

† MASS SCHEDULE †

Weekend

Saturday Vigil Mass	4:00 PM
Sunday Masses7:30, 9	9:00 & 10:30 AM
September—June	5:00 PM

Daily

Monday - Friday	7:30	ΑM
Saturdays & Legal Holidays	8:30	ΑM

Holy Day

Vigil Mass		.5:00	PM
Holyday Masses	7:30 AM &	7:00	PM

Our Rady of Mercy School

Sr. Jeanne Barry, R.S.M.

School Principal

55 Fourth Avenue East Greenwich, RI 02818

School Phone	884-1618
Email	secretary@olmschool.org
Web	www.olmschool.org

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Our Rady of Mercy

65 THIRD STREET № EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818



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Parish Email		paris	sh@olmparish.org
Parish Website	<u>.</u>	w\	ww.olmparish.org

The Holy Family of Jesus. Mary & Joseph № December 29, 2013

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Mondays at 6:00 PM or by appointment. Saturdays at 3:00 PM or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Second Sunday of the month. Preparation Class is required. Please contact one of the parish priests prior to birth of your child.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact one of the parish priests one year prior to the proposed date of your wedding.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact one of the parish priests if you are shut-in, sick, homebound or hospitalized.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

Please contact one of the parish priests or the Office of the Director of Vocations at 331-1316 or www.catholicpriest.com.

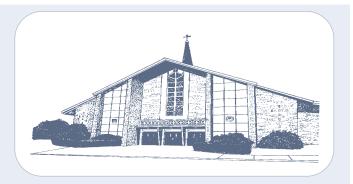
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday.....8:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Reverend Bernard A. Healey, S.T.L., J.C.L., Pastor

The Reverend Ryan W. Connors, S.T.L., Associate Pastor

Joseph V. Cavanagh, Jr. William K. Wray Parish Trustees



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The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 29, 2013

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

Mass of Anticipation for the Holy Family

4:00 PM The Deceased Members of the Miller & Loeffler Families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

7:30 AM Albert Edward Hyde—Memorial

9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

10:30 AM Mary & Gene Verri-Memorial

5:00PM John Bucci—Birthday Remembrance

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord 7:30 AM Special Intention

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Seventh Day within the Octave of Christmas/St. Sylvester, Pope 7:30 AM R. G. Peter—Memorial

Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

4:00PM Edward Fern—1st Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:30AM John Murphy—Memorial

9:00AM Franciszek Majewski—Memorial

10:30AM Carlos & Rose Martini & Paul Amato—Memorial

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

7:30 AM Intentions of MMP Rosary Cenacle

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

Christmas Weekday/The Most Holy Name of Jesus 7:30AM Intentions of the MMP Rosary Cenacle

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,

8:30 AM Anthony Jack Durkin—Memorial Mass of Anticipation for The Holy Family 4:00 PM Ellen Simms—4th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 AM Fred Gretchener—4th Anniversary

9:00 AM Thomas Cavanagh—Memorial 10:30AM Antonetta DiNapoli—Memorial

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

Merry Christmas! Yes. the Christmas Season is just beginning! Christmas is a season full of joy, hope and faith not just a day. The Eternal Word has become Man and dwells among us. The longings of the patriarchs and prophets fulfilled. With the shepherds we hurry to the manger and adore the Incarnate Son of God, who for us and for our salvation descended upon earth.

The purpose of Christmas is beautifully expressed in the Preface of the Nativity: "For in the mystery of the Word made Flesh a new light of your glory has shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that, as we recognize in him God made visible, we may be caught up through him in love of all things invisible."

Christmas at Our Lady of Mercy is always a joyful, faithful and hopeful celebration. We give thanks for the gift of God's only begotten Son, Jesus Christ born on Christmas day. We also give thanks to the many people who made Christmas so beautiful and solemn at OLM.

Let's give thanks and praise where it is due! The OLM Decorating Committee under the direction of Cecelia Franzone did a tremendous job of making our Church truly beautiful. Jeffery Allard and Deirdre Donovan along with our musicians, Adult and Children's Choirs gave us the great gift of wonderful music. Our fine Altar Servers ensured the great feast was celebrated with solemnity and reverence.

Our fine ushers did a great job of welcoming and ushering our many visitors! Our lectors proclaimed the readings with great joy and faith. Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion helped many people receive the Body of Christ with reverence and respect. We thank them all!

In "The Joy of the Gospel,"
Pope Francis writes about a
"practical relativism" in which we
act, in our day to day life, like God
doesn't really exist. He said that
this can result in a heart that
believes all the doctrine and
teachings but "a lifestyle which
leads to an attachment to financial security or to a desire for
power or human glory at all cost."

The Holy Father calls us to say "No to selfishness and spiritual sloth." He talks about the dangers of "acedia," which is an emptiness or listlessness that results in not really caring about anything. He warns of a "gray pragmatism," transforming "mummies." He "Disillusioned with reality, with the Church and with themselves, experience a constant temptation to cling to a faint melancholy, lacking in hope which seizes the heart."

Pope Francis asks us to say "no to a sterile pessimism." He says, "Our faith is challenged to discern how wine can come from water and how wheat can grow in the midst of weeds." He writes about a "defeatism" which can turn us into "disillusioned pessimists, 'sourpusses'" and urges us to say "yes to a new relationship with Jesus."

Christmas is the opportunity to open our hearts to Jesus' coming today, in the midst of our darkness and restore the light of peace, joy and hope. On the threshold of the New Year, "come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!" May we continue these Christmas days and throughout the New Year to celebrate the wonder and beauty of this holy season and may we continue to adore Him in all we say and do.

I offer my thanks to the Hill Funeral Home for donating the beautiful 2014 OLM Calendars to our parish. These calendars are a gift to each of you so please take one as you leave Church. If you know of a neighbor or family member who needs one, take one for them too! The calendars highlight all the important dates of our Church Year and provide easy contact information for the parish. We are grateful to the Carparco Family of Hill Funeral Home for their generous donation.

Fr. Connors and I wish to thank the many parishioners who were so kind to us at Christmas. The cards, best wishes and generous personal gifts are appreciated and we are grateful for your thoughtfulness. Your support and encouragement of our priestly ministry is truly appreciated. We wish you and your families a continued Merry Christmas and many blessings for the New Year in 2014! God Bless.

Father Healey

Dear Fr. Connors: What is the meaning of the feast of the holy family this week?

The feast of the Holy Family is a wonderful



chance to reflect on the centrality of the family in God's plan of salvation. The holy family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus stands at the center of salvation history. They are the

model of love and familial devotion.

The holy family is the model of prayer. The silence and contemplation of God's things which pervades the house at Nazareth should encourage our families to pray. The old adage certainly retains its merit: the family that prays together; stays together. How different would 2014 be if Catholic families once again took up the practice of family prayer? Would that every Catholic family pray together in the home. The tradition of the rosary, said together as a family, has been encouraged by Pope after Pope and saint after saint.

The foundation of the family is, of course, the marriage of a man and woman bonded together for life. This teaching of Christ—expounded by the Church—is not against anybody. It doesn't condemn anyone who falls short. What it does is propose the truth about marriage, a truth for the good of children and all society. In a word, love-making and life-making go together. Any effort to separate them is—as we have seen in our world—to our peril.

The Feast of the Holy Family—so close to Christmas—is a feast that celebrates the family. God wanted to be born in a family. He came to meet humanity first through a family. In doing so, He consecrated, as it were, the family as the first and most vital cell of evangelization. Might 2014 be the year that families rediscover or find for the first time the truth about friendship with Christ found in the Church. That will mean a happy 2014 and many new years to come.

If you have a question on the Church and Her teachings for Fr. Connors send it to associatepastor@olmparish.org

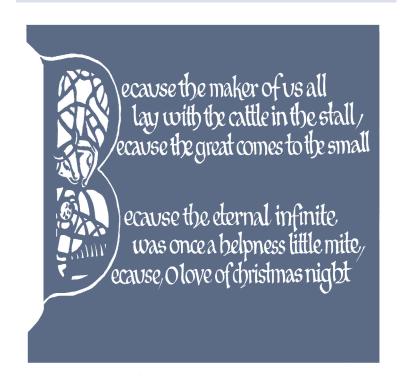


Weekly Budget results are not available due to the holiday printing deadline.

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

Thank you for your generosity!

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.







You can find a complete RE Schedule and Registration Forms online under Faith Formation tab at www.olmparish.org

OLM Religious Education Schedule 2013-14

RE Grades 1—5
Sundays 10:00AM—11:00AM
RE Grades 6—8
Sundays 6:00PM—7:00PM

NO RE Classes this Weekend. All RE Classes resume the weekend of January 5, 2014!!!

We wish all our RE Teachers, Students and Families a Happy New Year! See you in 2014!



The OLM Food Pantry is always in need of food. Please leave your food donations in the box in the vestibule of Church. Please place all food donations in the large Food Box located in the vestibule of Church.

Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you for your generous support of our OLM Outreach efforts at Christmas!! Your generous charity helped many families and individuals truly have a Happy Christmas!



Dear Fr. Healey & Our Lady of Mercy Parish:

Christmas greetings and blessings to you, Bishop Evans, Fr. Connors, staff and all parishioners from Sister Lucy and Sister Rose. We cannot forget you and no doubt we miss all of you. May you enjoy the love, presence and peace which the Newborn Jesus brings to us this season and much

more as we continue our journeys together toward Him forever. We Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini remember you in prayer and likewise, we ask you to pray for us. We have many fond memories.

> Faithfully in Christ, Sister Rose and Sister Lucy



Dear Fr. Healey & OLM Parish:

Thank you so much for the donation to Oakland Beach School for the basic necessities of our students. In this time of economic cutbacks and difficult financial situations, donations such as yours are hugely appreciated. Our students and their parents will benefit

greatly from your generous contributions. We all hope you have a wonderful Christmas season,

Paul Heatherton
Principal of Oakland Beach School

Dear Fr. Healey & OLM Parish:

On behalf of House of Hope CDC and the homeless individuals and families we serve, I want to thank you for your recent donation of food and for all your ongoing efforts to assist us. The support of our community, of people like you and your parishioners, ensures we can be a solution to ending homelessness. Your generosity restores hope for many men, women and children in our community.

Jean Johnson
Executive Director of House of Hope

Dear Fr. Healey & OLM Parish:

On behalf of all of us at McAuley Ministries, thank you for your generous donation. Gifts like this enable us to fulfill our mission of providing the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health services, emotional support and guidance to the most vulnerable in our community.

Donald P. Wolfe Executive Director of McAuley Ministries

Dear Fr. Healey & OLM Parish:

Thank you for your generous donations of Christmas gifts for our clients at Emmanuel House. You support of our many clients is appreciated and you've brought joy to many at Christmas. May God bless you all.

James Jahnz
Coordinator of Emmanuel House Homeless Shelter



Our Lady of Mercy Church New Years' Mass Schedule Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Monday, December 30 Confessions at 6:00PM

Tuesday, December 31st
New Years Eve
Vigil Mass at 4:00PM

Wednesday, January 1, 2014
New Years Day
Masses at 7:30AM, 9:00AM & 10:30AM

Prayer to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

O most loving Jesus, Who by Thy sublime and beautiful



virtues of humility, obedience, poverty, modesty, charity, patience and gentleness, and by the example of Thy domestic life, didst bless with peace and happiness the family Thou didst choose on earth, in Thy

clemency look down upon this household, humbly prostrate before Thee and imploring Thy mercy. Remember that this family belongs to Thee; for to Thee we have in a special way dedicated and devoted ourselves. Look upon us in Thy loving kindness; preserve us from danger; give us help in time of need, and grant us the grace to persevere to the end in the imitation of Thy Holy Family; that having revered Thee and loved Thee faithfully on earth, we may bless and praise Thee eternally in heaven. O Mary, most sweet Mother, to thy intercession we have recourse, knowing that thy Divine Son will hear thy prayers. And do thou, O glorious Patriarch, St. Joseph, assist us by thy powerful mediation, and offer, by the hands of Mary, our prayers to Jesus. Amen.



We wish all our Administration, Faculty, Staff, Students and Families a Healthly and Happy New Year! See you in 2014!!! School resumes on January 6, 2014!



Our Lady of Mercy is proud to introduce "Enhanced Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer" What is EFT?

We have partnered with Parish Giving to offer this program to all of our parishioners. It's simple, just log on to the Our Lady of Mercy website (www.olmparish.org) and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration instructions. It's secure: Parish Giving is Payment Card Industry compliant and uses the strongest Secure Sockets Layering encryption technology available. It's Convenient: No more searching for the checkbook or Sunday morning stops at the ATM machine. You can pick the day of the month for the recurring contributions to be processed. • Tax benefits: You will be able to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. • Parish benefits: Stable monthly contributions and significant reduction of parish administrative costs. To get started log on to: http://www.olmparish.org/ and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration steps.

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