

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

JANUARY 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority.

Mark 1:22



Saint Blaise's Story

We know more about the devotion to Saint Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. For decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual Saint Blaise blessing for their throats.

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary *Acts of St. Blaise* were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

The legend has it that as the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. Finally, he was beheaded.

Reflection

Four centuries give ample opportunity for fiction to creep in with fact. Who can be sure how accurate Blaise's biographer was? But biographical details are not essential. Blaise is seen as one more example of the power those have who give themselves entirely to Jesus. As Jesus told his apostles at the Last Supper, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). With faith we can follow the lead of the Church in asking for Blaise's protection.

Pastor
 Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
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 ttheneth@ololgc.org

Deacon
 Paul Sarantakos
 p.sarantakos@hotmail.com

Parish Secretary
 Patti Meunier
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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.

MON January 29 9:00AM NO MASS

TUE January 30 8:00AM NO MASS

WED January 31 8:00AM NO MASS
 St. John Bosco

THU February 1 5:30PM NO MASS

FRI February 2 8:00AM NO MASS
 The Presentation of the Lord

SAT February 3 5:00PM (OLL) +Loretta Bode
 St. Blaise

SUN February 4 8:00AM (IC) +Mardelle Duffy
 10:30AM (OLL) Parish Family
 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**THANK YOU FOR
 YOUR GIFTS
 OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$2450.00
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Capital Imp.	\$
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Food Pantry January Total	\$65.10
Yr to Date FP	\$160.96

Imm Conception

Sunday Total	\$181.00
Capital Imp.	\$

We will welcome
Fr. Dennis Spies
 again next weekend

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry
Sat, February 3 5:00PM	Alex Killian Spencer Kleist	Marj Brown	Jerry Brown	Michael Smith John Carlson	Marj Brown
Sun, February 4 10:30AM	Hannah Hathaway Sophia Ray	Jack Kollross	Paul Sarantakos	Brett Beyers Connor Ray	

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. 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.

Food Pantry Volunteers

Saturday, February 10 from 8:30AM-Noon will be our next scheduled opportunity to supply the labor for the local food pantry.

It is the second Saturday of the month, which means that in addition to needing Saturday workers, there will be deliveries to those individuals who have limitations that prevent them from picking up the food themselves. As a result, a few people will be needed on Friday night (February 9) at 6:30PM to pack the delivery boxes.

Also some vehicles will be needed on Saturday to deliver these supplies to the client residences.

Please feel free to contact Chuck Aubry caubry55@gmail.com with any questions.

NOTE: THE FOOD PANTRY IS NOW LOCATED IN THE OLD ALCO BUILDING (NEXT TO BIG R ON ROUTE 9).

The Word From Father Thomas

REBUKING THE DEVILS WITHIN



But always we persevere, and must persevere, with the same desire for obedience with which we [began]...on that first day. With that same holy fear we must exercise our spirit in continual humble prayer right up to the last day of our life, so that our spirit will never become lazy. We should always be occupied with praying the Psalms or meditating or raising our mind to God, pondering within ourselves the blazing charity we discover and see in the blood of the Word, God's Son. For he has made a bath of his blood to wash away our sins.

When we see and consider that God loves us so much, we cannot keep ourselves from loving. And when we love, our mind thinks about the object of our love. Now we cannot live without love. And since two opposing loves cannot exist together, we must of necessity be stripped of perverse love and clothed in God's. Because our heart cannot but be sensitive to the one we love, we use holy thoughts to drive out the evil thoughts the devil would like to put into our heart. And the devil, finding that our heart is ablaze in the fire of divine charity, doesn't come around much, any more than a fly comes around a boiling cauldron. But if the devil were to find our heart fearful and ukewarm, he would come in right away with all his ugly thoughts and imaginings.

So we must keep active so that we will be found not lukewarm or empty but filled with God in holy desire, remembering and meditating on the wonderful blessings we have received from him.

March for Life hears praise from President Trump

President Donald Trump praised the pro-life movement's support for pregnant women and touted his administration's pro-life policy achievements in his remarks to the March for Life Friday. "You come from many backgrounds, many places, but you all come for one beautiful cause: to build a society where life is celebrated, protected and cherished," he told the March for Life Jan. 19 via video cast. "The March for Life is a movement born out of love."

"You love every child, born and unborn, because you believe that every life is sacred, that every child is a precious gift from God," he told the marchers on the National Mall while speaking before an audience in the White House Rose Garden. "Because of you, tens of thousands of Americans have been born and reached their full God-given potential. Because of you."

Hundreds of thousands of people were in Washington, D.C. to attend this year's March for Life, which is in its 45th year. The theme of this year's march is "Love Saves Lives." The march is held annually on or near the anniversary of the Jan. 22, 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which mandated permissive abortion laws nationwide. The president said he was "honored and really proud" to address the march. While previous presidents addressed the march while in office by phone or remote loudspeaker, organizers said he is the first president to do so via telecast.

Trump said the Roe decision resulted in "some of the most permissive abortion laws anywhere in the world," making the U.S. comparable to countries like China and North Korea in permitting late-term abortions.

"It is wrong, it has to change," he said. "Americans are more and more pro-life."

Trump promised that his administration would always defend the right to life. He touted his re-implementation of the Mexico City Policy, which bars federal funds for groups that perform or promote abortion overseas, and cited his administration's reversal of an Obama-era policy that restricted state's efforts to direct federal dollars away from "facilities that violate the law." He voiced strong support for a House bill to ban late-term abortions in which supporters say the unborn child can feel pain. Trump called on the Senate to "pass this important law."

He also cited his executive order protecting religious liberty and an effort to protect conscience rights and religious freedom of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals.

In a separate Jan. 19 statement, Trump declared that Jan. 22, the anniversary of the Roe decision, will be National Sanctity of Human Life Day, "to affirm the truth that all life is sacred, that every person has inherent dignity and worth, and that no class of people should ever be discarded as 'non-human'."

Vice President Mike Pence, who addressed last year's March for Life in person, introduced Trump in the Rose Garden. He said the Roe Supreme Court decision "turned its back on the right to life" but began the pro-life movement that continues today, a movement defined by "compassion and love."

"Life is winning in America, because love save lives," he told the march. "Your compassion, your persistence your activism and your prayers are saving lives... this pro-life generation should never doubt that we are with you."

"This president stands with you," he said, contending that Trump was "the most pro-life president in American history."



PARISH CALENDAR



Friday, February 2

- Adoration 8AM Mass

Saturday, February 3

- Patriotic Rosary 5PM Mass

Thursday, February 8

- St. Peregrine Healing Mass 5:30PM

Saturday, February 10

- Food Pantry 8AM-12Noon
- OLL WEEKEND**

Wednesday, February 14

- K of C Mtg 7PM

Friday, February 16

- K of C Lenten Fish Fry

Saturday, February 24

- Food Pantry 8AM-12Noon

Sunday, February 25

- YOUTH MASS

Wednesday, February 28

- Staff Meeting 6PM
- Parish Council Meeting 7PM



Mark Doran (1/31)
Paul Volker (2/2)
Spencer Kleist (2/2)
Mark Skinner(2/2)



Mike & Joyce Freehill (4/4)

Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Jeff McGuire
Linda Ellington
Greg Delost
Steve Heavilin
Dale Enghausen
Brian Sullivan
Tony Perkins
Emma Davis
Terry Hutchcraft
Norma Thompson

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.

Dear Padre

JANUARY 28, 2018

Every year, someone with a cold wants to shake my hand at the sign of peace, and sick people drink from the Communion cup. Can't parishes ban the cup and the sign of peace during flu season?

Many people share your concern. As a priest, I am hugged by an entire congregation throughout flu season. If I'm sick, I warn people as they approach, but some people want a hug anyway. For many, community fellowship wins out over prudence.

Of course it would be best if those who are sick don't drink from the cup containing the precious Blood. But even if they do, receiving the precious Blood is more important to me than the slight risk of illness.

However, if it bothers you that much, there's nothing wrong with electing not to receive the precious Blood. And instead of shaking hands and hugging at the sign of peace, try nodding and waving. If people don't understand and push for more, simply say, "Don't want to pass on the flu." That should stop them.

In today's society, far too many things keep us physically apart. I refuse to casually surrender anything that brings us together in love and fellowship except in dire circumstances, and for me, a normal flu season doesn't qualify.

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Monday
January 29
Weekday
2 Sm 15:13-14,
30; 16:5-13
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday
January 30
Weekday
2 Sm 18:9-10,
14b, 24-25a,
30-19:3
Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday
January 31
St. John Bosco,
Priest
2 Sm 24:2, 9-17
Mk 6:1-6

Thursday
February 1
Weekday
1 Kgs 2:1-4,
10-12
Mk 6:7-13

Friday
February 2
Presentation
of the Lord
Mal 3:1-4
Heb 2:14-18
Lk 2:22-40
or 2:22-32

Saturday
February 3
Weekday
1 Kgs 3:4-13
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday
February 4
Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Jb 7:1-4, 6-7
1 Cor 9:16-19,
22-23
Mk 1:29-39

Good News!

January 28, 2018
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Dt 18:15-20, 1 Cor 7:32-35, Mk 1:21-28

Jesus' miracles and preaching were part of what convinced people that he was the Son of God. He spoke like no other and then backed up his words with amazing and wonderful actions. For example, he confronted evil spirits and cast them out. The people were amazed and saw this as evidence of his divinity, because no one had absolute power over evil—except God himself. This is a power the Church continues to practice today through the ministry of healing and exorcism.

Jesus did not want to see people suffer under the power of Satan but rather wanted them to live full and happy lives. "I came that they might have life and have it abundantly," Jesus said in John 10:10. This strong desire of Jesus to heal and save drove him to tirelessly preach and do good. And because of this combination of goodness and power in his person, his fame spread. Yet the message he preached was challenging and demanding. Eventually many preferred to silence that good, powerful, but demanding voice.

Today, like Jesus, the Church still longs for nothing less than humanity's complete health and happiness. Yet, at times, the path to that human progress is not the easiest. Like temperamental children are chided by loving parents to eat health food rather than just what they like, so the good and powerful voice and actions of the Church are challenged.

We find our full flourishing as human beings and as Catholics by embracing Jesus' words and desires for us.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Candlemas Day - Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Candlemas, or Candle-Mass, is a 1,300-year-old Church candlelight ceremony long part of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Jesus that is celebrated on February 2nd. There is evidence that the pagans in Rome used torchlight processions to worship certain gods on the second day of February. In the seventh century, Pope Sergius encouraged the Christian community of Rome to continue the torchlight processions on the same date but to process with candles as part of the Church's feast day. In that era, the feast was known as the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mother, but then, as now, both the purification of Mary and the presentation of Jesus were celebrated during the Mass. During the Candle-Mass procession each participant carries a lighted candle into the church reminiscent of the prophet Simeon carrying the baby Jesus, the Light of the world, in the Temple (see Lk 2:25-33).

Around the 11th century the blessing of the candles became part of this candlelight ceremony. Participants in the procession, and the candles they carry, are blessed. A priest also blesses the candles that are needed in the parish during the forthcoming year such as those used during Mass and during all the Church sacraments that are administered publicly. The blessing of the candles is a special blessing in the manner of ashes and palms. In the Middle Ages, farmers believed (in the manner of our groundhog day) they could forecast the weather based on the conditions of Candlemas Day. A sunny day meant continued winter weather; a cloudy day meant an early spring.

