

## 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](mailto:pastor@ololgc.org)

Address:

534 N. Wood St.

Gibson City, IL 60936

## Website

[www.ololgc.org](http://www.ololgc.org)

# September 10, 2017

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## WELCOME BACK RE STUDENTS

And a special thanks to all of the teachers for their time and prep in their classrooms. They look amazing ... what a GODLY atmosphere to learn in (depicted by just one of our classroom bulletin boards at right) !!..It's going to be an awesome Religious Education year!



## The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated every year on **September 14**, recalls three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by [Saint Helena](#), the mother of the emperor [Constantine](#); the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation.

After the death and resurrection of Christ, both the Jewish and Roman authorities in Jerusalem made efforts to obscure the Holy Sepulchre, Christ's tomb in the garden near the site of His crucifixion. The earth had been mounded up over the site, and pagan temples had been built on top of it. The Cross on which Christ had died had been hidden (tradition said) by the Jewish authorities somewhere in the vicinity

According to tradition, first mentioned by Saint Cyril of Jerusalem in 348, Saint Helena, nearing the end of her life, decided under divine inspiration to travel to Jerusalem in 326 to excavate the Holy Sepulchre and attempt to locate the True Cross. A Jew by the name of Judas, aware of the tradition concerning the hiding of the Cross, led those excavating the Holy Sepulchre to the spot in which it was hidden.

Three crosses were found on the spot. According to one tradition, the inscription *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum* ("Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews") remained attached to the True Cross. According to a more common tradition, however, the inscription was missing, and Saint Helena and Saint Macarius, the bishop of Jerusalem, assuming that one was the True Cross and the other two belonged to the thieves crucified alongside Christ, devised an experiment to determine which was the True Cross.

In one version of the latter tradition, the three crosses were taken to a woman who was near death; when she touched the True Cross, she was healed. In another, the body of a dead man was brought to the place where the three crosses were found, and laid upon each cross. The True Cross restored the dead man to life.

### Why Do We Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Cross?

It's easy to understand that the Cross is special because Christ used it as the instrument of our salvation. But after His Resurrection, why would Christians continue to look to the Cross?

Christ Himself offered us the answer: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" ([Luke 9:23](#)). The point of taking up our own cross is not simply self-sacrifice; in doing so, we unite ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ on His Cross.

When we participate in the [Mass](#), the Cross is there, too. The "unbloody sacrifice" offered on the altar is [the re-presentation of Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross](#). When we receive the [Sacrament of Holy Communion](#), we do not simply unite ourselves to Christ; we nail ourselves to the Cross, dying with Christ so that we might rise with Him.

For Christians, however, the Cross is the crossroads of history and the Tree of Life. Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: Only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life.

**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> September 11	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>TUE</b> September 12	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>WED</b> September 13 St. John Chrysostom	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>THU</b> September 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	5:30PM	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>FRI</b> September 15 Our Lady of Sorrows	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>SAT</b> September 16 Sts. Cornelius	5:00PM (OLL)	+Luella Koopman
September 17 Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time	8:00AM (IC) 10:30AM (OLL)	+Mardelle Duffy +Parish Family

**Thank You  
For Your Gifts  
OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$2937.50
Capital Imp.	\$122.00
Food Pantry	\$71.00
September Total	\$71.00
Yr to Date FP	\$2478.61

**Imm Conception**

Sunday Total	\$226.00
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: \$13255  
(Goal: \$13,255)  
IC: \$920  
(Goal: \$913)

**MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry Paul & Sarah Sarantakos
Sat, September 16 5:00PM	Caine & Walter Smith	Marj Brown	Jerry Brown	Stan Alt Frank Titus	2nd Collection next weekend 9/23 & 9/24 for Christ is Our Hope Magazine
Sun, September 17 10:30AM	Cecilia Goodin Brooke Beyers	Denis Fisher	Paul Sarantakos	Brett Beyers Sam Baillie	

The first Friday of the month adoration will follow 8AM Mass. The remaining weeks of every month Adoration will be on the usual Thursday evening following 5:30PM Mass and always Tuesday following 8AM Mass.

**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.

**A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR**



"If telemarketers call, invite them to church."



- Stacey Helmig (9/11)
- Pat Harper (9/12)
- Ben Roesch (9/14)
- Alex Rosenbaum (9/14)
- Jerry Stoltz (9/14)
- Enrique Gonzalez (9/14)
- Noah Roy (9/14)
- Laura Lynch (9/14)
- Nicholas Meunier (9/16)
- Marie Davis (9/17)
- Leo Chapman (9/17)



Brian & Jody Goodin (9/13)  
Roger & Edna Huppert (9/14)

# The Word From Father Thomas

## "WHY ME?"

A beautiful message by Arthur Ashe, the legendary Wimbledon player who was dying of AIDS, which he got due to infected blood he received during heart surgery in 1983.



During his illness, he received letters from his fans, one of which conveyed: "Why did God have to select you for such a bad disease?" To this Arthur Ashe replied: "50 million children started playing tennis, 5 million learned to play tennis, 500,000 learned professional tennis, 50 thousand came to circuit, 5 thousand reached grand slam, 50 reached Wimbledon, 4 reached the finals and when I was holding the cup in my hand, I never asked God: Why Me?"

Happiness...keeps you SWEET! Trials...keep you STRONG! Sorrows...keep you HUMAN!  
Failure...keeps you HUMBLE! Success...keeps you GLOWING! But only Faith..keeps you GOING!

Sometimes you are not satisfied with your life, while many people in this world are dreaming of living your life. A child on a farm sees a plane fly overhead and dreams of flying, while a pilot on the plane sees the farmhouse and dreams of returning home. That is life!

Enjoy yours...if wealth is the secret to happiness, then the rich should be dancing in the streets. But only poor kids do that. If power ensures security, then VIP's should walk unguarded. But those who live simply, sleep soundly. If beauty and fame bring ideal relationships, then celebrities should have the best marriages.

Live simply, be happy! Walk humbly and love genuinely!

WHY ME? A beautiful message not just to read, but to apply practically in our personal life.

## THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Friday, September 15

The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, given to our Blessed Mother focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolours or seven sorrows of Mary, which were foretold by the Priest Simeon who proclaimed to Mary, This child [Jesus] is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare (Luke 2:34-35). These seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother included the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt; the loss and finding of the child Jesus in the Temple; Mary's meeting of Jesus on His way to Calvary; Mary's standing at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified; her holding of Jesus when He was taken down from the cross; and then our Lord's burial. In all, the prophesy of Simeon that a sword would pierce our Blessed Mother's heart was fulfilled in these events. For this reason, Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven swords piercing it. More importantly, each new suffering was received with the courage, love, and trust that echoed her fiat, let it be done unto me according to Thy word, first uttered at the Annunciation



Focusing on the compassion of our Blessed Mother, our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, reminded the faithful, Mary Most Holy goes on being the loving consoler of those touched by the many physical and moral sorrows which afflict and torment humanity. She knows our sorrows and our pains, because she too suffered, from Bethlehem to Calvary. 'And they soul too a sword shall pierce.' Mary is our Spiritual Mother, and the mother always understands her children and consoles them in their troubles. Then, she has that specific mission to love us, received from Jesus on the Cross, to love us only and always, so as to save us! Mary consoles us above all by pointing out the Crucified One and Paradise to us! (1980).

Therefore, as we honor our Blessed Mother, our Lady of Sorrows, we honor her as the faithful disciple and exemplar of faith. Let us pray as we do in the opening prayer of the Mass for this feast day: Father, as your Son was raised on the cross, His Mother Mary stood by Him, sharing His sufferings. May your Church be united with Christ in His suffering and death and so come to share in His rising to new life. Looking to the example of Mary, may we too unite our sufferings to our Lord, facing them with courage, love, and trust.

## PARISH EVENTS



### **Tuesday, September 5**

- CALM between 6:30-7PM

### **Saturday, September 9**

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon

### **Thursday, September 14**

- St. Peregrine Healing Mass 7PM

### **Tuesday, September 19**

- CALM between 6:30-7PM

### **Wednesday, September 20**

- K of C 7PM

### **Saturday, September 23**

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon

### **Wednesday, September 27**

- Staff Meeting 6PM
- Parish Council Meeting 7PM



## Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Donovan Gaines  
Jeff McGuire  
Linda Ellington  
Greg Delost  
Steve Heavilin  
Dale Enghausen  
Bob Mardis  
Ashley Bode  
Brian Sullivan  
Judy Schall  
Erin Aubry  
Tony Perkins



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](mailto:pastor@ololgc.org).

# Dear Padre

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

***I want my children to be merciful and forgiving like Jesus, but I don't want them to be permissive of sin because someone else thinks it's OK. How can I teach this balance?***

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, "Education in the faith by parents should begin in the child's earliest years. This already happens when family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel" (CCC 2226). The balance of advocating the magnitude of God's mercy without diminishing the severity of sin is best taught through witness.

You should hold your children accountable (and vice versa) and explain with loving candor how lax attitudes and actions have consequences. As we are taught in Proverbs 27:5, "Better is an open rebuke than a love that remains hidden."

An intimate relationship with God also helps. It's easier to instill greater compassion in ourselves and in others when we've experienced God's infinite mercy firsthand. Jesus asked the woman caught in adultery, "Has no one condemned you?" She replied, 'No one, sir.' Then Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go, [and] from now on do not sin any more'" (John 8:10-11).

Christ loves the sinner and despises the sin—but he doesn't dwell on the sin. Instead, Jesus rejoices when sinners enter a newfound relationship with his merciful Father, knowing that the experience of God's mercy is the catalyst for ultimate change and lasting conversion, where neither the sinner is condemned nor the sin condoned.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

**Monday**  
SEPTEMBER 11  
*Weekday*  
Col 1:24-2:3  
Lk 6:6-11

**Tuesday**  
SEPTEMBER 12  
*Weekday*  
Col 2:6-15  
Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday**  
SEPTEMBER 13  
*St. John Chrysostom  
Bishop and  
Doctor of the Church*  
Col 3:1-11  
Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday**  
SEPTEMBER 14  
*The Exaltation  
of the Holy Cross*  
Nm 21:4b-9  
Phil 2:6-11  
Jn 3:13-17

**Friday**  
SEPTEMBER 15  
*Our Lady of Sorrows*  
1 Im 1:1-2, 12-17  
Jn 19:25-27  
Lk 2:33-35

**Saturday**  
SEPTEMBER 16  
*Sts. Cornelius  
Pope, and  
Cyprian, Bishop  
Martyrs*  
1 Im 1:15-17  
Lk 6:43-49

**Sunday**  
SEPTEMBER 17  
*Twenty-Fourth  
Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*  
Sir 27:30-28:1  
Rom 14:7-9  
Mt 18:21-35

# Good News!

September 10, 2017

*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*  
Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

Today's readings are about fraternal correction. We are responsible for our brother's good, and God expects us to help him. This means being a good example and holding him or her to a gospel standard. If that means a hard dose of the truth, so be it, as long as that truth is given in love.

Ezekiel was a prophet who knew how to preach fire and brimstone, but he could also be tender and compassionate. He prophesied both about the destruction of Israel and how Yahweh would turn their hearts of stone into flesh. In Michelangelo's fresco on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, the strength of this rugged prophet is evident. That Ezekiel is turned to listen to a cherub says a lot about his humility as well.

God told Ezekiel that if he didn't preach to the wicked, God would hold him responsible for their deaths. However, if he did preach and the wicked still didn't heed him, Ezekiel would be safe. The moral is, when God asks us to preach, take it seriously!

Jesus tells us if our brother sins against us, we should confront him in the presence of two witnesses. He even encourages us to bring the Church in as judge if a dispute between believers isn't resolved. However, this should always be done with love.

As humble Christians, we should accept corrections when they are done correctly. No one likes to be told he or she is wrong, but if we are we should rejoice in the truth, even if it hurts. And we should thank those who love us enough to correct us.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC