169,666.89
Donations.....	\$12,689.64
Expenses.....	\$83,376.50
Balance (11/18/2024)	\$98,980.03

THANK YOU!

*Our Lady of Lourdes is greatly
blessed with your continued
generous support
of all our ministries!*

2024 Catholic Stewardship Appeal (11/21/2024)

Donations: **\$38,923.40**
Goal is \$61,175.....63.62%

Donors: **135**
of donors: 1,010..... 13.37%
Participation goal 15.6%

DECIDE TO LEAD

www.CatholicAppeal.org

NOTES FROM DEB

Christmas Blessings!

As the Advent season gives way to Christmas, please accept my wishes for a most blessed holiday season.

Please join us for our Christmas liturgies at 4:00 pm and 9:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24, and then at 9:00 am on Wednesday, December 25. Our holiday liturgies always gift us with visitors—from friends and family to folks in the neighborhood looking for a Christmas Mass. I have no doubt that each of those folks will receive a warm welcome from all of us. Thank you for the genuine hospitality that you will give those folks and the hospitality that you share with our visitors throughout the year. When we say “all are welcome here” we really mean it!

May these holy days surround you with love, peace, contentment, and joy. Know of my prayers for you all.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe



CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

In today's reading, Mary travels to visit Elizabeth, who is older and also pregnant. Mary traveled "in haste" to the town of Judah to be with Elizabeth. Perhaps Mary's haste is due to the upcoming birth of Elizabeth's child. Perhaps it is Mary coming to terms with her significant "yes" to God's request to carry Jesus. Mary has every reason to be afraid as a young, unmarried, pregnant teen in a time when she is treated as mere property. Yet Mary has a safe person she can visit with haste, and that person greets her with joy. Might Elizabeth have initially been concerned, confused or disapproving of Mary's situation? Perhaps, but Mary knew she could count on Elizabeth to support her. Let each of us be someone's safe person, recognizing their dignity when others do not.

SUN 22

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

MON 23

1:00 pm Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:00 pm Christmas Choir Reh.	Church

TUE 24

Office Closed

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Liturgy	Church
9:00 pm Christmas Eve Liturgy	Church



COMMUNITY LIFE

Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of Gregory Huber and all others who have died.

Please keep them in your prayers.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of
Joan Copson

From
Jeff & Mary Copson and
family

In loving memory of
Dave Szrom

From
Linda Szafranski &
Ed Thompson
Pat McKay
Therese & Bruce Zivney
Patti & Russ Sereno
Deb & Mike Steppe

In loving memory of
Elaine Acker

From
Richard & Celeste Hein

FORMATION

Countdown to Our New Year's Eve Potluck!

It's almost here! Join us on December 31 at 4:00 pm for Mass, then stay for a parish-wide dinner and 6:00 pm New Year's countdown. Bring a dish to share, enjoy activities for all ages, and let's celebrate together! RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/NYEatOLOL> or call the Parish Office today!

Christmas Eve Gospel Dramatization

Join us for a Christmas Eve tradition at OLOL, as children in GIFT grades 3 & 4 will dramatize the Gospel as it is read at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve liturgy. This is especially helpful for younger children to understand why we celebrate Christmas.

OKTOBERFEST ARTISAN FAIR 2025

Save the date: October 10-11-12 in 2025

Yes, we are planning for 2025! If you would like to be a part of this fun and effective planning team, please contact Barb Webber. We love new ideas!

If you are cleaning or decluttering around the holidays, here are three ways to support Oktoberfest.

Baskets: Large baskets and containers are used for the basket raffle. We will take them any time of year.

Christmas Trees: OLOL is transformed with misfit Christmas Trees during Oktoberfest. The lights do not need to work. They do need to stand up on a sturdy base.

Artists: Find great artists, collect their business cards, and give them to Tanya Gross!

Bring items to the Parish Office. They know how to reach us!

Thank you,
The Oktoberfest Team

WED 25

Office Closed

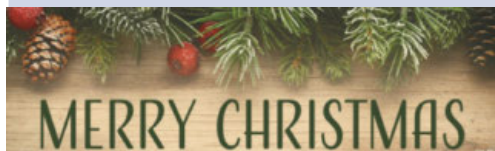
9:00 am Christmas Day Liturgy Church

THU 26

Office Closed

FRI 27

Office Closed



WORSHIP



We still pray
 We still sing
 We still dream of the day
 When the birds will return
 and the flowers
 and our lost loved ones.
 We still live with the belief
 that love and gentleness and faith
 will blossom forth one day
 like roses in winter.

We still believe that God
 will be born again in our land
 as we prepare the stable of our hearts
 for the birth of a new people.

To Guatamalan refugees in Mexico,
 From Salvadoran refugees in Honduras

Christmas Schedule:

Tuesday, December 24, at 4:00 pm and 9:00 pm
 Wednesday, December 25, at 9:00 am

Mary, Mother of God–New Year’s Schedule:

Tuesday, December 31 at 4:00pm, followed by a Potluck in the Hall

Scripture Readings for December 28/29

Feast of the Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 | Psalm 84 | Colossians 3:12-17 | Luke 2:41-52

OUTREACH

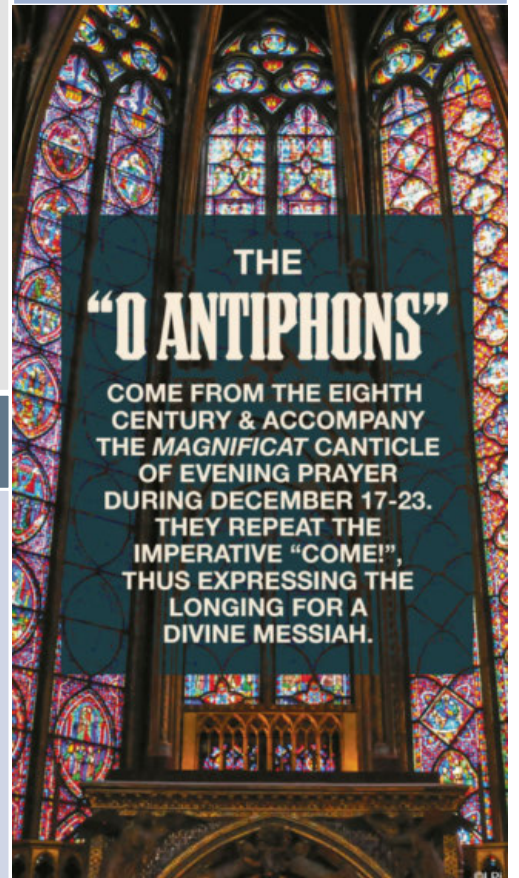
Thank You

Thank you from Human Concerns and the families at Ronald McDonald House of Eastern Wisconsin. Your kindness in saving pop tabs for the house has resulted in over 30 pounds of tabs this year. The money gained from these tabs is used to provide food and housing for families whose children are being treated at Children's Wisconsin and Rogers Memorial Hospital. Thank you for supporting this mission.

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: 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



SAT 28		SUN 29	
4:00 pm Liturgy	Church	8:00 am Liturgy 10:30 am Liturgy	Church Church

COMMUNICATIONS

SPOTLIGHT

Help us help you to support us to support you!

Do you own your own business or work for a fantastic company? Consider promoting your work/business in our bulletin! LPI is our bulletin partner, and sponsored ads allow us to continue providing a weekly bulletin at no cost to the parish.

Grab the "PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS" flyer from the rack in the lobby and let everyone in the parish know about your business!



Tim Brincherhoff

(800) 888-4574 x5150

TBrincherhoff@4lpi.com

Everyday Stewardship

When Elizabeth was visited by Mary, her joy was overwhelming. Elizabeth recognized that Mary was carrying inside her the Messiah. She was honored to receive Mary, not just because of who Mary was herself, but also because of the One she had inside her.

We meet people every day in our lives. Some we know well, some are acquaintances, and others we may have never seen before. Yet all of them are made in the image of God and carry within them the person of Jesus. If we considered this more frequently, would we act more graciously toward each other? Mary gave birth to the Son of God so that we might be able to be adopted sons and daughters of God. If we thought of this more often, would we be so quick to dismiss someone or ignore him or her?

This time of year is filled with gatherings and parties for many of us. We also find ourselves rushing about getting ready for Christmas. There are so many people that cross our paths. Will we allow the Jesus in us to greet with joy the Jesus in them? Will we pause to offer a greeting or kind word? Instead of looking at them with human eyes, will we try to see them through the eyes of faith like Elizabeth. If not, what is all of this celebration and preparation about anyway?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

DISCIPLESHIP

STAFF EMAIL

A Christmas Prayer

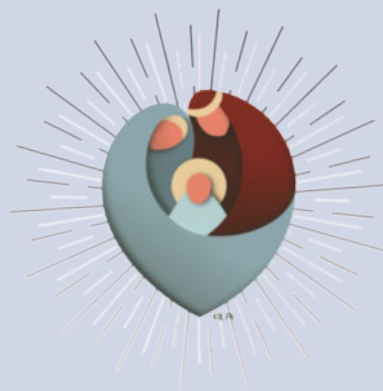
Dear God,

We celebrate the birth of Jesus, His life and love, His teachings and works, His steadfast resistance, His suffering, death and resurrection.

We celebrate the most nonviolent life in all of human history. The greatest peacemaker the world has ever seen. We celebrate how His life and love continue to disarm, heal, and transform us all.

Bless us that we might be peacemakers, people who love one another, loving our neighbors, and loving our enemies. Bless us that we might be a new Christmas people, who, like Mary and Joseph, welcome Christ into the world. May we see Christ in the poor, serve Christ in the world's children, raise Christ through our nonviolent actions and bring Christ's gift of peace on Earth to fruition in our lives and in our work.

Amen!



Patricia Fabian (Administration)
fabianp@ololmke.org

Julie Fraleigh (Music Ministry Assoc.)
fraleighj@ololmke.org

Bill Goulding (Deacon)
office@ololmke.org

Paul Kuenzi (Maintenance)
kuenzip@ololmke.org

Ken Marshman (Maintenance)
marshmank@ololmke.org

Julie Petri (Admin. Asst.)
petrij@ololmke.org

Marc Puechner (Communications)
puechnerm@ololmke.org

Cindi Roark (Finance)
roarkc@ololmke.org

Maggie Russell (Formation Ministry)
russellm@ololmke.org

Nancy Short (Liturgy Asst.)
shortn@ololmke.org

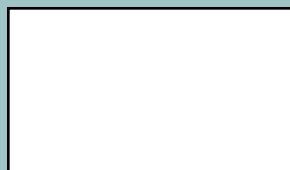
Deb Steppe (Parish Director)
stepped@ololmke.org

Steve Szymanski (Child Ministry)
szymanskis@ololmke.org

Anne Van Deusen (Music Ministry)
vandeusena@ololmke.org

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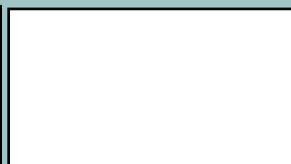
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 anna.sheteron.zrealtyllc@gmail.com

Join the Fleece Blanket Making Community at OLOL!

**Let's keep the spirit of keeping others
warm this winter as our mission.**

Saturday, January 18, at 1:00 PM- 3:45 PM



Please bring:

- * **2 1/2 yards of print fleece**
- * **2 1/2 yards of matching plain fleece**
- * **Pair of sharp scissors**

- * **All ages welcome! Great intergenerational activity!**
- * **No experience necessary. Helpers will be available to get you started.**
- * **Blankets will be blessed for those who receive them at 4:00 PM liturgy**
- * **Blankets will be donated to various homeless shelters in Milwaukee**

For questions contact:

Mary Osep (osepm@outlook.com) or Tanya Gross (tanyamg69@hotmail.com)

Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee