



**“I CONSECRATE
MYSELF FOR THEM.”**

JOHN 17:19



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**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 MAY 16, 2021**

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Mass of Anticipation for 7th Sunday of Easter
 5:00PM Ann Probst—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, MAY 16

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
 7:30 AM Mary Palombo Falchini—Memorial
 9:00AM Helen Celio—Birthday Remembrance
 10:30AM Augustine Capotosto & D'cd of the Capotosto
 & Gelardi Families—Memorial

MONDAY, MAY 17

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Victor Piotrowicz—Memorial

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Easter Weekday; St. John I, Pope & Martyr
 7:30AM Beatrice Jutras—Birthday Remembrance

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Right Rev. Abbot Xavier Connelly—Memorial

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Easter Weekday; St. Bernadine of Siena, Priest
 7:30AM Adolph & Carletta Perretta—Memorial

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Easter Weekday; St. Christopher Magallenes Priest & Companions, Martyrs
 7:30AM Edward V. Healey, Jr.—10th Anniversary

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Easter Weekday; St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
 8:30AM Special Intention

Vigil of Pentecost
 5:00PM George McKenna—3rd Anniversary

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Pentecost Sunday
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
 9:00AM Judith A. Mulhearn—10th Anniversary
 10:30AM Edward V. Healey, Jr.—10th Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

It was truly a beautiful day and celebration last Saturday as 43 children of OLM received First Holy Communion. It was a joyful Mass full of faith and hope, Pope *Emeritus* Benedict XVI speaking to children about First Communion, said:

“The day of my First Holy Communion was one of the most beautiful days of my life. It is the same for you, isn’t it? And why is that? It’s not only because of our nice clothes or the gifts we receive, nor even because of the parties! It is above all because, that day, we receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time! When I receive Communion, Jesus comes to live in me. I should welcome him with love and listen closely to him. In the depths of my heart.”

Following the Mass, the children crowned the Blessed Mother Mary, the Queen of the May! They presented Mary with a crown and fresh blossoms to signify her queenship as the mother of Christ, the King of the Universe. They also received a Scapular.

The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel was given by Mother Mary herself to the Carmelite friar, St. Simon Stock. With special promises to its wearers, the brown scapular is a sign of devotion and personal consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our First Communion Class is now under her mantle of protection and love.

Let us pray for our First Communion Class and their families. May they grow in love and adoration of the Eucharistic Lord. May they worthily and faithfully receive Our Lord in

Holy Communion at Mass every Sunday of their lives!

Our first weekend without some of the COVID restrictions and with 80% seating capacity in church worked out very well. No ropes on pews is a most welcome sight. It appears that more people are returning to Mass, a great sign of hope! Indeed I saw a few people I haven’t seen in over a year! Welcome back!

It was a joy to fill up the Holy Water fonts again! There are two methods of blessing ourselves with Holy Water, dipping our fingers in the font or using one of the automatic Holy Water dispensers. Either way, it is another welcome return of a beautiful sacramental!

Processing into Mass and signing again was also joyous. The hymnals are back in the pews. So pick them up and sing with gusto and joy in praise of the Lord! As St. Augustine reminds us: *“To sing is to pray twice!”*

It was wonderful to have our Parish Choir back singing at the 10:30 am Mass last Sunday. Their voices are a tremendous sign of joy and hope. The Choir is always looking for new voices, so if you are interested in singing with praise to the Lord, please contact our Music Director, Henri St. Louis.

We still need more ushers to volunteer to serve at weekend Masses. They help greet people, open and close doors, take up and secure the collection, and to see to the good order of the church and congregation. If you are an adult man or woman and are able to help the parish with this critical service, please contact the Parish Office.

We hope to schedule a training session for ushers, and anticipate their return to duty sometime in June. In the meantime, please continue to use the safe in the vestibule for the weekly collection. It works well and allows people to drop off their envelopes and donations conveniently and safely at any time.

Over the last year, many parishioners signed up for online giving. I encourage you to consider this method of support for the parish as it is very convenient, secure and safe. You can sign-up or learn more about it on the parish website by clicking the link to Parish Giving.

The lifting the COVID restrictions is a gradual process. And as we return to our usual practices at Mass, I ask for your continued patience. We are required to still continue to wear facemasks while at Mass, sanitize our hands upon entering the Church and keep a social distance of three feet. I am grateful for your cooperation.

With more people getting vaccinated, we are slowly returning to normal practices. I encourage you to please get vaccinated for your health and well-being, but also to serve the common good of our community and parish.

Join us at Devotions on Mondays as we pray for an end to the pandemic! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless.

Ask Father

The Last Mother's Day?

Recently United States Representative Cori Bush testified in front of congress about nearly losing her children during pregnancy due to a lack of adequate care. Hopefully, her testimony increases awareness and care for all mothers regardless of race. Unfortunately, while campaigning for this good cause, she used the term "birthing people" in place of "mothers." She justifies that this novel term avoids discriminating against women who identify as men and subsequently give birth.

Words and concepts have consequences. We should resist the urge to ignore this term as the latest in a chain of harmless neologisms or a conservative talking point. "Birthing persons" as a concept is merely the result of the logical progression of our culture's increasingly reductive definition of "woman."

On May 9th of this year, we celebrated Mother's Day. On May 9th, 1960 the Food and Drug Administration approved the use of Enovid. The first birth control pill. The propaganda then and now hailed the pill as a tool to set women free to plan their parenthood. In fact, it has redefined "woman" by separating maternity from femininity. A woman's body teaches us that we cannot separate maternity from femininity.

Yet, for the last several decades the pill taught men and women to separate their fertility from their identity. It taught men that they do not need to learn responsibility, control their passions, and honor women. It taught couples and married persons that love can be conditional and limited. "I give you everything, except my ability to create life."

Many argue that the pill enables women greater educational and career opportunities. These are indisputably good. Yet, how we get to a good matters just as much as the good itself. The end does not justify the means. Rather than transforming educational and professional establishments to be more welcoming of the maternal aspect of women, our institutions expect women to deny an essential part of their identity to succeed.

You shall know them by their fruits. Rising divorce rates, declining birth rates, ubiquitous pornography use, adultery, lack of marriages, broken families, single mothers, and the most pernicious evil against women and children: abortion. Ironically, many argue that increased access to artificial contraception will reduce abortions. In 1973 the United States legalized abortion; thirteen years after the approval of the pill. In a word: a contraceptive culture leads to abortion.

I do not mean to suggest that a woman finds her identity insofar as she has children. Not at all. Countless women, many of them saints, have not had children. They understood that to be a woman means to have the potential to bear children, whether in fact or in the life-giving manner she relates to the world.

One wonders how a culture defines "woman" that thinks a man can become one simply by undergoing cosmetic surgical changes. One consequence of that definition may be that this will be the last year we celebrate "Mother's Day."

Weekly Collection

May 9, 2021

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Weekly..... | \$8,981.00 |
| EFT..... | \$4,951.00 |
| | Total=\$13,932.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$1,632.00 |

May 10, 2020

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| Weekly..... | \$13,567.00 |
|-------------|-------------|

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



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



Please support the Catholic Charity Appeal, make your pledge today

**2021 OLM Parish Goal= \$190,000
2021 Pledged (to date)=\$135,271
2021 Total of Pledges (to date)=292**

**2020 Goal= \$200,000
2020 Amount Pledged= \$131,236
Total Number Parishioners Pledges=290**

Thank you for your support.



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated in memory of **Rose Knott and Deborah O'Connell**. In your kindness and charity, please remember him in your prayers.

Congratulations Sister Emma on Your Silver Jubilee



25th Anniversary of
Religious Profession
as a Franciscan
Apostolic Sister
May 17, 1996 –
May 17, 2021

**Mass of Thanksgiving
Tuesday, May 17 at 9:00AM**

“Already dedicated to him through Baptism, the one who surrenders themselves to the God they love above all else thereby consecrates themselves more intimately to God’s service and to the good of the church.” – Catechism of the Catholic Church

*Please join us in wishing Sister Emma
our prayerful best wishes!!*

MAY DEVOTIONS

**Join the Worldwide
Prayer Marathon
to End the Pandemic**



*“The Rosary is
the weapon for
these times.” –
St. Padre Pio*

**Every Monday in May at 7:00pm
Adoration, Rosary & Benediction**



Striving to be Saints & Scholars!

- **Monday, May 17:** School Confessions for Grades 6 & 7 at 1:00pm
- **Tuesday, May 18:** School Mass with PK and K at 9:00am (livestreamed) & Celebration for Sister Emma
- **Thursday, May 20:** Virtual Game Night at 6pm
- **Friday, May 21:** Dress Down Day in support of Pro-Life (Wear Pink or Blue!!)

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at www.olmschool.org



This Sunday, May 16, 5:00PM: Confirmation Class Mass & Class. Topic: *The Holy Spirit, Pentecost & Confirmation*. This Mass is limited to Confirmation Candidates & their families only.



In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed most especially **B. Janice Mastronardi and Dorothy O'Connor**

Congratulations To The Newly Baptized

Nathan Michael and Natalia Faith Almeida,
and their parents, Jhonata and Marcella.

Sophia Grace Surgik,
and her parents, Wagner and Poliana.

“Dear brothers and sisters: these children have been reborn through Baptism, and are now called children of God, for so indeed they are. Through Confirmation they will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and, approaching the altar of the Lord, they will share at the table of Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church.”
— from The Rite of Baptism



Mary, Mother of God hear our prayers
PRAYER IS POWERFUL

Ushers Needed

Are you willing to serve?

We are need of adult men and women willing to serve as Ushers at Weekend Masses. We need a minimum of six Ushers at each Weekend Mass to help greet, open doors, take up collections and see to the good order of the congregation. Training provided! No salary but great spiritual benefits provided!!

If interested, please contact the OLM Parish Office at 884-4968 or via email at parish@olmparish.org



Our Lady of Mercy First Communion Class 2021

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Declan Michael Anderson | Talia Clo Koppen |
| Gavin John Anderson | Joseph Edmond Loiselle |
| Camden John Areson | Connor Edward Martin |
| Jaison Collard Beauvais | Anna Rose Mazzeo |
| Luca Giovanni Berube | Ava Francesca McCaughey |
| Annie Amelia Brugnoli | Hugh Francis McCaughey |
| Louisa Claire Buffington | Bianca Lea Mellino |
| Katherine Susan Burch | Gabriella Antonette Mellino |
| Riley Claire Casey | Reese Vere Miller |
| Elizabeth Susan Cavanagh | Andrea Daniella Mirt |
| Zacary Rian Daigle | Andrew Joseph Morgan |
| Mia Green DaPonte | Isabela Arya Muskus |
| Mia Bella Del Santo | Maya Jaye Narcessian |
| Therese Patricia Doda | Jacob Vincent Palana |
| Logan Thomas DuBuque | Henry Joseph Passananti |
| Emerson Gray Ford | Thomas Patrick Quinn |
| Ciarán Gammell | Daniel Abdul Saied |
| Patrick Robert Gormley | Matteo Lorenzo Trombetti |
| Gibson John Goudie | Victoria Yvonne Tsimikas |
| Liam Richard Healey | Tessa Georgina Welsh |
| Cole Alexander Iannuccilli | Cecelia Beatrice Zarrella |
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