

† MASS SCHEDULE †

Weekend

Saturday Vigil Mass	4:00 PM
Sunday Masses7:30, 9:0	00 & 10:30 AM
September—May	5:00 PM

Daily

Monday - Friday	.7:30 AM
Saturdays & Legal Holidays	.8:30 AM

Holy Day

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

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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Phone	401-884-4968	Fax	401-884-1415
Parish Email		par	rish@olmparish.org
Parish Websi	te	۱	www.olmparish.org

Fifth Sunday of Lent № March 22, 2015

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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OLM SCHOOL	
Main Officesecretary@olmschool.org	884-1618



The Fifth Sunday of Lent March 22, 2015

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

The Mass of Anticipation for the Fifth Sunday of Lent
4:00PM Deceased Members of the DelTufo Family—Mem

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

9:00 AM Eva Montaquila—Memorial

10:30AM Bethany Briggs—8th Anniversary

5:00PM Ann Altamuro—Birthday Remembrance

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Lenten Weekday/St. Turibius of Mongrevjo, Bishop

7:30 AM George Franklin Hill—Memorial

12:05PM Fr. James Duhaime—Memorial

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Thomas Cavanagh—Birthday Remembrance

12:05PM Thomas J. Brescia—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

7:30AM Fred & Leontine Louis—Memorial

12:05PM Robert Peasley—1st Anniversary

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Lenten Weekday

7:30AM John Gardner—Memorial

12:05PM Mary O'Brien—2nd Anniversary

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Lenten Weekday

7:30AM

12:05PM Earl & Nina Mooney—Memorial

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Lenten Weekday

8:30AM Queenie Colgan—Memorial

The Mass of Anticipation for Palm Sunday

4:00PM Thomas A. Briody—Memorial

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

9:00 AM Nancy Appleton—7th Anniversary

10:30AM Lillian E. Healey—28th Anniversary

5:00PM Pauline Minuto—Memorial







PRAYER

FASTING

ALMSGIVING

Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

Over the last two weeks we celebrated First Confession for our First Communion Class. For the very first time in their young lives nearly 100 of children of our parish experienced God's mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It was a great day for them and their families.

Also, at these celebrations we had four priests available to hear Confessions for the many adults present. It was truly an experience, deep faith children, parents, grandparents and siblings celebrated God's mercy in Confession.

This week Confessions are to be heard Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday night beginning at 6:00PM. Four priests available each night to hear Confession before our Lenten Also, we continue to Mission. have Confession daily, Monday through Friday, from 11:45AM until Noon. Have you gone to Confession yet?

Pope Francis recently spoke to a group of priests about In an address he Confession. offered advice to the gathered priests about how to hear Confessions with true mercy and compassion. "Confession should not be a 'torture,'" the Pope said, "but everyone should leave the confessional with joy in his heart, his face beaming with hope," even if sometimes "wet with tears of conversion and the joy that comes from it."

We welcome Father Michael Najim to Our Lady of Mercy this weekend for the account of His Passion. With the

Lenten Mission. His theme is "The Simplicity of Holiness." Over the next few nights Fr. Najim explores this theme as he speaks to us about the theological virtues of faith, hope and love.

Father serves as Chaplain at LaSalle Academy and Director Spiritual of Formation at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence. He is a dynamic preacher and I am sure you will enjoy his time with us this week. The Mission is our opportunity to take a "retreat" from our regular schedule and from our busy lives to put God at the forefront. As we "retreat" to pray, ponder and reflect prepare ourselves to reenter our daily lives refreshed and renewed in the faith.

I am grateful to Fr. Najim for taking time from his busy schedule to be with us. He is to offer a Mission Talk at 7:00PM on Monday. Tuesday and Wednesday night. Also on Wednesday night exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is to be offered. It is a great opportunity for our parish and I hope you are able to make it to the Mission.

Next week we begin Holy Week with the celebration of Palm Sunday. Palm branches are to be distributed and blessed at all Masses. At the 10:30AM Mass on Sunday, we are to gather outside for the Solemn Procession of Palms.

We mark Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and hear once again the gospel celebration of Palm Sunday we begin the holiest week of the Church Year. A complete schedule of Masses, Confessions and Liturgies for Holy Week is available in the bulletin.

Also on Palm Sunday we take up the Rice Bowl Collection at all Masses. Those humble cardboard boxes we've been filling with coins over this Season of Lent serve an important purpose. They help us live out our Lenten call to give alms, but also provide much needed financial support to Catholic Relief Services. The money collected goes directly to buy food for the poorest and hungriest of our world.

I ask you to please count your collected coins in advance and instead make your donation with a check or cash bills. This makes it much easier for our volunteer counters on Monday morning. I thank you in advance for your generous support of this very important collection.

We continue to move toward meeting our parish goal for the Catholic Charity Appeal. I thank your for your support and urge those who have not had a chance to pledge their gift to please do so. With the support of all parishioners we can reach the goal of \$193,000.

Welcome to OLM Father Najim! See you at the Mission this week. Remember Fridays are for fish and Stations of the Cross. God Bless.

Father Healey



Dear Fr. Connors: Is there any sin that cannot be forgiven?

In principle, no, any sin can be forgiven. However, we need to make some qualification. Our Lord explains in

St. Matthew's Gospel that there is a way in which there is an unforgiveable sin, namely, blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Our Lord says: "Therefore, I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven" (Mt 12:31). So what is He saying?

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is traditionally understood to mean lack of belief in the mercy God brings. To sin against the Holy Spirit is to refuse God's free offer of mercy. It is to despair. So in this sense, the unforgiveable sin is the sin of refusing God's forgiveness.

In order then to modify our answer only slightly, no sin for which we seek forgiveness cannot be forgiven. However, the sin of refusing God's forgiveness—of rejecting His free offer of mercy—by its very nature cannot be forgiven.

Why then is this refusal to accept God's mercy called blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? Blasphemy is to speak against God. We speak against God, who is rich in mercy and always ready to forgive, when we refuse His forgiveness.

This happens concretely through a neglect of Confession. Think of how many people reject God's offer of mercy in the Sacrament of Penance. They neglect receiving God's mercy there. God awaits us in the Sacrament of mercy. In fact, His grace draws us there to be forgiven and restored to His friendship. The renewal of the Church begins in the confessional

The message is simple: those who seek God's forgiveness will be forgiven. However, to refuse to accept His mercy is a sin that of its very nature cannot be forgiven.

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



OLM YOUTH GROUP WORKS OF MERCY

Sunday, 22 March, 3:30pm

Meet in front of the church and walk over to Greenwich Bay Manor to visit with residents. Join us for this Work of Mercy as we visit the sick and shut-in during Lent, we return in time for 5:00pm Mass.



March 15, 2015

Weekly	\$13,970.00
2	<u>\$3,258.50</u>
	Total=\$17,228.50
Outreach	\$602.50

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.

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

Thank you for your generosity!



Next Week: Operation Rice Bowl



Easter Flower envelopes should be returned before Easter (April 5). All proceeds go to purchase the beautiful flowers that decorate our church. Simply return your envelope in any collection basket at weekend Mass. Thank you for support.



Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Charity Appeal

2015 Parish Goal=\$193,864.00

CCA 2015 Total (to date): \$55,160.00

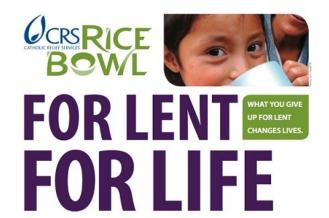
Thank you for your generous support!



- •On Sunday March 22nd, ONLY Grades 1 and 2 have class in the AM. Grades 3-8 have Confessions immediately following the 5pm Mass on Sunday.
- •All Grade 2 families are reminded that we will gather in the school cafeteria on Sunday, March 22nd at 10:00am to make the banners for First Communion. At least one adult needs to come with the student.



• Easter Dinner items are needed for our OLM Food Pantry. Thank you for your support.



Next weekend we take up **the Rice Bowl Collection** at all Palm Sunday Masses. This collection supports the good works of Catholic Relief Services across the globe in aiding the poor and hungry. Please make your returns in cash or check payable to OLM. **No coins please.**

Thank you for your generous support.



- •OLM Students will be attending 12:05PM Mass during Lent.
- •Stock Market Club: Mr. Austin Kairnes invites 7th and 8th grade students to participate in The Stock Market Club. The first go-round would be a four-week program in April and early May, after school from 2:45 to 3:45. The club is free of charge and will be available to the first 25 students that sign up. If interested, please email Mr. Kairnes at akairnes19@gmail.com
- •The Spring Fling is on Friday, May 1st at Quidnessett Country Club. For our new families, this is a festive social event and is the school's biggest fundraiser. We encourage first year families to become involved in this event-it's a great way to meet parents and connect with the OLM community. The funds raised at this event subsidize many of the school's extracurricular programs and educational enhancement initiatives.
- Kites for Kids: This week marks the beginning of "Kites for Kids". "Kites for Kids" is a pre-event fundraising initiative that was started a few years ago at OLM. The consistent generosity of families and businesses is remarkable. A few exciting elements have been added this year—watch for the flying kites to line the school walls and a few new locations around the school very soon! Details will come home in the white envelopes.
- •Library Volunteer Opportunity: Calling all volunteers! Looking for a way to help out in the mornings at Our Lady of Mercy? We are currently in need of more volunteers to help us in the newly organized library at OLM between the hours of 8:00am-8:50am. Many time slots are available! If you wish to commit to a time slot weekly or bi-weekly, please contact Kimberly Izzi for details and times available at kimberlyizzi@gmail.com. Thank you for continuing to support OLM!

Now accepting applications for entrance. Please visit our website at www.olmschool.org or call 884-1618 for more information.





The Simplicity of Holiness FATHER MICHAEL J. NAJIM Mission Preacher

Monday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. The Simplicity of Faith

Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 p.m. The Simplicity of Hope

Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m. The Simplicity of Love

Fr. Najim is to preach all the Masses during the weekend of March 21/22 at Our Lady of Mercy Church. He is to offer a Mission Talk each night, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Confessions, with four priests available, are to be heard Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, beginning at 6:00 p.m. On Wednesday night of the Mission, Eucharistic Adorationand Benediction of the Blessed Sacramentare to be offered.



Father Michael J. Najim is a native of Westerly, Rhode Island. He received his B.A. in Theology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville. He studied for the priesthood at St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts where he received a Master of Divinity Degree. He was ordained to the priesthood in June 2001 at the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul. He has served as Associate Pastor at St. Philip's Church in Greenville, RI and as Diocesan Director of Vocations. Father Najim was appointed Director of Spiritual Formation at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence in 2012 and also continues to serve as Chaplain at La Salle Academy where he was first appointed in 2010. He is a well known Mission Preacher throughout the Diocese of Providence.

Our Lady of Mercy Church • Rev. Bernard A. Healey, Pastor 65 Third Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818 (401) 884-4968 • www.olmparish.org



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Saturday, March 28

4:00PM Vigil Mass with Simple Procession

Sunday, March 29

7:30AM Mass with Simple Procession 9:00AM Mass with Simple Procession 10:30AM Mass with Solemn Procession 5:00PM Mass with Simple Procession Blessing of Palm Branches at all Masses

Monday of Holy Week March 30

7:30AM & 12:05PM Masses 11:45AM–12Noon & 6:00PM-6:45PM Confessions

Tuesday of Holy Week March 31

7:30AM & 12:05PM Masses 11:45–12Noon Confession

Spy Wednesday of Holy Week April 1

7:30AM & 12:05PM Masses 11:45AM–12Noon Confession 1:00PM & 6:00PM Living Stations of the Cross

Holy Thursday April 2

8:00AM Morning Prayer
7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Eucharistic Adoration at the Altar of Repose until Midnight

Good Friday April 3

8:00AM Morning Prayer 3:00PM Stations of the Cross 7:00PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday April 4

8:00AM Morning Prayer 8:00PM Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday April 5

Masses at 7:30AM, 9:00AM & 10:30AM No 5:00PM Mass on Easter Sunday



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