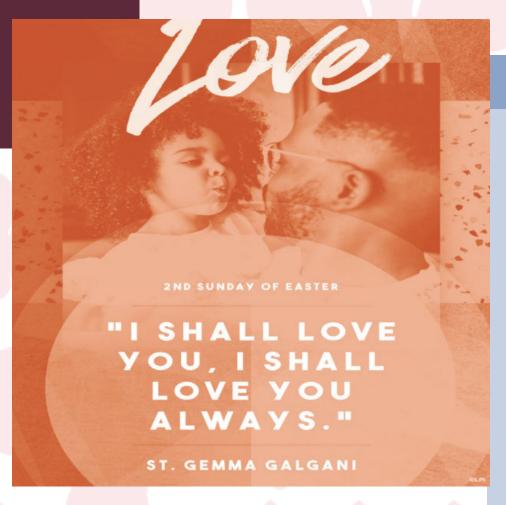
APRIL

24

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

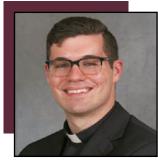
Saturday - Vigil 4:30pm Sunday 7:30, 9:30 Spanish Mass 11:30am

Confessions

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

2

FROM THE PAROCHIAL VICAR'S DESK



Focusing on God's Goodness

What we focus on matters.
What we focus on has immense power for good or evil. Peter Kreeft, Catholic author and speaker, once made the point that scientists

tend to be believers more than psychologists or psychiatrists. Why exactly? He argued that scientists focus on order, laws, and the beauty of the finely tuned and designed universe. Psychologists can often focus on what's wrong with a person—disorders, dysfunction, chaos, and problems. When one focuses on what is right as opposed to what is wrong, they are better off.

This past week I was reading a reflection from Wilfrid Stinissen. He talked about how the people who were bit by poisonous snakes could look at the copper snake Moses held up before them and be healed. Christ fulfills that on the cross– all who look upon him elevated on the cross can receive healing from the wounds of sin. Stinissen made the point that we should be aware of our sins, but not overly focused on them- we shouldn't spend too much time and attention focusing on our "snake bites" or problems. It is incredibly important for us to have a sensitive conscience, to be extremely sensitive to the tiniest of sins. However, it is dangerous and destructive when someone focuses too much on their brokenness. problems, weaknesses, and sins. When we focus on these things, we can quickly become discouraged. The unfortunate thing is that many people believe it is just, holy, and saintly to beat themselves up and constantly focus on their sin.

In general, our focus should be on God's goodness, power, love, and especially in the context of Divine Mercy Sunday, His mercy. Our sins should be used only as signals to turn our attention immediately to God and His mercy. We don't have to be discouraged by our sins and brokenness! In St. Faustina's Diary, the image she uses is that God's mercy is an ocean

and our sins our mere drops. When we take our sinfulness too seriously and become discouraged, it is actually a sign we don't actually believe God's mercy is greater than our sinfulness. Instead of walking around beating ourselves up, we should constantly surrender to God and his mercy, saying to Him, "Jesus, you are so much greater than my sins. I know I am weak and I fall. I know I don't believe as I ought, hope as I ought, or love you and others as I ought. But I know that my sins are nothing compared to your mercy. You can make me a saint in spite of my brokenness, because you are powerful. I don't have to have it together, because I know you have it together. You took all my sins and had them nailed to the cross. Wash me with your love and mercy and purify me."

St. Therese of Liseux's spirituality of the Little Way is a spirituality that is focused on God's goodness, love, power, and mercy. She was not discouraged by her littleness, sins, or weaknesses. She strongly believed that God was going to make her saint, because God wanted her to be a saint and God is all-powerful. Even before she died, St. Therese told people to keep relics of her because she knew she would be a saint. St. Therese shows us that a saintly thing to do is to be confident that God will make us saints. To say or have the attitude of, "I won't be a saint. I will surely spend a good amount of time in purgatory. I can't be holy like those other saints. I am not loving/holy/prayerful/ etc. enough." This type of thinking is common, but it is a mindset that denies God's goodness, power, and mercy. I believe that everyone reading this can be a saint. A canonized one? No, not necessarily, but you can be a saint that is not officially canonized or recognized. If you don't believe me, then you are likely focusing too much on your brokenness and not enough on God's mercy. You might have fallen into the trap that sanctity is about being perfect and using a superhuman amount of effort, and not primarily about surrendering yourself to God's mercy. I do believe we will be saints as long as we don't surrender our confidence in God's mercy.

Fr. Trummer

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, APRIL 25

6:30am | Armond & Elaine Scheiner

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

6:30am | Leo & Virginia Scheiner

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

6:30am | Roman Scheiner

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

2:00pm | Richard Drury

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

6:30am | Nancy Shultz

SATURDAY. APRIL 30

4:30pm | Maloney Family

SUNDAY, MAY 1

7:30am | Living & Deceased Members of the Keck & Dougherty Families

9:30am | Bernie Naber

11:30am | Ruth Fear



FIRST READING

Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them. (Acts 5:14)

PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)

SECOND READING

"I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever." (Rev 1:17-18)

Gospel

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst. (Jn 20:19)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm
Responses from *Lectionary for Mass*© 1969, 1981, 1997, International
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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
Jean Casselman
Jenny Brummer
Molly Ellis

Mary Paxton Gloria Guy Maurice Payne

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		April 10, 2022
Sunday Envelopes Loose Cash Children Donations	\$ 20, 94 \$ 66 \$	
Total Collected	\$ 21, 60	May 1st bulletin.
Year-to-date Goal Year-to-date Collected Difference	\$ 839, 00 \$ 772, 04 \$ - 66, 95	those who continue to
Diocesan Collections	\$ 80	parish. God bless you!

LITURGICAL LIFE



"He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father."

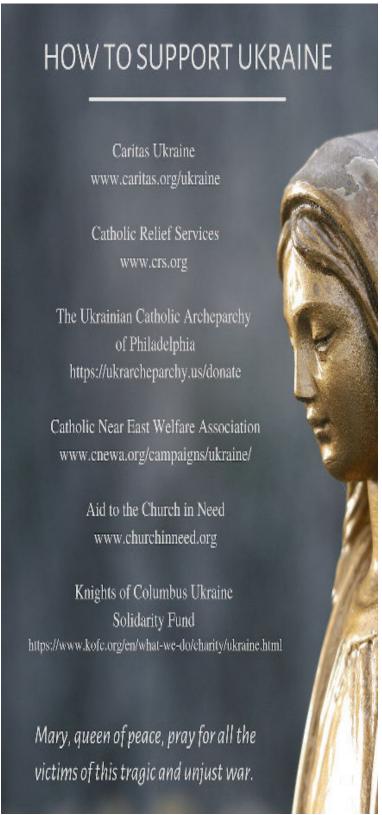
One of the most beautiful mysteries of the faith is the Ascension of Jesus into heaven.

He rose from the dead and then spent forty days with his apostles and close friends, teaching them and deepening their faith. At the end of this time, he brought them to a place outside the city. He promised that he would remain with them always, and then he ascended into heaven, not to be seen by them again in the same way.

While it can seem to be something of a paradox - Christ promised to remain always, but then ascended to heaven, leaving the disciples on earth - there is really a deep beauty to this event. While Jesus was on earth, he lived in the land of Israel and spoke with a particular number of people. He could have encountered even thousands of people, but no singular human person obeying the laws of earthly reality could encounter and have an intimate relationship with every human person on earth. Jesus, however, desires to have an intimate relationship with every human person on earth.

So, in order to draw closer to his people, he ascends to the right hand of the Father. There, he can have access to every human heart. There, he can govern his church as king, like a general governs his soldiers. In a mysterious way, Jesus is closer to us now than he could have been then. This is visible in a particular way in the sacrament of the Eucharist where Jesus is physically present within us. In a very real way, he is also very present to us when we pray to him. When we pray to Jesus, we draw close to Him where he is seated with the Father.

We will celebrate this feast in a few weeks. When we do, let us remember how deeply Jesus loves us and how close he desires to be with us all.



PLEASE CONSIDER INCREASING YOUR TITHE

Your donations to our parish are still needed!



This Easter Season, Fr. Trummer is hosting a Life in the Spirit Seminar, which focuses on deepening our relationship with the Holy Spirit. The seminar will talk about the essential truths of God's love, discipleship, and charisms and gifts of the Holy Spirit. If you want your faith reignited, and to experience the more God has to offer, then come to the Life in the Spirit Seminar. It will take place in the Enrichment Center at Our Lady

of Lourdes from 7-8pm. There will be optional time for continued socializing and discussion after 8pm. The seminar will be hosted on the following **Thursdays: 4/28, 5/5, (no meeting on 5/12), 5/19, 5/26, and 6/2**. The last session for praying for a deeper outpouring of the Holy Spirit will take place on Friday 6/3 at 7pm. Any questions can be emailed to Fr. Trummer—mtrummer@dio.org

Resurrection Narratives
Tuesday May 10, May
17, and May 24
7 pm - OLOL Enrichment
Center



Looking for a way to dive a little deeper into the joy of the Resurrection? Come and join Fr. Friedel for a three-part presentation and discussion on some of the Resurrection stories we hear in the Gospels. Discover in a deeper way how the Resurrection changed the course of history and how we as Christians are called to be marked by these beautiful Paschal realities!

All are welcome--as always, bring your Bible and a friend (or three!).

OLOL Book Club - A new book club is being formed. We will start with the book "Imitation of Mary" by Kempis. Please bring it to our first meeting. In the future, we may do a fiction book. Please bring a list of any Catholic books you really enjoy.

Our first meeting will be **May 5th, 2022, at 1:00pm** at Laura Birschbach's house at 1281 Woodridge Ct, Decatur, IL 62526.

Any questions, call Laura at 217-521-7948.

Our first meeting will last for one hour (we'll try). First meeting will just be a get acquainted meeting with refreshments.

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



April 24th, 2022

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Even Thomas struggles to remove his boulder! Being very pragmatic and determined, he wants to see the risen Christ for himself! Thomas's boulder is heavy with mistrust. Many of ours are too. A certain amount of skepticism is good, as it can save us from being duped or misled. But we can become so skeptical of things that it erodes our ability to trust anything we see or hear. Skepticism can actually be a well-disguised defense mechanism that we use to prevent us from being hurt or perceived as a fool. Having too much ego protection is a real risk. Thomas, because of the boulder blocking his vision, could not even trust the word of his friends.

Boulders are hard to move. It's difficult to seek change or take a risk, especially when we are so afraid to be vulnerable or reluctant to trust another's word. When we are closed minded, overly pragmatic, unwilling to see things in a different way, stubborn or defensive, it is difficult to be surprised by God and stretched. We need to be less guarded, self-assured, and self-absorbed. God cannot break into the ordinary moments of our lives and inspire us when we cling to doubt. If we are going to discover resurrection faith, we have to believe that what the witnesses say is true, especially when they are credible. We also have to trust that the risen Christ is alive in us, too!

While the first witnesses to the resurrection have faded into history, there are many others who have come after them. They continue to inspire by walking the talk of faith. They are the martyrs who offer their lives for the Gospel, the simple holy people in our communities who cling so steadfastly to their faith, those who have touched despair and found new hope and the ones who, even in spite of ridicule, still pursue their hunger and thirst for God. They are our friends, acquaintances, biblical heroes, and saints, and many others who are convinced that they have seen the Lord! The risen Christ may not surprise us with the same kind of visit as he did the first disciples, but God finds other ways. All we have to do is open our eyes, remove whatever is preventing us from seeing and believing and exclaim: "My Lord and my God!"



Lord, please grant eternal rest to the soul of DEBRA OLEKSY, mother of Amy Dent and TONI SKELLEY, sister of Martha McNamara.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE NEWS

Flowing from the teaching of the Catholic Church

In April, 2000, Saint John Paul II, established the first Divine Mercy Sunday which is now known as The Feast of Divine Mercy. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. On this day, Jesus wants to forgive all of our sins and also wants to remove all of the punishments that we have coming to us because of them. He told Saint Faustina when he appeared to her in the 1930's that "On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy." For more information about Jesus's promises on Divine Mercy, read a flyer available in the book rack in the front vestibule of church, or go to the Divine Mercy website. Also, read the notice in OLOL bulletin about the Prayer Service at Decatur's St. Patrick's Church on Divine Sunday afternoon.

I share the above to help us remember how really great God's Mercy is. We are called by St. Faustina to learn more about Jesus Mercy in her "Diary of Divine Mercy" and to share God's Mercy. Today, there are many horrible and violent actions taking place. Not only the aggressive and unjust war of Russia upon the Ukraine nation and people, but also in our own USA. Besides racism, unjust violent killings, hateful words and acts, there are more executions taking place and being scheduled by the federal government (thirteen people on death row were executed between June, 2020 and January, 2021) and now more executions in states that have not killed prisoners for many years is picking up according to the "Death Penalty Action" organization. Some who have been on death row for many years (one 78 yr. old man for forty years) are going to be executed by injection, electric chair, are if they choose by a firing squad. Where is our Mercy? Call or write Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to demand innocent Melissa Lucio be given clemency are freed. For more info. about her contact Sister JoAn at 217-855-3911.

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

IN THE COMMUNITY





Scholarship applications, for in-coming freshmen (2022/23 school year), to St. Teresa High School are available. These \$1,500 scholarships are provided by the 4th Degree KC of Decatur. Applications can be picked up in the office areas at each of the Catholic elementary schools during the month of April. Deadline for applying is **April 29th, 2022**.



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

High School

April 24th May 22nd May 1st at St. Teresa for Adoration

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.

Catholic & Company



Want to hear relevant topics for your life? Tune into the new local show on WDCR Decatur Catholic Radio "Catholic & Company"! Hosts are Father Chris

Comerford & Dave Slade; and the Ladies' Edition with Sharon Schilawski & Katherine Smith.

Program airs every Thursday at 8:00 AM; encore at 5 PM and 10 PM. How do you listen?: On 88.9 or 96.5 FM; or wdcrradio.com (Podcast are there too so you may listen whenever you like).



Save the date! August 14th will be our Parish Picnic!
Keep an eye out in the future for more information about how you can help make this year a success!



Saturday, April 30th 4:30pm

Sacristan - Janet Pezzelle Lector - David Martin Eucharistic Minister - David Martin, Gary Birschbach, Janet Pezzelle Gift Bearer Family - Weaver Family Servers - Mark Strompolis, John Smith Greeter - Mike Jordan, Gloria Walcher Usher - Bob Kuhlman, Karl Pezzelle, Roger Wall

Sunday, May 1st 7:30am

Sacristan - Mary Ann Fawcett
Lector - Karen Becker
Eucharistic Minister - Karen Seefeldt,
Mary Ann Fawcett
Gift Bearer Family - Seefeldt Family
Greeter - Jakc McCoy, Barbara McCoy
Usher - Bill Busbey, Jack McCoy, Steve
Halicki

Sunday, May 1st 9:30am

Sacristan - Celeste Lambert
Lector - Kathleen Arnold
Eucharistic Minister - Mark Niemeyer,
Maria Dent, John Dent
Gift Bearer Family - Niemeyer Family
Servers - Lucy Pokrzywinski, Leah
Payne

Greeter - Maria Dent, John Dent 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.

B UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY | APRIL 25

St. Mark, Evangelist

Sewing our Faith - 1:00pm Mood Tides - 7:00pm

TUESDAY | APRIL 26

Community 55 Luncheon - 11:30am
Prayer Group - 6:45pm

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 27

Women's Group - 1:00pm

THURSDAY | APRIL 28

St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

Adoration - 9:00am Confession - 12:00pm Life in the Spirit - 7:00pm

FRIDAY | APRIL 29

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; Arbor Day

No Events Scheduled

SATURDAY | APRIL 30

St. Pius V. Pope

Boy Scout Rummage Sale -8:00am Confession - 11:00am

SUNDAY | MAY 1

3rd Sunday of Easter; St. Joseph the Worker

No Events Scheduled



The Upper Cenacle Prayer Group Tuesdays at 6:45pm

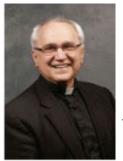
The Cenacle prayer group is a charismatic prayer group that tries to create the atmosphere of discipleship that was present in the Early Church.

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, April 26th.**For any questions, please reach out to Fr. Trummer at mtrummer@dio.org (preferred) or call the parish office (217-877-4404).

Troop 134 is once again holding their rummage sale in the OLOL Gymnasium on April 30, from 8:00am-1:00pm. Please come and support the scouts! If you have any items you wish to donate, you may drop them off on Friday, April 29th, from 5:30pm-7:00pm at the gym. There will be scouts to help you. If you have any questions, please call scoutmaster Tom Miller at (309)825-6118 or email him at thomasthetuba@gmail.com.

An Invitation to Fr. Richard Chiola's Golden Jubilee of Priestly Ordination



You are invited to participate in Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Agnes Church, 245 N. Amos, Springfield, on **Sunday May 22, 2022**. A light lunch will follow in the parish center. Father retired from parish assignment in July 2015, and he has since been assisting as needed in parishes, while continuing to offer spiritual direction, workshops, and retreats in various locations. Fr. Chiola may be contacted at rchiola@dio.org and receives postal mail at 2926 Victoria Dr., Springfield, 62704.

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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.

Saints James and Patrick Parish is looking to hire a Parish Life Administrator, who is a practicing Catholic, in good standing, with a bachelor's degree in theology or a related field with equivalent experience.



The Parish Life Administrator functions as an integral member of the parish staff, sharing in the responsibility of the decision-

making, planning and implementation of parish ministries and operations. The person in this position has knowledge of Liturgy, works at the direction of the Pastor in responding to spiritual, pastoral, educational, and administrative needs of the parish.

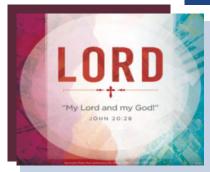
To learn more and apply, scan the QR code or click the link on the homepage of their website: ssjpparish.com



COMMUNITY - 55 NEWS: Please save **Tuesday April 26**, for the next Community - 55 gathering.

Mass at 11:30 AM followed by Pot Luck Lunch with meat prepared and served by Gigi Langhauser and Margaret Gall. Please bring a dish or items to share.

The speaker will be announced at a later date. Spread the word re: this gathering. Thank you. - Sr. JoAn



Inspiration of the Week

Life is about to get very interesting for the disciples. Finding themselves questioning what happened to Jesus and whether he actually was raised from the dead, they are afraid and uncertain. In the midst of this fear, questioning, and uncertainty, Jesus decides to surprise them with a visit! This visit, complete with the gift of peace, fills the disciples with great excitement and joy. But their detailed testimony is not enough to convince their absent friend Thomas. He wants to see for himself. We struggle with belief as well. It is hard for some to give themselves over to the testimony of another. We want to see the resurrected Christ in person. God, through the gift of eyes of faith, gives us the ability to do precisely that: when we witness the healing that comes from forgiveness, the beauty that flows from love, the wonder of creation, the new life that comes after we fall, and the unique soul that lives behind each person's life. Christ is risen. Life will get very interesting for us too, when we stop unbelieving and believe!

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

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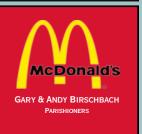
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