

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@ololgc.org

Address:

534 N. Wood St.
Gibson City, IL 60936

Website

www.ololgc.org

DECEMBER 11, 2016 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Advent Daily prayers from Pope Francis for the third week of 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.

BRING JOY TO OUR LIVES

Third Sunday of Advent—Philippians 4:4

O Jesus, help us to be glad with the joy that you give us when we allow you to enter our life. Enter our lives anew and invite us to go out to the margins of life and proclaim the gospel with joy and courage! Help us discover true joy—the joy of making of our self a gift, of reciprocating the great gift that we have first received, without merit of our own.

YOU ARE WAITING FOR US

Monday, Week 3—Isaiah 30:18

O God, you are love, you are waiting for us, you are our Father, who is good and loves us as a true father loves, who loves us truly and forgives us as the Holy Spirit tells us in our hearts. Let us listen to the Holy Spirit and move forward on the path of love, mercy and forgiveness.

OPEN OUR HEARTS TO JESUS

Tuesday, Week 3—Hebrews 4:12

O Jesus, make my heart open to the word of God, make my heart open to goodness, make my heart open to the beauty of God every day, make my heart open to you. You knock at our hearts to enter and grant us peace, peace of the soul. Let us open our hearts to you!

SHARE THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

Wednesday, Week 3—Corinthians 4:6

O God, illuminate our minds and our hearts, so that we may obey, unhesitatingly, the word of your son Jesus. Give us the courage to decide not to let ourselves be dragged along, letting others direct our life. Move our hands and feet toward others, to bring them the love of your son Jesus, to bring the light of the gospel to the world.

NO MORE DIVISION

Thursday, Week 3—1 Corinthians 1:10

Lord, grant that we be more and more united, never to be instruments of division. Enable us to commit ourselves, as the beautiful Franciscan prayer says, to sowing love where there is hatred; where there is injury, pardon; and union where there is discord.

SHOW US YOUR PEACE

Friday, Week 3—Colossians 3:15

Prince of Peace, help us! May you grant us peace, teach us peace, guide us toward peace. Open our eyes and our hearts and grant us the courage to say: "no more war!" Make us willing to listen to the cry of our citizens who ask that our weapons be transformed into instruments of peace, our fears to trust and our tensions to forgiveness.

GIVE ME STRENGTH

Saturday, Week 3—1 Peter 4:11

Bless me, heavenly helper, and through your powerful intercession, give me strength in my weakness, so that, by serving you faithfully in this life, I may praise you, love you and give you thanks in heaven, for all eternity.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

On December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe, we celebrate her appearance to Juan Diego near Mexico City in 1531. Her message, "Build me a church," meant more than the basilica constructed on the site. She really wanted us to go forth and build a community beyond ethnic, social and gender differences, characterized by justice and charity. Mary is our model for how to be a missionary today.



Pastor

Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
(217)784-4671
ttheneth@ololgc.org

Deacon

Paul Sarantakos
p.sarantakos@hotmail.com

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 December 12	8:00AM	Huppert Family Hutchcraft Family
<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>		
TUE December 13	8:00AM	Loretta Bode
<i>St. Lucy</i>		
WED December 14	8:00AM	Priest Intentions
<i>St. John of the Cross</i>		
THU December 15	5:30PM	Huth Family Johnson Family
FRI December 16	8:00AM	Killian Family Kirby Family
SAT December 17	5:00PM	+George Thartes
SUN December 18	8:00 AM (IC) 10:30 AM (OLOL)	Schwarz Family Parish Family
<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>		

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$2883.00
Capital Imp.	\$615.00
Food Pantry	\$63.00
Dec. Total	\$63.00
Yr to Date FP	\$3500.89

Imm Conception

Sunday Total	\$230.50
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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
Sat, December 17 5:00PM	Alex Killian Braden Roesch	Jim Meyer	Stan Alt	John Carlson Michael Smith	Helen Haynes
Sun, December 18 10:30AM	Isabella & Sophia Helmig	Maggie Davis	Paul Sarantakos	Sam Baillie Nathan Garard	

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.

Thank you to all who donated to the youth outreach Merry Christmas.

23 packages were sent to youth who were members of the parish and moved on over the past 5 years. Packages included the parish RE Christmas card shown at the right, individual cards from the RE children, gift cards, candy and a Divine Mercy Novena Card.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

THANK YOU!!

We want to extend a HUGE thank you to our CCD students, along with their parents, for overflowing our shoe boxes with gifts of love. We were able to jam pack 15 shoe boxes full of gifts to go to children in places of need. Thank you for opening your hearts !

The Word From Father Thomas



THE TRADITION OF THE CHRISTMAS CRIB Pope Benedict XVI

Following a beautiful and firmly-rooted tradition, many families set up their crib immediately after the feast of the Immaculate Conception, as if to relive with Mary those days full of trepidation that preceded the birth of Jesus. Putting up the crib at home can be a simple but effective way of presenting faith, to pass it on to one's children. The crib helps us contemplate the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto. Saint Francis of Assisi was so taken by the mystery of the Incarnation that he wanted to present it anew at Greccio in the living nativity scene, thus beginning an old, popular tradition that still retains its value for evangelization today. Indeed, the crib can help us understand the secret of the true Christmas because it speaks of the humility and merciful goodness of Christ, who though he was rich he made himself poor for us (2 Cor 9:9). His poverty enriches those who embrace it, and Christmas brings joy and peace to those who, like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the angel's words: Let this be a sign to you : in a manger you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes (Lk 2:12). This is still the sign for us too, men and women of the third millennium. There is no other Christmas.



FOOD PANTRY

Our Lady of Lourdes is scheduled to provide volunteers for the Saturday, December 31 Food Pantry date. It is a time of year for giving. Please consider participating in this great community effort.

Set-up Date: Friday, December 30 Time: TBA
Distribution Date: Saturday, December 31 Time: 8:30AM

Contact Person: Chuck Aubry Email: caubry55@gmail.com Phone: (217)249-8304

Future Saturday Dates: February 11 & May 27



The **2017 COLLECTION ENVELOPES** are available to pick up in the back of the church.

If you have not registered with the parish, please contact the office.
(217)784-4671.

Also, please let us know of address, additional children or other contact information changes by emailing pastor@ololgc.org



2017 PARISH CALENDARS

Our Parish Calendars are available for 2017. Thank you Day Drainage for providing them for our Parishes. Feel free to pick some up after Masses over the next few weekends. It is hard to believe 2017 is a few short weeks away.

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!

PARISH EVENTS



Wednesday, December 14

- K of C Mtg 7PM

Sunday, December 18

- YOUTH MASS 10:30AM

Saturday, December 31

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon
HOSTED BY OLL



Ian Miller (12/12)
Lucy Shiels (12/12)
Cali Roy (12/13)
John Martin (12/13)
Mary Fairfield (12/15)
Chuck Aubry (12/15)
Maggie Davis (12/17)



Paul & Mary Geurts (12/13)



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

DECEMBER 11, 2016

When I was younger, my faith was very important; but lately I don't feel that closeness to God. Is this a crisis of faith?

How has your life changed since childhood? Do you feel, react, and appreciate things today as you did then? Spirituality is an ordinary part of human experience, and I hope you discover that the God of your youth, although remembered fondly, is not the God of your adult experience.

Many adults discover that their understanding, decisions, and behaviors have expanded and matured. In the interplay of the demands of society and culture, we are forced to grow and develop. What worked for us as a child of five is not usually what we would choose today.

In the spiritual journey, we are not so much forced but invited to grow and mature. Some people miss the invitation and get stuck in a rut. They may cling to childlike images of God and still expect such images to serve them well. The consequences of this are not easily recognized until moments of crisis or dramatic change, when the result is often reflected by the question, "Where is God?"

So it's not so much a crisis of faith but a realization of the desire to pursue (again) the spiritual journey. Begin to relate to God as an adult. Use your skills and knowledge to build a new relationship with God, the Church, and the community of believers. You will discover a living faith, an experience of God, that is important and meaningful for you now.

From Dear Padre: Questions People Ask, Liguori, 2003
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Monday
December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14-17 or
Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,
10ab
Lk 1:26-38
or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday
December 13
St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday
December 14
St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25
Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday
December 15
Advent Weekday
Is 54:1-10
Lk 7:24-30

Friday
December 16
Advent Weekday
Is 56:1-3a, 6-8
Jn 5:33-36

Saturday
December 17
Advent Weekday
Gn 49:2, 8-10
Mt 1:1-17

Sunday
December 18
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Is 7:10-14
Rom 1:1-7
Mt 1:18-24

Good News!

December 11, 2016
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1-6a, 10, Jas 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11

John came to announce a savior, but in his difficult imprisonment, he and his disciples began to wonder if the one he announced was truly the one. It is easy to doubt when difficulty comes our way and life doesn't treat us as we think we deserve.

In this painting, a young John the Baptist is accompanied by an angel who points up the hill. John is shown kneeling in prayer, referencing the months he spent in the desert preparing himself as well as preaching conversion. Even with this long and fruitful preparation, John's heart is tempted to doubt. Yes, even saints struggle.

John sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he is the Messiah. It does us much good to bring our concerns and doubts to Jesus directly! Jesus responds as he often does. Rather than just answer, "I am he"—which could easily be considered an empty claim—he invites them to look at the evidence. He fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah 35:5: "The eyes of the blind shall see, and the ears of the deaf be opened," the poor shall find a new reason to hope.

Jesus' mission is to change lives and to save us from the blindness of egoism, the deafness of a hardened heart, and the closed mind that cannot accept the other. He is the savior of those who let themselves be saved.

Saint James' exhortation could have been meant for John the Baptist or anyone who finds it hard to persevere in trusting and following Jesus: "You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand" (5:8).

For Reflection
How does John the Baptist's call to repentance challenge me? Where do I need to ask for God's mercy?

