

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

April 3, 2016

Divine Mercy Sunday

A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF JOLIET, R. DANIEL CONLON

In this Holy Year, we look forward to the experience of opening our hearts to those living on the outermost fringes of society....How many uncertain and painful situations there are in the world today! How many are the wounds borne by the flesh of those who have no voice because their cry is muffled and drowned out....During this Jubilee, the Church will be called even more to heal these wounds, to assuage them with the oil of consolation, to bind them with mercy and cure them with solidarity and vigilant care. [#15]

These words stand at the center of Pope Francis's proclamation, "The Face of Mercy", inaugurating the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Now in the midst of that year, I wish to invite all of us to "open our hearts" to those who have been the victims of sexual abuse while they were minors in the Church.

For more than two decades, the Catholic Church in the United States has suffered the agony and shame of this tragedy. Many efforts have been made to heal the wounds. Yet, I am painfully aware that the victims have not, for the most part, been made whole and that the reputation of the Church remains profoundly stained.

So distressing is the situation, it often seems beyond repair. But Pope Francis reminds us that from

...the heart of the Trinity, from the depths of the mystery of God, the great river of mercy wells up and overflows unceasingly. It is a spring that will never run dry, no matter how many people draw from it. Every time someone is in need, he or she can approach it, because the mercy of God never ends. [#25]

Therefore, I remain optimistic, not on account of our efforts or sentiments, but on account of the unfailing mercy of God. The Holy Father, in proclaiming the Year of Mercy, turned our attention to the beautiful example of the Blessed Mother, who, at the foot of the cross, "attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception." [#24]

Inspired by the Mother of Mercy, I invite every parish and chapel in the Diocese of Joliet to use this upcoming September 15, the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, to pray for an outpouring of God's love and mercy upon all of us, especially those who experienced abuse. I recommend that Mass or other forms of prayer be scheduled that day at a time convenient for people to participate, and that the Universal Prayer (petitions) reflect the need for God's mercy in the area of child abuse in the Church.

As a bishop, I comprehend that the damage caused by the sexual abuse of minors by ordained ministers of the Church is deep and will last a long time. Still, with Pope Francis, I profess that the

...Church feels the urgent need to proclaim God's mercy. Her life is authentic and credible only when she becomes a convincing herald of mercy. She knows her primary task, especially at a moment full of great hopes and signs of contradiction, is to introduce everyone to the great mystery of God's mercy by contemplating the face of Christ....In this Jubilee Year, may the Church echo the word of God that resounds strong and clear as a message and a sign of pardon, strength, aid, and love. May she never tire of extending mercy, and be ever patient in offering compassion and comfort. [#25]

Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon
Bishop of Joliet-in-Illinois
Easter Sunday, 2016

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 April 4	8:00AM	NO MASS
St. Isidore of Seville		
TUE April 5	8:00AM	NO MASS
St. Vincent Ferrer		
WED April 6	8:00AM	NO MASS
St. Crescentia Hoess		
THU April 7	5:30PM	NO MASS
St. John Baptist de la Salle		
FRI April 8	8:00AM	NO MASS
St. Julie Billart		
SAT April 9	5:00PM	+Marge Carlson
St. Casilda		
SUN April 10	7:00AM (OLOL)	Cothorn & Cotter Families
	8:30 AM (IC)	Parish Family
	10:30 AM (OLOL)	Day & Duffy Families
St. Magdalen of Canossa		

Thank You For Your Gifts OLOL

Sunday Env. \$3641.00
Loose \$1113.00
Capital Imp. \$0
Food Pantry \$37.00
March Total \$166.00
Yr to Date FP \$1028.26

Imm Conception

Sunday Env. \$201.50
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: \$5968
Goal: (\$12,712)
IC: \$950
(Goal: \$905)

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry
Sat, April 9 5:00PM	Caine Jost	Marj Brown	Fran Mardis	Steve Heavilin Michael Smith	Fran Mardis
Sun, April 10 7:00AM	Ben Freehill	Erin Nuss			
Sun, April 10 10:30AM	Molly & Seth Kollross	Maggie Davis	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.

CONGRATULATIONS to Immaculate Conception on exceeding their CMAA goal for 2016. 65% of donations over and above the goal will be refunded back to the parish. Thank you to everyone that participated for their generosity and commitment to this very important Appeal!



Please pray for the family of
Robert Benefiel, Jr.
Robert entered eternal life on
March 28, 2016



ORGANIST/
VOCALIST
NEEDED

217-784-4671

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



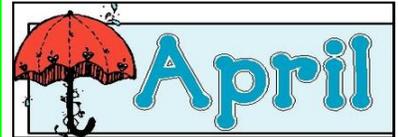
I want to love you as no human soul has ever loved you before; and although I am utterly miserable and small, I have nevertheless cast the anchor of my trust deep down into the abyss of your mercy, O my God and Creator! In spite of my great misery I fear nothing, but hope to sing you a hymn of glory for ever. 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.

Jesus, when I look at the world and its indifference towards you, again and again it brings tears to my eyes.

Most merciful Jesus, I beseech you through the intercession of your saints, and especially the intercession of your dearest Mother who nurtured you from childhood, bless my native land. I beg you, Jesus, look not on our sins, but on the tears of little children, on the hunger and cold they suffer. Jesus, for the sake of these innocent ones, grant me the grace that I am asking of you, for my country.

At that moment, I saw the Lord Jesus, his eyes filled with tears, and he said to me, "You see, my daughter, what great compassion I have for them. Know that it is they who uphold the world."

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska



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

Divine Mercy Sunday



When and why did the church begin celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday?

The world was in the midst of the Great Depression in 1931 and the memories of World War I were still very much alive in the minds of Europeans when in Poland a sister of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), is said to have been personally visited by Jesus.

According to her diary, which was listed on the Index of Forbidden Books for more than 20 years, an image was revealed to her of the risen Lord, from whose heart shone two rays, one red (representing blood) and the other "pale" (symbolizing water), with the words "Jesus, I trust in you" at the bottom. Faustina wrote in her diary that Jesus told her, "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish."

When she was canonized in 2000 under the direction of fellow countryman Pope John Paul II, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday, thereby widely promoting the devotional practices associated with Faustina's visions, already popular in many communities.

St. Faustina, a poorly educated daughter of a humble Polish family, kept a 600-page diary of the apparitions she claimed continued for years. Her entries focus on God's mercy, the call to accept God's mercy and to be merciful, the need for conversion, and the call to trust in Jesus. It had been Jesus' own wish, she wrote, to establish a feast day: "I [Jesus] desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls. . . . I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy."

Among the practices associated with the devotion are its novena, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy (a series of prayers organized similarly to a rosary), the Hour of Great Mercy (a time of prayer traditionally celebrated at 3 p.m.), and the plenary indulgence granted to those who receive the Eucharist and celebrate reconciliation on Divine Mercy Sunday.



Norm Schall (4/4)
Giavanna Chaddock (4/4)
Greg Laughery (4/4)
Jason Eberle (4/5)
Margie Rock (4/5)
Sandy Kollross (4/5)
Theodore Smith (4/6)
Peyton Leonard (4/8)
Mary Giroux (4/8)
Jean Wilhelmi (4/9)
Kay Richardson (4/9)
Pat Fields (4/10)
John Cole (4/10)



Paul & Sarah Sarantakos (4/5)
Basilio & Berni Campos (4/8)
Jim & Jennifer Freehill (4/9)

dear Padre

April 3, 2016

Why Blessings Are Given

Why won't my priest bless my Bible?
Don't Catholics bless objects all the time?

“Through all the words of sacred Scripture, God speaks only one single Word, his one Utterance in whom he expresses himself completely...For this reason, the Church has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord’s Body” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 102–103).

The Bible as the inspired word of God is living and holy. Technically, it does not need a ritual blessing; it is inherently a “sacramental” and set aside for God’s purposes. Perhaps it is this unique, sacred nature of the Bible that caused your priest to deny your request. Moreover, some view the Bible as the source of all blessings, since blessings derive meaning and effectiveness from the word of God.

That said, “every baptized person is called to be a ‘blessing,’ and to bless... Among sacramentals blessings (of persons, meals, objects, and places) come first. Every blessing praises God and prays for his gifts” (*CCC* 1669, 1671). To that end, ordained ministers who wish to give praise and bestow benefit to adults and children preparing for the sacraments—their catechists, or liturgical ministers, for example—may choose to bless such persons, giving thanks for the gift of God’s word and its work in their lives. Blessings, after all, “are invoked always with a view to the people who use the objects to be blessed” (*Book of Blessings*, General Introduction, 12).

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSsR
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Monday

APRIL 4

*Annunciation
of the Lord*
Is 7:10–14; 8:10
Heb 10:4–10
Lk 1:26–38

Tuesday

APRIL 5

*Easter
Weekday*
Acts 4:32–37
Jn 3:7b–15

Wednesday

APRIL 6

*Easter
Weekday*
Acts 5:17–26
Jn 3:16–21

Thursday

APRIL 7

*St. John Baptist
de la Salle, Priest*
Acts 5:27–33
Jn 3:31–36

Friday

APRIL 8

*Easter
Weekday*
Acts 5:34–42
Jn 6:1–15

Saturday

APRIL 9

*Easter
Weekday*
Acts 6:1–7
Jn 6:16–21

Sunday

APRIL 10

*Third Sunday
of Easter*
Acts 5:27–32, 40b–41
Rv 5:11–14
Jn 21:1–19
or 21:1–14

Good News!

April 3, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (C)

Acts 5:12–16 / Rv 1:9–11a, 12–13, 17–19 /
Jn 20:19–31

In our time, seven days have passed since we celebrated Christ’s rising. But in the Church’s reckoning, it is still Easter. We may have gotten on with our earthly lives, but our spiritual calendar (and reality) remains steeped in awe, wonder, and gratitude that God incarnate walked among us and gave his life for us. The readings of the Easter Octave offer a taste of what it is like to live in God’s time—in his presence and kingdom—as he calms our fears, strengthens our faith, and fills us with the Spirit. Much happens after Mary Magdalene visits and leaves the tomb. Other women who come to anoint Jesus meet him, embrace him, and obey his command to spread the Good News. Mary herself obeyed and ran to tell the apostles—though she mistook the Lord for a gardener until he spoke her name. Two disciples on the road out of town listen to Jesus’ teaching and finally know him in the breaking of bread. Jesus eats with others and assures them of the Father’s promise. There is another miraculous catch of fish and a breakfast with the disciples on the Sea of Galilee.

Within the scriptural context of this weeklong feast, we realize that the risen Christ is everywhere, with all of us, and existing throughout and beyond time. He appears when we least expect him; he is our teacher and our master; he feeds us with heavenly food; and he is there when we break bread together. May this knowledge strengthen our faith that Christ lives and will in time carry us home.

Mary Katharine Deeley
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