FEB **27** 2022

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Catholic Church

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

read

"START BEING BRAVE ABOUT EVERYTHING, DRIVING OUT DARKNESS AND SPREADING LIGHT AS WELL."

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

9

3<mark>850 Lourdes</mark> Drive Decatur, IL 62526



Monday - Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm



217.877.4404





www.ololchurch.com



www.ololschool.com 217.877.4408

WELCOME!

OUR MISSION

We are a Catholic Community whom God has called together through Baptism. As part of Christ's Living Church, we welcome all to:

Worship with us through our Liturgical Celebrations; Learn with us the teachings of Jesus as we expand our discipleship; Serve with us God's people inside and outside Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in a spirit of stewardship; and Gather with us to celebrate Christ's two great commandments of love.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass Monday-Friday 6:30am Thursday 2:00pm (when school is in session)

Weekend Mass

Saturday - Vigil Sunday Spanish Mass 4:30pm 7:30, 9:30 11:30am

Confessions

Thursday - 12:00pm Saturday - 11:00am



https://www.facebook.com/ourladyoflourdeschurchandschool/

7 FROM THE PRIEST'S DESK



Turning Our Minds to Lent

It's hard to believe we're at that time of year already (the older I get, the more often I find myself sounding like my parents...but it seems like Christmas was just yesterday!), but Ash Wednesday is next week!

Ash Wednesday, contrary to popular belief, is actually not a Holy Day of Obligation—and yet, after Christmas and Easter, I would say that it's the most well-attended day of the Church year. Don't get me wrong—I'm all about people coming to Mass as much and as often as they can...so my hope is not to discourage anyone from coming to Mass as a pious practice to begin their Lent. But I have to admit, it's the sort of "curious" thing that we priests ask ourselves about: 'why is it that people will come to Mass on Ash Wednesday, but not, for example, on All Saints' Day or the Assumption of Mary...or even, the following Sunday (days which are "required")?'

The more cynical types will readily speak their answer: "it's because people just come for the ashes!" And while I hope and pray (maybe naively) that that's not the entire answer, I think there is, for some, a little truth to that. Each year, rather sadly, I get questions from people asking if there's a time when they can come by the Church to receive ashes without having to come to Mass, or I see people come to Mass and leave right after getting their ashes (i.e. before communion). It bespeaks a certain misunderstanding of what we're all about as Catholic Christians. Shouldn't our reception of communion—the Body and Blood of our Lord—rank higher in our minds than a little dirt on the forehead?

To put it less crassly: ashes are a sacramental, meaning that they remind us of God's grace, in this case, reminding us of our earthly finitude and exhorting us to turn to God again and again for the grace of repentance and conversion, so that we might inherit eternal life. But the Eucharist or Confession: these are sacraments, the very things which communicate (i.e. bestow, give, lavish upon us) grace! Receiving the Eucharist or being granted absolution, in the order of helpful things, is infinitely beyond just putting ashes on our foreheads.

It's the difference between eating a hot dog and walking around with a picture of a hot dog; they're just not the same thing!

We do harm to the Body of Christ (and to our corporate witness as Catholics) if we walk around one day of the year with ashes on our heads, publicly identifying ourselves as Catholic, but then don't even attempt to live as Catholics the other 364 days of the year. It's for that reason that other Christians might accuse us of being shallow or insincere in our faith, concerned only with the rites and outward rituals and not the real tough work of conversion; and if that were entirely the case, they'd be right to exhort us to more!

But my sincere hope is that people aren't just coming for the symbol, but rather out of a genuine desire to take upon themselves what the symbol points to: repentance. That gift—the "clarion call" of the Church's season of Lent—is God's work in us, achieved by humbling ourselves to receive His grace in the Sacraments (cough, confession is a great way to prepare for Easter, cough), and reinforced by every act of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that we take on during this season.

The exhortation that we hear from Jesus (on Ash Wednesday after all!) is not to perform these things so as to be seen or merely in an external way. Don't just come and get ashes so that others will think you're Catholic. Rather, I think Jesus would say—be Catholic, every day of the year! When we're fasting or doing penance, Jesus tells us to wash our faces and look alive (my paraphrase). Our Father, who sees what is hidden (not just what we present to the rest of the world) repays us in secret for what we do. Our faith is enriched by these beautiful practices, but only if we allow them to point to something deeper in the order of grace. I certainly pray that this would be true—for all of us!

So absolutely—come receive your ashes this Wednesday! But let's make that a spark that ignites a fire in us this Lent, a symbol for each of us of a new beginning, as we don our sackcloth and ashes and go about the hard work of conversion: crying out in humility for the gift of God's merciful and generous salvation, a gift which He wants for us always!

Keep spreading joy! Fr. Friedel

ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you would like to join the parish or if you are not Catholic and would like to learn about the Catholic faith, please call the Parish Office or visit our website.



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

6:30am | Betsy Sweeney

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

6:30am | Mr. & Mrs. Sonny & Terri Lanahan

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

6:30am | Michelle R Hanson 2:00pm | Jim Stevens 6:30pm | Nancy Shultz

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

2:00pm | Ruth Fear

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

6:30am | Nancy Shultz 6:00pm | James Giles

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

4:30pm | Maloney Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

7:30am | Noelle Daghe

9:30am | Martin & Aldona Lucas

11:30am | Terri Lanahan

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

- Roger Hess Carol Hess Christina Mooney Jack Frankovich Mary Benson Adrienne Moore Mary Blazier Linda Randles Fr. Tony Wach, SJ Alison Stevens
- Gloria Leonard Joyce Nalefski Michael Brown Sharon Nolte Janet Schollmeier Joan Forbes Kathy Sheary Stefani Heinz Toni Skelley Jean Casselman
- Jenny Brummer Molly Ellis

Call the Parish Office to submit a name to the prayer list. Names will be removed after 6 weeks unless called to be kept on.

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Envelopes Loose Cash Children Donations	\$ \$ \$	16, 929 606 0
Total Collected	\$	17, 535
Year-to-date Goal Year-to-date Collected Difference	\$	706, 000 638, 145 - 67, 855
Diocesan Collections	\$	500

February 20, 2022

We're grateful to those who continue to financially support our parish. God bless you!



FIRST READING

Praise no one before he speaks, for it is then that people are tested. (Sir 27:7)

PSALM

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you. (Ps 92)

SECOND READING

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor 15:57)

Gospel

"A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." (Lk 6:45)

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4 LITURGICAL LIFE



"...through him all things were made."

One of my favorite scenes from the live-action series on the lives of the followers of Jesus, The Chosen, is in the first episode of the second season. Jesus is asking John the apostle to help him choose

a scripture passage to read in the synagogue. John suggests the very beginning of the book of Genesis, when God creates the heavens and the earth. Jesus is pleased with the recommendation and replies, "It is a favorite memory." I really enjoyed watching that scene.

Now, this is an imaginative portrayal of Jesus, for this scene is nowhere in the Gospels. What it displays for us, however, is very true. We believe that all things were created through the Word of God, who Jesus is. As we read in the first verses of John's Gospel, "All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made."

While we generally attribute the creation of the world to God the Father, it would be a mistake to think that the Son and Spirit had nothing to do with it. The Persons of the Trinity do not act alone. Thus, we see in Genesis "the Spirit of God... hovering over the face of the waters." And we read in Psalm 33, also referenced in the scene in The Chosen, "By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host." So we see that even in the scriptures of the Old Testament, there are signs of the work of all three persons of the Trinity in creation.

All things were made through The Word: the sun and stars, the sky, air, and wind, the dry land, the oceans, all plants and animals, and even all human beings. In a very personal way, even you and I were created by Him. I don't think we often think about it, but he made you. You were made by Him and you are held in being by him.

The same God who made you and holds you in existence is the one who you receive into yourself whenever you receive Holy Communion. He sees you, knows you, and loves you. "Through him all things were made."



Retreat for Inner Healing - March 11-13th

During this retreat, we will look at what in our souls and stories prevent us from experiencing the full peace, freedom, joy, and happiness that Jesus offers us. We may have been Catholic Christians our entire lives, but not experience the abundant life that Jesus promises us. This retreat will facilitate an encounter with God's transformative and healing love.

If possible, bring a Bible for the retreat. Non-Catholics are welcome, although there will be Catholic elements such as Mass, Adoration, and Confession. One is not required to attend the entire retreat, although one may miss important information/meditations, as each part of the retreat is part of an integrated whole. Minimum age to be part of the retreat is 18. We plan on using the church building and the school gym (at Lourdes) for our retreat space. Please try to show up ~10min before the start of each day. We will start each day in the gym.

The retreat will span the weekend although it is not an overnight retreat. This schedule gives you a rough idea of how time will be spent. Light breakfast and snacks will be served Saturday and Sunday. Dinner will be provided on Saturday. To sign up you can call 217-877-4404 or email communications@ololchurch.com. Signups will also be in the back of OLOL and St. Thomas Church. It will be led by Fr. Trummer.

Friday | 6:30pm-8:30pm - Church Saturday | 9:00am Start - School 12:00-2:00pm Lunch Break 4:30pm Mass 7:30pm End of Day Sunday | 9:00am Start - School 12:00-2:00pm Lunch Break 5:00pm Retreat Ends

PLEASE CONSIDER INCREASING YOUR TITHE

Your donations to our parish are still needed!



Passion Narratives in the Gospel of Luke Thursdays March 24, 31st and April 7th from 7-8:00pm Enrichment Center at Our Lady of Lourdes



As we journey into Lent, join Fr. Friedel for a three-part presentation and discussion on St. Luke's account of Jesus' Passion and Death. It will be a wonderful opportunity to aid your prayer as we enter into the Church's celebration of Passiontide and Holy Week!

All are welcome -- bring your Bible and a friend.

PARISH CONTACT UPDATE

If you would like to receive parish emails communicating meetings/classes/events/general information please email your name and email address to: communications@ololchurch.com



The EPIC Youth Group will be having upcoming meetings for Junior High and High School students from 6:30 - 8:00pm at Holy Family in the Parish Center.

Junior High

March 6th March 20th April 10th April 24th May 1st May 22nd High School March 6th

Mass

Our 2022 Mass Intention Calendar is already filling up!

We currently only

have a few 11:30am Spanish or First Friday Spanish Masses left.

Our 2023 calendar will open on **Monday, August 15th**. Thank you for your understanding.

SUNDAY MARRIAGE QUOTE:

Humor is often the best medicine. Learning to laugh and not taking ourselves too seriously can make life more enjoyable for us and our family.

PRE-PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL

Preplanning your funeral assures you and reassures family members that arrangements will be made according to your wishes. Our guide book is available to assist you through the scripture and hymn selections, offering excellent suggestions to make your funeral liturgy personalized. Email Jami Snow at jami@ololchurch.com for more information.

Preplanning really can make a difficult situation easier for surviving family members by having your choices in place and eliminating time-pressed or uncertain decisions.

ROSARY

Please join us before Mass to pray the Rosary

Saturdays | 4:00pm Sunday | 7:00am & 9:00am

6 LITURGICAL LIFE



February 27, 2022

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What we say and how we say it reveals the true intentions of our hearts. The content and manner of our speech is a window into the recesses of our souls. Our consciences, attitudes, sentiments, weaknesses, and motives are displayed. As much as we think we can hide the truth of our lives from others, we cannot. Who we really are is not only expressed on our lips but is written on our faces. Jesus says precisely this, "For every tree is known by its own fruit." What does the fruit of our lives say about us?

Because we like to play the game of hide and seek with ourselves, in pretending that we are hiding we deflect attention others may give to us by becoming more critical of others. After all, the more time one can spend analyzing others' behavior the less time one has to look at his or herself. Often, the behaviors we abhor most in others are the very ones we are guilty of ourselves. We just don't know it yet. The more we put ourselves in the role of a judge, the more satisfaction and control we seem to achieve. Yet, what about ourselves? In focusing our attention on the beams in others' eyes, the aridity and barrenness of our lives goes unchecked. St.Ambrose reminds us that "no one heals himself by wounding another." Bringing our brothers and sisters down by being overly critical, serves no positive purpose.

But the one who knows how easy it is to fall into sin and weakness and how quickly errors in judgment can be made, knows the depth of true compassion, mercy, and kindness. Having recognized our own poor choices, misguided opinions, negative emotions, and ability to do horrendous things, we can be more sympathetic and understanding of where others may be. We are designed to be mentors and guides to one another. In walking the journey together, we can help each other become the best we can be. Humility is the order of the day and the primary virtue that prevents us from being hypocrites.



Lord, please grant eternal rest to the soul of **MARILYN MARIE DEHORITY,** Mother to Doug (Carla) Dehority.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE NEWS

Flowing from the teaching of the Catholic Church

In many parts of the world today and in our country's cities, there is a need for paths of peace to stop violence, to stop wars, (to stop hatred - I added .. ") and to heal open wounds. There is also a great need for peacemakers, men and women prepared to work boldly and creatively to initiate processes of healing, of bringing truth and justice to situations, and to renewed encounter. Pope Francis has emphasized these points in Chapter Seven of "Fratelli Tutti." He also states that every "peace process requires enduring commitment. It is a patient effort to seek truth and justice, to honor the memory of victims, and to open the way, step by step, to a shared hope stronger than the desire for vengeance." We must start at home-Decatur, Forsyth, Macon County, our neighborhoods, our homes, etc.

Again, I invite you to attend the Decatur Peace Summit on May 4, 2022 at the Salvation Army. Mark your calendar now. OLOL/St.Thomas Social Justice Committee invites you to join us as we learn, work, and pray for justice and peace. Our committee hopes to have a meeting in the near future. Contact Walt Wessel at 217-433-8015 or Sr. JoAn at 217-877-4404 for more info. or e-mail Sr. JoAn at Sr.Joan@ololchurch.com and she will send you information

Submitted by Sr. JoAn, Co - chair of OLOL/St. Thomas Social Justice committee

Our Lady of Lourdes | Decatur IL

IN THE COMMUNITY



Save the Date | March 6, 7, 8 at 7 pm Unleashing the Power of the Eucharist: Getting More Out of Mass Fr. Mark Tracy | Holy Family Parish

The Eucharist is the great gift that unites Catholics around the world. We come together every day, every week, to celebrate the Mass. In this three-

night presentation, Fr. Mark will explore and unleash the power of this amazing gift of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fr. Mark's talks will look at three different dimensions of the Eucharist: Meal, Sacrifice, and Real Presence. Fr. Mark will conclude by looking at the Parts of the Mass and unleashing their power. Each evening includes time for fellowship and reflection.

Save the Date!

Decatur Catholic Radio's 11th Annual Dinner will be **Tuesday, March 22, 2022**, at Mt. Zion Convention Center.

Doors open 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:15 p.m.

Key Note Speaker is Father Burke Masters, Guest Host for Relevant Radio's "Morning Air", Director of Adult Formation in the Diocese of Joliet and the Chicago Cubs Chaplain.



Reservations \$50pp or \$400 Table of 8

To Purchase your Reservations please call 217-464-1099.

Chance to Win 2 Cub/Cardinal Tickets at the Dinner with each Paid Reservation!



Our next ministry schedule has been made for **March 5th - May 29th**. Please check your email, including your junk/spam folder.

This will include our Holy Week and Easter services. Please take that into consideration when filling out your availability and please consider volunteering for these opening.

If you have any questions, please call the parish office.

Thank you for all of your service!



Saturday, March 5th 4:30pm

Sacristan - Bob & Judy Galka Lector - Pat McBride Eucharistic Minister - Gary Birschbach, Jayne Despres, Gail Kamm Gift Bearer Family - Etchason Family Servers - Joe Scanavino, Elijah Etchason Greeter - Mike Jordan, Gloria Walcher Usher - Kent Cassell, Bob Cassell,

Roger Wall

Sunday, March 6th 7:30am

Sacristan - Mary Ann Fawcett Lector - Mary Ann Fawcett Eucharistic Minister - Mary Ann Fawcett, Karen Seefeldt Gift Bearer Family - Jim Seefeldt Family Greeter - Brad Zenthoefer, John Dent Usher - Bill Busbey, Jack McCoy, Steve Halicki

Sunday, March 6th 9:30am

Sacristan - John Reidy Lector - Scott Fawley Eucharistic Minister - Robin Bridges, Janet Mari, Mark Niemeyer Gift Bearer Family - Scott Fawley Family Servers - Thomas Herman, Anna Reidy Greeter - Lisa Lemezis, Teresa Mathews Usher - John Alley, Mike Gagnon, Matt Walters

Please frequently check the app for any openings or to fill substitution's needs.

If you are unable to serve this upcoming weekend, please utilize the substitute button within Ministry Scheduler Pro or call the parish office at 217-877-4404.

8 UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY | FEBRUARY 28

Mood Tides - 7:00pm

TUESDAY | MARCH 1

No Events Scheduled

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 2

Ash Wednesday Mass - 2:00pm, 6:30pm

(Spanish) Women's Group - 1:00pm

THURSDAY | MARCH 3

St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Adoration - 9:00am Confession - 12:00pm

FRIDAY | MARCH 4

St. Casimir

Fish Fry - 5:00pm Spanish Mass - 6:00pm

SATURDAY | MARCH 5

Confession - 11:00am

SUNDAY | MARCH 6

1st Sunday of Lent

No Scheduled Events



The Upper Cenacle Prayer Group Tuesdays at 6:45pm

The Cenacle prayer group is a charismatic prayer group that tries to create the atmosphere of discipleship that was present in the Early Church.

The prayer group will meet from **6:45-7:45pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday** of every month in the church.

Our next session will be held on **Tuesday, March 8**. For any questions, please reach out to Fr. Trummer at mtrummer@dio.org (preferred) or call the parish office (217-877-4404).

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday 6:30am, 2:00pm, 6:30pm (Spanish)

Stations of the Cross Fridays at 5:30pm at OLOL, 3:00pm at St. Thomas

Penance Thursdays at 12:00pm, Saturdays at 11:00am

Fish Frys March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th from 5-7:00pm





"Steubenville STL Mid-America is a high-energy youth conference in which teens are invited to encounter Jesus Christ through dynamic speakers, engaging music, the Sacraments, small group discussion, and fellowship with other teens." - SSMA Brochure

When?

July 15-17, 2022 **Where?** Missouri State University Springfield, Missouri **Who?** Incoming freshman through graduated seniors (Class of 2022). **Pricing** \$250 on campus All payments non-refundable Includes: Entrance fee, 5meals, Room, and T-shirt

Fundarising & Scholarship Opportunities are available.

Contact Group Leader Ivy Handley 217-412-5188 / ivymae11@gmail.com **Deadline to register: Sunday, March 13th**

Our Lady of Lourdes | Decatur IL

PARISH COMMUNITY

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School Educating Children...for life!

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School is currently accepting applicants for the Pre-K3 through 8th grade principal position.

Applicants must be a practicing Roman Catholic with a desire to lead in and promote the Catholic identity of our school. Candidates should possess excellent communication skills, administrative acumen, and experience managing a staff. A Master's Degree in Administration (or working towards it) with proper certification is required.



Interested parties should send a cover letter and resume with the application to Fr. Michael Friedel at mfriedel@dio.org.

Scan the QR Code, go to our website, or call us at 217-877-4404 for more information regarding this position.

Are you interested in helping to sponsor a child through Our Lady of Lourdes School, and redirecting the entirety of your Illinois State Income Taxes to our school?

Empower Illinois is pleased to match any donations for our school from now until **April 15th**. From \$1 - 10,000, your donation will be matched to help our students.



Contact the parish office for more

information on how to be accompanied through the donation process by calling 217-877-

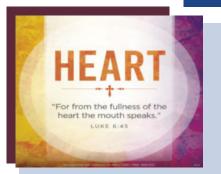
through the donation process by calling 217-877-4404, or by visiting empowerillinois.org.



Our Fish Fry will return every **Friday in March (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)** in Our Lady of Lourdes School Gym. Menu will be published at a later date.

Call in orders may begin at 4:30pm, by calling 217-877-4408.

Doors open at 5:00-7:00pm for dine in or carry out.



Inspiration of the Week

"From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." What we say reveals so much about who we are. It discloses what is really going on within us: our integrity, priorities, depth of conscience, level of compassion and understanding of mercy. People whose speech is judgmental or overly critical usually reveal an interior life that is angry, unsettled, defensive, and shallow. Our speech communicates our sense of right and wrong, the strength of our relationship with God and how we feel about our fellow human beings. We are also quick to point out the faults of others, concentrating on their shortcomings and wrongdoings before our own. Only God fully understands what is going on inside the human heart. Only God can see the depth of a human soul. Perhaps it would do us well to consider what may be happening inside our brothers and sisters and temper our critical speech of what we see occurring outside. Looking within will also help us identify our own sins and weakness so that we can be better positioned to offer the type of wisdom and compassionate guidance that can really be of help to our friends.

10 PARISH/SCHOOL STAFF/COUNCILS

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH STAFF

Pastor, *Rev. Michael Friedel*

Parochial Vicar, Rev. Michael Trummer

Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Rick Weltin

Pastoral Associate, Sr. JoAn Schullian, O.S.F.

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator, Sr. Ofelia Quiroz, MAG

Parish Communication & Engagement Coordinator, *Megan Bresnan*

Pastoral Care Coordinator, Jami Snow

Administrative Assistant, Dorothy Centers

Director of Operations, Justin Reed

Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Dioceses of Springfield in Illinois Allison Smith asmith@dio.org or 217-698-8500.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES FINANCE AND PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fr. Michael Friedel Fr. Michael Trummer John Alley Jim Comerford Ann Kerns Jim Keyes Joe Kerns Jack Wagner (Chair) Mike Cassell Mary Ann Fawcett Jerry Follis Kathy Hamilton Marcia Hardy-McCormick Christie Linder JoEllen Malcom



Our Lady of Lourdes School Staff

Principal,

Theresa Bowser | tbowser@ololschool.com School Secretary, Dianna Wagner | dwagner@ololschool.com

PHILOSOPHY AND MISSION

The mission of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School is to develop strong values in our students and educate them spiritually, intellectually, culturally, and physically.

Phone: 217.877.4408 | Website: www.ololschool.com Our Lady of Lourdes School admits students of any race, sex, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate based on race, sex, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and school administered programs. Faculty recruitment has been, and will continue to be, processed without regard to race, sex, disability or ethnic background.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Marielle Bai Theresa Bowser Meta Burlington Dorothy Centers Jennifer Dominick Annemarie Duncan Mary Ann Fawcett Barb Ferracane Marcia Hardy McCormick Barb Hertel Melissa Miller Cherie Moran Dolores Troyer Jack Wagner Dianna Wagner Mary Lou Walker Jamie Walters

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