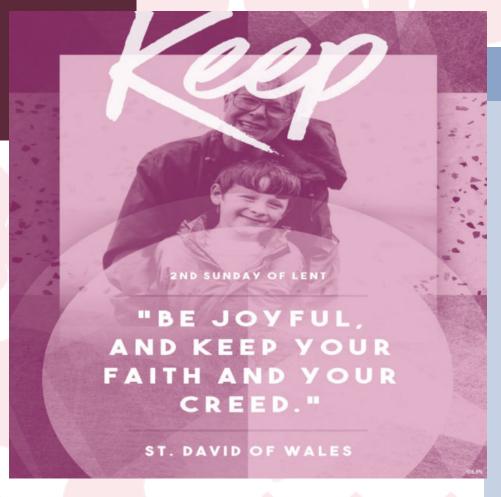
MAR
13
2022

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Catholic Church





3850 Lourdes Drive Decatur, IL 62526



mfriedel@dio.org mtrummer@dio.org



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



www.ololchurch.com



217.877.4404



www.ololschool.com 217.877.4408



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

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

Confessions

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



What Penance Is

Catholics sometimes get a bit of a bad reputation around town for being morose or a bit heavy-handed—always insisting that people do penance, guilting (or worse, shaming) people into abiding

by the commandments of God, not allowing this and not allowing that... All that of course comes from a misunderstanding of the Church's theology (what we believe about God) and anthropology (what we believe about the human person). I won't even attempt to correct all of it in one bulletin article, but there's something for our Lenten mindsets that I think would be pertinent to address.

Penance, simply put, is not a punishment. Fasting is not—or at least shouldn't be—depriving ourselves of good things just because some big, mean god in the sky makes us. Penance is rather the response of a joyful and grateful heart.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) talks about two types of penance: interior and exterior. Interior penance is conversion—it's the turning of our hearts away from sin and toward God, trying to amend our lives as much as we can because of the hope that we have that God is merciful and will give us the grace to continue to grow in love and relationship with Him. Exterior acts of penance are what most of us probably think of: fasting, prayer, and almsgivingthe business of Lent. These are—or again, should be—acts that we perform out of our interior penance or conversion, outward manifestations of an inward reality. In other words, as I like to put it, it's saying with are prone to turning away from Him. But by these our bodies what we believe with our souls.

What penance is decidedly not is an attempt to earn God's grace. Grace is always and everywhere the free gift of God. God loves us freely and without coercion, and there is quite simply nothing that we can do EVER to change that, either in a positive or

negative direction. God is unchanging, after all, so His estimation of us does not change because we did or did not do something. Certainly, though, we can choose to receive or close ourselves off to that grace, to demonstrate our acceptance of that grace by our acts of charity and penitence or our rejection of that love by acts of sin.

Some of you may be thinking: wait, don't we get assigned a penance after confession precisely to "make up for" our sins? Yes! That's another sense of the word penance—but here again, it's not a punishment for the sins we've done or even a way to earn the forgiveness that we've already received. The penance assigned to us in the confessional is a way of making "satisfaction" for our sins. CCC §1459 puts it this way: "Absolution takes away sin, but it does not remedy the disorders sin has caused [to the sinner, or his/her relationship to God and neighbor]." Penance here is again a response to (not a cause for) our forgiveness, an attempt to rectify the damage, not to satisfy God or convince Him that we're worthy of the gift. We receive forgiveness for free...but our response, in gratitude and joy, is to do something to demonstrate our reception of that grace and to make up, in sorrow, for the damage that our sin has caused in the world.

So our penances, Lenten or otherwise, shouldn't be viewed as punishments for sin—they're not really something morose or guilt-ridden at all. They are a participation in the realm of grace with the free and undeserved gift of God. They are an acknowledgement with our bodies that we want to receive this grace. It's our free offering back to God, acknowledging that we are weak and that we penances, we speak our desire to live not in rebellion to His goodness, but in humble acceptance of His manifold goodness.

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, MARCH 14

6:30am | John Wrigley

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

6:30am | Joe Knott

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

No Mass | Priest's Retreat

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

2:00pm | Ruth Fear

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

6:30am | Nancy Shultz

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

4:30pm | Chris Reinhart

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

7:30am | Emmitt & Fanny Gaffron

9:30am | Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Thomas Parishes

11:30am | Nancy Shultz

BE WITH ME, O GOD.

FIRST READING

It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give the land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates." (Gn 15:18)

PSALM

The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Ps 27)

SECOND READING

He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. (Phil 3:21)

Gospel

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. (Lk 9:28b-29)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

The English translation of Psalm
Responses from *Lectionary for Mass*© 1969, 1981, 1997, International
Commission on English in the Liturgy
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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			March 6, 2022
Sunday Envelopes Loose Cash Children Donations	\$ \$ \$	26, 242 963 0	We're grateful to
Total Collected	\$	27, 205	those who continue to financially
Year-to-date Goal Year-to-date Collected Difference	\$ 6	644, 000 681, 414 62, 586	support our parish. God bless you!
Diocesan Collections	\$	852	

4

LITURGICAL LIFE



"For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,"

St. Paul reflects on this act of God and sees in it the supreme act of humility. We read in the letter to the Philippians, "Though he was in the

form of God, [Jesus] did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men" (Phil. 2:6-7). What is clear to St. Paul is that Godliness is not something to "achieve" or "grasp." Jesus gives us this example by receiving everything from the Father, and not grasping for it himself.

The Lord calls us all to live in humility. While this can be a hard command to obey, he hasn't left us in the dark: he has given us an example to follow. Look again at this line of the creed. Reflect for a moment. He came down from heaven. What? God came down from heaven for us men and for our salvation. He came to earth and grew up as a human child, dependent on others, and sharing all things with us except sin. He had to learn to depend on his heavenly Father for all things, and he did.

The scene of his temptation in the desert is a prime example of this. Jesus could have listened to Satan and taken control over all the kingdoms of the earth, but that would have been "grasping" at power. Jesus instead depends on the Father, and is given all this and more when he rises from the dead and ascends into heaven. He did not grasp at kingship, but he is the King of the Universe. He allows the Father to bestow upon him his identity, rather than taking it for himself.

For our own part, the desire for power or honor can cause us to unhealthily grasp at an identity apart from the will of the Father. We may even try to be like God by forming our own moral or ethical standards apart from the law of God. What Jesus shows us is that it is necessary for us to recognize the Father as the giver of all good things. We are dependent on the Father. It takes a lot of humility to live in this dependence.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Pope Francis has encouraged bishops around the world to engage a process of "synodality", characterzed by dialogue, accompaniment, and collaboration among the



dioceasn leadership, ordained clergy, religious, and lay faithful. In our diocese, we have fully embraced this approach, having completed our Fourth Diocesan Synod of 2017, which invovled a comprehensive process of dialogue and discussion, and produced great insights and goals for our diocese to become a community of missionary disciples.

While our official synod process has been completed, we continue to sustain dialogue, listening, and collaboration through avenues such as our Diocesan Pastoral Council, Diocesan Presbyteral Council, Parish Pastoral Visits, and Canonical Visitations. After a pause due to COVID-related restrictions, I recently revived parish pastoral visits and intend to visit all 129 parishes over the next few years.

In addition to these important means of sustained dialogue and collaboration, I also intend to host a diocese-wide listening session on Sunday, March 27th at 2:00pm at Holy Family Catholic Church's Parish Center. Groups will gather locally in the deaneries and connect together with me and across the deaneries by video. In this session, we will discuss three topics:

- 1. Five-year reflection of the Fourth Diocesan Synod
- 2. Reflection on synodality and evangelization
- 3. Refelction on Challenges to Authentic Discipleship

I look forward to the ongoing dialog across our diocese and the insights we will share in this upcoming listening session.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverened Thomas John Paprocki Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

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.



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

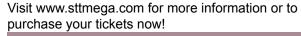
March 20th April 10th April 24th May 1st

May 22nd

High School March 26th

The High Schoolers will have Mass at OLOL on 3/26 followed by pizza and games

2022 Annual St. Teresa Mega Raffle is coming! Your chance to win \$100,000. Tickets are \$100. Buy a ticket now online at STTMEGA.com. Or email St. Teresa at: Advancement@stteressa.org. Increase your chances of winning by purchasing one of our ticket packages: Buy 2 tickets (\$200) and get ONE FREE; Buy 3 tickets (\$300) get two FREE; or buy 5 tickets (\$500) get FIVE FREE. Buy your ticket early to be a part of the SUPER EARLYBIRD drawing and you could win \$10,000, April 6th. This year's final drawing will be on Friday, May 20th.







The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. Our local council Darrell W. Beck 577 will be holding a membership drive at all Masses at Our Lady of Lourdes the weekend of **March 19-20**. Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. To find out more information about our Council and how you can become a member, visit decaturknights.org or contact Grand Knight Kevin Martin at (217) 620-7141.

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

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

LITURGICAL LIFE



March 13, 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent

There is so much wisdom in the first commandment.

The daily demands of life, current political ideologies and dynamics, social expectations, corporate philosophies, and even technology can easily become lesser gods. We can find ourselves beholden to and held captive by these secular constructs and systems. Even for those who profess a faith in the one true God, these lesser, attractive but false gods are a temptation. Being overly preoccupied and even obsessed with the state of our present lives, we lose sight of our real destiny and purpose.

Jesus showed his disciples a glimpse of this destiny when he was transfigured before their eyes. In fact, Peter was so caught up in the brilliance, awe, and sacredness of these fleeting moments that he wanted to extend them as long as possible. Wonderful things happen when we leave our illusions and discover something that is true. This is why creating some sacred space in our lives for reflection, prayer, renewal, refreshment, centering ourselves, and disconnecting from the noise is so important. It shows us how false and shallow our lives can be and what is really of importance. Do you create some kind of sacred space in your life? Lent is a perfect time to do so.

St. Irenaeus, one of the early fathers and martyrs of the Catholic Church, said that, "he who was the Son of God became the Son of Man that man ... might become the son of God." We mistakenly believe that life is all about us. It's not. Ours is a journey of transformation in which we become more and more one with the mind of Christ and Christ himself. St. Augustine saw this same transformation occurring when the Eucharist is received. In receiving the Eucharist, we become what we eat, the Body of Christ. Honestly acknowledging false gods that we cling to can open the door for God to show us the wholeness and holiness to which we are called. Take time to discover the sacred. When we do, we will want to stay there for a while. Then, when we return to our personal affairs, we will see more clearly.



Lord, please grant eternal rest to the soul of ROGER FRANKENHOFF, cousin to Sr. JoAn Schullian

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE NEWS

Flowing from the teaching of the Catholic Church

At this time most people are very concerned about the Ukrainian people, wanting Russia to stop their attacks, and praying for peace in the Ukraine and among all nations. I received the following statement from the Springfield Dominican Sisters. It is from Father Petro S. Balog, Dominican Friar, Associate Director of Thomas Aquinas Institute, Kyiv, Ukraine. "We urge the world to support Ukraine in all possible ways to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity, peace and security." He continues: "We, citizens of Ukraine of various ethnic identities and citizens of other counties. who live in Ukraine, united in valuing freedom and peace, declare our solidarity and support for Ukraine and condemn the new attempts of the external aggressor to disrupt our peace."

I encourage us to pray Pope Francis prayer for the Ukraine - A PRAYER TO OUR CREATOR which is contained in his book: "Fratelli tutti." Lord, Father of our human family, you created all human beings equal in dignity; pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter, dialogue, justice and peace. Move us to create healthier societies and a more dignified world, a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war. (Ist verse)

OLOL/St. Thomas Social Justice Committee plans to meet within the next two/three weeks to make plans for future speakers and events at OLOL to promote justice and peace. Come join us. Please contact Walt Wessel at 217-433-8015 or Sr. JoAn at 217-877-4404 or e-mail Sr.Joan@ololchurch.com for more info.

Submitted by Sr. JoAn C0-chair of OLOL/St. Thomas Social Justice committee.

7

On **Saturday, April 9th at 6:30pm**, we are hosting another healing service. Such an important part of Jesus' ministry was healing the sick. We often pray for healing privately or at a distance for someone, but there is a power when we gather together and pray for healing.

The Night of Healing is a healing service that provides a much more powerful and intentional way to pray for healing. Prayer

for healing will be prayed for in a large group, and there will also be an opportunity for prayer teams to pray over anyone wanting prayer for healing. If you or anyone needs prayers for healing, please feel free to come. There is no official end time, as prayer teams will stay as long as needed for individuals to receive prayer.

Any questions can be emailed to Fr. Michael Trummer: mtrummer@dio.org



All women of the Springfield Diocese are cordially invited to the S.D.C.C.W. Lenten Retreat on Tuesday, March 29th thru Wednesday, March 30th in Villa Maria, Springfield.

A Life's Journey - Why Is God So Important? Retreat Master - Rev. Father Larry Brunette

Lenten retreat is a tradition - Spiritual Presentations, Prayer, Holy Mass, Rosary, Confession, Fellowship and More...

Retreat Fees: \$90.00 Overnight Stay, Double Occupancy \$110.00 Overnight Stay, Single Occupancy \$70.00 Commuters

Registration fee payable to S.D.C.C.W. are due by **March 22, 2022**.

For more information, please visit the parish office for registration forms.

Outstanding Diocesan Catholic Female High School Seniors are invited to apply for the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Female High School Senior Leadership Scholarship.

There are 4 \$1000 Scholarships available. Winners will be be notified by the Springfield Diocese in May and published in the Catholic Times.

Young women who are interested in applying for the scholarship should contact their high school principle, high school guideance office, or parish office for applications. A typed completed application, essay, and two letters of recommendation are required.

Application, essay, and two letters of recommendations must be completed by **April 1st**. More information can be found on the form acquired from the respective offices.



Saturday, March 19th 4:30pm

Sacristan - Bob & Judy Galka Lector - Cassie Yoder Eucharistic Minister - Bill Lehmann, Mary Kate Lehmann, Jo Ellen Malcom Gift Bearer Family - Lehmann Family Servers - Leah Payne, Mark Strompolis Greeter - Mike Jordan, Gloria Walcher Usher - Kent Cassell, Bob Cassell, Roger Wall

Sunday, March 20th 7:30am

Lector - Nancy Peterson Eucharistic Minister - Frank Moore, Wendy Jalley

Gift Bearer Family - Moore Family Greeter - Meta Burlington, Gary Burlington

Usher - Bill Busbey, Jack McCoy, Steve Halicki

Sunday, March 20th 9:30am

Sacristan - Jim Lambert Lector - Mary Lou Walker Eucharistic Minister - Jennifer Dominick, Celeste Lambert, Jim Lambert Gift Bearer Family - Collins Family Servers - Erik Hayden, Lucy Pokrzywinski

Greeter - Teri Miller, 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 | MARCH 14

Mood Tides - 7:00pm

TUESDAY | MARCH 15

No Events Scheduled

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 16

Women's Group - 1:00pm

THURSDAY | MARCH 17

St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day

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

FRIDAY | MARCH 18

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Fish Fry - 5:00pm Stations of the Cross -5:30pm

SATURDAY | MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Confession - 11:00am KofC Membership Drive -After Mass Candlelight Adoration -7:00pm

SUNDAY | MARCH 20

3rd Sunday of Lent

KofC Membership Drive -After Masses Decatur Wide Penance -2:00pm



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 22**. For any questions, please reach out to Fr. Trummer at mtrummer@dio.org (preferred) or call the parish office (217-877-4404).

Lenten Schedule

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 18th, 25th from 5-7:00pm

Passion Narratives - March 24, 31, April 7 at 7:00pm

Candlelight Adoration

March 19th, 27th at 7:00pm

Decatur Wide Penance Service

March 20th at 2:00pm at Holy Family



PreCana class will be held on **April 23, 2022** at Our Lady of Lourdes Church from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Registration fees are \$50.00.

Please call the church office to register for this event at 217-877-4404.

There will not be 5:15pm Mass on **Tuesday, March 15th** at St. Thomas or 6:30am Mass on **Wednesday, March 16th** at Our Lady of Lourdes due to the prsts being away at an overnight retreat.





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

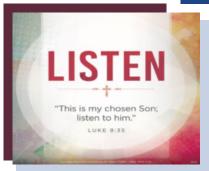


proper certification is required.

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.





Inspiration of the Week

While we have to be cognizant of our societal and personal responsibilities in this world, we can never lose sight of where our true citizenship lies - heaven. When we become too immersed in earthly things and too preoccupied with our temporal responsibilities, we can actually become numb to our faith. Becoming ambivalent about our faith, our belief in Jesus Christ and the promises of heaven become more a source of agitation rather than a source of promise and hope. It is easy to become an enemy of Christ without even knowing it is happening. God has given us a very clear destiny. We are definitely not meant to conform ourselves to this world but to the transfiguration and glorification of our bodies to come. It is here where we can see clearly not only who God is but who we are. The way many conduct the daily business of their lives suggests that such a promise or hope is of little importance. What does the way you live your daily life say about you?

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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

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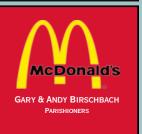
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