

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

March 22, 2015 Fifth Sunday of Lent



During the Lenten season, we will offer
Stations of the Cross
on Friday
evenings at 7PM
Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

March 25

Annunciation of the Lord

The feast of the Annunciation, now recognized as a solemnity, was first celebrated in the fourth or fifth century. Its central focus is the Incarnation: God has become one of us. From all eternity God had decided that the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity should become human. Now, as Luke 1:26-38 tells us, the decision is being realized. The God-Man embraces all humanity, indeed all creation, to bring it to God in one great act of love. Because human beings have rejected God, Jesus will accept a life of suffering and an agonizing death: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

Mary has an important role to play in God's plan. From all eternity God destined her to be the mother of Jesus and closely related to him in the creation and redemption of the world. We could say that God's decrees of creation and redemption are joined in the decree of Incarnation. Because Mary is God's instrument in the Incarnation, she has a role to play with Jesus in creation and redemption. It is a God-given role. It is God's grace from beginning to end. Mary becomes the eminent figure she is only by God's grace. She is the empty space where God could act. Everything she is she owes to the Trinity.

She is the virgin-mother who fulfills Isaiah 7:14 in a way that Isaiah could not have imagined. She is united with her son in carrying out the will of God (Psalm 40:8-9; Hebrews 10:7-9; Luke 1:38).

Together with Jesus, the privileged and graced Mary is the link between heaven and earth. She is the human being who best, after Jesus, exemplifies the possibilities of human existence. She received into her lowliness the infinite love of God. She shows how an ordinary human being can reflect God in the ordinary circumstances of life. She exemplifies what the Church and every member of the Church is meant to become. She is the ultimate product of the creative and redemptive power of God. She manifests what the Incarnation is meant to accomplish for all of us.

Comment:

Sometimes spiritual writers are accused of putting Mary on a pedestal and thereby discouraging ordinary humans from imitating her. Perhaps such an observation is misguided. God did put Mary on a pedestal and has put all human beings on a pedestal. We have scarcely begun to realize the magnificence of divine grace, the wonder of God's freely given love. The marvel of Mary—even in the midst of her very ordinary life—is God's shout to us to wake up to the marvelous creatures that we all are by divine design.

Quote:

"Enriched from the first instant of her conception with the splendor of an entirely unique holiness, the virgin of Nazareth is hailed by the heralding angel, by divine command, as 'full of grace' (cf. Luke 1:28). To the heavenly messenger she replies: 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word' (Luke 1:38). Thus the daughter of Adam, Mary, consenting to the word of God, became the Mother of Jesus. Committing herself wholeheartedly and impeded by no sin to God's saving will, she devoted herself totally, as a handmaid of the Lord, to the person and work of her Son, under and with him, serving the mystery of redemption, by the grace of Almighty God" (Vatican II, *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, 56)

Pastor
Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
(630)639-0502
theneth52@gmail.com

Parish Secretary
Patti Meunier

Religious Education
Alyce Hafer

Youth Ministry
Bruce Killian

Music Director
Michele Fackler

**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 March 23	8:00AM	Steve Killian Family Andrew Killian Family
TUE March 24	8:00AM	Kutemeier Family Larkin Family
WED March 25	8:00AM	Laughery Family Leonard Family
THU March 26	6:30PM	Lozier Family Lutterbie Family
FRI March 27	8:00AM	Jerry Lynch Sr. Family
STATIONS OF THE CROSS	7:00 PM	DURING LENT
SAT March 28	5:00PM	Paul Huth
SUN March 29	7:00AM OLOL)	Jerry Lynch Jr. Family
PALM SUNDAY	8:30 AM (IC)	Mardis Family
	10:30 AM (OLOL)	Tim Freehill Family Stuckey Family

**Thank You
For Your Gifts
OLOL**

Envelopes \$2364.91
Loose \$421.00
Capital Imp. \$50.00
Food Pantry \$66.70

Imm. Conception

Total \$138.00

When we meet our CMAA Goals!
OLOL and IC will get back 65% of every dollar received above our goals. Reaching our goals is a great achievement, and continuing to give is even greater!

CMAA Goals
OLOL: \$
Goal: (\$12,576)
IC: \$
(Goal: \$1,224)

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Euch. Minister</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Homebound Ministry</u>
Sat, March 28 5:00PM	Andrew & Aidan Laughery	Jim Meyer Fran Mardis	Denis Fisher	John Carlson Stan Alt	Michelle Rosenbaum
Sun, March 29 7:00AM	Liam Killian	Michelle Rosenbaum Andrew Killian			
Sun, March 29 10:30AM	Brooks Schmitt Joe Allen	Paul Sarantakos Ericka Foltz	Sarah Sarantakos	Brett Beyers Paul Volker	

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 .

Marriage

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

PARISH PICNIC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
MAY 3, 2015

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO
HELP PLAN THIS PARISH EVENT!!
(Contact Alyce (217)745-2411)

The Youth Group is also planning another
SILENT AUCTION to take place at the picnic
to benefit the Catholic Heart Work Camp (CHWC).
Anyone with items to donate please drop off at the hall after RE classes on Sunday mornings or contact Sophie (217)379-7255 or Alyce Hafer for alternate arrangements.

This event will be a pot luck. Meat and drink provided.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

- Monday, March 23
St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
- Tuesday, March 24
St. Catherine of Genoa
- Wednesday, March 25
Annunciation of the Lord
- Thursday, March 26
Bl. Didacus Joseph of Cadiz
- Friday, March 27
Lazarus
- Saturday, March 28
St. Catharine of Bologna
- Sunday, March 29
Bl. Ludovico of Casoria

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

"CALM" (caring association of loving mothers)

will be hosting

PREP.FREEZE.COOK.

March 28 at 9AM

At Fr. Kirk Hall

Join us for a couple of hours of fellowship, fun and freezer meal prep! All you have to bring is a laundry basket, everything else is provided!! We will fill ziploc bags with prepped ingredients, and you go home with 10 meals to stock your freezer for those busy nights when you don't have time to cook! Contact Jody Goodin at (217)377-5208 or Jodi Beyers at (815)848-3371 for questions and to RSVP YES!! We will add you to the Facebook page for the event, where you can check out the menus. Check out their website <http://www.prepfreezecoek.com> for more details.

Reconciliation is available Saturday evenings at 4:30PM, during Lent on Tuesday's & Thursday's at the time of Adoration and there will be a Penance Service, Thursday, March 26 following the 6:30PM Mass and any time by appointment.

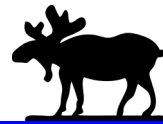
CHRISM MASS

Anyone interested in going to the Chrism Mass on March 30th at the Cathedral in Joliet, please contact Father Thomas at 630-639-0502 as a ticket is required. Father can also provided additional information for this beautiful Mass.



Thank you so much for our send-off party! Every detail from the décor, music and food was wonderful. Thank you for the gifts, the hugs, prayers and fellowship. We will always treasure the memories of our parish family and look forward to sharing our new adventure with you. We plan to keep a blog which you can follow at lmvolker.blogspot.com and we are on Facebook too. Even though we will be many miles away, with technology, we hope to keep connected. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts & please keep the prayers coming our way as we will always be praying for you as well!

With Love,
Deacon Jeff & Lisa



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Patti Meunier (3/24)
Remi Astronomo (3/24)
Basilio Campos (3/25)
Janey Hansen (3/29)



Kerry & Sara Tredennick
(3/27)

CONGRATULATIONS

Joseph & Michelle Brown

on your marriage on
March 20, 2015

We wish you a lifetime of LOVE and HAPPINESS.



GIBSON AREA FOOD PANTRY

Checks for the Gibson Area Food Pantry can be made out to OLL. Feel free to drop them in the jar at the back of church. For anyone wanting this to appear on their year end statement, please use a blank envelope with your envelope number indicated on the outside. Thank you for your commitment to this very important ministry for our Gibson City residents in need.



PARISH EVENTS



Wed, March 25

- Staff Mtg 6PM
- Parish Council Mtg 7PM

Fri, March 27

- K of C Fish Fry
4:30-6:30 PM
Fr. Kirk Hall

Sat, March 28

- CALM Prep.Freeze.Cook
9AM

Tues, March 31

- CALM between
6:30-7PM

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
AT 7PM EVERY FRIDAY
DURING LENT**

There will be card stock on the table at the back of church for anyone that didn't have the opportunity to put something in the scrapbook for Lisa & Jeff. Feel free add a picture or words of wisdom and I will mail them to add at the end of April.



Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Tony Coons
Mary Cothorn
Jesse Cervelli
Vicky Stuckey
Dick Walter
Penny Campbell
Loretta Bode
Chuck Kemmer
Vivian Geurts
Mardella Duffy
Don Hahn
Dennis Stack
Chuck Freehill
Paul Volker
Milt Seyller

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@ololqc.org.

dear Padre

March 22, 2015

Does our earthly suffering lessen our time in purgatory?

I've had three miscarriages and have chronic pain from a serious auto accident. Does God look at this as a form of penance for my sins? Will I have less time in purgatory because I suffered so on earth?

God is love. Jesus revealed this to us in John's Gospel. We enjoy a relationship with God as his children, and good parents don't enjoy seeing their children suffer. Therefore, God doesn't intentionally inflict pain and suffering upon his children or delight in our suffering.

Our illnesses, afflictions, and injuries are simply a sign of our own human weakness, limitations, and imperfections—physical as well as spiritual. They're not a sign of God's desire to teach us a lesson for the mistakes we've made or even for the sins we've committed.

As for the time we'll spend in purgatory, we need to remember that, although our sins are forgiven by our Lord's life, death, and resurrection, sin has an effect on our souls that must be purified before we enter heaven. This last purification, or purging, is the purpose of purgatory.

How much time this final purification takes is up to our Lord, whose love and mercy know no bounds.

FR. SCOTT KATZENBERGER, CSsR
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Monday

March 23
Lenten Weekday
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17,
19-30, 33-62 or
13:41c-62
Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday

March 24
Lenten Weekday
Nm 21:4-9
Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday

March 25
*Annunciation
of the Lord*
Is 7:10-14; 8:10
Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday

March 26
Lenten Weekday
Gn 17:3-9
Jn 8:51-59

Friday

March 27
Lenten Weekday
Jer 20:10-13
Jn 10:31-42

Saturday

March 28
Lenten Weekday
Ez 37:21-28
Jn 11:45-56

Sunday

March 29
*Palm Sunday
of the Passion
of the Lord*
Mk 11:1-10 or
Jn 12:12-16
Is 50:4-7
Phil 2:6-11
Mk 14:1-15:47
or 15:1-39

Good News!

March 22, 2015

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Jer 31:31-34 / Heb 5:7-9 / Jn 12:20-33

I've lived in the Midwest most of my life. In the last few years, I've found myself appreciating why some of my "senior" friends enjoy spending time in warmer climates during the winter months. As I've gotten older, the range of temperatures that feel comfortable to me has grown increasingly narrow—and while I'm not yet ready to pull up stakes, the thought of it crosses my mind more frequently.

But, as the Graeme Miles folk song "Dark December" reminds us, we shouldn't dislike winter. Jesus—the light in our darkness—is born in the winter.

In a four-season climate like that of the Midwest, we're particularly attuned to dark and light, death and life. We sense the days growing shorter and longer; we see leaves fall and plants sleep, only to reawaken when the weather turns warm. We know what lamps to light so we can see in those dark times and what clothes to wear until the warming sun brings the world to life once more.

The prophets knew God was stirring in the world, and they knew God's promise of light and salvation. For Jeremiah, light and life came in the promise of a new covenant—a new relationship with the Lord.

The Greeks of John's gospel sensed that Jesus was the key to the light they longed for, and so they wanted to "see" him. John also says that to truly live, we must be like grain and die to ourselves.

Light into darkness, death into life—maybe the experience of winter helps us understand that just a little more.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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