

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

January 11, 2015

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The last major feast of the Christmas Season, in fact - the last day of the Christmas Season - is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

The baptism of Jesus is a significant event. Mark's Gospel, the earliest Gospel written, begins with the preaching of John the Baptist and the Baptism of Jesus. In all three synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke), at the baptism of Jesus the spirit of God descends like a dove upon Jesus and a voice from heaven pronounces Jesus to be his beloved Son. In these three Gospels, it is immediately following Jesus' baptism that he is tempted by Satan, and it is immediately after this temptation that Jesus begins his public ministry.

The icon (picture below) of the Baptism of Christ tells an interesting story. Notice that Christ is in the center of the icon. Everything revolves around him. He is standing in the Jordan River, his right hand extended in blessing. He is wearing a white loin cloth, his baptismal garment.

Notice the motion of the water. Psalm 114:3 refers to the sea beholding and fleeing and the Jordan turning back. Water is life-giving, but the swirling, murky waters also are frightening and hold death. Christ descends into the waters conquering the evil lurking there.

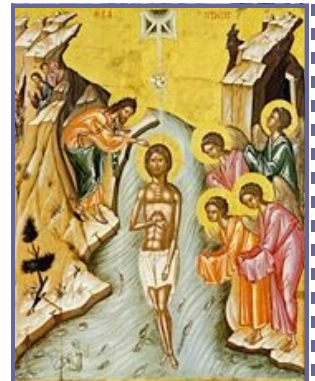
Below John the Baptist there is a tree, and beneath the tree there is an axe. This is a reference to John's preaching. (See Matthew 3:10.)

The icon is also very Trinitarian. Above Christ's head you can see the Holy Spirit in the form of the dove, and above that at the top of the icon, the opening in the heavens where God descends. And note that from that opening there are three rays of light - three for the Trinity.

In the icon, the mountains are singing the praises of God. May we do the same!

We are baptized with water. Either we are immersed in the water, or it is poured over us. We recall our baptism with the sprinkling of water, and by blessing ourselves with holy water. As you celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord today, make sure to have a bowl of holy water as the centerpiece of your dinner table. Invite all the baptized sitting at the table to bless themselves with this holy water as part of your meal prayer. Sing Christmas carols for the last time this Christmas Season!

Yes, baptism is a significant event! Not just for Jesus, but for each one of us. It is in baptism that we die and rise with Christ. It is in baptism that we enter the Church, the Body of Christ. It is in baptism that we become children of God. It is in baptism that we are anointed priest, prophet and king. So as we come to the conclusion of this Christmas Season, let us celebrate not only Jesus' baptism, but our own. And let us continue to remember and celebrate our baptism each and every day as we follow Jesus this new year.



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 \$10.

MON Jan 12		NO MASS
TUE Jan 13		NO MASS
WED Jan 14		NO MASS
THU Jan 15		NO MASS
FRI Jan 16		NO MASS
SAT Jan 17		Mildred Sunderland
SUN Jan 18	7:00AM OLOL) 8:30 AM (IC) 10:30 AM (OLOL)	For all Parishioners For all Parishioners For all Parishioners

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Envelopes \$2792.50
Loose \$323.00
Capital Imp. \$263.00

Imm. Conceptio

Total \$225.00

**WELCOME BACK
FR. CHARLIE
WHEELER!**

CMAA Goals
OLOL: \$16,348
Goal: (\$11,786)
IC: \$1,430
(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, Jan 17 5:00PM	Andrew & Aidan Laughery	Marj Brown	Lisa Heap		Paul & Sarah Sarantakos
Sun, Jan 18 7:00AM	Liam Killian	Kathleen Reum			
Sun, Jan 18 10:39AM	Hannah & Haven Hathaway	Sarah Sarantakos			

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.



Terry & Joyce Hutchcraft (1/12)
Steve & Lucy Shilts (1/18)
Gerald & Georgia Lynch (1/18)



Isabel Eichelberger (1/12)
Nora McCall (1/18)



*Our Condolences to
the family of*

Rita Benefiel

Our prayers are with
you at this difficult
time.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday, January 12
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys
Tuesday, January 13
St. Hilary
Wednesday, January 14
St. Gregory Nazianzen
Thursday, January 15
St. Paul the Hermit
Friday, January 16
St. Berard & Companions
Saturday, January 17
St. Anthony of Egypt
Sunday, January 18
St. Charles of Sezze



GIBSON AREA FOOD PANTRY PARISH PROJECT

Hopefully everyone has had the opportunity to read about the proposal to make a parish commitment to the newly established Gibson Area Food Pantry. I ask if everyone could respond with their thoughts, and a YES or NO to a commitment to this project to the parish email pastor@ololg.org or to Jeff Volker over the next week. As the Food Pantry plans to kick off in February,



we



would like to have our parish plans organized this month and without a parish commitment, this will not be possible. As always, I thank everyone for their thoughts and ongoing generosity to our parish and community. Together we make a BIG difference in the lives of many in our community. **Thank you to those that have already responded!**

From the RE Desk

THANK YOU TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOR TREATING THE RE CHILDREN AND TEACHERS TO A WONDEFUL PANCAKE BREAKFAST. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS AND ALL THAT YOU DO!!

It is that time of year again and we are at the mercy of Mother Nature. Much like our local schools we may have to cancel classes due to the weather. As a reminder, cancellations for Religious Education classes are announced on WGCY 106.3. We will also post cancellations on channel 3 WCIA. The posting will also be on the weather board of the Illinois Home page: <http://www.illinoishomepage.net/closings>.

Thank you,
Alyce

January 14

St. Gregory Nazianzen



After his baptism at 30, Gregory gladly accepted his friend Basil's invitation to join him in a newly founded monastery. The solitude was broken when Gregory's father, a bishop, needed help in his diocese and estate. It seems that Gregory was ordained a priest practically by force, and only reluctantly accepted the responsibility. He skillfully avoided a schism that threatened when his own father made compromises with Arianism. At 41, Gregory was chosen suffragan bishop of Caesarea and at once came into conflict with Valens, the emperor, who supported the Arians. An unfortunate by-product of the battle was the cooling of the friendship of two saints.

Basil, his archbishop, sent him to a miserable and unhealthy town on the border of unjustly created divisions in his diocese. Basil reproached Gregory for not going to his see.

When protection for Arianism ended with the death of Valens, Gregory was called to rebuild the faith in the great see of Constantinople, which had been under Arian teachers for three decades. Retiring and sensitive, he dreaded being drawn into the whirlpool of corruption and violence. He first stayed at a friend's home, which became the only orthodox church in the city. In such surroundings, he began giving the great sermons on the Trinity for which he is famous. In time, Gregory did rebuild the faith in the city, but at the cost of great suffering, slander, insults and even personal violence. An interloper even tried to take over his bishopric.

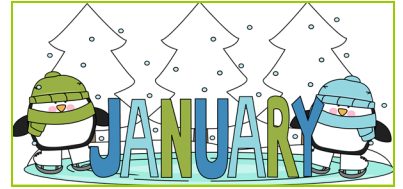
His last days were spent in solitude and austerity. He wrote religious poetry, some of it autobiographical, of great depth and beauty. He was acclaimed simply as "the Theologian."

It may be small comfort, but post-Vatican II turmoil in the Church is a mild storm compared to the devastation caused by the Arian heresy, a trauma the Church has never forgotten. Christ did not promise the kind of peace we would love to have—no problems, no opposition, no pain. In one way or another, holiness is always the way of the cross.

Quote:

"God accepts our desires as though they were a great value. He longs ardently for us to desire and love him. He accepts our petitions for benefits as though we were doing him a favor. His joy in giving is greater than ours in receiving. So let us not be apathetic in our asking, nor set too narrow bounds to our requests; nor ask for frivolous things unworthy of God's greatness."

PARISH EVENTS



Wed, January 14

- **K of C Meeting 7PM**

Wed, January 28

- **Parish Council Meeting 7PM**

Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Tony Coons
Mary Cothorn
Jesse Cervelli
Vicky Stuckey
Dick Walter
Doris Benter
Penny Campbell
Loretta Bode
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@ololg.org.

 **Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services**
GIBSON GETS IT

BRAIN HEALTH SERIES

Start the year off right by learning what you can do to keep your brain healthy and strong!

Seminars will be on **Wednesdays** the entire month of January from **10-11:30 AM** at **Moyer District Library**. Join us for the second seminar on January 14th for **FIT WITS** with Chelsey Byers. This workshop will cover the importance of keeping an aging brain healthy and engaged.

dear Padre

January 11, 2015

Is baptism by immersion better?

Why do some churches baptize by pouring water on the forehead and others by immersion? Is one way better than the other?

In terms of what baptism means and accomplishes—escape from sin and death into the life of the Risen Jesus—immersion is no better than pouring. But in the dramatic power of the symbol of the water, immersion is better.

The power of the sacrament of baptism lies not in the method of bringing the water into play, but from the direction given to the pouring or the immersion by the words of Jesus, who commanded us to baptize “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).

St. Paul said, “Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life” (Romans 6:3–4). Down into the death of Jesus, and up again into a new life.

Even on the level of symbol and drama, a trickle of water is still water. It still means and symbolizes life, as in drinking and cooling. It also symbolizes death, as in a hurricane or a drowning.

This union of words and water in the Church makes this action the sacrament of baptism.

FR. JOHN HAMROGUE, CSsR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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Monday

January 12
Weekday
Heb 1:1–6
Mk 1:14–20

Tuesday

January 13
Weekday
Heb 2:5–12
Mk 1:21–28

Wednesday

January 14
Weekday
Heb 2:14–18
Mk 1:29–39

Thursday

January 15
Weekday
Heb 3:7–14
Mk 1:40–45

Friday

January 16
Weekday
Heb 4:1–5, 11
Mk 2:1–12

Saturday

January 17
St. Anthony,
Abbot
Heb 4:12–16
Mk 2:13–17

Sunday

January 18
Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time
1 Sm 3:3b–10, 19
1 Cor 6:13c–15a,
17–20
Jn 1:35–42

Good News!

January 11, 2015

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Is 42:1–4, 6–7 or Is 55:1–11 / Acts 10:34–38 or
1 Jn 5:1–9 / Mk 1:7–11

A lay-minister acquaintance of mine keeps a framed copy of his baptismal certificate on his office wall. He says, “My diplomas show that I’ve learned a lot of things about theology, liturgy, and Scripture. That’s great, but my experience of Christ and my call to ministry come out of my baptism, and I need to remind myself of that every now and then.”

I was intrigued by his words. Baptism is the initiation into a community whose sole purpose is to worship and serve the Lord using the gifts God has given us. Most of us were baptized as infants, and we rarely take the time to reflect on what we’re called to do by God.

In baptism, we’re given the grace to live a transformed life following the commandments to love God and neighbor. How many times have we fallen short and needed to reconcile with God?

Mark’s story of Jesus’ baptism is a scant four verses. Jesus is baptized and hears God tell him, “You are my beloved Son.” After that, Jesus prevails against temptation and sets about his own mission without looking back. Our baptism gives us the grace to do the same, whatever mission we are called to.

Two good spiritual exercises for this week would be to ask God whether we’re doing what he has asked of us and to reflect on the ways in which our lives have brought us closer to God or taken us away from him.

Then it’s up to us to continue to serve God in the grace of baptism and in the company of the people who share this faith with us.

Mary Katharine Deeley
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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