



Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

Fr. Tony O'Neill, Pastor

2385 Commerce Blvd. • Mound, MN 55364

952-472-1284 ourladyofthelake.com

3rd Sunday of Advent December 11th, 2016

***“You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm,
because the coming of the Lord is at hand.”***

- James 5:8

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

What a joy it was last Saturday to have Archbishop Hebda with us to bless the Grace Family Center and to celebrate the Eucharist. As many of you commented, the Archbishop is very easy to relate to, and in all my interactions with him I have been impressed and inspired by his kindness and humility. Of course, hosting the Archbishop took a lot of work and preparation. Thank you to all of you who made the event such a memorable one. If you missed the Mass and want to listen to the Archbishop’s homily, it is available on our website.

This past week we celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It was Pope Pius IX, who in 1854 declared the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. He says; “The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.” Theologians point out that this is why the angel at the Annunciation says: “Hail, full of grace.”

It is at our baptism that we receive the Holy Spirit and original sin is taken away. Because of the special role that Mary would have in the history of Salvation, God gave her the great grace of being conceived without the stain of original sin; this is the meaning of the Immaculate Conception.

When Mary said her ‘yes’ to God, she became the dwelling place of the Most High because within her at that moment, God the Son took on humanity in order to redeem it. Why did he do this? – Because of His steadfast covenant love for His people - For you and me.

In the story of Salvation, Mary is a central character, but each one of us has a chapter all our own. God has entrusted to each one of us a mission that only we as individuals can accomplish and no one else. As we near the great Feast of the Incarnation, let us pray for a portion of the spirit of our Blessed Mother, and the courage to say ‘yes’ to God and His will for our lives.

God bless,
Fr. Tony

Giving to Someone in Need on Christmas Morning

Are you a Communion Minister or a volunteer at Lake Minnetonka Shores? As in the past few years, Flossie Finnicum is organizing a group to take Holy Communion to residents in the Care Center at Lake Minnetonka Shores at 7:30am on Christmas morning. The sharing of our Lord’s presence and the sacrament of Holy Communion is a special way of expressing our gratitude to the founders who helped build the Church and School at OLL. Leave your name and number with Dana at 952-472-1284 x162 if you can help. Thanks!

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, Dec. 14th

6:30pm

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Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Saturday, Dec. 24th

4:00pm Mass & 9:00pm Mass



Christmas Day

Sunday, Dec. 25th

8:30am Mass & 10:30am Mass

The Church Office will be closed on Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th, for the Christmas Holiday, and Monday, January 2nd, for the New Year's Holiday.

***Rosary Intention:
Become Bearers
of Glad Tidings***

Grace Family Center: Check out the article in the December 8th issue of *The Catholic Spirit* for a full history of the Grace Family Center. The article is also available online at TheCatholicSpirit.com.

Mass Intentions beginning Monday, Dec. 12th

Monday 8:00am

Communion Service

Tuesday 6:30pm

†Judy Gauvin

Wednesday 9:00am

Tom Dull

Thursday 8:00am

†Kyle Stubbs

Friday 8:00am

†Fr. John Timothy Power

Saturday 5:00pm

†Theresa & †Jerry Kohman

Sunday

8:30am Parish

10:30am †Lu Geib

Calendar for the Week of December 11th, 2016

Sunday - December 11th

8:30am CCW Donut Sunday - Presentation Room

9:30am CCW Cookie Sale - PACE Center Gathering Space

9:30am Family Faith Formation - School Cafeteria

10:30am Children's Liturgy of the Word - Church

11:30am CCW Cookie Sale - PACE Center Gathering Space

6:30pm Confirmation Class

Monday - December 12th

10:00am Prayer & Playtime - Church Library

7:00pm Boy Scouts Meeting - School Cafeteria

Tuesday - December 13th

8:30am Eucharistic Adoration - John Paul II Chapel

1:30pm Bible Study - Church Library

7:00pm Catholic Watchmen Meeting - Presentation Rm.

Wednesday - December 14th

9:00am Mail-Out Bulletin Assembly - Presentation Room

5:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Church

6:00pm Children's Choir Rehearsal - Church

6:30pm Confirmation Class

6:30pm Advent Reconciliation Service - Church

Thursday - December 15th

9:00am Communion Ministry at LMS - Faith

6:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting - Fireside Room

6:30pm RCIA - Church Library

6:30pm OLL School Christmas Program - Gym

Saturday - December 17th

10:00am Holiday Food Basket Distribution - Cafeteria

Sunday - December 18th

8:00am KC Pancake Breakfast - Presentation Room

10:30am Children's Liturgy of the Word - Church

6:30pm Confirmation Class

2017 Stewardship Pledge Forms If you have not yet done so, please return your 2017 Stewardship Pledge Form. You may drop it in the collection basket during Mass, or stop by, or mail it to the Church Office. If you need a Stewardship Pledge Form, they are available on the tables by the Church exits. Thank you for making stewardship a way of life!



Giving Tree If you have taken a tag from the Giving Tree in the back of Church and have not returned the tag and the gift yet, please drop them off as soon as possible. Gifts may be also be dropped off in the Church Office. Thank you!

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, Dec. 18th PACE Center After Sunday Masses



Good food, great fellowship, reasonable prices!
Bring the entire family!



Pastoral Ministry

West Suburban Grief Coalition meets at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, 630 East Wayzata Blvd, Wayzata. 952-473-6601. The group meets Thursdays from 4:30 - 6:00pm.

Dec. 15th: Holiday Grief

Dec. 22nd: Journey Following Husband's Death

Dec. 29th: The Journey of Grief

Jan. 5th: Hope After Loss

Jan. 12th: Journey Following Daughter's Death

Jan. 19th: Post Traumatic Connection to Grief

The "Sign-Up" Plan for Christmas Liturgies will be done through **Flock Note**. Please respond by letting us know which Christmas Mass you plan to attend. This way of signing up is new, but we're hoping for the best and good response. Thanks!

Join us this Advent for the Best Advent Ever and Wrap Presents and Be Present!

We prepare for everything we consider important in life, and that includes Christmas. This year, slow down and focus on what matters most. Join **Dynamic Catholic for the free email program Best Advent Ever: Rediscover Christmas**.

You'll receive short inspirational videos, practical tips and free Christmas music! Your experience of Christmas will be unlike any you've experienced before!
Are you ready for your best Advent ever?

Sign-up at BestAdventEver.com

LIGHT FOR THE WEEK:

This will come as a shock. John the Baptist is a privileged messenger of the Messiah, but even the least of us is greater than John! That's what it says in today's Gospel. We announce Jesus' coming by bringing his tender mercy, sight and healing to those in need. We are to announce to others that the Messiah is among us, within us.

We pray for those in need. May the Lord comfort them in their time of sickness and bless those who care for them. Please keep the following individuals in your prayers: Chris A., Bob Blake, Tim Daly, Dan Entinger, Kathy Gnitka, Dolores Kelly, Marilyn Nelson, Andra Olson, Lee Olson, Maddie Poranski, Bobby Reil, and Adam Richardt

We pray for those in the Military: Travis B., Nicholas J., and Darrell V.

Dear Fr. O'Neill:

On behalf of the **Catholic Services Appeal** Foundation, I want to thank you and your parishioners for your support of the needed work of the Catholic Services Appeal. This year, a portion of all donations from your parishioners are returned to your parish for Catholic formation, educational programs, or for the greatest needs facing your Church.

Enclosed is a check for \$9,032.38. May it help to build up the Body of Christ in your parish community.

Gratefully,
Tim Healy, President of the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation

Blood Drive Monday, Dec. 19th • 12:00pm - 6:30pm • OLL Gym Sign-up online at mbcherohub.club (sponsor code 0209) or call the Blood Center at 651-332-7171. If you have any questions, contact Evert Lehtola (952-472-6139 or elehtola@aol.com). *Double Red Cell Donors needed.* To sign-up for double red cell donation, you need to call the Blood Center. Save time registering by completing the health history questionnaire online at mbc.org/idonate and bringing a printed copy with you to the Drive. This has to be done on the day of the drive. All donors must bring ID. All presenting donors in December will have a chance to win a Polaris ATV! Visit mbc.org/atv for details.

Bible Study

This week's video features G. K. Chesterton, a convert to Catholicism at the age of 48. He believed that everything is formed by gratitude: "Thanks is the highest form of thought." He was a brilliant scholar and defender of the faith, and was a champion of the paradoxes of Christianity. Come and learn more about him this Tuesday, at 1:30pm in the Library.

FORMED:

Online Catholic Resource

Parish Code: **P Y W Y W J**

For the month of December, please explore the following resources:

2nd Sunday of Advent (Dec. 4th)

Program: *Advent, Session 2: Trust in God*

Immaculate Conception of Mary (Dec. 8th)

Program: *Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 9: Mary and the Saints*

3rd Sunday of Advent (Dec. 11th)

Program: *Advent, Session 3: Watch and Pray*

FORMED also now has **Children's Content!**

Check out the **Program:** *Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree* or download the **Movie:** *Skiff & AJ's Fantastic Voyage* or read the **Book:** *Saint Thomas Aquinas*.



Faith Formation

Stop by the Advent Wreath on the back wall of the Church. The candles on the wreath have been created by the OLL School and Faith Formation students. See all the ways that they will shine their light this Advent season!

Family Faith Formation meets today, Sunday, Dec. 11th, at 9:30 in the School Cafeteria. Our topic this month is the "Nativity and Incarnation." Remember to bring a Bible to class with you. Please continue to work on your textbooks each week at home.

Children's Liturgy of the Word meets today, Sunday, Dec. 11th, at the 10:30 Mass. The children are dismissed after the Opening Prayer and return to their families during the Creed. We will discuss the Scripture readings at an age-appropriate level for all children Preschool through Grade 4. No registration is required.

Prayer & Playtime is a program for all families of preschool children. We meet every Monday from 10:00 - 11:00am. During the month of December we will be making an Advent calendar with the child(ren). All materials will be provided. No need to sign up, just come when you can. Questions? Contact Kathy at 952-472-1284 x147.

Faith Formation classes will not be meeting this Wednesday, Dec. 14th. Please join us at our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service beginning at 6:30pm. The sacrament of Reconciliation is an important part of preparing our hearts for Jesus!

Mark your calendars for future opportunities to serve at Loaves and Fishes! We will be volunteering at St. Gabriel's Church in Hopkins from 5:00 - 7:30pm on January 17th and February 21st. For more information or to sign-up, contact Kathy at khejna@ourladyofthelake.com.

Catholic Watchmen Meeting • Tuesday, December 13th

All men of the parish are welcome to attend the Catholic Watchmen Meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 13th. The schedule is as follows: 6:00pm - Adoration & Confession, 6:30pm - Mass, 7:00pm - Meeting. Beverages & food will be served during the meeting. The Catholic Watchmen Night will have a video presentation, social time, and group discussion. Each month we will explore one of the Seven Disciplines for a spiritual journey. If you have any questions about joining the Catholic Watchmen, please contact Paul Stone at ptstone85@gmail.com. To learn more about this initiative, visit thecatholicwatchmen.com.

Cell Phones In order to enter more deeply into our prayer with a minimum of distractions, we ask that you please turn off your cell phones when you come to liturgy. Thank you.



Looking for hostess gift ideas for the holidays? JuanAna Coffee makes an easy & delicious option! This fair trade coffee comes in a variety of roasts (dark and regular) whole bean or ground. To purchase coffee contact Stephanie Greene (swgreene1@gmail.com/612-759-3332) or Dana in the Church Office.

Discipleship ... Faith In Action

Stewardship Thought

***"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."
- James 5:8***

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

In this season of gift-giving to family, friends, and those less fortunate, we hope you will also consider your gift to Our Lady of the Lake Church. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the parish that we are able to carry on our work. Your contributions are needed for everything from special programs to basic operating expenses. Our Lady of the Lake deeply appreciates the efforts of parishioners to make consistent donations throughout the year. To assist you, we provide an electronic-giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. For details, please contact Rhonda Eurich, Parish Administrator, in the Church Office at 952-472-1284 x161 or reurich@ourladyofthelake.com. Thank you.

Gift Deadline for 2016 Tax Credit In order to receive tax-deduction credit for your 2016 taxes, mailed checks must be postmarked by Saturday, December 31st. Thank you for your generosity!

Financial Stewardship

Collection totals for Dec. 3rd & 4th, 2016:

Weekly Actual:	\$16,511
Weekly Requirement for December:	\$23,750
Fiscal YTD Actuals:	\$316,160
Fiscal YTD Requirement:	\$355,820

***Thank you for your generosity to
Our Lady of the Lake!***

Retirement Fund for Religious Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others - educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection. Thank you.

Thank You, President, Carol Shukle, the Council of Catholic Women, Grand Knight, Dave Wilson, the Knights of Columbus, and Char Nee, Church Staff, for providing the refreshments and hosting the reception this past Saturday. Archbishop Hebda was here to bless the Grace Family Center and to celebrate Mass. Your generosity allowed parishioners to visit with Archbishop Hebda and each other while enjoying a delicious assortment of appetizers and cookies. A lovely evening was had by all!



Our Lady of the Lake School Upcoming Events

Christmas Concert • Thursday, December 15th • 6:30pm • Gym
Preschool - 8th Grade

OLL Alumni Spotlight We are looking to showcase our amazing OLL alumni and where they are now! Please contact Kassie Ricke at kricke@schoololl.com for details.

Save the Date! • Kindergarten Roundup • January 16th • 6:00 - 7:15pm

Join us and learn how OLL educates the whole child: body, mind and spirit. Meet our staff and parents of children in our School. Dinner provided.

Keg & Cork • March 4th

Starlight Gala • April 22nd

Christmas Flower Memorials Help us decorate the Church at Christmas time with a gift of flowers. Consider a gift *In Honor Of* or *In Memory Of* a special person in your life. Please fill out the following information and put it in the collection basket during Mass, stop by, or mail it to the Church Office, by Noon on Monday, Dec. 12th. Thank you!

_____ \$15.⁰⁰ _____ \$25.⁰⁰ _____ Other

In Honor Of / In Memory Of:

Name (please print)

Donor (please print)

Please note: Both of the above names will be published in a future bulletin.

Catholic calendars for 2017 are available by the Church Entrances. Please feel free to take one home with you! Special thanks to Huber Funeral Homes for their kind sponsorship of the calendar.

Mass Schedule
Weekends
 Saturday 5:00pm • Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am
Weekdays
 Mon. 8:00am Communion Service (Small Chapel)
 Tues. 6:30pm (Church)
 Wed. 9:00am (Church, with OLL School)
 Thurs. & Fri. 8:00am (Small Chapel)

Confessions Tuesdays 6:00-6:30pm,
 Saturdays 4:00-4:30pm and by appointment

Rosary Everyone is welcome to join us in the Church to pray the Rosary 25 minutes before the weekday and weekend Masses.

Eucharistic Adoration is held in the John Paul II Chapel on Tuesdays from 8:30am to 10:00pm, and on First Fridays of the month following the morning Mass until midnight. Please join us for this rewarding experience!

Church Office Hours
 Mon. - Thurs. 8:30am - 5:00pm (Closed 12 -1pm)
 Fri. 8:30am - 12:00pm
 Sun. 8:00am - 12:00pm
School Office Hours
 Mon. - Fri. 8:00am - 4:00pm

Parish & School Phone Extensions 952-472-1284
 Pastor, Fr. Tony O'Neill ... 172
 Deacon, Dcn. Del Wilkinson ... 162
 Parish Administrator, Rhonda Eurich ... 161
 Pastoral Minister, Sr. Carrie Link ... 168
 Parish Nurse, Marcia Jerdee ... 952-472-5466
 Maintenance Director, Roger Koch ... 153
 Church Secretary, Dana Barrett ... 162
 Administrative Assistant, Char Nee ... 163
 Communications Director, Pam Vogt ... 167
 Youth & Family Faith Formation Coordinator, Kathy Hejna ... 147
 Adult Faith Formation Coordinator, Carla LaBore ... 145
 Youth Minister, Theresa Rider ... 144
 Music Director, Courtney Young ... 181
 School Principal, Becky Kennedy ... 151
 School Secretary, Carol Franck ... 150
 Fax ... 952-472-1216

Church Staff e-mails are first letter of first name, followed by last name **@ourladyofthelake.com**
Example: reurich@ourladyofthelake.com

School Staff e-mails are first letter of first name, followed by last name **@schoololl.com**
Example: bkennedy@schoololl.com

*****Community Resources*****

PennyWise Thrift Store 952-472-1773
 Hours: Tuesday & Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm,
 Wednesday 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Westonka Food Shelf 952-472-5599

WeCAN (Western Communities Action Network) 952-472-0742

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