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Father Bernard A. Healey, <i>Pastor</i> 884-496 pastor@olmparish.org	58	
Father Daniel M. Mahoney, <i>Associate Pastor</i> 884-490 associatepastor@olmparish.org	68	
Mr. David E. Cote, <i>Business Manager</i> 884-496 business@olmschool.org	8	
Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, <i>Admin. Assistant</i> 884-496 parish@olmparish.org	58	
Mr. Paul E. Anderson, <i>Facilities Director</i> 884-496 parish@olmparish.org	58	
St. Patrick's Cemetery Office886-529 parish@olmparish.org	96	
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION		

Mrs. Michele St. Jean (Grades 1-5)	884-1061
reled@olmparish.org	
Mr. Douglas E. Green (Grades 6-8)	884-4410
confirmation@olmparish.org	

OFFICE OF OUTREACH

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Mr. Henri M. St. Louis, Music Director.....884-4968 musicministry@olmparish.org Mrs. Shirley Medici, Children's Choir Directress.....884-1618 smedici@olmschool.org

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Main Office884-1618	8
Mr. David Cote, School Business Manager884-161	8
business@olmschool.org	
Mrs. Rosemary Jacobs, Office Manager & Admissions Coordinator	
office@olmschool.org 884-161	2

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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD **JANUARY 8, 2023**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

The Vigil Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord 4:00PM John P. Ponte—5th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial

9:00AM Joseph Laurino—Memorial

10:30AM Lillian E. "Dolly" Healey—Birthday Remembrance

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

The Baptism of the Lord

7:30AM Phil & Jeanne Toole—Memorial

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

Weekday

7:30AM Terry Sheerin—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

Weekday

7:30AM Fr. Alfred Lonardo—Memorial

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

Weekday

7:30AM Raymond Cambio—Memorial

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

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

7:30AM Special Intention

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

Weekday: BVM

8:30AM Thomas & Estelle Ryan—Memorial

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

4:00PM Michael Alix—Memorial

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

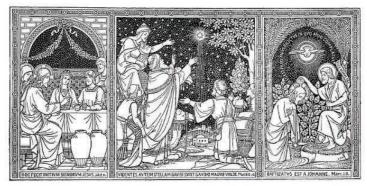
The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Josefina Maligaya—Memorial

9:00AM John Carne—Memorial

10:30AM Gene & Mary Verri—Memorial

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy



Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder," suggested the great Catholic writer G.K. Chesterton. And so, as we continue to bask in the wonder and joy of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, let me offer thanks to the many people who made Christmas so beautiful at Our Lady of Mercy.

We thank Paul Anderson and our outstanding OLM Maintenance Crew, who work hard cleaning and preparing for Christmas. They set up the creche both inside and outside, set up and decorate the trees, cleaned and polished the floor, and even directed the traffic on Christmas Eve. We are grateful for their dedication to OLM.

We thank the OLM Decorating Committee, who do a tremendous job making the Church look beautiful for the celebration of our Lord's birthday. We also thank our Franciscan good Apostolic Sisters, who ensure everything for the Masses is prepared, pressed, and polished. All of their efforts help keep the beauty dignity of the Sacred and Liturgy.

We are grateful to the many Altar Severs who served the Christmas Masses with dedication and devotion. Their reverent and dignified service ensures the solemnity of Holy Mass. Of course, we thank our OLM Chief Master of Ceremonies, Erik Carlson, who sees that the liturgies are celebrated smoothly!

We thank our fine Lectors who proclaimed the Word of God with great joy and enthusiasm for Christmas. And we are grateful to our many Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who helped us at Masses and those who brought Holy Communion to the shut-ins on Christmas Day.

We are blessed to have a group of dedicated ushers who welcome our visitors with kindness and hospitality. They are always helpful in ensuring the good order of the Church during Holy Mass, and we thank them all for their service, especially at Christmas.

The music at Christmas was truly inspirational. Our dedicated OLM Music Director, Henri St. Louis. did magnificent job leading our wonderful OLM Adult Choir and directing the many musicians. We also thank Shirley Medici, our OLM Children's Directress. for Choir beautiful music the children provided at the Christmas Vigil Mass.

I also wish to thank Father Mahoney for his priestly ministry and service. He is always a great help, and I thank him for his dedication and outstanding priestly ministry at OLM. And I am also grateful for his tremendous gift of cooking talent that gave us such a truly delicious Christmas meal. The beef was cooked perfectly!!

Along with Fr. Mahoney and Fr. Connors, I wish to offer our sincere gratitude to the many parishioners who were so very kind in remembering us at Christmas. We are grateful for all the baked goods, assorted goodies, and the many generous and thoughtful Christmas gifts. Your support and generosity to the parish and to us personally

are truly humbling.

And certainly, we thank Almighty God for the great gift of his Son, Jesus Christ, born on Christmas Day. We give thanks for this gift on this Epiphany of our Lord. The homage the Wise Men from afar gave the Christ-child reinforces the Christian belief that Jesus was more than the promised fulfillment of the Messiah for the Jews. He was a Light for all the nations, a Savior for all peoples.

The Magi came in homage before the King of Kings and knelt in adoration before the Lord. Pope Saint John Paul II said: "When they reached Bethlehem, the Magi adored the divine Child and offered him symbolic gifts, becoming forerunners of the peoples and which down nations the centuries never cease to seek and meet Christ." May we never cease to seek and meet Christ.

As we celebrate this Solemnity of the Epiphany, let us continue to follow the Wise Men in seeking Christ. Let us continue to come before the King of Kings, offering our homage. Let us come to Christ and meet him truly present at Holy Mass. Let us kneel in worship and adoration before our Savior. With "happiness doubled by wonder," let us come to Christ in the Eucharist with grateful hearts for so great a gift given to us.

A Blessed Feast of the Epiphany! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless!

Father Healey

Epiphany on Sunday

ON MANY calendars, Epiphany falls on January 6, but the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates it on whatever date Sunday falls during the week of January 2.

Epiphany means "manifestation," and it celebrates the day that the infant Jesus revealed his divinity to the Magi. Traditionally, this event is connected with two others from the Gospels: the Baptism of Jesus and the Wedding at Cana. In all these events, the mystery of Christ became more manifest. The Magi, coming from the East, signify that gentile nations—not just Jewish nations—were coming to recognize Jesus as the savior of the world.

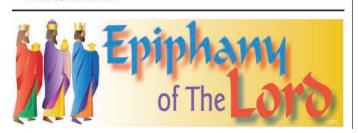
The Bible does not indicate on what day the magi visited—nor, for that matter, on what day Jesus was born. January 6 was probably chosen for this observance as an alternative for early Christians living in a culture where pagans already commemorated the birth of a sun god on the same day.

The day, the twelfth day of Christmas, gave rise to a host of customs, as well as a popular Christmas carol.

The biblical event is so important that the Catholic Church lists Epiphany among the solemnities that may be designated holydays of obligation. Episcopal conferences determine local holydays, and in the United States, January 6 was never included. In any country where Epiphany is not a holyday of obligation, the observance moves to a Sunday so that it may be celebrated by the entire Catholic community.

The transfer of Epiphany to a Sunday has the disadvantage of dividing the celebration among various Christian Churches of the world, but the advantage of helping the entire Catholic community proclaim and celebrate the meaning of coming of Christ.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner.



Ceekly Collection

December 25, 2022

Weekly	\$11,629.00			
EFT	<u>\$6,141.00</u>			
	Total=\$17,770.00			
Outreach	\$1,735.00			
Christmas	\$18,006.00			
Christmas Flowers	\$3,001.00			
Annual (Final)	\$122,055.00			
<u>December 26, 2021</u>				
Weekly	\$13,769.00			

Leave a Legacy of Faith for the next Generation! Remember Our Lady of

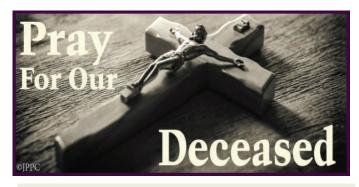
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Thank you for your contribution - big and small!



In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the soul of the faithful departed, most especially **Charles Haigh, Jr.** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.



RE Schedule

<u>Sunday, January 8</u>: 9:00am Mass & Grades 1 & 2 First Communion Class follows in the OLM Gym; 5:00PM Mass & 8th Grade Confirmation Class to follow in the OLM School Gym

Sunday, January 15: MLK Holiday. No RE Classes.

<u>Sunday, January 22</u>: 5:00pm Mass & Grades 5, 6 & 7 class follows in the OLM School Gym

<u>Sunday, January 29</u>: 9:00am Mass & Grade 3 & 4 Class follows in the OLM School Gym





- •OLM Food Pantry is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated items in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. All food items should be unexpired and non-perishable. We also are in need of paper goods (paper towels, napkins). Thank you for your support.
- <u>OLM Bereavement Group</u>: Next meeting Thursday, January 19 at 4:00pm in Mercy House. All those adults experiencing sorrow, grief or loneliness are most welcome to attend for prayer and discussion.
- For more information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



Striving to Be Saints & Scholars!

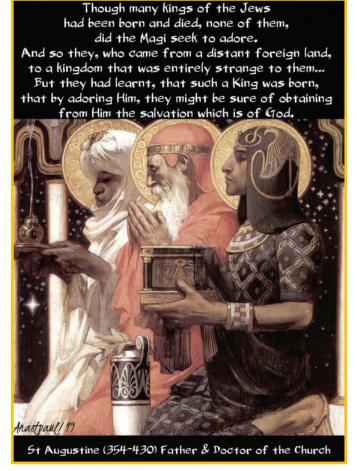
Upcoming Events:

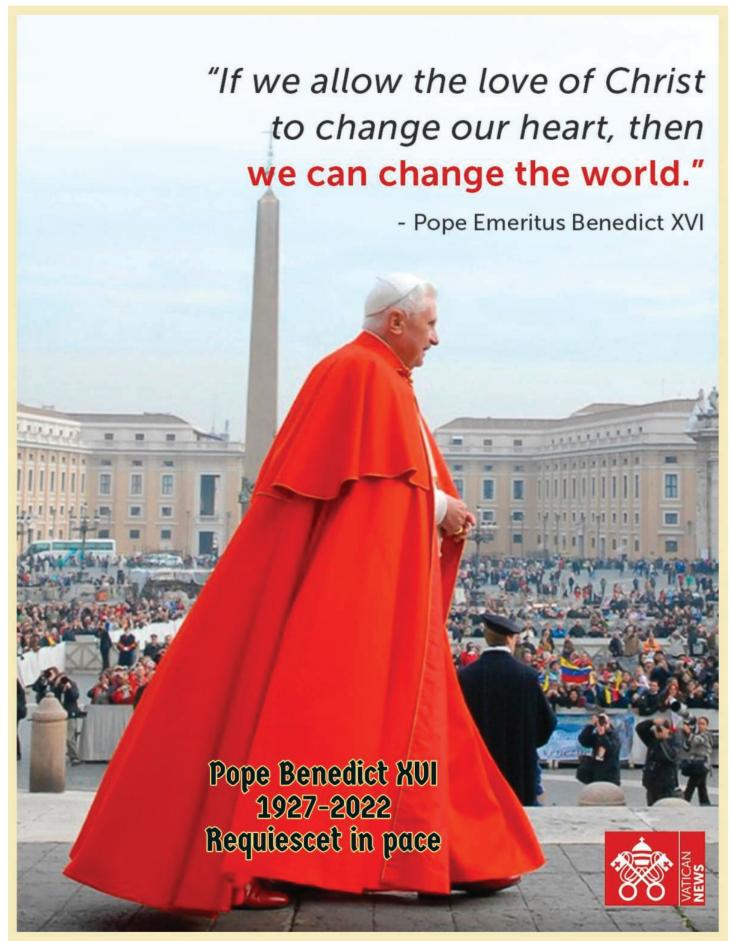
- <u>Tuesday, January 10</u>: Weekly School Mass at 8:15am
- Monday, January 16: No School. MLK Holiday

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