

## Welcome

Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes and Immaculate Conception! We are glad you are here with us today. If you would like to join our Faith Community, please contact our parish office or stop by any time.

## Our Lady of Lourdes

Established – 1875

534 N. Wood Street  
Gibson City, IL 60936

## Mass Schedule

Saturday 5 pm  
Sunday 7 am & 10:30 am  
Monday 8 am  
Tuesday 8 am  
Thursday 6:30 pm  
Friday 8 am  
Holy Days: 7 am & 7 pm

## Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 8:30-9:30 am  
Thursday 7-8 pm

## Confession

Saturday 4:30 pm (OLOL)  
Any time by Appointment



## Immaculate Conception

202 E. Green Street  
Roberts, IL 60962

## Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:30 am

## Confession

Sunday 8:15AM (IC)



## Parish Office

Phone & Fax:  
(217) 784-4671  
General Information  
pastor@ololgc.org  
Address:  
534 N. Wood St.  
Gibson City, IL 60936

## Website

www.ololgc.org

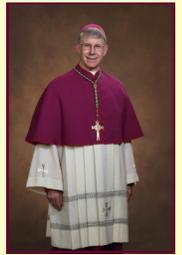
# January 3, 2016

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

BISHOP CONLON WILL BE VISITING NEXT WEEKEND,  
JANUARY 9-11

WE LOOK FORWARD TO GIVING HIM A WARM  
OLL and IC WELCOME!

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MASS TIME ON SUNDAY,  
JANUARY 10 FROM 10:30AM to 11:00AM**



January 1

## Mary, Mother of God

Mary's divine motherhood broadens the Christmas spotlight. Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by the angel (Luke 1:26-38). Elizabeth proclaims: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the *fruit of your womb*. And how does this happen to me, that *the mother of my Lord* should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43, emphasis added). Mary's role as mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

Without naming Mary, Paul asserts that "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law" (Galatians 4:4). Paul's further statement that "God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out 'Abba, Father!'" helps us realize that Mary is mother to all the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

Some theologians also insist that Mary's motherhood of Jesus is an important element in God's creative plan. God's "first" thought in creating was Jesus. Jesus, the incarnate Word, is the one who could give God perfect love and worship on behalf of all creation. As Jesus was "first" in God's mind, Mary was "second" insofar as she was chosen from all eternity to be his mother.

The precise title "Mother of God" goes back at least to the third or fourth century. In the Greek form *Theotokos* (God-bearer), it became the touchstone of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephesus in 431 insisted that the holy Fathers were right in calling the holy virgin *Theotokos*. At the end of this particular session, crowds of people marched through the street shouting: "Praised be the *Theotokos*!" The tradition reaches to our own day. In its chapter on Mary's role in the Church, Vatican II's *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* calls Mary "Mother of God" 12 times.

Other themes come together at today's celebration. It is the Octave of Christmas: Our remembrance of Mary's divine motherhood injects a further note of Christmas joy. It is a day of prayer for world peace: Mary is the mother of the Prince of Peace. It is the first day of a new year: Mary continues to bring new life to her children—who are also God's children.

January 3

## Most Holy Name of Jesus

In a world of fiercely guarded corporate names and logos, it should be easy to understand this feast. The letters IHS are an abbreviation of *Jesous*, the Greek name for Jesus.

Although St. Paul might claim credit for promoting devotion to the Holy Name because Paul wrote in Philippians that God the Father gave Christ Jesus "that name that is above every name," Bernardine used devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus as a way of overcoming bitter and often bloody class struggles and family rivalries or vendettas in Italian city-states. The devotion grew, partly because of Franciscan and Dominican preachers. It spread even more widely after the Jesuits began promoting it in the 16th century.

In 1530, Pope Clement V approved an Office of the Holy Name for the Franciscans. In 1721, Pope Innocent XIII extended this feast to the entire Church.

**Pastor**  
Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI  
(217)784-4671  
ttheneth@ololg.org

**Parish Secretary**  
Patti Meunier  
pastor@ololg.org

**Religious Education**  
Alyce Hafer

**Youth Ministry**  
Bruce Killian

**Music Director**  
Michele Fackler

**Parish Council  
President**  
Eric Rosenbaum (OLOL)

**THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS**

If you wish to have a Mass intention for a loved one, anniversary or other occasion, please contact the parish office. Mass intentions are \$10.

<b>MON</b> January 4	8:00AM	Donald & Ruby Kemmer <a href="#">St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</a>
<b>TUE</b> January 5	8:00AM	Reum Family Roesch Family <a href="#">St. John Neumann</a>
<b>WED</b> January 6	8:00AM	Priest Intentions <a href="#">St. Andre Bessete</a>
<b>THU</b> January 7	6:30PM	Lyla Hutchcraft <a href="#">St. Raymond Penefort</a>
<b>FRI</b> January 8	8:00AM	Hayley Kay Ralph <a href="#">St. Angela of Foligno</a>
<b>SAT</b> January 9	5:00PM	Marge Carlson <a href="#">St. Adrian of Canterbury</a>
<b>SUN</b> January 10	7:00AM (OLOL) 8:30 AM (IC) <b>11:00 AM (OLOL)</b>	Durlene Lawless Parish Family Chuck Freehill

**Thank You  
For Your Gifts  
OLOL**

Sunday Env.	\$1994.50
Christmas	\$3590.00
Loose	\$441.58
Capital Imp.	\$120.00
Food Pantry	\$194.00
<b>Imm. Conception</b>	
Sunday Env.	\$120.00
Christmas	\$191.00

Thank you to all that have fulfilled their Annual Appeal commitment and I encourage those outstanding to complete their commitment in the coming months. OLL received a check for \$712.00 for meeting our goal to date.

**CMAA Goals**  
OLOL: \$14,690  
Goal: (\$15,182)  
IC: \$1,315  
(Goal: \$1,224)

**MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
Sat, January 9 5:00PM	Braden Roesch Baillie Killian	Jim Meyer	Marj Brown	Jerry Brown Robert Bode	Marj Brown
Sun, January 10 7:00AM	Remi Astronomo	Jim Freehill			
Sun, January 10 11:00AM	Isabella Helmig Sophia Helmig	YOUTH MASS	Lisa Heap	Brett Beyers Craig Davis YOUTH MASS	

**CONGRATULATIONS,**  
both OLL and IC have exceeded their CMAA goal!

Volunteers are always needed for our parish ministries. For more information on how to join, con-

**Baptism**

Call the Rectory at least four weeks before the baptism. Baptismal instruction for the parents and God-parents is required.

**Sick??**

If you or a family member is sick or admitted to the hospital or makes a trip to the Emergency Room, please contact Fr. Thomas at (630) 639-0502 .

**Marriage**

Call the Rectory at least six months before. A six month preparation time is required.

**FOOD PANTRY WITH BISHOP CONLON**

Next Saturday, January 9, 2016 from 8:30AM until noon will be our third scheduled opportunity to supply the labor for the local food pantry.

Bishop Conlon will be visiting our parish and the food pantry during this weekend. As in the past, at least 25 workers will be needed to work on that Saturday.

If you have not signed up previously, please email me at caubry55@gmail.com. Include your name, phone number, and email address. The only age qualification is to be in at least 6th grade. We would really love to see the kids get involved!

There may also be a need for a few workers for set-up on the evening of Friday, January 8, 2016.

Thank you,  
Chuck Aubry



**Pray for the Sick & Homebound**

- Tony Coons
- Mary Cothorn
- Jesse Cervelli
- Dick Walter
- Loretta Bode
- Mardella Duffy
- Milt Seyller
- Donovan Gaines
- Mary Masco

If you wish to add the name of a loved one who is sick, please contact the parish office at 217-784-4671 or pastor@ololg.org.

# The Word From Father Thomas



## WHAT IS THE SACRAMENTAL GRACE OF PENANCE?

When we sin, we cannot fix things up with God on our own. We know we have to be forgiven. But once we sin, we do not have it in us even to be sorry, and to ask rightly, humbly, reverently for forgiveness. Why not?

When we sin, we fall from charity; that is to say, we fall out of friendship with God. This friendship is purely God's gift to us in Christ. It puts us above ourselves. To sin is to step down, or fall down from charity. And then we can't reach high enough on our own to get back where we were. In an ordinary friendship, there is still something in common between us, even if only our humanity, if I offend my friend, I can say I am sorry and do my part to put things back together. But when we lose charity, we don't have anything in common with God anymore. With charity, God is the very "commonality" of the relation—its beginning in Christ, its course in the Spirit, and its term in the vision of heaven.

Paradoxically, to ask for forgiveness from God rightly and fittingly, I have to ask from charity—the only thing there ever was in common between us. But I threw that away. And now I need it more than ever in order to be rightly sorry for having thrown it away. I may be regretful that I sinned and was so stupid. Feeling stupid is not an exercise of friendship. I may fear the justice of God because I sinned. Such fear is not from charity. I may dread the loss of heaven and fear the pains of hell. These things are self-regarding. The sorrow of heart, the contrition I now need is being sorry I have offended my Friend. Who is my friend only with charity. Which sin destroys.

What the sacrament is for is to jump-start things. I come to the sacrament self-wounded, self-centered, self-bound, but still with enough wit to know what I lost, longing once again to have the freedom of the house of God as a son, and not as a servant or slave. I confess my sins. I hear again the gospel truth I scorned. I submit to judgment. I express my sorrow as best I can, aware of what real contrition before God would be. I hear the words of absolution. And these acts of penitent and priest God uses to produce in me some true breath of contrition,, animated then and there by charity. That's the promise, the surety, of the sacrament: it permits me to speak in the sacramental moment as friend to Friend. The risen Lord could have asked Peter, "Are you sorry?" But what he asked in fact was "Do you love me?"

Father Guy Mansini, O.S.B.

## PARISH EVENTS



### Tuesday, January 5

- CALM between 6:30-7PM

### Saturday, January 9

- Food Pantry 8M-12PM

### Wednesday, January 13

- K of C 7PM

### Tuesday, January 19

- CALM between 6:30-7PM

### Wednesday, January 27

- Staff Mtg 6PM
- Parish Council Mtg 7PM



Roger Reum (1/3)  
Joyce Freehill (1/4)  
Brooks Schmitt (1/5)  
Haven Hathaway (1/6)  
Dan Kleist (1/10)



Chuck & Jeanne Weber  
(1/5)

January 4

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Mother Seton is one of the keystones of the American Catholic Church. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. She opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage. All this she did in the span of 46 years while raising her five children.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton is a true daughter of the American Revolution, born August 28, 1774, just two years before the Declaration of Independence. By birth and marriage, she was linked to the first families of New York and enjoyed the fruits of high society. Reared a staunch Episcopalian by her mother and stepmother, she learned the value of prayer, Scripture and a nightly examination of conscience. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, did not have much use for churches but was a great humanitarian, teaching his daughter to love and serve others.

At 19, Elizabeth was the belle of New York and married a handsome, wealthy businessman, William Magee Seton. They had five children before his business failed and he died of tuberculosis. At 30, Elizabeth was widowed, penniless, with five small children to support.

While in Italy with her dying husband, Elizabeth witnessed Catholicism in action through family friends. Three basic points led her to become a Catholic: belief in the Real Presence, devotion to the Blessed Mother and conviction that the Catholic Church led back to the apostles and to Christ. Many of her family and friends rejected her when she became a Catholic in March 1805.

To support her children, she opened a school in Baltimore. From the beginning, her group followed the lines of a religious community, which was officially founded in 1809.

The thousand or more letters of Mother Seton reveal the development of her spiritual life from ordinary goodness to heroic sanctity. She suffered great trials of sickness, misunderstanding, the death of loved ones (her husband and two young daughters) and the heartache of a wayward son. She died January 4, 1821, and became the first American-born citizen to be beatified (1963) and then canonized (1975).

January 3, 2016

# Dear Padre



## Atheism vs. agnosticism

**Q** What is the difference between atheism and agnosticism?

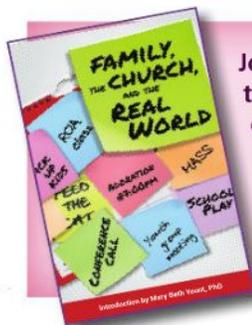
**The Catechism** of the Catholic Church defines **atheism** as the rejection or denial of the existence of God and warns against numerous phenomena that can be categorized as atheistic, such as materialism and humanism and some movements that champion economic or social liberation (CCC 2123–2125). **Agnosticism**, somewhat conversely, makes no judgment about God’s existence—instead, it says it’s impossible to prove or deny. The *Catechism* identifies this viewpoint as expressing “indifferentism...and a sluggish moral conscience” (CCC 2128). Both viewpoints are sins against the First Commandment.

Some people believe that religious thought and practice no longer meets the needs of contemporary humanity. On the other side stand faith communities

who fear modern culture and life will erode or eradicate the basics of faith and morality. Both stances are extreme and inaccurate, and striving for mutual respect and reverence seems more valid.

Vatican II’s *Gaudium et Spes* (19) says, “those who willfully shut out God from their hearts and try to dodge religious questions are not following the dictates of their consciences, and hence are not free of blame; yet believers themselves frequently bear some responsibility... To the extent that they neglect their own training in the faith, or teach erroneous doctrine, or are deficient in their religious, moral or social life, they must be said to conceal rather than reveal the authentic face of God and religion.”

FR. TOM SANTA, CSSR  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



Join your children in adding regular prayer moments to your family’s days together. Gather over breakfast or on the way to school for a brief morning offering. Bless your meals and end your busy days with quiet bedtime prayers that recall the day and seek God’s protection through the night.

—From *Family, the Church, and the Real World*, a Redemptorist Pastoral Publication

Call us at 800-325-9521, or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org). To see sample pages from this book, type the title or 826207 in the search bar, and click on the book.

Liguori PUBLICATIONS © 2016 • Liguori, MO 63057-9999



**Monday**  
JANUARY 4  
*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,*  
*Religious*  
1 Jn 3:22—4:6  
Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

**Tuesday**  
JANUARY 5  
*St. John Neumann,*  
*Bishop*  
1 Jn 4:7–10  
Mk 6:34–44

**Wednesday**  
JANUARY 6  
*Christmas*  
*Weekday*  
1 Jn 4:11–18  
Mk 6:45–52

**Thursday**  
JANUARY 7  
*Christmas*  
*Weekday*  
1 Jn 4:19—5:4  
Lk 4:14–22

**Friday**  
JANUARY 8  
*Christmas*  
*Weekday*  
1 Jn 5:5–13  
Lk 5:12–16

**Saturday**  
JANUARY 9  
*Christmas*  
*Weekday*  
1 Jn 5:14–21  
Jn 3:22–30

**Sunday**  
JANUARY 10  
*Baptism of the Lord*  
Is 42:1–4, 6–7  
or Is 40:1–5, 9–11  
Acts 10:34–38  
or Ti 2:11–14; 3:4–7  
Lk 3:15–16, 21–22

[Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org)

