

† 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		
& during Lent at 12:05PM		
Saturdays & Legal Holidays8:30 AM		
Holy Day		
Vigil Mass5:00 PM		
Holyday Masses7:30 AM & 7:00 PM		



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 Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time № February 23, 2020

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Mondays at 6:00 PM or by appointment. Monday thru Friday during Lent at 11:45AM. 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

 Parish Trustees

Joseph V. Cavanagh, Jr. William K. Wray



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 Bookkeeper558-0051
cmaccrae@olmschool.org
Little Saints & Scholars Program



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 23, 2020

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 Mass of Anticipation for The 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time 4:00PM William & Catherine Pearson—Memorial **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23** The Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time 7:30 AM Charles O'Connell—1st Anniversary 9:00 AM Thomas Cavanagh—Memorial 10:30AM Thomas F. Fay-Month's Mind 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24 Weekdav 7:30AM Kevin F. Healey—Memorial **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25** Weekday 7:30AM Souls in Purgatory WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26—ASH WEDNESDAY Ash Weekday 7:30AM Marie McGlynn-Memorial 9:00AM Christopher J. Connelly-Month's Mind 12:05PM John Stetkiewicz—Memorial 7:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 Thursday after Ash Wednesday 7:30AM Martha Eberhardt—Birthday Remembrance 12:05PM Fr. Lucien Bernard LaMontagne—Memorial **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28** Friday after Ash Wednesday 7:30AM Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary—Mem. 12:05PM Carmine DiChiaro—3rd Anniversary **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29** Saturday after Ash Wednesday 8:30AM Eraclio Iacobucci-Memorial Mass of Anticipation for the 1st Sunday of Lent 4:00PM George C. Ingalls—50th Anniversary SUNDAY, MARCH 1 The First Sunday of Lent 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial 9:00 AM Alfred & Jennie Cotham – Memorial 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church 5:00PM Vivian Hanson Meehan—Memorial



Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

Tuesday is *Mardi Gras* or as it is also known, Fat Tuesday. Traditionally a day that finds us feasting on pancakes, chocolates, donuts, beer, whiskey, wine or even a cigar or two! I presume you don't need much encouragement from me to celebrate *Mardi Gras* or make this Fat Tuesday a feast!

So, allow me to direct your attention to Ash Wednesday. There was a time, and it's still the case in many places, when Ash Wednesday would see lines of people streaming into churches to be signed with a cross of ashes on their foreheads.

My experience, however, tells me that the Ash Wednesday crowds are getting smaller than the regular weekend numbers. Granted, some folks go to Ash Wednesday services near their work places, but my guess is that a number of Catholics no longer count Ash Wednesday as the important day their parents and grandparents did.

Happily this week is not school vacation so families are not away skiing in the snow or swimming in the sun. We have an Ash Wednesday School Mass at 9:00am, so our students and their families can prayerfully begin the Lenten Fast of forty days.

Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation but nonetheless it's a unique day on the church calendar. It is truly a powerful way to begin the Lenten season. I encourage you, wherever you may be on Wednesday, to make an effort to go to Mass and to be marked with the sign of the Cross by which we are saved.

There are particular days of fast and abstinence in Lent when the whole Church participates in the Lenten practice. Ash Wednesday should be a day of fasting from eating between meals, and also abstinence from the eating of all meat. Fridays in Lent are also days of abstinence from meat.

We take up the cross of Christ with our ashes and are told to "Repent and believe in the Gospel" and "Remember, you are dust and to dust you will return." The ashes we receive are a reminder to us of three things in our lives as disciples.

First they are a sign of our mortality, that we are dust and unto dust we shall return. Lent reminds us that we all die and so, like at the beginning of creation, we need to be infused with the breath of life, with God's life. Yes we all die, but God wants to raise us, even now. Lent is not just about a minor course correction in our life, but about a death and resurrection, Christ's and ours in him.

Second, as seen in the prophets of the Old Testament ashes are a sign of repentance. They are a summons to repent and believe in the Gospel. And third, they are a means of supplication and prayer for others and their salvation. We wear ashes for all three purposes.

Lent is about returning to the Lord with our whole heart, helped by him to make it clean. It's a time of conversion as we repent and believe in the Gospel. It s a grace we should not receive in vain, but act on with urgency in order to be reconciled to God,

So take up the cross of Lent, by praying more, fasting more and giving more alms to the poor and needy.

We have added an extra daily Mass at 12:05 in addition to the 7:30am Daily Mass. Going to Daily Mass during Lent is a venerable tradition. I encourage you to do it as it makes Lent more prayerful, meaningful and can even change your life for the better!

We have scheduled daily Confession, Monday thru Friday, before the Lenten 12:05 Mass. There is an extra guest Confessor visiting during Lent at Monday Confessions at 6pm. In addition, All Day Confessions take place on Saturday, March 21st! And Confessions every night of the Mission. Ample opportunity for Confession this Lent to get with God reconciled and neighbor!

Stations of the Cross are every Friday in Lent at 7:00pm. It is a beautiful spiritual devotion and I encourage every parish family to come on Fridays. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat and a time of penance as we recall our Lord's crucifixion on Good Friday.

Next weekend we begin our Lenten Mission with a terrific young priest and dynamic preacher. Fr. Tom Macdonald from Boston. It's a great way to begin Lent! So make the Mission!

What are you giving up for Lent? Make Lent a fruitful forty days of conversion! Pray, fast and give alms! Be well. Do Good! God Bless.

Father Healer

946 Our Lady of Mercy—3

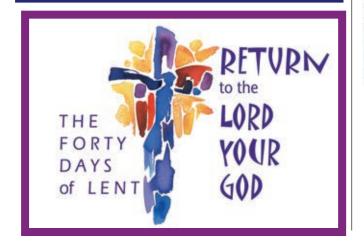


Why no Gloria in Lent?

We begin the Season of Lent on Wednesday, and as with every Lent there are several liturgical changes to the Mass. Just as in Advent we do not sing or say the *Gloria* during Lent (except if a feast of solemnity takes place during either season). The *Gloria* is a song of exaltation and joy, whereas Lent and Advent are penitential and fasting seasons. When we think about fasting we should expand it our concept of it to include not only abstaining from food or drink, but other things which will train us to understand in body and mind the meaning of Lent.

The recommended other liturgical changes during Lent are: no purely instrumental music (there must always be a vocalist for music in Lent), the priest wears violet (purple) vestments, no singing or saying the Alleluia at the Gospel, no flowers in the sanctuary (except on Laetare Sunday), scriptural readings during Mass focus on repentance, the practice of virtue, and the growing opposition to Christ, during the Triduum the holy water fonts are emptied (to prepare for the blessing of water at the Easter vigil), and after the Fifth Sunday of Lent statues and crosses are veiled and covered.

Lent is a season in which we gradually enter into Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Through the liturgy the Church helps us to prepare for the celebration of Easter.



Weekly Collection

<u>February 16, 2020</u>		
Weekly	\$10,550.00	
EFT	<u>\$2,835.00</u>	
	Total=\$13,385.00	
Outreach	\$405.00	

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=\$1,597,525

Total Number of OLM Parishioners=2,120 Total Number of Pledges=359 Average Pledge=\$4,449



We offer our prayerful condolences to the families of **Charles Gagnon and Julie Gil,** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated at OLM last week.



•**February 23:** No RE Classes due to the School Winter Vacation. All classes meet next week. •**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.

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



<u>Upcoming Events:</u> • <u>Monday, February 24</u>: School resumes! Welcome back students and faculty! • <u>Wednesday, February 26</u>: Ash Wednesday OLM

School Mass at 9:00am

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

Our Lady of Mercy Church LENTEN MISSION



February 29-March 4

TAKING UP THE BATTLE OF LENT: PERSEVERING WITH CHRIST IN THE DESERT Father Thomas Macdonald, Mission Preacher

Saturday, February 29 and Sunday, March 1 Father Macdonald will preach at all weekend Masses

> Monday, March 2 at 7:00PM "Overcoming the World"

Tuesday, March 3 at 7:00PM *"The Spirit and the Flesh"*

Wednesday, March 4 at 7:00PM

"Resisting the One who Scatters"

Eucharistic Exposition, Adoration & Benediction will be offered during the Mission on Wednesday night.

Confession each night of the Mission beginning at 6:00PM with four priests.



Father Thomas Macdonald is a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston and currently serves as Vice-Rector of St. John's Seminary in Brighton, MA. He grew up in Westford, MA and is an alumnus of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. His preparation for the priesthood took place at St. John's Seminary and the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Ordained a priest in 2013, Father Macdonald began his ministry at the parishes of St. Ann and St. Brendan in Dorchester. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Prior to his assignment to St, John's Seminary, he served as the administrator of St. Rose Parish in Topsfield and St. Agnes Parish in Middleton.

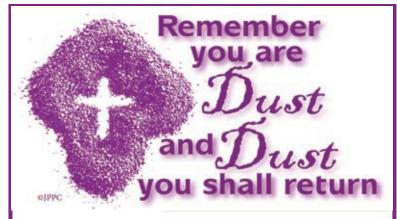








The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated this week in memory of *Eraclio Iacobucci*. In your charity, please remember him in your prayers.

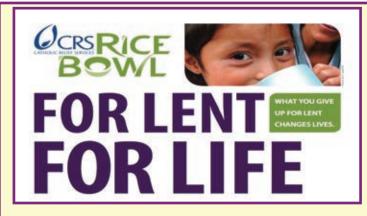


Ash Wednesday • February 26, 2020 Masses with the distribution of ashes 7:30AM, 9:00AM School Mass, 12:05PM and 7:00PM Confession: 11:45AM - 12:00PM & 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests

> 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



CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official relief and development agency of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through CRS Rice Bowl, parishes in every diocese throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in roughly 45 different countries each year. 25% of all donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Since its inception in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised nearly \$300 million.

Please take a Rice Bowl home for Lent and return your sacrificial gift on Palm Sunday. Thank you for your generous support and sacrifice for the hungry.

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 <u>between the ages of 18 and 59</u> 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.





<u>OLM Lenten Book Rack:</u> There is a selection of spiritual, theological and informative books and pamphlets are available for Lent on our OLM Book Rack. Feel free to stop and browse and take one home.

OLM Lenten Table: During the Season of Lent a table is placed in the vestibule with an assortment of religious articles, both new and old. These items are free to take by anyone. They have been generously donated by OLM parishioners. Stop by and check them out!



946 Our Lady of Mercy, East Greenwich, RI (I)

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