

† MASS SCHEDULE **†**

Weekend

Saturday Mass of Anticipation......4:00 PM Sunday Mass.....7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM (Sept—May)

Daily

Monday - Friday7:30 AM		
Saturdays & Legal Holidays8:30 AM		
Holy Day		
Except on Christmas & New Years		

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

Our Rady of Mercy School

Mr. Patrick H. McNabb

School Principal

55 Fourth Avenue East Greenwich, RI 02818

Email.....office@olmschool.org

Web.....www.olmschool.org

THE CHURCH OF

Our Rady of Mercy

Phone401-884-49	68 Fax401-884-1415
Parish Email	parish@olmparish.org
Parish Website	www.olmparish.org
Sixty-Five Third Street ♣	East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818

The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time № February 16, 2020

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 the parish 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 and before surgery.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

Please contact one of the parish priests or the Office of the Director of Vocations at 401-331-1316 or www.catholicpriest.com.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, Parish Secretary Email: parish@olmparish.org Phone: 401-884-4968

The Very Reverend Bernard A. Healey, S.T.L., J.C.L., Pastor The Reverend Joshua A. Barrow, S.T.L., Associate Pastor

The Reverend Ryan W. Connors, S.T.D., In Residence

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

Parish Founded 1853

 Earish Sncorporated 1867



PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE

Father Joshua A. Barrow, *Associate Pastor.....*884-4968 associate@olmparish.org

Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, *Admin. Assistant......*884-4968 parish@olmparish.org

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

MUSIC MINISTRY & CHOIRS

Mrs. Shirley Medici, Youth Choir Directress....884-4968 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

Main Office			
office@olmschool.org			
Mrs. Carolyn C. MacCrae, School Book	keeper558-0051		
cmaccrae@olmschool.org			
Little Saints & Scholars Program			



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 16, 2020

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

SATURDAY,	FEBRUARY 15		
Mass of Ant	icipation for The 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time		
4:00PM	Dec'd of the Gemma & Caltiri Families-Mem.		
SUNDAY, FE	BRUARY 16		
The Sixth Su	inday of Ordinary Time		
7:30 AM	The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church		
9:00 AM	Barbara Shanno—Birthday Remembrance		
10:30AM	Gerald E. Celio—3rd Anniversary		
5:00PM	Mark Poirier—Memorial		
MONDAY, F	EBRUARY 17—PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY		
Weekday; Ti	he Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order		
8:30AM	Deborah O'Connell—6th Anniversary		
TUESDAY, F	EBRUARY 18		
Weekday			
7:30AM	Kevin F. Healey—Memorial		
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19			
Weekday			
7:30AM	Dalia Pundys—8th Anniversary		
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	FEBRUARY 20		
Weekday			
7:30AM	Jean-Luc Dayde—Birthday Remembrance		
<u>FRIDAY, FEB</u>	RUARY 21		
Weekday; St	t. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church		
7:30AM	Dorothy lanacone—1st Anniversary		
SATURDAY,	FEBRUARY 22		
The Chair of	St. Peter the Apostle		
8:30AM	Ray Pendergast—2nd Anniversary		
Mass of Ant	icipation for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
4:00PM	William & Catherine Pearson—Memorial		
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23			
The Seventh	Sunday in Ordinary Time		
7:30 AM	Charles O'Connell—1st Anniversary		
9:00 AM	Thomas Cavanagh—Memorial		
10:30AM	Thomas F. Fay—Month's Mind		
10:30AW	The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church		



946 Our Lady of Mercy-2

Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

This week Bishop Tobin announced with great joy that as of January 28, the Grateful for God's Providence Diocesan Capital Campaign has raised over \$51 Million. This diocesan campaign received nearly \$20 million generated in Special Leadership Gifts and Bequests, with \$7.1 million generated through a share from area parishes.

A total of \$37,270,618 pledged from 16,240 was individual Catholic parish families. A total of 185 priests in the diocese pledged their support of \$1,729,897 to the campaign. In offering his thanks and gratitude, Bishop Tobin also spoke of the campaign's effort to strengthen the diocesan Church and its parishes as the Diocese of Providence prepares to celebrate our 150th anniversary in two years

Of the campaign's goal, \$30 million is earmarked to support the diocese. This includes: \$8 million for an for seminarian endowment education; \$8 million for an endowment to support retired priests; \$5 million for an endowment to benefit Catholic school tuition assistance; \$5 million to bolster the Catholic Charities and Social Services endowment and its operations and also \$4 million to help pay for renovations to the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul.

We continue here at OLM to move toward our combined campaign goal of \$2 Million. We have received close to \$1.6 million in pledges and gifts from just 353 parish families. We are truly grateful to those parishioners who have made the sacrifice and been so generous in supporting this critical campaign. We continue to receive pledges and I am confident we can exceed our goal.

If you have not yet made your pledge to the campaign, I encourage you to please do so. The great success of the Diocesan campaign across the state is a sign of the vitality of our local Church and the commitment of many Catholics. Your support of this much needed effort to support our parish and local Church is also a sign of your commitment to Our Lady of Mercy Parish. So please consider making a pledge of \$4,000 or more, payable over four years.

Over these many months I have been humbled by the great generosity of SO many who parishioners were SO supportive of the campaign. So many made sacrificial gifts because they are truly hopeful for our wonderful parish and are quite willing to generously support her future. However, to be truly successful we need every parish family to make a sacrifice and support the parish they call home. We cannot do it with just a third of the parish, so please make a pledge today!

The good news is that we will soon be receiving some of the campaign funds already collected. This past week we met with Mr. Mark Saccoccio of Saccoccio and Associates Architects, who is advising us about the many projects to be undertaken at OLM over the next four years.

Among the priorities are the replacing of the original boilers in the two convents and the Rectory. They are all over 50 years old, not too efficient, and usually break down on the coldest days of the year!

Also, the roofs on the two convents and the rectory are all over 30 years old and badly need replacing. You can see the shingles from the convent roofs falling off and ask Fr. Barrow about the leak in his bedroom, in the Rectory! These projects and all the others are very needed and the campaign will help finance them and secure our parish's future.

All the projects go out to bid as we follow the Diocesan protocols and guidelines for capital improvement projects. Mr. Saccoccio is working with Mr. Paul Anderson, OLM Facilities Director, and also with the Diocesan Building Commission and Facilities Director in securing the right contractors to help us with the projects.

I thank those who so willingly pledged their support and generous gifts to the Our Faith, Our Future Campaign. We also thank Joe and Carol Cavanagh and Michael and Brooke O'Connell for their tremendous leadership of the campaign.

I wish all our students and teachers a restful and healthy winter break this week. Enjoy it because Lent begins when you return! Please look at the Lenten schedule in the bulletin. Be well. Do Good! God Bless. Happy President's Day!

Father Healer

946 Our Lady of Mercy—3



Will we be happy in heaven without a loved one?

Giving free will to creatures constitutes the greatest risk. Free will makes evil and separation from God and neighbor possible. When God gave us free will it meant that we could go right or wrong, since if a thing is free to be good it is also free to be bad. Yet he did this for a very important reason: only free will makes possible love, joy, and goodness. The happiness that God destines for his creatures is the happiness of being freely and voluntary united to him and to each other. Otherwise we would simply be machines or computers following a set of programs. After all, the very definition of love means to freely will the good of the other.

While we can never be entirely certain about a soul's fate in the next life (excluding the saints of course), free will means that there exists the possibility that we may find ourselves in heaven without a friend, a parent, a spouse, or a child dear to us. Without such a person in heaven, does that mean heaven will be less enjoyable for us? Will we be at least somewhat unhappy in heaven knowing that our loved one has been eternally lost? Would not our joy in heaven be dampened or compromised by such knowledge? The answer, perhaps a difficult one to consider, is no. In heaven, even should none of our family or friends in this life freely choose to be with God, will be for those there, a place of complete joy, happiness and ecstasy. That is part of the risk of free will.

Those who freely deny the love and happiness of God will not blackmail the blessed who choose it. They will not be able to destroy or infect in others the happiness they reject for themselves. Hell can have no power to veto heaven's happiness. As C.S. Lewis writes in The Great Divorce: "The demand of the loveless and the selfimprisoned that they should be allowed to blackmail the universe: that till they consent to be happy (on their own terms) no one else shall taste joy: that theirs should be the final power; that Hell should be able to veto Heaven... Every disease that submits to a cure shall be cured: but we will not call blue yellow to please those who insist on still having jaundice."

As Christ tell us: "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." With these words he is actually protecting us from the tyranny and infection of those who freely choose to go against God and want to bring us with them.

Would anyone be tempted to say: "I would rather be with my loved ones for eternity, than in eternal bliss in heaven"? Yes, in fact many a romanticist has put the love of another person over and above the love for God. Unfortunately the only reason that love in this life is worth anything is because it is a reflection of God's love. Once divorced from him, our merely human love putrefies and corrupts. Separated from the source of love itself, any relationship between two people becomes possessive and manipulative.

Weekly Collection

<u>February 9, 2020</u>		
Weekly	\$9,847.00	
EFT	<u>\$1,920.00</u>	
	Total=\$11,767.00	
Outreach	\$811.00	

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 Support! May God Bless Your Generosity!

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



Our Faith, Our Future Goal=\$2,000,000 Pledged To Date=\$1,561,925

Total Number of OLM Parishioners=2,120 Total Number of Pledges=353 Average Pledge=\$4,425



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020 Mass at 8:30am

The Parish Office is closed for the holiday.



•**February 16 & 23:** No RE Classes due to the School Winter Vacation

• First Penance: Saturday, March 7th at 1:00pm



• **OLM Food Pantry is always in need of non-perishable** food times especially during the winter season. Please drop your donations in the Food Box located in the vestibule of Church. Thank you for your support.

•<u>OLM Bereavement Group meets Thursday,</u> <u>February 20, 2020 at 4:00PM</u> in Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loss are most welcome to join us for prayer and support.

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



We offer our prayerful condolences to the families of Joan D'Amico and Donald Rocco Palleschi whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated at OLM last week.



Anania Kristina Mortel Duque, and her parents Michael & Kristine.

Gabriel Joseph Holgate, and his parents, David & Tiffany.

"Dearly beloved, these children have been reborn in baptism. They are now called the children of God, for so indeed they are." – The Rite of Baptism



We wish all our OLM School faculty, students and families a healthy and happy winter break. OLM School resumes on Monday, February 24th!

www.olmschool.org Striving to be Saints & Scholars!



OLM Rosary Makers Monthly Workshop

Tuesday, February 18 9:30 - 11:30 AM OLM Cryroom

Materials and instructions provided. Join us in making rosaries for the missions.



Lent at Our Lady of Mercy Church 65 Third Street East Greenwich, BI

Ash Wednesday • February 26, 2020 Masses with the distribution of ashes 7:30AM, 9:00AM School Mass, 12:05PM and 7:00PM Confession: 11:45AM - 12:00PM & 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests

> Daily Masses during Lent Monday - Friday, 7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions during Lent Monday - Friday 11:45AM - 12:00PM Mondays 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests Saturdays 3:00PM - 3:45PM

> Stations of the Cross Fridays at 7:00PM

Lenten Mission Sunday, March 1 – Wednesday, March 4 "Taking up the Battle of Lent: Persevering with Christ in the Desert" Father Thomas Macdonald, Mission Preacher

Lenten Special Events at Our Lady of Mercy

SOLEMN SAINT PATRICK DAY MASS Tuesday, March 17 · 12:05PM The Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, Bishop of Worcester, Celebrant & Homilist

Irish Music, Readings in the Irish Language, and Irish Reception to follow

SOLEMN SAINT JOSEPH DAY MASS Thursday, March 19 · 12:05PM The Most Reverend Robert C. Evans, Auxiliary Bishop of Providence, Celebrant The Reverend Nathan J. Ricci,

Assistant Chancellor, Diocese of Providence, Homilist

Mass celebrated in Italian, Italian Hymns, Homily in English, and Italian Reception to follow.

> Saturday, March 21 · 9:00AM – 3:00PM All Day Confessions

Friday, April 3 · 1:00PM & 7:00PM Our Lady of Mercy School Living Stations of the Cross

www.olmparish.org • 401-884-4968



OLD PALM BRANCH COLLECTION

Baskets will be readily available beginning the weekends of February

16 & 23, in order to collect old and blessed palm branches. Please deposit any palm branches in the proper baskets as they are to be burnt for use as ashes for Masses on Ash Wednesday.

Thank you your help and cooperation!





GUIDELINES FOR Lenten Fast and Abstinence Regulations

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 days of fasting: 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. 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.





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