

HE IS  
RISEN



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*Mass Intentions*  
 for the Week  
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**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD  
 APRIL 1, 2018**

**HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31**

*Easter Vigil*  
 8:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1**

*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

**MONDAY, APRIL 2**

*Monday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Lillian E. Healey—31st Anniversary

**TUESDAY, APRIL 3**

*Tuesday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Bernard & Mary Falchini—Memorial

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4**

*Wednesday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Sr. Charles Joseph Carr, SSJ—Memorial

**THURSDAY, APRIL 5**

*Thursday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

**FRIDAY, APRIL 6**

7:30AM Special Intention  
 9:00AM Claire Sharpe—Birthday Remembrance

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7**

*Saturday within the Octave of Easter*  
 8:30AM Melbourne Smith—Memorial

*Mass of Anticipation for the Second Sunday of Easter*  
 5:00PM Lucy Vanacore—Memorial

**SUNDAY, APRIL 8**

*Second Sunday of Easter*  
 7:30 AM Father Sean Maher—25th Anniversary  
 9:00 AM Frank & Eva Montaquila—Memorial  
 10:30AM Michael Vitucci—5th Anniversary  
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy





Dear Parishioners:

A Happy and Holy Easter! *Alleluia, He has risen! He has risen indeed, Alleluia!* This is the traditional Easter greeting that recounts the great joy of the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

At Easter we celebrate and confess our faith that Jesus is truly risen from the dead! We also proclaim the extraordinarily good news that Jesus also invites us to rise with Him! He shares with us His triumph over the cross! And so we joyfully acclaim that we are partakers in the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter Mass as we sing: *“By dying, He destroyed our death! By rising, He restores our life!”*

With the death of a loved one or a friend, we often recall that we do share in the victory of the Risen Christ. It is at these times that we immediately trust that, by the mercy of Jesus, we are united with Him forever in heaven. But immortality, eternal life, is but the ultimate way we share in our Lord's triumph of Easter.

A second way is so beautifully evident in our lives too. In and through Jesus, we, too, have the power to die to our sins, worries, anxieties, failures, and suffering. With Christ we rise to a new life of virtue, peace, fidelity, and truly find meaning in our lives. The cross is still there but with Christ we can conquer it and it has meaning.

Simply ask the cancer survivor, the recovering alcoholic or addict, or even the married couple struggling who persevere and get through their tribulations. The power of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ lives on in our lives!

Another way we share in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is through the sacraments. Jesus desires to imbue His new, risen life, into our souls. We call that life of Christ within our hearts grace. Christ gives us grace in many ways, but quite beautifully and profoundly through the seven sacraments of the Church.

On Holy Saturday throughout the Church, across the globe, thousands of adults are baptized, profess our Catholic faith, receive the sacrament of Confirmation, and their first Holy Communion, at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Here at the Easter Vigil Mass, at Our Lady of Mercy, we witness right before our eyes, several people rise to a new life as Jesus pours His light and life into their thirsting, hungry souls. One adult is to be baptized, another adult received into the Catholic Church and several other adults to be Confirmed.

It is always a great joy for our parish to welcome new members and fully initiate others. It is truly a sign of the vitality of our Catholic Faith and the parish life at Our Lady of Mercy. We rejoice as we offer our congratulations to our new Catholics who have made the journey into the Catholic Church.

Together we celebrate this great season of joy and glory for the next fifty days of Easter. While it is the beginning of spring in the world around us, it is also spring in the Church. We watch the flowers bloom, but we also watch the faith blossom with First Holy Communions, confirmations, weddings, and ordinations. We rejoice in the sacramental life of the Church

unleashed from the cross and Resurrection.

At Easter, we rise to a new life of grace and mercy as we are renewed in the Risen Lord! This renewal never stops! Jesus is always renewing His Church. We are part of that renewal as we immerse ourselves into the glory of Easter. The gloom, death and darkness of Good Friday do not have the final word! Rejoice, the Risen Christ radiates light, life and love all over!

We are blessed to have our Bishop, the Most Reverend Thomas J. Tobin, celebrate the School Mass on the upcoming First Friday, April 6th at 9:00am. The Bishop will also visit our excellent parish school and see firsthand the great spirit of wisdom and faith of our wonderful students and tremendous faculty.

In a special way, we celebrate Bishop Tobin's birthday. He marks his 70th birthday on Easter Sunday! (*It's not an April Fools joke!*) Please join us this Friday as we welcome our Chief Shepherd! A very Happy Easter and Birthday Bishop Tobin!

On behalf of Fr. Barrow, Fr. Connors, Deacon Dowd, our religious sisters, and myself, I wish you a Blessed Easter! You are in our prayers and are remembered at Easter Masses. *Alleluia, He has risen! He has risen indeed, Alleluia!* Happy Easter! Do good. Be well. God Bless. Go Sox!!



**What is the meaning of the Passion?**

The Passion accounts are more than a simple story of an execution, and for 1<sup>st</sup> century Jews and Christians it would have been full of symbolic and literal meanings.

The Passion occurs during the Passover. The Passover meal commemorated God’s freeing the Israelites from slavery to the Egyptians through the sacrifice of a lamb. Here Jesus is the true and perfect sacrificial lamb who frees us from slavery to sin so that we might pass from death to life. It is the blood of the new covenant better than the covenant with Moses. The veil torn in two in the sanctuary of the Temple tells us that the Temple is no more; the Mass is now the source of salvation. Christ’s words in the Garden, “...not as I will but as you will,” show the cause of our salvation: Jesus’s sacrifice of perfect obedience and love to the Father.

Judas’s final scene is telling. He admits that he has sinned, he essentially asks that the Jewish High Priest offer sacrifice to cleanse him. They reply, “...what is that to us?” They offer no forgiveness to him (they do not have the power) and so Judas, with no other option, destroys himself. He did not believe that Christ came to forgive even his transgression. The choice between Barabbas and Jesus is very symbolic. Barabbas is another name for “Jesus.” So in essence the Jewish people were asked to choose: Barabbas, a killer, and Jesus, the Son of the Father.

The only known seamless garment in Judaism was worn by the High Priest and it was a seamless garment for which the Roman soldiers cast lots. Jesus calls himself “I AM” three times, which was originally said by the High Priest three times on Yom Kippur. In fact, John’s Gospel stresses that Jesus is the new High Priest. He both restores the priesthood and fulfills it, passing it on to his Apostles.

Finally, we hear from the cross: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.” Many people are taken aback by this statement. We read this and think that Jesus has despaired. It is the opposite: Jesus is beginning Psalm 22 which ends, “For he has not spurned or disdained the misery of this poor wretch; did not turn away from me, but heard me when I cried out.” The Psalm describes the vindication by God for those who suffer injustice. This is just a small snippet of the myriads of meanings and allusions in the Gospels.

***If you have questions about the Catholic Faith, please send them to Fr. Barrow via email at [associate@olmparish.org](mailto:associate@olmparish.org)***

*Weekly Collection*

**March 25, 2018**

**Collection results were unavailable due to the Easter printing deadline.**

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 generous support!***

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



**Second Collections**  
**This Week: The Easter Collection**  
**Next Week: Building & Grounds**



**2018**  
**CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL**  
*Supporting the work of the Church*

**2018 Parish Goal=\$193,864**

**Pledged to date=\$118,480**

**% of Parish Goal=61%**

**Total Donors to date=276**

**Average Gift=\$429**

**% of Parish Participation=13%**

***Thank You for Your Generous Support!***

***Please make your pledge today so we can reach our parish goal! Thank you!***

**EASTER**  
*Blessings*



### This Week at OLM School

- **Friday, April 6th:** First Friday Mass celebrated by Bishop Tobin with visit to school to follow.
- **Friday, April 6th:** OLM School Spring Soiree! 6pm at Quidnessett Country Club!

Discover the OLM Difference!  
[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)

### **First Friday Mass for OLM School Friday, April 6th at 9:00AM**

**The Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin  
Bishop of Providence  
Celebrant & Homilist**

*Join us in welcoming Bishop Tobin to OLM Church and School as we celebrate with him his 70th birthday.*



### **First Friday Adoration Friday, April 6th**

Exposition of the Eucharist at Noon  
Adoration All Afternoon  
Benediction at 5:00PM

*Adorers are needed, please sign up in the vestibule.*

*"Let us beseech the Lord to reawaken in us the joy at his presence and that we may once more adore him. Without adoration, there is no transformation of the world." —Pope Emeritus Benedict XV*

## Religious Education NEWS

- **NO RE on Easter Sunday, April 1st!** Happy Easter to all OLM RE students, teachers and families!
- **Saturday, April 7, First Communion Retreat for Parents & Children:** All are asked to arrive at 2:15. Retreat concludes with 5pm Mass
- **Sunday, April 8th:** All RE Classes Meet as scheduled.



- **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of non-perishable food items. Please leave items in Food Box in vestibule.
- **OLM Bereavement Group:** Meets on Thursday, April 5th at 4pm in Mercy House. All those experiencing a loss or grief are invited to join us for a time of prayer, support and discussion.
- **For more information about OLM Outreach,** please contact Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)



OLM Youth (Grade 8-12) are invited to join us this Sunday, April 22nd from 7:00PM until 8:30PM at the OLM School Gym. For more information please contact Billy Burdier, OLM Youth Activities Coordinator, at 884-4968 or via email at [youthactivities@olmparish.org](mailto:youthactivities@olmparish.org)

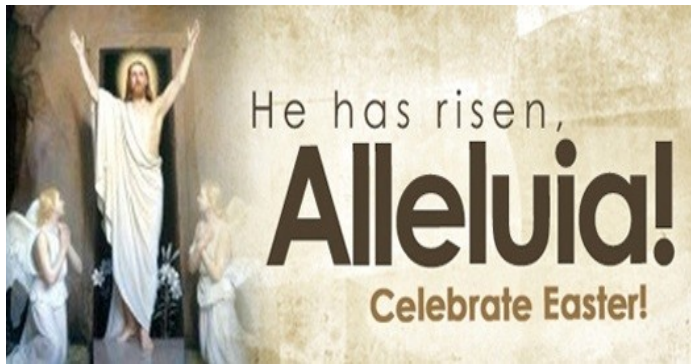
*"Be who God meant you to be  
and you will set the world on fire!"  
—St. Catherine of Siena*



# THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

## Calling All Men of OLM!

The Men of St. Joseph meet next Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 7:00am in the OLM Rectory Meeting Room. All adult men of OLM are invited to join us for discussion, prayer and fraternity as we seek to strengthen our spirituality and renew our Catholic Faith. For more information contact Deacon John Dowd at 884-4968 or via email at Deacon@olmparish.org



He has risen,  
**Alleluia!**  
Celebrate Easter!

# MASS

SCHEDULE CHANGE



### Time Change for Saturday Evening Mass

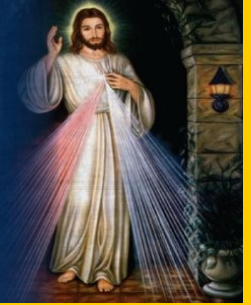
Saturday Evening Mass moves to **5:00PM** start time and Confessions to **4:00PM** start time

next Saturday, April, 7, 2018.

*Please note that the Saturday Evening Mass moves back to 4:00PM start on November 3, 2018. Thank you.*



## DIVINE MERCY Sunday



*Join us for the Celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions*  
**Sunday, April 8th**  
**3:00PM**

**Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Divine Mercy Chaplet**  
**Confession Available**  
**Reflection on Divine Mercy**  
**by Fr. Barrow**

*"Be apostles of Divine Mercy under the maternal and loving guidance of Mary." —St. Pope John Paul II*



# Jesus, I Trust in You.

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