

MAR 2, 2025

8th 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.



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

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FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Parish Support - February 2025

	ACTUAL <i>As of 2/20/25</i>	BUDGETED <i>for Feb</i>
Reg. Envelopes.....	\$50,427.51	\$65,416.67
Offertory	\$2,516.91	\$3,333.37

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Operating Income	\$698,508.67	\$654,372.90
Operating Expense.....	\$569,182.20	\$615,319.72

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/24..	\$169,666.89
Donations	\$247,836.76
Expenses.....	\$91,503.75
Balance (2/20/25)	\$325,999.90

THANK YOU!

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

Love One Another

(Quarter Ending 12/31/24)

Donations:.....	\$65,739.00
Parish Received	\$38,897.40

Deposited 2/21/25

*Thank you for your continued support
of this campaign!*

NOTES FROM DEB

Dear parishioners,

Lent is upon us! We have our Ash Wednesday services at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 5.

Lent is that great season of retreat—of looking at our lives and finding ways to grow closer to Jesus as we grow in our discipleship. Fasting, prayer (see the Lenten booklet for prayer offerings), and almsgiving provide us with ample ways to observe the season. Given the increased level of stress that so many of us seem to be experiencing, I would like to suggest some other ways to keep this season holy:

- Being gentle with yourself
- Letting go of activities that are no longer life-giving
- Taking a nap/resting
- Finding activities, events, or stories, that give you hope
- Taking a walk in nature
- Noticing the beauty of the stars at night

Penance is important, but so is self-care. Perhaps this is the Lent that we reverence the life God has given us by taking tender care of ourselves. Please know of my prayerful support for you all.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Steadfastness

Steadfastness is being steady, persevering, and dependable. We remain true to our purpose through whatever happens. Steadfastness grows whenever we rise to a challenge. It bolsters our will to keep going when life tests our resolve. We are faithful and enduring with those we love. We choose a direction, then keep a steady pace. We are like a strong ship in a storm. We hold on and ride the waves.

Today's readings begin to prepare us for the season of Lent. Being tested, learning to be a disciple with a full heart and being steadfast, firm and always fully devoted to the work of God. What does that mean for your Lenten preparations? What will you do? What challenges might you rise to this season of Lent?

SUN 2

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

MON 3

10:00 am Elaine McKean
Funeral Visitation Church
11:00 am Elaine McKean
Funeral Church
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10

TUE 4

10:30 am SVDP Mtg. Rm 3
6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group Rm 3

COMMUNITY LIFE

FORMATION

Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of Marilyn Sandberg, Elaine McKean, Steven Lee Gabriel, and all others who have died. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Marriage of True Minds: Poetry and Essay Exhibit Exphraisis—A Collaboration of Writing and the Visual Arts

All writers of the parish are invited to “An Afternoon of Group Writing” in response to the art on the walls of the 2025 Hallway Art Gallery Exhibition, on Tuesday, March 11, at 2:30 pm to create a poem or essay. Note: This is not a class, but 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 any time that is convenient for you throughout the run of the exhibition or to take photos of the artwork that inspires you, and choose to write at home.

When a poem is completed, please send your work to Mary Javorek at jrjavorek@yahoo.com, and we will display it next to the piece of artwork from which it was inspired ASAP. When submitting writing, please include your name, title of the artwork, and the name of the artist, at the bottom of submission, which you used as your inspiration.

There is no limit to the number of poems that you can send in.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann Logic at jmlogic@wi.rr.com.

Next GIFT: “A Study in Hope” with Maggie Russell

GIFT goes to the movies, well, not quite. In this session Maggie will lead a discussion and reflection on the movie *Big Hero 6* and its connection to the virtue of hope. Join us on Sunday, March 16, at 9:00 am in the Hall. Please call the Parish Office if you are not registered for GIFT and would like to join us for this session.

Easter Morning Mass Sacred Movement Opportunity for Children and Youth

We are need of dancers, both boys and girls, for Easter Morning Masses. We want to include children and youth whenever possible, so please consider sharing the gift of yourselves with our worship community for one of these vibrant liturgies. Previous dance training is a benefit, but not a requirement. Training and guidance will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Rosalita Villa at divinemovement@sbcglobal.net.

Something New in the Library

From time to time a section of the library will feature books by a particular author or on a particular topic. Typically there is a notice in the bulletin and those books will be out for two weeks. Featured books starting with the first Sunday of Lent, March 9, will be on Lent/Easter and books by or about Pope Francis.



WED 5

THU 6

FRI 7

10:15 am Faith Group Social Hall C
 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service Church
 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service Church

6:30 pm Lenten Hope: An Evening Prayer Service Church

Office Closed
 6:30 pm Stations of the Cross Virtual



WORSHIP

Lent 2025

Given the present state of our world, the Liturgy team suggested a focus on “Hope” for this Lenten season. The readings have much to offer us about where to place our hope, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. Hope thrives and is nurtured through the Lenten disciplines of prayer, almsgiving (charity) and fasting. It is also strengthened



whenever we come together as a faith community for communal prayer.

Here at Our Lady of Lourdes we will offer a variety of opportunities for communal prayer, such as the Lenten Evening Prayer Service, the Women’s Retreat, the Online Retreat, the Stations of the Cross led by the Discipleship Committee, and even a special concert!

Each week, we will also provide two questions for reflection, based on the gospel. These will be posted in this Worship Column and on a slide at the beginning of liturgy.

Lenten Booklet: Please be sure to pick up a Lenten Booklet, available March 1, which will list all the Lenten offerings.

Ash Wednesday Service: March 5 at 12:00 pm and 7:00pm

Lenten Evening Prayer: Please join us for one or more of the five services beginning this Thursday evening from 6:30 pm–7:00 pm. The church will be open a half hour before and after this service for private prayer if desired.

Lent 1 Questions for Reflection:

- What temptations do I struggle with?
- Do I turn to God in trust when I am struggling?

Scripture Readings for March 8/9

1st Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:4-10 | Psalm 91 | Romans 10:8-13 | Luke 4:1-13

OUTREACH

From St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, Jesus uses images in speaking to his disciples: “Can a blind man act as guide to a blind man?...Why look at the speck in your brother’s eye when you miss the plank in your own?...A good tree does not produce decayed fruit....”

It is true that donations come to the Society because a good person produces goodness from the good in their heart.

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: March 11 and 25

Most needed items: bagged rice, canned vegetables, (not green beans or tomatoes), jelly, and Kleenex. We are in need of brown bags, the regular tall size. 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

No St. Ben’s in March

Our Lady of Lourdes will not be preparing, collecting, or serving food for St. Ben’s Meal Program on March 12. The downtown St. Ben’s Meal Program staff will prepare and serve the meal on that Wednesday. This is just for March only. OLOL will resume the St. Ben’s ministry on April 9.

SAT 8

7:30 pm Sacrament Prep
Service Day Hall C
4:00 pm Liturgy (Schramm) Church

SUN 9

8:00 am Liturgy (Burkert) Church
9:00 am Sacrament Prep Hall
9:30 am OCIA Mtg. Rm 6
10:30 am Liturgy (Burkert) Church



BEAR THE FRUIT
OF GOD’S LOVE



LENT ONLINE RETREAT

SPOTLIGHT

Our online Lent Retreat begins on Ash Wednesday and is accessible on our website at ololmke.org/lent-prayer/.

The retreat will have a new entry everyday through Lent and Holy Week. Here's the challenge—stick with it for all 46 days. Often we see a large number of participants start the retreat with great intentions, but the numbers dwindle as Lent proceeds on. Don't be the seed planted on rock. Be the seed planted on good soil!
(Mt 13:1-23)

Each day has a video reflection that takes five minutes or fewer to add to your Lenten journey. Perfect to begin or end the day with. (Or do it on your lunch break!)

You can find the retreat by using the above link or by tapping the Lent Prayer button on the home screen of our app.

The Eucharist

Have you ever wondered how “The Eucharist”, the wooden wall art behind the altar, came to be? It was created by parishioner, Tom Schroeder, originally for our annual OLOL Hallway Art Gallery. This particular form of art is known as Intarsia.

“The Eucharist” is composed of 144 individual pieces using 11 different types of wood. First, woods are selected for their color, grain, and texture. They are initially cut and shaped with a scroll saw. Then to achieve the desired smoothness, each segment is sanded mostly by hand. Once this prep work is completed, each piece is intricately fit together to form the intended image. The final step is applying a clear coat of polyurethane to protect the wood. It is the natural qualities of the various chosen woods that truly give this piece its beauty. The project took Tom 3 months to complete and was indeed a labor of love and was honored when asked to share it with the OLOL community. Rumor has it another Intarsia project may be in the works for this year's art event.



Donna Van Wynsberghe, Pastoral Council Chair

DISCIPLESHIP

Lenten Hope: An Evening Prayer Service

Thursdays, March 6–April 3

6:30 pm

Church

These services will be music-centered and will include a brief reflection on scripture, focusing on a theme of hope across the five weeks. The evening will be contemplative, uplifting, and brief. The church will open early at 6:00 pm for those who would like to silently pray prior to the service and will remain open after the service until 7:30pm to allow another optional time for silent prayer. The service will be live-streamed.

Stations of the Cross: Being a Synodal Church

Friday, March 7

6:30 pm

Zoom

Join us as we begin the Lenten season with the Stations of the Cross. This opportunity is online—via Zoom—from the comfort of your own home. The theme will be “Being a Synodal Church”. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Register on the Discipleship Institute web page at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/ or call the Parish Office.

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