

Divine Savior

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Our Lady of the Lakes

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**DIVINE SAVIOR AND
OUR LADY OF THE LAKES**
CATHOLIC CLUSTER

Our Cluster School

Divine Savior Catholic School

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Cluster Newsletter Advent 2025

A NOTE FROM OUR PARISH DIRECTOR...

Advent is upon us as we prepare for the coming of Baby Jesus at Christmas. Of course, we know that Jesus was born over two thousand years ago. However, every year, Christians take time to remember the Christ is born into our hearts and into our world over and over and over again. This is great news because we humans are broken and we live in a broken world. We need Christ's love when we feel unlovable or when we encounter others who are not acting very lovingly. We need Christ's compassion, empathy and mercy when we sin or when we meet others who are broken by bad decisions and life-altering choices.

We need Christ's patience when we are at the end of our rope and are annoyed or intolerant of others or when we yearn for immediate solutions to our challenging situations. We need Christ's peace when we, or those around us, are anxious and worried about many things.

We need Christ's hope for ourselves and to share with all God's people in a world that is often filled with gloom, anguish and despair.

There are so many in this world that yearn for Christ. There are others who need Christ even though they do not realize or acknowledge Christ. And so Christians around the world take time during Advent to prepare for Christ's coming anew in our world. We wait with expectation for the new life Christ promises all of us. We spend time in silence to ponder the great gift of love that Christ is.

God loved us enough to send his Son to die for us. Yes...God really does love us that much, even when we do not believe it.

Join me in taking extra time this incredibly busy season to take quiet, peaceful moments to ponder that GREAT LOVE.

Wishing you blessed Advent and Christmas seasons.

Deb Hamm, Parish Director

WELCOME FR. ARIEL OROZCO

We have good news. Beginning in January, we will share ten percent of an Associate Pastor with Lumen Christi Parish in Mequon. His name is Fr. Ariel Orozco. This arrangement is expected to last until June. Fr. Ariel will work almost exclusively with the youth in our cluster. He will spend regular time in the classrooms at DSCS and in our Faith Formation classrooms. For more information about Fr. Ariel, please see page 6.

We will continue to be blessed by the ministry of Fr. Steve Lampe and Fr. Don Thimm as usual.



Have you been away from Mass awhile?

We miss you and we invite you to consider coming home and joining us for prayer and worship again. Advent may be the perfect time to come back and pray with us.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE!

2025 Cluster Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving

Ecumenical Service: Nov. 26 - 6:30 pm - RLHS
Mass: Nov. 27 - 9:00 am - Holy Cross



Christian Women Cookie Sale
Dec. 14 - 9:15 am
OLL Parish Center

Advent Encounter Night
with Cluster Reconciliation
Dec. 2 - 6:30 pm - Holy Cross

Christian Women Christmas Party

Dec. 14 - 11:00 am - Five Pillars
RSVP to Susan - OLL Parish Office



A Night in Bethlehem
December 5 - 4:00-7:00 pm
Our Lady of-the Lakes Parish Center



Blue Christmas

December 18 - 6:30 pm
St. Paul's Lutheran, Random Lake

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm - Holy Cross
5:00 pm - Random Lake
10:00 pm - Dacada

Christmas Day

9:00 am - Random Lake



Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 8
8:15 am - Fredonia
6:00 pm - Random Lake

DSCS Christmas Concert - Fredonia

Rehearsal - Dec. 11 - 10:30 am

Concert - December 11
Grades 3K-2 at 6:00 pm
Grades 3-8 at 6:45 pm



Solemnity of Mary/New Year's Day

January 1, 2026

9:00 am - Holy Cross



Blessing of Baby Jesus - Third Weekend of Advent

[www.dsoll.org/Divine Savior](http://www.dsoll.org/Divine%20Savior) 262-692-9994/Our Lady of the Lakes 920-994-4380

It is the time for giving....and there are a lot of people in need. You are invited to choose one or more of these causes and make a donation to help those in need.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

AN ADVENT GIVING TREE IS SET UP IN THE ST. MARY'S CHAPEL, RL. HUMAN CONCERNS IS COLLECTING ITEMS FOR MARY'S ROOM IN SHEBOYGAN, DIVINE SAVIOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL & OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR MARY'S ROOM:

- DIAPERS: NEWBORN & SIZE 4
- WINTER CLOTHING: SIZES-NEWBORN, 2T, 3T, 4T FOR BOYS & GIRLS
- PAJAMAS: GIRLS 3T, BOYS 4T
- WINTER JACKETS: GIRLS 3T & 4T, BOYS 2T & 4T
- NEWBORN SLEEPERS: FOR BOYS & GIRLS
- TODDLER SIZE BLANKETS
- BABY WASH & SHAMPOO

FOR DIVINE SAVIOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- CLASSROOM ITEMS NEEDED ARE DISPLAYED ON THE GIVING TREE

RETURN ITEMS TO RL CHAPEL OR OLL
PARISH OFFICE BACK PORCH BY DEC. 21

ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY:

- CANNED MANDARIN ORANGES, CANNED PINEAPPLE, BOXES: INSTANT OATMEAL AND LOW SUGAR CEREAL
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT, DISH SOAP, TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS, HAND SOAP (NO IRISH SPRING), TOOTHPASTE (6OZ OR LARGER), SINGLE TOOTHBRUSHES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



DS GIFT-A-CHILD

time is here.

Would you be willing to donate some money for needy children of Food Pantry clients? DS Human Concerns Committee has a list of children for whom we will buy something the child wants, something they need, something to wear, and something to read. Checks can be made payable to Divine Savior. Please label your donation "Gift-A-Child".

Thanks for your ongoing support.

DSCS is expecting an important delivery on **Christmas Day**.

Help us celebrate the birth of Jesus by donating **NEW BABY ITEMS** for those in

need. Suggested items are: diapers, formula, baby food, onesies, socks, clothing, and so much more because babies need a lot of stuff! Donations can be dropped off at Divine Savior Catholic School or Holy Cross Chapel. **We will be collecting items beginning November 30 through December 21.**

There will also be a second collection on Dec. 13 and 14 for organizations that support women and men facing unexpected pregnancies.



Our Lady of the Lakes heads up the efforts

for the **RL Ecumenical Toy Drive**. Needed toys include Legos, games, cars, dinosaurs, sports balls and equipment, Barbie dolls and Barbie clothes, art supplies and craft kits, books, Jurassic Park, trains, cars, dolls, Paw Patrol, unicorns, Brewers, Bucks and Packers items, stuffed animals, gift cards for teenagers, etc. Items may be dropped off on the back porch at the OLL Parish Office. Please mark your donations to ensure they get to the correct collection.





Divine Savior Catholic School



Advent is upon us! This is my favorite liturgical season to celebrate at DSCS. Our teachers and staff have the opportunity each year to remind our students about the true meaning of Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting, a time of patience and it is full of hope, peace, love and joy. Who doesn't need more of those things?

Our Advent journey this year is titled: **Look Around the Stable**. Each week we will reflect on some of the things that may have been in the stable where Jesus was born – from straw and dirt, all the way to Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus! We will also meet twice during Advent to pray the **Stations of the Nativity**. Our middle school students will lead this for us. It really is a lovely way to prepare the way of the Lord. This is just one of the many blessings of working in and attending a Catholic School!

We had a busy fall at DSCS! Our PtA hosted a fun *Smarty Pants Trivia* event to help raise money to keep tuition low here at DSCS. Thank you to all who came out to support the school. The money will go to help support the PtA's \$60,000 commitment to the parish for school support.

We also had a great Trunk or Treat event, a fun Fall Festival to raise money for Sister Jo and her work in Texas and a very prayerful All Soul's Luminary Walk. On November 13 we were able to let our Veterans know how much we care. DSCS organized a parade, program and Mass to honor our Veterans. Our students and students from our local public school lined the streets and cheered as these worthy men and women drove past. DSCS students put on a very patriotic program and our PtA provided the veterans with a delicious meal. It made me proud to be an American and proud to be a member of the DSCS community!

This year at DSCS, we're focusing on letting our light shine! Our students are so bright, and to help them sparkle even more, we could use some help from our amazing community. Each week I will be sharing how our teachers and students shine and how you can help them shine even brighter! Any support is a ray of sunshine that makes a huge difference. If you would like to help, be sure to watch for our Classroom Wishlist Collection in January!

If you are looking for ways to help support the school, perhaps you would consider purchasing a Calendar of CA\$H from one of our students. The raffle tickets have 59 chances to win between January, and March! Tickets cost \$20. All ticket stubs and money are due by 12/12. Thank you for your continued support of our school.

The DSCS staff and students want to wish you all a very blessed Advent season and a very Merry Christmas. May we all accept Jesus' invitation beyond the busyness of the season and into the peace of the season. Let us use this time to celebrate the love God has shown us by giving us His Son, the Prince of Peace.

Yours in Faith, Principal Lynn Sauer



Divine Savior Catholic School Students during the week of the Red Ribbon Campaign against drugs (above).



Divine Savior Catholic School students during Rosary Club (above right) and Curiosity Club (right).



Cluster Youth Faith Formation News

Peace and blessings to all as we begin a new season in our church year. We're well on our way into preparing for the Advent season, which is a season of hope and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. The K5-6th grade students have been preparing their hearts by continuing to learn about the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the gifts we receive. In the prayer services before each class, we are learning about a different gift each week and how we can use that gift to produce the nine fruits of the spirit. On November 19, we had a family class with the parents. The families had to pass nine challenges in the areas of the Bible, the Commandments, Sacraments and prayer. With each challenge they were awarded a fruit sticker. If they collected all nine they were given a prize. Each family met all challenges. But the biggest reward was time spent together as they learned more about the faith.

The 2nd graders had a Reconciliation Workshop on November 17 with their parents. They were able to learn more about the importance and need of reconciling themselves with Jesus as well as forgiving others. Please pray for them as they'll be making their First Reconciliation on December 4.

The 7th-10th graders are continuing to focus on hope and salvation history in our prayer services. They've learned what happened when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, Lucifer's pride which caused his fall and the lack of trust the Israelites had when Moses lead them through the desert. Disobedience, pride and lack of trust all caused banishment from their home and the promised land (heaven). Because of Jesus' mercy and through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we always have the hope of redemption. On November 19, we were blessed with four priests who came out and heard confessions for our students to help them prepare for Advent.

These students also got to participate in a retreat on November 9. The theme was about standing strong in your faith when faced with social pressures. We also were blessed to have a talented singer/songwriter come and share her experiences as well as perform some of her worship songs.

On November 2, the Confirmation students had a workshop with their sponsors as they continue to prepare for their Sacrament in May.

Please continue to keep our youth in your prayers so that they may always grow stronger in their faith and closer to Christ.

Peace and blessings, Terri Riesselmann, Director of Cluster Youth Faith Formation



Pictures from the 7th-10th grade retreat with Franki Moscato on November 9 and the Family Faith Formation Day with the K5-6th on November 19



Welcome to Fr. Ariel Orozco!

Here is a little about Fr. Ariel, in his own words:

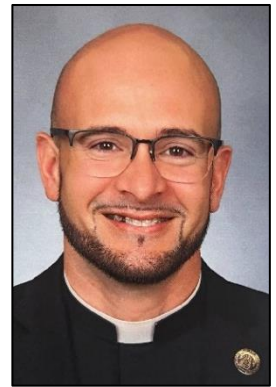
"The 19th century American novelist Mark Twain once wrote, "the two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." While this line seems to exclude God from the equation, one can argue that the reason why these two days are important are because they help us know our origin and our destiny, namely, God. I was born in Modesto, California. Soon after, my parents moved to Mexico, to a small town in the state of Jalisco named after Our Lady of Guadalupe. I am the oldest of five, with two sisters and three brothers in our household. My parents and two sisters now live in Michigan, while one of my brother lives in Mexico and another in Oxford, England.

When I was 15, my parents and I made the difficult but necessary decision to allow me to come to Milwaukee to further my education. I set foot on this great city in the summer of 2006 and lived with my aunt and uncle for three years. After finishing high school in 2009, I pursued a career in criminal justice, but God had greater plans. Soon after I completed my degree, God called me to discern priesthood. I finally entered seminary in the Fall of 2014. For the first four years, I attended St Joseph College Seminary at Loyola University in Chicago, where I completed a bachelor's degree in philosophy. Then, in 2018, I entered St. Francis de Sales Seminary and completed my seminary formation in 2022. My first assignment was St. Charles Borromeo in Hartland from 2022 to 2025, followed by a six-month assignment at Family of Five parishes in the east side of Milwaukee. The Archbishop has appointed me as associate pastor of Lumen Christi in Mequon effective January 1, and I also will be assisting at Divine Savior and Our Lady of the Lakes parishes in Fredonia and Random Lake, respectively.

My few years as a priest have helped me know the reason I was born; it was to be a priest. Leading others closer to God helps me achieve the same end. I hope to share this gift with you and to help each of you find out your "why?"

I look forward to meeting all of you and serving you like Christ would. Know of my prayers for you, and if I may, please keep me in yours."

- Fr. Ariel Orozco



Join our TMIY Men's Group

Join our **Men's Group every Wednesday morning at 6:00 AM at Holy Cross from**

January 21 to April 22 for our Spring semester. There's a light breakfast and coffee available starting at 5:45 am and the group finishes by 7:00 am. All men are welcome to come to one session or as many sessions as they wish.



This year's program, Becoming a Man After God's Own Heart, involves dynamic Catholic speakers and small group discussion as we learn and discuss the four leadership roles and the five personal traits necessary to fulfill authentic male leadership. The spring semester will help us grow in our understanding of how Christ perfectly fulfilled the leadership roles of man and will help us establish a spiritual plan for life.

Commit just one hour each week for God, your wife, your children, and yourself. Contact someone you know that attends or Tim Shiningar at tjshiningar@gmail.com or Cell# 262-623-2086 for more information.

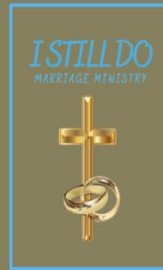
Experience Anticipation and Hope with SVdP



Lighting the candles during Advent fills us with a sense of anticipation and hope. Volunteering as members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul affords us the opportunity to witness anticipation and hope in the eyes of those we serve. During the past year, Divine Savior's St. Vincent de Paul conference, in Ozaukee County, made 83 visits to neighbors in need and assisted with \$13,370 for rent and \$11,423 for other needs including utilities. Similarly, Our Lady of the Lakes' St. Vincent de Paul conference visited 51 people and assisted with \$9,110 for rent and \$6,435 for other needs including utilities. Both conferences provided vouchers for clothing, furniture, and household items. As Vincentians, we thank you for your prayers and financial contributions that ignite anticipation and hope. If you seek help, please call (262) 284-3142 (Ozaukee County) or (920) 457-4844 (Sheboygan County).

Marriage Retreat

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026



Even the
best
marriages
can use
a little
boot camp



Looking for something to do with your spouse during those long winter days?

Just as muscles can atrophy without regular exercise, the same is true in relationships.

Even the best marriages can use a little boot camp.

Hear great speakers on different topics, reconnect with your spouse, spend some quiet time in adoration, and much more.

The morning will begin at 8:30 am with a continental breakfast and end with an optional lunch at 12:30 pm.

There is no cost (free-will offerings welcome).
Location: OLL Parish Center

To register or for more information, contact Terri Riesselmann.
Call either Parish Office or email: triesselmann@dsoll.org



Mark your calendars!
Annual Valentine Dinner Event
on 2/14/2026 with comedian
Tyler Fowler!

Free yarn is available on the back porch of the OLL Parish Office and at Holy Cross Chapel for making hats, mittens and scarves. Items can be returned to the same places. We got a late start in providing the yarn, but we will accept your handmade items throughout winter and get them to those in need. Thanks in advance for sharing your craftiness with those in need.

Our Lady of the Lakes, Random Lake, is looking for an **OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

The Outreach Coordinator is tasked with leading Our Lady of the Lakes Parish's evangelization and outreach efforts by working to bring new members to the parish and former members back to the parish, by encouraging current members who participate only occasionally in parish activities to be more active, and by focusing the energy of participating members on steps to revitalize and grow the parish.

The Coordinator will also seek to improve the connection between Our Lady of the Lakes Parish, other area Catholic and ecumenical congregations, and the broader community.

The Coordinator will work with the parish pastor/administrator/parish director, other parish staff and lay leaders of the parish's various stewardship, outreach, evangelization, and human concerns activities to foster increased parishioner involvement. This position reports directly to the pastor/administrator/parish director.

For a complete job description, call the parish office at 920-994-4380. Interested applicants should forward their resume and cover letter to Deb Hamm at dhamm@dsoll.org.

CHURCH SUPPORT PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Envelope Giving: Use the designated envelope provided by your parish for your contribution.
- Cash: Drop off cash at the church office or place it in the collection basket at Mass.
- Check: Write a check payable to your parish.
- Online Contribution: Click on the **WeShare Online Giving** link from the parish website: dsoll.org. Use your bank account, debit or credit card to make a one-time or recurring contribution.
- Mobile App: Go to the parish website for instructions to download the mobile app.
- Text-to-Give: DS parishioners text **GIVE** to #262-766-9233 | OLL parishioners text **GIVE** to #920-941-3226
- Set up a direct distribution from your investment account.

Use the method that is most convenient for you to ensure your contribution is secure and accounted for.



Minimum suggested levels of giving:

- 2025 Tax Year: Married couples \$1,700 per calendar year. Single or mixed religion marriages \$850 per calendar year.

For those parishioners on fixed incomes or who are financially unable, we ask that you give what you can afford.

If you wish to make a tax-deductible contribution for the 2025 tax year, make sure it's dated / postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2025.

Thank you!

We are deeply grateful to all of you who give so generously of your time, talent and treasure. We could not continue to operate without your help. Our giving categories in both parishes are quite similar.

Did you know that close to 60% of our registered parishioners contribute to our parishes?

Fifteen percent of our parishioners give between \$1,001 and \$2,000, which is the most popular range. Four percent gave at least \$10,000. Nearly 40% of our registered parishioners give no financial support to our parish.

We are deeply grateful to those who are regular givers of time, talent and treasure.

If you have not been a regular financial contributor, we invite you to prayerfully consider whether you may be able to give even a little...the cost of a coffee a week, or a couple of pizzas a month, perhaps?



Don't forget to order your Scrip for all your Christmas gift-giving needs. Don't be shy about supporting Divine Savior Catholic School.

Scrip is ordered every other week, but there are plenty of vendors we have in stock. There is also the option for a mobile app to download "e-cards" if that is easier for you. If you would like directions on the mobile app, please reach out to Jen Stern by phone at 262-689-8825 or email at jennifer.huiras@yahoo.com. There are Scrip order forms at the back of Holy Cross Chapel. We look forward to filling your order!

Website: dsoll.org

Cluster Staff

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Office: (920) 994-4380

dhamm@dsoll.org

Friday is her scheduled day off. If there is an emergency, please call or text the cell phone number.

Supervising Priest:

Fr. Don Thimm

Assisting Priest:

Fr. Steve Lampe

Shared Associate Pastor

(Beginning January 1)

Fr. Ariel Orozco

Business Manager:

Terri Schueller

(920) 994-4380 or

(262) 692-9994

tschueller@dsoll.org

Director of Youth Formation:

Terri Riesselmann

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triesselmann@dsoll.org

Divine Savior Parish Staff

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srisch@dsoll.org

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**Divine Savior
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Secretary: Holly Masengarb

hmasengarb@dscsfredonia.org