

Welcome

We are glad you are here with us today.
If you would like to join our Faith Community, please contact our parish office at office@ololgc.org or stop by any time on Monday or after Masses.

Our Lady of Lourdes

Established - 1875

534 N. Wood Street
Gibson City, IL 60936

Parish Office Secretary

Phone & Fax
(217) 784-4671

General Information
office@ololgc.org

Website

www.ololgc.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 11:30 am

Wednesday 8:00 am

Thursday 5:30 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday following Mass

Confession

Saturday 4:30 pm

Wednesday during Adoration

Any time by Appointment

❖ FOR YOUR INFORMATION ❖

St. Mary

407 W. Pells Street
Paxton, IL 60957

Mass Schedule

Sunday 9:30 am

Wednesday 7:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday following 8AM Mass

Confession

Friday following 8AM Mass



St. Joseph

312 N. Hickory Street
Loda, IL 60948

Mass Schedule

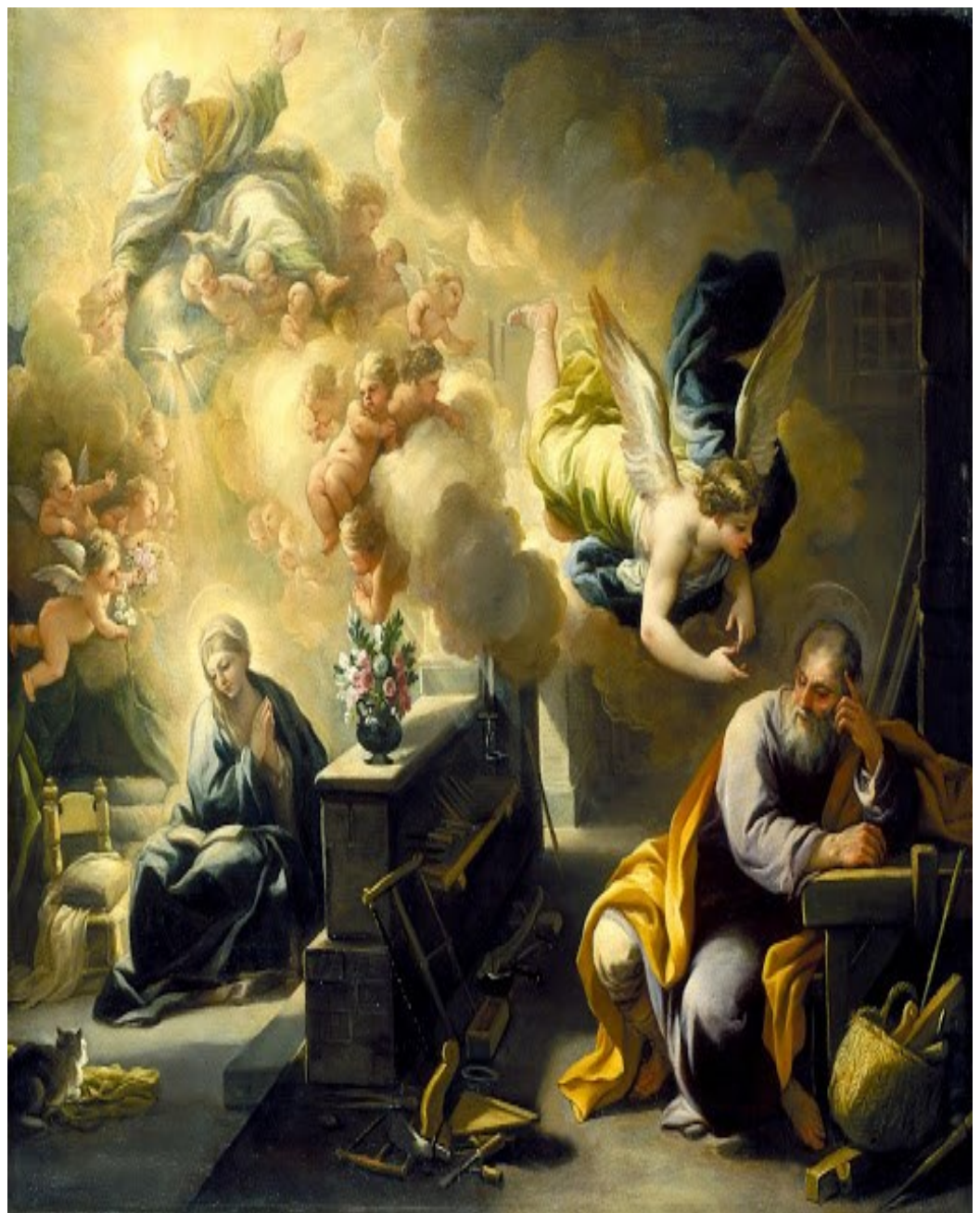
Sunday 8:00 am

Tuesday 5:30 pm

Confession

Sunday 7:30am

DECEMBER 22, 2019
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT



For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

PARISH SECRETARY POSITION AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

Our Lady of Lourdes is in search of someone to IMMEDIATELY step in to the position of PARISH SECRETARY. This is a part time, paid position. Anyone interested can contact Fr. Dong at (217)379-4033.



Pastor

Rev. Dong van Bui
 (217)784-4671 (OLL)
 (217)379-4033(STM)
 dvanbui@ololgc.org
 Emergency (630)456-5406

Deacon

Paul Sarantakos
 psarantakos@parkland.edu

Parish Secretary

office@ololgc.org
 Tannie Smith (309) 893-0073

Bulletin Editor

Carla Moxley (217) 552-9013

Religious Education

Tannie Smith DRE

Youth Ministry

Michael Smith

Music Director

If interested contact
 dvanbui@ololgc.org

Parish Council

President

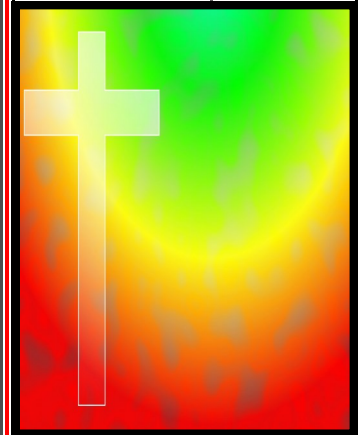
Michael Smith
 (309)530-1803

THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS

MON December 23		No Mass
TUE December 24	4:00 PM (OLL) CHRISTMAS EVE 6:00 PM (STM) 9:00 PM (STJ)	Parish Family
WED December 25	8:00 AM (OLL) CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 AM (STM)	
THU December 26	5:30 PM (OLL) St Stephen, First Martyr	+Donald, Ruby and Marvin Kemmer
FRI December 27	8:00 AM (STM) St John, Apostle 5:30 PM (OLL)	Parish Family
SAT December 28	5:00 PM (OLL) The Holy Innocents	+Mike Freehill
SUN December 29	8:00 AM (STJ) Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 9:30 AM (STM) 11:30 AM (OLL)	Parish Family

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS

Sunday Total	\$1727.50
Capital Imp.	\$10.00
CMAA 2019 (goal: \$12,300)	\$13,368.00
Food Pantry December Total	\$80.00
Yr to Date FP	\$162.50
	\$2462.94



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
TUES December 24 4:00 PM	Walter Smith Spencer Kleist	Marj Brown	Tannie Smith	Jerry Brown Bob Bode	
WED December 25 8:00 AM		Sarah Sarantakos	<i>Needed</i>	Dan Kleist and volunteer	
SAT December 28 5:00PM	Alex Killian	Jack Kollross	Jack Kollross Carla Moxley Rosanne Miller	Jerry Brown Bruce Killian	Paul and Sarah Sarantakos
SUN December 29 11:30AM	Hannah and Haven Hathaway	Maggie Davis		Aiden and Andrew Laughery	

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. Dong at

(217)784-4671
 Emergency (630)456-5406

Marriage/RCIA

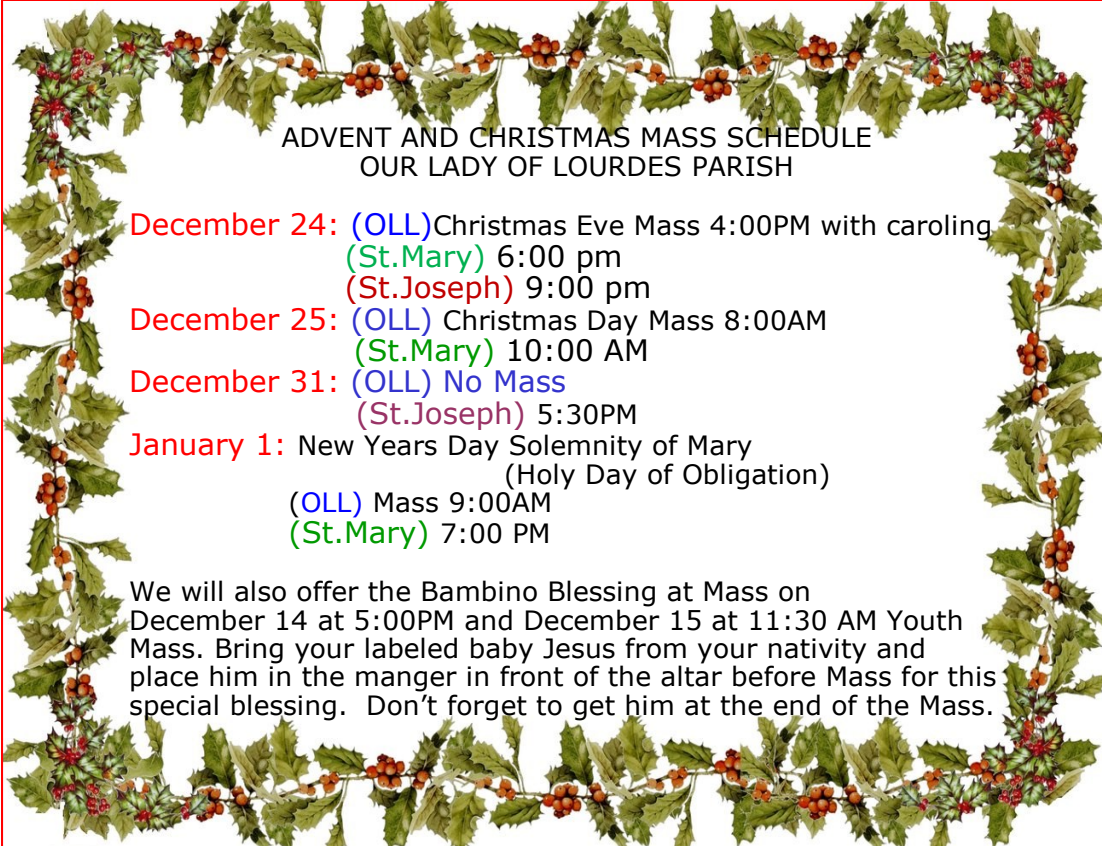
Call the Rectory at least six months before. A six month preparation time is required.

2020 PARISH CALENDARS

Our Parish Calendars are available for 2020. Thank you Day Drainage for providing them for our Parish. Feel free to pick some up after Masses over the next few weekends.

(Mark your calendar)
OPEN HOUSE—Fr. Kirk Hall
 (Open to ALL parish !)
 Come join the RE students for a **Pancake and Sausage Breakfast!**
 Let them show you around their classrooms and see what they have been learning.
January 12th, 2020 at 10:00 am





ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE
OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

- December 24:** (OLL) Christmas Eve Mass 4:00PM with caroling
(St.Mary) 6:00 pm
(St.Joseph) 9:00 pm
- December 25:** (OLL) Christmas Day Mass 8:00AM
(St.Mary) 10:00 AM
- December 31:** (OLL) No Mass
(St.Joseph) 5:30PM
- January 1:** New Years Day Solemnity of Mary
(Holy Day of Obligation)
(OLL) Mass 9:00AM
(St.Mary) 7:00 PM

We will also offer the Bambino Blessing at Mass on December 14 at 5:00PM and December 15 at 11:30 AM Youth Mass. Bring your labeled baby Jesus from your nativity and place him in the manger in front of the altar before Mass for this special blessing. Don't forget to get him at the end of the Mass.

PARISH CALENDAR
December



Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 25
Christmas Day

Saturday, December 28
Food Pantry 8:30 am to noon



- Jane Lange (12/22)
- Therese Davis (12/22)
- Donna Ruddy (12/23)
- Tom McCall (12/25)
- Braden Roesch (12/26)
- Janet Townsend (12/26)
- Joyce Hutchcraft (12/26)



God Bless You All !

2020 COLLECTION ENVELOPES



Please pick up your envelopes at the back of the church. If you have not registered with the parish, or if there are not envelopes in your name and you would like them, please contact the office at (217)784-4671.

Also, please let us know of address, additional children or other contact information changes, by emailing office@ololgc.org

2020 FLOWERS



Please sign up for altar flowers for 2020. The sign up sheet is on the table at the back of the church. Flowers are provided by County Market and are \$30. You may have already signed up for a permanent date--if you wish to make any changes, please note them on the sheet. Christmas and Easter signups are on the back two pages. Many thanks in advance for contributing to keeping our church beautiful week to week!

Listening to Whispers

In spite of their dramatic image with impressive wings and brass horns, angels are quite subtle. You won't hear them sneak up on you. With the exception of Gabriel's announcement to Mary, angels normally won't even eat raw carrots, much less barge in with fanfare. Instead, they prefer working through slight nudges and soft whispers. They tiptoe into places like dreams, the words of strangers, and books or poems that somehow find their way into our hands just when we need them. While we look for mystical signs in the sky, God's messengers surround us with gentle smiles and encouraging words. The difference isn't about who God sends messages to; it's about who is open to receive them.

Daily Practice: As you hear the world around you today, listen and attend with the ear of your heart. What messages of love, hope and mercy are trying to find a way past the noise and into your soul?

Prayer: Lord, give me a heart that hears and a soul that sees. Awaken me to angels singing in the breeze and dancing across my dreams.



A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Mary, O luminous mother,
Holy healing art!
Eve brought sorrow to the soul,
But by your holy Son
By you pour balm on
Death's wounds and travail.
You have indeed conquered death!
You have established life!
Ask for us life.
Ask for us radiant joy.
Ask for us the sweet, delicious ecstasy
That is forever yours.
Amen.

Pray for the Sick & Homebound

- Linda Ellington
- Greg Delost
- Dale Enghausen
- Brian Sullivan
- Emma Davis
- Terry Hutchcraft
- Leo Chapman
- Adam Reed
- Michael Gardner
- Fran Mardis
- Joyce Pearson



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,

Why did early Christians begin celebrating Christmas on December 25th?

Placing Christmas near the winter solstice can be traced to pagan celebrations in Christianity's early years. The celebration of Christmas in December began in Rome as a Christian response to a civil festival honoring the sun god Sol.

The Romans celebrated the sun climbing into the northern skies, signaling the lengthening days after the cold winter nights. On December 25, 274, Aurelian proclaimed the sun god principal patron of the empire. Christmas originated when this sun cult was strongest. Christians wouldn't go to the temple to pay homage to a sun god. They believed in the one true God, and God's only son made human, Jesus Christ.

It's almost as if Christians substituted "son" for "sun" and celebrated the birth of the son of justice into this world. The parallels are uncanny. As the extending sunlight broke night's grip and softened the cold sting on the world, so Jesus' coming broke the long reign of sin and darkness. Jesus was the true son, the light and life of the world, the reason for renewed hope.



Narrow fundamentalists fail to understand that Christmas is more than a birthday celebration of the *day* Christ was born. It's wider in scope, celebrating the reality that Jesus was born human. It's not the *when* but the *what* that we celebrate. So, Jesus' precise birthdate doesn't matter. What matters is that Jesus was truly born human—like us in all things but sin. For this we celebrate.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSSr
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 23
Advent Weekday
Mal 3:1–4, 23–24
Lk 1:57–66

Tuesday

DECEMBER 24
Advent Weekday
Sir 35:1–12
Mk 10:28–31

Wednesday

DECEMBER 25
Christmas
Is 52:7–10
Heb 1:1–6
Jn 1:1–18 or
Jn 1:1–5, 9–14

Thursday

DECEMBER 26
St. Stephen,
First Martyr
Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59
Mt 10:17–22

Friday

DECEMBER 27
St. John,
Apostle and Evangelist
1 Jn 1:1–4
Jn 20:1a and 2–8

Saturday

DECEMBER 28
The Holy Innocents,
Martyrs
1 Jn 1:5–2:2
Mt 2:13–18

Sunday

DECEMBER 29
The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14
Col 3:12–21 or
Col 3:12–17
Mt 2:13–15, 19–23

Good News!

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

Is 7:10–14; Rom 1:1–7; Mt 1:18–24

The Incarnation means that God is one of us. He is made of our flesh and blood; he laughs, sings, and loves people. Though we believe he is God, he is still one of us. We can choose him to be on our team, trusting that he will play to win.

When identifying ourselves, we normally tell others what we do. Societies like the one to which Jesus belonged usually identified themselves by tracing ancestry. As Isaiah tells us today, Jesus belonged to the house of David. Paul says that he was of David “according to the flesh” (Romans 1:3). The Gospel identifies Joseph as a “son of David” (Matthew 1:20). Since Jesus was considered Joseph’s legal son, he also was a “son of David.” Joseph is told that the child will be called Emmanuel, which means “God is with us” (Matthew 1:23). Thus, Incarnation means God is with us in a unique way in this man who is one of us. The Incarnation also gives extraordinary dignity to material creation, of which we are all a part and of which he is a part as well, for he is one of us. In other words, Emmanuel (God with us) is a child of earth.

Like Joseph, we cannot fully comprehend what has happened. We can only stand with him in awe as this wondrous mystery unfolds before us. As we await Christmas, we wait for him to appear. When he comes, we will be amazed to see that he is really one of us.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

We need, then, to open our hearts to the true light, Jesus Christ. He is the light that can illumine life and turn our darkness into light; the light of goodness that conquers evil; the light of the love that overcomes hatred; the light of the life that triumphs over death.

—ADDRESS TO VATICAN CURIA, DECEMBER 21, 2018