

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 4, 2015 The Epiphany of the Lord



The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the oldest Christian feasts, though, throughout the centuries, it has celebrated a variety of things. *Epiphany* comes from a Greek verb meaning "to reveal," and all of the various events celebrated by the Feast of the Epiphany are revelations of Christ to man.

Like many of the most ancient Christian feasts, Epiphany was first celebrated in the East, where it has been held from the beginning almost universally on January 6. Today, among both Eastern Catholics and Eastern Orthodox, the feast is known as Theophany—the revelation of God to man.

Epiphany originally celebrated four different events, in the following order of importance: the Baptism of the Lord; Christ's first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana; the Nativity of Christ; and the visitation of the Wise Men or Magi. Each of these is a revelation of God to man: At Christ's Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God the Father is heard, declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals Christ's divinity; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds, representing the people of Israel, bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ's divinity is revealed to the Gentiles—the other nations of the earth.

Eventually, the celebration of the Nativity was separated out, in the West, into Christmas; and shortly thereafter, Western Christians adopted the Eastern feast of the Epiphany, still celebrating the Baptism, the first miracle, and the visit from the Wise Men. Thus, Epiphany came to mark the end of Christmastide—the Twelve Days of Christmas, which began with the revelation of Christ to Israel in His Birth and ended with the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles at Epiphany.

Over the centuries, the various celebrations were further separated in the West, and now the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6, and the wedding at Cana is commemorated on the Sunday after the Baptism of the Lord.

In many parts of Europe, the celebration of Epiphany is at least as important as the celebration of Christmas. In Italy and other Mediterranean countries, Christians exchange gifts on Epiphany—the day on which the Wise Men brought their gifts to the Christ Child—while in Northern Europe, it's not unusual to give gifts on both Christmas and Epiphany (often with smaller gifts on each of the twelve days of Christmas in between).

Prayer for the feast of the Epiphany of our Lord

"O God, Who by the guidance of a star didst this day reveal Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we, who know Thee now by faith, may be so led as to behold with our eyes the beauty of Thy majesty. Through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen."

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 5		NO MASS
TUE Jan 6		NO MASS
WED Jan 7		NO MASS
THU Jan 8		NO MASS
FRI Jan 9		NO MASS
SAT Jan 10		Gerry Gravlin
SUN Jan 11	7:00AM OLOL) 8:30 AM (IC) 10:30 AM (OLOL)	For all Parishioners For all Parishioners Lyla Hutchcraft

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Envelopes \$1942.50
Loose \$491.00
Capital Imp. \$65.00
Christmas \$3510.05

Imm. Conception

Total \$150.00
Christmas \$631.00

The Knights of Columbus will be having a second collection next weekend 1/10-1/11 for the new Gibson area Food Pantry. Please make checks payable to Knights of Columbus.

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 10 5:00PM	Giles Volker Joe Allen	Lisa Heap	Deacon Jeff		Denis & Cherry Fisher
Sun, Jan 11 7:00AM	Jessica Freehill	Andrew Killian			
Sun, Jan 11 10:39AM	Braden Roesch Alex Killian	YOUTH MASS			

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.



Chuck & Jeanne Weber 1/5
Brett & Jodi Beyers 1/8



Brooks Schmitt 1/5
Haven Hathaway 1/6
Dan Kleist 1/10



*Our Condolences to
the family of*

Dr. Sunderland
On the death of his
wife Mildred.
Our prayers are with
you at this difficult
time.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday, January 5
St. John Neumann
Tuesday, January 6
St. Andre Bessette
Wednesday, January 7
St. Raymond of Penafort
Thursday, January 8
St. Angela of Folligno
Friday, January 9
St. Adrian of Canterbury
Saturday, January 10
St. Gregory of Nyssa
Sunday, January 11
Blessed William Carter

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@ololgc.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.

From the RE Desk

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

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 first seminar on January 7th for **BUILDING A BETTER MEMORY** with Chelsey Byers. This workshop will cover how researchers are examining the memory process, how memory changes as people age, and some techniques and strategies for improving memory.



January 5

St. John Neumann

Perhaps because the United States got a later start in the history of the world, it has relatively few canonized saints, but their number is increasing.

John Neumann was born in what is now the Czech Republic. After studying in Prague, he came to New York at 25 and was ordained a priest. He did missionary work in New York until he was 29, when he joined the Redemptorists and became its first member to profess vows in the United States. He continued missionary work in Maryland, Virginia and Ohio, where he became popular with the Germans.

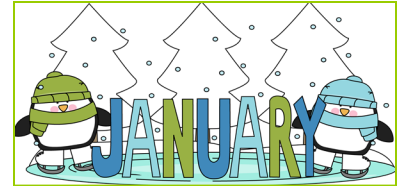
At 41, as bishop of Philadelphia, he organized the parochial school system into a diocesan one, increasing the number of pupils almost twentyfold within a short time.

Gifted with outstanding organizing ability, he drew into the city many teaching communities of sisters and the Christian Brothers. During his brief assignment as vice provincial for the Redemptorists, he placed them in the forefront of the parochial movement.

Well-known for his holiness and learning, spiritual writing and preaching, on October 13, 1963, John Neumann became the first American bishop to be beatified. Canonized in 1977, he is buried in St. Peter the Apostle Church in Philadelphia.

Neumann took seriously our Lord's words, "Go and teach all nations." From Christ he received his instructions and the power to carry them out. For Christ does not give a mission without supplying the means to accomplish it. The Father's gift in Christ to John Neumann was his exceptional organizing ability, which he used to spread the Good News.

PARISH EVENTS



Sun. January 11

- **CCD Pancake Breakfast**

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
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.



Our Condolences to the family of

Lloyd & Shirley Spellmeyer
On the death of their daughter
Catherine.

Our prayers are with you at this
difficult time.

dear Padre

January 4, 2015

Why don't we celebrate the Epiphany on January 6?

When did we stop celebrating the Epiphany on January 6 and start moving it to a Sunday? Did that change affect the length of the octave of Christmas?

The Code of Canon Law says that Sundays are to be "observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church" (1246). That canon also allows national conferences of bishops to "abolish certain holy days of obligation or transfer them to a Sunday."

In November 1983, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the transfer of the Solemnity of the Epiphany (January 6) to the first Sunday after January 1. The transfer was reviewed by the Holy See (Vatican) and promulgated in March 1984.

Liturgical celebrations are categorized as solemnities, feasts, and memorials according to their importance. The two greatest solemnities, Easter and Christmas, continue for an octave (eight days).

Since the octave of Christmas runs from December 25 through January 1 (the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God), it's not affected by the transfer of the Epiphany celebration.

Liturgically, the days after January 1 through the Baptism of the Lord are part of the season of Christmas even though they're not part of the octave of Christmas.

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSsR
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Monday

January 5
St. John Neumann, Bishop
1 Jn 3:22—4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19—5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

Sunday

January 11
Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or
55:1-11
Acts 10:34-38 or
1 Jn 5:1-9
Mk 1:7-11

Good News!

January 4, 2015

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12

Mary Chapin Carpenter's wonderful Christmas carol "Come Darkness, Come Light" calls all people, regardless of their situation or where they are in their faith, to come see the Christ Child. All are welcome to see that love has come to earth and to bring whatever they have to the Child who waits for them in a manger.

Whenever I hear this song, I'm moved to tears by its simplicity. For reasons of which I'm not entirely sure, I'm reminded of the beginning section of John's Gospel, which lays out so beautifully the coming of Christ to earth. "Through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race," John narrates; later he tells us, "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."

What is our response? Do we come as the song invites us? Do we hold back, afraid that it's too late for us? Do we listen to the siren songs of other gods, who whisper that they have the key to our happiness?

Today's readings are an invitation to know ourselves as children of God, to know the hope of his call to us, and to know that this light cannot be overcome by any darkness the world has to offer.

The rush of the holidays is behind us, and a new year has begun. We have a little breathing space. In our liturgical calendar, though, the Christmas season is still with us.

There is still time to come, by whatever means we're able, and give our lives over to Christ.

Mary Katharine Deeley
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