

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 7 am & 10:30 am
Monday 8 am
Tuesday 8 am
Thursday 6:30 pm
Friday 8 am
Holy Days: 7 am & 7 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 8:30-9:30 am
Thursday 7-8 pm

Confession

Saturday 4:30 pm (OLOL)
Any time by Appointment



Immaculate Conception

202 E. Green Street
Roberts, IL 60962

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:30 am

Confession

Sunday 8:15AM (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

December 14, 2014 Third Sunday of Advent



Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Church



Immaculate Conception
Catholic Mission

December 14

St. John of the Cross



John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: "of the Cross." The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John's life. The Paschal Mystery—through death to life—strongly marks John as reformer, mystic-poet and theologian-priest.

Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at age 25, John met Teresa of Jesus and like her vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. As partner with Teresa and in his own right, John engaged in the work of reform, and came to experience the price of reform: increasing opposition, misunderstanding, persecution, imprisonment. He came to know the cross acutely—to experience the dying of Jesus—as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God!

Yet, the paradox! In this dying of imprisonment John came to life, uttering poetry. In the darkness of the dungeon, John's spirit came into the Light. There are many mystics, many poets; John is unique as mystic-poet, expressing in his prison-cross the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the *Spiritual Canticle*.

But as agony leads to ecstasy, so John had his *Ascent to Mt. Carmel*, as he named it in his prose masterpiece. As man-Christian-Carmelite, he experienced in himself this purifying ascent; as spiritual director, he sensed it in others; as psychologist-theologian, he described and analyzed it in his prose writings. His prose works are outstanding in underscoring the cost of discipleship, the path of union with God: rigorous discipline, abandonment, purification. Uniquely and strongly John underlines the gospel paradox: The cross leads to resurrection, agony to ecstasy, darkness to light, abandonment to possession, denial to self to union with God. If you want to save your life, you must lose it. John is truly "of the Cross." He died at 49—a life short, but full.

John in his life and writings has a crucial word for us today. We tend to be rich, soft, comfortable. We shrink even from words like *self-denial*, *mortification*, *purification*, *asceticism*, *discipline*. We run from the cross. John's message—like the gospel—is loud and clear: *Don't*—if you really want to live!

Pastor

Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
(630)639-0502
TTheneth@ololg.org

Deacon

Jeff Volker

Parish Secretary

Patti Meunier

Religious Education

Alyce Hafer

Youth Ministry

Bruce Killian

Musicians

Michele Fackler
Corey Fields

**Parish Council
President**

Matt Doran (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

MON Dec 15	8:00AM	Dino Grilli
TUE Dec 16	8:00AM	Gerry Gravlin
WED Dec 17	8 :00AM	Ulrich Family Eva Acree Family
THU Dec 18	6:30PM	Roy Acree Family Allen Family
FRI Dec 19	8:00AM	Noble Hutchcraft
SAT Dec 20	5:00PM	Bob Fields
SUN Dec 21	7:00AM(OLOL) 8:30 AM (IC) 10:30 AM (OLOL)	Margaret Bane Family Tim Bane Family Ruth Schwarz Family Darrell Volker

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Envelopes \$1942.50
Loose \$369.00
Capital Imp. \$842.00

Imm. Conception

Total \$240.00

Feel free to pick up a
2015 CALENDAR
from the back table! Thank

CMAA Goals
OLOL: \$15,835
Goal: (\$11,786)
IC: \$1,385
(Goal: \$1,149)

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
Sat, Dec 20 5:00PM	Caine Jost Alex Killian	Stan Alt		Leo Chapman Stan Alt	Mary Wurmnest
Sun, Dec 21 7:00AM	Liam Killian	Kathleen Reum			
Sun, Dec 21 10:30AM	Baillie Killian Brooke Beyers	Ray Hanks	Deacon Jeff	Rob Schmitt Tim Fackler	

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. Baptismal 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 or Deacon Jeff at (217) 781-8238.

Marriage

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

FAMILY MASS INTENTIONS

As a reminder, we are choosing two families daily and praying for the members of those families during the Mass. We always pray for our parish family at every Mass, however, thought this would be a nice addition to parish traditions. If there is a specific day or any special intention that you have in mind, please feel free to email Patti at pastor@ololg.org or call the office on Mondays at (217)784-4671.

If for some reason Mass is canceled for a given day, those families will be moved to the following week!

The 2015 Offertory envelopes are available to pick up in the back of the church.

If you have not registered with the parish, please contact the office. (217)784-4671

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday, December 15

Blessed Mary Frances Schervier

Tuesday, December 16

Blessed Honoratus Kozminski

Wednesday, December 17

St. Hildegard of Blingen

Thursday, December 18

Blessed Anthony Grassi

Friday, December 19

Blessed Pope Urban V

Saturday, December 20

St. Dominic of Silos

Sunday, December 21

St. Peter Canisius



BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS BAMBINO

Saint John Paul II once said that the Christmas Nativity Scene is THE main decoration of the Christmas Season. It should be at the center of our holiday traditions. Before his death, Saint John Paul II reminded Catholics to maintain, promote, and learn to love the Nativity Scene as a cherished part of our Christmas observance.

Next weekend, December 20/21, is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We will hold the Blessing of the Christmas Bambinos at all Masses Saturday evening and on Sunday.

Bring the "Baby Jesus" from your home Nativity set. CLEARLY LABEL the figure with a secure tag. When you come to Mass, before Mass begins, put the figure the designated spot in front of the Ambo in the sanctuary. Father will bless the "Bambinos" during the Mass following the Homily. You can pick them up after the mass.

We hope to make this part of our annual Christmas Tradition!!

THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT-December 14, 2014

The Lighting of the Third Candle: The pink candle of JOY

The angels send a message of JOY! This pink candle symbolizes JOY at the soon Advent of the Christ. It marks a shift from the more solemn tone of the first two Sundays of Advent that focus on hope and preparation, to a more joyous atmosphere of anticipation and expectancy. We light this candle because, like God's people centuries ago, we know that God has come in Christ and that Christ will come again. We rejoice in God's work in history and in the future.



During the Advent Season, as we make our spiritual preparation for the birth of Christ, in addition to the regular schedule, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available as follows:

- Any time during Adoration hours
Tuesday mornings from 8:30AM-9:30AM
Thursday evenings from 7PM-8PM.
- After morning Masses Monday and Friday
 - Any time by appointment

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

(ALSO FOUND ON THE BACK OF YOUR CHRISTMAS CARD)

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

4:00PM OUR LADY OF LOURDES
6:00PM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
10:00PM OUR LADY OF LOURDES

NEW YEARS EVE MASS

4:00PM OUR LADY OF LOURDES

NEW YEARS DAY MASS

10:30AM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

9:00AM OUR LADY OF LOURDES

**ACT Theatre Company proudly presents
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, THE RADIO PLAY**

**Friday, December 12 at 7pm
Saturday, December 13 at 4pm and 7pm**

All shows will be performed at Father Kirk Hall

For more information, or to reserve tickets, please call 217-41-3000

4PM matinee parking is located on the street or south of the side drive ONLY as the remaining parking is needed for 5PM Mass.

PARISH EVENTS

December

Wed, December 17

- **Parish Council Mtg
7PM**



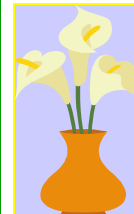
Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Tony Coons
Mary Cothorn
Jesse Cervelli
Vicky Stuckey
Dick Walter
Doris Benter
Penny Campbell
Loretta Bode
Rita Benefiel
Chuck Kemmer
Vivian Geurts
Mardella Duffy
Joanne Baker
Don Hahn
Dennis Stack

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.



**Chuck Aubry (12/15)
Mary Fairfield (12/15)
Bill Hartford (12/20)**



Sign up sheet for altar flowers for 2015 will be in 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.

dear Padre

December 14, 2014

What is las posadas?

I recently moved to a parish that includes a large Mexican community that's known for their annual *posadas* event. What is that?

Las posadas, a nine-day novena preparation for the celebration of Christmas, begins December 16 and ends Christmas Eve.

Posada is Spanish for "inn." The ceremony remembers Mary and Joseph's trip to Bethlehem and their difficulty finding a place to stay. *Posadas* are celebrated in many different ways, but the traditional celebration involves a group of people, the "pilgrims," going to several houses, knocking on the door, and asking for *posada*. The pilgrims sing the part of Joseph as he explains their situation and asks for a place to stay. The people inside sing back that they have no room and that the pilgrims should just move on.

On the last night, the people in the last house recognize that Mary is the Queen of Heaven and that the child she carries is the Savior of the World. They invite the pilgrims inside and hold a prayer service that may include a Scripture reading or the rosary. The celebration ends with food and singing.

This tradition is more than a folksy reenactment of Joseph and Mary's search for lodging—it's a solemn dramatization by women and men who believe God searches with them, a touching ceremony that can help Christians today see the real needs of those who live without the security of a home, health insurance, or a steady job.

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSsR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

© 2014 LIGUORI PUBLICATIONS, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in U.S.A. Imprimatur: "In accordance with c. 827, permission to publish has been granted on May 1, 2014, by the Most Reverend Edward M. Rice, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-325-9521.

Monday

December 15
Advent Weekday
Nm 24:2-7,
15-17a
Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

December 16
Advent Weekday
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday

December 17
Advent Weekday
Gn 49:2, 8-10
Mt 1:1-17

Thursday

December 18
Advent Weekday
Jer 23:5-8
Mt 1:18-25

Friday

December 19
Advent Weekday
Jgs 13:2-7,
24-25a
Lk 1:5-25

Saturday

December 20
Advent Weekday
Is 7:10-14
Lk 1:26-38

Sunday

December 21
*Fourth Sunday
of Advent*
2 Sm 7:1-5,
8b-12, 14a, 16
Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

Good News!

December 14, 2014

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 / 1 Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8,
19-28

Today is Gaudete (GOW duh tay) Sunday. The name comes from the Latin word that begins the introit (opening antiphon) of the day's liturgy. It means, simply, "rejoice."

When I think about the many times I've rejoiced, I'm usually very moved. When I graduated college and graduate school, when my husband and I married, when our daughters were born and when they married—all of these were periods of great rejoicing marked by parties, congratulations, and the sweet feeling that something wonderful had taken place and that our lives were richer for it.

This third Sunday of Advent is our liturgical reminder that we have much to rejoice about. God didn't become incarnate just for the people who lived a long time ago. The Word became flesh in Jesus Christ for all of us living today and for all the generations to come. He came for sinners and saints and for those who haven't yet had an opportunity to know him.

Why do we rejoice? Because what Scripture said is true: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Something wonderful *has* taken place for everyone, and we join St. Paul, the prophet Isaiah, the psalmist, and John in proclaiming our joy.

It's a good day to look up from what we're doing and rejoice at the great gift of faith we've been given, even while we continue our own prayer and preparation.

Mary Katharine Deeley
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

© 2014 LIGUORI PUBLICATIONS, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in U.S.A. Imprimatur: "In accordance with c. 827, permission to publish has been granted on October 21, 2013, by the Most Reverend Edward M. Rice, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-325-9521.