

† MASS SCHEDULE †

Weekend

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

Mr. Scott W. Fuller

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

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Parish Email		parisł	n@olmparish.org
Parish Webs	ite	ww	w.olmparish.org

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 Very 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 Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2015

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

The Vigil of the Baptism of the Lord

4:00PM Ellen Simms—5th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

The Baptism of the Lord

7:30 AM James V. Lentino—Birthday Rembrance

9:00 AM Florence Metcalfe—Memorial

10:30AM Harriet Chilas—Memorial

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Weekday

7:30 AM Special Intention of the MMP Rosary Cenacle

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Weekday/St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:30 AM Sean T. Healey—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Weekday

7:30AM Sperantino Almonte—Memorial

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

Weekday

7:30AM Fred Buoro—Memorial

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Weekday

7:30AM Norman Murtha—35th Anniversary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

St. Anthony, Abbot

8:30AM John, Louise & David Kiernan—Memorial

The Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00PM Deirdre Horan—5th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

9:00 AM Albert Catanio—Memorial

10:30AM Joseph & Lenore Neri & Ralph Bountempo-Mem.

5:00PM Amico Truppa—Memorial



Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

We celebrate the Baptism of the Lord this weekend. This is the end of the Christmas Season and on Monday we begin to take down the beautiful decorations. The crèche is to be put away for another year, the trees put in storage and the beautiful poinsettia plants are to find a new home.

At first glance, the Baptism of the Lord might seem an odd feast. Since the Church teaches that the Sacrament of Baptism is necessary for the remission of sins, particularly Original Sin, why was Christ baptized? After all, He was born without Original Sin, and He lived His entire life without sinning. Therefore, He had no need of the sacrament, as we do.

However, in submitting Himself humbly to the baptism of St. John the Baptist, Christ provided the example for the rest of us. If even He should be baptized, though He had no need of it, how much more should the rest of us be thankful for this sacrament, which frees us from darkness of the sin incorporates us into the Church, the life of Christ on earth! His therefore. Baptism. necessary--not for Him, but for us.

It is a time for us to recall our Baptismal promises to live the faith, to regularly receive the Sacraments of the Church, and to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. At the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism the parents of the child are asked: "You have

asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?"

Over the last twenty years I have performed hundreds of baptism and each time the parents answer "Yes"! Sadly many of these parents along with their children drift away from the Church. It always saddens me when that "Yes" proclaimed with such joy, hope, and faith fades away and good people drift away from God and His Church.

Last week while celebrating Mass in St. Peter's Basilica on New Year's Day, Pope Francis spoke about those who seek to live their faith outside the Church. He said the faith "is not abstract doctrine philosophy, but a vital and full relationship with a person: Jesus Christ. Where can we encounter him? We encounter him in the Church. it is the Church, which proclaims Him; it is in the Church that Jesus continues accomplish his acts of grace which are the sacraments.

No manifestation of Christ, even the most mystical, can ever be detached from the flesh and blood of the Church, from the historical concreteness of the Body of Christ. Without the Church, Jesus Christ ends up as an idea, a moral teaching, a feeling. Without the Church, our

relationship with Christ would be at the mercy of our imagination, our interpretations, our moods."

Today as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and begin this New Year, may we commit to praying for those who have drifted from the Church. Let us pray they might return to the fold and once again be part of our community. Let us also invite those we know back, welcome them home, and encourage them to keep the faith in the Church!

Father Christopher Murphy, Chaplain at Bishop Hendricken High School Assistant Vocations Director, is to all preach at Masses weekend. He is an outstanding young priest and I think you will find him a dynamic preacher. He is to preach to us about his work promoting vocations to the priesthood.

We continue to grieve and mourn the tragic death of two of New York City's finest while our nation continues to grapple with issues of violence, race and justice. So I invite you to join with members of the many diverse faith communities of our state along with the members of state and local police departments for a Prayer Vigil for Peace. Certainly prayer is a positive way for all of us to respond to the violence that continues to plague our nation. The Prayer Vigil is to take place this Tuesday night at 7:00PM at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. God Bless! Go Pats!!!!

Father Healey



Dear Fr. Connors: When does Christmas end?

The Christmas season ends on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, celebrated on the Sunday following Epiphany. That week begins the celebration of

ordinary time until the season of Lent.

The eight days following Christmas are the known as the Christmas octave or the so-called "eight days of Christmas." This privileged period ends on January 1 with the celebration of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. The Christmas season continues through Epiphany, celebrated in the United States on the second Sunday after Christmas and in other parts of the world on January 6.

For the octave of Christmas there are special prayers both at the celebration of Holy Mass and in the Liturgy of the Hours, the official prayer of the Church prayed especially by priests and religious. During Mass the *Gloria* is said each day, for example. The priest and deacon wear white throughout the Christmas season until the Monday after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

There is one final distinction. The feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the temple is celebrated on February 2. There is some sense in which the season of Christmas, at least in an analogous way, extends through that day. The Christmas tree in the papal apartment in Rome traditionally was kept up until February 2.

Likewise, the proper chant for the Blessed Virgin Mary, sung during solemn celebrations of the Liturgy of the Hours or at Holy Mass, is the same one for Advent, Christmas and until February 2. At Mass at Our Lady of Mercy, for example, often after the distribution of Holy Communion, the proper chant in honor of Mary will be sung until February 2, that is the *Alma Redemptoris Mater*, which is Latin for "Loving Mother of the Redeemer." There is a different one for Lent and a different one for Easter. The well-known *Salve Regina* is for most of ordinary time.

Christmas might come but once a year but it extends beyond just December 25. The truth is the coming of God is too great to be celebrated in just one day.

If you have a question for Fr. Connors about the Catholic Faith or a matter of Church Teaching, please email him at associatepastor@olmparish.org



December 28, 2014

Weekly	\$12,504.50	
EFT		
	Total=\$13,968.00	
Outreach	\$1,552.00	
Christmas	\$35,394.00	
<u> Ianuary 4, 2015</u>		
Weekly	\$12,559.00	
EFT	\$1,055.50	
	Total=\$13,614,50	
Holyday, January 1	\$4,776.50	
Outreach	\$1,338.50	

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.

Building & Grounds......\$3,438.00

Annual (to date).....\$100,559.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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



SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next Week: The Catholic University of America



The Sacrament of Confession at Our Lady of Mercy

Mondays at 6:00PM—6:45PM Saturdays at 3:00PM—3:45PM



All RE Grades have class this weekend.

There is no class for all Grades on January 18th due to the MLK Holiday. Enjoy your long weekend! Due to the Open House at OLM School on Sunday the 25th, there will be no class for RE Grades 1-5 only. Grades 6-8 will have class as scheduled in the evening.



The OLM Bereavement Group meets this month on Thursday, January 22nd from 4:00pm-6:00pm at Mercy House. All Adults experiencing grief, loneliness or isolation are most welcome to attend. **The OLM Outreach Ministry** is still accepting donations of gently used or new winter clothing such as hats, gloves, mittens, socks and coats. Please drop items off at Mercy House.

For more information contact Doug Green, OLM Outreach Director at 884-4410 or via email at: outreach@olmparish.org

OLM Young Adult/Young Families Group



Wednesday, January 14th at 5:30PM
OLM School Gym

We invite all Young Adults and Young Families as we discuss the topic of "Forgiveness" with our

guest speaker, Genevieve Kineke. Join us for a meal and discussion. For those with young children Baby-sitting is provided. The Our Lady of Mercy Young Adult & Young Families group meets monthly to discuss a spiritual topic. To RSVP or for more information contact: Kate Jelinek at: kate jelinek@hotmail.com



Our Lady of Mercy School offers students from Pre-K through 8th grade an exceptional educational opportunity in a spiritual, nurturing, faith- based, values driven environment. Our Lady of Mercy, a preeminent elementary Catholic school in Rhode Island, provides a challenging curriculum that builds a solid academic foundation while supporting the community, all in the Roman Catholic tradition. Please join us for our Open House on Sunday, January 25th from 10:00 am through noon and discover the Our Lady of Mercy advantage!

Enjoy a student-guided tour, meet current Our Lady of Mercy faculty and families, and explore the multitude of extra curricular and service based opportunities that combine to make an Our Lady of Mercy education second to none! Please visit our website at www.olmschool.org or call 884-1618 for more information.

Come experience the Our Lady of Mercy Advantage!



Celebrate National Catholic Schools Week!

January 25—31, 2015

Prayer Vigil for Peace

Tuesday, January 13th
7:00PM
Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul
Providence

All are Invited to Attend



The Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence in conjunction with local faith eaders, RI State Council of Churches, the RI Board of Rabbis, RI Council for Muslim Advancement, the RI State Police, Providence Police and the RI Police Chiefs Association announce a Prayer Vigil for Peace at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 7:00 **PM.** We have all been concerned by the recent acts of violence across the nation and recognize that the most sincere efforts of reconciliation must be inspired by God's presence and grace. With that desire, we will gather for community prayer, sober reflection and renewed hope for the peace only God can give. We will pray for all members of the law enforcement community, the community at large and all who long for and work for peace, justice and harmony in our beloved state.



Baptism of the Lord



he feast of the Baptism of the Lord, our commemoration of the institution of the sacrament of baptism, is the last feast of the Christmas season and is usually observed on the Sunday following January 6.

The calendar sometimes causes it to fall on a Monday, but in its usual Sunday slot, it offers an excellent opportunity for parishes to focus on baptism by using the rite of blessing and sprinkling holy water or to celebrate the sacrament during Mass, especially if this not the usual custom.

The Baptism of the Lord launches us right into winter Ordinary Time with its concentration on the earlier public life and preaching of Jesus.



This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.

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