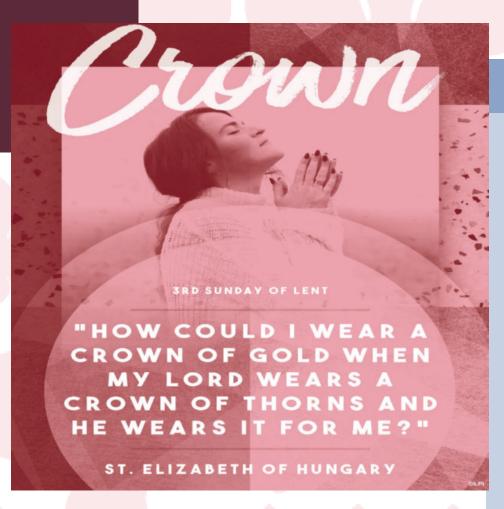
MAR
20
2022

## 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



Getting the Most out of Lent

l don't know about you, but l sometimes find it difficult to keep my spiritual energies up during the season of Lent. Advent seems to be no problem, as it's usually only

a few weeks long. The season of Christmas is the same—you blink twice and it's gone. But during the season of Lent, spread out over six weeks, it can be difficult to "keep your head in the game," so to speak.

So how might we get the most out of Lent? How can we apply ourselves to this season of penitence, so that when Easter comes, we can rejoice with full joy at the Resurrection? I can think of a few things...

First, keep up those Lenten penances! I think we all struggle sometimes with falling flat on our faces when it comes to whatever act of kindness, extra prayers, or small fasting that we've chosen to practice during Lent. But failing at it sometimes probably just means you chose something that stretches you-and the way to continue letting it stretch you is not to give it up at the first signs of failure! Now, don't get me wrong, if you've chosen something extreme and cannot do it, maybe you've chosen poorly and need to regroup and choose another penance. But short of that, just keep at the one you've chosen! A day or two missed doesn't mean that you should just throw in the towel for the rest of Lent. The devil would love nothing more than has inspired in you or your family. to make you give it up altogether—don't let him win!

Second, go to an extra daily Mass every week or try reading the daily Mass readings. Did you know that the daily Mass readings are available online via the USCCB website (bible.usccb.org)?

Immersing yourself in the prayer of the Church during these "strong" seasons is a great way to enter into the spirit of the season. You could do that by praying with the readings each day or choosing a day or two every week to go to Mass when maybe you wouldn't otherwise go-we have daily Mass at OLOL at 6:30 am (except Thursdays when school is in session, when the Mass is at 2 pm) or at St. Thomas (M-Th) at 5:15 pm. Now that's the kind of penance I think the Lord delights to see us try.

Third, try doing something out of the norm to make Lent different than every other time of the year. Maybe that means picking a devotion to pray together with your family—or praying before your meal, even when you're in public (I don't know when making the sign of the cross in public became such a thing to be hidden!). Maybe it looks like turning off the TV and getting out the board games or dusting off that book you've been wanting to read for three months, but never seem to find the time. Or almsgiving is that ever-neglected third aspect of our Lenten call to conversion...what would it look like if you chose somewhere to volunteer on a Saturday morning? Or researched a charity that's active in something you're passionate about and gave them your fast-food budget for the week? The Lord, I think, would want us to be creative in making Lent what it is meant to be: a privileged time of turning our minds and lives back to the Lord, "reorienting" ourselves to the God who made us for communion with Him and with each other.

And hey, if you get any really good ideas, send them my way! I'd love to hear what the Holy Spirit

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 21**

6:30am | Cecilia & Sanford Ladie

#### **TUESDAY, MARCH 22**

6:30am | Cecilia Sucher

#### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23**

6:30am | Living & Deceased members of the Hubbard Family

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 24

2:00pm | Betty & Patty Perry

Roger Hess

Carol Hess Christina Mooney

Jack Frankovich

Mary Benson

Adrienne Moore

Mary Blazier

Linda Randles

Fr. Tony Wach, SJ

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 25

6:30am | O'Toole & Maloney Families

#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 26**

4:30pm | Living & Deceased members of the Wrigley Family

#### **SUNDAY, MARCH 27**

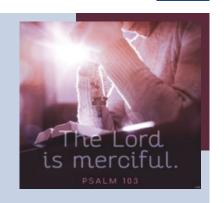
7:30am | Nancy Shultz

9:30am | Clarence Smethers

Jenny Brummer

Molly Ellis

11:30am | Sanctity of Life



#### FIRST READING

"This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you." (Ex 3:14)

#### **PSALM**

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

#### SECOND READING

These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, up on whom the end of the ages has come. (1 Cor 10:11)

#### Gospel

"But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will parish as they did!" (Lk 13:5)

#### Toni Skelley Alison Stevens Jean Casselman

**HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...** 

Gloria Leonard Joyce Nalefski

Michael Brown

Sharon Nolte

Janet Schollmeier

Joan Forbes

Kathy Sheary

Stefani Heinz

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.

#### March 13, 2022 **STEWARDSHIP** Sunday Envelopes 11, 741 Loose Cash 597 Children Donations \$ 0 We're grateful to those who continue Total Collected 12, 338 to financially \$ 763,000 Year-to-date Goal support our parish. Year-to-date Collected \$ 693, 752 God bless you! \$ -69,248 Difference Diocesan Collections 1, 395

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## 4

### LITURGICAL LIFE



"...and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man"

When I was in high school, one of the classes I had to take was a world religions course. Flipping through the textbook offered me a chance to read ancient stories and to see lots of

pictures of different gods, goddesses, spirits, ritual practices, and clothing - most of which seemed pretty exotic.

An activity I found to be helpful when reading this book, and even when simply reflecting on the religions of the world, was to pretend that I had never heard anything about the specific religion we were going over. That way, everything I heard was "new" and I think I got a good impression of what an outsider would think of the religion. What surprised me about this process was that of all the religions of the world, Christianity ended up seeming the strangest.

In no other religion is God one, yet three persons. In no other religion did this God who created all things actually become a part of creation by taking on a human nature. In no other religion did God choose to be born of a human woman. In no other religion did God become the sacrifice for the sake of his people. In no other religion does God continually change bread into himself in order to feed his people. In fact, without the eyes of faith, much of this doesn't even make sense.

Take, for example, this line of the Nicene Creed, "[Jesus] by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man." One of the persons of the Trinity took on human flesh and was born of a Virgin named Mary. Who could have imagined this, or even would have dared to? What was not humanly possible or even imaginable, God did. And he did it in order to free humanity from sin and lead our human nature into his divine life.

Reflecting deeply on the creativity and providence of God in this act of redemption leads the human mind to wonder at God's goodness and power. Our God is a God who created you and would stop at nothing to save you from death, to the point of becoming like you and experiencing death himself. We realize that of all the religions of the world, Christianity possesses the fullness of the Truth, and this reality is more amazing and incredible than anyone could ever have imagined.

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.



Visit www.sttmega.com for more information or to purchase your tickets now! You can also buy your tickets in the school or parish offices.



Illinois Right to Life cordially invites you to it's 53rd Annual Leaders for Life Banquet which will be held on **Friday, April 29th, 6:00 pm**, at The Carlisle in Lombard. Dan Proft, radio talk show host for AM 560, will serve as master of ceremonies and Dennis Prager will be featured

as keynote speaker. Dennis Prager is a best-selling author, nationally syndicated radio talk show host in the USA and co-founder of the Internet phenomenon, PragerU. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to https://illinoisrighttolife.org/Banquet or call (312)-422-9300.

## 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 <a href="mail@ololchurch.com">jami@ololchurch.com</a> 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 20, 2022

#### **3rd Sunday of Lent**

Deserts can be lonely, isolated, and treacherous places. When

a person wanders in a desert, they can easily get disoriented, dehydrated, confused, lost, and vulnerable. Temptation is at its peak, especially when confronted with something that may offer some respite or relief, even a mirage. Deserts can bring us to our weakest moment and tempt our faith. The Christian journey can be described as a desert experience as we vacillate back and forth, falling victim to the mirages of our lives versus the true, life-giving water offered by God. We need a burning bush experience in our lives that convinces us of the power of God and reveals Him as the "I am" of all existence.

Moses was leading his flock across the desert when he found himself at Mount Horeb. Mountains give us a fuller perspective of life, a panoramic view of what would otherwise be hidden from the limitations of our sight. That's when Moses met God. We have to find our way to a mountain experience where our vantage point can take on a wider view of life. Many things can do this for us: the birth of a child, the death of someone we love, the joy that comes from marveling at the beauty of God's work, the pondering of life's mysteries, and the ache of longing found deep within our souls. There are many things in life that can wake us up, give us a clearer, better view of things and become occasions where a bush may burn and God's presence as the eternal uncreated One is revealed.

God is very patient and gives us the time and space we need to figure things out and bear some good fruit. He doesn't rush to cut us down or get frustrated with our barrenness. But we have to remember that the desert journeys of our lives come with some risks. The major risk is that we will mistakenly believe that the mirages are real. Thus, we fall victim to thinking that the respite and refreshment we seek is discovered in a place other than where it actually is. Our faith and the life of the Church are the safeguards we need to keep us properly orientated so that we don't get lost or confused and stay on course.



Lord, please grant eternal rest to the soul of **DIANA BROWN**, mother to Michele "Micki" Mass.

## **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 also pray the 2nd verse of Pope Francis's prayer, A PRAYER TO OUR CREATOR for the Ukraine people, for their country and for Russia to stop the attacks. May our hearts be open to all the peoples and nations of the earth (esp. the Ukraine people). May we recognize the goodness and beauty that you, God, have sown in each of us, and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects and shared dreams. Amen (Let's consider what those common projects and shared dreams can be for the Ukraine and for us.)

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 Co-chair of OLOL/St. Thomas Social Justice committee.

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 26th 4:30pm

Sacristan - Janet Pezzelle Lector - David Martin Eucharistic Minister - Jayne Despres, Janet Pezzelle, Gary Birschbach Gift Bearer Family - Cassell Family Servers - Tanerrianah Thomas, Thomas Herman

Greeter - Mike Jordan, Gloria Walcher Usher - Kent Cassell, Barb Cassell, Roger Wall

#### Sunday, March 20th 7:30am

Sacristan - Mary Ann Fawcett Lector - Mary Ann Fawcett Eucharistic Minister - Mary Ann Fawcett, Ivy Handley

Gift Bearer Family - Tohill Family Greeter - Barbara McCoy, Ceil Frankovich

Usher - Bill Busbey, Jack McCoy, Steve Halicki

#### Sunday, March 20th 9:30am

Sacristan - Cecilia Kehoe Lector - Kevin Chierek Eucharistic Minister - Sharon Heinz, Robin Bridges, Kathleen Arnold Gift Bearer Family - Heinz Family Servers - Maanya Marri, Vinathi Marri Greeter - Sharon Heinz, Denis Heinz 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 21**

No Events Scheduled

#### **TUESDAY | MARCH 22**

Prayer Group - 6:45pm

#### **WEDNESDAY | MARCH 23**

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Women's Group - 1:00pm

#### **THURSDAY | MARCH 24**

Adoration - 9:00am Confession - 12:00pm Passion Narratives -7:00pm

#### FRIDAY | MARCH 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

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

#### **SATURDAY | MARCH 26**

Confession - 11:00am

#### **SUNDAY | MARCH 27**

4th Sunday of Lent

Synod at Holy Family - 2:00pm Candlelight Adoraion - 7:00pm



## 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 25th from 5-7:00pm

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

#### Candlelight Adoration

March 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.

St. Mary's Chapel is looking for adorers for their 10:00am for the 1st and 3rd Wednesday and 2:00pm for the 2nd and 4th Wednesday Adoration time slots.

Please call Jim Keyes at 217-433-4409 or Colleen Keyes at 217-972-4930 to sign up.





## Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School

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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
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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.

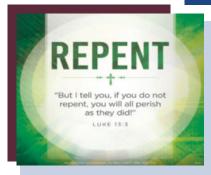


Interested parties should send a cover letter and resume with the application to Fr. Michael Friedel at mfriedel@dio.org.

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



3950 Lourdes Drive, Decatur, IL 62526 - 217-877-4408



#### **Inspiration of the Week**

God clearly reveals his identity as "I am who am." God, who is really beyond all names, is the One who simply "is" as the ground of all being. This ever-existing, uncreated, and all-encompassing presence of unconditional God, who is Love, is very patient as he waits for us to grow and change. God is so near to us that it is easy to miss his presence. As true love requires, God seeks a devoted, intimate, free, and exclusive relationship with each of us. As we walk through the parched, desert experiences of our lives it is easily in our thirst for water and a respite from the heat that we reach for and construct idols that will bring us immediate relief and satisfaction. These false gods, made out of our comforts and earthly desires can quickly take the place of the One who really has first dibs on our hearts. Humans have often wandered far away from God as St. Paul reminds us. In helping each other cultivate and fertilize the ground upon which we walk, God gives us yet another chance to bear fruit and return.

## 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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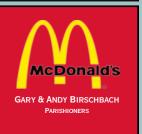
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