

Our Lady of Mercy Church

East Greenwich, Rhode Island

Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

April 16, 2017



Surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia!

The Lord is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!



PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE

Father Bernard A. Healey, *Pastor*.....884-4968
 pastor@olmparish.org
 Twitter: twitter.com/FatherHealey

Father Joshua A. Barrow, *Associate Pastor*.....884-4968
 associate@olmparish.org

Deacon John W. Dowd, *Deacon Assistant*.....884-4968
 deacon@olmparish.org

Mr. David E. Cote, *Business Manager*.....884-4968
 parish@olmparish.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

OFFICE OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Mr. Michael LaChimia, *Coordinator*.....884-4968
 mlachimia@olmschool.org

OFFICE OF OUTREACH

Mr. Douglas E. Green, *Director*.....884-4410
 outreach@olmparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY & CHOIRS

Mr. Henri M. St. Louis, *Music Director*.....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

Mrs. Deirdre A. Donovan, *Soloist*.....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

Main Office.....884-1618
 olmoffice@olmschool.org

Mrs. Carolyn C. MacCrae, *School Bookkeeper*..558-0051
 cmaccrae@olmschool.org

Little Saints & Scholars Program.....886-0742



**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION
 APRIL 16, 2017**

SATURDAY, APRIL 15—HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil

8:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

SUNDAY, APRIL 16—EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday of 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 17

Monday within the Octave of Easter

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Dr. Arthur & Florence Catullo—Memorial

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

Friday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Frank Murray—10th Anniversary

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

8:30AM Fr. Clyde J. Walsh—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for the Second Sunday of Easter

5:00PM Lisa Tanner—Memorial

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

Second Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

9:00 AM Laurea & Leo Hackett—Memorial

10:30AM William & Catherine Pearson—Birthday Rmbr.

5:00PM Sean T. Healey—Birthday Remembrance





Dear Parishioners:

Happy Easter! Jesus, the crucified one, has now been raised from the dead. He is risen. Utter defeat has been transformed into irreversible victory. *Alleluia, He has Risen Indeed!*

Evil has had its way with God's anointed, the Messiah. It did all it could to break down the courage and fidelity of God's anointed Savior. It exhausted its arsenal of hate, injustice, humiliation, and pain. It fought a bloody fight - but God's anointed came out victorious. And what does that mean for us?

It means everything, absolutely everything. The resurrection is the stamp that validates everything Jesus did and said: His claim to be God's Son, to have authority to forgive sin and reestablish communion between God and man; His universal call to abandon self-centeredness for love of God, and neighbor, as the path to true happiness; His promise to give grace through a Church that endures forever.

If Jesus had not been raised, none of that would be worth listening to. He would have been just one more nice guy who finished last, one more dreamer whose dreams were squelched by the harsh reality of real life. Yes, he suffered and died for us and our salvation. He rose from the dead, the tomb was empty on the first Easter morning so long ago.

His victory over evil and falsehood, injustice and suffering is total, incontrovertible, and irreversible. In the face of twenty centuries filled with the glory of the martyrs and a steady stream of saints making their

way to the heavenly communion, an incredible growth of the Church from a small band of disciples, and an unquenchable Christian vitality, no reasonable person can deny the resurrection!

St. Paul reminds us that all faith flows from faith in the resurrection: *"If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith."* Yes, we are partakers in the Resurrection of Jesus. At our own death or at the death of a loved one we share in eternal life. This is this most perfect way we share in our Lord's triumph of Easter.

We also share in the Resurrection of Jesus through the Sacraments. Yes, Jesus wants to fill our souls with His new, risen life. We call that life of Christ within our heart grace. He gives us grace in many ways, but most profoundly and dramatically, through the Seven Sacraments of the Church.

On this Easter Sunday 2017, we celebrate that thousands of people professed our Catholic faith for the very first time at the Easter Vigil in Churches across the globe. At the Easter Vigil they received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, and received Christ sacramentally in their reception of First Holy Communion! Here at Our Lady of Mercy, we celebrate and rejoice that five adults were received fully into the Catholic Church!

Right before our eyes, we saw people rise to a new life as Jesus poured His light and life into their thirsting, hungry souls. Thus, we sing with the Exultet: *"Rejoice, let Mother Church*

rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of His glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples."

The Easter Vigil is the "Mother of All Vigils." Easter Sunday is the greatest of all Sundays, and Easter Time is the most important of all liturgical seasons.

The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, brings light, warmth and hope, and is a symbol of the rising Christ, who is the true Light of the World. The Easter Candle reminds us of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept near the pulpit all throughout Easter. So during this Easter season, let us bask in the wondrous light of Christ and behold the beauty, the glory and the joy of Easter!

Easter truly is the joy of glorified life and the victory over death, expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian: *Alleluia!* So let us shake this holy building, we call Our Lady of Mercy Church, with true joy as we raise our mighty voices and rejoice, Christ is Risen!

Let us joyfully sing today with the Psalmist: *"This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad!"* Behold the glory and proclaim Christ is Risen! A Blessed Easter! Be well. Do good. God Bless!

Father Healey



Why do we look forward to the Resurrection?

Most people are probably hoping and doing everything they can to get to heaven, but how many of us look forward to the Resurrection? After all, one might say, we are in heaven, what more do we need? Answering this question brings to light the great significance and awe-filled event that is the Resurrection of Christ and the reality of heaven. Further, it makes us appreciate what we pray in the Creed every week: "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead."

First of all, how do we know anything at all? We know things about ourselves and the world through our five senses; through our bodies. Without a body we cannot receive any new information. Many of us probably have an idea of heaven with clouds in which the saints are looking down on us, but this is only a poetic expression of heaven. The saints do not look down on us because they do not have their bodies yet. In fact, the only reason why saints know what happens here and are able to intercede on our behalf is because God directly infuses knowledge into them. They too, however, await the resurrection at the end of time when Christ comes again so that they will be *supremely* perfectly happy.

In order to be truly happy we need our bodies. Contemporary society depicts the human person as a soul trapped in a body (or for the materialists, a mind trapped in a body). This anthropology may be the source of many of the false dichotomies and gender debates in many circles. For Catholics we are a body/soul composite (while this is a Catholic outlook this also avoids many philosophical problems associated with dualism). Once in heaven, before the Resurrection, all of us will have the *beatific vision*; we will see God as clearly as possible for a human being. Embodiment is not necessary for this vision, but this is an unnatural state for the soul. A soul in heaven is not properly human, because to be human is to have a body. So to be *supremely* perfectly happy we need a body in heaven.

Just some last points: At the Resurrection we will have our same bodies we had on earth (not the same in the sense of the same atoms, since even our atoms change day to day). We are not transformed in any way into angels in heaven (angels do not have material bodies). In heaven our material bodies do not become spiritual in heaven. Instead they are completely subject to our souls (e.g. no temptations) and hence able to do spiritual things.

If you have a question about the Catholic Faith , email your questions directly to Father Barrow at associate@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection

Collection results were not available due to the holiday print 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

2017 Parish Goal = \$193,864
Pledged to date = \$174,829.50
Number of Donors = 413
% of Parish Goal = 90%
Average Gift = \$423
Total Raised in 2016 = \$268,928

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

OLM Parish Office Hours
The OLM Parish Office is closed for the Easter Holiday on Monday, April 17. The Office reopens on Tuesday, April 18 at 8:00am. Please plan accordingly.



Religious Education NEWS

***A Happy Easter to all our RE Students,
Teachers & Families!***

Mickey St. Jean & Doug Green

- **Sunday, April 16 & 23:** No RE Classes
- **Sunday, April 30:** RE Grades 2 and 8 meet
- **Saturday, May 15:** First Communion Mass for OLM School Students at 10:00am & OLM Religious Education Students at 12Noon
- **Sunday, May 16:** May Crowning with the entire First Communion Class at 10:30am Mass.



***Easter Blessings to the OLM School
Faculty, Staff, Students and Families!***

Enjoy the Easter Vacation!

Scott W. Fuller

Principal

Discover the OLM Advantage!

www.olmschool.org



Outreach Update

***Thank you to all who helped with our
OLM Outreach Easter Baskets!***

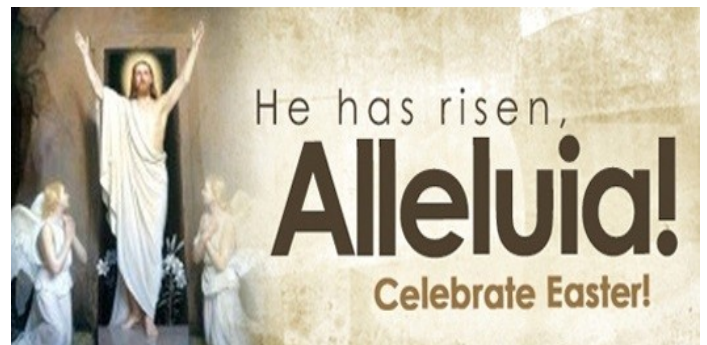
A Happy and Holy Easter!

Doug Green

OLM Outreach Director

● **OLM Bereavement Group** meets on **Thursday, April 20 at 4:00pm at Mercy House.** All those who are suffering loneliness, grief or isolation are invited to join us.

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



We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of Our Lady of Mercy Parishioner **Ernest Boutote** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last week at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

May he rest in peace.

Easter Sunday



Reforming our lives during Lent has led us to renewing our baptismal promises at this Easter celebration.

Each Sunday during the Easter season, we should recall our baptism through the rite of blessing and sprinkling holy water.

This is the ideal time of year to celebrate not only baptism but also confirmation and first communion, the sacraments which complete the Christian initiation process begun with baptism.



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.



**Our Lady of Mercy Church
Divine Mercy Devotions
Sunday, April 23rd at 3:00pm**

Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Talk on Divine Mercy by
Fr. Nicholas Fleming**

Associate Pastor

Saints John & Paul Parish, Coventry, RI

All are invited!



masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

946 Our Lady of Mercy—6