

JAN 19, 2025

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

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

NOTES FROM DEB

As you know, we replaced our south parking lot last year including having some zoning disagreements with the City of Milwaukee. It was our understanding, and the understanding of our contractor, that we did not need a building permit, nor did we need to install new landscaping. It turns out that we were incorrect on both counts. Bottom line: we need to add a significant number of trees and shrubs to be in compliance with the mandates from the city.

The landscaping plan that is acceptable to the city includes 20 trees and 138 shrubs. Planting trees and shrubs is a great thing for our property and for the care of our Earth, but this large expense is quite unexpected.

Also unexpected are the bequests we receive from parishioners who have passed away. The final numbers are in from the bequest I wrote about two weeks ago. Our general fund (pays salaries, bills, etc.), the food pantry, and the Love One Another campaign each received \$56,240. Our St. Ben's Meal program has received \$168,720 (that's a lot of chicken!), and our improvement fund has received \$224,960. We have also received another bequest that is in the \$28,000 range.

Finding ways to use these funds that honor the donor's wishes is a lovely problem to have! But it is also important that we not stop our charitable giving. Buying extra food for our pantry, supporting the parish, and bringing in bakery for St. Ben's is important to the folks we serve, but it is important to us and to our identity as disciples. I will keep you apprised at how we will use these funds, and again, thank you all for your continued stewardship of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

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EUCCHARIST:

SAT 4:00 PM

SUN 8:00 AM | 10:30 AM

WED 9:30 AM

PARISH DIRECTOR

DEB STEPPE

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FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Parish Support - January 2025

	ACTUAL as of 1/10/25	BUDGETED for Jan
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$18,678.86	\$87,222.47
Offertory\$862.00...	..\$3,333.37

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: December 2024

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income	\$610,480.21	\$572,473.02
Op. Expenses	\$452,893.24	\$539,284.98

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/24..	\$169,666.89
Donations.....	\$239,104.52
Expenses.....	\$84,534.36
Balance (1/10/2025)	\$324,227.55

THANK YOU!

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 19

8:00 am Liturgy (Drenzek)	Church
9:00 am Sacrament Prep	Hall
10:30 am Liturgy (Suriano)	Church

Monday, January 20

1:00 pm Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
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Tuesday, January 21

10:30 am SVDP Mtg.	Rm 3
1:00 pm Priest Deanery Mtg.	Rm 10
6:30 pm Baptism Prep	Rm 10
6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group	Rm 3

Wednesday, January 22

9:30 am Communion Service	Church
10:15 am Morning Faith Group	Hall C
6:15 pm Catechist Gathering	Rm 10

Thursday, January 23

9:00 am Year End Statement Mailing	Rm 4
3:30 pm Sprit & Grace Choir	Church

Friday, January 24—Office Closed

Saturday, January 25

Welcome Weekend	
9:30 am Baptism Rehearsal	Church
10:00 am 7th/8th Grade Retreat	Rm 10
4:00 pm Liturgy (Schramm)	Church

Sunday, January 26

Welcome Weekend	
8:00 am Liturgy (Cooper)	Church
10:30 am Liturgy (Lewis) (Baptisms)	Church

COMMUNITY LIFE

In Memoriam

In loving memory of
Colleen Mitchell
From
Priests of the Sacred Heart

In loving memory of
Greg Huber
From
Daniel & Margaret Paruzynski

In loving memory of
Mary Paula Dix
From
Susie & Mark Van Rixel

OUTREACH

From St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, at the wedding feast in Cana, Jesus reveals himself to his disciples and they begin to believe in him. Everyday, God also gives us signs of his love so we also can respond in faith and trust.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul becomes a sign of God's love to those who are suffering and you give them reason to believe and to trust.

Grief Support

The Walking Through Grief Together group will meet twice next month, February 1 and February 15 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.

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Trust

Trust is having faith, hope and a positive outlook. Trust is believing in someone or something. We have confidence that the right thing will come about without trying to control it or make it happen. We trust others to do what they say they will do, and give them the space to be trustworthy. Trust is being sure in the depths of our being, that here is some gift or learning in everything that happens.

In the Gospel, Mary trusts, the stewards trust and Jesus completes his first miracle. What do we need to trust when things don't go the way we expect or desire?



SPOTLIGHT

Unsung Disciples: The Human Concerns Committee

Do you know that a portion of your annual donations to our church budget goes to supporting local non-profit agencies? Eileen Dunning, Mary Ann Litzau, and Sharon Piotrowski form the Human Concerns Committee. They meet on a regular basis and consistently donate to various agencies all year long.

In choosing an agency, the committee uses guidelines such as the organization's mission statement, its clientele, how it serves and its community impact. Past donations have centered on veterans, the homeless, seniors, the hungry, children, and mental health. The committee also conducts two collections each year: Lent and summer. This year's Lenten collection: La Casa Crisis Nursery. Eileen regularly posts thank you letters on the Human Concerns bulletin board. New members are welcome.

FORMATION

Deb Steppe presents on February 2 at GIFT— Walking Together: Partners in Prayer

In this session, our Parish Director, Deb Steppe, will lead GIFT attendees in an engaging formation experience focused on prayer and companionship in faith. In pairs, faith companions will reflect on where they are in their relationship with God, share their experiences of prayer, and spend meaningful time praying with and for one another. Please join us at 9:00 am in the Hall on Sunday, February 2.

If you do not typically attend GIFT and wish to join us, please call the office to let us know that you will be attending.

DISCIPLESHIP

Season for Nonviolence 2025 Be The Change

The Season for Nonviolence is the time from January 30, the anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination, to April 4, the anniversary of the assassination of Dr.



Martin Luther King Jr. During these 64 days we are invited to work towards creating a culture of nonviolence in our lives and our communities.

The goal of the Season for Nonviolence is to inspire individuals to make daily nonviolent choices and to take action centered around the five pillars of nonviolence: respect, understanding, acceptance, appreciation, and compassion. These are all virtues that Jesus practiced, and that we, as His disciples, are called to practice in our lives.

To participate in the Season of Nonviolence sign up on the Discipleship Institute page on the OLOL website at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/.

WORSHIP



As we begin a new year and contemplate our world, perhaps these words, adapted from the artist Judy Chicago, might be our prayer:

“We pray for a time when:

All that divides us will come together
Compassion will be wedded to power
Tenderness will come to a world that is harsh and unkind
Both women and men will be gentle and strong
No person will be subject to another's will
All will be rich and free and varied
The greed of some will give way to the needs of many
All will share equally of the earth's abundance
All will care for the sick, the elderly, the forgotten
All will shepherd and nourish the young
All will cherish life's creatures
All will live in harmony with each other and the earth
Everywhere will be called Eden once again.”

Scripture Readings for January 25/26 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | Psalm 19 |
1 Corinthians 12:12-30 | Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

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The OLOL Art Guild is again presenting our Annual Hallway Art Exhibit from March 1–April 30, 2025.

The theme is “The Rainbow Connection.”

Art may be submitted on the weekend of February 8 and 9. Receptions will be held March 1 and 2.

Art may be picked up the weekend after exhibit closes, May 3 and 4.

Please be aware there are some changes in rules for the submission process:

Up to 4 pieces may be submitted for sale or just for exhibit. The non-member fee is \$25. (fee is waived for members).

Artist must be 16 or older

Art must be suitable to hang with a wire, no saw tooth hangers please.

Fiber and glass pieces must be set up for hanging.

Please provide a short artist statement about your work.

List sale price or NFS

Sale information will be provided at receptions.

The Art Guild is always open to new members. We meet monthly and schedule an open studio between meetings. We learn from each other and outside programs and activities in a wide array of media. If interested in joining, please contact Peg Schmus at pschmus@yahoo.com or Mary Beth Javorek at jrjavorek@yahoo.com

Our Lady of Lourdes Hallway Art Gallery Exhibition

Theme: The Rainbow Connection March 1, 2025, until April 30, 2025. Art Exhibition requirements:

Theme: Subject Matter must relate in some way to the theme, "The Rainbow Connection" and is open to the artist's unique interpretation.

Number of Pieces: 1-4 pieces may be exhibited depending on space available

Entrance fee: \$25.00 (Non guild members) No fee to Art Guild Members (if interested in joining Art Guild, please contact Peg Schmus or Mary Beth Javorek for information)

Hanging Requirements: Artwork must be framed and suitable for hanging with a wire. No sawtooth hangers please! Fiber/glass pieces do not have to be framed but must be set up for hanging. Please clean your frame and glass before submitting.

Art Intake: Saturday, February 8, and Sunday, February 9. (1/2 hour before and after Mass) To arrange a late drop off, contact Intake Coordinators, Mary Beth Javorek or Elena Olveda.

Artist Statement Required: Upon submission, please provide a two or three sentence statement on how your pieces relate to the theme.

Pricing: Artwork may be priced or designated as "Not for Sale." Sold items will be red dotted and kept up throughout the entire exhibit. Checks are made out to the artist. A 10% or 20% commission donation to the parish is suggested.

Art accepted: 2-dimensional work only, including drawings, paintings, prints, mixed media, fiber art pieces, clay, mosaics, stained glass, and photography.

Age Requirement: Adults, age 16 and up. No family groups with underage children.

Opening Reception: Takes place following Masses on Saturday, March 1, 4:00 pm and Sunday, March 2, 10:30 am. Artists' presence at receptions is encouraged.

Pick Up Art Weekend: Saturday, May 3, after the 4:00 pm Mass and Sunday May 4 after Mass. Individual arrangements must be made with the Parish Office for pickup between Monday, May 5, and Thursday, May 8.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Title:

Media:

Price or NFS (note \$\$ value): _____

Statement: Please provide a 2 or 3 sentences paragraph explaining how the piece relates to the theme (on the back of this label)

Disclaimer: I understand the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and the Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee does not take financial responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of the submitted artwork.

Artist's Signature _____

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Title:

Media:

Price or NFS (note \$\$ value): _____

Statement: Please provide a 2 or 3 sentences paragraph explaining how the piece relates to the theme (on the back of this label)

Disclaimer: I understand the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and the Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee does not take financial responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of the submitted artwork.

Artist's Signature _____