

MAR 23, 2025

3rd Sunday of Lent



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Catholic Church

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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 - March 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
	<u>As of 3/14/25</u>	<u>for March</u>
Reg. Envelopes	\$27,745.68	\$65,416.67
Offertory	\$1,697.00	\$3,333.37

Budget Updates Fiscal Year: February 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Operating Income	\$736,889.25	\$717,724.98
Operating Expense	\$649,715.98	\$689,429.46

Improvement Fund Updates

Beg. Balance 7/1/24...	\$169,666.89
Donations	\$249,739.64
Expenses	<u>\$134,018.75</u>
Balance (3/14/25)	\$285,387.78

THANK YOU!

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

Love One Another

(Quarter Ending 2/27/25)

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

Greetings all,

It is with great joy that I announce to you that our next director of worship ministries is Jim Wielgosz. Jim is a long-time parishioner, he is one of our emcees for weekend liturgy, and is a leader for the Discipleship Institute. Most importantly, Jim loves this parish and is excited about living out his discipleship in this new way. Jim's first day in this new ministry will be May 1.

Like many of us, Jim's path into professional ministry wasn't a direct, right out of college path. If you had told me when I was in college that someday I would be shepherding a parish, I would not have believed you for a moment. My path to this ministry was made up of lots of crooked lines, some dead ends, and some confusing detours. God calls each of us to be disciples—sometimes in ways that provide us with a paycheck, more often in ways that build up the kin-dom in quiet ways.

Let's all continue to discern where we are being called. Let's all listen with attentive ears and courageous hearts to God's voice. And let us thank God for Jim's vocation and the vocations of everyone in this parish.

Please know of my gratitude and my prayers for each of you.

Your shepherd,
Deb Steppe

COMMUNITY LIFE

Our Condolences

...to the families and loved ones of Steven Lee Gabriel, Rhoda Skalecki, and all others who have died. Please keep them in your prayers.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of
Elaine McKean

From

Barb Searing
Katie & Steve Beine
Paul & Sharon Volz
Nancy & Jeff Lampone
Dave & Gretchen Reckhouse
Wayne & Theresa Ramos
Karen Jaeger
Kathy Gruber
Heidi & Jon Villwock
Jason & Jen McKean
Susie & Mark Van Rixel
Kathleen Radaaj

In loving memory of
Chris Stanly

From

Kerry Knoepke

SUN 23

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

MON 24

9:30 am Kimberly Galaska
Funeral Visitation Church
11:00 am Kimberly Galaska
Funeral Church
1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10

TUE 25

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

SOCIAL JUSTICE

FORMATION

In today's gospel, Jesus mentions that suffering of the Galilean people did not come about because they were more sinful than others. He follows this up by stating that if "you do not repent, you will perish as they did!" Is Jesus threatening his followers? No, he is warning them.

Human suffering typically is not caused by the sin of the suffering human. So often, it is the sin of other humans that causes some to suffer.

Today, we see the poor disproportionately suffering and dying of the effects of climate change, often caused by the actions of wealthier humans. If we, as humans, do not collectively repent from our reliance on fossil fuels, we will all suffer or perish much like the poorest among us already have.

Jesus doesn't want any of us to suffer. The suffering poor certainly do not exist as a warning the more fortunate - the poor are full humans and not canaries in the coal mine for the rich. However, the suffering of some requires action from all. Failure to act only serves to spread harm. Let us be people of action, cultivating the soil of positive change.

Adventure Awaits at the Gilded Carcanet Escape Room!

Friday, March 28

6:15 pm–8:15 pm

Parish Hall

Uncover ancient secrets with Professor Wilson at our Intergenerational Youth Ministry event. Puzzles, themed snacks, and teamwork await!

\$5 per household. RSVP today and don't miss the fun! tinyurl.com/escapeolol

Conversations in the Sprit: Synodality at GIFT on April 6

Join us on Sunday, April 6, at 9:00 am in the Hall to pray, listen, discern, react, and share as we delve into the pertinent issues raised at the recently completed four-year long Synod on Synodality. The question that we will address is, "How do we activate the Body of Christ?" This GIFT session, facilitated by Steve Szymanski, is open to all. Please call the Parish Office if you are not registered for GIFT and would like to join us for this session.

RSVP for Prayerpalooza!

Your workshop selections help us prepare but aren't guaranteed. All are welcome—join us for liturgy, brunch, and engaging prayer workshops! RSVP and learn more about this event at tinyurl.com/prayerpalooza

Season For Nonviolence April 4 Event

Join us for the concluding event of the Season For Nonviolence on Friday, April 4, from 6:15 pm–8:15 pm in the Hall at OLOL. We will view a short film and discuss the various issues raised through our exploration of the Season For Nonviolence.

WED 26

THU 27

FRI 28

10:15 am Morning Faith Group Hall BC
 12:00 pm Communal Reconciliation Service Church
 7:00 pm Communal Reconciliation Service Church

12:00 pm Women's Grief Support Group Hall C
 3:30 pm Spirit & Grace Choir Reh. Church
 6:30 pm Lenten Hope: An Evening Prayer Service Church

Office Closed
 12:00 pm Dominic Puechner Funeral Visitation Church
 1:00 pm Dominic Puechner Funeral Church
 6:15 pm Intergenerational Youth Ministry Hall

WORSHIP

Celebrating Mercy

When we talk about liturgy, we typically say that we are celebrating the Eucharist. The same is true when we talk about baptisms and weddings. We may even say we are celebrating a funeral liturgy when we acknowledge the promise of new life that awaits those we love. With each of these sacraments there comes an acknowledgment of the joy we feel as we celebrate what Christ is doing in these mysteries: breathing new life into us and giving us the grace to change and to grow.

But do we have that same sense of joy when it comes to the sacrament of reconciliation? Is it truly a celebration for us? For many, the act of self-reflection and acknowledging our faults can be unpleasant and something we avoid. And yet this self-knowledge is necessary if we wish to strengthen our relationships with God and one another.

God desires us to become all we have been created for and called to be. We are here to bear fruit and build God's kin-dom. Acknowledging our sins and our weaknesses is, in essence, an expression of our desire to change and grow in our faith. On Ash Wednesday, the prophet Joel tells us that we are to "return to God with our whole heart." We can truly celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation because when we humble ourselves before God, God responds by giving us the grace that we need to live holy lives.

On **Wednesday, March 26**, we will celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Please come to celebrate God's gracious love and support one another in faith.

Lent 4 Questions for Reflection:

- Where do I harbor resentments and struggle to forgive?
- Where am I in need of repentance and forgiveness?

Scripture Readings for March 29/30

4th Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 | Psalm 34 | 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 | Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

OUTREACH

From St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel Jesus is quite clear in his message. "Bear fruit or be cut down." This Lent we are called to cultivate and fertilize our spiritual lives through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Know that your nickel, dime or quarter is multiplied by the coins placed by others in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.

Grief Support

The Walking Through Grief Together group will meet once next month on April 5 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. Due to the Easter holiday, we will **not** meet on April 19.

Upcoming Food Pantry Dates: March 25 and April 22

Most needed items: canned vegetables (all varieties), Knorr sides (both rice and pasta), and canned ready to serve soup. 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

Save the Date!

Our next blood drive is Tuesday, April 22. Sign-up will begin April 5. Give blood. Save a life.



SAT 29

SUN 30

Welcome Weekend
4:00 pm Liturgy (Burkert) Church

Welcome Weekend
8:00 am Liturgy (Lewis) Church
10:00 am OCOA Mtg. Rm 6
10:30 am Liturgy (Schramm) Church

LENT CHALLENGE

SPOTLIGHT

In the Gospel for this third Sunday of Lent, Jesus says, “For if you had believed Moses, you would have believed me, for he wrote of me” (John 5:46). Stunning words, those. Moses wrote about Jesus. The way therefore that we come to know and believe in Jesus is to discover him lurking in Moses’ writings. The Hebrew Scripture is the wonderful womb in which Jesus gestates within a host of images: Adam, Isaac, David, Melchizedek, the Temple, sacrificed lambs, prophets and so on.

Take some time to prayerfully study one of the images of Jesus listed above in the Old Testament. Identify which one you find compelling and consider why this is so. If you don’t know where to start, begin with the prophet Jeremiah as an image of Jesus.

Father John Muir

Stoking the Lenten Fire

I think we all can acknowledge that there’s a certain fatigue that comes over us all as we near the end of the Lenten season. Next week is Laetare Sunday, and I find that as soon as those pink vestments start coming out of storage, our collective motivation begins to wane.

I get that. Maybe you’re fatigued—I am, too. Maybe you’re doing well in your resolutions and devotions but you’re in danger of coasting. Or maybe, like many of us this year or in past years, you don’t feel that you have even really begun your Lenten journey.

Either way, chances are that the fire that was in your belly on Ash Wednesday is burning a bit low. All fires eventually do, once they consume whatever fuels them. So here we would do well to remember what fuels our Lenten fire.

Sometimes we make resolutions that have the appearance of being spiritual, but also have an earthly motive. We give up chocolate hoping to lose weight. We stop gossiping so our friends may like us more. There is nothing wrong with these sacrifices—just with their motivations.

As Moses removes his sandals to approach the burning bush, he sees that the fire burns brightly, strongly—but does not consume. It is propelled by something inexhaustible, something which is not of this world.

Is your Lenten fire fueled by God? Are you daily surrendering yourself to the same voice that boomed from the bush in Genesis—the voice that commanded the Israelites to do what seemed like the impossible?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

DISCIPLESHIP

STAFF EMAIL

Online Rosary—The Sorrowful Mysteries

Tuesday, April 8

Zoom

7:00 pm

Join with other members of our faith community to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary from the comfort of your own home. Connect with Jesus in his sufferings as never experienced before. Join us for this unique Lenten experience.

Registration is required for this event and can be done on the Discipleship Institute web page at ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/ or through the Parish Office.

Stations of the Cross: Being a Synodal Church

Thursday, April 10

6:30 pm

Church

Join us as we pray and reflect on the Stations of the Cross with the theme of “Being a Synodal Church”. If you have been joining us each Thursday evening for the Lenten Hope Evening Prayer Services, this is an excellent opportunity to end the Lenten journey by contemplating the final moments of Jesus’s life and his selfless act of love.

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**THE DISCIPLESHIP INSTITUTE PRESENTS:
"ACTIVATING THE BODY OF CHRIST"**

Three evenings: April 29, May 6, May 13—6:30 pm-8:30 pm via [Zoom](#)

A grass roots effort to call the faith community together to ponder and discuss the role of the disciple within the church and the larger community. Here you will find people talking to people discerning together the mission of Jesus and our role in it.

STUDY

PRAY

ACT

SAINT IGNATIUS

REGISTER THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP
INSTITUTE WEBPAGE OR CALL THE
PARISH OFFICE

April 29
Discipleship Panel/
Group Discussion

May 6
Respectfully Dissenting
Panel, Group Discussion

May 13
Carrying on the Mission of
Jesus Panel, Group Discussion