

## 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

# March 27, 2016

## Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

### Romans 1:4-5

*And Jesus Christ our Lord was shown to be the Son of God when God powerfully raised him from the dead by means of the [Holy Spirit](#). Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name.*

### Easter Triduum and the Easter Vigil

You may notice that many Christians observe Easter Sunday a little differently than Catholics do. For lots of churches, the peak celebration is Easter Sunday, maybe even a service at sunrise. Most Catholics will tell you that for us, Easter Sunday is almost anti-climactic. That's because for us, the most significant celebration was the night before, at the Easter Vigil.

We've been preparing for Easter through forty days of Lent, culminating in the Easter Triduum: On Holy Thursday, we reenact the Lord's Last Supper, which He shared with His apostles on the night He was betrayed and arrested. This is one of the most beautiful liturgies of the entire liturgical year. At the Mass, the priest will wash the feet of twelve men, just as Jesus did. Also on this night, priests all over the world will renew their sacred vows. This is because, at the Last Supper, Jesus not only instituted the Mass (Eucharist) but also the ministerial priesthood.

On Good Friday, the day of the crucifixion and death of our Lord, we have the veneration of the Cross. A service is held at three o'clock in the afternoon (the hour He is believed to have died) and another later in the evening. We go forward and kiss the Cross in order to show honor and respect for Christ's sacrifice for our sake. There is no consecration of the Eucharist on this day, and the Communion we receive will be from the night before, which has been reserved in the tabernacle.

All that waiting and preparation peaks when we gather on Saturday night for a solemn vigil. We keep watch for the expectant rising of Our Savior. This was the day He went down into the netherworld in order to bring back up with Him into heaven those who had died before His coming. Up to this time, the gates to heaven were closed and no one could go there because of the original sin of Adam. Jesus changed all that. By paying the price for our sins on the Cross, He gained for us our eternal salvation, and heaven was opened once more. Also on this night, persons who have spent months of preparation will be received through Baptism and Confirmation into the Catholic Church for the first time. It is a joyous occasion.

We wait in darkness, bless a fire, process with candles, and hear re-told the stories of our salvation through the scriptures. The emphasis is on waiting for the culmination of the story: Christ's resurrection from the dead. Bells are rung, and alleluias are sung as we hear the gospel account of Christ's rising. Then, following this proclamation of the core of our beliefs, new members are brought into the Church through baptism and a profession of faith. The recounting of Christ's new life is closely connected to the Church's renewal through the reception of its new members.

This celebration as a vigil is important because it doesn't just commemorate something God did in the past; it celebrates something God is doing today. Although our salvation was accomplished 2000 years ago, we are also watching and waiting to see what God is doing in our lives today. Because our past and our future are connected, through God's saving power, it wouldn't seem like enough for us to simply sit in our pews on Sunday morning, as we do every week.

The celebration of Easter, as a vigil, invites us to break out our most potent symbols of God's action, and our response. So, all the waiting, the readings, music, candles, procession, and initiation, all remind us that God has accomplished something amazing by loving us so much. And our vigil is a statement, individually and collectively, that we are ready to be renewed and to live out of the grace we've received. Holy Week is a time to clear our schedules of unnecessary activities. Our minds and hearts should be fixed on Jesus and what He did for us. Let us bear the Cross so that we may be worthy of wearing the crown He wore.

**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> March 28	8:00AM	NO MASS
St. Catharine of Bologna		
<b>TUE</b> March 29	8:00AM	Cullotta Family Cyphert Family
St. Ludovico of Casoria		
<b>WED</b> March 30	8:00AM	Priest Intentions
St. Peter Regaldo		
<b>THU</b> March 31	5:30PM	+Joe Kollross
St. Stephen of Mar Saba		
<b>FRI</b> April 1	8:00AM	+Fr. Dennis Kollross
St. Hugh of Grenoble		
<b>SAT</b> April 2	5:30PM	+Chuck Freehill
St. Francis of Paola		
<b>SUN</b> April 3	7:00AM (OLOL)	Parish Family
	8:30 AM (IC)	Thompson Family
	10:30 AM (OLOL)	+Paul Huth
St. Benedict the African		

**Thank You For Your Gifts OLOL**

Sunday Env.	\$2261.00
Loose	\$594.00
Capital Imp.	\$135.00
Food Pantry	\$16.00
March Total	\$129.00
Yr to Date FP	\$991.26

**Imm Conception**

Sunday Env.	\$295.00
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: \$  
Goal: (\$12,712)  
IC: \$  
(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, April 2 5:30PM	Alex Killian Braden Roesch	Lisa Heap	Fran Mardis	Steve Heavilin Michael Smith	Frank Titus
Sun, April 3 7:00AM	Remi Astronomo	Andrew Killian			
Sun, April 3 10:30AM	Andrew & Aidan Laughery	Sarah Sarantakos	Jean Wilhelmi	Greg Laughery Steve Killian	



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.

**DAVE JOHNSON BENEFIT**

April 9, 2016

Gibson City American Legion, 203 N Sangamon Avenue  
4PM-6:30PM

Pulled Pork, Potato Salad or Cold Slaw & Chips

Cost \$5

LIVE AUCTION 7PM-?

Steve Anderson will DJ after the auction.

Dave Johnson, son of Gene & Regina Johnson had a tree fall on him on October 3, 2015. Dave Suffered multiple injuries including a severed spine. He had surgery to insert a metal rod to stabilize his spine. ADDITIONAL SURGERIES WILL BE REQUIRED.

**Pray for the Sick & Homebound**

Tony Coons  
Loretta Bode  
Mary Cothorn  
Mardella Duffy  
Jesse Cervelli  
Donovan Gaines  
Dick Walter  
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

## SAINT FAUSTINA AND DIVINE MERCY



Did you know that the Doctor of the Church known for the “Little Way” of merciful love, Saint Therese of Lisieux, once appeared to the Divine Mercy saint, Maria Faustina Kowalska? The subject of their encounter tells us a lot about Saint Faustina and her message.

It happened while Faustina was going through a particularly painful trial, the specifics of which she didn’t disclose. Whatever it was, it caused the future “Secretary of Mercy” to wonder how she could go on living.

Though Faustina sought help from various saints, the situation had gotten worse. Then, the thought occurred to her to pray a novena to Saint Therese of Lisieux, to whom she’d had a devotion before entering the convent.

On the fifth day of the novena, Therese appeared to Faustina in a dream and comforted her. Faustina then asked the French sister if she, too, would become a saint. Therese replied, “Yes.” but Faustina pressed further, “Shall I be a saint as you are, raised to the altar?” Therese replied, “yes, you will be a saint just as I am, but you must...”

What do you think this doctor of the Church said? Did she tell Faustina that she needed to spend more time in prayer or make more sacrifices? No. Amazingly, Therese told her simply, “you must trust in the Lord Jesus.”

Trusting in Jesus gets to the heart of the Divine Mercy message and devotion that comes to us through Saint Faustina. It’s why we find the prayer, “Jesus, I trust in you,” at the bottom of every Divine Mercy image. It’s also probably why saint Therese appeared to Faustina. I say that because Faustina’s message of mercy continues and develop Therese’s “Little Way” of humble confidence in the Lord. In fact, both of their teachings bring us back to the fundamental spiritual attitude of Christians, which is trust—also described by Saint Faustina in her diary as “living faith.”

When we turn away from sin and grow in a living faith (trust) in Jesus, our Lord is able to work miracles in our lives. Even the miracle of forming us into great saints! For instance, Faustina tells us in her diary, “Let no soul, even the most miserable, fall prey to doubt; for, as long as one is alive, each one can become a great saint, so great is the power of God’s grace. It remains only for us not to oppose God’s action.” How do we avoid opposing God’s action? As Therese told Faustina, “You must trust in the Lord Jesus.”

Father Michael Failley, M.I.C.

## FOOD FOR THE POOR

“AS OFTEN AS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, YOU DID IT TO ME.” (Matthew 25:40)

Please welcome Father Dennis Gang, from Food for the Poor, next weekend, April 2/3. Food for the Poor was founded on the basis of this Gospel. We seek out the poorest of the poor in 16 different countries, aiding some of the most destitute. In each face we see the living Christ, who is hungry, thirsty, a stranger and naked. Our ministry focuses on the greatest needs of the destitute. Just as our Lord served those society ignored, we are there; feeding the hungry, building water wells for thirsty villages, building houses for the homeless, aiding the impoverished elderly, raising orphans in a loving atmosphere of Christian discipline, healing the sick or overcoming illiteracy by supporting schools.

We ask for your support of this very important ministry. May God bless you with Christ’s love,



## PARISH EVENTS

### Tuesday, April 5

- CALM between 6:30PM-7PM

### Saturday, April 9

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon

### Wednesday, April 13

- K of C Mtg 7PM
- Parish Council Mtg 7PM

### Thursday, April 14

- St. Peregrine Healing Mass 5:30PM

### Tuesday, April 19

- CALM between 6:30PM-7PM

### Saturday, April 23

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon

### Sunday, April 24

- **FIRST COMMUNION**

### Wednesday, April 27

- Staff Mtg 6PM



Brian Benoit (3/28)  
Basilio Campos (3/28)  
Cardina Gonzalez (3/28)  
Janey Hansen (3/29)  
Linda Schmitt (3/30)  
Egan Lynch (3/30)  
Dan Day (3/30)  
John Veneto (3/31)  
Pat Haskins (4/1)  
Jill Rock (4/1)  
Kenley Andreae (4/1)  
Austin Rosenbaum (4/1)  
Phil Richardson (4/2)  
Amy Veneto (4/2)  
Madison Eberle (4/2)  
Linda Martin (4/2)  
Doris Fleming (4/3)



Carl & Beth Hornstein (4/3)

# dear Padre

March 27, 2016

## Why aren't heaven's gates open to all of humanity?

If God loves everyone, why aren't all of us saved?

When we picture heaven, we imagine a place where everyone is happy, loving, and at peace. If this is perfect bliss, then why wouldn't the Lord send everyone there? It is certainly a loving attitude to desire that all of our friends, family, and community enjoy the victory of union with the Trinity. When Jesus died and rose, he opened the door for all of humanity to enter eternal life. If we want everyone to be saved, and God wants everyone to be saved, what could possibly keep a person outside the Pearly Gates?

The answer lies in the very nature of God's love for us. Not everyone is saved because God wants us to choose salvation freely. While a person who loves God and willingly obeys his commands will find the kingdom blissful, a person choosing pride or selfishness would not. Would heaven really be paradise if people could choose to be bullies, murderers, or abusers? If I reject God's love because I don't want anyone telling me what to do, I would not freely submit myself to the Lord's authority. God has given us free will, and that means we are free to reject him and his kingdom. For heaven to be heaven, everyone there must be submissive to God's will and each other. Jesus loves us too much to force us to be saved.

FR. MATTHEW BONK, CSsR  
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**Monday**  
MARCH 28

*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Mt 28:8-15

**Tuesday**  
MARCH 29

*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 2:36-41  
Jn 20:11-18

**Wednesday**  
MARCH 30

*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 3:1-10  
Lk 24:13-35

**Thursday**  
MARCH 31

*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 3:11-26  
Lk 24:35-48

**Friday**  
APRIL 1

*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 4:1-12  
Jn 21:1-14

**Saturday**  
APRIL 2

*Octave of Easter*  
Acts 4:13-21  
Mk 16:9-15

**Sunday**  
APRIL 3

*Second Sunday of Easter*

*Sunday of Divine Mercy*  
Acts 5:12-16  
Rv 1:9-11a,  
12-13, 17-19  
Jn 20:19-31

# Good News!

March 27, 2016

**EASTER (C)**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 / Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

My daughter was about four when we went to the local department store to do some shopping. I was looking over some item when I turned and realized that she wasn't beside me. It was not like her to wander away, and I spent a frantic fifteen minutes before I located her sitting on the floor playing with a doll from a display. I was at once relieved and angry, but more scared than anything else. What if something had happened?

When Mary Magdalene went to the tomb that early Sunday morning, she expected to find Jesus' body and mourn the loss of this man whom they all loved. Not finding him where she expected was an utter shock. I can only imagine there was some fear and anger: "Who took him? Where did he go? How could someone do this?" Her words tumbled out to Peter and the disciple Jesus loved. They, too, were astounded to find his burial cloth and though they believed, they did not understand what the empty tomb signified.

I can also imagine what they felt when they finally saw Jesus—surely relief and wonder, but there may have been a little anger that he had left them and fear for all that meant. Maybe that's how God feels about us when we wander away. We were lost, and God sent the prophets first and then his only Son to find us and lead us home. Out of love, Jesus gave his life and conquered death itself. In this Easter season, let us take great care neither to wander away nor to lose sight of the Lord. He is the source of our life. We belong to him.

Mary Katharine Deeley  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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