

“  
**Jesus said:  
I AM THE  
GOOD  
SHEPHERD.  
A good  
shepherd  
lays down  
his life for  
the sheep.**

”  
JOHN 10:11

**Good Shepherd Sunday  
World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
Sunday, April 22, 2018**





## **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 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

# Mass Intentions for the Week

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
 APRIL 22, 2018**

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 21**

*The Mass of Anticipation for the 4th Sunday of Easter*

5:00PM Mr. & Mrs. A. Filippi—Memorial

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 22**

*The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

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

9:00 AM Raymond Prendergast—Month's Mind

10:30AM David Deruosi—Memorial

5:00PM Sean T. Healey—Birthday Remembrance

### **MONDAY, APRIL 23**

*Easter Weekday; St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr*

7:30AM Carol McCauley—Birthday Remembrance

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 24**

*Easter Weekday; St. Fidelis Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr*

7:30AM Timothy Franzone—Memorial

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25**

*St. Mark, Evangelist*

7:30AM John Gardner—Memorial

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 26**

*Easter Weekday*

7:30AM Dec'd Mbrs of Zaino & Mattiace Families—Memorial

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 27**

*Easter Weekday*

7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 28**

*Easter Weekday; St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; St. Louis de Montfort, Priest*

8:30AM Claire Sharpe—Memorial

*The Mass of Anticipation for the 5th Sunday of Easter*

5:00PM Special Intention

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 29**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

7:30 AM Patricia Corrigan—Birthday Remembrance

9:00 AM Claudette Raposa—1st Anniversary

10:30AM Dr. Augustine Capotosto & Deceased of the Gelardi & Capotosto Families

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy





Dear Parishioners:

This Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is traditionally called Good Shepherd Sunday. The name derives from the gospel reading for the day, which is taken from the tenth chapter of St. John's Gospel. In John's Gospel, Christ is described as the "Good Shepherd" who lays down his life for his sheep.

Good Shepherd Sunday also marks the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this day is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "*Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest*" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2).

I encourage you to please continue to pray that more young men and women hear, and respond generously to, the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. While the Church appreciates all vocations, She concentrates Her attention today on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), to the Religious life in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to societies of apostolic life, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

In his message announcing the celebration of this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, our Holy Father, Pope Francis states: *The joy of the Gospel, which makes us open to encountering God and our brothers and sisters, does not abide our slowness and our sloth. It will not fill our hearts if we keep standing by the window*

*with the excuse of waiting for the right time, without accepting this very day the risk of making a decision. Vocation is today! The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now."*

At Our Lady of Mercy Parish we have been truly blessed to have vocations come from our parish family. Two priests, Fr. Eric Bennett of the Boston Archdiocese and Fr. Brian Morris of the Providence Diocese were recently ordained priests. Both these fine priests grew up in our parish and had their vocation to the priesthood nurtured here at OLM. In fact, their families still worship here.

We are also blessed to have a young woman from OLM who is graduating from Providence College this year who is to enter the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia in Nashville this fall. This congregation of religious sisters is booming with young and holy women eager to serve Christ and His Church.

Each one of us is still called to continue to foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life at OLM. We must do so by praying for more vocations to the priesthood, and more vocations to the consecrated life in the Diocese of Providence. Our culture is full of distractions and very often God's call to the priesthood, and consecrated life, is lost amidst the loud cries of our secular and materialistic society.

However, many young men and women are being called

to take up a vocation to the priesthood and religious life. It is as Pope Francis once said: "*Becoming a priest or a man or woman religious is not primarily our own decision. Rather it is the response to a call and to a call of love.*"

We can help this effort to increase priestly and religious vocations with our continued prayers, and by encouraging young people especially within our own families and in our parish family to consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. Remember that prayer, encouragement and support are needed if we are to drown out the noisy secular world around us and let God's call be truly heard.

Bishop Tobin recently said to the priests of the Diocese of Providence, "*Please pray fervently for and work deliberately for more vocations to the priesthood in the Diocese. Of course a priestly vocation originates in the heart of God, but it is nourished in our homes, parishes and schools. You and I were inspired by priests we've known and loved. The same is true for future priests; they will be inspired and encouraged by us! God said: "I will give you shepherds," and I believe Him.*"

On this Good Shepherd Sunday let us heed the Bishop's call to pray fervently for more vocations for the Church of Providence. Pray, encourage and support vocations! Do good. Be well. God Bless. Go Sox!!

*Father Healey*



**What are the Essentials of a Priestly Vocation?**

For everyone God has a plan; a vocation. "Vocation" comes from the Latin word meaning, "to call." Everyone is called to receive a particular role in establishing God's kingdom here on earth. As we pray in the Our Father: "thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Receiving and following this vocation leads to perfection, fulfillment, and happiness.

As C.S. Lewis wrote: "The more we let God take us over, the more truly ourselves we become – because He made us. He invented all the different people that you and I were intended to be. It is when I turn to Christ, when I give up myself to His personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own." This can be difficult and threatening. We are creatures of authority and control. We develop strong defenses against those who threaten our authority and autonomy, even God himself.

In regard to the priesthood is "the call to be totally known by Christ as it is also a call to know him without reserve or hesitation." When he preaches, he preaches Jesus Christ. When he administers the sacraments, he does so in the name and the power of Jesus Christ. When he gives a cup of cold water to a poor man, he does so in the name of Christ. The priest yearns for the salvation of every single individual just as Christ thirsts for souls. Priests go forth to teach the power of the Name of Jesus to everyone. Everyone has a part to play in building up the Kingdom of God, but the priest can give the means of salvation: grace through the sacraments (particularly the sacrifice of the Mass).

Further, "Because the priest is ordained primarily to offer the sacrifice of the Mass, i.e., to daily repeat the offering of Christ to the Father and to enter into that most holy exchange of gifts among the persons of the Blessed Trinity, his configuration to Christ is a call to step apart from ordinary life and follow the Lamb in a unique way, with an intention and even an intensity that marks him as set apart for the things of God."

I end with this quote by Fr. Jean-Baptiste Henri Lacordaire, O.P.: "To live in the midst of the world with no desire for its pleasures; to be a member of every family, yet belonging to none; to share all sufferings; to penetrate all secrets, to heal all wounds; to daily go from men to God to offer Him their homage and petitions; to return from God to men to bring them His pardon and hope; to have a heart of fire for charity and a heart of bronze for chastity; to bless and to be blest forever. O God, what a life, and it is yours, O Priest of Jesus Christ!"

***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* 

**April 15, 2018**

Weekly.....	\$10,718.50
EFT.....	\$3,106.00
	<b>Total=\$13,824.50</b>
Outreach.....	\$716.50

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=\$158,864**  
 % of Parish Goal=82%  
 Total Donors to date=392  
 Average Gift=\$404  
 % of Parish Participation=19%

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



We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of **Melissa Miga** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.





### This Week at OLM School

- **Monday, April 23:** Spring Break ends and School resumes
- **Wednesday, April 26:** OLM School Assembly
- **Friday, April 27:** Dress Down Day in support of the Franciscan Apostolic Sisters

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



**Monthly Rosary Making  
Workshop**  
**Tuesday, April 24th**  
**9:30am-11:30am**  
**OLM Cry Room**

*Materials and instructions provided.  
Join us in making rosaries for the  
missions. All are welcome to join us!*



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

● **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)

## Religious Education NEWS

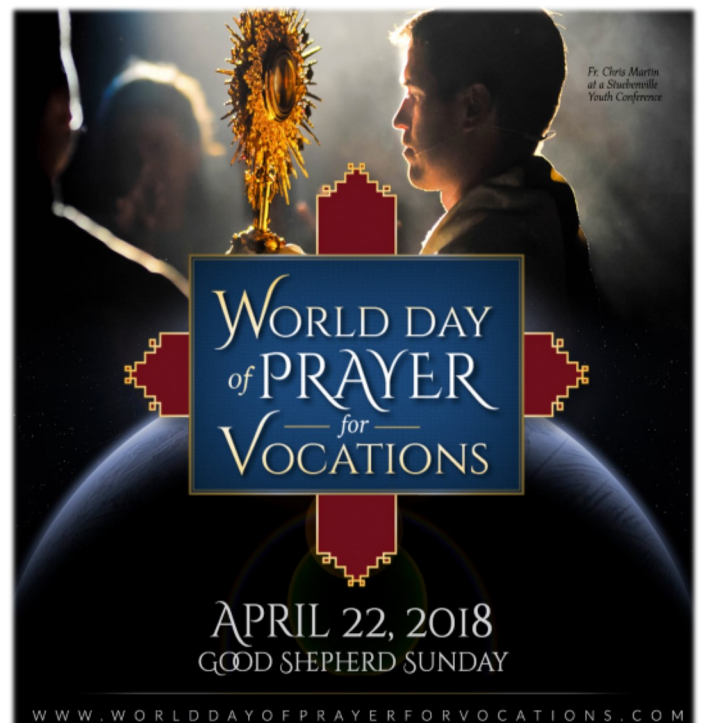
● **Sunday, April 22nd:** No RE Classes due to Spring School Vacation.

● **Saturday, April 28th:** First Communion Retreat. Students and Parents should arrive prior to 2:15pm and the Retreat ends with the 5pm Mass.

● **Sunday, April 29th:** Last Class for RE Grades: 1—5 and RE Grades 6 & 7.

### **Catholic Support Group for Divorced & Separated**

Divorced? Separated? The Office of Life & Family Ministry has an ongoing support group for divorced & separated Catholics at St. Mary's Rectory, 437 Carolina Back Rd, Carolina, RI. This group meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7:00pm—8:30pm. This free support group provides a faithful Catholic atmosphere for discussion and support. For more information or to register contact: Peter A. Magnotta at 421-7833 ext. 217.



## 4th Sunday of Easter



**C**hapter ten of the Gospel of John presents the image of Christ as Good Shepherd, the charismatic and powerful leader willing to lay down his life for the salvation of the flock.

Some part of this Scripture is read every year on the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

This Sunday gives us an excellent context in which to offer special prayers for vocations to ministry, especially to ordained ministry. The flock is still, and will always be, in need of good shepherds.



*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.*

## *Bishop Hendricken High School to Honor Alumni Priests*

**Fr. Ryan Connors**

Former OLM Associate Pastor  
and

**Fr. Eric Bennett & Fr. Brian Morris**

Native Sons of Our Lady of Mercy Parish



Bishop Hendricken High School is honoring OLM Priests at its **Annual For the Boys Gala on Saturday, May 5, 2018**, along with other of their brother priests who are members of the schools' alumni.

**If you would like to honor Fr. Connors, Fr. Bennett or Fr. Morris by your attendance at the event please contact Bishop Hendricken at 739-3450, ext. 138** If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a contribution that will directly benefit the Bishop Hendricken Tuition Assistance Fund please send your donation directly to Bishop Hendricken High School 2016 Warwick Avenue Warwick, RI 02889 with the notation For the Boys/ Fr. Connors/Fr. Bennett/Fr. Morris. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

The For the Boys Gala celebrates all that makes Bishop Hendricken High School great and highlights our devotion to our mission, to strengthen the relationship of all members of the community with our God through the development of the total human person: heart, mind, soul, and body. What better testament to our enduring mission than to celebrate our priest alumni and show them our appreciation and esteem.

This event makes it possible for more and more boys from all of our communities to realize their dreams of living the Bishop Hendricken experience, regardless of their family's financial situations. This is a unique opportunity to honor your pastor and contribute to the education and spiritual development of a leader of tomorrow...maybe even a future priest.

