



Our Lady of the Woods Catholic Church

Downriver Missionaries for Christ Family of Parishes

21892 Gudith Road Woodhaven, MI 48183

Phone 734-671-5101 Fax 734-671-2901 www.ollow.org

Rev. Robert Johnson, Priest in Solidum

Dear Parishioners,

We are excited to invite you, your family, your friends, and your neighbors to the **6th Annual Our Lady of the Woods Oktoberfest Weekend, taking place September 25–27, 2026**. This year, we are expanding the festival into three unique experiences—**Family Fest on Friday**, traditional **Oktoberfest on Saturday**, and our all-new **Faith Fest on Sunday**. Each day offers something different while bringing together the values that unite us as a parish family.

Friday – Family Fest (5:00 PM – 10:00 PM)



Family Fest kicks off Oktoberfest weekend with an evening dedicated to fun, laughter, and family entertainment. This fun-filled evening will start with an Oktoberfest Kickoff Dance Party. We will also feature a video game truck, a spa and make-up truck, face painting, balloon animals, children's games, cake walk, Kona Ice, a petting farm, hay rides, character meet and greets, music, pizza, hotdogs, pretzels and **MUCH MUCH** more. We're even ending the night with a **TAYLOR SWIFT** and **KPOP TRIBUTE CONCERT!** It's the perfect way to start the weekend with fun and fellowship for the whole family.

At 7:00 PM, Mad Science takes the stage with an exciting presentation featuring eight interactive laboratory stations where children and families can experience science in a fun and engaging way.

Saturday - Oktoberfest Celebration (5:00 PM – 10:00 PM)

Saturday evening transforms Our Lady of the Woods into a traditional Oktoberfest celebration featuring delicious food, cold beverages, exciting raffles, and live entertainment provided by **Polka Hall of Famer Linda Lee and the Golden-Aires Band** - *straight from Frankenmuth!* To help keep the kids entertained while parents enjoy the festivities under the tent, we'll have a video game truck and a spa bus onsite from 5p-8p. Whether you're coming for the music, the food, or the fellowship, there's something for everyone. Bring the whole family and celebrate faith, fun, and community!



Sunday, September 27 – Faith Fest (12:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

Faith Fest is our newest Oktoberfest tradition and reflects our desire to create an event that is distinctly Catholic, family-friendly, and welcoming to everyone in our community. Through prayer, laughter, friendly competition, and shared experiences, we hope to celebrate the faith that brings us together while creating lasting memories for our parishioners and visitors.

The day begins with Faith Trivia, proudly sponsored and hosted by **Gabriel Richard Catholic High School**. Their legendary trivia nights are known to sell out shortly after tickets become available. This special faith-themed edition promises the same energy, excitement, and friendly competition that have made their events so popular.

MORE INFORMATION ON BACK!



Immediately following Faith Trivia, the spotlight shifts to Faith Feud, a family-friendly game-show experience. Audience members will have opportunities to participate, cheer on their favorite contestants, vote on answers, and compete for fun prizes.

Faith Fest concludes with a truly unique **Living Rosary experience**. This is not a typical recitation of the Rosary. Through prayer, music, liturgical dance, visual elements, and audience participation, the Living Rosary brings the mysteries of our faith to life in a meaningful and memorable way. It promises to be a beautiful and inspiring conclusion to an extraordinary weekend of faith, family, and fellowship.

Grand Raffle Fundraiser

As part of the celebration, we are holding our sixth-annual Grand Raffle, an important fundraiser for the parish. Enclosed you will find 40 raffle tickets (2 books), each priced at **\$5**, for a total of **\$200**. We kindly ask that each family sell at least \$100 worth of tickets, but we hope you will consider helping even more by purchasing or selling additional tickets. Prizes will remain the same as last year: **first prize to \$10,000, second and third place winners will receive \$1,000 each, and fourth through tenth place winners will each receive \$250**. The raffle drawing will take place Saturday, September 26, at 10:00 PM. Please return all sold and unsold tickets, along with the appropriate funds, to the Oktoberfest tables in the gathering area before or after Mass, in the collection box, at the parish office, or at the Grand Raffle Booth during the festival.

Sponsorship Opportunities

We are also excited to offer sponsorship opportunities for businesses, organizations, and families who wish to support our event while gaining valuable community exposure. Sponsoring Oktoberfest is a wonderful way to show your support and connect with over 1,000 attendees.

There are two sponsorship forms available: a general sponsorship form for parishioners, and a detailed business sponsorship form for those who own a business - or who might be willing to pass it along to a friend, family member, or colleague who does. Please see the enclosed sponsorship flyer for more information on how to participate and make an impact.

And back by popular demand, the **Basket Raffle** will once again be part of the festivities! We invite you to help make it a success by donating a themed basket, gift cards, or other items. Please refer to the enclosed donation letter for details on how you can contribute.

Whether you join us for one day or all three, we invite you to celebrate with us as we gather around the values that define Our Lady of the Woods—Faith, Family, and Friendship.

All of this information and more, including **electronic payment/donation options** are available at [www.olow.org/oktoberfest!](http://www.olow.org/oktoberfest)

With joyful anticipation,

 Fr. Bob Johnson

Amore & Eluskie Families
Oktoberfest Chairs

Fr. Bob Johnson
Priest in Solidum

