



OUR LADY OF THE WOODS

21892 GUDITH RD, WOODHAVEN, MI | 734.671.5101 | WWW.OLOW.ORG

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



We, the Roman Catholic faith community of Our Lady of the Woods, in communion with ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, and APOSTOLIC Church and under the patronage of Mary, are joined together as a people of God. Our mission is to spread the Gospel and bring people into a relationship with God and one another through the celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist. We live out Christ's mission in the world through evangelization, worship, education, stewardship, and service to the needy.



Sunday, September 19

- Eunice Van Tiflin.....died 1989
- Stanley Potok.....died 2015
- Jason Griggs.....died 1994

Monday, September 20

- Santa Filamore.....died 1997
- George Sagert.....died 1997

Tuesday, September 21

- George Ferraro.....died 2009
- Maria Borja.....died 1990
- Maria Nam Vu.....died 2020

Wednesday, September 22

- Edward Masiak.....died 1994
- Chris Mento.....died 1996
- Frederick Lozon.....died 2010
- Elizabeth Camilleri.....died 2014
- Chester Phillips.....died 1985

Thursday, September 23

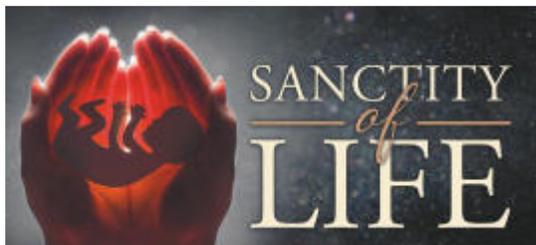
- Ted O'Brien.....died 1998
- Viola Renaud.....died 2001
- Stephen Cieslikowski.....died 2015
- Mary Ann Martin.....died 2014

Friday, September 24

- Daniel Gallagher.....died 2018



Herbert Vogel passed away on September 7, 2021. His Mass of Resurrection was held on September 11, 2021 with Fr. Robert Johnson, SVD presiding.



Prayer to Save a Baby from Abortion

“Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion. Amen.”

-Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

63, 108, 025

abortions in the United States since *Roe v. Wade* (1973).
Source: numberofabortions.com

PRAYER REQUESTS



Prayer List for Service Men & Women

- SSgt. Erika Antanovich (US Air Force)
- Cpt. Andrew Compean (US Army)
- Maj. Eric DuChene (US Marine)
- Jacob Godlewski (US Navy)
- 2nd Lt. Jeremy Gomez (US Air Force)
- 1st Lt. Brandon Marquette (US Marine)
- O1 Nicholas Rigotti (Naval Reserves)
- MA2 Adam Strachan (US Navy)
- Spec. Nicole Kimberlin (US Army)



Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

- James M. Butcko
- Joyce Butcko
- Joseph W. Butcko
- Joseph M. Butcko
- Andrew Butcko
- Michele Butcko
- Patricia Butcko
- Calleigh Butler
- Dawn Marie Dick
- Andi Pigott
- Mark Rigotti
- Sylvia Rigotti
- Luke Theobald

The Prayer List was cleared last weekend. To submit a name, contact the office, complete the prayer list form on our website, or email bulletin@olow.org.



Mark your calendars!

The Wayne Health Mobile Unit will be at OLOW on Sunday, Oct.10 from 10:00am to 1:00pm to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. This is open to all in the community.

On Saturday, Oct. 16th OLOW is participating in the Archdiocesan Mercy in Action Day of Service. We invite all from children to seniors to come from 10:00 am to 12:00pm. We will start with prayer and have some fun service projects. More information to come.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, September 20

9:00am †**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Dan Nguyen and family

Tuesday, September 21

9:00am †**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Dan Nguyen and family
†**Gloria Sosa**
req. by Kathy Watroba

Thursday, September 23

9:00am †**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Dan Nguyen and family

Friday, September 24

9:00am †**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Dan Nguyen and family

Saturday, September 25

4:00pm †**Van Litchard**
req. by his wife Olga
†**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Dan Nguyen and family

Sunday, September 26

9:00am †**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Thuan Nguyen
†**Carol Falwell**
req. by the Shaw family

11:00am †**Maria Nam Vu**
req. by Dan Nguyen and family
†**Carol Sipo Falwell**
req. by Pat and Bridget Nickels

What's Happening at Our Parish?

Sunday	Catechetical Sunday Mass (with live stream), 9 AM First Communion Prep, 10:15 AM Mass (with live stream), 11 AM Confirmation Prep, 4 PM Youth Ministry, 6 PM
Monday	No Daily Mass —Mass is available at St. Timothy at 8:30 AM or St. Roch at 9:00 AM SVdP Food Pantry (drive-up only), 10 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 4:30 PM Youth Faith Formation, 5:45 PM
Tuesday	Mass, 9 AM Youth Faith Formation, 5:45 PM Charismatic Prayer Group, 7 PM
Wednesday	SVdP Food Pantry (drive-up only), 10 AM Rosary, 6:30 PM
Thursday	Mass, 9 AM New Spirit Singers Rehearsal, 7 PM RCIA, 7 PM
Friday	Mass, 9 AM
Saturday	Catechist Workshop, 9 AM Individual Confession, 3 PM Mass, 4 PM

Observances

Sunday:	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday
Monday:	Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chõng Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs
Tuesday:	St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Wednesday:	St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Friday:	BVM



September 4 & 5

Envelopes:	\$7,988.00 (187)
Loose:	\$1,697.00
<u>Electronic:</u>	<u>\$1,872.00 (60)</u>
Total:	\$11,557.00
Budget:	\$9,992.30
Over(+)/Short(-)	\$1,564.70

Daily Readings

Sunday:	Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37
Monday:	Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13
Wednesday:	Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/Lk 9:1-6
Thursday:	Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9
Friday:	Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22
Saturday:	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45

From Our Hood in the Woods

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Not too long again, Simone Biles, posted on her instagram:

“Positively not the way in which I deliberate the Olympics going however I wouldn’t change something for the world. I’m happy with myself and the profession I’ve had to this point. This Olympics doesn’t erase the previous accomplishments I’ve achieved nor does it outline who I’m as an athlete.”

*“I’ve pushed by means of a lot the previous couple years, **the phrase quitter isn’t in my vocabulary**,” Simone continued. “For a few of you which may be the way you outline me, however, preserve speaking as a result of I can’t hear you over my 7 Olympic medals which tied me for probably the most embellished gymnast EVER in addition to most embellished American gymnast.”*

As one supporter remarked after reading the Instagram: “Haters, preserve speaking I can’t hear you over my 7 Olympic medals,” *“Finest line ever. The queen has spoken.”*

I could not help but think of the words from our first reading this weekend from the Book of Wisdom, where the first words proclaimed are: ***“The wicked say: Let us beset the just one, because he (she) is obnoxious to us...”***

Scripture calls them “the wicked” and Simone Biles’ supporter labelled them as “haters.”

There will always be some individuals, or “that” group of people who for whatever reason do not like us, despise us, or they find us as scripture says today “obnoxious” to them.

Over the years, I had shared with those Associate Pastors who lived with me that not EVERYONE is going to like you, or the way you act or speak, etc. as a priest. Sometimes, the individual, or small group, does not even necessarily know why or even how to articulate why they do not necessarily “like” you.

And yet, what does Jesus then say in the gospel today?

They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to be first, he or she shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

In hearing Jesus’ message today, we should then hear the echo of Simone Biles’ words *“the phrase quitter isn’t in my vocabulary.”* It certainly becomes a profound moment for the catechists amongst us who help our children and young people “to catch their faith.”

God has a plan for each of us, and we cannot simply allow the phrase “quitter” to be in our vocabulary, especially in such challenging times and in the midst of this pandemic which continues to seem to not want to go away. We are simply not here to please each other. As I use to tell the Associate Pastors assigned to me: “I am not here to simply please people, or to simply be liked.” If it ends up that some people like me, well, that is great, but it should not be what motivates us.

As so as each one of us is called to become “the best version of ourselves”, to develop into the most authentic expression of who God calls us to be; it does not simply come from wanting to please everybody, or “have everyone like me” but that we truly respect each other enough to walk together as sisters and brothers through discipleship, including those amongst us who have the vocation of catechist.

In the second reading from James, we are reminded: *“Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.”*

What words are in my vocabulary these days and which words are not?

Hopefully, “quitter” is not. Hopefully, “hater,” or “the wicked” is not. And, hopefully, “obnoxious” is not. Am I a cultivator of peace? Do I seek the wisdom from above? Do I affirm and support those around me, and in my parish family? Do I affirm, support and pray for the catechists amongst us?

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

As Simone Biles later shared: “We’re not simply leisure, we’re people, and there are issues happening behind the scenes that we’re additionally making an attempt to juggle with as nicely, on high of sports activities.”

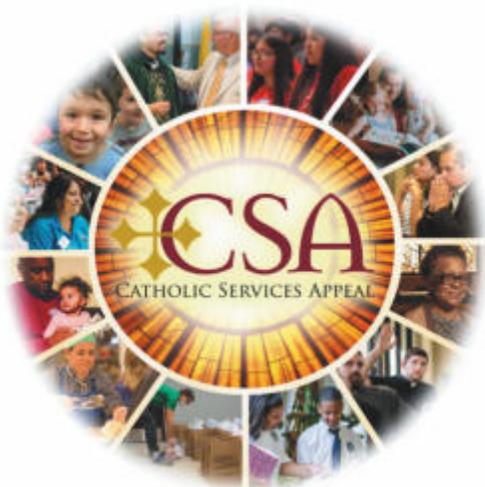
Let us this weekend affirm, support, pray for and assist each other together as a family, and especially in whatever way possible those women and men of our parish who are so graciously giving their time, energy and talent as catechists here at Our Lady of the Woods.

As we celebrate them on this Catechetical Sunday, may we remember the words of Pope Francis from his apostolic letter, "MOTU PROPRIO" in reference to the ministry of catechist:

“The role played by catechists is one specific form of service among others within the Christian community. Catechists are called first to be expert in the pastoral service of transmitting the faith as it develops through its different stages from the initial proclamation of the kerygma to the instruction that presents our new life in Christ and prepares for the sacraments of Christian initiation, and then to the ongoing formation that can allow each person to give an accounting of the hope within them (cf. 1 Pet 3:15). At the same time, every catechist must be a witness to the faith, a teacher and mystagogue, a companion and pedagogue, who teaches for the Church. Only through prayer, study, and direct participation in the life of the community can they grow in this identity and the integrity and responsibility that it entails.” (cf. Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, Directory for Catechesis, 113)

On behalf of our parish, dear catechists and assistants, thank you so much for not being "quitters", for living your faith no matter how challenging it may be at times, especially living it amongst God’s People!

In the Word,
Fr. Bob



OKTOBERFEST WRISTBAND CLARIFICATION

We have received some push back from a few regarding the \$5 Oktoberfest Admission Wristband. Please know we have established this charge to help defray the cost of hosting an "Outdoor Event" which is much more costly and includes the tent rental, lighting rental, additional tables and chairs, dance floor, portable toilets and a Polka Band! This is our first crack at a big outdoor event, as opposed to previous years when we were able to use the Social Hall and we thank you in advance for your support. We aim to make the Oktoberfest and Raffles an enjoyable event for all.

We cordially invite ALL to join in this autumn event. It is our hope that any OLOW Parishioner who would like to attend the Oktoberfest will be able to do so, and if ANYONE feels the admission charge is hindering them from joining in the fun, PLEASE, by all means, stop by the Parish Office and pick up a "Complimentary" Wristband. It should be noted that CHILDREN are FREE and do not need a Wristband and that Admission Wristbands for Parish SUPER SENIORS(80 +) are FREE.

If you have any questions regarding the Oktoberfest, please call Kathy & Jerry LeBoeuf at 692-8827.

2021/2022 CSA Summary as of September 13, 2021



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - THE VIEW FROM THE BACK OF THE LINE

Have you known that person? The one who leaves every person they encounter feeling a little more blessed for having met them? They're the friend you can count on when nothing is going well. They're the one who's always "doing" for others. They're never gossiping or sniping or complaining.

We wonder how they do it, how they have it in them. We're a little envious, even if we don't let ourselves acknowledge it.

That, folks, is what the view is like from the front of the line, gazing at those suckers in the way back and wondering why they're smiling so much.

We've all been at the front of a line and felt no shame about it. We show up early, we put in the time and the legwork, and we "earn" whatever it is we came for — sports tickets, the latest Apple product, whatever. That's how it works here on Earth, where the fastest win the race, the fittest survive and the first shall be first, always.

It's exactly why stewardship is such a tall order. Stewardship calls us to play by the rules of another kingdom — one where the richest have the least amount in their bank accounts and the happiest don't seem to have anything to show for it, at least materially.

If you have a person in your life who always seems happy "doing" for others, it's because by a boatload of God's grace, they play by the rules of the other place.

Watch and take notes — and don't be afraid to join them at the back of the line.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LIVE THE LITURGY

What does it mean to be God's servant? In essence, it means being willing to call the world back to its childlike innocence, showing all that a joy-filled playfulness has a place in life. The servant of God serves to foster the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom is not a sterile, unhappy, strict, and rigid reality. It is quite the opposite. It is a kingdom devoid of jealousy and selfish ambition where peace, gentleness, mercy, and good works abound. To be a servant of this kingdom means that selfish ambition must be set aside so that others can be first, and justice pursued at all cost. The prayer of this kind of servant is not focused on self-advancement or need. Rather, the servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. In this way, we who are servants can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led by God. We can then be used to lay the cornerstones of the kingdom: faith, hope, and love. It is upon these that God's firm dwelling is built. Accepting this call may place us last in the world's eyes but first in God's.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Question:

Why are Catholics required to fast before Communion?

Answer:

How we prepare for an important event helps us with the intentionality of our actions and raises our awareness. We prepare our house for guests. We wash our car before an important trip. We create a nursery for a newborn child. All of these actions heighten our senses for what is about to come.

The fast required by canon law before holy Communion has its roots in Jewish spiritual practices. We fast for cleansing and to demonstrate our reliance on God. Catholics used to fast for much longer periods of time, but it was Pope Paul VI in 1964 who set the time at one hour in an attempt to encourage people to receive the holy Eucharist more frequently. That one-hour observance allows us to pause and reflect on what we will participate in in the very near future. We deny our bodies so that we can focus more clearly on the Body of Christ that we will consume.

Charismatic Prayer Group

Our Vision: JESUS LIFTED UP, DRAWING ALL MEN TO HIMSELF THROUGH THE POWER AND CHARISMS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.

Our Mission: The Detroit Catholic Charismatic Renewal (DCCR) is a local expression of the new outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Archdiocese of Detroit as a part of the broader renewal within the church. Its mission with the approval of the Archbishop of Detroit is to foster unity, holiness, and action through charismatic prayer groups and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Our Lady of the Woods "Spirit of Love" Charismatic prayer group meets via Zoom, Tuesdays, 7:15 p m. Eventually, God willing, our meetings will return to the parish.

This group has been together since the start of Our Lady of the Woods. We pray for those on the prayer chain, in the prayer basket and for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Be with us as we lift up the needs of the parish and of the world to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For those who want to know more about the Charismatic Renewal, we offer the "Life in the Holy Spirit Seminars" via Zoom by our Pastoral team: Bev Sopian, Chuck Sopian and Rosa Curry. Please join us in Songs of praise, deep worship, teachings, and scripture. For more information, and to receive the Zoom address, please email rosacurry@comcast.net

We also have an email prayer chain consisting mainly of prayers for our holy priest, religious life and the needs of our parishioners and the communities around us. Please email me at rosacurry@comcast.net with prayer intentions (which must be put on with permission of a family member).

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Rosa Curry

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Submitted by Rose Shanaver

Dear Parents of Preschool Children,

Consider the spirituality of your young child. Jesus tells us,

“Truly I say to you, unless you change and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” Matt 18:3

Several times the Catholic Church has documented the spirituality of children that eventually led them to a holy encounter, for example, the three children at Fatima in Portugal, the little girl at Lourdes in France and the little boy at Galloro in Italy. Because of the spirituality of these children, today the whole world venerates our Blessed Mother Mary as Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, and Our Lady of the Woods respectively. All of these children needed the same thing to help them deliver a holy message. These children needed the respect of an adult who would listen to them and treat them as equal human beings and help them to communicate what the children knew in their hearts. They needed the help of an adult to help them convey a message which they, as children, could not do on their own.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program recognizes this need in children and is formatted to bring the adult and the child to a more level spiritual plane. The adult creates an environment to facilitate the child’s ability to express his spiritually, often without the use of words.

On Monday, September 20, 2021, Our Lady of the Woods will open the door of its prepared environment, the Atrium, to preschool children ages 3 to 5. The CGS sessions are weekly from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. The first session will include an orientation and will require the attendance of at least one parent.

For registration, please call Joanne Petri in the Faith Formation office: 734-671-5101, Ext. 106

For more information about the CGS program, please call Rose Shanaver, OLOW-CGS Coordinator, at 734-942-6818 or contact her via email at medelshanaver@aol.com

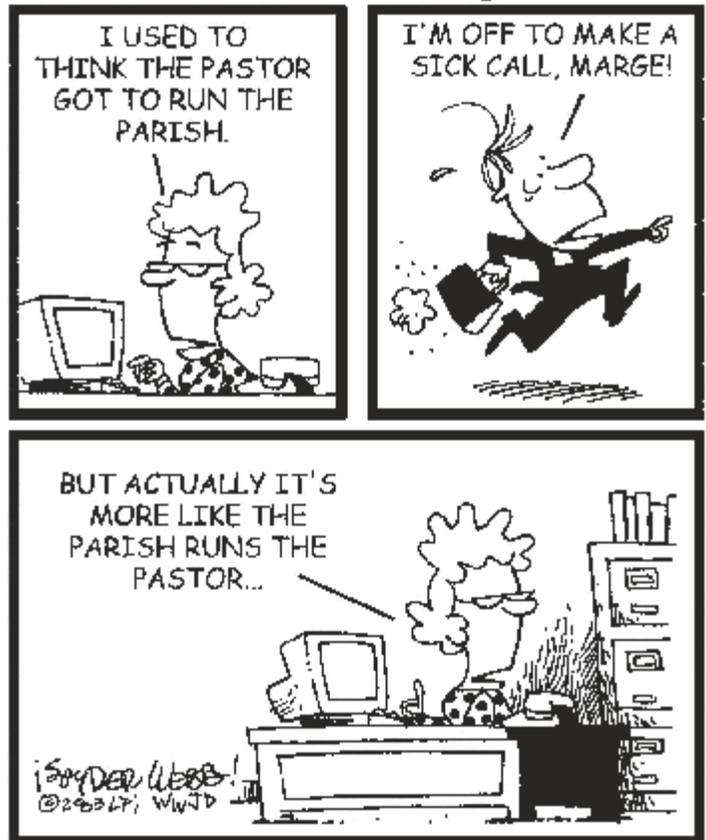
The Atrium at OLOW reflects the combined efforts of many who have demonstrated their desire to keep the light of faith alive in children. Let us thank them and pray for them and the children:

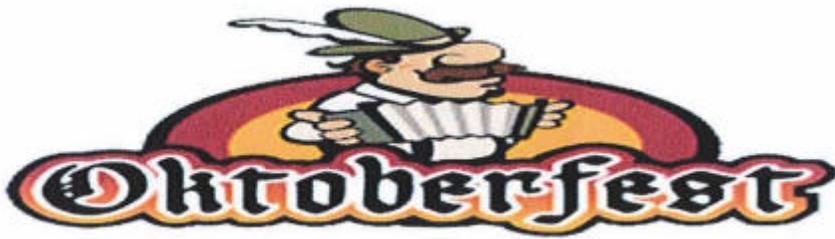


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|-------------------|---|
| Daphne D’sa | Trained CGS Catechist |
| Andrea Pigott | Training for CGS Catechist |
| Rose Shanaver | Trained CGS Catechist |
| John Barkley | Ambo and chasuble stands construction |
| Steve Orris | Altar and tabernacle construction |
| Tommy Shanaver | Sacristy and preparation shelf assembly |
| Donna Lahiff | Seamstress, coloring & cutting |
| Bernadette Dewyer | Design, coloring & cutting |
| Sr. Nancy Ayotte | CGS Leader & City of Jerusalem |
| Jan Zarbaugh | Seamstress |
| Maryann Andrus | Globe of the World |
| Caitlin D’sa | Hand printing and coloring |
| Christina D’sa | Cutting |
| Joanne Petri | Office support |
| Fr. Bob | Moral support |

We are still in need of another seamstress to share the load. We are also in urgent need of persons willing to undergo training to become a certified CGS catechists. Please call Rose Shanaver at 734-942-6818 to volunteer, or contact her via email at medelshanaver@aol.com.

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





Our Lady of the Woods Parish

Saturday, October 2, 2021

All are invited: We hope you will join in the fun! Prost!

- 4:00 PM Polka Mass in the Church (Mask Required in the Church)
- 5:30 PM Music & Dancing w/“The Kielbasa Kings”
- Food & Beverage Service Opens
- Autumn Garden Café – Strudels & Baked Goods
- Basket Raffle Tickets on sale throughout the evening
- 6:30 PM First 50/50 Drawing
- 8:30 PM **GRAND RAFFLE DRAWING**
- 1st Prize \$4,000
- 2nd Prize \$1,000
- 3rd Prize \$ 500
- 9:00 PM Basket Raffle Drawings
- 9:30 PM One more Polka? & Fr. Bob’s Closing Song

PARKING INSTRUCTIONS: If you plan to attend the Mass at 4 PM and will be staying for the Oktoberfest Social, you will be asked to park in the BACK Parking Lot to allow others who are not staying to leave after the Mass. Please follow the directions of the Parking Crew for most efficient parking and for the safety of all. Let’s pray for a successful event, good weather and a “good time” to be had by all!

\$5 Admission Charge Wristband Required

Admission charge will help defray the cost of the Band/Music and Tent, Table & Chair Rentals. It also includes a chance to win an Overnight Stay w/Dinner for 2 at the Frankenmuth *Bavarian Inn*

Wristband Pre-Sale

After all Masses beginning the weekend of Sept. 5th

Please purchase a wristband for yourself, family and friends who wish to attend the Oktoberfest, as it is our best way of getting a count and enables us to plan for enough seating, food and beverages for all.

Food and Beverages will be sold separately at very reasonable prices.

BEER

WINE

SODA

BRATS, KIELBASA, KRAUT

GERMAN POTATO SALAD

STRUDELS, CAKES, COOKIES

COFFEE & TEAS

HOT PRETZELS

Also Available

Hot Dogs, Pizza, Chips

NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES ALLOWED.

Information:

734-692-8827

Christian Service Meeting & Volunteers

Submitted by: Sue Perry

Interested in taking a more active role at OLOW. Our Christian Service Commission welcomes men and women to join as we create and promote programs that strive to address human needs. Some of the areas we are involved in are Right to Life, Homebound Ministry, Shawl Ministry, Planners, Giving Tree, and Blood Drive. We will be meeting at 6:30 on Wednesday, Oct.20th in the social hall. You are welcome to join us. Or if you have questions please contact Sue Perry, Christian Service Coordinator at (734) 676-2546



RCIA Classes Starting This Week!

What does this have anything to do with you? Let's find out. RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. What? It is simply the way non-Catholics, baptized or not, enter the Catholic Church. Let's say you are unbaptized but are interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith. Next step would be to email me, Pat Butler, at pbutler@olow.org. I will contact you and we can meet and talk. If you're like most people, you may not be ready to make a commitment, but you are curious. I will invite you to come to our classes to learn more about us. There will be NO pressure for you to join the Catholic faith.

Or you are a baptized Christian from one of the many non-Catholic churches. You may know someone who is Catholic, a friend, a co-worker, a relative. You both have discussed your religions and some of the things your friend, co-worker or relative has said intrigues you.

Or you are a fully initiated Catholic (you have received your Baptism, Communion and Confirmation sacraments), you attend mass regularly but you do not know a lot about your faith. After all 8th or 12h grade was quite a while ago and you just do not remember a lot. Why do I do what I do at Mass, when I pray or when I talk to others about my faith?

If you fit into one of the above categories, consider joining the RCIA class. Right now we are meeting on Monday nights at 6:30 or 7:00pm. The time will depend on the participants' work schedules. The class will last only one hour. If Monday night is not a good time for you, other times may be available.

If you have any questions, email me or call Becky, our church secretary, at 734-671-5101. She will give the information to me. I hope to hear from you soon.

Reflections On Scripture

OLD TESTAMENT READING

The Wisdom writer reveals the mentality of the wicked, characterized by revenge and treachery. How best should people of faith respond to such behavior?

NEW TESTAMENT READING

James offers insight into the human condition as it relates to how often our ambitions and passions can lead us astray. How do you keep yourself grounded in holy intentions?

GOSPEL READING

There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

Our Lady of the Woods Catholic Church

21892 Gudith Road • Woodhaven, MI 48183
 phone 734-671-5101 • fax 734-671-2901
 www.olow.org | www.facebook.com/olowchurch

Parish Front Desk / Sacramental Records

Rebecca ("Becky") Gonzalez..... 734-671-5101 x100
 rgonzalez@olow.org

Family of Parishes Administrator

Father Bob Johnson, SVD..... 734-671-5101 x107
 frbob@olow.org

Director of Religious Education

Claudette Wagner..... 734-671-5101 x106
 cwagner@olow.org

Religious Education Secretary

Joanne Petri..... 734-671-5101 x110
 jpetri@olow.org

Music Ministry

Bob Amore 734-671-5101 x103
 ramore@olow.org

Parish Bookkeeper

Patty Baringer 734-671-5101 x104
 pbaringer@olow.org

Worship / Media Coordinator

Jason Buckley..... 734-671-5101 x105
 jbuckley@olow.org

RCIA Coordinator

Pat Butler 734-671-5101 x108
 pbutler@olow.org

Children's Liturgy of the Word/Acolyte Coordinator

Jeanie Morgan-Lambrix..... 734-671-5101 x113
 jlambrix@olow.org

Christian Service Coordinator

Sue Perry 734-671-5101 x101
 sperry@olow.org

Maintenance

Don VanAssche & Paul Nagle 734-671-5101 x111
 (available on Tuesday's & Thursday's)
 Vito Scalise, Custodian

Bulletin Information

Requests to have information put in the parish bulletin must be sent to bulletin@olow.org one week prior to publication and are subject to review and/or modification.

Hours, Mass, Sacraments, & Other Contacts**Parish Office Hours (temporarily closed)**

Monday-Friday..... 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 (Closed for lunch from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

Weekend Liturgies

Saturday 4:00 PM
 Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Weekday Liturgies

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 AM

Private Confession

Saturday..... 3:00 - 4:00 PM or by appointment

Baptisms

(Registered, Active Parishioner for at least 3 months)

Call Fr. Bob for details and to set up an appointment.

Weddings

(Registered, Active Parishioner for at least 6 months)

One member of the engaged couple must be a participating, registered member of OLOW before wedding date. Call the office during business hours to make an appointment.

Funerals

Family members should contact the Parish Office at 734-671-5101 x107.

Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharistic Coordinator

Kody Klindt..... kklindt@outlook.com

Homebound Ministries Coordinator

Kathy LeBoeuf..... 734-778-0971

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Coordinator

Rose Shanaver..... medelshanaver@aol.com

Ushers

Sean Pigott..... seanp777@icloud.com

Our Lady's Catholic Women

Gretchen Laudner..... laudner@att.net

Parish Pastoral Council Members

Fr. Bob, Al Cotto*—Chairperson, Thomas Nonnenmacher—Vice Chairperson, Heather Klindt*—Parish Council Secretary, Binnie Traill—Vicariate Representative, John Barkley, Peter Caldwell, & Daniel Hyman

Parish Finance Council Members

Fr. Bob, Jerry LeBoeuf*—President, Julius D'sa, Troy Feldpausch*, Michelle Jesue, & Jim Strachan
 * = denotes Family of Parishes representative

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