

## 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 3, 2017 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

*Mother of God, we sing your praises, but we must praise you even more.  
Our speech is too feeble to honor you as we ought,  
For no tongue is eloquent enough to express your excellence.  
Mary, most powerful, most holy, and worthy of all love,  
And the thought of you inspires love in the hearts of those devoted to you.  
Amen.*



## From the RE Desk

In the event that we would need to cancel RE classes due to inclement weather, you can tune in to WCIA, channel 3 as well as WGCY Radio at 106.3.

We will begin our Faith Study this week. There will be two opportunities to attend, Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30PM and Sunday December 10 at 6:30PM. We look forward to walking this journey together!

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

### 2018 FLOWERS

Please sign up for altar flowers for 2018. 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!



### 2017 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 4	8:00AM	+Loretta Bode St. John Damascene
<b>TUE</b> December 5	8:00AM	NO MASS
<b>WED</b> December 6	8:00AM	Priest Intentions St. Nicholas
<b>THU</b> December 7	5:30PM	Luella Koopman St. Ambrose
<b>FRI</b> December 8	7:00AM 7:00PM	Parish Family Holy Day of Obligation The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>SAT</b> December 9	5:00PM (OLL)	+Sandy Roberts St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
<b>SUN</b> December 10	8:00AM (IC) 10:30AM (OLL)	+Jeff Zick Parish Family Second Sunday of Advent

**Thank You  
For Your Gifts  
OLOL**

Sunday Total	\$2570.00
Capital Imp.	\$50.00
Food Pantry	\$34.00
November Total	\$208.41
Yr to Date FP	\$3130.02

**Imm Conception**

Sunday Total	\$261.00
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 9 5:00PM	Caine Jost Daxter Chaddock	Jim Meyer	Stan Alt	Joe Allen John Carlson	Marj Brown
Sun, December 10 10:30AM	Haven Hathaway Aiden Laughery	Sarah Sarantakos	Paul Sarantakos	Andrew Laughery Greg Laughery	Second Collection for Retired Religious will be NEXT weekend December 9/10.

The first Friday of the month adoration will follow 8AM Mass. The remaining weeks of every month Adoration will be on the usual Thursday evening following 5:30PM Mass and always Tuesday following 8AM Mass.

**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.

**ADVENT ...HE IS COMING!**

The word advent means coming. During the four week Advent season that begins the Church year we prepare for the coming of Jesus by remembering his birth in Bethlehem (past), anticipating his coming glory (future) and by celebrating his coming to us in world and sacrament (present).

The Church has appointed scriptures for Advent that tell of God's coming in Christ. The first Sunday focuses on the coming of Christ at the end of time—the second coming or parousia. The second and third Sundays focus on the coming of Christ today, to us and to our world. The fourth Sunday focuses on the coming of Christ in history as a child born in Bethlehem.

As we journey through Advent, preparing ourselves for the way God continually comes to us, we are reminded once again that our God is a God of surprises, and no matter how settled and sure we are in our expectations, God always does something new. Thus through our reading, prayer and sharing with others we will learn more about who God is and what God wants to do in our lives through the presence of Jesus, who comes once again into our midst.

# The Word From Father Thomas

## WATCHING WITH CONFIDENCE

Let me tell you something strange: even the most beautiful souls, who burn to be in the Heart of Jesus, do want to believe that confidence is the which will open the door for them, because this door is a wound made by love. They look for other ways, as if this way were too beautiful to be reliable. How many times people have said to me, "It is too beautiful to be true." And I answer, "Jesus bought at a dear enough price, at the price of all his blood, the right to bring to earth something 'too beautiful.'"

So what then? He calls me just as I am? I can go to him with all my miseries, all my weaknesses? He will repair what I have done badly? He will supply for all my indigence? Yes, provided that you go to him, that you count on him, that you expect everything of him, that you say with Saint Paul, Omnia possum (Phil 4:13): I can do all things in him who is my only strength and my only virtue.

A beautiful prayer to put forth from your heart throughout the day is, "Jesus, repair what I have done badly, supply for what I have left undone."

Or an even more beautiful way to pray is: "Jesus, I know that you make reparation in me, that you supply for me, I know that you will draw the good from the bad that I do, and even, as Saint Augustine said, a greater good than if there had been no evil in it." Is this not worthy of adoration? I have a Jesus who does all that in me and for me!

And I am very sure—oh, yes indeed!—that he will never say to me, "you hoped too much of me."

~ Father Jean du Ceur de Jesus d Elbee



## PARISH CALENDAR



### **Friday, December 1**

- Adoration following 8AM Mass

### **Saturday, December 2**

- Patriotic Rosary 4:30PM

### **Saturday, December 9**

- Food Pantry 8AM-12Noon

### **Wednesday, December 13**

- K of C Mtg

### **Thursday, December 14**

- St. Peregrine Mass for Healing

### **Sunday, December 17**

- YOUTH MASS

### **Thursday, December 21**

- Penance Service following 5:30PM Mass

### **Saturday, December 23**

- Food Pantry 8AM-12Noon

**No Staff or Parish Council  
in December**

## CELEBRATING WITH THE ADVENT WREATH

One way to prepare for Christ's coming into our lives is to make an Advent wreath for your daily household worship. This traditional circular wreath reminds us that God, like the circle, has no beginning and no end. Evergreens on the wreath symbolize our everlasting relationship with God, the source of continuous new life.

The wreath has four candles, three purple or violet and one rose. On the First Sunday and Week of Advent, we light the first candle and then an additional candle on each Sunday until Christmas. Purple is a royal color, reflecting the kingship of Christ and also repentance. The rose candle, lighted on the Third Sunday of advent, represents joy. Thus, the colors of the candles illustrate the themes of Advent: kingship, repentance and joy. The candles also remind us that the incarnation has transformed the darkness of hatred and evil into the light of joy and love.

Let your Advent wreath become the center around which your household gathers together each night during this joyous, but sometimes frenzied, season of celebration. And as you celebrate with the Advent wreath, include your favorite Advent hymns and songs, scripture readings and prayers focusing on Christ's threefold Advent—past, present and future.

### **AN ADVENT WREATH PRAYER**

"Come Jesus; come.

Give power to light and to good. Come where falsehood, ignorance of God, violence and injustice predominate. Come Lord Jesus, give power to the good in the world and help us be bearers of your light, peacemakers, witnesses of the truth. Come, Lord Jesus!"

Amen.

~Pope Benedict XVI



Joanne Fetzner (12/5)  
Sarah McCall (12/6)  
Catherine Cimino (12/7)  
Anthony Gonzalez (12/9)  
Lisa Chaddock (12/10)

### **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



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](mailto:pastor@ololg.org).



# Dear Padre

DECEMBER 3, 2017

## Why do we have Advent?

Advent as we know it today developed many centuries after Jesus' life on earth. Because of the number of persons being baptized in the early Church, a practice developed of having another time for baptism in addition to the Easter Vigil. Christmas was chosen as another baptismal season. Since Lent served as a time of preparation for the baptisms at the Easter Vigil, the weeks leading up to Christmas became a time of penance and preparation.

Combined with this penitential practice, of course, was the preparation for Christmas. The Sunday and weekday Scriptures during Advent recall the centuries of longing for the coming of the Messiah, the conception of John the Baptist, and the family history of Mary and Joseph. Today the writings of the prophet Isaiah are featured during Advent because they so eloquently speak of Israel's longing for salvation.

Among the special signs and symbols that the Church uses to recall and enter into these central parts of our Christian heritage are the Advent wreath, vespers, reconciliation services, the O Antiphons, Scripture readings, the Jesse tree, the giving tree, the Christmas tree, the crèche, gift-giving, and of course, Midnight Mass. Hopefully, these symbols of the season will remind you of your own birth in baptism and your own commitment to living a life filled with peace and love.

*Fr. Thomas Santa, CSsR*

**Monday**  
December 4  
*Advent Weekday*

Is 2:1-5  
Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday**  
December 5  
*Advent Weekday*

Is 11:1-10  
Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday**  
December 6  
*Advent Weekday*

Is 25:6-10a  
Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday**  
December 7  
*St. Ambrose, Bishop  
and Doctor of the  
Church*

Is 26:1-6  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

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

**Saturday**  
December 9  
*Advent Weekday*  
Is 30:19-21, 23-26  
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a,  
6-8

**Sunday**  
December 10  
*Second Sunday  
of Advent*  
Is 40:1-5, 9-11  
2 Pt 3:8-14  
Mk 1:1-8

# Good News!

December 3, 2017

*First Sunday of Advent (B)*  
Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7,  
1 Cor 1:3-9, Mk 13:33-37

Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy! The sleepy apostles couldn't keep awake with Jesus and drifted off when he most needed them.

I have only fallen asleep at the wheel once. During college, I worked the morning shift starting at 6 AM. After a late night with little sleep, I sluggishly got into my car. Comfortably driving down the highway at about 5:15 AM, I dozed for a few seconds before awakening to the noise of my tires vibrating on the warning tracks—just in time to straighten the wheel and avoid the cement divider.

Advent is like those rumble strips. You don't always need them, they are annoying when you accidentally run over them, but they are very important!

We can get tired, trying to keep our hearts awake and attuned to Jesus. The rhythm of life, the background music of the world, the distractions that fly by us—they all contribute to the danger of a passive heart. Running across Advent is like a wake-up call: "Stay awake! He is almost here."

As in driving, there are many distractions vying for your attention, but you learn to focus on what's important. You survey your surroundings, looking for hazards while keeping your eyes on the road. There are many signs to read, but only certain ones point you where you want to go.

Jesus says to be attentive to the signs; learn to interpret their meaning. Understand them, without being distracted by them. Be vigilant, pray for strength, and stay awake and alert. Thanks be to God for those rumble strips!

*—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC*