

## 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

## NOVEMBER 19, 2017 THIRTY-third SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### The Presentation of the *Blessed Virgin Mary* in the Temple

Tuesday, November 21, 2017



On the feast of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary, we celebrate the fact that Our Lady's parents brought her to the Temple at the age of three and handed her over to live there for a long period as a consecrated virgin where she might exclusively contemplate God.

There is a special beauty to this feast since it highlights the fact that Our Lady was chosen even before time began. She is called the root of Jesse (Isaiah, 11:1) from which Our Lord Jesus Christ would be born.

She is introduced to the synagogue, the institution in charge of keeping this promise. Thus, the synagogue receives Our Lady as a first step. In this act, the hopes of ages would soon be fulfilled.

Our Lady, a supremely holy soul, is received in the Temple and entered into the service of God.

Despite the corruption of the nation of Israel and the transformation of the Temple into a den of the Pharisees, an incomparable light appeared: the sanctity of Our Lady.

Unknowingly, Our Lady began to prepare herself to become the Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In an atmosphere of grace in the Temple, she was set apart from everyone in order to serve God.

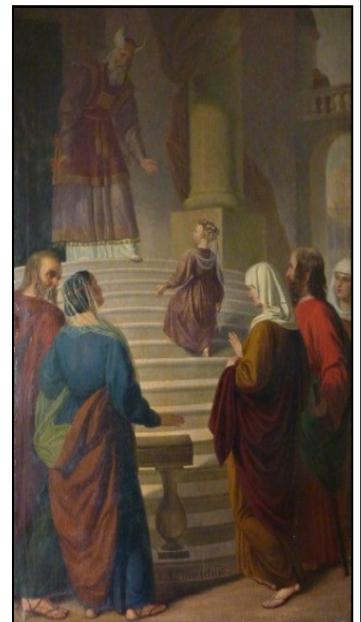
She increased her love of God until she formed the ardent desire for the imminent coming of the Messiah and asked God if she might have the honor to be the servant of His Mother.

She did not know that she was the one chosen for this honor. That is why she was perplexed when the Archangel Gabriel greeted her to ask her permission for the Incarnation.

Our Lady's magnificent preparation to be the Mother of Jesus Christ began with her Presentation in the Temple, a feast the Church celebrates on November 21.

It is fitting that we ask Our Lady to prepare us with the best of Catholic doctrine to serve God by serving her.

We should present ourselves before Our Lady, asking her to assist us in taking up the task of our sanctification, as the



### CHRISTMAS CARE PACKAGE MINISTRY FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS GIFT CARD DONATION

The last weekend to collect gift cards will be November 25/26. The mailing will go out the first week in December to reach students before Christmas break. The treasure chest is at the back of the church and we welcome you to give gift cards in \$10 increments to send to our college students. A reminder that we haven't forgotten about them at their home parish!

**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**  
Michael Smith (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> November 20	8:00AM	+Ruby & Donald Kemmer
<b>TUE</b> November 21	8:00AM	Nunnink Family Nuss Family
<i>The Presentation of the Bl. Virgin Mary</i>		
<b>WED</b> November 22	8:00AM	Obertt Family Ortiz Family
<i>Saint Cecilia</i>		
<b>THU</b> November 23	5:30PM	+Marvin Kemmer
<i>THANKSGIVING DAY</i>		
<b>FRI</b> November 24	8:00AM	+Loretta Bode
<i>S. Andrew Dung-Lac &amp; Companions</i>		
<b>SAT</b> November 25	5:00PM (OLL)	+Sandy Roberts
<i>St. Catherine of Alexandria</i>		
<b>SUN</b> November 26	8:00AM (IC) 10:30AM (OLL)	Parish Family +Donald Kemmer
<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe</i>		

**Thank You  
For Your Gifts  
OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$222200
Capital Imp.	\$85.00
Food Pantry November Total Yr to Date FP	\$57.41 \$122.41 \$3044.02

**Imm Conception**

Sunday Total	\$293.00
Capital Imp.	\$0

When we meet our CMAA Goals! OLOL and IC will get back **70%** of every dollar received above our goals. Reaching our goals is a great achievement, and continuing to give is even greater!

**2017 CMAA Goals**  
OLOL: \$14365  
(Goal: \$13,255)  
IC: \$1620  
(Goal: \$913)

**MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
Sat, November 25 5:00PM	Caine Jost Walter Smith	Marj Brown	Frank Titus	Robert Bode Stan Alt	Lisa Heap
Sun, November 26 10:30AM	Cecilia Goodin Brooke Beyers	Ray Hanks	Paul Sarantakos		

**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.

**THANKSGIVING...OUR EURCHARISTIC VOCATION**

Although Thanksgiving is a national holiday, its celebration can certainly be enhanced because it echoes the basic orientation of our Christian faith. As St. Paul so eloquently reminded the bickering Corinthian community, "What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?" (1 Cor 4:7). We might say then that this attitude of gratitude is deeply rooted in our Christian DNA and consequently is naturally expressed in our central defining ritual as Christians—the eucharist, which is the Greek work for Thanksgiving.

Every time we celebrate the eucharist, we remind ourselves that all we have and all we are comes from God. As the priest prays at Mass, "It is truly right and just, our duty and salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father most holy, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ..." So as we celebrate this Thanksgiving day, we not only thank God for the abundance of goods and freedoms we share as citizens, but also for the gift of God's abiding presence in our lives through the risen Jesus and through the power of the Holy Spirit to sanctify our world.

I would like to thank the Parish members for supporting the Annual Turkey Dinner. I would especially like to thank the committee chairpersons for their hard work and dedication this year. Special thanks to all of those people who worked hard and helped make the Turkey Dinner a success again this year. It was a pleasure serving as the Chairman for the past 11 years.

Sincerely,  
Rob Schmitt, Chairman of Turkey Dinner



# The Word From Father Thomas



## THE PARABLE OF TALENTS

The man in the parable represents Jesus, we are the servants, and the talents are the inheritance that the Lord entrusts to us. What is the inheritance? His Word, the Eucharist, faith in the heavenly Father, his forgiveness...in other words, so many things, his most precious treasures. This is the inheritance that he entrusts to us, not only to safeguard but to make fruitful! While in common usage the term "talent" indicates a pronounced individual quality, for example talent in music, in sport, and so on, in the parable, talents represent the riches of the Lord, which he entrusts to us so that we make them bear fruit.

The hole dug into the soil by the wicked and slothful servant (Mt 25:26) points to the fear of risk which blocks creativity and the fruitfulness of love, because the fear of the risks of love stop us. Jesus does not ask us to store his grace in a safe! Jesus does not ask us for this, but he wants us to use it to benefit others. All the goods that we have received are to give to others, and thus they increase, as if he were to tell us: "here is my mercy, my tenderness, my forgiveness: take them and make ample use of them." And what have we done with them? Whom have we "infected" with our faith? How many people have we encouraged with our hope? How much love have we shared with our neighbor? These are questions that will do us good to ask ourselves. Any environment, even the furthest and most impractical, can become a place where our talents can bear fruit. There are no situations or places precluded from the Christian presence and witness. The witness which Jesus asks of us is not closed, but is open, it is in our hands.

This parable urges us not to conceal our faith and our belonging to Christ, not to bury the Word of the Gospel, but to let it circulate in our life, in our relationships, in concrete situations, as a strength which galvanizes, which purifies, which renews. Similarly, the forgiveness, which the Lord grants us particularly in the Sacrament of Reconciliation: let us not keep it closed within ourselves, but let us allow it to emit its power, which brings down the walls that our egoism has raised, which enables us to take the first step in strained relationships, to resume the dialogue where there is no longer communication...And so forth. Allow these talents, these gifts, these presents that the Lord has given us, to be, to grow, to bear fruit for others, with our witness...

Moreover, the Lord does not give the same things to everyone in the same way: He knows us personally and entrusts us with what is right for us; but not everyone, in all, there is something equal: the same, immense trust. God trusts, God has hope in us! And this is the same for everyone. Let us not disappoint him! Let us not be misled by fear, but let us reciprocate trust with trust! The Blessed Virgin Mary embodied this attitude in the fullest and most beautiful way. She received and welcomed the most sublime gift, Jesus himself, and in turn she offered him to mankind with a generous heart. Let us ask her to help us to be good and faithful servants in order to participate in the joy of our Lord

~Pope Francis

## THE ROOTS OF OUR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

The United States celebrates the agricultural harvest and other blessings of our life with an annual fall holiday, which is not only a festive celebration, but a time to recall our responsibilities as stewards as well. George Washington declared the first national day of Thanksgiving in 1789. In 1939 Congress fixed the date of Thanksgiving as the fourth Thursday in November.

Thanksgiving was the first holiday celebrated by the Puritan settlers of Massachusetts. The winter of 1620 had devastated the Puritans' colony with famine and disease. Help from the Native Americans and a good growing season resulted in a generous harvest in 1621, an event the colony celebrated by proclaiming a public day of thanksgiving. The three-day celebration, held after the harvest, combined two aspects of similar celebrations from England and Europe, a harvest festival and a public thanksgiving for a specific occasion of deliverance. Their celebration included common harvest festival traditions such as prayer, fasting and games. Even our contemporary celebration of Thanksgiving includes these traditions, through the games are now more watched rather than played!

*"Over three centuries ago, our forefathers in Virginia and in Massachusetts, far from home in a lonely wilderness, set aside a time of thanksgiving. ON the appointed day, they gave reverent thanks for their safety, for the health of their children, for the fertility of their fields, for the love which bound them together, and for the faith which united them with their God."*

~President John F. Kennedy

Thanksgiving Proclamation, Nov. 5, 1963

## PARISH EVENTS



**Saturday, November 25**

- Food Pantry 8AM-12Noon

**Wednesday, November 29**

- Staff Meeting 6PM
- Parish Council Meeting 7PM

## THANK YOU

A HUGE thank you to Rob Schmitt for the many years as our Turkey Dinner Chairperson! Your commitment and dedication is appreciated by myself and your parish family!



Kathleen Reum (11/20)  
Lori Gale (11/22)  
Tammy Parsons (11/23)  
Jude Killian (11/24)



Richard Huppert (11/26)  
Jim & Donna Ruddy (11/21)  
Mel & Marilyn Fischer (11/24)  
Bruce & Amy Killian (11/24)  
Ron & Eileen Woolums (11/24)

## **Pray for the Sick & Homebound**

Donovan Gaines  
Jeff McGuire  
Linda Ellington  
Greg Delost  
Steve Heavilin  
Dale Enghausen  
Bob Mardis  
Brian Sullivan  
Tony Perkins  
Emma Davis  
Marilyn Fischer



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 19, 2017

**Our daughter and son-in-law graduated from Catholic high schools, but they're not bringing up their children in the Catholic faith....I feel an obligation to the children, but I don't know what to do.**

I understand your concern and sadness, but we must always remember that parents have the primary responsibility for their children's religious education. People such as priests, teachers, grandparents, and godparents can help, but they cannot usurp the role of the parents.

If your daughter is truly alienated from the Church or has truly given up her faith in God, then anything you say or do will probably make her angry. In that case, your best approach is one of kindness to her and her family and regular prayer for her and for them.

Often, however, young parents aren't really alienated from God or the Church but have just drifted away. If they decide they should do something about their children's religious training, they often don't know who to contact. If this seems to be the case with your daughter and her husband, gently inform them that you will be glad to help get the children started. Contact your parish priest (or theirs) for the necessary information. This can be a big help to people who have been away from Catholic practice for a long time.

*Adapted from Understanding Scrupulosity: Questions and Encouragement, by Fr. Thomas Santa, CSSR, © 2017 Liguori Publications*

## Monday

November 20  
Weekday

1 Mc 1:10-15,  
41-43,  
54-57, 62-63  
Lk 18:35-43

## Tuesday

November 21  
*Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

2 Mc 6:18-31  
Lk 19:1-10

## Wednesday

November 22  
*St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr*

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31  
Lk 19:11-28

## Thursday

November 23  
Weekday

1 Mc 2:15-29  
Lk 19:41-44

## Friday

November 24  
*St. Andrew Dűng-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs*

1 Mc 4:36-37,  
52-59  
Lk 19:45-48

## Saturday

November 25  
Weekday

1 Mc 6:1-13  
Lk 20:27-40

## Sunday

November 26  
*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*

Ez 34:11-12,  
15-17  
1 Cor 15:20-26,  
28  
Mt 25:31-46

# Good News!

November 19, 2017

*Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*  
Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6;  
Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15; 19-21

The Gospel today encourages good investments! Jesus heaps praise on the good servants who were faithful in small matters and rewarded with the joy of the master. The servant who gets called wicked and lazy is punished, not because he miscalculated a risk but because he feared his master and took no risk at all. He was frozen by the thought that he could lose everything, so he buries the talent and anxiously awaits the master's return. He is wicked not for investing poorly but for not investing at all.

God has given us all so many talents, and he does so for us to enjoy a grand return on investment (ROI). He wants us to use our talents, work them, develop them, and—at the end of our lives—enjoy showing him the way they have multiplied. Like a loving parent, he knows that much of our happiness is in developing and growing those talents with his grace. Those talents are a sign of his call and an invitation to step out in faith.

Parents, your job is to help your children develop their talents and dreams. A confident, enthusiastic, and risk-taking child is a sign of parents who know the balance of loving discipline, positive motivation, and a healthy distance. Children who feel secure in the love of their parents are willing to venture out and invest their talents, for they know someone will always be there to accompany them and catch them if they fall.

Our loving God is the first to know this and so invites us with this parable to trust, invest, and enjoy the returns.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC