




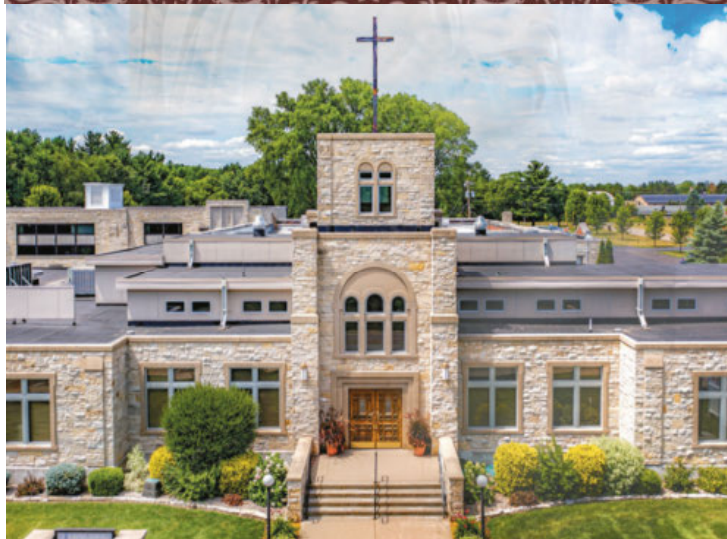
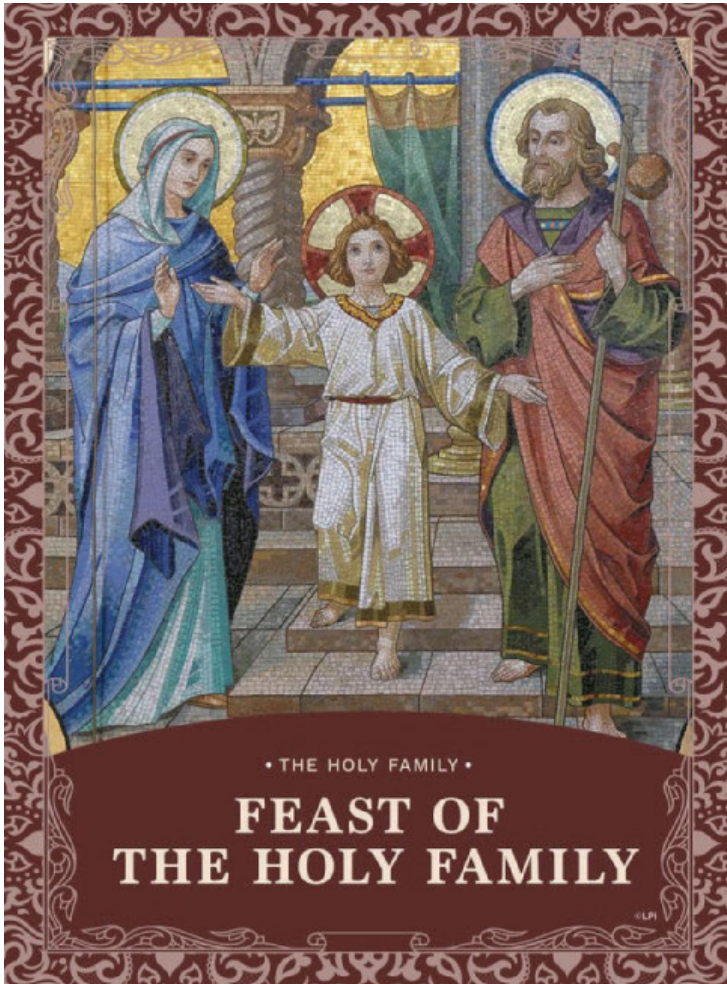
Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish

750 10th Avenue South • Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin • 54495-4100

Telephone: 715-423-1251 • Facsimile: 715-423-9407

parishoffice@our-lady.org • www.our-lady.org  OLQHWisconsinRapids

Please submit bulletin notices to bulletin@our-lady.org by noon on Monday.



PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Alan M. Guanella, JCL • *Pastor* • fr.guanella@our-lady.org
Fr. Steven Weller • *Parochial Vicar* • fr.weller@our-lady.org
Deacon Thomas C. Anderson • dcn.anderson@our-lady.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 8:30a–3:30p • Friday: 8:30a–12:00 noon
Scrip is available for purchase during parish office hours.

PARISH STAFF

Business ManagerJaneen Sievers
jsievers@our-lady.org
Director of Religious EducationRebecca Zalar
reoffice@our-lady.org
Choir Director.....Mary Englert
Maintenance & GroundsPaul Richmond
Custodian.....LuAnne Birkhauser
Sacristan.....Karen Pagel

CONFESSION

Saturday: 8:30am–9:30am and 3:00pm–3:50pm
First Fri.: 8:30am–9:30am; 6:30pm–7:30pm with Exposition
• Any time by appointment by contacting the parish office.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Please contact the parish to schedule a baptism meeting and request a date for the celebration of baptism. Parents are encouraged to attend before the birth of their child.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples requesting the celebration of Marriage should contact the parish at the time of formal engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In case of emergency only, when someone is dying, please call the pastor's emergency line at 715-629-9952. This number is for emergencies only. Those who are seriously ill or have been sick for a long time should receive the Sacraments. Please call the parish to make arrangements or to schedule a non-emergency visit for those who are sick or homebound.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN SCHOOL

Principal Shelley Bruley • Administrative Asst. Jenny Zacher
Tel: 715-422-0980 • www.assumptioncatholicsschools.org

NEW PARISHIONERS

All new families are most welcome to the parish and are kindly asked to register at the parish office as soon as possible. A registration form may be downloaded at www.our-lady.org/contact. Current parishioners are kindly asked to inform the office of any address, telephone, or family status changes.

UPCOMING BAPTISM CLASS

The next baptism preparation class will be January 7th. The class fee is \$20. Parents should be registered in the parish. Practice of the faith by parents is expected. Please contact the parish office to register.

PARISH BOOK OF PRAYER

Prayer requests may be written in our Parish Book of Prayer which is located in the gathering area by the offices. A general petition for all prayer requests written in the book is offered at all Sunday Masses.

PRAYER CHAIN: Please call **Mary Kobza** at 715-421-0447 with your intentions.

SUNDAY EVENING MASS – NOTE CHANGE

The 6:00 PM Sunday evening Mass at SS Peter & Paul **THIS WEEKEND IS THE LAST DEANERY 6PM MASS.**

SACRIFICIAL GIVING FOR DECEMBER 15, 2024



General	\$7,769.00
Plate	\$1,190.00
Building Maintenance	\$100.00
Immaculate Conception	\$1,547.00
Direct Donation 12/10/24	\$7,459.00
Total	\$18,065.00

LECTIONARY READINGS

Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/
Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96/Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98/Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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SANCTUARY CANDLES



The Sanctuary Candles burn the week of December 28– January 3 in memory of

Wayne & Joanie Wesenberg
By: Tom & Teresa Plante

Online Giving



You may donate to the parish online by scanning this QR code with your smartphone. Please note that there is a 3% reduction to the parish for the use of this service. However, if this is the most convenient way for you to make an offering, please do not hesitate to use this method. ACH Direct Debit from your checking or savings account has no reduction to the parish when using the form available from the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Year End Contributions

As the end of the calendar year approaches, you are reminded that charitable contributions must be applied to the year in which they are received. The only exception is when a check is mailed; it is applied to the year the check/envelope is postmarked, even if it is received in the next calendar year.

If you wish to claim your parish contribution or diocesan annual appeal donation as a charitable deduction for income tax purposes for 2024, you must have your contribution to the parish office (or diocese by December 31). If you mail it, it must be postmarked on or before December 31st. Thank you

Offertory Envelopes: On January 1, 2025, the parish office will discontinue mailing offertory envelopes to households which did not use any envelopes in 2024. Please contact the parish office to have mailings restarted.

A **Pro-Life Rosary** will be said on Monday, Jan. 13th at 4:00 pm along Eighth Street. All are welcome to join us. We will gather in Grace's parking lot at 3:45.

PICNIC CHAIRPERSONS NEEDED

Did you know that since 2012, the OLQH parish picnic has raised over \$300,000 for the parish? We are in need of new picnic chairpersons to be able to continue this fundraiser. If interested, contact the parish office. Help is provided!

Grief Support Group- Wisconsin Rapids Deanery "Serenity" Grief Support Group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month in the Gathering Space of St Vincent de Paul Church from 1-2 pm. The next meeting is January 20th.

Mission Rosary Makers —The next date is Wednesday, Jan. 15th. Please join us in the cafeteria from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. All are welcome to join us.



TV Mass on Spectrum 985 or Solarus 3: OLQH Mass at 9 AM on Wednesday; Diocesan Mass at 6:30 AM on Sunday. Mass is also broadcast on Sunday at 6 AM on WZAW 7.3 (FOX) and at 6:30 AM on WJFW 12.1 (NBC).

Catholic Q&A – Who were Jesus' grandparents?

A: Joachim and Anne are the parents of Mary, the mother of Jesus, yet there is absolutely no biblical reference to them whatsoever. So where do we get their names, and what is their story?

Their names are found in an apocryphal (hidden) gospel known as "The Infancy Gospel of James." Apocryphal, or hidden gospels, consist of accounts of Jesus' life that were ultimately not accepted as inspired works, and thus were not included in the Bible. However, they sometimes captured the Christian imagination, spilling into the devotional dimension of the community.

James' infancy gospel begins with the parents of Mary and their desire for a child. In their prayer and petitions to God, they are heard and given the blessings of a child, whom they named Mary. While we have no idea who Mary's parents really were, the fact that we celebrate the feast of Joachim and Anna indicates that the bond of family love is important in the Christian life.

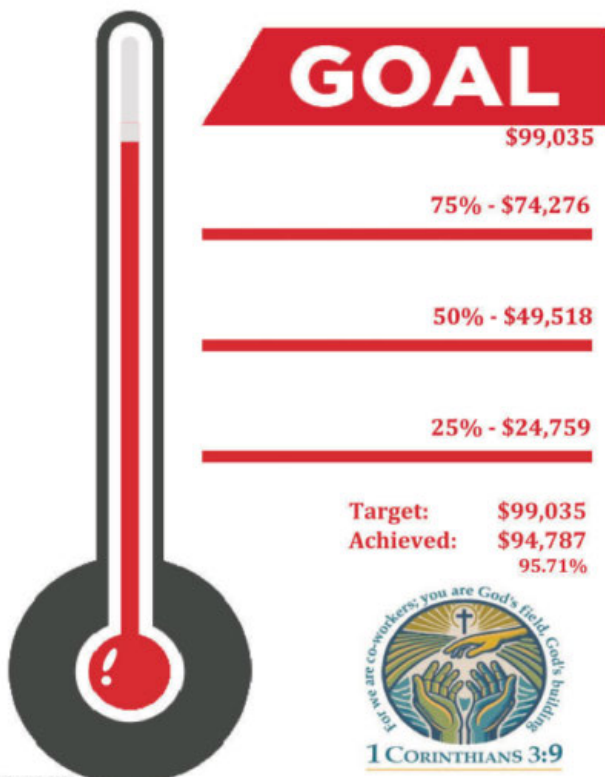
Long before Grandparents' Day was established, the church had a feast that honored the presumed grandparents of Jesus. While their names are part of non-inspired apocryphal legends, the fact of the Savior's human ancestry is not. Christ, the incarnate Word, dwelt among us in the flesh in a human family. In honoring the grandparents of Jesus we really proclaim our faith in the Incarnation—God becoming human!

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Discover the Domestic Church Kiosk Today!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for this incredible resource now available to our parish. Have you checked out the new kiosk in the gathering space? If not, you're missing out! It offers a wealth of engaging, faith-based literature that can support families in building their Domestic Church. Don't let this opportunity pass you by—visit the kiosk and enrich your faith journey!

2024 Diocesan Annual Appeal



As of December 19, 2024

Greetings from the Social Justice Committee:

We wanted to follow-up on our recent activities. Thank you for your generosity and compassion for others.

- At Thanksgiving we took approximately 200 pounds of food to the FOCUS food pantry.
- The Giving Tree in November and December again highlighted your generosity. We helped 140 children and their families in South Wood County have a better Christmas.
- Our next activity is the sister parish collection the weekend of January 25th, 2025

We are proud to be part of such a loving and caring parish. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a New Year full of God's Blessings.

The Social Justice Committee: Deb, Bob, Joan, Lisa, Kaity, and Mary

We offer our sincerest *thank you* to everyone who offered us Christmas cards, gifts, treats, and other items this past Advent and Christmas Seasons. While we are unable to offer individual thank yous to everyone, we are humbled by your kindness and generosity.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we pray for all of you. God bless you!

—Fr. Guanella, Fr. Weller, and Deacon Tom

thank you

Everyday Stewardship by Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating—who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful—perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

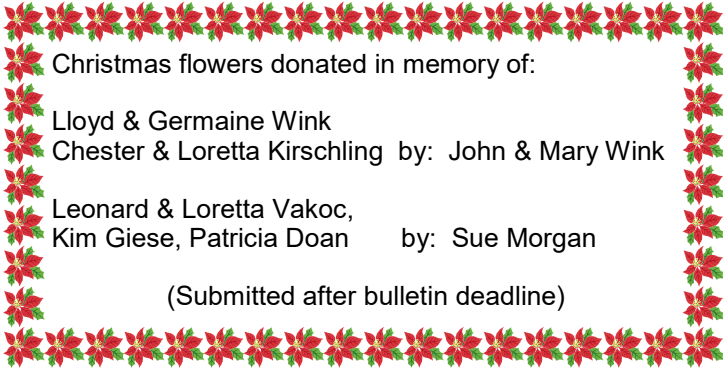
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BRINGING UP THE GIFTS AT OLQH

We have returned to the practice of bringing up the gifts at the offertory at weekend Masses. Families are encouraged to participate. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Space or just sign your name as you walk into Mass.



So many area families had a warmer and brighter Christmas Season thanks to you. The "Keep Them Warm" tree has been a beautiful tradition, and Our Lady Queen of Heaven Council of Catholic Women (CCW) thanks God for your generosity!



Christmas flowers donated in memory of:

Lloyd & Germaine Wink
Chester & Loretta Kirschling by: John & Mary Wink

Leonard & Loretta Vakoc,
Kim Giese, Patricia Doan by: Sue Morgan

(Submitted after bulletin deadline)

UPCOMING MASSES & EVENTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2024

8:00 am Morning Prayer & Communion Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024 ST. SYLVESTER /

NEW YEAR'S EVE

4:00 pm Mass † Dan & Colleen Kluck by: Doug & Karen Pagel

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2025 MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Parish Offices Closed

9:00 am Mass Collective Intentions

† Douglas Borre by: The Family

† Otto, Verena & Ron Lueschow by: Joan & Dick

† Margaret Boyarski by: The Family

† Gail Ashenbrenner by: Dick & Family

Living Family Members of the Klonowski & Kempen Families
by: Joyce Klonowski

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2025 STS BASIL & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

5:00 pm Mass † Marie Joosten by: The Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2025 HOLY NAME OF JESUS

8:00 am Mass † Jerry Wirtz by: The Family

8:30 am Adoration & Confessions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2025

8:00 am Mass Health of Lynn Phillips by: Doug & Karen Pagel

8:30 am Confessions

3:00 pm Confessions

3:30 pm Rosary

4:00 pm Mass † Karen Compton by: The Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:30 am Mass † Ed Altmann by: Phil & Pam Parker

10:00 am Mass † John Cetnarowski by: Mike & Karen Abbott

MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Altar Servers

Dec 31 4:00pm - Dave Anderson, Joe Fidler
Corby Olson

Jan 1 9:00am -

Jan 4 4:00pm -

Jan 5 7:30am - Christian Statz & 2 volunteers

Jan 5 10:00am -

Readers

Dec. 31 4:00pm - Doris Seifert

Jan 1 9:00am - Mike Hittner

Jan 4 4:00 pm - Carol Dean

Jan 4 7:30am - John Benbow

10:00 am - Deanna Scholz

Greeters

Jan 4 4:00pm - John & Peg Wasshausen

Jan. 5 7:30am - Chad & Jennel Statz

Jan. 5 10:00am - Fleisner Family

Gift Bearers

Jan 4 4:00pm - Volunteers Needed

Jan. 5 7:30am - Volunteers Needed

Jan. 5 10:00am - Volunteers Needed

Hospitality

Jan. 11, 4:00pm - Rebecca Zalar

Jan. 12, 7:30am - Shelley Bruley/Kerry Meinel

Jan. 12, 10:00am - John & Rosemary Hokamp

The nativity scene is like a living Gospel, reminding us of one essential thing: that God did not remain invisible in heaven, but came to earth, becoming a human child. God is not a distant lord or a detached judge, but a humble love, descended down to us. The child in the crib conveys his tenderness to us. The child with open arms tells us that God has come to embrace our humanity. It is good to stand in front of the nativity scene and there to confide in the Lord about our lives, to talk to God about the people and situations we care about, to share our expectations and concerns. We remember that Jesus came to us, that he became human like us, and that he accompanies us. In everyday life we are no longer alone, for he lives with us. He doesn't magically change things, but if we accept him, everything can change. Happy Christmas! —Pope Francis



New Year's Week Parish Office Hours
Office will be closed — Wednesday, January 1st

PASTORAL THOUGHTS...

With us coming to the close of this Advent season, I'm sure many families, including myself, have reread on their favorite Christmas stories whether it's a special Christmas episode, favorite movie, or a beloved book. I think many people do this because it provides a sense of comfort knowing that we can have a heartwarming story amongst all the circumstances we find ourselves in. Alternatively, many of us find comfort with these stories since watching them can bring back fond memories from years ago that occurred while being with close friends and family. In the end, we all go back to these things since they can almost act as an anchor with all the changes we face on annual basis.



In a similar degree, I see the three-year Lectionary cycle of scripture readings in the same capacity as it allows us to repeatedly hear the same readings at different stages of our lives. This has allowed me to see how the same text can convict or even comfort me based on the new experiences I've gathered. Additionally, this has been extended outside of the readings to the rest of the Mass as there are a few readings that will instinctively remind me of a small detail shared from a homily years ago. The three-year cycle has allowed me to have a mechanism for reminding me what I would otherwise describe as ordinary events. Many times, I have heard a word or phrase in the Mass that reminds me of something I heard or an experience from about three years prior even though it initially didn't strike me as important.

Looking at the liturgy from this point of view has helped me grow to see where God has been working in my life despite not perceiving much if any growth daily. It has helped me to realize that God has been planting seeds in my life, but sometimes I won't see the fruit of it within a few weeks, months, or years in some cases. Taking a few extra minutes in prayer at the end of Mass has been a great way for me to develop in this awareness for the blessings given to me that would otherwise go unnoticed.

Matthew Aaseng
Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

TOTS: Theology of the Storyteller **STAR WARS:** The Original Trilogy

Watch a film, deepen your faith.
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Jan 12, Jan 26, Feb 9
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Save the Date: 4K & 5K Kindergarten Registration
Mark your calendars! Registration for 4K and 5K Kindergarten will take place on Thursday, January 30. We look forward to welcoming your little ones!

OLQH 4K & 5K KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025
From 4-6 pm
at OLQH School

Please bring your child's birth certificate and immunization record.

Questions?
Call Kerry Meinel at
715-422-0901

ACS Mission: To Inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition

ACS Vision: A community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect.

Employment Opportunity

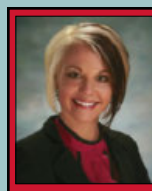
Assumption Catholic Schools is seeking a passionate numbers person to be our next school business manager. The ideal candidate will have experience in fund accounting and be adept at explaining finances to the non finance professional. Working closely with the president he or she will work to track income and expenses and help with the creation of the ACS budget and monthly reports to the finance committee. This position keeps overwatch on receipts and disbursements. To apply send a resume and cover letter to Daniel Minter, president
dminter@assumptioncatholicschools.org





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