

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 5:30 pm
Friday 8 am
Holy Days: 7 am & 7 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 8:30-9:30 am
Thursday 6-7 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

February 21, 2016

Second Sunday of Lent

February 22

Chair of St. Peter

Right: The Chair of St. Peter is housed at the Vatican, at the back of St. Peter's basilica



This feast commemorates Christ's choosing Peter to sit in his place as the servant-authority of the whole Church (see June 29).

After the "lost weekend" of pain, doubt and self-torment, Peter hears the Good News. Angels at the tomb say to Magdalene, "The Lord has risen! Go, tell his disciples and Peter." John relates that when he and Peter ran to the tomb, the younger outraced the older, then waited for him. Peter entered, saw the wrappings on the ground, the headpiece rolled up in a place by itself. John saw and believed. But he adds a reminder: "...[T]hey did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead" (John 20:9). They went home. There the slowly exploding, impossible idea became reality. Jesus appeared to them as they waited fearfully behind locked doors. "Peace be with you," he said (John 20:21b), and they rejoiced.

The Pentecost event completed Peter's experience of the risen Christ. "...[T]hey were all filled with the holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4a) and began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamation as the Spirit prompted them.

Only then can Peter fulfill the task Jesus had given him: "... [O]nce you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers" (Luke 22:32). He at once becomes the spokesman for the Twelve about their experience of the Holy Spirit—before the civil authorities who wished to quash their preaching, before the council of Jerusalem, for the community in the problem of Ananias and Sapphira. He is the first to preach the Good News to the Gentiles. The healing power of Jesus in him is well attested: the raising of Tabitha from the dead, the cure of the crippled beggar. People carry the sick into the streets so that when Peter passed his shadow might fall on them.

Even a saint experiences difficulty in Christian living. When Peter stopped eating with Gentile converts because he did not want to wound the sensibilities of Jewish Christians, Paul says, "...I opposed him to his face because he clearly was wrong.... [T]hey were not on the right road in line with the truth of the gospel..." (Galatians 2:11b, 14a).

At the end of John's Gospel, Jesus says to Peter, "Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go" (John 21:18). What Jesus said indicated the sort of death by which Peter was to glorify God. On Vatican Hill, in Rome, during the reign of Nero, Peter did glorify his Lord with a martyr's death, probably in the company of many Christians.

Second-century Christians built a small memorial over his burial spot. In the fourth century, the Emperor Constantine built a basilica, which was replaced in the 16th century.

This saintly man's life is perhaps best summed up at his meeting with Jesus after the resurrection in the presence of the men Peter was to lead. In imitation of Peter's triple denial, Jesus asked him three times, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" (John 21:16b). Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you. . . . Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you (John 21:16c, 17b).

Comment:

Like the committee chair, this chair refers to the occupant, not the furniture. Its first occupant stumbled a bit, denying Jesus three times and hesitating to welcome gentiles into the new Church. Some of its later occupants have also stumbled a bit, sometimes even failed scandalously. As individuals, we may sometimes think a particular pope has let us down. Still, the office endures as a sign of the long tradition we cherish and as a focus for the universal 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.

MON February 22	8:00AM	Tredennick Family Ulrich Family
<i>Chair of St. Peter</i>		
TUE February 23	8:00AM	Veneto Family Vetter Family
<i>St. Polycarp</i>		
WED February 24	8:00AM	Priest Intentions
<i>Blessed Luke Belludi</i>		
THU February 25	5:30PM	Paul Volker Family Corey Volker Family
<i>Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio</i>		
FRI February 26	8:00AM	Walter Family Charles Weber Family
<i>St. Maria Bertilla Boscardin</i>		
SAT February 27	5:00PM	+Chuck Freehill
<i>St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows</i>		
SUN February 28	7:00AM (OLOL)	Wilhelmi Family Woolulms Family
<i>Bl. Daniel Brottier</i>		
	8:30 AM (IC)	Parish Family
	10:30 AM (OLOL)	+Donald & Ruby Kemmer

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Sunday Env. \$2432.50
Loose \$521.00
Capital Imp. \$0
Food Pantry \$93.01
January Total \$428.00

Imm Conception

Sunday Env. \$122.38

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.

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

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry
Sat, February 27 5:00PM	Caine Jost	Lisa Heap	Jerry Brown	Steve Heavilin John Carlson	Paul & Sarah Sarantakos
Sun, February 28 7:00AM	Liam Killian	Andrew Killian			
Sun, February 28 10:30AM	Hannah & Haven Hathaway	Maggie Davis	Jack Kollross	Jerry Lynch, Sr. Jerry Lynch Jr.	

Volunteers are always needed for our parish ministries. For more information on how to join, contact the parish office.

Baptism

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

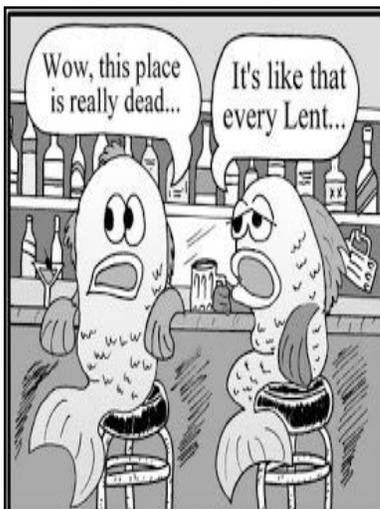
Sick??

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.

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com

Our Lady of Lourdes
Knights of Columbus



2016 Lenten Fish Fries

February 26
March 4
March 18

4:30PM-6:30PM

Dinners are \$8
Children under 12 free
Carryout Available

Any questions can be directed to chairpersons Matt Doran or Mark Doran (217)784-8826 (217)784-8720



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our Lady of Lourdes will celebrate Stations of the Cross every Friday evening at 7PM during Lent.



The Word From Father Thomas



If you have not made your contribution to the 2016 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal, please consider doing so online at jolietdiocese.org, via mail, or by returning one of our Commitment/In-Pew Weekend envelopes at Mass. We will also conduct a Follow-Up Weekend process to give everyone an opportunity to participate.



One pledge can make a difference, especially when combined with all of the other pledges made throughout the diocese. Please prayerfully consider providing your financial support to this Appeal "Chosen by God's Grace" you can make a real difference!

After our parish exceeds its CMAA goal of **\$12,712** for Our Lady of Lourdes and **\$905.00** for Immaculate Conception in paid pledges, 65% of any additional funds are returned for use in our parish.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.



ORGANIST/VOCALIST NEEDED

We are in need of more organists/vocalists to lead worship at our weekend Masses. If you feel the call to this ministry, please contact Father Thomas at 217-784-4671 or email at pastor@ololgc.org.

Here is an update on the Gibson City Food Pantry:

Food is distributed the **second** and **fourth** Saturdays of the month from 8:30 to noon out of the GAH storage facility that is located to the west of the hospital.

The Food Pantry program is a **faith-based program** with 9 churches participating in the distribution.

Our Lady of Lourdes next opportunity to sponsor the event is **Saturday, June 11**.

Volunteers are welcome to **assist at all food pantry distribution** days even though our church is not officially sponsoring those particular dates.

The members of Our Lady of Lourdes have been generous in donating over \$4,021.70 during the 2015 fiscal year. Please keep it in your hearts to continue supporting this extremely important program for the less fortunate of our communities.

Various organizations from the GCMS School District (FFA, athletic teams, clubs, etc) have provided assistance during the delivery and distribution of food items to the food pantry clients. I would **encourage the parents** of our church, who have children in 6th grade or above, to have their **children participate in a Saturday distribution**. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn to serve our local community and gain compassion for those who are less fortunate!

Chuck Aubry
217-249-8304
caubry55@gmail.com



PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

God of Peace, thank you for sending Moses and Elijah to encourage Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem, even unto the cross. Help us to encourage and accompany Jesus, too, in his campaign for justice and peace. Help us to listen to Jesus and take him at his word. Bless us that we might be his faithful disciples, apostles, prophets, visionaries, and missionaries of justice, nonviolence, and peace. Amen

PARISH EVENTS

FEBRUARY



Wednesday, February 24

- Staff Mtg 6PM
- Parish Council 7PM

Saturday, February 27

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon

Sunday, February 28

- **YOUTH MASS**



- Kate McCall (2/22)
- Megan Volker (2/22)
- Gerald Freehill (2/24)
- Ryen Miller (2/24)
- Audrey Killian (2/25)
- Stanley Davis (2/26)
- Diane Perkins (2/26)
- Pam Aubry (2/27)
- Brian Goodin (2/27)
- Dan Allen (2/28)
- Corey Fields (2/28)
- Lisa Heap (2/28)



Pray for the Sick & Homebound

- Tony Coons
- Mary Cothorn
- Jesse Cervelli
- Dick Walter
- Loretta Bode
- Mardella Duffy
- 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@ololgc.org.

Good News!

February 21, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

Gn 15:5–12, 17–18 / Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1 / Lk 9:28b–36

From the top of Mount Tabor in Israel, the supposed site of Jesus' transfiguration, visitors can see clearly across the valley to the distant Golan Heights some forty-five miles away. The view takes your breath away. When I was in the valley, I could only see the immediate area, but at the top I was mesmerized by both the distance and the beauty of the land.

Maybe that's why mountains have always been places of prayer, of divine unveiling, and why Jesus took Peter, James, and John up to the top of a mountain to experience this vision of his glory. He wanted them to see more than their daily life and work. He wanted them to see further than they ever thought they could. He wanted them to see the depths of who he was in a new and profound way. It was important that they do this. The transfiguration happens in the midst of Jesus' predictions of his passion and death, before he begins his deliberate journey to Jerusalem. Without an image of the glorified Christ, the apostles might not have had the courage to continue following him.

Like the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert, we hear this transfiguration account every Lent. Jesus takes the Church, and each one of us, up the mountain and dares us to see further, better, more deeply than ever before. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, he dares us to leave what we know, listen to him, and follow in his footsteps. May we have the courage to accept the challenge.

Mary Katharine Deeley
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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Monday
FEBRUARY 22
Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
1 Pt 5:1–4
Mt 16:13–19

Tuesday
FEBRUARY 23
Lenten Weekday
Is 1:10, 16–20
Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday
FEBRUARY 24
Lenten Weekday
Jer 18:18–20
Mt 20:17–28

Thursday
FEBRUARY 25
Lenten Weekday
Jer 17:5–10
Lk 16:19–31

Friday
FEBRUARY 26
Lenten Weekday
Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a
Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday
FEBRUARY 27
Lenten Weekday
Mi 7:14–15, 18–20
Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Sunday
FEBRUARY 28
Third Sunday of Lent
Ex 3:1–8a, 13–15
1 Cor 10:1–6, 10–12
Lk 13:1–9

dear Padre

February 21, 2016

Can anyone practice contemplative prayer?

Is contemplative prayer just for monks and other religious people, or can anyone practice it?

Saint Teresa of Ávila, a great mystical saint and doctor of the Church, said, "Mental prayer is nothing else, in my opinion, but being on terms of friendship with God, frequently conversing in secret with Him who, we know, loves us" (*The Life of St. Teresa of Ávila*, chapter VIII). By no means is contemplative prayer reserved only for professional religious men and women. Rather, it's open to all people from all walks of life. While we each may have our own individual and/or family prayer habits and preferences, I can think of no better practice for this Lenten season.

Contemplative prayer differs from other forms of meditative prayer because of its intensity, but like all forms of prayer and meditation, in it we seek the person and presence of Jesus. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, "Contemplative prayer is the simple expression of the mystery of prayer. It is a gaze of faith fixed on Jesus, an attentiveness to the Word of God, a silent love. It achieves real union with the prayer of Christ to the extent that it makes us share in his mystery" (CCC 2724).

If you need help getting started, approach your pastor, spiritual director, or another Catholic minister who is familiar with meditative prayer. He or she can guide you and/or direct you to the best resources available.

FR. TOM SANTA, CSsR
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