

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

**Happy
the nation
whose God
is the Lord,
the people
chosen as his
very own.**

PSALM 33:12



Mass Intentions for the Week

**THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 4, 2021**

SATURDAY, JULY 3

The Mass of Anticipation for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00PM Sophia Roman—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, JULY 4

The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 AM Gertrude Hynek—Memorial
9:00AM Thomas J. Brescia—9th Anniversary
10:30AM Michael Devlin—83rd Anniversary

MONDAY, JULY 5 —INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED

Weekday; St. Elizabeth of Portugal
8:30AM Fr. Arthur Dennison—Memorial

TUESDAY, JULY 6

Weekday; St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr
7:30AM Thomas J. Brescia—9th Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Weekday
7:30AM Virginia Ohnmacht Eulie—Memorial

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Weekday
7:30AM John Gardner—Memorial

FRIDAY, JULY 9

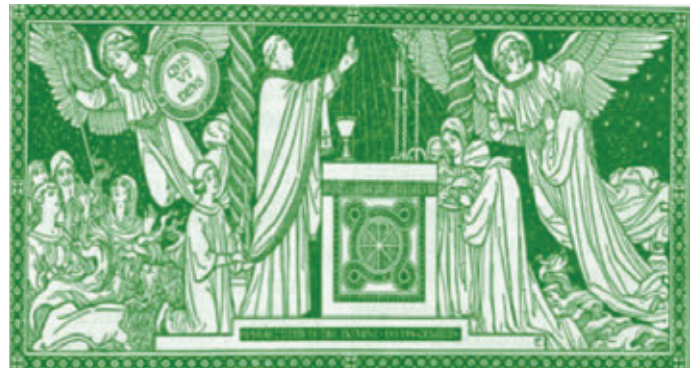
Weekday; St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest & Companions, Martyrs
7:30AM Josephine DiStefano—13th Anniversary

SATURDAY, JULY 10

Weekday; BVM
8:30AM Elizabeth Legare—Memorial
Mass of Anticipation of the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00PM Henry Mangiante—1st Anniversary

SUNDAY, JULY 11

The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 AM Michael & Josephine DeNittis—Memorial
9:00AM John Durnin III—Memorial
10:30AM Briggs A. Doherty, Jr. —1st Anniversary



946 Our Lady of Mercy-2



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Father Bernard A. Healey, *Pastor*.....884-4968
pastor@olmparish.org

Father Daniel M. Mahoney, *Associate Pastor*....884-4968
associatepastor@olmparish.org

Mr. David E. Cote, *Business Manager*.....884-4968
business@olmschool.org

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

Mr. Paul E. Anderson, *Facilities Director*.....884-4968
parish@olmparish.org

St. Patrick's Cemetery Office.....886-5296
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

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outreach@olmparish.org

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musicministry@olmparish.org

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

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Mr. Patrick H, McNabb, School Principal
pmcnabb@olmschool.org

Main Office.....884-1618
Mr. David Cote, *School Business Manager*.....884-1618
business@olmschool.org

Mrs. Bethany Verret, *Office Manager & Admissions Coordinator*
office@olmschool.org.....884-1618



Dear Parishioners:

On July 4, 1776, amid the American Revolution, the Continental Congress in Philadelphia boldly declared the thirteen colonies independent from Great Britain. We celebrate that anniversary today as Independence Day! We rejoice today that the shackles of British imperialism are destroyed, and we as, a nation gained our liberty from royal oppression.

On Independence Day, 245 years later, we continue to celebrate this Declaration. With all our fellow Americans, we celebrate our freedom and liberty. As Catholics, we especially pray for, and celebrate, religious freedom and liberty in our nation.

Many of the colonists who came to America in the 17th and 18th centuries were fleeing religious persecution. Like the Puritans and Quakers, Catholics also came to America to escape persecution. English and Irish Catholics first settled in Maryland since the first Baron of Baltimore, George Calvert, was a Catholic, and founded Maryland as a haven for persecuted Christians.

As a result, Catholics and Protestants lived peacefully side by side in Maryland. The Act of Toleration of 1649 guaranteed religious liberty. But in 1654, when Puritans took over the governance of Maryland, they repealed the act, and Catholics were outlawed.

Maryland joined the other colonies in enacting the English penal laws that restricted the freedom of Catholics: the denial of the right to vote or to hold public office, the prohibition of public worship, and even the

imprisonment of priests. The penal laws against Catholics were in force with different levels of severity in the colonies for over a century.

Nevertheless, for over a century, the small number of Catholics in the thirteen colonies clung to their religious faith despite active persecution and denial of their civil rights. They supported the American Revolution hoping that independence from Britain would bring them greater religious liberty in the new republic.

American Catholics, including the Bishop of Baltimore, John Carroll, who in 1790 was ordained the first Catholic bishop in the United States, and his cousin Charles Carroll, the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence, rejoiced in the newfound liberty.

They were especially pleased that the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, especially the First Amendment, defined our first freedom: "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.*"

The First Amendment allowed Catholics the freedom to practice their faith. Yet, it did not eradicate the cultural anti-Catholicism that persisted in sometimes violent form during the following century with the rise of the Know-Nothing Party and other nativist groups. Sadly, this persistent prejudice is still alive today, especially among certain elites in politics, academia, Hollywood, the media, and other influential molders of public opinion.

Today, religious liberty is primarily concerned with a more general anti-religious cultural movement, rooted in secularism and relativism, which seeks to limit the role of religion in public life.

This limitation was certainly not the intent of our founding fathers, who recognized the essential role of religion and the virtues it inspires in providing the foundation for the success of a democratic society.

Our founding fathers believed that religion, virtue, and morality based on the natural law were essential foundations for the success of the American Experiment. In his farewell address to the nation, George Washington declared: "*Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness.*"

On Independence Day, we pray for the protection of religious freedom in our nation. We pray too for those who are persecuted for their faith across the globe. May Almighty God, who gave us life and liberty, bless us, our nation, and the world. May freedom ring!

Welcome Fr. Mahoney! Happy Fourth of July! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless. Go Sox! God Bless America!

Ordinary Time



Ordinary Time refers to all the Sundays of the year that are not linked to the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.

Governed by the date of Easter, it consists of either thirty-three or thirty-four weeks and is divided into two periods, one following the feast of the Baptism of the Lord and the other following the solemnity of Pentecost.

Ordinary Time following The Baptism of the Lord is of brief duration, lasting anywhere from four to nine weeks depending on the date of Ash Wednesday.



This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.

Weekly Collection

June 27, 2021

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Weekly..... | \$9,242.00 |
| EFT..... | \$6,495.00 |
| | Total=\$15,737.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$1,202.00 |

June 28, 2020

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| Weekly..... | \$10,136.00 |
|-------------|-------------|

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



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

The Second Collection this week is the Building & Grounds Collection

OLM Parish Office Summer Hours



Monday—Thursday
8:00AM—4:00PM

The Parish Office is closed on all Fridays in June, July & August



**Independence Holiday Observed
Monday, July 5, 2021
Mass at 8:30am**

The OLM Parish Office is closed on July 5, 2021 in observance of Independence Day Holiday.



Religious Education
NEWS

**Religious Education Registration
for 2021-2022**

Registrations are presently being taken on the OLM Parish website for all grades, 1 through 8 for the Religious Education Year 2021 - 2022.

Please register your child today!



Outreach
Update

•**OLM Food Pantry** is continually in need of food and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **non-perishable foods only and paper goods** in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House.

Thank you for your support!

•For information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF
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Saturdays at 4:00PM



In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed most especially **Rosalie Ferruccio** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at OLM last week.

May She Rest in Peace



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated in memory of Michael and Emily Devlin. In your kindness and charity, please remember them in your prayers.

The Clergy, Religious, Staff and Parishioners of
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Warmly welcome

Father Daniel M. Mahoney



May God bless you abundantly in your priestly ministry



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