Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.



PARISH DIRECTORY

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THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 11, 2022

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

SATURDAT,	DECEIVIDER 10
The Mass of	Anticipation for the 3rd Sunday of Advent
4:00PM	Kate Bedard—13th Anniversary
SUNDAY, DI	ECEMBER 11
The Third Su	nday of Advent
7:30 AM	Theresa Pearson—15th Anniversary
9:00AM	John Furtado, Sr. & Susan Furtado—Memorial
10:30AM	Irene Sullivan—1st Anniversary
5:00PM	The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish
MONDAY, D	DECEMBER 12
Our Lady of	-
7:30AM	Hak-Jin Pyun—Memorial
	ECEMBER 13
	gin & Martyr
	In Thanksgiving
	Y, DECEMBER 14
-	he Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church
	Fr, Ronald Brassard—Memorial
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	DECEMBER 15
Advent Wee	
	Albert Edward Hyde—12th Anniversary
FRIDAY, DEC	
Advent Wee	
7:30AM	George C. Jamieson—Birthday Remembrance
	DECEMBER 17
Late Advent	-
8:30AM	•
	Anticipation for 4th Sunday of Advent
	Michael Alix—5th Anniversary
	ECEMBER 18
	Sunday of Advent
	Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
9:00AM	
10:30AM	, , ,
5:00PM	The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
_	



946 Our Lady of Mercy-2

Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

Last week, I was in Washington, DC, attending the Annual Meeting of the National Association of State Catholic Conference Directors. We gather in Washington annually to get updates from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' staff and other policy experts.

At this meeting, part of our discussion was how to advocate effectively in an increasingly partisan political situation and a very ideologically polarized nation. The recent election results demonstrate that we are a deeply divided nation. We discussed strategies that can help with certain public policy issues in such an environment.

We also heard an excellent talk from Professor Helen Alvare, the Dean at the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University. She discussed her book, Religious the Sexual Freedom After *Revolution*. Drawing upon Scripture, tradition, history, theology, and empirical evidence, the book attempts to help Catholics defend religious liberty and explain how our institutions and communities foster authentic love, freedom, and happiness.

We received an update from Catholic Charities USA and the USCCB Office of Migration and Refugee Services terrible migration on the problems as our country grapples with the increasing migration of people fleeing poverty and oppression. Catholic Charities and other Catholic institutions across the nation, especially along the southern border, face growing challenges because there seems to be no end to

poverty, war, oppression, and misery in the world.

Many developed nations like the U.S. continue to experience pressure from a growing number of people who desire to resettle in their lands. Catholic social teaching is realistic: While people have the right to move, no country has to receive so many immigrants that its social and economic life is jeopardized.

The Catholic Church in the United States is an immigrant Church with a long history of embracing newcomers from across the globe and providing assistance and pastoral care to immigrants, migrants, refugees, and people on the move.

Our Church has responded to Christ's call to "welcome the stranger among us," for, in this encounter with the immigrant, the migrant, and the refugee in our midst, we encounter Christ. Yet our Catholic agencies continue to work in a broken system that government and elected officials of both political parties do not seem to desire to fix in a meaningful manner.

We also heard from a panel of economic experts about policies that assist economically poor women and families in thriving and flourishing. Many of these policies advance the culture of life by assisting economically poor women choose life for their unborn children.

We heard from Charles Camosy, a Professor of Ethics at Creighton University School of Medicine and Moral Theology at St. Joseph Seminary in New York. He discussed the promotion of a consistent ethic of life and provided insight into how to address threats to human life and dignity consistently.

Much of his verv insightful talk was based upon his excellent book, Resisting Throwaway Culture: How a Consistent Life Ethic Can Unite a Fractured People. He also discussed his new and timely book, One Church: How to Rekindle Trust. Negotiate Difference and Reclaim Catholic Unitv.

It was an excellent meeting, and it is always good to be with colleagues from across the country who advocate on behalf of the Catholic Church. We share challenges to our advocacy and learn about legislative efforts to promote good policies on the state level that truly serve the common good and respect human life and dignity. It certainly helps as we prepare to advocate at a new Congress in Washington and a new General Assembly on Smith Hill.

I invite you to attend the Annual OLM School Christmas Pageant on Thursday at 6:00 pm. It is a night of beautiful music, singing, and a living Nativity. It is always a joyous and festive night. The Christmas and New Years' Mass and Confession schedules are in the bulletin. Please share it with your family, friends, and neighbors. You might encourage them to go to Confession before Christmas and perhaps invite them to attend Mass on Christmas! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless. Go Pats! A Blessed Advent!

Father Healey

🗱 Solemnity

A **SOLEMNITY** is a day of greatest significance on the Roman Catholic Church calendar. We commonly call almost any special day a "feast day," but "feast" is only one category of celebration. A solemnity is more important than a feast.

Solemnities resemble Sundays. However, not all solemnities are days of obligation. Catholics begin observing a solemnity on the evening before its date. We hear three Scripture readings at Mass. We recite the Creed. We include the Glory to God, even if the solemnity occurs during Advent and Lent, the seasons when this hymn is omitted from the Sunday Mass. On solemnities, flowers may adorn the altar and the organ may play solo music, even during Lent, when these practices are otherwise forbidden. If an event such as a wedding takes place at Mass on a solemnity, the prayers and readings of the solemnity are used.

Solemnities include some biographical events and titles of Jesus (Christmas, Epiphany, Sacred Heart, and Christ the King), events and titles associated with Mary (Immaculate Conception, Annunciation, Mother of God, and Assumption), key biblical saints (Joseph, John the Baptist, Peter and Paul), and other days of religious significance (All Saints, Most Holy Trinity, and the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ). Locally, solemnities include the patronal day of the city or state, the anniversary of the church's dedication, the day of the church's title, and the day of the title, founder, or patron of a religious order or congregation.

The solemnities of Christmas and Easter extend for eight days with some modified celebration each day. If a solemnity conflicts with a Sunday or another solemnity, it either replaces the Sunday or is transferred to the first available date.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner.





December 4, 2022

\$9,779.00
<u>\$4,500.00</u>
Total=\$14,279.00
\$2,300.00
\$2,936.00
\$106,295.00

December 5, 2021

Weekly.....\$21,681.00

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

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Second Collections This Week: Retired Religious Fund

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



Thank you for your contribution - big and small!



In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed, most especially **Pauline M. MacDonald** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last week.



RE Schedule

<u>December 11:</u> 9:00am Mass & Class for Grade 1 & 2 to follow in in the OLM School Gym

December 11: Advent Penance Service 6:00PM for Grades 3 thru 8. Parents should attend.

December 18: 9:00am Mass & Class for Grades 3 & 4; 5:00pm Mass Class for Grades 5-7



• <u>OLM Food Pantry</u> 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.

•OLM Holiday Outreach: We are always in need of gift cards to Stop & Shop and Walmart during the holiday season. Please drop in the collection basket or the safe in the vestibule in envelop marked OLM Holiday Outreach.

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





Striving to Be Saints & Scholars!

Upcoming Events:

Monday, December 12: Advent School Confessions at 12:45pm
Tuesday, December 13: Weekly Mass at 8:15am; Science Club Meeting at 2:30pm

Thursday, December 15: OLM School Christmas
Pageant at 6:00pm

• Friday, December 14: Field Trip to Providence Ballet Theater for Grades 3-5; Deadline for 2023-2024 Sibling Applications

Discover the OLM Advantage! www.olmschool.org



Hannah Stasia Johnson, and her parents, Aaron and Brittany

"Dear brothers and sisters: this child has been reborn through Baptism, and is now called a child of God, for so indeed she is. Through Confirmation she will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and, approaching the altar of the Lord, she will share at the table of Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church." — The Rite of Baptism



OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH East Greenwich, Rhode Island CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY MONDAY, DECEMBER 19 Confessions 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Four Priests Available

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS EVE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 Confessions 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Vigil Mass of Christmas at 4:00 PM

CHRISTMAS NIGHT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Night Mass at Midnight Christmas Concert with Choir & Orchestra begins at 11:30 PM CHRISTMAS DAY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM No 5:00 PM Mass on Christmas Day

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2022

Confessions 3:00 PM Mass of Anticipation at 4:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023 Masses at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM



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