

## 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](mailto:pastor@ololgc.org)

Address:

534 N. Wood St.  
Gibson City, IL 60936

## Website

[www.ololgc.org](http://www.ololgc.org)

# DECEMBER 17, 2017

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,  
let the anticipation of your birth  
fill us with overflowing joy.  
May our excitement and anticipation  
be a sign to the world  
that you are always near.  
Amen.



## JOY TO THE WORLD BOOK

Please take a JOY TO THE WORLD BOOK from the table at the back of church as a Christmas gift from the parish! Scott Hahn is a wonderful author... ENJOY!

### KITCHEN RENOVATION

Just a friendly reminder that we will soon begin our Hall Kitchen remodel, therefore, the hall will be unavailable. This will also affect funeral dinners should we have any. We just want to make everyone aware for any planning purposes! As always thank you all for your cooperation and support as we work to complete our hall renovation project!



### The 2018 COLLECTION ENVELOPES

are available to pick up in the back of the church.

If you have not registered with the parish, or if there are not envelopes in your name and you would like them, 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](mailto:pastor@ololgc.org)

### 2018 PARISH CALENDARS

Our Parish Calendars are available for 2018. 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 2018 is a few short weeks away.

**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**  
Michael Smith (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.

<b>MON</b> December 18	8:00AM	+Dan Sullivan
<b>TUE</b> December 19	8:00AM	+Noble Hutchcraft
<b>WED</b> December 20	8:00AM	+Bob Fields
<b>THU</b> December 21	5:30PM	Priest Intentions PENANCE SERVICE <i>St. Peter Canisius</i>
<b>FRI</b> December 22	8:00AM	+Mardelle Duffy
<b>SAT</b> December 23	5:00PM (OLL)	+Luella Koopman <i>St. John of Kanty</i>
<b>SUN</b> December 24	8:00AM (IC) 10:30AM (OLL)	+Loretta Bode Parish Family <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>

**Thank You  
For Your Gifts  
OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$2347.50
Capital Imp.	\$0
Food Pantry	\$15.25
December Total	\$120.25
Yr to Date FP	\$3250.27

**Imm Conception**

Sunday Total	\$210.00
Capital Imp.	\$0

When we meet our CMAA Goals! OLOL and IC will get back **70%** of every dollar received above our goals. Reaching our goals is a great achievement, and continuing to give is even greater!

**2017 CMAA Goals**  
OLOL: \$14460  
(Goal: \$13,255)  
IC: \$1620  
(Goal: \$913)

**MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

Date	Altar Servers	Lectors	Euch. Minister	Ushers	Homebound Ministry
Sat, December 23 5:00PM	Caine Jost Walter Smith	Lisa Heap	Stan Alt	Joe Allen John Carlson	Frank Titus
Sun, December 24 10:30AM REGULAR MASS	Molly & Seth Kollross	Jack Kollross	Paul Sarantakos	Andrew Laughery Greg Laughery	
Sun, December 24 8:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE	NEEDED Walter Smith	Marj Brown		NEEDED NEEDED	
Mon, December 25 9:00AM CHRISTMAS DAY	NEEDED Spencer Kleist	NEEDED		NEEDED Dan Kleist	

**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 .

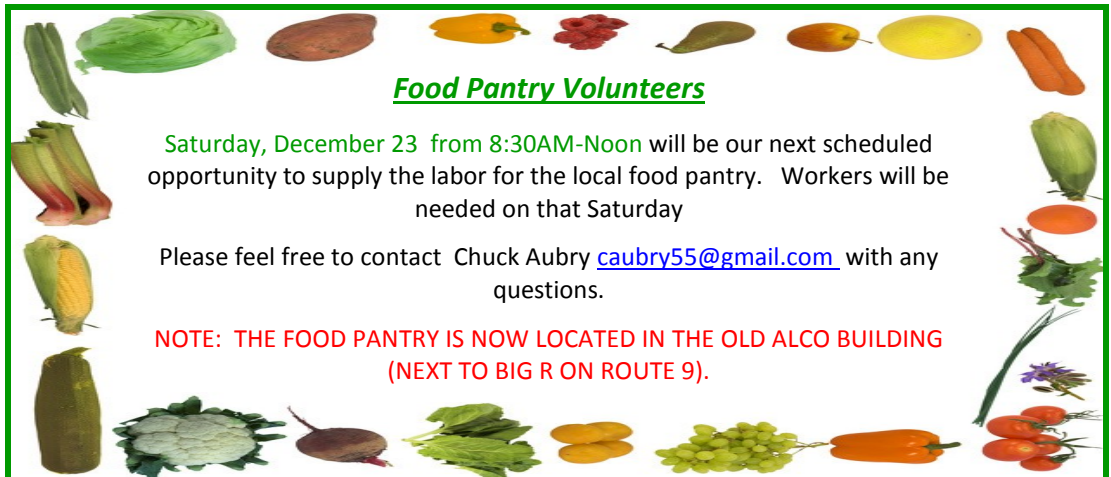
**Marriage**

**Food Pantry Volunteers**

Saturday, December 23 from 8:30AM-Noon will be our next scheduled opportunity to supply the labor for the local food pantry. Workers will be needed on that Saturday

Please feel free to contact Chuck Aubry [caubry55@gmail.com](mailto:caubry55@gmail.com) with any questions.

**NOTE: THE FOOD PANTRY IS NOW LOCATED IN THE OLD ALCO BUILDING (NEXT TO BIG R ON ROUTE 9).**



# The Word From Father Thomas

## TESTIFYING TO THE LIGHT

As John announced Christ even before his birth, so he was the forerunner of his public life. Now, after the desert, came the culminating moment of his life, while he was preparing the way of Christ: There was a man sent from God whose name was John. This man came for a witness to give testimony of the Light, that all men might believe through him. He was not the Light, but was to give testimony of the Light. John the Baptist's essential work then, was to give testimony of the Light to show Christ. He had a most important part to play in the preparation for Christ's coming, and Christ's work itself. He it was who laid the ground for our Lord's public life, and for his teaching, by making people's souls ready for it. He was to some extent educating souls, taking the first steps towards laying them more open to receive what Christ was to tell them. Christ's words would have been too much for souls not prepared for them. They had to have some previous education. Their interests had to be given a new twist away from their earthly concerns and customs; they must be made to feel that all was not well.

That was John the Baptist's task. Among people totally unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency, and arouse in them enough good will to understand Christ when he came.

In this he was in the same position as all who had earlier shared in the work of preparing for the Lord's coming; they, too, were separated from earthly things by God, and mysteriously given to see his plans, so that they might trace his ways to people. Saint John came in his turn to trace his ways to people, to make the rough ways plain, to bring the mountains low. But in order to do this he must first be completely caught up by his inward vision, he must belong to the Lord utterly, for the ground he had to break was hard: he was coming amongst the people of his day, who were mainly engaged, like those of our own, as Saint Luke tells us, the soldiers in doing violence and spreading calumny, the publicans in taking more than their due (3:2-14).

Human beings are like that—they were then, and they are now. They are busy about earthly affairs. They are completely heedless of God, and our chief feeling as we move among them is one of anguish at seeing the world's utter indifference to anything higher.

To shake the world out of this indifference we need prophets, that is to say, people whose souls are captured by the divine vision of things and who can shake the mass of people out of their inertia, and be, in truth, "witnesses." Now a witness is someone to whom it is granted to see things as God does, and who has this inner vision himself in such a way that he can hand it on to mankind. Such a man was John the Baptist.

~Cardinal Jean Danielou



## PARISH CALENDAR



### Thursday, December 21

- Penance Service following 5:30PM Mass

### Saturday, December 23

- Food Pantry 8AM-12Noon

**No Staff or Parish Council in December**

Catholic Spirit Radio, 89.5 & 92.5 FM, announces additional times for its local programs!

### Catholic Conversations with Jason Bramley:

Saturdays @ 3PM (NEW) and Sundays at 3 PM

### The Sunday Homily with Fr. Jeff Windy:

Saturdays @ 9PM (NEW) and Sundays at 2 PM

### Being Catholic with Bob and Lynn Johnston:

Saturdays @ 10PM (NEW) and Sundays at 4 PM



Bill Hartford (12/20)  
Jane Lange (12/22)  
Therese Davis (12/22)  
Donna Ruddy (12/23)

### Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Donovan Gaines  
Jeff McGuire  
Linda Ellington  
Greg Delost  
Steve Heavilin  
Dale Enghausen  
Bob Mardis  
Brian Sullivan  
Tony Perkins  
Emma Davis  
Marilyn Fischer  
Terry Hutchcraft  
Pam Aubry



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](mailto:pastor@ololgc.org).

## BOX OF JOY UPDATE

A big THANK YOU to all who opened their hearts to a child this Christmas season, and participated in the Cross Catholic Outreach Box of Joy campaign! Your generosity sent boxes to 23 children who wished for just one gift. We are very happy with our answer to this need, and look forward to doing this annually! God bless you all! Here is a news release from Cross Catholic Outreach about your gifts, and their destinations:



BOCA RATON, FL—Cross Catholic Outreach's Box of Joy ministry is gearing up to put Christmas smiles on the faces of more than 60,000 children, all of whom live in dire poverty in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Nicaragua. The Box of Joy ministry is in its fourth year, tripling and surpassing their goals every year and giving families, churches and individuals the opportunity to help children experience the joy of Christmas in places where gifts are rare or nonexistent due to poverty.



# Dear Padre

DECEMBER 17, 2017

**Once again I feel overwhelmed by the commercial hype of Christmas. Any suggestions for keeping a Christ-centered Christmas amid the shopping and gift expectations?**

It's our Advent task to make Christ, Emmanuel, present in our lives. We do this by centering on the love and peace that is within us and offering that to others. By staying centered and at peace, we'll find the Christ Child even in the midst of the mania!

**Take time to pray.** In Advent, church decorations accent the sense of longing during this season. Make it a part of your schedule to stop in daily for quiet time and prayer.

**Spend less money.** Buy fewer gifts, ones that you really enjoy buying. Let your family know that you intend to spend less money and want to enjoy your purchasing experience. Ask them to help you select gifts that have meaning.

**Be inspiring.** Give gifts that focus more on Christ and Christmas. They could be inspirational books, a Christian music CD, or tickets to a Christmas play or concert.

**Start a tradition.** Make it a point to find a new Christmas tradition from a different culture and adopt that tradition for this season.

**Volunteer.** Give someone a gift of unexpected kindness, compassion, and unconditional love. Visit the sick, help in a soup kitchen, buy and wrap presents that will be given to the poor.

Source: Dear Padre:  
Questions Catholics Ask,  
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## Monday

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

## Tuesday

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

## Wednesday

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

## Thursday

December 21  
*Advent Weekday*  
Sg 2:8-14  
Lk 1:39-45

## Friday

December 22  
*Advent Weekday*  
1 Sm 1:24-28  
1 Lk 1:46-56

## Saturday

December 23  
*Advent Weekday*  
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Lk 1:57-66

## Sunday

December 24  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Rom 16:25-27  
Lk 1:26-38

# Good News!

December 17, 2017

*Third Sunday of Advent (B)*  
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1, Thes 5:16-24,  
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Why go into the desert and cry out? The voice in the desert is lonesome, heard only by those who go there to listen. Let's leave our routines, go into the spiritual deserts of our hearts, and listen today.

The words of preparation John preaches are joyful. Why? First, to be told you are on the wrong path is good news. Have you ever followed your GPS to the wrong place because of an address typo? "*It would have been nice to know this before I traveled across town to the wrong place,*" you thought.

Second, it is joyful to be told what makes your beloved happy, because you then know what will please him or her.

Good news! John's preaching points us to our destination in Jesus and to what makes him happy. The rose vestments worn by our priests today symbolize that joy. Notice in the painting of Isaiah, he is wearing that color, too.

Another interesting detail is that Isaiah is holding his finger in the book while looking back at a young cherub, who in turn points to his neighbor. Isaiah's finger is in the Gospels, where he is the most quoted prophet of the Old Testament. Jesus reads from the prophet Isaiah, and John the Baptist quotes Isaiah's prophesy about "the voice crying out in the desert."

Perhaps the cherub behind Isaiah is John the Baptist. And perhaps the barely visible baby to whom the little John the Baptist is pointing represents Christ, the reason for our joy.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC