

FEB 23, 2025

7th 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

Dear parishioners,

Many folks have asked about my meeting with Archbishop Grob, so I'll share a bit about the meeting with you now.

In that short meeting, I found our new archbishop to be kind, thoughtful, wise, and funny. Each of the parish directors spoke about our parishes, our backgrounds, and we shared how things were going for us. Archbishop Grob listened attentively and asked great follow-up questions. He spoke about his upbringing too—growing up on a farm and working on the farm during the week then working at his grandparent's tavern on the weekends. He clearly learned the value of hard work, of following the seasons, and he learned much of human nature.

I am grateful that he took so much time with us, and I look forward with great hope to his leadership of the archdiocese.

Your shepherd,  
Deb Steppe



## STAFF EMAIL

**Patricia Fabian (Administration)**  
fabianp@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

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](http://ololmke.org)

**EMAIL** [office@ololmke.org](mailto:office@ololmke.org)

**FACEBOOK** /ololmke

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## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### Parish Support - February 2025

	ACTUAL as of 2/16/25	BUDGETED for February
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$32,219.88	\$65,416.67
Offertory .....	\$1,712.91	\$3,333.37

### Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 16, 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Op. Income .....	\$678,720.13	\$645,372.90
Op. Expenses .....	\$561,672.09	\$615,319.72

### Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/24..	\$169,666.89
Donations.....	\$250,290.62
Expenses.....	\$86,062.23
<b>Balance (2/16/25)</b>	<b>\$330,621.42</b>

THANK YOU!

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

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, February 23

<i>La Causa Collection</i>	
8:00 am Liturgy (Marco)	Church
10:30 am Liturgy (Cooper)	Church

### Monday, February 24

1:00 pm Sheepshead Group	Rm 10
6:30 pm Discipleship Team Planning Mtg.	Virtual

### Tuesday, February 25

1:00 pm Art Guild Mtg.	Rm 4
3:00 pm Food Pantry	Rm 7
6:00 pm Finance Council Mtg.	Rm 9

### Wednesday, February 26

9:30 am Communion Service	Church
10:15 am Morning Faith Group	Hall C
6:30 pm Oktoberfest Mtg.	Rm 3
6:30 pm GIFT Core Team Mtg.	Virtual

### Thursday, February 27

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

### Friday, February 28—Office Closed

6:30 pm An Evening of Gospel Music	Church
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### Saturday, March 1

<i>Hallway Art Exhibit Opening Reception</i>	
<i>La Causa Collection</i>	
11:00 am Walking Through Grief Together	Rm 3
4:00 pm Liturgy (Schramm)	Church

### Sunday, March 2

<i>Hallway Art Exhibit Opening Reception</i>	
<i>La Causa Collection</i>	
8:00 am Liturgy (Cooper)	Church
10:30 am Liturgy (Burkert)	Church
11:30 am Environment Change	Church

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### Welcome New Parishioners January 2025

Carol Braun  
Jan Coss  
Sr. Diana DeBruin  
Mary Hofschulte  
Bill and Meagan Wigchers

### In Memoriam

In loving memory of  
Rosalie Greco  
From  
Anonymous

### Oktoberfest Meeting

Wednesday, February 26  
7:00 pm  
Room 3  
Topic: Finalize Schedule & Activities  
All are welcome to help us finalize the Oktoberfest schedule!

## OUTREACH

### From St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel Jesus gives us the challenge to: "Love your enemies... Give to everyone who asks of you... Do to others as you would have them do to you... Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

In the month of February, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to provide families with food and assist with utility and rent bills. Thank you!

### Save the Date!

Our next blood drive is Tuesday, April 22. Give blood. Save a life.



## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Today's gospel challenges us to radical mercy towards our enemies. Kindness towards those who have harmed us was countercultural at the time Luke was written. It remains countercultural today. Jesus advises his followers in a way that we are unlikely to advise our loved ones. Allow someone to strike you? Allow someone to take advantage of you? This is not what we teach our children. There are cultural and historical layers to unwrap here, but let's look beyond the seeming impractical nature of what Jesus is saying. To pray for and extend kindness someone who mistreats us helps us to see their humanity. We live in a world filled with conflict. If we cannot see our enemies as human beings, we are lost. We cannot negotiate with someone if we don't see their humanity. Radical mercy, in whatever form it takes in modern society, can move us forward.

## SPOTLIGHT

### What's New on the Website

As Lent quickly approaches, many ministries are promoting new events for the seasons of Lent and Easter (and beyond). Check out some of the fresh information on our website:

- The 2025 Winter/Spring Booklet is published on the Discipleship Institute page. All of the offerings are also listed on the webpage by category.
- The Lent Virtual Retreat will return to the Lent Prayer page beginning on Ash Wednesday and the live stream recordings of the Thursday prayer services will be housed there as well.
- Oktoberfest has opened up registration for artisans for this year's event.
- The Social Justice Committee has added new material to their page that expands our understanding of the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching (with more coming soon).

Be sure to take some time to browse these updated pages to learn more about the ministries and events that bind us together as a community.

## FORMATION

### Intergenerational Youth Ministry Presents The Gilded Carcanet: An Escape Room Adventure!

Friday, March 28

6:15 pm–8:15 pm | Parish Hall

Join Professor Wilson on a quest to uncover legendary treasure at our next Intergenerational Youth Ministry Event! Solve puzzles, enjoy themed snacks, and experience an interactive storyline.

\$5 per household. RSVP today for mystery, teamwork, snacks, and fun!

### Baptism at Lourdes

Baptism is our common heritage in our faith. Through this sacrament, we die and rise to new life with Christ. Baptism unites us and challenges us to put on Christ and to live the mandate of the Gospel. This is no mere drop of water upon an infant's head—it is immersion into life with Christ, a life of love and discipleship!

We offer baptism five weekends each year at Our Lady of Lourdes during liturgy. Contact the Parish Office for information on the baptism process.

### Upcoming Baptism Weekends at OLOL are:

April 27 | June 22 | August 24

## DISCIPLESHIP

### Stations of the Cross – Being a Synodal Church

Friday, March 7

6:30 pm

Zoom

Join us as we pray the Stations of the Cross this Lenten season. This opportunity is online, via Zoom, from the comfort of your own home. The theme will be "Being a Synodal Church." The online presentation will begin at 6:30 pm. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Register on the Discipleship Institute web page at [ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/](http://ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/) or call the Parish Office.

This is an excellent opportunity to begin the Lenten season reflecting on Christ's love for us—and how we must reflect that same love as His disciples.

## WORSHIP

### Women's Spirituality Retreat "Exploring Our Unique Life with God"

The women's retreat will take place on Saturday, March 22, from 9:00 am–3:45 pm. Join us for a day to pray and explore your unique life with God. We will laugh, pray, create, and play together as women of faith. The cost of the retreat is \$25 which includes lunch, beverages, and supplies and is due by March 1. Registration forms can be found outside Deb's office. All women are welcome to the retreat directed by Tanya Gross, Rebecca Szymanski, and Deb Steppe.

### Scripture Readings for March 1/2 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:4-7 | Psalm 92 | 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 | Luke 6:39-45



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# Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

## Calling all writers, poets, and wannabes of the Our Lady of Lourdes parish community and its friends!

In an effort to bring about a celebration, appreciation, and collaboration of the Arts to our Hallway Art Exhibition, the OLOL Art Guild would like to invite you to

**BE INSPIRED!**

**BE CREATIVE!**

**BE READ!**

Write a poem or essay in response to the artwork exhibit which will be displayed and shared with our viewers during the 2025 Hallway Art Exhibit: The Rainbow Connection.

### **The Marriage of True Minds – A Collaboration of Writing and the Visual Arts – 2025**

Throughout the run of the show, March 1–April 30, you are invited to pull up a chair, place it before the artwork of your choice, and write in response to the artwork which you choose as your muse (or if it is more convenient to you, just snap a pic, and head to your favorite writing spot, and let the word flow). You may submit as many poems/essays, in response to separate pieces of artwork, as you would like.

Upon completion of your writing, please submit your work to Mary Beth Javorek (jrjavorek@yahoo.com or 5611 S. 45th St. Greenfield, WI, 53220). We will print, mount, and display it next to the artwork from which it was inspired for the duration of the show. **When submitting, please include the title and the artist of the work which you used as inspiration with your name, on your document.**

### **Coming Up Soon**

#### **An Afternoon of Writing!!!**

For those of you who would prefer a group setting when writing your poem or essay on site, on Tuesday, March 11, at 2:30 pm we will hold a gathering for those writers who will head to the halls to create their poem or essay. **Note: This is not a class**, but simply an opportunity to write in the company of others, if that is a more comfortable setting for you. You can also drop in to write at whatever time is convenient for you throughout the run of the exhibition.

#### **A Poetry Reading Afternoon!**

On Tuesday, April 8, at 1:00pm we will invite writers who are interested to read their work at a poetry/essay reading at which we will invite artists and interested viewers from the parish to be present for some dialogue and feedback. If you do not wish to read your poem out loud, the ART Guild will have “designated readers” present to read your work for the “reading” as we look at the chosen work on display.

**This should be so much fun to tap into, not only the visual art talent of the community, but into the talents of our writers. Questions? Contact Mary Ann Logic, jmlogic@wi.rr.com or (262) 989-3706 for further information.**