



“Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread.”—Luke 24:35



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Mass Intentions

for the Week
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**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
 APRIL 15, 2018**

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

The Mass of Anticipation for the Third Sunday of Easter
 5:00PM Anthony Gelsomino, Sr. -Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

The Third Sunday of Easter
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church
 9:00 AM Richard Curran—Memorial
 10:30AM Alexander Valicenti—Memorial
 5:00PM Thomas McGowan—Memorial

MONDAY, APRIL 16

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Carol McCauley—1st Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Hans G. & Hans F. Loeffler—Memorial

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Special Intention

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Raymond Pendergast—Memorial

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Easter Weekday; St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
 8:30AM Alfred Marciano—Memorial

The Mass of Anticipation for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

5:00PM Mr. & Mrs. A. Filippi—Memorial

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Fourth Sunday of Easter
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00 AM Raymond Pendergast—Month's Mind
 10:30AM David Deruosi—Memorial
 5:00PM Sean T. Healey—Birthday Remembrance





Dear Parishioners:

Is it spring yet? Snowstorms on Easter Monday and frigid temperatures in April, it must be springtime in New England. Opening Day at Fenway Park looked like a Patriot's game in December! I'm ready for the sun, the flowers and the warm temperatures to reappear soon!

Hopefully this coming week the sun will shine for all those enjoying the Spring Vacation Week. While many head south for the sun, let's pray it warms up around here so the school kids on break can get outside and enjoy it!

Last Friday the OLM School Community celebrated the Annual Spring Soiree at Quidnessett Country Club. Nearly two hundred parents, teachers and friends of OLM School came together, not only to celebrate our wonderful parish school, but to support it too!

With both a live and silent auction, the event raised in excess of \$80,000 in one night! There were some truly terrific auction items, like tickets to Hamilton on Broadway, Patriots box seats, golf foursomes at area private courses including the elite Shelter Harbor Country Club, a stay on Block Island, beach houses in Matunuck and the Jersey Shore, Dinner with the Priests of OLM (always a big seller!) and even a Hi-Lo Jack Night with Fr. Healey at the Regency Cigar Emporium!

We are grateful to the many donors of these great items and especially grateful to the folks who made such generous bids at the auction. Our own Gene Valicenti served as our MC for the night and did an

outstanding job. I also thank Lisa Cooper, the OLM School PTG President, and her hardworking committee, for providing a fun and fruitful night for our school!

The proceeds from this important fundraiser for our school go directly to fund the needs of our school. As you can imagine the cost of operating a parish school continues to grow, as does the need for continued improvement in the area of technology and maintenance of a school built in 1950.

We are truly blessed with a school and parish community that understand the importance of Catholic Education. The generous spirit and tremendous financial support by our school parents, parishioners and friends of OLM School help to ensure that our parish school can continue to succeed in helping to form the next generation of saints and scholars.

Speaking of saints and scholars, we could use some at the RI Statehouse these days. In the last two weeks the so-called "progressive" agenda has gained momentum with hearings on bills that would attack the sanctity of life. Once again the sick, suffering and terminally ill are being threatened with legislation that would lead to euthanasia. A bill that would expand abortion on demand up until the ninth month payed for by taxpayers was also considered by our elected officials.

Thankfully a good number of people turned out for these hearings and spoke in defense of human life. These bills are a sign of our times as some elected officials desire to create a "progressive paradise"

in RI where the innocent unborn and the sick aren't welcomed but rather put to death.

Sadly those supporting such extreme legislation include our local RI State Representatives, Evan Shanley from Warwick and Julie Casimiro from North Kingstown. Pray that they, and other elected officials, heed the words of Pope Francis: "*All human life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.*"

Sadly the voice of the voiceless at the statehouse is diminishing as agents of the culture of death continue to advance their agenda with the support of many of our elected officials. However, I wish to commend the RI State Representative from East Greenwich, Anthony Giaurusso, for his consistent support of the sanctity of life. He is an elected official who has the courage of his convictions and is not afraid to protect the unborn and vulnerable.

It's Easter and the Risen Christ is truly alive! Never lose hope but rejoice and be glad! Pope Francis reminds us in his new exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*: "*Do not be afraid of holiness!*" Do good. Be well. God Bless. Go Sox!!



Why is there a collection at Mass?

A quick disclaimer: Fr. Healey did not put me up to this! On Divine Mercy Sunday our First Reading was taken from the Acts of the Apostles. It describes the community of believers who were of “one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the Apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all.” This sharing of one another’s goods mentioned in Acts included not only physical goods, but also spiritual and intellectual goods as well. This is still found in a pure form in the monasteries and convents.

Notice that this “charismatic communism” in Acts has a deeper meaning than simply egalitarianism or humanism. It relates to the jubilee theme in the Old Testament. Old Testament law provided for a “Year of Jubilee” occurring every fifty years, in which wealth and property were redistributed and abject poverty among the Israelites essentially eliminated. Significantly, this Jubilee was proclaimed on the Day of Atonement. After the people’s debt of sin was abolished by the High Priest in the Temple, a trumpet was blown throughout the land and debts of money were forgiven everywhere. Importantly the Jubilee was the socio-economic sign of a spiritual reality. Here we see the Church, after the true Day of Atonement, of Christ’s death and Resurrection, living out, being a sign to the Jews and the world that forgiveness and equality have been established. True charity and neighborly concern (only) finds its ratio through the Cross and Resurrection.

As the Church grew and spread throughout the world, this “charismatic communism” of the small, early Church became unworkable, but today the principle of communion of goods remains. Symbolically it is found in the Mass during the Collection. It might seem like it is tacked on, but the collection is actually an important part of the Mass. It acknowledges that God is the giver of every good gift, and that we are simply offering back to Him, what he has given to us. It shows that we can offer something and participate in the sacrifice of the Mass. It provides us the opportunity to share our excess goods with the needy. It is an act which looks forward to the eschatological reality present in the communion of believers. Finally, it is an important symbolic gesture, by giving visible sign to the communion of goods, which expresses a real aspect of the communion of saints.

In this way we make tangible the reality of forgiveness, equality and mercy made possible through the Risen Christ.

If you have questions about the Catholic Faith, please send them to Fr. Barrow via email at associate@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection

April 8, 2018

Weekly.....	\$10,766.00
EFT.....	\$2,137.00
	Total=\$12,903.00
Outreach.....	\$609.00
Building & Grounds.....	\$3,063.50

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.

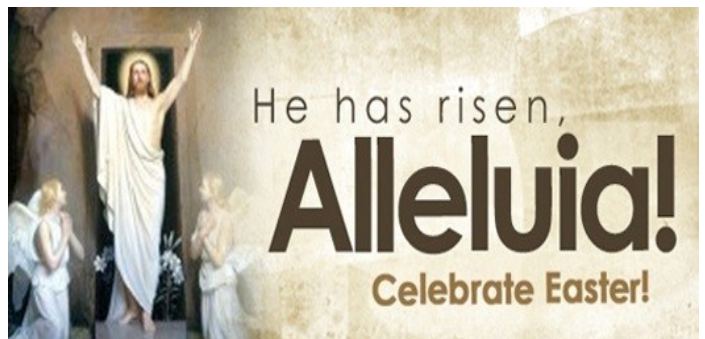




2018
CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL
Supporting the work of the Church

2018 Parish Goal=\$193,864
Pledged to date=\$150,935
 % of Parish Goal=78%
 Total Donors to date=373
 Average Gift=\$405
 % of Parish Participation=18%

Thank You for Your Generous Support!





This Week at OLM School

● **Monday, April 23:** Spring Break ends and School resumes

Discover the OLM Difference!

www.olmschool.org



● **Sunday, April 15th & Sunday, April 22nd:** No RE Classes due to Spring School Vacation.



● **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of non-perishable food items. Please leave items in Food Box in vestibule.

● **OLM Bereavement Group:** Thursday, April 19th at 4pm in Mercy House. All those grieving a loss are invited to join us for 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

A Spiritual Retreat for Grieving Parents



The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents at St. John Vianney Church is offering a One-Day Spiritual Retreat for Grieving Parents on Saturday, April 28, from 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. This ministry is a unique, ongoing Catholic program serving the spiritual needs of grieving parents. The retreat is open to anyone whose child of any age has died by any cause, no matter how long ago. All are welcome, regardless of situation or religion. To register, visit www.emfgp.org or contact Denise Carlucci, Mother of Nicholas, at 401-480-3330 or sjvdenise@gmail.com. Pre-registration by April 21 is requested.



Revival Day!

The acclaimed Mixed Exult Choir will present their spring concert, "Revival Day!" at McVinney Auditorium, Saturday, April 21 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. "Revival Day!" is a concert celebrating Gospel in 'The Old Time Way' with songs from Clara Ward, Thomas Dorsey,

Mahalia Jackson, Aretha Franklin, Bessie Smith and more. The concert will feature a variety of songs that cover the full spectrum of gospel and spiritual music that inspires "Revival Day!" The show will also feature several special guest gospel singers and some very enchanting dramatic surprises. This family-friendly event welcomes all ages. Tickets available at www.mcvinneyauditorium.com.



3rd Sunday of Easter



The paschal candle should stand in the sanctuary during the entire season of Easter.

This candle symbolizes the risen Christ who conquers sin and death and, for that reason, is lit during baptisms and usually at funerals as well.

Each year, a new paschal candle is prepared during the opening rites at the Easter Vigil. It is marked with a cross, an alpha and omega, and the numerals of the year. Five grains of incense, representing the wounds of Christ, are also embedded into the wax.



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.

Best Wishes to our newly baptized



Luca Michael Gelsomino,
and his parents, Anthony and Tracy.
Elijah Thomas Haran,
and his parents, Scott and Margaret

"Dearly beloved, these children have been reborn in baptism. They are now called children of God, for so indeed they are."—The Rite of Baptism

Vacationing?
Finding a Catholic
Church Is Just a Click
Away!


masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL



We offer our prayers and condolences to the families of **John W. Maher III** and **Evelyn Leach** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated here last week.