

65 THIRD STREET

EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818

THE CHURCH OF

Our Rady of Mercy

Parish Email.....parish@olmparish.org Parish Website.....www.olmparish.org

First Sunday of Lent March 9, 2014

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

† MASS SCHEDULE †

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

Daily

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

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 Emailsecretary@olmschool.org Web.....www.olmschool.org

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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Father Ryan W. Connors, Associate Pastor associatepastor@olmparish.org	884-4968
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The First Sunday of Lent March 9, 2014

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Mass of Anticipation for the First Sunday of Lent 4:00 PM Helena Majewski—Memorial

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

The First Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9:00 AM Nancy Appleton—6th Anniversary

10:30AM Antoinette Mulcahy—Birthday Remembrance

5:00PM Dorothy Mullen—Memorial

MONDAY, MARCH 10

Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Susan Dumont—6th Anniversary 12:05PM Michael & Brian Turbitt—Anniversary

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Samuel Oliverio—Memorial

12:05PM Hans G. & Hans F. Loeffler—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Lenten Weekday

7:30AM Souls in Purgatory 12:05PM Special Intention

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Lenten Weekday

7:30 AM Anne Germoroth—Memorial 12:05PM Lillian Stetson—Memorial

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Lenten Weekday

7:30AM Thomas Brescia—Memorial 12:05PM Lisa Grandy—1st Anniversary

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM Harold A. "Mickey" Gill—3rd Anniversary

Mass of Anticipation of the Second Sunday of Lent 4:00 PM Joseph Basler—3rd Anniversary

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

The Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
9:00 AM Michael Vitucci—1st Anniversary
10:30AM Mary Gianardi—1st Anniversary

5:00PM Mary & Bernard Falchini—Birthday Remembrance

Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

Last week Sister Jeanne ,OLM School Principal, informed me that she will not be returning as our School Principal next year. After seventeen years of service at OLM School she intends to move on to new Sister Jeanne first endeavors. arrived at Our Lady of Mercy to teach the First Grade but then soon took the helm as School Principal. Her tenure at OLM School has been marked by tremendous growth in the school as well as an ever growing tradition of excellence.

As a Religious Sister of has dedicated Mercy she fifty-four years to serving the Church in Catholic Education. Twenty-two of these years were spent as a classroom teacher and thirty-four in administration. After so many years of fruitful service she certainly deserves some time of rest and renewal. Her excellent leadership of our parish school will be missed by our school children, families, and faculty but Fr. Connors and I will also miss her wise counsel and joyful spirit.

In the secular world people retire from their jobs and take up golf, knitting, gardening or sailing. In the religious world, sisters, brothers and priests do not really "retire" from their chosen vocation. Instead they take up service to God and His people in a new way and in new venues. So Sister Jeanne may be leaving OLM School but she isn't 'retiring" as a faithful and loving servant of God and dedicated

Sister of Mercy.

We thank her for all she has done for our parish school and for our Church. We are deeply grateful for her dedication to making Our Lady of Mercy one of the best schools in the Diocese. Her commitment to excellence and her deep faith have made OLM School a great success and so we say: "Well done good and faithful servant!"

In the coming months we will officially celebrate Sister Jeanne's service to our parish and we will inform you of the details once they are arranged. We will soon begin working with the Diocesan Catholic School Office to assemble a search committee for a new principal. During this time of transition, I ask for your prayers for Sister Jeanne and our parish school, may Our Lady of Mercy continue to guide and protect us all.

Next weekend we will formally begin the Annual Catholic Charity Appeal (CCA) at OLM. Each year we are asked to support the charitable works of our local Church by donating to the CCA. The good works of our Diocesan Church need financial and spiritual support in order to continue bringing the "Good News" to the poor, the sick, the suffering and the needy.

OLM has always been a leader in the Diocese in supporting the Appeal and I am hopeful that your generosity can once again help us not only reach but surpass this year's parish goal of \$193,684. Last year we were able to raise almost \$230,000 and

I am confident with your support we can do that again. Last year also saw a great increase in the number of parishioners supporting the Appeal with over 600 parish families pledging their support. For nearly 150 of these families it was the very first time they ever donated to the Catholic Charity Appeal!

We take up our in-pew solicitation of the CCA at all Masses next weekend. I am grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Kevin McDevitt for once again serving as the Chairs of the OLM Catholic Charity Appeal and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Zubiago for chairing the Bishops Partners in Charity at Whatever gift you can OLM. afford to give to this crucial charitable appeal is greatly appreciated and I look forward to your support next weekend.

Ash Wednesday saw great crowds at Masses as we came forward to pledge the next forty days "repenting and being faithful to the Gospel." Lent has begun and with it the call to pray, fast and give alms. I hope and pray that it is truly a time of reform, repentance and renewal for you and your family. With a greater commitment to prayer, fasting from sin, and giving to the poor and needy we can deepen our faith and renew our relationships with one another and God. Lent has begun, are you ready!?

So pray, fast and give alms! Remember Fridays are for fish and the Stations of the Cross! God Bless.

Hathe Healey

Dear Fr. Connors: Is the story of Adam and Eve literally true?

Understanding how to read the Bible is an



extremely important thing. The Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. God Himself is the author of Sacred Scripture revealing Himself to us. The books of

the Bible contain different genres—or styles of writing—and it is crucial to know what genre one is reading to understand it properly.

For example, the psalms are not the same genre as the Gospels. The psalms are written in poetry and the Gospels relate what Jesus really said and did. They are an attempt to get at the history of events differently than the first eleven chapters of Genesis. The stories of creation, Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah's Ark and the Tower of Babel should not be read as relying the same kind of history as the Gospels, for example.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church addresses the question of the historicity of Adam and Eve directly. The Catechism explains: "The account of the fall in Genesis 3 uses figurative language, but affirms a primeval event, a deed that took place at the beginning of the history of man. Revelation gives us the certainty of faith that the whole of human history is marked by the original fault freely committed by our first parents."

So the story of creation—as well as the fall of man as portrayed in the Book of Genesis— are real historical events described with figurative language. That is to say, there really was a first human being who sinned by turning against God.

The story of Adam and Eve therefore describes a reality at the beginning of human history. However, it does not do so by means of a newspaper-like account. It is not an attempt to provide a precise historical narrative of what happened at the beginning of human history, like a movie reel. That is clear enough from the text itself. Understanding the Bible correctly begins by making sense of what kind of text one is reading.



March 2, 2014

Weekly	\$12,705.00
EFT	\$863.00
Building & Grounds	
Outreach	\$1,477.00

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.

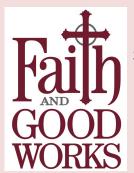
Thank you for your generosity!



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

Catholic Charity Appeal

2014 CCA Parish Goal for OLM: \$193,684 2014 OLM Donor Goal: 600



CCA 2013 OLM Goal: \$195,000 2013 Total Raised at OLM: \$227,860 2013 OLM Donor Goal: 550 Total 2013 Donors: 632

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McDevitt
OLM Catholic Charity Appeal Chairs

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Zubiago
OLM Bishops Partners in Charity Chairs

CCA In-Pew Solicitation March 15/16, 2014

Each year funds raised by the Catholic Charity Appeal support a variety of agencies and programs that meet the spiritual, educational and social needs of our sisters and brothers in A stringent budget process that includes a review by advisory boards made up of lay and clergy leaders ensures that each program is utilizing its funds both efficiently and effectively. All allocations made by the Catholic Charity Appeal are reviewed and approved by the Diocesan Finance Council before they reach Bishop Tobin. These programs offer assistance to people of all races, creeds and backgrounds and often are an essential lifeline to the people who are served. In addition, the Catholic Charity Fund is included in the annual audit of diocesan central administration funds. The results of the annual audit are published each year in the Rhode Island Catholic and are available for review by request. Our in-pew solicitation will take place next weekend at all Masses. Our parish goal is to attain 100% participation, please consider giving this year. Thank you for your generosity.



Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent (for those 14 and older) is required by church law. Also, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are fast days: those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less, meaning, take no solid food between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts. Pastors and parents are encouraged by the law of the church to ensure that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated nonetheless in an authentic sense of penance. Following the implementation of the revised Code of Canon Law on November 27, 1983, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States determined that the rules of fast and abstinence which have existed for the last several years in this country be maintained. Namely, that the faithful observe suitable penitential practices on all Fridays throughout the year. These penitential practices need not include abstaining from meat. However, as indicated above, the faithful must not eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent as well as on Ash Wednesday. They must also observe faithfully the fast regulations as they have been stated above in accord with the universal law of the Church (Cf. Code of Canon Law, Canons 1250-1252).

Book Rack & Lenten Table



There are many books and pamphlets available on our parish book rack located in the Church vestibule. These items are a great source of spiritual reading during

the Lenten Season. Also all during the Lenten Season, a table with religious articles, both old and new, is available in the Church vestibule. All these items have been donated by parishioners and friends of OLM and are available to you without cost. Stop by and browse before or after Mass!



Lenten Schedule at Our Lady of Mercy

Daily Masses During Lent

7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions During Lent

Mondays at 6:00PM & Saturdays at 3:00PM

The Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 7:00PM

Annual Parish Mission

March 22-26, 2014

The Very Rev. J. Mark Spalding
Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY &
Pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Louisville, KY
Mission Preacher

Special Lenten Events

Monday, March 17th

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

12:05PM Mass with Readings in Irish
Fr. Nicholas Smith,
r Priest & Native of Ireland Guest Pread

Senior Priest & Native of Ireland, Guest Preacher Irish Reception to Follow Mass

Wednesday, March 19th

St. Joseph's Day Celebration

12:05PM Mass in Italian
Bishop Roberto Evans, Celebrant
Father Giuseppe Upton,
Chaplain at Prout HS, Guest Homilist
Italian Reception to Follow Mass





OLM Religious Education Schedule 2013-14

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

Upcoming RE Events:

RE First Reconciliation Service Saturday, March 15 at 1PM

OLM School First Reconciliation Service Saturday, March 22 at 1PM

RE Teachers Training Session Monday, March 10 at 7PM

The Season of Lent



Remember man thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return

utreach Update

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. If you would like to volunteer to assist with our Food Pantry, please contact Doug Green at 884-4410.

Thank you for your generosity.



We offer our best wishes and congratulations to Our Lady of Mercy Parishioners, Katherine Alexander-Hall and Margaret "Peggy" Simms, who received the Diocese of Providence's 2014 Companions on the Journey Awards for their dedicated and excellent work with Catholic Youth and Catholic Religious Education. They received their awards from Bishop Tobin last Sunday at the Annual Youth Ministry Mass at the Cathedral.

We congratulate Kathy and Peggy for all they do for our Church and Parish!



ACIES Ceremony

The Legion of Mary Cranston Curia invites all to their Annual ACIES Ceremony on Sunday, March 30, 2014 at 2:00PM at Our Lady of Mercy Church. There will be recitation of the Holy Rosary, Consecration to Our Blessed Mother, Reflection by Fr. Ryan Connors, and Benediction of the

Most Blessed Sacrament. Refreshments to follow at OLM School. Form more information, contact Mary Neuman at 401-742-4133.



CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program for parishes, schools and families. The program invites Catholics to live in solidarity with our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters through the three Lenten

pillars of praying, fasting, and almsgiving. Since 1975, Catholics have been using CRS Rice Bowl to *meditate* on the love Jesus Christ demonstrates in His Passion and Resurrection and to *imitate* Jesus' love for the world through concrete, sacrificial giving to our brothers and sisters in need. CRS Rice Bowl asks us to: **Pray** to deepen our relationship with God and reflect on what type of person He calls us to be. **Fast** to remove the things that get between us and God and to live in solidarity with those in need. **Give alms** to our brothers and sisters in need, honoring Jesus' call to serve our neighbors.

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