



*“I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.”*

Mass Intentions

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The OLM Parish Priests are offering private Mass daily for the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church. In particular, we remember this week the following intentions:

Easter Weekday, Monday, May 4

The Deceased Members of the Cenacle—Memorial

Easter Weekday, Tuesday, May 5

Monsignor John W. Lolio—8th Anniversary

Easter Weekday, Wednesday, May 6

Suzanne Carcieri—Birthday Remembrance

Easter Weekday, Thursday, May 7

Jean Luc Dayde—24th Anniversary

Easter Weekday, Friday, May 8

Edward & William Sullivan—Memorial

Easter Weekday, Saturday, May 9

Michael Monteleone—15th Anniversary

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 10

The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

Ray & Lisa Damiano—Memorial

Henry & Theresa Mangiante—Memorial

All Mothers, Living & Deceased



In your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of the following members of OLM Parish Family who have died in the last weeks and for the consolation of their grieving families:

**Darlene Mae Doyle
Michelina Madden
Mary Beth Wicks
Josephine A. McCormick**

*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord,
and Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.*



Dear Parishioners:

Pope Francis is encouraging every family to pray the Rosary during the month of May. He stated: *“The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.”*

In a Letter for the Month of May, published on the feast of St Mark the Evangelist (25 April), the Holy Father is proposing to everyone to *“rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May”*, whether individually or as a group, *“making the most of both opportunities”*.

In his letter, he assures the faithful that he too will be reciting those prayers throughout the month of May, *“in spiritual union with all of you as contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial”*.

Pope Francis concludes his letter with the promise that he is praying for all of us *“especially those suffering most greatly”*; and he asks for our prayers as well. The Holy Father also proposes two new prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, which can be recited at the end of the Rosary. The First Prayer is:

“O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a

sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus’ suffering, and persevered in your faith.

‘Protectress of the Roman people’, you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.”

I invite you to heed the words of our Holy Father and pray the Rosary daily during May. If ever there was a time for us to pray the Rosary it is now. Together as families and as individuals let us pray for an end to the pandemic, for those who suffer, for the dying and the dead, and for those who care for them. Let us together turn to our Blessed Mother seeking her aid.

The great spiritual writer Dom Columba Marmion, once said: *“Have you not often met poor old women who are most faithful to the pious recitation of the Rosary? You also must do all that you can to recite it with fervor. Get right down, at the feet of Jesus: it is a good thing to make oneself small in the presence of so great a God.”*

Please be sure to join us

every Monday night at 7:00PM for the livestreaming of May Devotions. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed as we devoutly pray the Rosary as a parish family. So set the time and tune in on Mondays at 7:00PM. Together as a parish family let us ask our patroness, Our Lady of Mercy, for her powerful intercession for our world and our own intentions. After all, the family that prays together stays together, even when separated by “social distancing”. The great tradition of the Rosary traces its roots to St. Dominic in the 12th Century when he was distressed in his preaching in countering the Albigensian heretics. In his desperation, Dominic turned to Mother Mary for help. She appeared and urged him to use the mysteries of our salvation as an instrument in combatting the great heresy of his day.

Remember that Rosaries are not just decorations. Battles have been won because people prayed the Rosary! Hearts converted, illnesses cured and even some impossible intentions answered. Life can only be blessed if we start praying the Rosary. So take up your beads, take the time daily and pray the Rosary! St. Josemaria Escriva teaches us that: *“The holy Rosary is a powerful weapon. Use it with confidence and you’ll be amazed at the results.”* Pray the Rosary! Be well. Do Good! Stay safe! God Bless. *Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!*

Father Healey

Ask Father

How Can I Hunger More for the Mass?

As the Psalmist writes: "My soul thirsts for you like a dry weary land without water." The Bible uses the metaphor of hunger and thirst to signify love. We have an important principle: The more you know something, the more you love it. What we need to know centers on several facts: our sinfulness and imperfection, our need for a savior, what Jesus Christ does for us on the Cross, and how we participate in the saving events of Holy Week (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday) in the Mass.

First our sinfulness. We might not commit "the big ones:" murder, fraud, grand larceny, and so on. Yet, through the lens of a well-formed conscience, we see throughout our lives those moments we fail to live up to the heights of human excellence. We do not need to commit spectacular acts of wickedness in order to separate ourselves from God and neighbor. As Screwtape counsels Wormwood in *The Screwtape Letters*, "It does not matter how small the sins are provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the Light and out into the Nothing. Indeed, the safest road to Hell is the gradual one." I should mention that knowledge of our sinfulness is actually a grace. Many regard talk about sin as "Catholic guilt," but in fact it is quite positive. By acknowledging our sinfulness, we also acknowledge the possible heights of virtue and sanctity we can reach. Imperfection, means that there is a possible perfection. For the person who does not acknowledge his or her sin, the imperfect life is all that they know.

Second, our awareness of this lack of excellence (i.e. sanctity) shows us both that we were made for more, and that we cannot save ourselves. Time and time again that excellence slips through our fingers; whether in how high we can reach, or our ability to maintain our lives at the height. We are like Sisyphus rolling the boulder up the mountain. We need God to come from outside to lift us up and give us the power to lead saintly human lives. To be a saint simply means to live human life excellently. "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly," Jesus tells us in John 10:10.

Third, God conquers our sinfulness and imperfection through the events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. The Meal, the Sacrifice and the Resurrection. These events are remarkable for at least two reasons: First, God is under no obligation to save us; it comes to us as a complete gift from his love. Second, God could have saved us in any number of ways. His death on the Cross illustrates vividly how far he is willing to go to save us. As St. Paul tells us: "He emptied himself, taking the form of slave."

Now we come to the Mass and the Eucharist. In its structure, the Mass follows the pattern above. We begin by remembering our sins, we learn about salvation history when we listen to the readings, and we enter the events of Holy Week during the Eucharistic Prayer. The Mass cumulates in the consecration and reception of the Eucharist. As our Lord tells us: "Do this in memory of me," and "unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will not have life within you." The life our Lord speaks about is eternal life, given to us through the sacrifice on the Cross. Hence, the Second Vatican Council describes the Mass as the "source and summit of the Christian life." With such knowledge, and the desire for me, may we increase our hunger, and our love, for the Mass.

Weekly Collection

April 26, 2020

Weekly.....	\$7,758.00
EFT.....	\$3,025.00
	Total=10,783.00
Outreach.....	\$2,095.00

April 28, 2019

Weekly.....	\$14,743.00
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Thank You for Your Continued Support!

It is needed now more than ever!!



Visit our parish website to sign up for online giving with Parish Giving™.

We now have online giving! Please consider making a one time or recurring gift by clicking the Parish Giving link on the OLM Webpage. Help sustain our parish through these difficult times – please consider making your Sunday Offertory through online Parish Giving. Online giving is FAST, EASY and SECURE! Please visit our webpage today. **Thanks for your support.**



Every penny counts!

Thank you for your contribution - big and small!

Outreach Update


- **OLM Food Pantry** is in **urgent need of food and paper goods** for many members of our local community. Please place all donated non-perishable foods and paper goods in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House.
Thank you for your support!
- If you are need of food or financial assistance please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 (leave a message if not in) or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



Pray the Rosary

 for the Health and Safety of all.

OLM Prayer Chain



Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain. The power of pray is tremendous and many successful results have been reported back. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain as a caller, or simply as one who prays for others and their intentions, please call Mary Hart at 884-5629 or email directly at 2hart@cox.net.

If you know someone in need of prayers due to illness, infirmity, surgery, hospitalization or any serious reason please call us!

The power of prayer at work!

Join us for *Mass!*
 Let us gather and celebrate the Mass. Visit our parish Facebook® page!



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May Devotions
Mondays at 7:00PM

“Abandon yourself in the hands of Mary. She will take care of you.”
- St. Padre Pio



Exposition & Adoration of the Eucharist
Recitation of the Rosary
Sacred Music & Reflection
Livestreamed Every Monday in May at 7:00PM