

MAR 30, 2025

4th Sunday of Lent



# 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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## CONNECT:

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# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

## Love One Another and Landscape Project Updates

The replacement of the windows in all the meeting spaces and offices in the main hallway has been completed. It is an amazing difference having these new windows—no more drafts! We also have all the new blinds installed on the west side of the building to match the east side. These two projects have been paid so you will see a reduction in the balance of our Love One Another account in an upcoming bulletin.

We have selected American Landscape located in Menomonee Falls for the landscaping needed to complete the parking lot project and pass the City of Milwaukee inspection. The overall plan is on an easel right outside the Parish Office if you have an interest. A large thank you to Tom Schroeder from the Building and Grounds Committee for his expertise as we moved through this process.

Thank you for continued support of Our Lady of Lourdes!

## NOTES FROM DEB

In thinking about hope—our theme for this Lent—and our need for hope in these troubled times, I'd like to share this "Blessing of Hope" with you, by Jan Richardson (edited for space).

Your shepherd,  
Deb Steppe

So may we know the hope that is not just for someday but for this day –  
 here, now, in this moment that opens to us;  
 hope not made of wishes but of substance,  
 hope made of sinew and muscle and bone,  
 hope that has breath and a beating heart,  
 hope that will not keep quiet and be polite,  
 hope that knows how to holler when it is called for,  
 hope that knows how to sing when there seems little cause,  
 hope that raises us from the dead -  
 not someday but this day, every day, again and again and again.

## VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

### Reliability

Reliability is being dependable. Others can rely on us to be responsible. We genuinely care about keeping our commitments. We don't forget or need to be reminded. We avoid taking on too much, so we can give fully to what we choose to do. We finish on time. When friends need us, we are there. We are promise-keepers.

Today's Gospel is the well-known Parable of the Prodigal Son. Today let's focus on the Father. He chooses to let his son go and find his way, but remains vigilant watching for his son's return. Spend some time today thinking how much you are loved by God. Does it reflect how you love others?

**SUN 30**

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

**MON 31**

1:00 pm Sheepshead Group Rm 10  
 6:00 pm Easter Vigil  
 Choir Rehearsal Church

**TUE 1**

10:30 am SVDP Mtg. Rm 3  
 1:00 pm Priest Deanery Mtg. Rm 10  
 5:30 pm Triduum Movement  
 Ministry Rehearsal Church  
 6:30 pm Faith Sharing Group Rm 3  
 7:00 pm Covenant Love Rm 10

## COMMUNITY LIFE

## FORMATION

### Welcome New Parishioners

February 2025

Karen Carlson  
Lisa and Peter Graber  
Marilyn Prushiek

### In Memoriam

In loving memory of  
Marion Holtz  
From  
Family

In loving memory of  
Elaine McKean  
From  
Jonathan, Julie, Tyler and  
Cameron Burbey

In loving memory of  
Kim Galaska  
From  
Carolyn Patterson

### Safe Environment Week

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee recognizes March 30–April 6 as Safe Environment Awareness Week. Each year in the month of April, which is recognized around the country as child abuse prevention month, we dedicate a week to elevating the general awareness of the Church's efforts to keep our children safe. We want people to know that we are committed to maintaining safe environments in our parishes and schools through adult child abuse prevention training; criminal background checks for all clergy, volunteers working with minors, and employees; safety training for children in each grade level; and adhering to all mandatory reporting requirement laws.

### April 6 GIFT—Conversations in the Spirit: How Do We Activate The Body Of Christ?

Join us on Sunday, April 6, at 9:00 am in the Hall to pray, listen, discern, react, and share as we practice 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.

### 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.

## HALLWAY ART SHOW

### A "Poetry Reading" Afternoon!!!

On Tuesday, April 8, at 1:00 pm, we would like to invite all poetry and essay appreciators from the parish including the writers and artists whose work was chosen as the source of inspiration for our 2025 art and poetry exhibitions, to a **poetry/essay reading**. During this time, the writers will read their poem and be present for some dialogue and feedback with our artists and other guests. If you do not wish to read your poem out-loud, the Art Guild will have "designated readers" present to read your work for you as we look at and engage with each chosen work and piece of writing on display. Questions? Please contact Mary Beth Javorek at [mrjavorek@yahoo.com](mailto:mrjavorek@yahoo.com).

## WED 2

9:30 am Liturgy Church  
10:15 am Morning Faith Group Hall BC  
7:00 pm Liturgy Team Mtg. Rm 3

## THU 3

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

## FRI 4

### Office Closed

9:00 am Don Brockman  
Funeral Visitation Church  
11:00 am Don Brockman  
Funeral Church  
5:30 pm Season for  
Nonviolence Film  
Presentation Hall

## WORSHIP

### Easter Vigil Choir begins this Monday, March 31

Hopefully you've spent the past few weeks getting excited about joining the Easter Vigil Choir. Well, your wait is over, as rehearsals begin this Monday, March 31. Getting involved is extremely easy. You just need to show up in church a little ahead of 6:00 pm on Monday, and we'll give you your materials. If this is a new adventure for you, have no fear. If you think you can't sing, don't let that stop you. If you are afraid to come alone, bring a friend. And no matter what your situation is, our seasoned choir members will help you out. This is a beautiful way to celebrate the Easter Vigil and meet new people in our community.

As a reminder, here are the important dates for this year's Easter Vigil Choir:

**Rehearsals**—Please note: It's best if you attend all three rehearsals. While you can miss one rehearsal if needed, attendance on April 14 is mandatory.

Mondays, March 31, and April 7, 6:00 pm–7:15 pm

Monday, April 14, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm

**Easter Vigil Mass**—Saturday, April 19, 7:00 pm (meet at 6:00 pm)

### Passion Sunday Procession—April 12/13

This year we will again have a festive procession of the Book of Gospels from the church into the Hall and back into church, complete with tambourines, shakers, streamers, and other instruments of joy and festivity for everyone young and older! Please join us to celebrate and then commemorate the Passion of Jesus.

### Lent 4 Questions for Reflection

When have I been challenged to forgive someone?

How and when have I experienced God's forgiveness in my life?

### Scripture Readings for April 5/6

#### 5th Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21 | Psalm 126 | Philippians 3:8-14 | John 8:1-11

## OUTREACH

### From St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel the prodigal son repents and finds mercy in the heart of his father. Know that your penance during Lent can give the poor the grace of finding the merciful heart of God the Father.

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

### Save the Date!

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



**SAT 5**

**SUN 6**

|          |                   |        |
|----------|-------------------|--------|
| 9:00 am  | First Eucharist   |        |
|          | Retreat           | Hall   |
| 11:00 am | Walking Through   |        |
|          | Grief Together    | Rm 3   |
| 4:00 pm  | Liturgy (Burkert) | Church |

|          |                    |        |
|----------|--------------------|--------|
| 8:00 am  | Liturgy (Marco)    | Church |
| 9:00 am  | GIFT               | Hall   |
| 10:00 am | OCIA Mtg.          | Rm 6   |
| 10:30 am | Liturgy (Drenzek)  | Church |
| 11:30 am | Environment Change | Church |





## LENTEN CHALLENGE

## SPOTLIGHT

When Jesus heals the man born blind (John 9:1-41), the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man—so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

Father John Muir  
©LPi

### The Face on God's Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone — or several someones — who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it's a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That's what being an Everyday Steward is—a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master's business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ—that “the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come” (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

But it's a role that requires commitment. The story of the prodigal son is only compelling and only means something because the son, presumably, embraced his reconciliation to his father. He didn't go on to abandon him again.

So let us think to ourselves each day, “Whoever I encounter will meet Christ's ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?”

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

## DISCIPLESHIP

## STAFF EMAIL

### Covenant Love

Tuesday, April 1

7:00 pm

Room 10

Facilitated by: Dr. Harry Fleddermann

The Bible reflects constantly on our relationship with God, and the most profound of these reflections center on God's love for us. This session will explore a central term “covenant love” that the Bible returns to repeatedly to describe God's love for us and the response God seeks from us. Reflecting on “covenant love” will allow us to probe what we can call the deep structure of love.

### 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 either event and can be done on the Discipleship Institute web page at [ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/](http://ololmke.org/discipleship-institute/) or through the Parish Office.

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