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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 30, 2023

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

The Mass of Antioption for 4th Sunday of Easter 5:00PM Joseph Cormier—1st Anniversary

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM Arlene Roberti—Memorial 9:00AM John Capuano—Memorial 10:30AM Mirian Krysiek—Memorial

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

MONDAY, MAY 1

Easter Weekday; St. Joseph the Worker
7:30AM Deborah & Robert Anderson—Memorial

TUESDAY, MAY 2

St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 7:30AM Fr. Alfred Lonardo—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

Saints Philip & James, Apostles
7:30AM The Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, MAY 4

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Carol Millmather—Memoria;

FRIDAY, MAY 5

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Peter Pundys—Memorial 9:00AM John F. Grady, III—Memorial

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Easter Weekday

8:30AM Ann E. Gardiner—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for the 5th Sunday of Easter 5:00PM Arlene Pazienza—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, MAY 7

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial

9:00AM Monsignor John W. Lolio—11th Anniversary

10:30AM Corwin Carson—Memorial



Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

The old adage says: "April showers bring May flowers." The Month of May begins this week as the flowers begin to bloom. But many other things are blooming here at Our Lady of Mercy!

It is a centuries-old custom of Catholics to dedicate the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of May is always part of the Easter season, the fifty days we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord. It is also a time of awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

May as a Marian month fits well with the liturgical celebrations of Easter and Pentecost as we recall Mary's great joy in her Son's victory over death and her presence with the apostles in the upper room, prayerfully awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

In 1965, Saint Pope Paul VI encyclical wrote an Mense Maio on the entitled month of May. He writes that May is an occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. During this month, Christians, both in Church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage prayer of and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance."

May is the Month of Mother Mary! It's a time to take out our Rosary, dust it off, and put it to work, praying for Mother Mary's powerful intercession. Also, May is the time to come to May Devotions!

Each Monday night at 7:00pm, we gather as a parish family under the patronage of Our Lady in adoration of the Eucharistic Lord, pray the Rosary, and receive Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. It is a beautiful and prayerful way to express our devotion to the Mother of God!

During May, we celebrate the First Holy Communion for the children of our parish family. It is always a joyful and faithfilled day for the First Communion Class and their families. We celebrate with two First Communion Masses this year on Saturday, May 13th. Please continue to pray for the First Communion Class as they prepare for this important day.

The late Pope Benedict XVI spoke to First a Communion Class in Rome. He told the children: "I remember my First Communion day very well. It was a lovely Sunday in March 1936. It was a sunny day, and the Church looked very beautiful. But at the heart of my joyful and beautiful memories is this one: I understood that Jesus had entered my heart. He had actually visited me. And with Jesus, God himself was with me. And I realized that this is a gift of love that is truly worth more than all the other things that life can give."

We honor the great gift of Motherhood on Mother's Day in May. On Mother's Day, the First Communion Class will celebrate the May Crowning at the 10:30am Mass. It is always a beautiful ceremony as we crown our Blessed Mother on Mother's Day as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

The May Crowning expresses Mother Mary's significance in the Church and our lives. Α traditional celebration of her Queenship as the Mother of Jesus Christ. We sing those beautiful words of the hymn Bring Flowers of the Rarest: "O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today! Queen of the Angels and Queen of the Mav."

Memorial Day is also in May. It is a day for patriotism and pride as we honor and remember those men and women who have died while serving in the United States armed forces. We prayerfully recall the sacrifice so many men and women made to preserve freedom and liberty for our nation and many others worldwide.

President Reagan spoke of its meaning at a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery: "The United States and the freedom for which it stands, the freedom for which it stands, the freedom for which they died, must endure and prosper. Their lives remind us that freedom is not bought cheaply. It has a cost; it imposes a burden. And just as they whom we commemorate were willing to sacrifice, so too must we—in a less final, less heroic way—be willing to give of ourselves."

April Showers, do bring May Flowers! The flowers of family, faith, devotion, love, service, and sacrifice bloom at OLM in May! Hope to see you on Monday at May Devotions! Be well. Do good. God Bless. Go Sox! Go Bruins!

Father Healey

🔆 Hail Mary

THE HAIL Mary is probably the most popular prayer known by Catholics outside the Mass. It forms part of the Rosary, the Angelus, Night Prayer, and certain otherwise hopeless situations involving a football.

It took us hundreds of years to write the Hail Mary. The first part came easy. It draws from the angel Gabriel's annunciation to Mary that she would give birth to Jesus: "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28). When Mary visited Elizabeth, pregnant with John the Baptist, Elizabeth greeted her with the next phrase we use in the prayer, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Luke 1:42). Over a period of centuries, Catholics combined these two greetings of Mary and made them our own. If Gabriel and Elizabeth could get Mary's attention this way, maybe we could too. We strung these greetings together with our own prayer for Mary's intercession. Part Scripture, part Tradition, the Hail Mary runs deep in Catholic spirituality.

Two popular prayer forms use the Hail Mary: the Rosary and the Angelus. In the Rosary, it serves as a mantra, a repetitive sequence of words, thoughts, and rhythms that draw the believer into a prayerful trance before the mysteries of our salvation. In the Angelus, it reminds the faithful three times a day of the Incarnation, the Word of God becoming flesh.

In liturgical prayer, the Hail Mary has never staked out territory in the Mass. The Scripture quotations it borrows from Luke's Gospel do occur at Mass as antiphons and responses on feasts of Mary, but we usually substitute a hymn to Mary in their place. However, among liturgical prayers, we find the Hail Mary at Night Prayer. The Liturgy of the Hours is the official Catholic prayer form marking the principal hours of the day: morning, daytime, evening, and night. The brief service that ends the day concludes with a prayer to Mary. The Church offers us several options here, but the most familiar of them is the Hail Mary, the last prayer of the day.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Devotions and Customs © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. RSVCE © 1966, National Council of Churches of Christ.



April 23, 2023

Weekly	\$9,772.00
EFT	<u>\$4,747.00</u>
	Total=\$14,519.00
Outreach	\$1,391.00
April 24, 2022	
Weekly	\$15,208.00

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Second Collections

Next Week: Building & Grounds

Leave a Legacy of Faith for the next Generation! Remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.



2023 Parish Goal=\$190,000 Total Pledged=\$246,408 Total Donors=456 Average Gift=\$540

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2022 Catholic Charity Appeal

OLM Parish Goal=\$190,000 Total Pledged=\$262,643 Total Number of Donors=440 Average Gift=\$597



Thank you for your contribution - big and small!



RE Schedule

Saturday, May 13

First Communion Masses:
OLM Religious Education Class at 10:00am
OLM School 2nd Grade Class at 12:00pm

Sunday, May 14

May Crowning at 10:30am Mass

Please pray for our First Communion Class.

Confirmation Mass

Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 5:00pm The Most Reverend Robert C. Evans Confirming Prelate



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Upcoming Events

- •Monday, May 1: Warm Weather Uniforms Begin
- •Tuesday, May 2: Grade Seven Field Trip to Biomes
- Wednesday, May 3: Lifetouch Spring Pictures
- Friday, May 5: 1st Friday Mass at 9:00am
- <u>Saturday & Sunday, May 6-7</u>: The Lion King, Jr. Performances @ The Prout School

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- •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 <u>Thursday</u>, <u>May 10, 2023 at 4:00pm</u> 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



MEN OF ST. JOSEPH MONTHLY MEETING



May 6, 2023 at 7:00am OLM Rectory Meeting Room Followed by Mass at 8:30 am

A group of men of the Parish of OLM dedicated to becoming better men through Christ. Join us!

All Men (18 yrs & older) are invited to join us for prayer, discussion & fellowship

Contact Fr. Mahoney at 884-4968 or via email at associatepastor@olmparish.org for more information

Priest

THE PRIEST is the minister who offers the sacrifice of the Mass in the person of Christ (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 93). He stands at the head of the assembly:

presides by this fact over the faithful people gathered here and now, presides over their prayer, proclaims to them the message of salvation, associates the people with himself in the offering of sacrifice through Christ in the Holy Spirit to God the Father, and gives his brothers and sisters the Bread of eternal life and partakes of it with them (93).

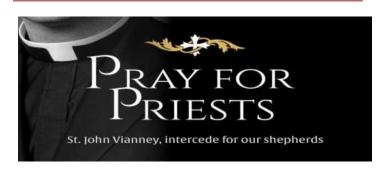
Christ is the one high priest. When we celebrate Mass, we participate in his one sacrifice. The local priest in our churches leads the people in the person of Christ.

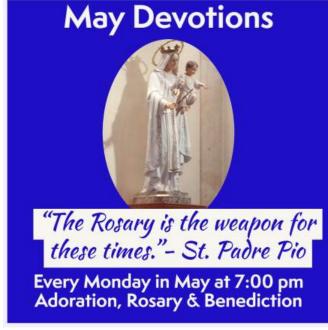
In most parishes, the priest leads the people in many other ways, too. He guides their spiritual lives. He meets with them on parish business. He represents them to the broader community. At Mass, he presides over their prayer.

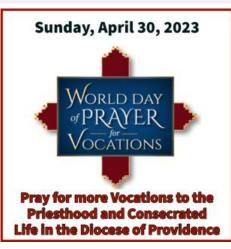
By preparing and delivering the homily, the priest proclaims salvation to his people. By praying with them at the Mass, he unites the entire body of believers before God. At Communion, he partakes of the Eucharist and shares it with others.

The priest has many responsibilities apart from the Mass, but leading the prayers at the Eucharist is his single most important role. For his ministry at the altar to be authentic, the priest must live his entire life in faithfulness to the Gospel. "[W]hen he celebrates the Eucharist, he must serve God and the people with dignity and humility, and by his bearing and by the way he pronounces the divine words he must convey to the faithful the living presence of Christ" (93).

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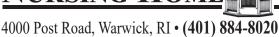
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