

Our Lady of Lourdes is a pilgrim church coming to know the Kingdom of God by being Christ to the world

# Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

February 2025

## **He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” (Mark 6:31)**

It's officially retreat season here at Our Lady of Lourdes, and I often begin our retreats by asking participants, “What does the word ‘retreat’ mean to you?” More often than not, the answers evoke images from war movies like *Saving Private Ryan* or *Black Hawk Down*. While these portrayals reflect a physical stepping back, they only hint at the deeper meaning of retreating in a spiritual sense.

At its heart, a retreat is an intentional pause—a sacred opportunity to step away from the demands of daily life and create space for God. It's a chance to recharge spiritually, emotionally, and even physically, enabling us to care for ourselves so that we can better care for others.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to serve and support one another, but we cannot pour from an empty cup. Retreats offer us the renewal we need—filling us with strength, clarity, and peace to live out our calling with love and intention.

One of the beautiful things about retreats is their flexibility. They don't need to involve traveling far, taking a full weekend, or sitting in silence for hours on end. A retreat can be as simple as setting aside time for quiet reflection, starting a self-guided spiritual book club, or using a three-minute retreat from Loyola Press. It could look like a peaceful walk in nature, praying with Scripture over your morning coffee, or journaling on a Sunday afternoon. The key is intention—creating sacred space to pause, listen, and reconnect with God.

Why is this so important? Retreats allow us to step back, gain perspective, and renew our sense of purpose and balance. They remind us that God is present in both our joys and challenges, offering peace and guidance when we need it most. In a world that often values busyness over stillness, retreating helps us rediscover the grounding presence of God and the peace that comes from leaning into Him.

As we begin this new year, I encourage you to find time for retreat—however small or simple it may seem. Be sure to check the bulletin for opportunities at OLOL that could serve as a retreat for you. Whatever form of retreat you choose, let this intentional pause renew your spirit, strengthen your faith, and equip you to bring God's love to those around you. By tending to our own well-being—body, mind, and spirit—we can fully embrace the call to be present for the people and work God has entrusted to us.

Brightest blessings,  
Maggie Russell  
Director of Formation Ministries

3722 South 58th Street Milwaukee, WI 53220-2053

[www.ololmke.org](http://www.ololmke.org) PHONE (414) 545-4316 FAX (414) 541-2251 [office@ololmke.org](mailto:office@ololmke.org)

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*March 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund .. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Outreach to Haiti twinning (Lent).. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*March 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Outreach to Haiti twinning (Lent)...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*March 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund .. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Outreach to Haiti twinning (Lent).. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*March 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Outreach to Haiti twinning (Lent)...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions to Operating Fund ONLY**  
**\*does not include contributions to any other funds**

<b>Operating Fund Pledge</b>	<b>Contributions to Pledge</b>
.....\$ 0.00	.....\$ 0.00
Last Contribution to Pledge on [Date] .....\$ 0.00	

«STATEMENT NAME»  
«SPECIAL ADDRESS»  
«DELIVERY ADDRESS»  
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP CODE»

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*March 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Outreach to Haiti twinning (Lent)...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*April 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund .. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter Flowers\* (due Apr 13) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy Land/Good Friday (Apr 18).... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter (April 20) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*April 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter Flowers\* (due Apr 13) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy Land/Good Friday (Apr 18) ....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter (April 20) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*April 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund .. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter Flowers\* (due Apr 13) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy Land/Good Friday (Apr 18).... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter (April 20) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*April 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter Flowers\* (due Apr 13) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy Land/Good Friday (Apr 18) ....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter (April 20) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions to Operating Fund ONLY**  
**\*does not include contributions to any other funds**

**Operating Fund Pledge**      **Contributions to Pledge**  
.....\$ 0.00 .....\$ 0.00  
Last Contribution to Pledge on [Date] .....\$ 0.00

«STATEMENT NAME»  
«SPECIAL ADDRESS»  
«DELIVERY ADDRESS»  
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP CODE»

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution**  
**\*\*\*April 2025\*\*\***

Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Offering-Operating Fund ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Improvement Fund .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter Flowers\* (due Apr 13) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Holy Land/Good Friday (Apr 18) ....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Easter (April 20) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_