

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 after scheduled 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 29, 2019

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



When they had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him."

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 30		No Mass
TUE December 31	8:00 AM (OLL) 7th Day within the Octave of the Nativity Vigil of Mother of God 5:30 PM (STJ)	Parish Family
WED January 1	9:00 AM (OLL) Solemnity of Mary 7:00 PM (STM) (Holy Day of Obligation)	+Bob Mardis
THU January 2	5:30 PM (OLL) St Basil the Great and Gregory Nasianzen	Parish Family
FRI January 3	8:00 AM (STM) Holy Name of Jesus 5:30 PM (OLL)	Parish Family
SAT January 4	5:00 PM (OLL) St.Elizabeth Ann Seton	+Mike Freehill
SUN January 5	8:00 AM (STJ) Epiphany of the Lord 9:30 AM (STM) 11:30 AM (OLL)	Parish Family

**THANK YOU FOR
 YOUR GIFTS**

Sunday Total	\$2497.50
Capital Imp.	\$0.00
CMAA 2019 (goal: \$12,300)	\$13,368.00
Food Pantry December Total Yr to Date FP	\$40.00 \$202.50 \$2502.94



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
WED January 1 9:00 AM	Walter Smith	Fran Mardis	<i>Needed</i>	Michael Smith Caine Jost	
SAT January 4 5:00PM	Alex Killian	Patti Huppert	Rob Kollross Carla Moxley Frank Titus	Jerry Brown Bruce Killian	Lisa Heap
SUN January 5 11:30AM	Isabelle and Sophia Helmig	Jodi Beyers		Craig Davis Dan Kleist	

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 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. **Dates still available for sign-up.** Many thanks for contributing to keeping our church beautiful week to week !!



**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR 2020 COLLECTION 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 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.

NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE
OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

December 31: Vigil of Mary, Mother of God
(St. Joseph) 5:30PM
January 1: New Years Day
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)
(OLL) 9:00AM
(St. Mary) 7:00 PM

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Despite the fact that stores are now selling candy for Valentine's Day, Christmas is not actually over. Christmas does not last only one day, and Christmas is not only a celebration of Christ's birth. Christmas is a season which begins on December 25 and lasts through early January. This Christmas season celebrates several mysteries, the first of which is Jesus' birth. Today we celebrate the second mystery of Christmas, the Holy Family of Nazareth.

The Church calls us to meditate on the Holy Family of Nazareth. In doing so, we realize that, just as celebrating Jesus' birth

helps us reverence how human life is created in the Image of God, so our celebration of the Holy Family helps us reverence the human family as an image of the Church.

For many of us, the past week has presented opportunities to be with members of our families. And no matter what difficulties might exist within our families, time spent together helps us realize one of the facts that is rejected by the world in which we live, but preached as Truth by the Church: the fact that the family is the basis of all social life. The family teaches us "how to be with others", which in turn disposes us to carry out Jesus' second great command: to love our neighbor as oneself.

Those of us who are middle-aged often fall prey to thinking that what we do for others or give to others is what matters most. But those who have many years of life under their belts are like those who have very few years of life: they recognize that time spent with others is of much greater value than things given to others.

Spending time together on a regular basis may not seem to amount to much, but when that foundation is there, the love and care fostered supports them when they end up in a crisis, as all families occasionally do. The Holy Family, still weary from their journey to Bethlehem, and weary from searching through Bethlehem to find suitable lodging, were forced after Christ's birth to flee their country to the foreign land of Egypt out of fear for Jesus' life. This was only the first of many sorrows for the Holy Family that was predicted by Simeon in today's Gospel passage.

The habits of the Holy Family must be the habits of our own families. If we truly care for the members of our family, we are willing to both pray for each other's well-being, and willing to make whatever sacrifices are necessary to keep each other safe from the dangers of the world.

After the great sacrifices made during his infancy, Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth under the care of his foster father, Saint Joseph, and his mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. This life was not spectacular. From the time he was a baby to the time he was thirty years old, we know of only one thing that happened to Jesus: Mary and Joseph finding him in the temple. By and large, the first thirty years of Jesus' life were simple ones in which his mother and foster father made ordinary sacrifices for Jesus' well-being, day after day. The Holy Family prayed together as a devout Jewish family, and they took the steps necessary to care for one another. When Saint Joseph died, Mary and her son carried on alone. Yet no matter what God the Father asked of them, they prayed and acted together according to the Father's Will.

Today God presents the Holy Family as a treasure. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were not only holy themselves: they help us to be holy. We all know that our world is troubled, and that our country is troubled. We don't have to dwell on that. But the cure is right here before us: to strengthen the family, to build up the family, and to improve family life through God, which in turn will build up the life of our community, country, and world.



PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 5
RE Classes start after break

Wednesday, January 8
Knights of Columbus 7:00 PM

Thursday, January 9
Staff Meeting 6:15 PM
Parish Council Meeting 7:00 PM

Saturday, January 11
Food Pantry 8 AM to Noon

Sunday, January 12
K of C Pancake/Sausage Breakfast 10 AM
RE Open House 10-11

Sunday, January 19
Youth Mass

Saturday January 25
Food Pantry 8 am to noon



Sophie Hafer (1/1)
Tannie Smith (1/1)
Steve Killian (1/1)
Mark Andrae (1/1)
Roger Reum (1/3)
Joyce Freehill (1/4)
Brooks Schmitt (1/5)



God Bless You All !

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@ololg.org.

Dear Padre,

I've heard priests tell stories about Jesus' childhood, the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, and St. Anne that aren't in the Bible. Where do these stories come from?

The Bible as we know it—a definitive collection of sacred texts as the word of God—came together in the fourth and fifth centuries. The same God that inspired authors to record his divine word also inspired the books of the Bible to be collected during the first centuries of Christianity. As such, the Bible itself is formed by tradition.

Ancient texts, other than those officially accepted as fulfilling revelation (like Scripture), existed in the Church's early centuries. These are known as noncanonical sources. Many of the stories you hear, especially about the people you mention, come from those sources.

In the Church's infancy, people were eager to hear as much as they could about Jesus and his family. In response, many stories about Jesus' childhood and family members were collected in a variety of written accounts—including the *Protoevangelium*, or gospel of James from the year 145 (not to be confused with the New Testament's Letter of James). Although they weren't included in the canon of the Bible, they became sources

for stories passed from generation to generation that were accepted as a part of our tradition. For example, information about Mary's parents, including their names, Joachim and Anne, were derived from noncanonical texts. These sources may add color and flavor to our faith and devotion. But ultimately, everything we need for salvation is revealed in the Scriptures.

—*The Redemptorists* | Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



NANCY BAUER/ISTOCK

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Every family should look to the icon of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Its daily life had its share of burdens and even nightmares, as when they met with Herod's implacable violence. This last was an experience that, sad to say, continues to afflict the many refugee families who in our day feel rejected and helpless.

—ON LOVE IN THE FAMILY (AMORIS LAETITIA), MARCH 19, 2016



Calendar

Monday
DECEMBER 30
Sixth Day in the
Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:12-17
Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday
DECEMBER 31
Seventh Day in the
Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:18-21
Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday
JANUARY 1
Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God
Nm 6:22-27
Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21

Thursday
JANUARY 2
Sts. Basil the Great and
Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops and Doctors
of the Church
1 Jn 2:22-28
Jn 1:19-28

Friday
JANUARY 3
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 2:29-3:6
Jn 1:29-34

Saturday
JANUARY 4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Religious
1 Jn 3:7-10
Jn 1:35-42

Sunday
JANUARY 5
Epiphany of the Lord
Is 60:1-6
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

Good News!

December 29, 2019

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (A)
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or
Col 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

“Do we have to go to Grandma’s!”

Children aren’t the only ones who sometimes dread the family Christmas gathering. Adults might, too. Why is that? Our family is the cradle that embraced us at birth, nourished us, and helped us grow. At least that’s what it was supposed to be. Perhaps we didn’t come from such a family. Still, when our time comes, it is within our power to form such a family. How are we to do it?

In today’s readings we have two quite different descriptions of family dynamics. The first, from Sirach, focuses on children’s respect for and support of parents. The Gospel passage recounts parents’ protection of a vulnerable child. Together these readings tell us that every family member, regardless of age or position within the family, owes all the other members concern and care. Paul provides a short list of what I like to think of as genuine family values: “heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another” (Colossians 3:12-13). Are such values asking too much of us?

It’s not by accident that we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family during Christmastime. Some think that this is a season for children. It’s actually a season for family, a time when generations—three, sometimes four or five—at least contact each other.

It’s a time for us to decide whether or not Paul’s list of virtues reflects our own family portrait. How authentic are our smiles? How deep are our family values?

—*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*