

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 10:30 am

Monday 8 am

Tuesday 8 am

Wednesday 8am

Thursday 5:30 pm

Friday 8 am

Holy Days: 7 am & 7 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 8:30-9:30 am

Thursday 6-7 pm (except first

Thursday of month-no Adoration)
First Friday of Month 8:30-9:30

Confession

Saturday 4:30 pm (OLOL)

Any time by Appointment



Immaculate Conception

202 E. Green Street
Roberts, IL 60962

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:00 am

Confession

Sunday 7:45 am (IC)



Parish Office

Phone & Fax:
(217) 784-4671

General Information
pastor@ololg.org

Address:

534 N. Wood St.
Gibson City, IL 60936

Website

www.ololg.org

NOVEMBER 27, 2016 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is the time in the liturgical year when we prepare for Christmas, celebrating the encounter between God and ourselves. We focus in a special way on God's presence, which did not just occur once in history but continues today in our hearts and in our lives.

Pope Francis has often encouraged us to attend to God's presence in order to deepen our relationship with Jesus, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. As he says in his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel:

I invite all Christians to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them. I ask you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord. The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk. Whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms.

So let us use these daily prayers of Pope Francis during this Advent to open our hearts to God's presence by listening more attentively to God's Word in Scripture and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our hearts so that when Christmas arrives we can welcome Jesus with joy and make our lives a gift of love and service.

CHANGE OUR HEARTS

First Sunday of Advent—Matthew 16:24

O God, in this time leading up to the celebration of Jesus' birth, teach us to go against the current: to strip ourselves, to be humble and giving, to listen and be silent, to go out of ourselves, granting space to your beauty, the source of true joy.

YOU SHALL BE HOLY

Monday, Week 1—Leviticus 11:45

O God, awaken in all of us a renewed desire for holiness. May the splendor of truth shine forth in our words, the song of charity resound in our works, purity and chastity abide in our hearts and bodies, and the full beauty of the gospel be evident in our lives.

LISTEN TO MY VOICE

Tuesday, Week 1—Jeremiah 11:14

O Holy Spirit, help us always to heed the Lord's voice. May we never be indifferent to the cry of the poor or untouched by the sufferings of the sick and those in need. May we be sensitive to the loneliness of the elderly and the vulnerability of children, and always love and cherish the life of every human being.

YOU ARE ALREADY NEAR

Wednesday, Week 1—Revelation 3:20

O Jesus, open our ears to hear God's word and to recognize God's voice and call. Awaken in us a desire to follow in your footsteps. Help us recognize how many times you come into our lives and how many times we don't notice because we are so immersed in our own thoughts, in our own affairs and even, in these days, in our Christmas preparations. Help us notice our who come and knock at the door of our hearts, asking for acceptance.

WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Thursday, Week 1—1 John 3:2

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace. Enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister.

YOU CAN CHANGE US

Friday, Week 1—John 10:27

O Jesus, you call us by name. In the depths of our hearts, let us listen to your voice. Let us welcome you with joy. You can change us, you can transform our stony hearts into hearts of flesh. You can free us from selfishness and make our lives a gift of love.

BE WITH US ALWAYS

Saturday, Week 1—Matthew 28:20

O God, remind us that those who believe are never alone. Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus, that he may be the light for our path that never fades. May this light always increase in us and in our daily life, in our family and at our work. May we share the joy of the faith, which is expressed in charity, in benevolence and in tenderness.



Pastor

Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
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ttheneth@ololgc.org

Deacon

Paul Sarantakos
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Parish Secretary

Patti Meunier
pastor@ololgc.org

Religious Education

Alyce Hafer

Youth Ministry

Bruce Killian

Music Director

If interested contact
pastor@ololgc.org

**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

MON November 28	8:00AM	Hafer Family Hall Family
TUE November 29	8:00AM	+Marge Carlson
WED November 30 St. Andrew	8:00AM	+Anthony Coons
THU December 1	5:30PM	Hankes Family Hansen Family
FRI December 2	8:00AM	Priest Intentions
SAT December 3 St. Francis Xavier	5:00PM	+Gene Johnson
SUN December 4 Second Sunday of Advent	8:00 AM (IC) 10:30 AM (OLOL)	Nijm Family Parish Family

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$1563.30
Capital Imp.	\$0
Food Pantry Oct. Total Yr to Date FP	\$55.00 \$456.57 \$2952.84

Imm Conception

Sunday Total	\$262.00
Capital Imp.	\$0

When we meet our CMAA Goals!
OLOL and IC will get back 65% of every dollar received above our goals. Reaching our goals is a great achievement, and continuing to give is even greater!

2016 CMAA Goals
OLOL: 15,488
Goal: (\$12,712)
IC: \$1370
(Goal: \$905)

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry
Sat, December 3 5:00PM	Caine Jost Daxter Chaddock	Marj Brown	Frank Titus	John Carlson Michael Smith	Carla Moxley
Sun, December 4 10:30AM	Haven Hathaway Mason Kutemeier	Denis Fisher	Paul Sarantakos	Sam Baillie Nathan Garard	

The first Friday of the month adoration will follow 8AM Mass. The remaining weeks of every month Adoration will be on the usual Thursday evening following 5:30PM Mass and always Tuesday following 8AM Mass.

Baptism

Call the Rectory at least four weeks before the baptism. 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.

Congratulations
Paul & Beth Emmerich
On the baptism of
Claire Ann



WELCOME
to our
Our Lady of Lourdes

Congratulations
Clinton & Erica Cole
On the baptism of
Carson John



WELCOME
to our
Our Lady of Lourdes

Congratulations
Derrick & Kayla Raney
On the baptism of



WELCOME
to our
Our Lady of Lourdes
Parish Family



Sandy Freehill (11/28) Teri Eichelberger (12/2)
Helen Haynes (11/29) Brayden Stroh (12/2)
Joan Cole (11/30)
Alayna Miller (12/2)

The Word From Father Thomas



STAYING AWAKE AND BEING PREPARED

We apprehend and understand Advent as an encounter of man with, the journey of man toward, the Ultimate, toward the Absolute, toward the Lord God. Standing in the presence of the Last Things, in the presence of the Ultimate, resulted in—and results in—a peculiar knowledge of ourselves. From this holy place of encounter we have perceived two Advent messages.

Here is the first message: Man facing the Ultimate must be someone in a state of being shaken, with an alert, awakened heart that does not freeze up, does not become weary, or cramped, or deadened, but sees things as they are. Someone facing the Ultimate will not be apathetic, not just accept everything simply because it is, and because it does not change, and because it goes on and on, and because it is happening everywhere.

And that brings us to the second message, the message of authenticity, which says: In the presence of God, the Absolute Ultimate, nothing counts but that which is real. Man can pass the test of the last days only without pathos, without cramps, without lies, without masks. This requires an honesty of being that has measured itself against the Ultimate, an honesty of being that, in the presence of the Ultimate, passes the test.

~Father Alfred Delp, S.J.

PARISH EVENTS



Tuesday, November 29

- CALM between 6:30PM-7PM

Wednesday, November 30

- Staff Mtg 6PM
- Parish Council Mtg 7PM



Friday, December 2

- Adoration following 8AM Mass

Sunday, December 11

- Bambino Blessing

CALLING ALL CHRISTMAS ELVES ON DECEMBER 10 TO CLEAN AND DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS

I know it is hard to believe Christmas is just a few short weeks away with the beautiful weather we are having but it is indeed just around the corner.

Please contact Sarah Sarantakos at 217-781-0528 or the parish office at 217-784-4671 or pastor@ololgc.org if you are able to help clean and/or haul out decorations.



GIFT CARD OUTREACH

Just a reminder that the Gift Card Outreach box will be located in the back of the church through the month of November. Please consider gifting a gift card to our youth that have graduated in the last five years. The cards will be placed in a greeting card along with a note from one of our CCD youth, to be mailed the first week of December. **Thank you!**

A NOTE FROM SHEPHERD'S CLOSET AND CLOSET TOO

We need your continued support in prayers, shopping at both stores and continued donations of goods and monetary support. We are also looking for volunteers. Some of the volunteer help can be done in the comfort of your home, others in our stores which can be a few hours in the morning or afternoons on a periodic basis or a scheduled day-your choice. There are numerous jobs that are for those on limited activities in nature and some more strenuous for those that can do them, so something for everyone (male or female). If anyone would like to come and "check us out" please drop in or call the Manager of both stores—Jennifer Fortenberry at 217-379-7860.

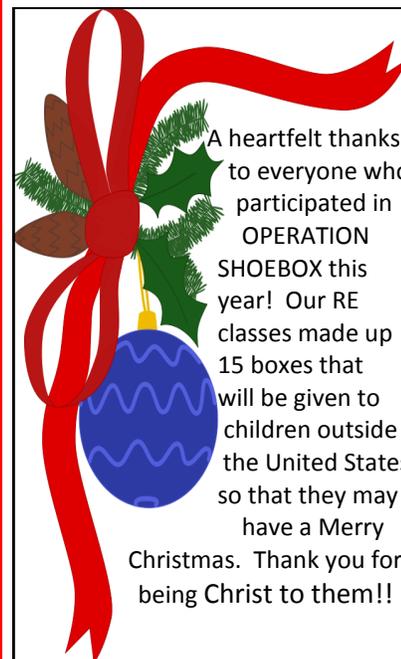
We do many ministries for the community and we want to be able to continue them with the help of yourself and your congregation's support.

Have a blessed holiday season. Thank you for sharing this with your congregation and for your continued support.

Love from the Board, Staff and Volunteers at Shepherd's Closet and Closet Too

2017 FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers for 2017. The sign up sheet is on the table at the back of the church. Flowers are provided by County Market and are \$30. You may have already signed up for a permanent date—if you wish to make any changes, please note them on the sheet. Christmas and Easter signups are on the back two pages. Many thanks in advance for contributing to keeping our church beautiful week to week!



A heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in OPERATION SHOEBOX this year! Our RE classes made up 15 boxes that will be given to children outside the United States so that they may have a Merry Christmas. Thank you for being Christ to them!!

Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Loretta Bode
Mary Cothorn
Mardelle Duffy
Donovan Gaines
Dick Walter
Mary Masco
Jeff McGuire
Judy Schall

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@ololgc.org.

Dear Padre

NOVEMBER 27, 2016

I want my son to be confirmed this year, but he won't go to confirmation classes or select a sponsor. What should I do?

When your son was baptized, you promised to raise him in the faith. Going to Mass and making faith part of your home life has been part of his upbringing, but forcing him to be confirmed can result in resentment and drive him further from you and his Catholic faith. Try these three things:

First, have a heartfelt and personal discussion (or several) with him, sharing what your Catholic faith means to you.

Second, speak with the confirmation teacher or DRE. He or she has dealt with this before and can work with you both to understand his refusal.

Third, engage him in discovering God at work in his life through the people and movements he's attracted to. Young people are often idealistic and can become disenchanted with the Church and other authority figures. The sooner they know you're willing to let them examine and understand what being Catholic means, the less inclined they will be to reject the Church.

What he needs is the steady, meaningful message that he is loved and important to you, God, and the Church. Trust that God's will comes to fruition. Confirmation should occur when a person manifests a true desire and has undergone necessary preparation. These suggestions aren't easy but reflect the faith you want to pass on.

*From Liguorian, July-August 2011
sundaybulletin@liguori.org*

Monday

November 28
Advent Weekday

Is 4:2-6
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

November 29
Advent Weekday

Is 11:1-10
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

November 30
St. Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18
Mt 4:18-22

Thursday

December 1
Advent Weekday

Is 26:1-6
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

December 2
Advent Weekday

Is 29:17-24
Mt 9:27-31

Saturday

December 3
St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 30:19-21, 23-26
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday

December 4
Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10
Rom 15:4-9
Mt 3:1-12

Good News!

November 27, 2016

First Sunday of Advent (A)

Is 2:1-5, Rom 13:11-14, Mt 24:37-44

I am Fr. Mark Haydu, LC, and I am head of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums in Rome. Since sacred art has always been an essential element of prayer and liturgy, it is a fitting enhancement to our Sunday celebrations. I'll be accompanying you each Sunday over these next three years in these reflections to reflect and pray.

Staying awake is a frequent and important Advent theme. Jesus mentions being awake in today's Gospel and again in Matthew 25:13 and 26:38. We are to ready ourselves to encounter him at our personal judgment and again in the Final Judgment. Like a watchman who stands over the city or a guard who protects the entry gate, we are to be vigilant, "For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."

In ancient times, it was common to have a servant posted at the door to protect you through the night and to watch over the house in your absence. Today's sculpture, (Piece: Sleeping Servant; Artist unknown; 1st century ad; Location: Vatican, Santa Rosa) which is part of an ancient tombstone, depicts such a servant—albeit one who dozed off.

Begin your Advent preparations by receiving Christ in the Eucharist, "For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed" (Romans 13:11). Jesus is not far away but very near. He enters our hearts in the form of bread and wine. Are you ready, or will he catch you by surprise?

For Reflection

What can I do to prepare myself and my family for Christ's coming on Christmas, in the Eucharist, and at any other time in our lives?