

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 10:30 am

Monday 8 am

Tuesday 8 am

Wednesday 8am

Thursday 5:30 pm

Friday 8 am

Holy Days: 7 am & 7 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 8:30-9:30 am

Thursday 6-7 pm (except first

Thursday of month-no Adoration)

First Friday of Month 8:30-9:30

Confession

Saturday 4:30 pm (OLOL)

Any time by Appointment



Immaculate Conception

202 E. Green Street
Roberts, IL 60962

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:00 am

Confession

Sunday 7:45 am (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 4, 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent Daily prayers from Pope Francis for the second Sunday of Advent to open our hearts to God's presence by listening more attentively to God's Word in Scripture and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our hearts so that when Christmas arrives we can welcome Jesus with joy and make our lives a gift of love and service.

YOU ARE OUR LIGHT

Second Sunday of Advent—John 8:12

O Jesus, help us never to forget the meaning of our earthly journey. May the kindly light of faith illumine our days, the comforting power of hope direct our steps, the contagious warmth of love stir our hearts. And may our gaze be fixed on God, in whom true joy is found.

GIVE US PEACE

Monday, Week 2—John 14:27

Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother and sister," and our way of life will always be that of shalom, peace, salaam.

SAY "YES" TO GOD

Tuesday, Week 2—Luke 1:38

Mary, virgin and mother, you who, moved by the Holy Spirit, welcomed the word of life in the depths of your humble faith. As you gave yourself completely to the Eternal One, help us to say our own "yes" to the urgent call, as pressing as ever, to proclaim the good news of Jesus.

GIVE US EARS TO HEAR

Wednesday, Week 2—Colossians 3:16-17

O God, open our ears and teach us how to listen to the word of your son Jesus among the thousands of words of this world. Grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live, to every person we encounter, especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship.

BE DOERS OF THE WORD

Thursday, Week 2—James 1:22

O Jesus, give us greater courage in witnessing to our faith in you. Let us not be afraid of being Christian and living as Christians, to have the courage to go and proclaim the good news and to live and to witness to our faith by prayer, by works of charity, by promoting justice, by doing good.

DRAW US BACK TO YOU

Friday, Week 2—Ephesians 1:7

O God, you never forget us but watchfully and lovingly wait to see the desire to return home to be reborn in our hearts. And when you see this desire, even simply hinted at and so often almost unconsciously, immediately you are with us, and by your forgiveness you light up the path of conversion and return.

MY CONSECRATION

Saturday, Week 2—Psalm 96:8

Mary, to you I consecrate my intentions, that they may ever dwell on the love that you merit. To you I consecrate my tongue that it may ever praise you and spread your devotion. To you I consecrate my heart, that, after God, I may love you above all things.



Plan ahead...attend Mass, December 8th... Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, [Holy Day of Obligation]

On Thursday, December 8th we will celebrate with the Universal Church this great solemnity in honor of the most Blessed Virgin Mary. All Catholics are obligated to attend Mass this day. It is a serious sin to miss Mass on this day.

This Solemnity that we celebrate this day teaches that in the first instant of Mary's conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin. This doctrine is often misunderstood by Catholics and non-Catholics, alike. The dogma has to do with the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary within the womb of Her mother ~ NOT the conception of Jesus within the womb of Mary.

Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, December 8th at 7:00AM and 7:00PM at Our Lady of Lourdes

Pastor

Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
(217)784-4671
ttheneth@ololgc.org

Deacon

Paul Sarantakos
p.sarantakos@hotmail.com

Parish Secretary

Patti Meunier
pastor@ololgc.org

Religious Education

Alyce Hafer

Youth Ministry

Bruce Killian

Music Director

If interested contact
pastor@ololgc.org

Parish Council President

Eric Rosenbaum (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

MON December 5	8:00AM	Hathaway Family Haynes Family
TUE December 6	8:00AM	Heap Family Heavilin Family
WED December 7	8:00AM	Priest Intentions St. Ambrose
THU December 8	7:00AM 7:00PM	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary
FRI December 9	8:00AM	Helmig Family Hornstein Family
SAT December 10	5:00PM	+George Thartes Saint Juan Diego
SUN December 11	8:00 AM (IC) 10:30 AM (OLOL)	+James & Margaret Rock Parish Family Third Sunday of Advent

Thank You For Your Gifts OLOL

Sunday Total	\$2883.00
Capital Imp.	\$20
Food Pantry Nov. Total	\$59.00
Yr to Date FP	\$3011.84

Imm Conception

Sunday Total	\$195.00
Capital Imp.	\$0

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!

2016 CMAA Goals
OLOL: 15,488
Goal: (\$12,712)
IC: \$1370
(Goal: \$905)

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry
HOLY DAY Thurs. December 8 7:00AM 7:00PM	Caine Jost Caine Jost	Lisa Heap		John Carlson	
Sat, December 10 5:00PM	Braden Roesch	Stan Alt	Frank Titus	John Carlson Michael Smith	Marj Brown
Sun, December 11 10:30AM	Ethan Garard Joe Allen	Sarah Sarantakos	Paul Sarantakos	Sam Baillie Nathan Garard	

Baptism

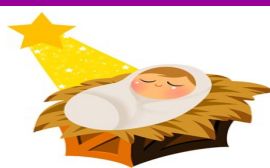
Call the Rectory at least four weeks before the baptism. Instruction for the parents and God-parents is required.

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. Thomas at (630) 639-0502 .

Marriage

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

**BLESSING OF THE BAMBINOS**

DECEMBER 11 at 10:30 MASS we will be blessing our nativity bambinos. Bring your baby Jesus from your nativity scene, clearly label it and place it in the manger in front of the altar. Please take them after Mass.

FOOD PANTRY

Our Lady of Lourdes is scheduled to provide volunteers for the Saturday, December 31 Food Pantry date. It is a time of year for giving. Please consider participating in this great community effort.

Set-up Date: Friday, December 30 **Time: TBA**
Distribution Date: Saturday, December **Time: 8:30AM**

Contact Person: Chuck Aubry
Email: caubry55@gmail.com
Phone: (217)249-8304

Future Saturday Dates: February 11 & May 27

RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Please show your appreciation for the senior Catholic Sisters, Brothers, and Religious Order Priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the **RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS.**

The Word From Father Thomas



MEDITATION OF THE DAY

Each day, every day of our lives, God presents to us the people and opportunities upon which he expects us to act. He expects no more of us, but he will accept nothing less of us; and we fail in our promise and commitment if we do not see in the situations of every moment of every day his divine will.

That is how the Kingdom of God has been spread from the time of Christ's coming until now. It depends on the faith and commitment of every man, but especially of the priest, every day of his life. Every moment of every man's life is precious in God's sight, and none must be wasted through doubt and discouragement. The work of the Kingdom, the work of laboring and suffering with Christ, is no more spectacular for the most part than the routine of daily living. Perhaps a priest experiences no spectacular priesthood successes, at least as man measures successes, no miraculous conversions, no enthusiastic displays of devotion, nothing dramatic at all. Yet he must come to believe, and be firmly convinced, that Christ is the guarantor of his success. Christ has arranged for him to be here, this day and among these people, in order that the Kingdom of God may be advanced in this place and among these people. As a priest, he must be a witness in a special way to the power of the Kingdom to transform all things human, even the tortured and twisted, the humdrum and the seemingly insignificant.

In fact, it is the unspectacular and the seemingly hopeless that are the real challenge. For these things, too, must be transformed and redeemed if Christ's victory is to be complete. The Kingdom of God will not be brought to fulfillment on earth by one great, sword-swinging battle against the powers of darkness, but only by each of us laboring and suffering day after day as Christ labored and suffered, until all things at last have been transformed. And this process of transformation continues to the end of time.

~Father Walter J. Ciszek, S.J.

Father Ciszek (+1984) was convicted of being a "Vatican spy" in World War II and spent twenty-three years in Soviet prisons.

PARISH EVENTS



Friday, December 2

- Adoration following 8AM Mass

Thursday, December 8

- St. Peregrine Healing Mass 5:30PM

Saturday, December 10

- Church Decorating 10AM

Sunday, December 11

- Bambino Blessing

Wednesday, December 14

- K of C Mtg 7PM

Sunday, December 18

- YOUTH MASS 10:30AM

Saturday, December 31

- Food Pantry 9AM-12Noon
HOSTED BY OLL

CALLING ALL CHRISTMAS ELVES ON DECEMBER 10 TO CLEAN AND DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS

I know it is hard to believe Christmas is just a few short weeks away with the beautiful weather we are having but it is indeed just around the corner.

Please contact Sarah Sarantakos at 217-781-0528 or the parish office at 217-784-4671 or pastor@ololgc.org if you are able to help clean and/or haul out decorations.

Our **MERRY** thanks in advance!!



The **2017 COLLECTION 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.

Also, please let us know of address, additional children or other contact information changes by emailing pastor@ololgc.org

2017 PARISH CALENDARS



Our Parish Calendars are available for 2017. Thank you Day Drainage for providing them for our Parishes. Feel free to pick some up after Masses over the next few weekends. It is hard to believe 2017 is a few short weeks away.

2017 FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers for 2017. The sign up sheet is on the table at 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. Christmas and Easter signups are on the back two pages. Many thanks in advance for contributing to keeping our church beautiful week to week!



Joanne Fetzner (12/5)
Sarah McCall (12/6)
Catherine Cimino (12/7)
Jim Freehill (12/7)
Adam Burnes (12/8)
Anthony Gonzalez (12/9)
Robert Bittner (12/10)
Lisa Chaddock (12/11)

Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Loretta Bode
Mary Cothorn
Mardelle Duffy
Donovan Gaines
Dick Walter
Mary Masco
Jeff McGuire
Judy Schall



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.

Dear Padre

DECEMBER 4, 2016

I have two questions about Christmas. First, why do we use red and green during the season? Second, what does the word Noël mean?

The Church uses colors as symbols to mark the change of liturgical seasons and to remind ourselves of religious themes. White (or gold) is actually the liturgical color for the Christmas season, and violet (purple) for the weeks of Advent.

Red and green were associated with a wintertime feast that predates Christianity. However, since these colors have additional meanings for Christians that relate to this time of year, they are still in use and commonly associated with the holiday (holy) season. December 28 is the feast of the Holy Innocents, the male children of Bethlehem who were slaughtered by Herod's order. Its color is red, the color of martyrs. Poinsettia flowers and candy canes, popular Christmastime accents, also prominently feature red. Green—most visibly found in evergreen trees and wreaths—is the color of life. During Advent, it witnesses to the imminent birth of Jesus, which brings hope for new and eternal life to the world.

In response to your second question, Noël is an old French word meaning "Christmas," "the Christmas season," or "yuletide." The French word comes from the Latin for "birth" or "birthday." As we all know, Christmas is the time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus and the Incarnation of our Lord and Savior.

Bulletin submit-

Monday

December 5
Advent Weekday
Is 35:1-10
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

December 6
Advent Weekday
Is 40:1-11
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

December 7
St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Is 40:25-31
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

December 8
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9-15, 20
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
Lk 1:26-38

Friday

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 48:17-19
Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

December 10
Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1-6a, 10
Jas 5:7-10
Mt 11:2-11

Good News!

December 4, 2016

Second Sunday of Advent (A)
Is 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12

John the Baptist was the first prophet in Israel in more than 200 years. Some even thought he was the Messiah. He preached with authority, and people traveled from all over Judea to hear his words.

His message was to prepare the way. As any pope, king, or president announces his intentions in advance so preparations can be made, John was sent to announce the coming of the Son of God and to tell the people how to prepare.

Jesus comes to the world in three different ways: first, when he was born in Bethlehem and walked the earth; second, when he comes again at the end of time; and finally, when he comes to us constantly in the sacraments and liturgy. Preparing for his arrival is not a matter of fixing roads, painting houses, or organizing a parade. Our king desires a transformed spirit: "Not by appearance shall he judge..." John warns that we cannot hide behind the faith of another; each one of us needs to show the fruits of our own faith. Yet we need not fear, for he who comes has every intention of saving us. He appears as Lord and invites us to accept his kingdom. He is also a teacher who shows us the way back to the Father. Above all he is a friend who forgives unconditionally and accepts our sincere yet feeble efforts.

This week, reflect on this image of John the Baptist, heed his words, and imitate him: Cry out for repentance, cleanse others from their sins, and prepare the way to God.

For Reflection

How does John the Baptist's call to repentance challenge me? Where do I need to ask for God's mercy?



"And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones" (Matthew 3:9).